

Beekskill December 2nd 1811-

Dear Sir as you are pleased to consider my
correspondence a favor; I wish it was in my power to ren-
der it so - You are now witnessing what you anticipated
a new scene of action - Your purity of intention and good
understanding I have the fullest confidence in and there-
fore feel that I am safe in such a deligation

I have not been able to accept your kindness of calling ^{at} your house but I trust before long I shall be there. It has always seemed lonely since the death of that ornament that once inhabited it and must seem

Still more to now that both are gone - I have
offered up many warm prayers to the Lord for you time
you have been there in that important concern. believ-
ing that you have many sweet drawing of the good Spirit

It is rather a serious time in several places not far
from this, at Somers plain, in a few days there were
six funerals amongst the number was Mirajah -
Wright, and Milton Cushing the printer - in this
place Mr. Nat. Lane - that lived back of John -
Hyatt - he was down upon business and by some
means fell across a cast tongue and died of the wound.

Alas how uncertain is human life - best to be
ready, that's the point - who next shall be summoned away.
My merciful God is it I!

I feel much gratified with the last request in
your letter to pray for you. O my dear Sir I love you
too well to forget you, the Lord be your guide and
protection and I hope I may ask, and have a similar
favor - We have quite pleasing seasons in several
places around this Circuit I am hoping for better
times - Religion with me you know is a pleasing theme
you have not forgotten how many hours we have spent
conversing upon the engaging subject - O my dear Sir
it is the sweetener of human life and the soul of hap-
piness - but this I hope you feel by a blessed experience

Mrs. Crawford and our three little babes are
well and thrifty please to present my cordial respect
to my Venerable ^{friend} the Sir President May grace
Mercy and peace attend him and yourself to -
prays your sincere friend Joseph Crawford.

Free

Hon. Pierre Van Cortlandt

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Washington City -

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Jo. Crawford