

the
12/31/1820

Wish my dear Maria, I have given you time enough
to anticipate a letter, and I hope you will give it at last a
welcome reception - but do not believe me capable of such affectation
as to have waited merely to enhance its value by the length
of time it was due - Indeed I have been very busy as I always
am at the close of the Year and until my business was accomplish-
ed did not feel at ease to sit down to write letters, but this
evening I have spread all my dear correspondents claims
upon my desk and resolved my sisters should be the first
answered. - You are quite a riddle Maria, & as I am not very
ingenious in solving such matters: I shall wait patiently until
you disclose your own secrets, in the mean time you may
assume yourself of the truest interest, and best wishes of
my heart. I am very glad to hear our old friend Col Morrison
is recovering - from your letter I apprehended that we should never
see him again, and I always feel so much indebted to him for the
friendship he shows my brothers in Kentucky - besides liking him
for his agreeable qualities, that his loss would be much lamented.

Pray what part have you espoused in the British altercation?
Will you be pleased to hear that the Queen is acquitted, and the
city of London been illuminated three nights in honor of her
triumph? this is the latest news we have - and were over what concerns
us more, the Spanish treaty is ratified - a short arrival brings this
account

so that the new Year will be joyfully hailed by some of our
citizens who have old claims on the Spanish nation. as to the
termination of the Queens trial, I cannot say that I feel much
satisfaction in it. She is not sufficiently interesting in her own
character to make one rejoice for her, altho it is hard that a
woman should have been discarded on such a plea as that first
adopted by her husband. I suppose we shall now hear ^{of} a coro-
nation, and wonderfully loyal sagittaries. I have lately read a
history of Geo: the 3rd his court & family. a collection of domestic anec-
dotes which were quite interesting & agreeable. the old king, parents,
were excellent characters, and his bringing up such as was likely
to produce a virtuous prince. but his sons did not follow his exam-
ple. and his successor cannot boast much of his subjects love -
some of the caricatures of this trial are the boldest censures on
the king that I have ever seen, and might be considered treasona-
ble in any government.

It is a great pity that your Lexington ladies see no purpose
as not to be instructed by Mrs Caldwell - is she not their own Profes-
sors wife. and come all ^{the} way from Phil^a of course she must know
better than they. and if they would but allow her to set the fashions
for them, she would treat them with an endless variety from their own
fertile genius. and might even import an annual supply from
Faddy - but you western people are too proud to learn. and so
you must take the consequence, and be governed by reason & common
sense as long as you live - The learned & elegant Mrs Russell
in one of her visits to Sacatopa was extremely anxious to form an
acquaintance with some Indians. she had a passion for every thing
Savage and was particularly desirous of painting the portrait
of an Indian, but could not find one handsome enough. she heard

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Wm Benjamin Groth
Lexington Ky

