

Dear Sir

H Bottom May 3<sup>o</sup> 1815

I have had the pleasure of reading your letter by the last mail, in the behalf of Geo. The friendship you express for him, while it evinces the goodness of your heart, will be considered by me as a proof of his merit while under your immediate notice.

I confess, Sir that I am at this time much perplexed in deciding how to manage as to the education of George as well as the rest of my children - my funds are so limited that I cannot do as I could wish. I have already perhaps been extravagant in the indulgence of my children, at least, I feel as if I had gone as far as my income would justify - and still their welfare, that is, their education, is my principal care. Mary is now at school at Binghamton, and we think James, who is now 15 years should have some privileges. Henry has commenced storekeeping at the G Bend who is to be assisted in the outset, taxes are becoming enormous & war prices still continue. Beside with all my pride and partiality for my children I am obliged to consider myself as a mere farmer, republican farmer, Beech woods farmer, without a hired man in this hurrying season of the year, How then am I to spare George and James? I admit that your reasoning is just in regard to George but I know not how to spare him at this time.

I shall not be able to give him a public Education. If he shall persist in <sup>the</sup> choice of law he will have to glean for himself an Education in some law office, perhaps, I may indulge him a year at Littlefield.

In the mean time, I will do better for him if it be in my power - Should my "ship arrive from England" or should I make sale of some land I can spare he may be more favored.

It is unpleasant to write you so long-faced a letter, but so good a friend ought to have good and sufficient reasons why George is not more indulged at this time.

The Post boy waits

Yours truly & sincerely

Putnam Battin

58935  
JAN 15  
1875

Top Boston way 3<sup>2</sup>

~~paid~~  
paid 15

Mr Steubon Butler

W. W. Steubon

1815



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