

Lexington April 9<sup>th</sup> 1832

Dear Father

I have lately been engaged in pruning and cleaning your shrubbery and in the ardour of my zeal have met with a misfortune in injuring one of my eyes. It has prevented me from studying, as I was afraid of using one eye until the recovery of the other. When I commenced, Ashland was very much out of order, but it is now nearly cleaned, and I hope you will find it improved by my labours. I have removed 30 or 40 loads of dead trees from the grounds and am now engaged in the removal of 15 or 20 more of stumps, sticks &c. The house too is once more in pretty good order, but I write principally to tell you that it is very damp and quite out of repair. If you feel disposed to give any orders about it, I will attend with great pleasure to the execution of them. A man will be here in a few days, expert in stuccoing. You spoke of having the house covered with a coating of stucco: If you still feel so inclined, you can now have it done with more than ordinary facility. It will certainly very