

Charleston May 25 1822

My dear Sister,

I hope you have not been made uneasy by the delay of this letter for its safety but it has been unavoidable. If I recollect rightly I mentioned in my last by the G. P. that it might be delayed a little on account of the uncertainty of collecting money & this has been the case. Only \$80.75 have been received & a part of this today only on your monies that M<sup>c</sup> D had to collect. & the remainder of the money now sent is from Fludd or rather M<sup>r</sup> Buist but I will give a particular statement at the foot of the letter as you may wish to refer to it another time. Such times (unless a time of war) never were surpassed I believe respecting the difficulty of getting in money. As for Dye no threats avail with him for he has not yet paid one Dollar on the qu<sup>a</sup> due last & another is now nearly due & so many I may say downright lies as he tells as to when he will pay & the last threat I sent him as to suing he said I could do as I liked & not a dollar from I. Ban she promises to pay next week but there may not be a word of truth in it. Fludd has acted shamefully M a few days ago got a note from him saying he regretted it was not in his power to settle his share of the amt that he had sent M<sup>r</sup> B. an order for his \$160 (which is paid) & that he would settle the \$290 still due out of the present Crop and pay the interest on it M. wrote him for answer she was surprised after his having promised payment out of the last years Crop as he promised but requested that he would at least pay \$140 now, & she would not ask interest on the other, for we think there may be great uncertainty about that, but whether he will take any further notice of it at this time we can't tell for he has never been to Town since the winter I suppose had good or bad reasons rather for being obliged to stay out of it. They were to set off for the upper country soon or as soon as I suppose her health will admit as she was very sick the last accounts. I feel fearfull the House will remain shut as there are so many houses of that description now to rent & it is said rents are reduced much. Mrs. Lowndes Brown's in Tradd Street this she told me with so much satisfaction in N. Haven that Bee had rented at \$100 she supposed on account of the longer lot to have to improve by the Negroes he had waiting to be sold he could afford better than some others now rents to young Winthrop at \$400 but the great difference of this rent was I suppose because B did not intend to pay at all for I heard his furniture had to be levied on for it- & if Doc<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Call has one he got by his wife which used to rent for \$700 & was shut up so long that they were as they said afraid it would not be rented again. That had to be reduced to \$600 to W<sup>m</sup> Simmons. Y<sup>r</sup> House on the Island was advertized the beginning of this week but there has been no application as yet. I believe it a venture if any tolerable promising tenant should offer I will only say \$70 for it; as there is so much room at the Fort now, which nearly deserted. Bankhead's family are gone or going to Virginia this Summer & M<sup>rs</sup> Pyne's has sold off their furniture & gone to N. York I have heard to live; & the House in Broad St among many others is for rent. I am very sorry to be burdening you with such poor accounts but am very sorry you may be sure to have cause for it. I had the pleasure the day before yesterday of getting yours of the 15<sup>th</sup> the latter date of it & and am very glad to find you are both so well. Through mercy we are well too except complaint in the stomach of two or three but not so as to be quite sick. I hope you destroyed my letter of the G. P. & not notice some of the particulars in it when you write. M<sup>rs</sup> S. J. told Mary the other day she had never heard

Thomas go on as he did before her which you may remember I spoke of about those hot headed young men as I called them; but they have cause for complaint I think When considered in the calmest light to see Dil. Legare & family preferred to their father; however M<sup>rs</sup> S. J. told M. she had requested him not to speak so again I said she hoped what he had said would die with Mary. M<sup>rs</sup> Legare Mary thinks looks of a worse complexion than even M<sup>rs</sup> G. Some [illegible] formerly used to & it is not to be wondered at for such a life of stagnation I may say of her self & fatigue with her children & her mind no resources to support her it would not be wonderful if she goes in a Dropsy. & M<sup>rs</sup> S. J. is so droll in telling her what she thought she might apprehend from such a course of confinement & indeed from all her symptoms I think there must be great danger of it. Poor Mrs Horace Waring is in a very dangerous way she appears to be going fast with a complaint of the Lungs she is to go off to N. York next week if he last better change lasts but she was so ill 4 days ago that they thought it improbable for her to venture with any hope of success. M. says she told you in her letter how sick E<sup>d</sup> Palmer was as we had heard – this account was from M<sup>rs</sup> Doc<sup>r</sup> P. to M<sup>rs</sup> Righton, but his good brother read me a letter from him 5 days ago wherein he does not express any alarm about his health, but that his long confinement & hard studies had made it necessary in the opinion of some judicious friends to urge him to take a journey. Poor man in that letter he had not heard a word of the illness of the one that died the other day but was [illegible] with the thoughts although he requested in the letter that ill judged tenderness might not make them flinch from their duty in the surgical operation that was to be performed for the Fistula on the one now living. I read Mill's life with much interest & was much struck with Doc<sup>r</sup> P. representation of his excesses one expression he uses respecting his not being bribed into submission to the Creator. I have often been afraid that I have exercised improper positions to Doc<sup>r</sup> P. for which I desire to be sorry. With respect to the report of what you heard of Andover the person must have been mistaken probably it was on the score of some of their particular Views there, for very lately one of their Professors I think Stuart wrote a very able reply to Ware I think. The pamphlet is out or I would sent the to [illegible] E. Palmer sent it to the T. E. Society last fall as a present with some sermons & What an interesting report that is of the Presbytery of N. York lately it is indeed a time of great mercy in many parts of Zion. I suppose you have had a very interesting time with the meeting of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Ass<sup>y</sup> I long to hear of it.

I have enclosed a bill of Exchange for \$150 bought from M<sup>r</sup> Edward the Bank will not send checks now the Premium at the rate of 2 1/2 per Cent so that you must credit it as \$153 75 & 20 I sent last week which was 43 3/4 over your monies due from M<sup>c</sup>Donald. The duplicate of the Bill I will send by water.

Toludd stand		\$160	
Mary has paid M <sup>r</sup>		17.31 1/2	deducted for repairs
Palmer his bills yesterday		1.75	paid for advertisement
\$13.37 1/2		\$ 19. 6 1/2	your ballance from
18 3/4 for lime			\$ 70.43 3/4
1.75 to another Carpenter			\$160
2. white Washer			19. 6 1/4
<u>\$17.31 1/4</u>			<u>\$140.93 3/4</u>

[Under address]

I must apologize for the writing but my eyes are in a wretched state & I have had to write in great haste. I wrote nearly the whole of the letter yesterday & last night by the falling of the snuff of a candle it got so bad I could not send it. We join in much love to you both. Your most aff<sup>ec</sup>

M. L. Beach

As it might be said I put it here M<sup>c</sup>D. is to take charge of Jacob & to get him a good Master & Mary asked him to take half his value & keep him himself

My Dear Sister,

I had the pleasure yesterday of receiving your welcome letter of the 4th. It affords me heart felt pleasure to find that the complaint in y<sup>r</sup> eyes is one that yields so easily to the tonic of the ice water as I understand some eyes cannot bear it; so that I conclude y<sup>u</sup> must be only debility. You say not a word about going as yet to Germantown so that I hope this may find you in Philadelphia. I have been much concerned that it was not possible for even the mere trifle now sent to have come on sooner; but when I wrote last by Miss Huxham you will remember only a ballance of \$44.50 was left in my hands & since not a tenant has paid & no other money but Swan's (one month) except Bryce who sent yesterday \$50 the half of which with the \$44.50 making \$69.50 which now comes discount included. Bryce sent a note promising to pay the ballance of the \$25 soon & saying that after he did, he had some communication to make respecting the keeping them for that such was the pressure of the times &c that he could not possibly make the rent out of them. You may perhaps recollect I wrote in the winter that he would not promise to take them positively for a whole year more but that it might be probable. Telfer his principal clerk called with the note & money yesterday & he spoke movingly about the times & I know his statement was correct B. had not yet engaged another store & I begged him before he did, to let me know first what he could get another of equal value for his purpose for; then I would be willing to let him have ours for the same until October; as I told him perhaps we might sell them in the Fall. But this it may be folly so to speak, for we must first I suppose get permission from the Court; & then it is so bad now to sell that several who have been as earnest as I presume we can be; have had this Spring to relinquish it. I don't know my d<sup>r</sup> Sister what you could have thought of my letter by Miss Huxham & for which I had been pleasing myself with the hope of a long conversation. I can only say it was begun in languor (owing to my particular situation as that time but which I have cause for thankfulness is now quite removed & I am again as well as usual & quite comfortable) & the letter was ended I may almost say when distracted about Jacob's going down to the vessel in which he sailed for N. Orleans. My distress has been too almost as much for my poor child as for any thing else in the business for except in the loss of near relatives I will confidently say I believe it has been the severest trial to her feelings she has ever known; yet I think I can see wisdom & mercy shown in the event. She has been so painfully situated; he never sent once to acknowledge his fault or ask forgiveness & she had the advice of several who are both wise & good not to let him remain in the state. No positive proof except from one woman who we did not know who said he offered her on the Wharf a bundle of bed linen as she said he called them for sale; & that she would not even look over it; but we had most powerful circumstantial [sic] ones. However Mary did not make up her mind to send him till 18 hours before he went ; so you may judge of her situation & he or his friends knew it till about an hour or two; when she sent Beck to him to tell him he was going; & to ask if he had any message to send to his friends, & she hoped he would take this opening to send to herself; but no such one came (& as the [illegible] said Beck would no doubt have readily improved any thing to that purpose) She said he wept much,

that he regretted much he had not followed her & Mary's advice - & entreated her most earnestly to talk to his Mother; that she might be brought to be religious, that had she been so he might never have come to his present action, & that after all that had occurred he would rather not remain. M<sup>r</sup> Ogden is near N. Orleans at Judge Martin's near the City, his wife & family are not going this Season. Through mercy we are all well. It was Mrs. L.'s child & not herself that was ill, it has been at times better but is still very sick - the old gentleman's health is pretty good.

Your most aff<sup>ct</sup> Sister  
M. L. Beach

I told Beck was he to remain he should have been ashamed ever to have been seen out again & then perhaps this event might be the means of making him another man. Oh! I entreat y<sup>r</sup> prayers for him

Our love to Miss H. you can tell her I have seen M<sup>rs</sup> K to day she is well, her brother in law out again & M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>r</sup> better too she was rather poorly the day after she went but not unusually so I believe.

[Along the left margin of page 1]

In answer to your wish for my advice about M<sup>c</sup>Kee I would say to him please pay the 1<sup>st</sup> installment as soon as he can & more particularly if stock sells so low.

Charleston July 5<sup>th</sup> 1822

My dear Sister,

We had the pleasure of hearing from you to day by your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> (Post Mark) to Mary. I find by this letter you had not heard of Miss Huxham's arrival. I am thankful your bill reached you safely, & I am much obliged to you about offering the use of some of your money for the Taxes. I am sorry to think how unpleasant a subject the most of my late letters have been filled with; but Solomon justly observes out of the abundance of the heart &c.- Our thoughts of late have been so engrossed with that that it has to my grief shut out (except for short spells) almost every thing else. I desire to be only humble and thankful for the great mercies of our God of which we have been the subjects & have reason to be humbled in the dust on account of my vile impiety for his late mercies as well as all those of my past unprofitable life. My heart has been the abode of but a small share of peace or comfort if any at all for some days past; owing to the mournful state of things in our guilty City. I believe all danger for the present season is over – but to any one at all disposed to reflect, or feel for others as well as their own interests the events of this week were calculated to excite much painful & bitter reflection. The execution is over as to us at least for the present & has not been attended with tumult, or resistance as was feared by some of weak nerves. The military force out that day was so overpowering as to have rendered a rescue a desperate attempt. Kitty Ramsay told me that the Negroes were under the impression that Denmark Vesey the free black would be delivered & if in no other way the jail doors opened by a Supernatural Power. You will doubtless feel as I did desirous of knowing how the immoral behaved at the execution for I greatly feared they would have made some address to excite further rebellion; but they did not attempt it. Vesey was in a very hardened state in the jail say our people in other places. They will say perhaps he behaved with Magnanimity. M<sup>r</sup> T. Legare says he heard from a white person a gentleman I believe but one who was near enough almost to have touched him that he did not make a single remark but appeared like one to use his expression “collecting his thoughts for the scene before him.” You can't think what a feeling came for a moment over me when I heard this although he deserved to die for the undertaking he had embarked in. He was said to be a man of superior powers of mind & the more dangerous for it. He asserted in jail that he had not had a fair trial, that his accusers had not been brought before him; the last charge is a fact; but for motives of Prudence & Policy in our present state of affairs it could not be allowed, or was not at least – but they say his guilt was clearly marked by the testimony of several witnesses examined separately; but whose testimony fully agreed as to his agency &c. Poyas's Peter all I have heard speak of, as a very hardened villain & died in a dreadful state of mind. I am told two of them even laughed when first brought out of jail & preserved this state of mind to the last. Bennet's fellow Rolla was quite a young man but has been a member for 2 years of our church he evinced much feeling and penitence even to tears – his Master would not believe I have heard till he heard it from his own lips that he had been engaged in it. I do pity Bennet sincerely for he has gained if enemies can be called gained by it. That to a man who has studied his people's comfort as

he has it must be very wounding – I heard he said there was his neighbour Mrs. Townsend who keeps hers (with her bread baking you know & she a woman in easy circumstances & her woman near lying in carrying a load too heavy for a man I should say to come quite here with a great clothes basket of bread) he said working day & night they had not time for one even of them to be engaged in it. he had 3. And I am afraid this very instance of Bennet's will induce others to be harder with them than they were previous to it; saying it is better to keep them hardly. Ah! Slavery is a hard business & I am afraid we shall in this country know it to our bitter cost some day or other. Rolla confessed his being engaged in the business; but said he had felt so much about it that he had resolved to leave the City before the awful event took place as he could not bear to commit murder & laid the blame on Vesey – Doc<sup>f</sup> Palmer said he appeared to be more cut down when he spoke to him of his sin as a Professor than on any other ground – This I thought in his favor poor deluded creature. I hear that Vesey impressed or tried to do it the (professedly serious at least) that they ought to engage in the business on account of their abridgement of religious privileges & that he said to them Doc<sup>f</sup> Palmer even had joined with some of the gentlemen in our Church & made a Catechism different for the Negroes. This was the fact; but the good man did it to accomodate it to their understanding. Good man he gets it from all quarters to think of some person in an office before persons the other day calling him a Rascal with an Oath; for the part he had taken in trying to give them religious instruction; you may recollect the affair when Cogdell & Turnbull had some difficulty with him or rather it was the latter when Doc<sup>f</sup> P. had given some black man a ticket as a class leader or something of that sort. And now the bitterness that is poured out on the dear good Missionaries is enough to make I was going to say Satan triumph. But God can overrule it for good as dark as the cloud now is about the increased spread of the Gospel in our state. It seems this business has been of 4 years standing & ever since the affair of their being foiled about the African Church.

There are several still in confinement & it is expected I believe will be transported. They convict none on a single testimony. It is said that 500 had given in their names in the City to join them; but this I do not vouch for, for never were more falsehoods perhaps told. It is also said that Vesey & the other ring leaders were to have the pillage of the Banks &c & of which they were immediate to go off with to S<sup>t</sup> Domingo & leave the fools behind to pay the reckoning. Mary Jones I believe (except with the Earthquakes) never went through such a night of Terror as that of the 16<sup>th</sup> of June - & even you think it possible I could have smiled that night or rather it was near day yet I did. When she said in a most solemn tone Oh! I shall never be able to bear the sight of a Negroe again & if I go (or live to go) to the Northward I never will have one about me & at present she has almost I may say a hatred of them all. I have heard it remarked by several that all confidence in them is forever at an end after the treachery of several in the business. Poor Susan M<sup>c</sup>Call is in considerable trouble about her Clarissa her children's nurse's, her husband if he is not hanged will be shipped off. She is I think without any exception the most superior black female I know. We had an opportunity of seeing her at James Island & the Ramsay's say her husband is as fine a looking black he belongs to Harth. Jesse belonging to Blackwood was a young creature only about 22 I hear he had a most prepossessing countenance & I have heard that James Legare wished him pardoned. It seems there was a great openness and candour in his manner & he showed a very tender & penitent spirit. Doc<sup>f</sup> Furman, Palmer & Mr Boies visited them in

Jail, but Vesey & Poyas's fellow would hear nothing they had to say; they said they were condemned already & it was of no use to say any thing more. They were executed near the Lines I understand but few blacks attended. The companies on duty were out from 9 at night until 9 the next morning & the City I understand will be strongly guarded for some time to come by the different companies. Whether they think the City Guard not to be trusted I can't say; but I understand they do not patrol the streets at all now; but are kept at the Guard houses & Arsenal. But this won't I expect sent them long to be out of the way and picking up Dollars in addition to their wages. It is said in the voluminous papers found it is astonishing the gain in their knowledge &c. & they speak of their cause as one they expect the Lord will assist them in as he did the Israelites from their Bitter trial & speak of their deliverance from the hand of the Philistines. I heard that Vesey said in the jail that it was a Glorious cause he was to die in and the singing of the Psalms &c in there the night before was carried on to a great extent- he said also that his spiritual enjoyment never had been as great or greater than that night or the one before it. What do you think of Wigs made by order of the ring leaders being produced before the City Council which they were to wear with their faces painted white when they first were to attack the City Guard. Through mercy we are all well except that Mary frequently has a pain in her limbs which is the case to day. Old Mrs Swinton died of a fit last Sunday (it is supposed so as she had an Apoplectic one a few weeks ago.) She was aged 76 & 6 months. Unless any thing of more importance than usual occurs I do not expect to write again untill Cap<sup>t</sup> Bunce sails from here & he has not yet arrived, but if it should be otherwise rest assured I will endeavour to write. It will be time enough to come to any determination what part of the Property to offer for sale I will try to send by the Georgia P. McDonald's statement. I wrote to Holinsby about the interest money; but he has been sick but as soon as better or well enough has promised to call; but I don't know whether to pay it or not.

Mary & children all send their love to you both. I was truly concerned to read of the late Mrs R. misconduct on two accounts. With the warmest affection my D<sup>r</sup> Sister  
yours sincerely

M. L. Beach

July 6<sup>th</sup> 1822

Kitty & several of your friends have at different times lately sent their love to you. Give mine to D<sup>r</sup> little Mary

Charleston July 15th 1822

My dear Sister,

I wrote to you on the 6th and in that I said I would not write again until I did by Capt B. unless any thing more than usual occurred but as he has not arrived (owing to adverse winds I suppose (for all the N. York line Packets are away & notwithstanding by contract one Ship sails every Monday from each of the 2 ports there is not even one arrived although we have accounts by Mail of at least 2 & the Saluda too which does belong to the line having sailed) it will [illegible] it a long time if I should wait for him. I never have felt more desirous with the exception of first hearing after you have left us, that I do know I have not got a letter from you since the one to Mary of the 24th Ult. & you had not seen Miss Huxham then or got my letter by her. Through the great goodness of our God we are all well (except young Kathy but she's not very sick) & still preserved in safety & if not in peace at heart yet in outward peace or at least our fears for the reverse have not been realized for I cannot say that much peace at heart can be enjoyed in our situation here except to those who are so enabled to live above the scenes of time & are enjoying that peace which passeth all understanding & these minds which taking a more prehensive view of things & realizing that all events are operating to bring about the greater good. But the conviction of not doing our part in this grand design seems enough at all times to weigh one down & cause utter despair would were we not able to look to one great High Priest for sprinkling with his precious blood. I must apologize my dear Sister for I really felt ashamed after my letters went at having said about one & another thing mentioned in them "don't mention it again" & hope you will excuse it. I assure you I did it not because I thought you lacked prudence, but in this world we are so beset with snares & people, words, often so wrested that I often feel afraid often conversing with persons, lest I have gone too far in reporting any thing & things so often are taken up wrong that one seems at times as if they could hardly tell on what ground they reported things. For instance it was said of young Dr. M<sup>c</sup>Call's wife & we heard as we supposed from good authority that she ran over to the M<sup>r</sup> Ford's when the dreadful event took place in her shift only & also was deranged & had fits & what not, & instead of it; although her distress for a little while was very great yet not one of these circumstances took place & her composure if not in [illegible] of sensibility is quite as great as can be desired. but not so his poor & brokenhearted Mother. Oh, how much I feel for her pious soul. I am sure our dear Minister has his words wrested & his actions too dear man in the present day. Yesterday he preached two most excellent sermons well worthy of appearing in print from these words in Mark "It must needs be that Offences come, but Woe to the world because of Offences." He endeavoured to prove from various places in the old Testament & in later days how God had overruled the actions of man even while they were under a free agency in the business to bring about his intentions both of Judgment & mercy & particularly in the Redemption of the world. & cited some cases where even good men had done wrong & very wickedly were. After mentioning cases of the falls of good men & yet their being true children of God & cited the afflictions that God in His righteous Providence followed them up with he made some remarks to show that because there were Hypocrites in the church that yet not all religion was not to be rejected no more than all money would be because of counterfeit bills, but he said in the affairs of this life men preferred often their money to their souls & instead

of rejecting having any thing to do with that they would be at the pains to examine for the marks that distinguish the one from the other but in religion they would reject the whole often. He said if our Lord had not warned them that Offences would come then they might expect to see no such cases where religion still existed in a church. I suppose these remarks may have had some allusion on the case of the poor blacks who I fear are in the Community at large All branded hypocrites for the wicked conduct of some – & some of those guilty ones were perhaps misled by more artful ones – for that wretched Vesey it is said applied his art to all classes of his tools. I suppose long before this reaches you will have seen that 5 more were to have been executed on the 12th & that 3 were respited. One that was executed named Gullah Jack was an African a most superstitious creature & apparently one whose figure & whole deportment was of no importance – he gave some of those concerned an idea that he possessed the power of repelling any danger by mixtures he prepared & said that in his own country it had been proved that common bullets could not kill him. It is said that so much ascendancy had Vesey over his superstitious mind that he was filled with dread at the thought of meeting Vesey's spirit at the gallows. Poor wretched creature he with several others was confined in different cells in the Poor House for want of places in the Jail as I understand they have none in the Work House – Doc<sup>r</sup> P. G. Prioleaux (I don't know what was his errand at the Poor House but he saw this Jack there a day or two before the execution & the creature knowing him said: "Do Massa Doc<sup>r</sup> beg for me" and wept bitterly. Oh! my heart is often I was going to say torn with distress about these people it does appear for the general good they ought to die for there is little or any doubt of their guilt but when we look back on their past sufferings what are we to say. The other man executed belonged to Elias Horry – a remarkable pleasant obliging servant previously but of a very enterprising spirit – his Master before he was arrested said to M<sup>rs</sup> H<sup>y</sup> that he hoped he was not concerned in this business for if he was from his enterprising temper he would he thought be deeply so & it has appeared so. Where or when the arrests will stop it is difficult or I should have said impossible to conjecture for on the 13th in<sup>st</sup> 14 or 15 fresh ones were arrested. I understand there was a meeting of a number of the Citizens either on that or the day before to consult on measures directed to the present state of things. Arthur Haynes told Mary on Sat<sup>y</sup> when she was at Susan's that there had been a meeting also last week of Military men & they had made such arrangements for present safety that there was no reason for alarm now. Some persons I hear speak of the intention or advisability of making this a Garrison Town in future but all these precautions are yet only in contemplation. Oh! that our God would grant us a spirit of humiliation under this rod & to our rulers Wisdom, forbearance, justice & mercy as well as firmness in their decisions. Through mercy the country in general I believe remains very quiet. There have been some two or three persons it was said a few days ago rather a spirit of dissatisfaction shown but I hear nothing of it more. I was greatly distressed however hearing it was in more cases but this was utterly false. Poor old M<sup>r</sup> Jones has had some difficulty at his place which perhaps gave rise to the report. A very young fellow a mere lad joined with 2 or three more of M<sup>r</sup> Martin's negroes & with fire arms attacked the Stage; but Providentially although they fired twice as there were no passengers in it no hurt was done of course; & at the 2 firing the ball or buck shot passed by the stage drivers hat, only; the last accounts we heard were that M<sup>r</sup>. J. lad was in Jacksonborough Jail – but the Negroes in that neighborhood from various accounts so far from having a daring spirit are

apparently afraid to go off their own plantations – & this solely appears to have been only a robbery which business they have been carrying on for some time it seems at the old gentlemans place. I have been greatly disappointed indeed by having no letter again to day, John returned since I have been writing without one. Perhaps you will see our [text missing] fever recorded for this place as such news is seldom lost in the papers but it was a young gentleman son of T. Cone Es<sup>q</sup> of Phil<sup>a</sup> who was taken with it 30 hours after his arrival here from the W. Indies & then having fatigued (the paper says) himself much on shore in that time; but I don't know of any other case having occurred since. Old M<sup>rs</sup> Nugent appears to be in a very declining state she desired me to send her love to you. I saw M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Donald last week who called to tell me he would not get the money from Dye I told him perhaps I had best write to him to say I should with you immediately sue him as it was a joint lease – he said he would call again on him & let me know in a day or two his answer & as some days have passed I think it probable Dye may have promised payment – he also asked me if Lizzey had not called on me as she said she would about Abraham's wages for she refused to pay \$5 & said I understood him she might or would give \$4. I have for the present as business is very dull I know reduced Swan! to \$10 he paid that for the last month & he has deducted no blank days for 3 months & stated the case of reducing his wages humbly Quickly I consented. & hope it will not be disagreeable to you. You will know the recoils & fears I have had about John as so many of his sort are among the accused but thanks be to God he has not been as yet. Last week the day the information was in the people that 5 more were to be hanged I was very early up at the churches window & heard Betty [illegible] not in a loud but mournful voice. “Lord ha mercy & then saw our John [illegible] (for [illegible] is fortunately so much of [illegible] he is gone with M<sup>r</sup> [illegible] to England for his health) walking in with a News Paper & presently heard a reading in the kitchen I had not seen our paper but I expected they had some news of the sort & when she came in I observed her agitation & said are you sick Betty. but not supposing she was, she then much affected said 5 more were to be hanged & in the course of our conversation said the innocent now were going with the guilty & when we know what [illegible] in plain [illegible] they are it is not impossible it may in some cases prove so. Mary & children join in love to you both. The Lord Bless you my very dear Sister.

M. L. Beach

Charleston July 23<sup>d</sup> 1822

My dear Sister,

I don't know whether it is yesterday or this day week I wrote to you – I had the great satisfaction of getting yours of the 9th by Mail last week & then by the G. P. yesterday. Capt. B. arrived on Sunday Af<sup>n</sup> after a passage of 19 days & the Commodore Perry a fine Ship & fast sailer at other times was 23!! days from N. York. The first letter made my heart ache my very D<sup>r</sup> Sister to find your anxiety about us so great, I hope the Lord will relieve you of these harassing feelings which can do us no good except by your prayers being still more quickened by it. I feel very much for you in your lonely situation at such a time; I say lonely as it is not all you may have intercourse with that can enter at all into your feelings. I shall endeavour to answer yours by the G. P. at its return; which is advertized for the 27<sup>th</sup> so don't expect to hear again till by then unless any thing of more than usual occurrence should make me think it adviseable to write; in that case rest assured I will if in the land of the living do it-& I will not deceive you; so don't let any false reports worry you- You need not my D<sup>r</sup> creature have apologized about not writing more 'feelingly' as you say; I know how it was about you now-information of the state of things – had what shall I say of this now – Oh! God has a controversy with us, Oh! for his spirit to accompany it. I often think of Mr Newtons lines as applied to our situation, “Sees every day new straits attend's & Wonders where the scene will end”- The unraveling of this Awful business is like the chamber in Ezekiel's vision of greater & greater abominations. On Friday next 26<sup>th</sup> 29 more people are to be hung & among them M<sup>r</sup> Palmer's Billy. I don't feel the surprise that many do about him; for although we often sin in two ways breaking the command of our Savior in judging & often in misjudging others; yet there was a something about him that made me fear it was only a profession; but still seeing him so constantly at the Church (& it was only last Wednesday night he was at the Lectern snuffing the candles & arrested the next day) that people feel it sensibly in our Church – his old & young Master at first I believe doubted of but are now I understand fully convinced of his guilt & he will be a great loss in point of property to that poor old saint. besides the distress of his dying in that way & two others of the communicants besides Billy are to be hanged on Friday. M<sup>rs</sup> Purcel's (M<sup>r</sup>. Smith) man Jack who she used to appear to think a non-such & she was so ridiculous as to say (for she was I may say half a mad woman from what I hear when he was first arrested) “thus they might as well hang Ben Palmer as him” is now convinced of his guilt – Susan M<sup>c</sup>Call's Clarissa's husband is also another of our members & the Ramsay's Sarah's husband (he a methodist professor) are of those to die on Friday; the Ray's feel it a great deal & the poor Doc<sup>r</sup> I never saw look (except about David) as he does about him; they say he feels most sensibly about him. Ours as yet have not been implicated as I have heard in the slightest manner; but this is no security that some of them may not perish on the Gallows in ten days; if it should be the case I fear I should be a wretched being to the end of my days for having them in a state of slavery to prove a temptation – But Oh! this business I fear is akin to the French revolution to think that many of these people growing up like children as is the case of many of the condemned could be brought to such a fiend like temper that they would consent to imbrue their hands in the blood of their Masters & their little sons who never could have shed theirs by that to gratify I don't know what passion, whether it was Lust of Dominion or wealth or revenge; & it is not to hard Master: or the case would be altered widely in its complexion; though I dare say abroad

before it is correctly known it will be said they could bear their oppressions no longer – And the bitterness of the men of the world against our poor Church & D<sup>r</sup> Pastor is awful; indeed I may say against Religion – I told Mary after hearing of a very bitter speech of Rob<sup>t</sup> Hayne's about Missionaries the other day that I don't know but this business may yet end in religious persecution. In conversation with M<sup>r</sup> R. Edwards last evening (& he by the by speaks the language of a Southern man about [text missing] people) I remarked how our poor church & Pastor were vilified [text missing] said I hoped there was more religion there religion there than in others by [text missing] being so pointed at – he did not say any thing in the [text missing] but said the [illegible] or bitterness seemed leveled at Religion. These wretched creatures having carried on their seditious Meetings up out of Town under the pretence of their being religious ones has left a sting & bitterness on the minds of the men of the world that unless the power of God alone will be applied to the removing of it; an age I believe must pass before it can be effaced – & the hatred to them so great that I expect & I was going to say eternal one will exist reciprocally. The country remains as far as I know perfectly quiet. They only in the City had engaged I say just a little help from the Island. Old M<sup>r</sup> Jones's man or youth Jupiter I suppose was hung agreeably to his sentence on Friday last & two others belonging to Martin a Black Smith in that neighborhood – They had not heard yesterday when Mary dined up there. She says the old gentleman was very dull and conversed but little she seemed to feel for him much. We have much cause for thankfulness that the City is very healthy for this season & our family too; except Mary worried with pain in her stomach which impairs her looks. I believe [text missing] proceeds partly from bills & the rest from cares for the future not from fears for the present as to our personal safety. But Oh! This is I believe a lost country- I believe she is endeavouring to bring her mind to working for her living for with regard to property being removed by sale we can flatter ourselves but little. Negroe men a few days ago when a few were offered could not bring \$150 – but this is owing to the present uncertainty of this property for young Anderson a few weeks or months ago (M<sup>r</sup> Blair's son in law I believe) gave 600 for one that is to be hanged this week. One of these Malefactors thinking he could not die in peace without confessing his guilt acknowledged his having set fire to a house in Meeting Street (not his Master's) when a negroe woman was charged with it & he I believe not even suspected. With regard to the report of Miss Bennet (& also D Elliot Huger's daughter) it [illegible] in general circulation here but I doubt it for in their various confessions where they hold that all the male population even down to the little boys was to take place I have never heard of their confessing what was to be done particularly with the other sex. The Negroes even had a report that the black women were to be put to death that the men might have white wives, some say all the young ones were to be spared & the old women & children put to death. But this is only one of a Thousand lies I believe. M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kee promised to call early this week I wrote to him, but I don't think more than 1.30 of the bond is due, but he does not appear to recollect himself either the time or proportion that is, I wish he may settle the half. Dye is going or rather gone down on already; he promised me positively to settle one quarter in about ten days & I have promised to wait for the 2<sup>d</sup> q<sup>r</sup> now due (if he will pay [text missing] that time) until the one after expires & I don't know that any thing in point of time would have been gained if I had not – if [text missing] to make it worth while should before Capt. B. sails I don't [text missing] it had

but go by him that is if M<sup>f</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kee does any thing of consequence text [text missing]  
much love she intends writing shortly [text missing] lord bless you forever. M. L B.

Charleston July 25<sup>th</sup> 1822

My dear Sister,

I have just had the pleasure of reading your letter of the in<sup>st</sup> & felt indescribably at the wonderful escape you had in your ride along the Skuykill Canal. Ah! for hearts of gratitude to our Almighty Preserver. After reading it I was stuck with thinking of M<sup>r</sup> R. Edwards remark 3 or 4 even<sup>gs</sup> ago when on his asking after you I told him how you were but that you were in an anxious state about us at this time. He replied either that the same hand did or you should keep in mind (I forget which) preserved us that did you – & how striking is it in this instance I am afraid from some symptoms you mention of the pulsation or beating in the right side of your chest that you are getting nervous pray strive in time against it. Your account of poor A. G. is most pitiable indeed & none can feel more for him than I do, or ought in this respect, for at times lately my horror at the injections of thoughts I may say directly from Hell or the prince of it; have left me for some moments in despair. Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer prayed a few Sabbaths ago so particularly for those under temptation that I am sure he had some particular case (though I haven't heard so) in view & I told Mary I believed that Satan in a more than common manner I believed was at work in our community at this time in setting these incendiaries the Negroes to work & in the hearts of other people with sinful thoughts that our souls must shudder at; for that I had been in a peculiarly tempted state respecting the Magnitude of the suffering for sin in Eternity & not from my old difficulty about the doctrine of Election that I so often have groaned under. I hope the Lord may be preparing Adam by these severe trials for an instructor of many other poor Sinners. I got a letter from M<sup>r</sup> King of the 12th of June & he mentioned having conversed with A. G. at two or three times & said what discouraging & humbling views Adam had & that his (M<sup>r</sup> King's hopes) were in proportion to Adam's fears of himself; he said that the last time he saw him he was there at the Communion the 1<sup>st</sup> Sabbath in June & had conversed with A (I think some days before) he then indulged a hope for himself & M<sup>r</sup> K – a strong one. With respect to R. G. going off unless very special business carries him; I hardly think he will go at such a time as this; as I suspect from what I hear that it is thought cowardly. The duty of guard is of necessity so heavy that now from 16 to old men are dispensed with; not even if a substitute for their night was offered I understand. I know the Ministers are not for Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer had to be out last night & I heard that Bishop Bowen after all his poor health had to ride Patrols all Saturday night though he had to preach the next day; he has a nice house on the neck a little above the Arsenal. I am told by this arrangement many nights pass for each one to rest & then I suppose they will be in a better state so if any serious alarm took place; but before this arrangement was made what with many never being in the habit of turning out, & others (for you know how many Planters there are & they were not liable to City duty owing to their belonging to companies in their own parishes in the country. All but for the Ministers I think it a wise regulation. I think it probable (but I have not heard so) that this was one of the regulations formed by the meeting I told you that had been formed of the Military men that A. Hayne said would place the city in a safe state of defense or security, but this is almost too confident a word to use. I trust the Almighty will be ours I hope it is a time of much prayer here – the Tuesday Afternoon meeting is very full generally, & almost to crowding at times & thus the prayers are under less restraint on account of no blacks being present – for our public ones (at least in our Church) have been very guarded as to the State of things. Mr Boies

preached last Sunday Mary baptized Doc<sup>r</sup> P. child (H. Bunce) & I never liked him so well his subject was on the stability & serenity of those who feared God at all hours & in times of trouble particularly & Mr Brown in the Af<sup>n</sup> preached from those words. Not every one that saith Lord, Lord but he that doeth &.. Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer a few weeks or short number of months at farthest preached from those words “I will search Jerusalem with Candles” Two most solemn sermons & he has often used those words in prayer since that our Jerusalem may be searched; & indeed the search seems now begun with black professors Old doctor Furman presented a very solemn one about a fortnight ago in the evening from those words Isa. Chap. 22.14<sup>th</sup> Verse it was revealed in my ears by the Lord of Hosts surely this iniquity shall not be purged till ye be die. I was almost shocked with apprehension when Mary came home & told me lest it was Prophetic; but she said he was rather encouraging at the same in time very faithful in shewing how the destruction of a community was to be averted or prevented – & she said from all his remarks she supposed thoughts there ought to be a day of Public Humiliation, but this I suppose is hopeless from the nature of the visitation & the young man Hamilton our Intendant who knows not God. You ask if it was not C. U. who made the same remark about Doc<sup>r</sup> P. but I am sure it was not, but I did not nor did Mary either hear the name. J. Legare I believe mentioned having heard it himself but did not tell the name. I don’t know the day I have heard C II’s name mentioned out of our family. And while I speak of the Legare’s I will mention what I used to know of II’s arrangements strictly true. T. J. was in conversation about the small profit of money at interest & of Planters profits &<sup>ca</sup> & D. L. remarked how hard the Negroes work’d in some parts of the country (this not though among those who could ever be called cruel observe) – & he said unless this was practised he did not believe that such enormous profits were realized by the Planters, & then from one remark went on to another not boasting though observe “that it had been his constant practice never to have his people at work on his plan as is done in Winter in many many places I know) before the Sun was up nor after dark (I suppose any thing extraordinary excepted) for he never could answer to his conscience for any profit to act thus toward his people in serving all he could & spoke of his responsibility &ca & Mary says for instance about foot Gins he dislikes so much as their labour can be saved by Machines, & in various ways on his place he uses the help of them (though at much expense) to save manual labour, he seems serious & his wife too if they service the old gentleman if removing to the North; he says he has always had a predilection for it since spending so much time there. I wish you could see the behaviour & cold distant looks of Polly S-th M<sup>rs</sup> T [illegible] &... I really for a moment felt a little provoked in returning the other after noon from the Tuesday prayer meeting & I asked P. S. How her aged father did, but quickly after I thought if they only could know how it satisfied me that one business was hopeless they would not be so ready to give me a proof of it. S. Stevens (who is I fear in a way that will soon remove her to where she has long wished to be) is very affectionate & friendly in her messages for I have not been to see her but certainly would go if it was not for going to her father’s house; but he is friendly to when I give him the chance to speak. Susan Stevens is in a dreadful Ague & fever & many threatening symptoms of a Liver complaint – her mother in law has been from home nearly 3 weeks nursing A. Ashe’s wife now very low with a fever & has been so many days. Don’t notice several of the particulars of D. L. &ca above & on the other side. When I get writing to you I want to say so much that I often put more in than is worth putting pen to paper for, or for you to

strain our eyes with reading. I am afraid I will not have it in my power to send the remittance by the G. P. as M<sup>c</sup> D. has only a trifle in his hands & M<sup>c</sup> Kee don't call & Holinsby yesterday asked me to wait a few days till he sold some Cotton; he has been very sick & seems dispirited – he paid me a visit that excited some uneasiness about my people – & he has some fears about Quaco being suspected – he says he hears it mentioned by one or two that there have been two meetings held at the old front place that 3 boat loads of black people were said to have gone from town – I begged him to be very still about it & I guess for his own sake he will. It will be wonderful indeed if there should not in such times some of mine suspected. I suppose the constituted authorities are only waiting to get through their Town business if that ever can be done by this set of rulers (or generation perhaps) & then I expect the search for the country conspirators will take place; for I heard when the business first was opened that several on James Island were supposed to be concerned in it. But I must endeavour to leave it with our righteous God. Whether the country is clear of the business or only intimidated by the steps taking in the City it is a great mercy it remains tranquil. In answer to several questions in to day's letter I will answer things in order. Denmark Vesey was a slave to old Mr Vesey (& used to be I think I heard about his store when he & Blake were partners) but whether he was left or he purchased his freedom I can't say – he was gray headed, he told his judges or the Council when interrogated to what Church he belonged with a very firm decisive tone "None"- & I asked Betsy a few evenings ago the same question & she answered with a contemptuous tone of him to the same effect- But I believe he was considered the Champion in the African Church business & I believe it is the generally received opinion that this church commenced this awful business or at any rate they took this for their rallying point I understand their papers contain allusion to it- But it excites surprise how many things have got out when it is said the Court was under Oath to secrecy. I can only account for it in this way; that when different Negroes were trying; their white representatives or friends (I know it was the case with several & I suppose with all) heard the testimony given by the evidences & also the deceased as well as those now under sentence have made disclosures so that I believe the whole of any consequence is now out & in possession of the public- I think the attempt of keeping their arrangements secret was judicious could it have been practicable, & yet perhaps it is more satisfactory to the Public to know it, as our minds must be more satisfied of the awful necessity of such sanguinary steps as are now taking place in our City. The Pirates I make no doubt are in safe confinement, but I hear nothing of them; there are two – Wilson & Paul's man & a great many more are to be transported beyond the United States, some say to Africa; & others say to the mines in South America I hope not the latter as it is said they had better be put to death & if these are less guilty surely they ought not have the heaviest punishment as it will at any rate be in the world's eye so. I found in the evening after writing the above about a substitute for others that one was accepted for Doc<sup>t</sup> Palmer & probably as it was for him it may be in other cases too – but finer certainly will not avail for absence & it is right all should bear their share. of the Tew's served but several of his people have offered, & young O'harra went when he heard at late as time nearly for the [illegible]) which I thought very praise worthy & the young Ramsay's too have offered; but it [illegible] M<sup>r</sup> P. thought that all things taken together he had best go, I suppose too as Bishop Bowen did – but they took a substitute –

& I hope will not again conclude but to go, for he seems truly worn down. It is said not one Episcopalian is among the guilty & only one Baptist.

July 27<sup>th</sup>, I felt so badly (not sick) my dear Sister & my mind was so tempest tossed yesterday that I was in no suitable state to write if I could help it. You heard before this will reach you that 29 poor miserable culprits were to have been executed yesterday but some were respited till 9<sup>th</sup> of August & 3 had their sentence commuted for transportation so that 22 were executed. The day before I felt strangely firm about it thinking it necessary by evening my distress about the business returned & if giving up every one I own would have made a different state of things that is that they could be freemen with safety to us & themselves I would have done, but this can never be in my day – The night was such as you may picture from a large number of the Cavalry passing back & forth the whole of it – in the middle of it the whole of the criminals for execution in the morning were brought together to the vault under the City Hall where a part of them were before; the others were divided some in the Jail & others in the Cells allotted for the Maniacs in the Poor House & about 6 o'clock the procession moved off up Meeting S<sup>t</sup>. attended with an immense crowd I understand; & a great one of white as well as black were at the awful scene & several Carriages (not with [illegible] understand) but such as the Council, Willington & even Doc<sup>f</sup> Palmer in his; who went not in his Official capacity; but by the desire of Doc<sup>f</sup> Leland who accompanied him. With some of the poor Sufferers the business was managed very badly indeed (no doubt owing to the great number) he was shot at last, said by accident, but in pity (I suppose to end his sufferings) as it respected one of them I understand they behaved with great firmness – they all died on one or rather a continuation of 3 gallows in one. A death like silence reigned in the City at the time. Oh! That God in his mercy may have enabled them as the thief on the Cross by faith to look at the blood which alone can save any of us. Both Doc<sup>f</sup> Palmer & M<sup>f</sup> Jones had a very favourable opinion of the state of mind that both M<sup>ts</sup> Purcell's man & Pharo Tomah's husband were in. I don't wonder that with such an inflammable temper as Mrs Purcel has that she should have gone on as she did on the first surprise, although she had had it hinted to her two or three days before that her Jack had been seen in suspicious company – but he was one of those unassuming civil diligent servants & had a most prepossessing countenance – he sent for M<sup>f</sup> John Holmes (Miss Glove that was) as the intimate friend of his Mistress & told her how the business had been – & observed he could not stand the sight of his Mistress who it seems brought him up from a child & had been so kind to him; but to go on he said when Vesey first proposed it he objected for he said his wife & children were free & he lived as well as he could wish himself – however Vesey again came to him & with the Bible to quote different passages to prove the lawfulness of it; & told him that if he did not do it for himself or had no reason; he ought to do it for the sake of others – he told M<sup>f</sup> Jones he wished he could confess his guilt before the whole world.

A melancholy accident happened on the ground at the Execution some say some alarm was given; others that a Horse started; but let it would have arose from what course it did. A sudden impulse was given & it was then by some called out “a fire in Town” the Troops immediately made a dash or move to clear the ground & of course you may form some idea of such a crowd falling back – M<sup>f</sup> Perman's carriage either in turning too short; or somehow by the pole of another striking it – but his boy behind it was knocked off

from behind & literally trampled to death for his skull was fractured by the Horses that passed over him – & several persons were hurt but none else that we have heard mortally so which I think next to the miraculous. As the Papers I intend sending (for they may fail) will inform you about others but they are [illegible] in their details I will for bear. I send all that have any thing respecting this. Oh! what sort of business shall I call this sorest judgment perhaps it will prove that ever our country saw.

Mond<sup>ay</sup> July 29<sup>th</sup> As Capt Bunce did not sail this Saturday [text missing] this morning. I add a few lines more. Our family & City [text missing] been greatly favored with health for this season of the year. I never remember giving less medicine any Summer thus far. Yet still always some are going off the stage. Mary Condy that was her last the eldest of her two children with sore throat.

M<sup>c</sup>Donald called on Saturday to say how often he had called on Bryn in vain, but I trust your money will be collected soon & when it is a bill shall be got & all sent in one unless you wish some sent immediately. M<sup>c</sup>Kee has not called – I intended sending on the state of accounts between us by Bunce but must defer it till the Wade Hampton next sails. The City is as far as I know quiet now & no danger for the present is I think to be apprehended. Col A. P. Hayne is I think to sail with Bunce he called here on Sat<sup>y</sup> Ev<sup>y</sup> offered Mary in the afternoon when he met her in the Street to take any commands from us – but as I know in general a letter is longer going in such cases & he did not mention it again in the eveing [sic] to me I conclude it will be as well to put it in the letter bag – he said he would come to see you. I suppose you have heard he is engaged to be married to our next door Neighbor's daughter. I hope he may be the means of doing them some good. I am sure it can do him none so much wealth & so little of God among them. God bless you my dear Sister pray your most affection<sup>e</sup>.

M. L. Beach

M<sup>f</sup> Maxwell's families & Keith are in their usual health if you should see Miss H. you can tell her then we all at church [above: I my love to her] Yesterday at the last the former & of course M<sup>rs</sup> Ren, M<sup>rs</sup> M all told me she was tolerable but M<sup>r</sup> H has had a tedious cough & cold.

We are all well

Charleston August 8 1822

My dear Sister,

I had the great pleasure of getting a letter from you yesterday (Post mark) 27<sup>th</sup> Ult. The first part gave me much pain to find how sick you had been with your stomach no doubt caused by the state of your mind but it was a great relief to find by the latter date of your letter (26<sup>th</sup> July) that you say you are then much better than for 9 or 10 days past." I hope through the goodness of our merciful God you have continued so. Owing to my own forgetfulness I was very unhappy not hearing from you last week I expected a letter on Thursday (as the Thursday before I got one) & was disappointed, the next I again sent & none & on Saturday when I was for one hour wretched, for I feared some evil had happened – but I found upon looking over your letter afterward that you said at the close of it that unless Burns sailed after a certain time you then feared [sic] you would not write – I don't know how it could have slipped my memory for I seldom read your letters less than three times after I get them, besides looking over them again when I answer them. I hope you will not be uneasy by not hearing by Burns in the usual time I gave you notice of it in my last letter by Mail for I don't think he could have had a short passage – & Mary wrote on the 3 inst. by the Gov<sup>r</sup> Hawkins & that will certainly have a long one from the adverse winds for it since the day after sailing. Through the mercy of God we are all well except Mary who has been very disordered in her stomach too almost exactly as you described to have been yours but she is better now. I hope my dear Sister you have got in a more comfortable state of mind about the state of our affairs here as bad as they have been; I believe they are not now in that state to warrant your fears & anxieties awakened by them & your tenderness for as to destroy your peace. Oh! do not indulge such apprehensions; I assure you it is far from being our state or experience - & I do not believe me say so merely to quiet you or to put the best gloss on it. With regard to present danger I trust by the blessing of God the plans of these deluded creatures are frustrated for a while; some say for 20 & others for 50 years this, no one can say, nor do I believe it will be in this age of revolutions as long; yet I trust that as we have already experienced such a deliverance it has been in answer to the prayers of faith that have been offered up by the people of God here, & who although but few in comparison of the rest of the inhabitants yet have the promise of God to rest on still. W<sup>m</sup> Garner for whom \$200 reward was offered by the Gov<sup>r</sup> was apprehended near Columbia & is to be hanged to morrow a new Court had to be organized for his trial, as the others declined but not in displeasure to serve any longer; indeed J. Legare gave up serving a fortnight before they did; from the state of his health as he said – & Henry Deas served in his stead; the new Court – are, Poinset, R. Hayne, Gordon, Col. Roper, I forget the freeholders, Axon, & Winthrop I believe are the Magistrates as the freeholders will not have the trading Magistrates. Kenedy & T. Parker were the Magistrates in the other Court. I understood 3 or 4 days ago that it was hoped or expected no more after Garner would be hung but if others were taken up & found guilty they would be transported as it was thought the ring leaders were already hung & the less of death as a punishment the better. And indeed such is the wretched constitution of our vile fallen nature that both black & white are getting familiarized for the Tuesday after the 22 were hung (3 or 4 more were) & actually unless among the immediate friends of them it excited no more sensation in the City than any common event that is in public expression I mean for no doubt many thought of them & prayed for them too – but after the fearful number of 22, 4 or 5 more did not carry

weight with it – & indeed I felt worse about the first execution I think than I have done since except the night of the 25<sup>th</sup> for a little while. I have made such a mistake about the time being altered for the Mail to leave here which is to be from Jan<sup>y</sup> next & I thought till M<sup>c</sup>Donald told me a few minutes ago that it now had gone into effect viz. 4 o'clock in the afternoon that I have to write in a very hurried manner. He is now gone to get a bill of exchange of some sort for \$120. – M<sup>c</sup>Kee never called according to promise but sent in his bill for \$56. 20/100 – you may remember we still owed him consirable [sic] when we paid \$40 about 18 months or two years ago then he put the put the brick pillars under the floor at the stores in May 1820 & agreed for I have it in his own hand now for \$25, & he charges the \$25 then he worked at the next House after M<sup>r</sup> Hutchinson left it this comes to near \$6 the account I believe very correct – At the foot of it he writes thus “At this time I cannot make any further payment to M<sup>rs</sup> Gilchrist as soon as I can I will” respectfully I wrote to him the same day & told him his charge was correct & would be deducted but as he had promised to pay if you were desirous of it I had written to you so & that it would disappoint you not to receive it he then sent a verbal answer he would call early this week & no call or message from him. Dye paid one [text missing] yesterday & the 2<sup>d</sup> of next month 2 more will be [text missing], but Capt Saltus to whom he assigned the lease called on [text missing] last week about it to tell of Dye's troubles he has gone [text missing] completely & assigned his property the notice in last night's paper for the benefit of his Creditors, but we will be secure of the ground rent. Capt Saltus wants to get the lease renewed to him for Dye but I told him we had as yet come to no conclusion how to do with it. I gave M<sup>c</sup>Donald this morning the \$24 & \$100 more he paid last week which I was in hopes to send this week to you with M<sup>c</sup>Kee's but as you may be in want of it thought it had best go at once. I find Bunce will not be back before the fall so am disappointed of sending it by him as I hoped to do the next trip. The premium on bills of exchange is now very high I have left it discretionary with McDonald whether to get one from Goodman who resides here at 4½ or of M<sup>r</sup> Edwards at 3½ he will soon be going off & M<sup>c</sup>D thought as there had been failings to the North (but this I believe has only been at Boston to any extent) that it might be better to get one from the persons here as Mr. E. is are from the North, but as I could not think myself as good a judge as a man in business I told M<sup>c</sup>D I would rather he should decide – & while the messages are going back & forth by John I fear I shall lose the Mail to day – Providence permitting I will write this day week again. & if any thing of more than usual importance occurs earlier. Mary & I send love to you

both  
Yours most Af<sup>ly</sup>  
M. L. Beach

Charleston September 5, 1822

My dear Sister,

I had the pleasure of receiving your welcome letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> your date (Post mark 24<sup>th</sup>) Though I was truly glad to find it again in your own hand though I felt afraid you felt it trying to your eyes to have written so much though not all at once, & also that you were both well otherwise except a slight cold that Mary had. But my heart ached my dear Sister to read how much you had been exercised from the state of things this Summer. I am afraid you have suffered more from apprehension than we did here (with the exception of the night of the 16<sup>th</sup> of June) & I am pretty sure much more than there was ground for. I am grieved to think what a gloomy summer you must have had at Germantown & I shall be glad to hear that you have got back to Phil<sup>a</sup> again. Have you had much intercourse with the Haslet family this summer & where is Mr H. now? Through the great goodness of our Heavenly Father all our family is in good health except little Diane & she not very sick that I know of & the City in general remarkably healthy although there have been some deaths as must of course take place steadily in our dying world. Some late disturbances are all quieted; business is very dull as it usually is at this season of the year & property much depreciated occasioned as much perhaps from the fall in the prices all over the Union (& I should suppose in Europe too as it is a time of peace) as well as from our late difficulties except in the article of Slaves & they would of course have fallen too at least one third from the fall of Cotton but this the property would give me no concern if that had been all to depreciate them. The Lord has given us so remarkable a deliverance that it ought still to encourage us to hope that he has yet mercy in store for this sinful community & to hope that in this day of wonders of His grace he may pour out of His Holy Spirit on us too of his own free mercy. Things did appear to me about two months ago to wear the darkest & most mysterious aspect as to the moral results of the late unhappy business & viewed now only by the eye of reason it can appear in no other, but when we view the wonder of the Lord's hand in thousands of other cases defeating the prince of darkness & view the operation of His hand in this day we may yet hope that this may yet be our experience. I recoil at times when I think of the poor Greeks at this time & also think that this country has a great deal to answer for on the score of Slavery as well as the Greeks for their departure from real Christianity. Yet as there are many I doubt not here who may be wrestling Jacob; we may still hope & trust that light may be brought out of all the late darkness. I have no doubt that a spirit of prayer has been in more than usual degree here excited by the late events; for christians could not help but see the awfully hostile temper showed by the men of the world against religion for actually (as far at least as I have had the opportunity of hearing & observing) there seemed more showed against it because some of the these miserable men who were among the insurgents were professors than because they wished to murder them – for instance where I have heard one remark against the S<sup>t</sup> Domingo people there have been innumerable against the Northward ones who they look upon in general I believe as the secret instigators of the plot, unfortunately you may see their quoting King's speech in the Congress mentioned in the case of Jack Purcel yet you see their hope of help was from S<sup>t</sup> Domingo. Now in the case of Vesey until I saw the Pamphlet I was under the belief from the report that was afloat & believed generally here that he had traveled all over the New England States & also the Western ones within 2 or 3 years but from this Pamphlet it does not appear that he was absent for 20 years. Tuesday afternoon prayer

meeting you ask about has been held for the last year in the school room in Beaufain Street but it has become so crowded that in future (another was given this week) it is to be held at our Sabbath School room. It will for some time probably be very trying for me to get there as there is no way of getting there but going through a part of our church yard that is about 20 or 30 feet from where the Ramsay's yard is to the S. East. I have never yet been in it although the Wednesday evening lecture has been held there 3 or 4 months & also lately a Sunday evening service steadily either by Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer or M<sup>r</sup> Jones but I have found this meeting so interesting that I must endeavour to stifle my feelings & go for I should fail both indeed to give up the priveledge. Some of the services there have been truly interesting such fervent supplication & affecting addresses from the good minister & most fervent prayers from old M<sup>r</sup> Pilsbury who does indeed seem an old disciple apparently on the very verge of the grave. he formerly was of the Methodist communion but has for some time past belonged to M<sup>r</sup> Boies's congregation. And there is another most excellent young member of our Church you may recollect him perhaps as he used to worship there before you left this. he is Mr Corning a Merchant from N. York partner in the house of Parish & Miller he has a young wife & one child. he was from Doc<sup>r</sup> Spoia's Church & highly thought of I understand there; I think him a great acquisition to our Church. I wish you could hear his fervent prayers & he is very active in the Mariners Society here too. Poor young man his feelings have been very sorely tried in our late business you may see the name in the Pamphlet of John Vincent one of the Culprits this fellow attended in the large store of Parish & Miller & this Mr Corning; & he had a very high opinion of him & as it was only on on [sic] that villain Monday Gell's [illegible] M C. having a high opinion of this fellow's honesty appeared at the court to give his testimony in his favour & I heard that when sentence was passed the tears rolled down his (M<sup>r</sup> Corning's) face & he left the room but soon after this fellow was proven to be a very great villain & a thief too & I understand M<sup>r</sup> Corning saw it afterwards although he was not that I know of very deeply though somewhat concerned in the late business & a wretch he tried I hear to bring in every acquaintance he had I heard if he had only spoken once to them; he is to be transported. You ask if none of the Professors offered to be States Evidences – not one that I heard of; but this I should not censure them very much for, for I understand that the Oath to secrecy was as solemn as they could make it; that was the ringleaders I don't mean the Professors instituted it, but it is generally believed (I believe I have heard it so often) that they swore by the Memorial of the Lord's body. so that every one that did divulge it was guilty of Perjury. I should suppose from Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer's services last Sunday at the table & again at the Concert for prayer on Monday night that it must be a happy time with him I think he exceeded at the table all I ever heard from him – his sermon was from these words "Who is he that condemneth it is Christ that died" & he pursued the same words in the most spiritual manner at the table. Urging & encouraging believers to look more at the death of our dear Redeemer in all their christian warfares & I cannot but hope that it was an interesting theme to many – It is to be lamented that there was not one addition to the Church & only one (Sarah Thomas) the last time. However if in answer to his often & fervent prayers our Jerusalem should be sunshining us with Candles as many hope the graces of its members may be furnished & a better state of things produced & I feel a great hope this will be the case. M<sup>rs</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Parker (Mr Lightwood's daughter) lost her daughter the 1<sup>st</sup> in<sup>st</sup> it after a long fever of the nervous class – deprived of her reason nearly the whole of her illness or

else in a stupor at other times. I heard but would not wish it mentioned her mother said she would give her up if it was only the body but that she had not a hope for her soul & most bitterly reflected on herself for want of faithfulness to her in religious instruction, but I have not heard of her state since her daughter died. I believe as usual their [text missing] for a certain line that it was a very select funeral; perhaps however it was only the relatives & [illegible] that were invited; don't tell Miss Huxham of this particular or of many things I write, except generals for which I have no objections. M<sup>rs</sup> R. told me the other day that Miss H reprimanded her for not writing more fully to her about the state of things here & said whether it was M<sup>rs</sup> R. way or Miss Huxham's word I don't know but that I was so communicative to you, but I can't help it I have to tell you what interests me & what I know you would like to hear – Miss H. did it I suppose to provoke her sister to write more fully to her about the late intended insurrection for this is what I understood M<sup>rs</sup> R's she alluded to. M<sup>rs</sup> T. Parker her sister in law lost a grown up son at Abbeville about 8 weeks ago too & she has since returned to the City for she had gone to live with this son there. I thank you very kindly my d<sup>r</sup> Sister for offering about some of your monies for the shingling of this House but unless pressed it won't do to infringe on that for the rent which is due on [illegible] must pay for it – & Mary & I return you many thanks about your kind offer about sending the boys if we could not come nest year – She says she is as much obliged to you as if she did send them but she says there will be the bone of contention with their grandfather for she supposes she might go to the – & he would not care but there she thinks he does. she sends her love to you both & the children's theirs to you both. While I write of the children I will tell of B. the night of 16 of June in the dead of the night seeing his Mother's agitation (I spent it in her room too) he say Ma don't be frightened don't you know that that in the Bible call on me in the day of trouble & I will deliver thee" & poor fellow his own voice faltering like one in an ague at the same time" he lay awake a great part of that night too but spoke but very little – he nor we (of course they had heard then of the report that only the males were to be destroyed that was afterwards believed; but I believed they would not have regarded had they once got it work sex or age; it appears so from the Pamphlet & is not natural to be supposed that they would not have burdened themselves with the surplus. Major Wilson & not Doc<sup>r</sup> S. W. was the individual Hamilton so awardedly says was advantageously down here. Egleston the corn Merchant lately being himself a very [illegible] of man I should suppose from what I hear of him. Read, Horsey's partner having himself about three months ago & George Rivers of Stono did the same act nearly about that time too. Major Hamilton is elected Intendant. Geddes was brought forward before the election with the view of repealing the late ordinance which gives the salary to that office but H. friends for he lately went to the North came forward & said he had authorised or they were at least to say the salary was no object & would serve as heretofore & then G. name was immediately withdrawn & opposition took place – so I suppose of course an attempt to repeal will be made. Do say if you would wish the Papers sent & they shall be Miss Dart sends her love. & Beck & [illegible] send their remembrance too. Give my love to d<sup>r</sup> Mary I felt for her remarks to your affec<sup>te</sup> Sister.

M. L. B.

Charleston Sep<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1822

My Dear Sister,

I wrote to you yesterday but we have had a heavy storm since; I thought I might write to prevent any anxieties your affection for us might occasion you if you only heard of it by report as private Letters by Mail from here to day will give intelligence of it in Phil<sup>a</sup> before the News papers can, as to day is Sat<sup>y</sup> of course no account from them will get there as soon as this day's Letters by Mail. To day's Courier has made my heart ache for you my dear Sister respecting the fever in Phil<sup>a</sup> Oh! May our gracious God shield & protect you both. I fear that even if you escape getting that (which I trust as you are both from this place you will not be as liable to as those who are natives of that place) yet when I think of your harassing fear on account of that darling child of yours I do indeed feel most tenderly & anxiously for you. The Paragraph to which I allude is this. After saying [illegible] appears by a letter from M<sup>r</sup> Coleman of the Yellow fever having appeared there &c.. says. "And we expect to add that letters by yesterdays Mail from Phil<sup>a</sup> speak of cases of fever having occurred in that City of at least a doubtful character." I had the pleasure yesterday of getting one from you when I had carried mine to the Office & of finding yours were at the date of that both well, for which I bless our heavenly father. but I was also greatly concerned to find how severely & unnecessarily you had been perplexed at not hearing from us by the negligence of the post Master at G [illegible].

And now let me record the sparing mercy & delivering goodness of our Gracious God during the storm of last night or rather this morning. It has been I may say without any exception (save the momentous one of the Whirlwind which though that did probably as much mischief but of this I am not competent at present to judge of) the most awful one while it lasted (in my memory) & I think must have been precisely such an one as that which occurred in N. England last year. We have had very unsettled & portentous looking weather with prodigious falls of rain for several days this week & the night before last a most violent thunder Storm & a rain of the most violent description on that night; yet still yesterday though the sun shone very clearly for a little while it was afterwards very cloudy & frequent small showers & a very thick atmosphere & things continued in this way like near 11 last night when the wind very suddenly rose & in about a half hour perhaps it blew a more hurricane; we went to bed at first but soon judged it best for all to arise & then in our terror for to all go downstairs between 1 & 2 o'clock for we looked for instant death for some minutes. But Oh! For grateful hearts our lives are all spared & we have suffered but little loss only in fences. I have not yet heard from the country. But Oh! it is a scene of desolation I understand in some parts of the City & of death too to many others so at least our reports at present say. Some of our neighbors however are greatly injured. Mrs Colcocks large house unroofed & chimney blown down, one of R. Gibbs's chimneys on South Bay ditto, & Taylor's, Sturgis's & M<sup>r</sup> Maxwell's & Ashe's new house with a great deal of injury done to the slated roofs – but no injuries to these 3 last besides – Mr Osborne's building on S Bay also much injured & 2 carriages destroyed & one horse killed. But Capt Saltus's poor fellows 4 men & 1 boy it is said (& I fear is too true) were all 5 drowned, they were on board his Schooner lying off the wheel & the anchor was not strong enough for this Tornado & it is supposed all perished. The accounts from the upper part of the City of lives lost is melancholly but as they may be exaggerated I will delay for a few minutes to know more certainly before I relate

them. Perhaps it may be trifling or selfish to name under such circumstances both of our fine Linden trees to the South of the House both torn up by the roots but this will give you some idea of the wind & the large Cedar tree torn to pieces too.

Your inquiry about the arms found & whether true? I don't think any were except on Plantations & these were more for the benefit of game than for treasonable designs. I heard of some of the culprits carrying some of the constituted authorities from place to place where they said they were & none were found. I suppose Miss Huxham will hear by a letter of to day from her friends but if she does not tell her with our love to her I saw M<sup>r</sup> Maxwell for a few minutes to day & they did not suffer except when sisters in their fears with the rest of us & a very wet house with the Slates torn off the roof & I believe fences lost too. It does indeed seem as if the Lord's hand was stretched out over our guilty Land avenging our sin. Oh! for a spirit of mourning after a godly sort & a turning from it. I was greatly pleased to find you are among his people where you board. I can't keep my letter longer to be positive about the losses in the upper part of the City, I have heard the widow of Laval lately deceased is among the killed & that several houses were blown down if it is true the News papers will inform you – one of M<sup>r</sup> Billings' chimneys were blown down I hear but we have been in so much bustle & confusion in gathering up our fences here & next door & cutting up trees & Jacob sick too that it has not been in my power to send any distance to enquire after friends.

The Lord bless & preserve  
you both from all evil is the  
earnest favor of y<sup>r</sup> aff<sup>e</sup> Sister

M. L. Beach

We are as well as can be expected after our fatigue in setting up & alarm. You must have thought it quick the postage being p<sup>d</sup> on my letter to you yesterday but it was John's mistake. I ought perhaps to have said, we had no inundation of sea water, although of rain, & the worst part of the Storm was wind some quarter to the west, it began at last.

Charleston Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 1822

My dear Sister,

I have been much disappointed at our not hearing from you by the N. Hampton & should have been unhappy about you lest sickness might have prevented it had I not heard by way of Miss H.'s letters to her friends that you were both well when she wrote so that I hope that the letter you promised Mary J. by that vessel may have only been detained at Phil<sup>a</sup> by some mistake for it does not appear to have come to the Office as we have sent over & over in vain for it. And I have not heard from you at usual time by Mail but this is easily accounted for by the obstruction of the roads to day 9 or 10 Mails will be due from the North as not one has arrived at Georgetown in the State since the Storm at least by last accounts in Saturday's Paper & the Mails that left here the day after the Storm were still at that place several days after. I wrote to you on the 28<sup>th</sup> Ut (the day after the Storm) a very confused sort of letter & at that time little aware of all the dreadful effects of it that soon after reached us I had heard that all of Laval's family & some others had perished but it seemed almost incredible & therefore I would not relate it till I was certain, I sent on to you however the Monday after the Courier of the 30<sup>th</sup> giving a fuller description of it but Oh even with that the half of the melancholy tale was not told; but before this reaches you I suppose you will have seen the dismal tidings from North inlet at Georgetown &c.. It is indeed one to make one mourn & be humbled in the dust when we think of the utter unworthiness of the signal mercy & goodness of God shown to us who have not shared the same fate but also have been preserved from material loss. You have doubtless felt most tenderly about that amiable woman Mrs Morris who poor thing was far advanced in her pregnancy. The Miss De Bernir (Sister of the late Mrs Johnson) had an almost miraculous escape on that Island & although only 3 helpless females with servants in the house (at the time) shared better than some who had male friends but the Lord was their helper. Finding J. Johnson's house where they were as they correctly judged going, they rushed out & carried a bell to ring for help the negroe girl who followed was a moment too late as she was crushed with the fall of the house & the 3 girls one a little Miss Lane held one on the other & clung to a log where they were for about 2 hours immersed in water before they were rescued. These are only a few of the hair breadth escapes from death we have heard of. The Mrs Withers who with all her family except her husband perished was a Sister of Johnson's who married Miss Pinckney's old Mr Rowand's grand daughter & is said to have been a pious woman of the Methodist persuasion you recollect her mother was thought to be a zealous christian several years before her death. Oh! it seems indeed as if the Lord had a controversy with this guilty land. Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer presented 2 solemn sermons yesterday from those words "Come behold the works of the Lord &<sup>ra</sup> The first sermon he shewed that from the Devastations begining with the Flood & down through the course of sacred History recording these Desolations that they were asserted to be the immediate hand of God no matter what Philosophers would say of their natural causes & in the 2d sermon he mentioned some of modern times with which we were more familiar & of those of the present year such as the misery of the Greeks the convulsions in Spain, the famine in Ireland, distress in N. York. (for such a population as that City contains to be obliged to abandon their homes or be in most cases certain of death) & then remarked in as couched language as he could to make it prudent in our mixed congregation our late visitation in the Summer & now this sore visitation again & he then urged the duty of beholding the

works of the Lord under desolating judgment & the duty of enquiring into their probable cause. He then said we were in a remarkable manner guilty of the sin of Omission in this State – & went on to show how peculiarly heavy in the course of a few years the judgments of God had fallen on the planting which was the prevailing interest in this State & our particular sin of omission he endeavoured to prove was in not spreading the Gospel in our own state among our own heathen the mass of which were he said destitute of it as if they were in the “heart of Africa” he also spoke very freely of the awful state of the public mind toward religion during or after our late trial about the Insurrection of the Blasphemous sentiments expressed on that occasion. I don’t know how it will be received but I do think he is as fearless in the Pulpit as Luther. Three Sabbath’s ago he preached a sermon to the servants which by request of some in the Church is published I heard the sermon but have not seen it since printed & in that I suppose he must have given offense to the Blacks & some to our wicked white fornicators & Adulterors too, some expressions about their intercourse I sincerely wished had been omitted – & I suppose is in the printed Sermon.

I will now speak of our own concerns. Although we have been dealt with in unspeakable mercy respecting the suffering in the late Storm yet we have had some slight losses by it a part of your Chimney at the Island house is blown down, as is the case of hundreds of others throughout the country on the Sea board & in the City – & the house will require small repairs too I should suppose it is only wonderful when we see what was done that an hundred times more damage did not take place. The chimney to the addition room at the old place is blown down also & the house & chimney formerly Lucy’s (you may recollect near the corner of the garden) entirely destroyed & every Pride of India tree in the lane & front blown down. I have had the smallest of our Linden trees in town set up again just the trunk, but not the Large one. We have had some damage at the corner House next door; such as a great quantity of glass broke with some of the sashes dashed in & the scuttle on the top carried off in the Storm & we will have to have a new one as the other cannot be found & the carriage house is settled forward so much by the wind that it will have to be raised- But it is wonderful that no buildings were blown down besides. On the land in town I know of none but the Kitchen on O’Connor’s lot Phelon called to know if we would renew the lease as there is nothing left of it but the floor chimney & kitchen both were levelled & fell within a few inches of the house where M<sup>c</sup>Laughlin lived had it taken that, the old shell of a place would likely have been demolished, for M<sup>rs</sup> Ashe’s house in Lamboll Street had a good part of S. W. corner destroyed by the falling of Mrs Colcocks next Chimney – both of M<sup>rs</sup> C. chimney were carried down on opposite sides of the house which was remarkable for although perhaps 100 in the City were blown down to good houses yet they generally were the N. W. ones. I told Phelon I would write to you that we had not decided whether to sell or lease, he wishes an answer as soon as possible. He said he had no interest to answer by it in saying it but that it was the worst time to sell property that had ever been & would be still worse in the consequence of the losses of the mercantile part of the place by the fall of Cotton in Europe & I suppose they will be immense indeed. It appears to me as if my way was hedging up indeed, for removal for unless the property is given away I despair of its being sold. Mr Price Mr Owen’s brother in law applied for the house next door & Mary offered it at \$550 but in the mean while he found he could purchase a house & Lot in Legare St (that he formerly paid \$500 per A<sup>m</sup> for, the low price of two thousand \$700 &

he decided taking ours – but he told Mary he would advise her for her own interest (this he said when he came to decline it) to have the out buildings repaired as he thought in their present state it would be a boon to it – & we are now trying to undertake it. The fence there as well as on this lot was considerably blown down. When I spoke of the obstacles to my removing I did not mean if our lives should be spared of not coming next Summer for if even we can't arrange business for a final remove I still trust we shall be able to accomplish a remove for 18 months or so at least. I expect to write to you by the W. Hampton & as it is near the time for the Mail to close I must finish. Mary J. is not quite well still has a slow fever & looks but poorly but is not confined to the house. I have some cold but hope to be at the prayer meeting this evening at the 1<sup>st</sup> P. Church as it is so near; the rest of us are all well. Y<sup>r</sup> sincerely affectionate Sister

M. L. Beach

P S Love to Miss Hm her sister & family as well as usual & all at Church yesterday

Charleston Oct<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1822

My dear Sister,

I wrote you rather a hurried letter by Mail yesterday as I did not determine till late to write. I would have written two or three days earlier but as I had said to you “unless something more than usual (or to that amount) occurred I should not write before the return of the Gen<sup>l</sup>. H. on & ~~I thought as~~ & as nothing more than common had occurred to make it necessary I felt afraid it might unnecessarily surprize you to get one by Mail, but finding that so long an interval of silence would take place if I waited for it made me conclude to alter my intention. I expect this to go by the G. Packet which is advertized for tomorrow. I really long to hear again from you for although we got 2 letters last week they were of old date the last by G. P. of the inst. I have my dear Sister been truly grieved at your distress about us & should be more so still, had any negligence of mine occasioned it, but it was unavoidable, but as I have already explained it in former letters will say no more about it in this.

I feel as if I had a great deal to notice in return to different things in your letters. some of which I know I could not have noticed in my last 2 or 3 & perhaps I shall remark on a 2<sup>d</sup> time on some while others that I should I shall omit. The first about being so unexpectedly situated with an additional number of boarders when you had calculated very differently. You may count on it for a certainty that reports of an intended relation being added; & nothing that either will say will make the most of people who are acquainted with you believe you for though they would believe the present intentions if assured of them, yet they will readily say “you may both alter your minds. It has really made me laugh over & over again to think of your present situation & when I know how different are or were your intentions, & who knows? as it appears to be a Providential allotment altogether whether notwithstanding all your determinations but something extraordinary may result from it. But don't be displeas'd with me for the remark as I assure you solemnly I have not lisp'd the probability of it in joke even to Mary – & I am the more ready to smile when I know your former unfounded dislike as to what was the real character of this person when you were so offend'd at his manner 12 years ago. As I never experienced myself any of this distance & know it when others did, that it proceeded from his manner & not from he heart I have often felt sorry for it that such an impression should have been made on you or his acquaintances. I dare say our official though kind little friend K. here will suppose the probability of such an event for she told Mary when you first went off of what she thought of the possibility of it with this very person; but she has not dared to tell me so, for you know she don't make quite so free with us on such topics as with some of her other friends although by her look many a time she may express her opinions on the whole I feel very sorry for you as I know to a certainty it has worried you.

And now about A. G. having had it (as you suspect) suggest'd to him to go into the Episcopal line; excuse me if I offer or volunteer my advice to you; not to be too decid'd & show displeasur in any measure if it is so; but wait & know first without guessing; & if it is (the case really) don't be hasty but if convenient I would ask the advice of Doc<sup>r</sup> G. There is at present a vast deal of what must be erased in that Denomination; (not in their Articles however) yet we know what a wonderful change has taken place in that body in England, & why not here? & I understand there are some truly Evangelical men of that Church in N. York & Rhode Island & I believe in Connecticut too, so don't be hasty. I

have heard nothing about it but from your letter, nor shall I lisp it, nor about your letter to his brother some time ago.

Now about J. R y I suspect it must have been M<sup>r</sup> J. R. y's pretty son whose conduct has been confounded with the other; he has now been away about a year & when the other students returned in the Spring it was given out or said (for his Mother & near relations here appear to avoid even mentioning his name if they can help it) that he concluded it would be best on account of expense in going & coming to remain in Phil<sup>a</sup> till the present Lectures. You may have heard perhaps of his being engaged in a duel (or projected one at any rate) with Mr John Simmons son the late M<sup>r</sup> Wright's brother who is a vile character for quarreling I understand. We have suspected though that in all that he could not leave Phil<sup>a</sup>.

One of Doc<sup>r</sup> J. R y Sisters mentioned 2 or 3 years ago that they had heard that James was spoken of as a most extravagant young man in his expenses there & found it was this young cub that was confounded with him, for we know that J. R. was very frugal. M<sup>rs</sup> V.s sweetmeat we have seen a bottle of as a sample as it was unopened. Miss Dart has been trying to get purchasers for theirs & has got about \$20 worth or so only sold. I thought them very extravagant but did not tell Miss D. or M<sup>rs</sup> K. so; we did not take any however. The information respecting D<sup>or</sup> S. tt's former sins was altogether new to me But Oh! how awful! Lord what is man we may indeed exclaim – & that he should continue so long in it too. You recollect how much M<sup>rs</sup> Tennant said M<sup>rs</sup> Beresford said against his moral character & how bitter M<sup>rs</sup> Ogden used to be against him too; although she would not specify what it was altogether, although she thought he had treated J. Witherspoon unfaithfully. As to M<sup>rs</sup> P—d I can fully believe all that is said of her testimony only corroborates other accounts I have heard; & the other Sisters you know how disgusted you were with their manners from the little you had an oppor<sup>y</sup> of seeing them.

I am much obliged to you for the recipe of the eye wash & intend trying it; for my eyes are indeed very bad & while I speak of my bad eyes I will beg you to get some blacker Ink for your letters, for I need every obstacle removed in reading – At night I can neither work or read but with great difficulty & indeed can only read comfortably by closing my right eye entirely & then with the closed one next a candle held near the book or paper I can read; but not long at once. I often think how much our dear Mother was favored in this particular. I am much obliged to you my d<sup>r</sup> Sister for the promised gift of Dr Scott's life. I had it on loan a day or two from Kitty & sent it home to day unfinished & shall be very glad to own it. Oh! what a fund of instruction it contains, & may we profit by it. I had no idea before that Kitty told me (who first read it) that he had so large a share of afflictions in such a variety of ways & in bodily ones & pecuniary ones in addition to all others – I was much struck with those words “this much tribulation ye must enter &a.” Oh! if Christians have a very smooth course of it they ought to search themselves deeply to know if they have other features if I may so speak of Christian clearly marked; for it does seem indeed a very certain ingredient in their lot to have a very large share of afflictions generally. There seemed however one of the heaviest of all earthly sorrows that he was exempt from & that was losing children in an ungodly or doubtful State – for in respect to them he appeared a highly favoured man & seemed to be Largely rewarded in that greatest of all blessings bestowed on them for which he had in so peculiar a manner devoted his life. I thought Henry Martyn's life a most interesting one & his

exercises & remarks in his diary – but Doc<sup>r</sup> Scott's though not abounding in so much incident has the most instruction in his remarks of any one I remember.

I suppose you will be ready by this to ask what steps I am taking about getting some of our property in the way at least of being exchanged & indeed I have as yet taken none & actually things are in so stagnant a State that I hardly know where to begin; one thing appears necessary however disagreeable respect expense & trouble & that is some must be incurred before they can either (I should have said the out houses Ah & dwelling ones too) be rented or sold. Mrs Ashe's may serve as lesson; & some others too I could name & more rent has been lost on the House next door than would have been repaired it fully & should

[The rest of the text is missing from the collection]

Charleston May 24<sup>th</sup> 1823

My dear Sister,

A day or two after I wrote the few hasty lines by M<sup>rs</sup>. H. (in addition to 2 longer letters I think that went in that Ship one by her & one by the latter though I am not positive about the latter) I had the heart felt satisfaction two days after to get one by Mail from you of the 6<sup>th</sup> in a shorter time than anyone this season with the good news of your eyes having continued to get better; I hope & pray they might be quite restored to strength & continue so. With regard to the trial you had experienced arising from their affection it is what I had painfully I assure you my dear Sister anticipated before I got your remarks. I trust however that by the blessing of God these trying hours as you so much wish may have had the desire of your heart respecting them. It is a state of pupilage which we are continued here below, always having fresh lessons to learn in addition to those are forgetful & depraved hearts ought to have remembered & practised long ago. When I had got thus far I had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 13 & 16<sup>th</sup> in<sup>st</sup> & felt concerned indeed to read how anxious you had been at not getting a letter exactly at the usual I hope my dear Sister that these frequent instances of useless anxiety will prevent in future your fears, for several months past I had written at no stated day as I think it a bad way for any detention for bad weather or carelessness at the Post office then puts one in concern & I am afraid now as this opportunity has gone over so much it may again make you uneasy, but as I told you by Bunce's ship not to expect one before the Gov<sup>r</sup> Hawkins you may be saved from it, but this Ship you may probably have heard is not to return here this season but going to S. America I hear. As I have several enquiries of yours to answer in addition to other things I want to write you must excuse my being laconic. Your 6 p<sup>er</sup> cent is right at being only \$14\_5.9/100 as the Discount was 6 p<sup>er</sup> cent.

About the Jacob nothing could be found of the sheets but good evidence of his being be Thief – he is not yet sold but our friend J. R. (who were helped about getting Jenny sold at last for he persuaded Horlebeck who had for weeks given it up to buy him & he is now or was a few days ago on his Schooner) is to trying to get him sold & he was in hopes of a day or two ago. About H. Bunce & M<sup>r</sup> F. I never heard it before & have my doubts yet it may be so – I would not venture to contradict it against in the Morfords testimony, but she is at present quite engaged in her own school which she teaches at her sister Crocker's but she lives at Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer's or did lately for she left Horlebeck's some months ago. I do not know why. It will be very easy to arrange our receipts for the leased rents (you thought you wrote there might be some difficulty to go back as the discounts on bills & commiss<sup>n</sup> might interfere – but it can be set down as far as the rents on each side were paid as if paid in your hand. Dye's account I put a few days ago into Chitty the Magistrates hands to collect. Bryce has not yet paid & I am very anxious for it on account of the City Tax, as the time for payment, unless we ask the favor of Lehre to extend it which I shall not do expires the 1<sup>st</sup> June. Bryce has been out of Town in the upper country & returned only the beginning of this week he has promised for I wrote to him but there is no dependance to be placed on his promises. John says there is a plenty up & down [illegible] in the Stores. About M<sup>r</sup> Frey's Collection I expected to a certainty it would have been in the Northern Papers (some at least) how much success he met with both in collections & formed a Male & female Society in the City too but if our lives are spared by Miss Huxham I will send you on the Southern Intel<sup>cs</sup> that has it as well as the accounts

of their doings at Columbia in consequence of the investigation of the state of the college last winter. M<sup>r</sup> Henry has had a time of it there with one thing & another among the rest of Hayne's family up there are among his bitter enemies. Sarah H. one of W<sup>m</sup> Hayne's youngest daughters went up in the winter to be with Eliza (now the wife of W<sup>m</sup> E. Hayne the son of Isaac H.) who expected to be confined & there she went in the way of so many of that family & is now in Town in a state of Mental derangement but not of the raging kind, but pray do not lisp it although it is probable you may have heard of it but I have reason for not wishing any thing to be lisped even by my family as sending it on as news. Well they wish to throw the whole blame on M<sup>rs</sup> Henry because she put some questions to him to satisfy her about some difficulties on her mind, for it is a painful acknowledgement for them to confess it to be a family infirmity & Allstons family it was said before this affair [sic] had started some objections when R. G. H. made suit there on this very head. But the Mail will be close & I must stop as it wants only a few minutes of one. Poor M<sup>rs</sup> Joseph Ramsay is gone at last after a long illness of Consumption. We are all well, & send much love. Abby's child got but M<sup>rs</sup> Doc<sup>r</sup> Legare is ill & I don't think will get over it – the old gent better

Yours with warmest  
affection  
M. L. B.

Charleston August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1823

My dear Sister,

I wrote to you yesterday on a sheet containing a bill of Exchange at sight for \$166 50/100 – the cost was 170.63  $\frac{3}{4}$  at 2% premium I hope it will reach you safe Capt. B. was to sail to day was to sail to day but I don't suppose he will as I saw now direction for passengers to be on board (I have just heard he will not go before to morrow if the wind con is fair) but it is not very probable as a dry N. E. wind appears to have set in & which you know at the season lasts. We have had a great quantity of rain this Summer, but blessed be God it has been very healthy in the City generally & yet I never remember more deaths among the [illegible] inhabitants & people in respectable life than there were for a few weeks this Summer – last weeks obituary only recorded 11 deaths & only 3 of them white persons which is uncommon for such an unequal City in the two classes of colour. As there were several things I was obliged to in yesterday's letter I will remember this.

I forgot in one letter & had not room in another to answer about the Sugar for which I felt greatly my d<sup>r</sup> Sister obliged to you & am sorry you should want & urge me to say what the quality was as it was very good Sugar & not at all adulterated I think; but the most of it is rather dark but none the worse for that except in look merely – but I was sorry you went to so much expense in sending so many things & I have nothing good to send you that would be any rarity or would probably keep. You thank me dear Sister for any little attention to your concerns here but you must not pay & thank me too – for it gives me sincere pleasure to do it for you without. I thank you for letting me know of the cheap edition of Scott's comentary, [sic] & should have been very glad of it a year ago but I subscribed then for one publishing in Boston by Armstrong & almost I may say all acquaintances too – it is in Vol a size larger C. [illegible] than his Theological works & is at # 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  p<sup>r</sup> Vol I have lately got the 3<sup>d</sup> which includes the Psalms, Proverbs, & Eccl<sup>an</sup> but I did not know that it was not to have marginal references as although I might not use them as they would have been (was I in the habit of examining them) in too small print for my eyes. I felt much for you respecting your exercises of mind at Germantown but thankful that your consolations after it were brightened the more – it was on one of the last points my d<sup>r</sup> Sister I should have looked for you to be attacked who have so much knowledge from your extensive reading & experience on that subject, but that is often the case I believe that assault from the enemy comes on that quarter where danger is not apprehended; with regard to your suggestion whether Satan may not gain advantage from audible prayer I cannot suppose it could make any difference for certain it is he does not have access to us by body or corporeal aid of what use then would our whispering aspirations in prayers be to him & he may have one & the same round of temptations to inject into every heart & perhaps only those may take effect according to the excitement of objects around & within ourselves. But Oh! the subject is beyond our kin as much as what the soul is composed of; although we know it does exist within. Blessed be forever our God who bore our nature & knows we are but dust & who will over throw the works of the Devil for which he was manifest in the flesh for all who came to him. We live indeed in an enemy's land & how great is our sin that we can ever be content to feel it as a home instead of being on a journey to a better country. Every day gives us fresh proof either in our own painful experience or that of others even of those we have reason to think have made great attainments that there is nothing our own but weakness, pollution,

guilt, & instead of making us fly uniformly & implicitly to him who is all the strength & righteousness the best have to lean on yet are so continuously prone to hope & hope but in vain to do better for the future You will probably feel the desirous of hearing the state of things in our Church, but at present the sky in our church lowers or I may say last Sabbath a dark cloud passed Oh that may have passed & be soon succeeded by the sunshine of our pardoning God's countenance lifted up on us. You have heard or seen at any rate from the papers I sent you the recount of the party at Columbia styled the Goat Party. Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer has I may say unfortunately taken a most [illegible] party in the business of exposing their designs & the leaders in it. Cooper was supposed the prime mover of the party at Columbia & Blackburn the former professor another principal leader however Blackburn a few days before his death (for he died about 10 days ago) published his disavowal of any share in the [illegible] attributed to him most explicitly Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer has answered them in the most sarcastic manner possible in the Southern Intelligences at least the pieces are ascribed to him & I have not heard that he contradicted them, Well it seems they have lately published a piece on him & in it (I hear for I have not seen the Columbia Paper that has it) they speak of his wife as "Madam who [illegible] the coast" in his family. & of him that is Doc<sup>r</sup> P.. as a little wrangling Presbyterian Parson who had palmed himself off upon an unfortunate Congregation as a gentleman this paragrah [sic] is clearly I believe verbatim as he pronounced it in the Pulpit at the close of the Sermon but nothing about her & no other remarks but merely this – his Text was from Jail "Sound an alarm in my holy mountain" but he went on to say after telling of the alarming state of things as he said in our Capital & as he said in the heart of our State & several other remarks to prove how portentous it was he said how they have attacked your Pastor & then read the paragrah [sic] above & then went on to say that he had not been insensible (or to that effect) of the slander that had been heaped on him last summer & that he could defy his enemies to bring proof or substantiate their charges; & that in future when he could get at their slanders & the names of the persons he should publish their names from the pulpit. This was a blow indeed to us; but after the service was over he read a citation & then in a very angry manner remarked that it was not the last he should ever read in Church that he did not know the ground of the custom or law but that he held himself bound if it was a law to oppose laws that were in opposition to the Laws of God or his conscience & that if it was necessary that a Minister should read citations why then he would read them whether at the Court house corner of the streets was thought best or market place But Oh! Oh! the anger he showed; the majority I believe his remarks about breaking the Laws was in reference to Cap<sup>t</sup> B. trying the matter about bringing in coloured people. Never I believe were a people more humbled for the conduct of their pastor; unless in cases of immorality; his most blinded friends are although grieved to the soul to yet see as decided as the most [illegible] in their disapprobation. And was that such an offence to speak in this personal way of him as to make it necessary to break through the sanctity of the place & day to repel those such charges ? as a very pious person remarked "our Savior when he was reviled reviled not again" & another family said that it was the very same spirit that actuated duellests. But another melancholy circumstance was; that before the Sermon he put up one of the best & most fervent prayers I ever heard & prayed most particularly for direction & that thoughts might be put in his heart or mind; & words in his mouth (for it was and extempore discourse & Oh! may he never I say preach an extemporaneous one again)

however it is said by some they believe it was studied in the week John Bryan said for he unfortunately as well as Tom<sup>s</sup> Grimke were there & the former had not I believe for years, for it was only a few weeks ago that I heard of his remarking that there seemed no difference between those that made profession, & others for there were the two M<sup>rs</sup> P. both given intemperate – & his remark (I hear) was “to think what a prayer he made & what a Devil of a temper he showed afterwards.” He began the sermon in rather a singular way or rather the exordium to it, by saying that formerly his preaching had been more directly to building up believers than to awaken the careless sinner & that his conscience smote him for it, for some time past he has been preaching sermons more like I might almost say one inspired & with an energy unusual to him & perhaps this infirmity to say the least has of it is sent as a messenger of Satan to humble him I beseech & entreat you however not to let a syllable of what I have written escape you pardon the caution but the thing has made so much noise here that I think it very probable that M<sup>rs</sup> Y. will hear of it & sift you about it – & possibly another who thinks I believe that I write more than I do to you of what is going on here may hear of it although not from one that one would at first sight suppose – for what do you think of her M<sup>rs</sup> K. having most carefully concealed from her the account that Jenny the Nurse had told in R. H. family of a certain City’s intemperance & she had never heard it (although she had her own suspicions of it) until she was at the North last Summer. August 28<sup>th</sup> I have a few minutes ago heard the Ship is hauled off – so must conclude at once we are all well except Bob very sick.

the Lord bless both prays  
y<sup>r</sup> ever affe<sup>ct</sup> M. L. Beach

M<sup>rs</sup> Keith sends this to her Sister enclosed to you as she may not be in Ph<sup>a</sup> you can perhaps forward it & direct it to where she may be.

I can’t lay my hand on the duplicate of your bill sent by Mail – but shall find it perhaps immediately. But it was drawn by Leland & brothers on Walor & Morris for \$166 50 cts at Sight dated 25<sup>th</sup> August.

Charleston Sep<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1825

My d<sup>r</sup> Sister,

Since I wrote by Capt. B. (the last of the letter dated or written on August 28) I have had the pleasure of giving a letter, you with the good news that you were both well but at times I can not help feeling much anxiety about your situation in that unpleasant (& now sickly too) Summer residence Phil<sup>a</sup>. I sincerely wish you had gone to Morristown – for that would have been a far healthier place & in point of expence your travelling expences would have ballanced by the cheap living – for I understand M<sup>rs</sup> Righton's daughter M<sup>rs</sup> Gates who went off this Summer on account of her eldest child's health gets her boars (at M<sup>r</sup> King's a next door or near neighbor of M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Dowal's) for herself and 2 children for \$6 p<sup>er</sup> week & the children's school for \$2 p<sup>er</sup> quarter. I trust & pray however that God who has hither to helped you will be your Preserver. The change of sickness for health about the neighborhood of Phil<sup>a</sup> is a most gloomy one for the inhabitants their [sic] but I do not hear any thing of the changes beyond 20 miles from there & I hear from several that it was not in the vicinity remarkable for health formerly & that was owing to those fresh water rivers & they at least the Delaware rather sluggish ones. There is M<sup>r</sup> Edwards & M<sup>r</sup> Condy who are both of that opinion for as M<sup>r</sup> Edwards observed that the part of Jersey in the neighborhood or lying along on that was called the Jersey shore was always subject to fever & ague & I will remember hearing so formerly. I got a letter about 10 ago from M<sup>r</sup> King dated 20<sup>th</sup> August & he says "it is a time of general health here" I suspect those large reserves of water or the Schuykill have had a great effect on the atmosphere there. – 7 as for Bristol when I crossed the Delaware there near 5 years ago & saw all that fresh (or brackish perhaps) water marsh it occurred to me how can this be a healthy place ? I hope our heavenly father will lead us by his Providence should our lives be spared where to go for every days experience has enough to teach us that it is not in man to direct his steps. When I closed my last letter which was by the G.P. I informed you that Bob was very sick & poor fellow he died 3 days after. he is some loss in point of property but oh it formed but a small part of my concern when I reflected on the state of his poor soul. They had been doing very little for me for a long time & I concluded to hire him Harry & Isaac for 2 months untill the weather became more fit than it was to cut wood which would have brought it to 1<sup>st</sup> of October & then in the Winter for they sell to great disadvantage before Jan<sup>y</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> Ogier told me last year about disposing a property that was the best as people generally had their funds in hand or at their disposal. I applied to some of the neighbours to hire there & at last agreed with M<sup>r</sup> Witter & they had been there but 3 weeks when he had taken sick. He fell poor creature a prey to his intemperance which had increased awfully. M<sup>r</sup> Witter very properly sent him soon after his sickness commenced & I employed the Doctor in 8 hours after he came to me but it was all in vain.

I wrote to you that I thought M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kee mistaken about saying he had paid twice last year, but after looking again over my Memorandum book in which I am very punctual about making my entries, I found the following "June 17<sup>th</sup> (that is for 1822) sent \$100 from M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kee on his bond" do see if you remembered to enter it on the bond as well as his payment of \$286 in Sep<sup>r</sup> last for you had not the bond with you when I sent on the payment for I remember you forgot the length of the credit & you had some some [sic] little awkwardness about applying to the person who had deposited your papers in the Bank for you. And I felt very sorry that my hurry in my last letter prevented my not

saying any thing about the basket which I had been disappointed in getting in time to go by the G.P. but it will probably make one trip more (unless it should be repaired as I believe the ship is yearly) before you would think it safe to return – but I should think it quite safe by the last of next month – but I hope the Lord will direct you. I can only say how much I long to see you in the best time. I dare say you feel some wish to know what is doing about the leases – after much thought & considerable perplexity whether I might not be acting injudiciously in letting the expired ones lay over I sent for John Legare to consult with him whether there would be any & he says there will be none at all on ours but that the tenants have by not complying with their engagement viz. removing their buildings subjected themselves to a whole years rent even if we do not renew them & then gave me a late “case in point of a large house being leased & at the expiration not giving up & in consequence of it the tenant had to pay at the same rent which they conceived too high for they [text missing] present times owing to letting the year begin again. [text missing] my suggestion it however he suggested I might write a few lines on the back saying how much longer they & we were bound for so that I intend doing it so that they will all (except Murray (formerly M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Hughs as she has given up her other lot after she lost the corner one & Phelon’s which were promised for 2 years more) let them expire early in Jan<sup>y</sup> next. Dye paid his \$25 on the 2<sup>d</sup> in<sup>st</sup> in hopes I suppose of a renewal. I have it but it is the only payment I have received since the remittance to you. As for Porter it must remain untill you return & I expect we shall have plague enough with them; on the 27<sup>th</sup> July they owed \$22 & I sent a message to her a few days ago for he is totally given up I believe & she sent word she had not a cent; I then sent word they would have to give up the Lease & that it whad already expired & she sent to beg I would consider her distress & that her wants were so pressing & that Porter treated her so ill & beat &c. & the next afternoon he attempted to hang himself but was cut down in time to save him; but I suppose a minute or two longer & it would have been in vain – & **Slowick** will have to be turned off & I intend setting John Legare on him this very week for he is like one possessed in an awful thunderstorm last week he was addressing himself with his arms in the attitude [sic] of **imprecation** either to that or his Maker. A man the other day who says **Slowick** has assigned his property to him offered the 17.30 for the ground rent & not a cent for the house rent; but I refused taking the one without the other so that I shall put both into J. L. hands to recover. I wish I had more paper & time. Through the mercy of God we are all well except Mary a little complaining (but she has gone out she left her love to you both) & **Docinda** indisposed too & will be probably untill some time hence. Ten or 12 persons joined the Church yesterday. Swinton Bennet was one he was to have done it some time ago – & it is probably the last time he ever will he is so low. John Bennet’s wife was another but the rest were all strangers to me.

M<sup>rs</sup> Jacob is very low & the prayer offered for her I have no doubt as Doc<sup>r</sup> Palmer sent to visit her last week & went there after Church was most affecting & **Blacks** were returned for “A young person restored unexpectedly to their reason” which I suppose is Sarah Hayne as I heard this week she was much better. M<sup>rs</sup> Roach Son Edward has been brought very low with bleeding at the Lungs but is better for the present. With respect of our late & dear from the pulpit you will wish to hear more, but I believe as well as many others he is not conscious of his impropriety & Madam cannot (I understand) think that he went so very far out of the way, however we must leave her he had not seen M<sup>rs</sup>

Laroche for near a fortnight after although nearly all his sermons for 2 years before were studied at her house.

M.L. Beach

My love & the children's to D<sup>r</sup> **Harry**

[up the left margin]

I have a great mind a **ventive** to enclose & I will too the half of a \$20 bill & will send the other half in a week if nothing unforeseen happens. It was cut when I rec<sup>d</sup> it  
Do say what is the postage of this.

Charleston Sep<sup>r</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1823

My dear Sister,

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> I received the day I last wrote to you with the cheering of your “both being in excellent health” which I trust by the mercy or our heavenly father will be continued to you, & I flatter myself that as the season was so far advanced without the fever having spread to the central parts of the City (except among subjects from the country) that it will not spread. But what an extraordinary visitation it has been. I wrote the greatest part of a letter on the 19<sup>th</sup> to be ready for Bryce if he should as he promised send a payment so as to complete the sum of \$500 in time to reach you by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October as that was the day you mentioned it would be desirable to have it previous to; but all my efforts were fruitless; & I assure you they were not few to accomplish it. Bryce never sent the money untill a few minutes after 2 o’clock on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> & then the Banks were shut. & this day is a rainy one but John is now gone to M<sup>r</sup> Maxwell about it. I miss M<sup>r</sup> Edwards who was in that line (to get bills I mean.) In answer to your enquiries in your letter respecting the probability of another plan for Insurrection as suggested by the National Inte<sup>ce</sup> I feel confident there is not a word of truth in the surmise. I don’t know the number of non commissioned Officers attached by law to the Municipal Guard, but this Arrangement it is supposed cannot take effect under the present form. The law making the intended change was passed in Dec<sup>r</sup> & soon after its promulgation doubts were then entertained of its case or even practicability I believe; however they have had meetings to organize the Board of directors to bring it into force, & I understand that nothing of consequence to bring it into operation; has been effected & that it is supposed it will have to be brought before the Legislature again. I may say what a pretty set they are, for the bills respecting the taxation of Merchants to support it, will have to be repealed, it is thought for it may be called an iniquitous or most tyrannical one at any rate; & I verily believe although I would never suggest it; that it was because the most of the Merchant & traders were foreigners, & Northern people; against whom great bitterness was excited in consequence of the last years disturbance for you may recollect Hamilton’s suggestions & the court also who tried those people throwing out bitter insinuations against the New York people, as having instigated these people to insurrection, & all the proof was principally, I believe was from one of the Culprits having said that King’s speech & others on the Missouri business had influenced them to assert their rights; which Congress wished them to have; but their were denied by the people here.

John has returned with M<sup>r</sup> Maxwell’s answer – which I shall Copy – “D<sup>r</sup> Madam, I could confidently have replied to y<sup>r</sup> note & advised that the United S. Bank did not draw on Phil<sup>a</sup>. in the manner that has been suggested to you. But to make sure I detained y<sup>r</sup> servant to enquire of the President who says they do not draw at all – indeed they take themselves the Bills of others & give them a premium on them – I have enquired of my neighbours Becket & Davis whose Bills are good, they ask 3 ½ p<sup>er</sup> cent. If your occasions for money

did not require immediate remittances Bills on the North would come on better terms in a few weeks hence when they will probably be Par or nearly so”..

Thus far M<sup>r</sup> Maxwell. I wrote him word “you had been informed that by giving \$500 here a bill drawn by the branch” “bank on the parent one in Ph<sup>a</sup> could be got with but premium & that I had” “\$500 I wished to send on to day or this week at furthest.” I felt confident from the time I got your letter that you had been misinformed or you misunderstood, for you know if this was the case why would Merchants go to the expence of Bills for which Premiums were paid if they could be got in this way. I had no opportunity of asking anyone in business since, & I thought untill I had the \$500 to offer it would be ridiculous to make a regular enquiry. I am exceedingly sorry for the disappointment but I will be glad if you will immediately direct me how to proceed. Whether if Stocks should offer what seem to lay out in that, & what p<sup>er</sup> ct & for what year. & how much to come on in a Bill for you will not of course wish the whole of the \$500 in stock as you will want some cash & more will I hope be added to this by the time an answer to this letter can reach me – as soon as Bryce pays his ballance of \$80 I mean to send on (that is by the next remittance after he does) the quarters rent for this house. You made a little mistake about the Sum in M<sup>c</sup>Kee’s second payment as I also did about the number of times he had paid; but as I soon after found my mistake by going back in my books of accounts it is very probable you may have found out yours too before this. In Sep<sup>r</sup> last he paid us for \$286 & for which I gave my receipt but out of this he deducted his accounts for \$56.20. At the time of my sending on his \$230 lacking 20 cents which was all he paid it was not (I wrote you) convenient to send my half of it then, but I sent it on to you as p<sup>er</sup> my accounts on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October last along with some other money of yours that unexpectedly came into my hands for M<sup>c</sup>Donald then, collected for you. But Dye out of a peak I supposed to him would not pay him but called & paid me so that I had as by my Memorandum the following “I had in my hands in October 1822 \$53.87 of M<sup>rs</sup> Gilchrist’s viz. \$28.10 I put for my payment of half of M<sup>c</sup>Kee’s Au<sup>t</sup> & 77 cents which remained on a bill M<sup>c</sup>Donald brought, & \$20 bills of the State [text missing] then left a ballance of \$8.87 ½ & which afterwards was sent. As you speak my d<sup>r</sup> Sister of coming with Bunce in Nov<sup>r</sup> I am [text missing] it will be late in the season before we shall have the happiness of meeting; for he is to make a trip early in October first & that always brings it late. But I hope the Lord will direct to the best time for you. In answer to your wish to know if R. G. had got your letter I can only say that M<sup>rs</sup> Co<sup>cc</sup> & B-d paidus a call a week ago, but she did not speak of it; but in speaking of Adam & yourself &c. she said she had been copying Robert’s oration (which he delivered on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July) to send to you & Adam, so that of course a letter will accompany it. I enquired if she had heard from A. G. & she said she had about a fortnight before & he was well & that he was to go to & here she could not recollect the name of the Colledge. I told her I heard from you that Adam was going to Carlisle – but I said not at whose suggestion ~~nor any more about it~~ to that colledge nor any other particulars. M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Dowal has accepted the call for the 3<sup>d</sup> Presbyterian Church here formerly S<sup>t</sup> Andrews it was a month or more after his first answer which was not decisive before the one accepting it came. I think it will be a great trial to his people there. But I very much doubt by the way he was affected by some very warm weather we had in March when he was here if he can (so broken down I may say as his constitution appears) stand our long Summers. M<sup>r</sup> Doc<sup>r</sup> Legare is but quite poorly & not in a family way either, the old gentleman looks remarkably well & in a very peaceful

frame of mind he says he is growing weaker & weaker he told Mary son on Sat<sup>y</sup> & said pleasantly getting forward he meant to the grave but his friends think it is only his hope that this is the case than in reality for he has been of this opinion for 4 months that there was sensible failure of his strength. Our family through the goodness of our gracious God is well except some small ailments of the servants – but there is a most extraordinary change in our atmosphere since yesterday from heat to almost cold enough for a fire – if it be an equal proportortion [sic] to your weather it I should think put a stop to the fever in the country & City. Mary & the children all send love to you with – & mine to D<sup>f</sup> Mary too yours with the

Warmest affection D<sup>f</sup> Sister  
M. L. Beach