

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., August 19, 1829, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, August 19, 1829.

My Dear son, I have this moment recd. your letter of the 1st instant from the Hermitage, being the first I have recd. from you since you left Wheeling. My d'r I was very uneasy at your silence, and hope hereafter you will write every week even if it is only to tell me you are well.

I am pleased that you found all well at the Hermitage, and that Mr Steel has done his duty and has treated my negroes humanely. So long as he treats my negroes well, I have no wish to remove him. I have confidence in his honesty, and industry, and I well know negroes, will complain often, without cause. The death of Jim was a mortifying circumstance to me, and if it had proceeded from the cruel treatment of the overseer, he must have been discharged. It gives me pleasure to learn from you, that Dr Hogg and Mr Conkle have said, that jims death was occasioned by poison, and in nowise, by the chastisement given him by the overseer. You have not informed me how much cotton Mr. Steel has this year in culture—nor have you told me which of the mares colts, has got injured by the Conduct of Dunwadie. I hope it is not my oscar bay mares colt. in your next, inform me on these two subjects, as well as all others interesting.

I am about to leave here this evening for the Rip Raps to spend some days in sea bathing. I have been unwell but am recovered but a little debilitated, therefore must close this letter with a request that you will present me affectionately to all our relations, and particularly

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to James, John, and Thomas, who, I am glad to hear, are at the Hermitage. Make them comfortable my son, and particularly your sick brother James. Was your mother alive she would attend to this. yours affectionately