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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from Roger B. Taney to J. Mason Campbell

**Date:** September 26, 1855

**Location:** I-SpahrB-1964-8

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Wednesday Sept. 28. 1854

Old Point -

My Dear Sir

I have sad news to tell you -

Mrs. Tany was taken ill last night - at one o'clock this morning Maria who was sleeping in the bed with her - discovered that she was making an effort to raise herself in bed - and was unable to do so. Maria immediately called us, and when I got into her room, I found she could use her hands & other limbs as usual, but was utterly unable to raise herself in bed or to sit up when raised. The doctor however as well as usual - said she felt no pain and objected strongly to send for a Physician - finding her pulse however very strong and frequent - and that friction did not increase the difficulty - we sent (contrary to

wishes) Dr Doct. Jarvis the Surgeon of  
the post, who came immediately (about  
2 o'clock in the morning) and directed  
her spine to be rubbed with brandy and  
red pepper. This was done, & while he re-  
mained she continued to answer ques-  
tions, although she spoke with evident  
reluctance. - But soon after he left her  
she sunk more & more into a heavy  
sleep, & it was difficult to rouse her.  
And between 3 & 4 o'clock in the morning  
we sent for Doct. Sample, who arrived  
here before five & had a consultation  
with Doct. Jarvis. They prescribed our  
course with Mustard plasters on the  
back of the neck & wrists. - The emesis  
was administered about 9 o'clock this  
morning. It is now 12. - and the  
plasters have been applied as directed. But  
she is not in any degree revived. She  
lies still like one in a calm sleep - breathes  
easily, but is more & more difficult to

to a case. Her pulse seems to me to be  
still good - and less frequent & strong  
than it was at first. And her face  
which was flushed is now pale.  
The physicians are to see her again at  
two o'clock - but that will be too  
late for the mail which comes  
at six.

See Dr. J. Buckler. I suppose him  
to come in the next boat. - It would be  
a consolation to all of us to know that  
every thing that medical skill could  
~~was~~ accomplish was done to save  
the life of our so dear to us all - God  
bless & protect you & yours -

Affectionately

A. B. Toney

J. Mason Campbell Esq.

Baltimore