My dear Brother without any pulsade I than onter upon than topics which I concion with be most interesting to you, and touch whom the me. my things that are daily for the first time in life, falling under very description. I have been into duced to all the Senate I believe, and a multilade of the house. In the first I am much indetted to Benton, Wordbury & Chandle for many polite attentions. Perhaps you will be surfield at the latter name, but I must apone you Gen &. has a very different standing & character here from what his contituents are willing to award him. I creat numbers of the Senate form of them where names are duzoued our the whole Union, and whose doquence has often charmed our ears in that ee made some of an country when he live, have told me that there was not a sure useful man in Congress them gen blander. I mention this be cause I have recious important forward at his hands, and more title by way of reperation, because of joined, while in maine in those treers that it was pathionable there to East whom this faithful & laborious bereaut of the pocher. Mow faithyel you may judge from the buch that he has nest bort a rate in The fenate for four years. No other member can day the Dame Of courte your an auxious to Ruse townthing of the State of parties. It to one to be turned out & who are to come in? Who an to be recalled and who ben't whoad? an questions that all are asking and more an able to unter. In a coversation getter day, with the Muener- Gentle George Kreemer, he in that homely Through for which he is to remarkable, stremed, that the dust of them can't tell how the cat will j'ump". This is the true state of the case . As offerition will be organized ties after facksons inunyered adress. They will enderson to bick of the analy materials I an afferition out of that. Guat uncertainty bruraily as to the anyt calinet, but the general divien here is that Wood being

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Date: Dec. 30, 1828

Description: G.W. Pierce on Washington politics

## My dear Brother

Without any prelude I shall enter upon those topics which I concieve will be most interesting to you, and touch upon the many things that are daily, for the first time in life, falling under my observation. I have been introduced to all the Senate I believe, and a multitude of the House. In the first I am much indebted to Benton, Woodbury & Chandler for many polite attentions. Perhaps you will be surprised at the latter names, but I must assure you Gen C. has a very different standing & character here from what his constituents are willing to award him. Several members of the Senate, some of them whose names are blazoned over the whole Union, and whose eloquence has often charmed our ears in that remote corner of our country where he live, have told me that there was not a more useful man in Congress than Gen. Chandler. I mention this because I have recieved important favours at his hands, and more still by way of repuation, because I joined, while in Maine, in those success that it was fashionable there to call upon this faithful & laboring servant of the poeple. Now faithful you may judge from the fact that he has not lost a vote in the Senate for four years. No other member can say the same.

Of course you are anxious to know something of the state of parties. Who are to be turned out & who are to come in? Who are to be recalled, and who sent abroad? are questions that all are asking and some are able to answer. In a conversation yesterday with Mr Kramer – Gentle George Kramer, he in that homely shrewdness for which he is so remarkable, observed that "the oldest of them cant tell how the cat will jump." This is the true state of the case. No opposition will be organized till after Jackson's inaugurel address. They will endevour to pick up the mater materials of an opposition out of that. Great uncertainty prevails as to the next cabinet, but the general opinion here is that Woodbury

hill go into the Arry Depentment, and bound by bland in will be becatery of war if had is not wellected to the hunte. His woultful who will be the next consider for the Pasidney. Hay will be one, they is now certain, so, at least, lay gentlemen who aught to know have harties wile turn. four an inclined to think that Mc dean, balhoon & You Brun will all take the field also. Others Day they will confromise & that wither Calhom & han Buran wile stand alone & write the partigant of both. I adding the manner of the blay to much that I am in great danger of becoming a lay man. Indeed he is altogethen the most fascinating men I em dew. When I wind here I left may end at the Presidents and heads of the Dapartments & At the Joseph Ministers. They have bent me invitations to thin parties & I have already attinded beneal. Here is much cliquette here & some of it very lingular. It is emposh cirable of culyar for a gentlemen to wait whom his own wife, & manied ladies recein more attention I am as went belles as young goils. You would being to be we walking down Pendificania arerue with a woman old energy to be my mother & to be my lowing & smiling for all the north as if I was in love with her. get gow may be this any day that you will come to Washington. I must injoyed company half so much as I do here and I harticularly alluin the custome to which I have just alluded. Should I were some back to Main Juile amuch you by thewing you the cards that are left for me and you will think I change my resture while here & turned bears. Her an one or two sunt beautiful lading hem & the Port Mortin General has a dang the just on the hourt of maring, that we on ear be without Calling in low with her. She is a methorist geil, and you cannot think have delightfully be timple a unaffected type of duf contests with the glare of the painted resultitude that enormy her. I am much indutted to Gos. Wood kerry - dady for week Ried attention. Mrs M. w her hister den Olary are very tepular in Washington, and it is a great recommendation to a young men to be known as their priend. They was fin seomen, really so, and I have the history of saling familliarly on them at any hour in the

will go into the Navy Department, and some say Chandler will be Secretary of War if he is not reelected to the Senate. It is doubtful who will be the next candidate for the Presidency. Clay will be one, this is now certain, so, at least, say gentlemen who aught to know how parties will turn. Some are inclined to think that McLean, Calhoun & Van Buren will all take the feild also. Others say they will compromise & that either Calhoun & Van Buren will stand alone & write the partizens of both. I admire the manner of Mr Clay so much that I am in great danger of becoming a Clay man. Indeed he is altogether the most fascinating man I ever saw.

When I arrived here I left my card at the Presidents and heads of the Departments & at the Foreign Ministers. They have sent me invitations to their parties & I have already attended several. There is much etiquette here & some of it very singular. It is unfashionable & vulgar for a gentleman to wait upon his own wife, & married ladies receive more attention & are as much belles as young girls. You would laugh to see me walking down Pensilvania Avenue with a woman old enough to be my mother, & to see my bowing & smiling for all the world as if I was in love with her. Yet you may see this any day that you will come to Washington. I never enjoyed company half as much as I do here, and I particularly admire the custom to which I have just alluded. Should I ever come back to Maine, I will amuse you by showing you the cards that are left for me, and you will think I changed my nature while here & turned beau. There are one or two most beautiful ladies here & the Port Master General has a daughter just on the point of meaning that no one can see without falling in love with her. She is a methodist girl, and you cannot think how delightfully her simple & unaffected style of dress contrasts with the glare of the painted multitude that surround her. I am much indebted to Geo. Woodbury & Lady for much kind attention. Mrs W. & her sister Mrs Olney are very popular in Washington, and it is a great recommendation to a young man to be known as their friend. They are fine women, really so, and I have the priviledge of calling familliarly on them at any hour in the

day, and walk with them propertly to when for eliquette & fashion\_ I shall that west week . Go to domisible in Rentweky and get admitted, and there to It Louis. I that wish bien cinate, Indianna and Turnfee. The letter for the perfore of isiting you. Juckeon to whom I there han hereal letters of intes duction. I am not detirmined of court with I that settle fernamently in the Mest, This if it offers as pair absaulages 4 A. E. I shall not return -I have just come home from Mount Person when I wint with a factly of going quithousen to havey the hillspace, assistance, and grave of the father of his Country. I have no lafer left to tell you what I saw there . The five gooden ale laid out a culturated g'act as it was in nashingtons ) day - the old grey he Quants, also clop this hands at the sound of this meet ten name and whan he rightened with joy or they thered as round the grounds. Then the track on the banks of the mobile Potomu a where he wis in glory and in feace, with nach can alou it, and old oaks beside it, and the green mand tooklen all born to the soil 4 the foots lifes of unestitude, who come to desp a gratiful town and atten a furent unds of admication on the gran of the departed Lero. the this I have this day seem, my heart is full of their memories alete lader, holy, and froud - I shall men forget than. In the load entry we also law the key of the Bastille, a present to Markington from the Republic of names. This is a deaft of its foren, it is a honey win or stall key \_\_\_\_\_\_ Befor I start, I I have write Father a long letter tolling lim minutely ale my plant perspects. Is write a direct to Louisville Rentwerky, it will seath me them, at a fixed of the Wishliff, to whom I have letters, and with wrom I state trestally spend from days. I am Spend ing may then rest selightfully, and hourly ming the first were in the nation, and receiving attention a mindref from individualy whose very names have been most to file me with a kind of recentral four. Gim my low to you Wife & children . I sas letter for talk. Lean him to Day Tuskey Dec. 30 - San your La Gooth Prin work only 17.

day, and walk with them frequently – So much for etiquette & fashion –
I shall start west next week. Go to Louisville in Kentucky and get
admitted, and thence to St Louis. I shall visit Cincinati, Indianna
and Tennesse. The latter for the purpose of visiting Gen. Jackson to whom
I shall have several letters of introduction. I am not detirmined, of course
wether I shall settle permanently in the West, tho' if it offered as fair advantages
as N.E. I should not return –

I have just come home from Mount Vernon where I went with a party of young gentlemen to survey the birthplace, residence, and grave of the father of his Country. I have no paper left to tell you what I saw there. The fair garden = all laid out & cultivated just as it was in Washingtons' day – the old grey he[page torn] servants, who clap their hands at the sound of their masters name and whose [page torn] brightened with joy as they shewed us round the grounds. Then the tomb on the banks of the noble Potomac where he lies in glory and in peace, with dark [page torn] above it, and old oaks beside it, and the green sward all trodden bare to the soil by the footsteps of multitudes who come to drop a grateful tear and utter a fervent words of admiration over the grave of the departed hero. All this I have this day seen, my heart is full of these memories alike tender, holy, and proud – I shall never forget them. In the road entry we also saw the key of the Bastille, a present to Washington from the Republic of France. This is a draft of its form, it is a heavy iron or steel key — [drawing of key]

Before I start, I shall write Father a long letter telling him minutely all my plans & prospects – So write & direct to Louisville Kentucky, it will reach me there, at a friend of the Wickliff, to whom I have letters, and with whom I shall probably spend some days. I am spending my time most delightfully. am hourly seeing the first races in the nation, and recieving attention & kindness from individuals whose very names have been wont to fill me with a kind of reverential fear.

Give my love to your wife & children. Does little Jos talk? Learn him to say Uncle George –

I am yours &c Geo W Pierce

Tuesday Dec. 30 –