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Title: Letter from Charles Nisbet to Michael Taney

Date: February 6, 1792

Location: RG 5/1 - 6.1.1

Contact:

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Carlisle, 6th Feb. 1792.

Sir,

I was favoured with yours of the 21st Oct. last in due time, but was at a Loss how to convey an Answer, but having this Day received a Letter signed Philip Key, who I suppose is one of the Representatives of your State, I shall take the Opportunity of answering it under his Cover. The Letter to your Son, inclosed in Mr. Key's Letter is delivered to him. I am greatly pleased with your rational & Parental Affection for your Son's Welfare, not only because such an Affection is amiable in itself, & deserving of Esteem, but because from this I am persuaded that you will be disposed to give your Son such Directions & Injunctions, both with Regard to his Behaviour, & his Application to his Studies, as may be of Use to him, & render him obedient to the Directions which he receives from us. I wish heartily that all those who have Children at this Seminary, were possessed of the same rational Affection & Concern for their Children, as it would not only abridge our Labour, but give additional Weight to all our Instructions, for want of which the greatest Part of them fall to the Ground without Effect. Your Son's Conduct & Application to his Studies is unexceptionable, but as every young Man is exposed to bad Examples, your frequent writing him & putting him in Mind of his Duty, & of your Affections & Expectations, will be one of the best Means of preserving him from their Infection, & our Admonitions shall not be wanting. A Parent can not but be anxious, when his Child is at a Distance from him, & exposed to Danger of different kinds, but as in Education a certain Risk must be run, in order to gain a certain Advantage, every good Parent, as well as every good Teacher ought to be satisfied when he is taking the best Means for preserving the Morals of his Child, as well as for improving his Understanding. Your Son is well, tho' some few of our Students have been troubled with Colds & sore Throats.

I am, with Esteem,

Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

Chas^r Nisbet.

Janey 2/9

Calvert County,

Maryland.

Carlisle, 6th Feb^{ry} 1792.

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I was favored with yours of the 21st Oct. last in due time, but was at a Loss how to convey an Answer, but having this Day received a Letter signed Philip Key, who I suppose is one of the Representatives of your State, I shall take the opportunity of answering it under his cover. The Letter to your Son, inclosed in Mr. Key's letter is delivered to him. I am greatly pleased with your rational and parental affection for your Son's welfare, not only because such an affection is amiable in itself, & deserving of Esteem, but because from this I am persuaded that you will be disposed to give your Son such Directions & Injunctions, both with Regard to his Behaviour, & his application to his studies, as may be of use to him, & render him obedient to the Directions which he receives from us. I wish heartily that all those who have children at this Seminary, were possessed of the same rational affection & Concern for their children, as it would not only abridge our Labour, but give additional weight to all our Instructions, for want of which the greatest Part of them fall to the ground without Effect. Your Son's conduct & application to his Studies is unexceptionable, but as every young man is exposed to bad Example, your frequent writing him & putting him in Mind of his Duty, & of your Affections & Expectations, will be one of the best means of preserving him from their Infection, & our Admonitions shall not be wanting. A Parent cannot but be anxious when his child is at a Distance from him, & exposed to Dangers of different kinds, but as in education a certain Risk must be run, in order to gain a certain advantage, every good Parent, as well as every good Teacher ought to be satisfied when he is taking the best Means for preserving the Morals of his Child, as well as for improving his Understanding.

Your Son is well, tho some few of our Students have been troubled with
Colds & sore Throats. I am, with Esteem,

Sir,

Your very humble servant,

(signed) Chas. Nisbet.

To Mr. Taney, father of Roger B. Taney.