

Richard Furman  
1755 -1825

My dear Wife,

High Hills of Santee, S. C., Nov. 18/16.

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This Day received your welcome Letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant, which afforded the much desired Information respecting the Health of yourself & the Family. I desire to be thankful that you were in general well, & I hope as dear little <sup>James</sup> began to be better after taking Medicine, that his Health is now restored. It is a satisfaction to know that his Brother who is so well qualified to prescribe for him, or for any of the Family, is present, while I am necessarily absent. - I suppose you must have received a second Letter from me soon after you wrote, as I had left one at the Governor's to be delivered to Mr. Witter, if he called, as was expected; otherwise to be sent on by Mail. This last, I am since informed, was done.

Having sent a Message to your Brother at Columbia, respecting the Search I wished to be made there respecting the Land possessed by Mr. Clarkson, I this Evening received a Letter from him. He could obtain no farther Information, by searching the Records of Council, that he had furnished before; but he appears to have been in health when he wrote, and desires his Love to be remembered to you and to the Family. He has the Third Honour in College awarded him.

The Negro Clothes arrived in Safety on Tuesday Evening, and were distributed the next Day, to the Satisfaction of their Possessors. They seemed to fit as well as if they had been made from their Measures. They had obtained their Shoes, through Mr. Murrell's Care, before I arrived. I was happy to find that their last Year's Clothes were yet, in general, pretty good: so that though we had about a Week of remarkably Cold Weather for the Season, they were not in a suffering State. Three Days ago the Weather moderated here, and is now very mild.

The Cotton proves better than was expected, and the Cotton Crop is as good as it was last Year, perhaps rather better. Twelve heavy Bales of the former have been packed, and are, by Contract, to be taken tomorrow by a North Carolina Wagon, to be conveyed to Mr. Adams, who will, I trust, be so obliging as to pay the Freight, which, by Agreement, is to be \$1.37 1/2 per Hundred. - I do not at present remember the Persons' Names who contracted



with me. It is supposed there are about 3 Bales of Cotton yet to be prepared for Market. The Price I find by verbal Accounts, and by the Papers is fallen; but I think it is not unlikely that it may rise again.

I am sorry to hear of the <sup>Loss</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Gates have sustained in the Death of their Child, and of her subsequent Illness. I hope it may please God to restore her Health, and to sanctify to her the complicated Affliction with which she has been visited. - I am truly sorry to learn that M<sup>rs</sup> Potter has been cut off from her Family, & from the Community, as he appeared to be an amiable Man and useful Citizen. It may probably operate to the Inconvenience of Joseph. But it is an Act of that Sovereign, Holy Providence, to which we not only must, but should bow; and that with unrepined Submission.

The Mumps are in several Families here at present. M<sup>rs</sup> Hook's Daughter Sarah, is, since Sunday, I am told, quite ill with them. Hughes and his Wife, some of their Children & several of Negroes I found affected at our Place on my Arrival. Hughes has been affected by them much in the same Manner Henry was last Winter - he is now considerably better, and none of the rest are laid up. Our Relations and Friends are generally pretty well.

I am sorry you have so much Trouble and vexation from the bad Conduct of the unfaithful Servants you refer to; and hope, if it please God that I return in Safety, I shall be able to do something effectual towards removing the Evil.

I hope M<sup>rs</sup> Hand's Visit may be Useful to the Congregation, and not, as I think was the Case last year, the Means of causing Hearers to withdraw their Attendance from the Church. If he should be in Town when this arrives you will please present my Christian Regards to him. Many Friends have, as well as our Relations, enquired affectionately after your Welfare, and requested to be remembered to you.

I am endeavouring to get in Readings to return in the Course of the next Week, though I have much Business yet to do.

Present my affectionate Regards to each of our Children, and to all our Friends, as you have Opportunity. Wishing you the Protection and Blessing of the Almighty, I remain,

Your affectionate Husband.

P.S. You will let M<sup>rs</sup> Adams know what Freight is to be paid for the Cotton. Richard Furman. -





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M<sup>rs</sup> Dorothea M. Furman

Charleston.

S<sup>c</sup> Carolina.