

New Orleans ^{the} August
1825

My dear mother and father

I hope this letter will find you safely arrived at Washington. I have heard that you regret leaving Ashland very much, but for my part I am very glad of it for I think you worked too much, stay'd at home too much and ^{you} went too much plagued there, at Washington you will be forced to go more into the world and although you will perhaps not like it much at first, you will soon get accustomed to it. I am glad of your removal to Washington on another account, it will be more convenient for us to visit you there because we can leave here in June and return as soon in the fall as we please there being at all times sufficient water in the sea. Mr Durvalde promises me that we shall go next summer, he has even told all of his friends that we intend to do so, however I will not be so certain as I was last spring for fear of being again disappointed.

My eldest son enjoys very good health but his poor little brother has been sick for a long time, he has always been delicate and now he is cutting his teeth, he has also had