

Cincinnati April 6. 1829

Dear Mother, I left St Louis on the 21 of March and in five days arrived at Louisville Ky. There I spent a few days with a young gentleman to whom I had letters, a son of John Rowan's and arrived here last evening in good health. I feel as if I had no ordinary cause for gratitude to the kind providence that has preserved me unharmed thro all the difficulties of a long journey, performed too, thro a section of our country, by no means remarkable for the healthfulness of its climate or for the mild character of its population. Wherever I have been I have met with a friendly reception, and received the most kind and polite civilities from gentlemen whose acquaintance any young man in the nation might be proud to claim. I say it not in boast, but yet I do say, that when I return to my native state, I shall hold that there is not in it a single individual who knows so much of the Western country as myself. Nor is this knowledge of a character to be slightly estimated. Nothing can be more true, than that the man who desires to rise in political life should know the character of his countrymen. If I was a clergyman, a mechanic, or a merchant I would remain on this side of the mountains, so I would if I was a farmer. But the profession of a lawyer in most of the western states is ranked in point of respectability below all of these. Neither is it so lucrative as among us. In St Louis, their C. C. P. or their court answering to our Common Pleas, the docket at the present term contains only 60 actions, and to attend to these there are 16 lawyers. But upon all these subjects we will converse when we meet.

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Dear Brother,

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
MMN #28299
Date: April 6, 1829
Description: G.W. Pierce to brother, Cincinnati

I shall return by way of Pittsburgh and Buffalo, and try to reach Maine sometime in the early part of May. At St Louis, I received at letter from you which was originally directed to Louisville, and which Rowan had the goodness to forward to me.

The controversy between Adams and the Mass. Federalists excites much interest in this part of the country. The general opinion here is, I mean since the publication of Plumer's letter, that the decades of the Federal Party stand convicted. From the few N. E. Papers that have met my eye, I should suppose that a different opinion prevailed among you, tho' for my own part I do not see how Plumer's testimony is to be got over. I long to talk with some of our Federalists upon this subject, and learn the measures they intend to take to rescue their names and the names of their fathers from this reproach.

Most people are here disappointed in the cabinet, through they seem to rejoice that N. E. goes unrepresented. It is believed here that Clay will be in the house of Rep. next congress, and that he will be the prominent candidate in the West for the next presidential canvass.

I shall leave here in a few days - give my love to all my friends, and kiss the little boys for me. I long to see little Joe's every face. I hope he has nearly finished cutting his teeth, and able to talk like a young lawyer. I am as ever your Brother and friend

Geo. W. Peirce

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