

Wash. 23<sup>d</sup> Dec. 1837.

My dear Son

I have at length received from Mr. Beecher the enclosed letter; and presume I shall shortly receive another from him informing me of the arrival of the Apes at Havre and their shipment to N. Orleans. I hope that his confidence in the man he has selected to make the purchase has not been misplaced; and that the animals will correspond with our wishes. He has gone to our highest limits in the prices.

The scenes transpiring here are calculated to add to the regret which I felt from being as I thought under the necessity of accepting the office of Senator. You will have seen an amount of the degradation to which the Country has been brought by the passage of the Expunging resolution, and the execution of the process. Other occurrences of a similar character, showing the arrogance and the ascendancy of Jackson, are of too frequent here. He has recently sent to Mr. Wain's Investigating Comm<sup>tee</sup> a most outrageously insulting letter, which I suppose will soon be published. The only encouraging circumstance which has happened of late is a schism in the party about Hard money, and Bank notes. Benton heads the Hard money faction, and Decees the other. It may lead to some good results.

Santa Anna goes from Norfolk to Mexico in a public vessel & has probably sailed.

Give my love to Julia, and keep Henry for

Your aff<sup>r</sup> father

H. Clay

Mr. H. Clay Junr.