

COPY

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Philadelphia Octob^r 18 1793.

My dear Julia,

Good Dr. Sproat finished his course ^[more, related] yesterday, this morning, and was carried to his grave by eight of the members of the African Church this afternoon. His son in law Mr. Spencer is ill. Dr. Hodge is, I suppose his Physician. It is truly distressing to think of the desolation which has followed the footsteps of this man, and of all the Doctors who use Bark, Wine, Laudanum, and hot, or cold Baths in this disorder. It is much more inflammatory than a common Pleurasy, and who ever thought of using these remedies in that disease?

This morning I received a note from Mrs. Blackwell written under great agitation of mind, informing me that the good Doctor is ill with the fever at Gloucester. John Coxe flew to his relief. He bled him, and gave him the mercurial purge. He expects to visit him, every day, and from present appearances he entertains great hopes of his speedy recovery.

Dr. Griffitts with his whole family left the city this day. Dr. Mease mends, but very slowly. His head has been much affected by the disorder. Mrs. Miller ^{his grandmother} is indisposed. Dr. Woodhouse attends her.

I am again employed in Mr. Hammond's family. After curing four of his servants, a French physician was sent for a few weeks afterwards to his steward, and to one of his maids. They both died. Mr. Fisher is now attending his groom. It is probable that Mr. Hammond was persuaded, ^{in his family} that my four cures [^] were only of the fall fever, because I did not put the yellow color of the disorder in their faces. I put it ^{in a more suitable} ~~when-I-can,-in-the~~ [^]

[more, deleted] place, by means of the strong, but safe mercurial purges.

Good old James Craig died a few days ago.

Octob^r 19th: Blessed be God I continue to improve not only in health, but in strength. I rec^d a letter from Dr. Rodgers, and another from your kind Sister Polly yesterday urging me to leave the city. I have written to Polly, and I hope shall satisfy her, that such a step would be unwise, and perhaps sinful. I am still useful. I prescribe with success in my house, and my pupils under my direction save many, many lives every day. Three or four more rainy, or very cold days, would destroy all the contagion in the city, and such weather must come soon. In the mean while be assured that I will not go into an infected room to see a patient, untill I am as strong as I was before my last confinement. I have already resisted two very pressing calls from old friends.

Adieu, my dear friend. My best love to all friends. From your sincere and affectionate

friend

P.S. The disorder revived yesterday a good deal in consequence of the warmth of the weather. }

Benjⁿ Rush.

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