

Philadelphia July 3<sup>d</sup>. 1829.

Very Dear General,

I first caught a glimpse of your son on Wednesday morning, while he was passing to the Navy Yard. On the evening of the same day he went to Wilmington; and no opportunity presented of showing him any such kind attentions as we would wish until yesterday afternoon. It would have been very pleasing to my wife & myself had he come, without ceremony, to our house, as his Philadelphia home, in which he would have been as welcome as at your hospitable Hermitage. We hope that he will do so, when he shall again visit our city, but we excuse

him now, on the ground of his having been  
captured on his way from Washington by  
Com. Stewart, who appropriated him to  
himself & friends as his lawful prize.  
It would afford us no ordinary pleasure  
to receive any of your family as our  
guests; and if the Military & Civil Chieftain  
of our country will honour us with  
a visit, we should be able I am sure  
to make him feel at home with  
his friends.

In the midst of your important national  
affairs, I feel confident that your immor-  
tal soul frequently visits, intellectually,  
the pious dead, and that you derive more  
pleasure from anticipating future com-  
munion with one of the Saints in  
light, than from all your worldly great-  
ness. I lend, you, venerable friend, the  
enclosed letter, for a few days, when  
I beg you to return it to me; for I  
should be very unwilling to part with  
it. The friendly left hand which wrote

it, is, indeed, motionless, for the present, in  
the cold grave; but, blessed be God, the truly  
Christian spirit which dictated to that hand  
what sentiments to express is full of holy  
thought, actively & bless.

The spirits of the departed friends of Christ  
are as the angels, & there is joy among them  
at our repentance & improvement in piety: I  
flatter myself, therefore, that one celestial being  
dearer to you than any other, except her  
Saviour, knows, with gratitude to the  
God of all grace, that you are a different  
being in relation to spiritual & eternal mat-  
ters, from what you was in 1819; and that  
you have since that time, begun to be one  
of the humble followers of Christ; more  
distinguished by any one Christian virtue,  
than by the Presidency over the happiest  
& most flourishing nation on the globe.

May the peace of God be your pillow in  
slap; your staff in old age; and your  
portion for ever.

S. J.

Sperry & Miller  
Prints to be  
carefully examined  
I will answer you

His Excellency  
The President  
of the U. S.  
Washington, D. C.