

Lexington March 26th 1832

Dear Father

I am much obliged to you for the letter which I received just before my departure from New Orleans on the subject of my visit to Europe. I am convinced of the excellence of your advice, and heartily accede to your conclusions. It would be better for me to cross the Atlantic after the termination of my legal studies which I hope to complete in a year or eighteen months. Whilst I was in the South I read ~~I read~~ Justinian's Institutes, Comar's civil law, many titles in the Digests of Justinian, Sir William Jones on bailments, and I am now reading Pothier on obligations. I have yet to read several books of Pothier on separate titles, Toullier's treatise 14 Vols and the codes. I will then commence a course of common & commercial law, for you know English laws of evidence, English criminal jurisprudence and English maritime law are used in the courts of La. To render my legal education complete for La I shall then only have to study the adjudged cases, and the Statutes of La & the United States.

But besides Law I have to study history, the Latin & Spanish languages and the best models of oratory. All that is necessary I hope to accomplish by May 1833. When if you permit I would like to go to Europe. But if by remaining