

01 Richard Furman
1755 -1825

Charleston, 4th October, 1822.

Dear Sister,

Your Favor of the 5th Instant came to hand this Day, for which I return you Thanks. I am glad to hear of the Health of your Family, with the Exception of Woody's Indisposition alone; [&] with this may prove slight, and of short Continuance. The Circumstances respecting your Son Richard's Family, to which you allude, I had heard: I wish him, yourself, and all the Family, much Happiness from the Birth of his Son. Our Family, through the Goodness of God, though not intirely free from Indisposition, are in tolerable Health at present: The three youngest Children were lately quite sick; but are much recovered. As you will, I suppose, have Letters from your Sons, and the most of our Connections here, it will be unnecessary for me to say anything of them; unless it be to express my Satisfaction and Gratitude, on account of James's enjoying in general good Health, and getting readily over an Attack of the Fever which he not long since sustained.

I have now inform you of the melancholy Death of our Brother's Wife, Sarah Furman; which took place yesterday Morning. I call it melancholy, because attended with none of those happy Circumstances, as far as I know, which give pleasing Hope of a happy Here-after. Indeed it appears to be the common Sentiment of those acquainted with her, that it was the Effect of excessive Drinking; which the People of the Family, ^{in which she lived} Brunsdon's, say she persevered in to the last. She was this Morning

interred in our Burial Ground. It strangely happened that I knew nothing of her dangerous Illness, till yesterday Morning, though she, it is said, was very desirous of seeing me, and different Messengers had been sent, or were attempted to be sent, in the course of the preceding Week to acquaint me with it. When I saw her she was quite insensible, and expired not many Minutes after I left ^{the} House. One Reason of my not knowing of her Dangerous Illness was my Absence from the City good Part of the Week, on a preaching Excursion to Wafamfaw; during which Time a Messenger came once or twice to the Gate, and meeting with some Person there, though not of the Family, learned I was absent and returned without informing the Family. — From this gloomy Subject I turn, to mention, that Ocheam has been very earnest in requesting that I would purchase a Wagon for the Use of the Plantation; and that, ^{in compliance with his wish} if I could obtain one on reasonable Terms, I would be willing purchase; or to hire one, while the Wagoning of Cotton to the Gin is on hand, before I can attend to the Business myself. If therefore Mr. Haynsworth could conveniently afford me any Assistance in this Business, by giving his Judgment on any Wagon that may be for sale in the Neighbourhood, as to good ^{and} Price, or, give any Information to Ocheam where one may be hired on reasonable Terms, I would be greatly obliged to him. I am informed that I can get a new Philadelphia Wagon in Charleston for 100 Dollars; but the loss of Time, ^{with the} Trouble and Expense of getting such an one up to the Hills, and some other Circumstances, make me backward in engaging one of these. However unless one could be purchased on very good Terms I would rather leave for the present, so that it were handy, that the Wagon could be readily obtained when wanted and then returned. In the former Case the Money would advance when called for. — I shall write to Ocheam on the Subject. —

M^{rs} Furman would willingly attend at the Association, were it in
her Power consistent with Duty and Convenience, and feels herself ob-
liged to you for the Affectionate Regard you express toward her; but
fears she will not be able to visit you on that Occasion. She
unites with me, and the rest of the Family, in affectionate
Regards and best Wishes, to yourself, M^{rs} Haynesworth, and your
Family in general. I remain,

Dear Sister,

Your affectionate Brother.

Richard Furman.

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M^{rs} Sarah Haynsworth

1802

Long Branch

Pray Pray
Billy-

Sumter District