

West Chester - April 5. 1830

Dear Wickes,

When you see yourself thus familiarly addressed and cast your eyes upon the place from which this letter is dated, you ^{may} be inclined to enquire of yourself who can be the author of this informal epistle. To settle this quere in your mind you can turn over and if the person who bears the name you see there subscribed has not entirely escaped from your recollection you will recognize him as a quondam associate of "Bye gone years" who through the vicissitudes of fortune has been thrown upon the world and alienated from the companions of his boyhood, ~~who~~ though surrounded in society comparatively by strangers - has never ceased to appreciate his friendships & intimacies as

as a schoolboy as too sacred to be destroyed by the lapse of time or the intervention of space. Do not ask me why I have not written to you before. But let it pass. Be assured that it was not because I thought the less of you, and some others, who were my former companions, but because I thought more of something else. Chester-Town once the centre of all my hopes and all the endearments of my existence now occupies but a mere speck in my recollection both "pleasing and mournful" to recount. The scenes of "Washington College" and all the remembrances connected therewith have passed off with the frivolities of the days that gave them birth, and memory now lingers only around a few of the prominent individuals, coactors of our youthful gambols, who hold a prominent rank in my estimation.

But let me not forget the object of my letter, which is partially on business. I want you to be good enough to give me some information respecting Charles Ringgold and Saml. Ringgold, who used to live near Chester-Town. Let me know in what County Charles Ringgold now resides and if you know whether he is worth anything tangible or not. Information you may communicate will be entirely confidential. The reason of my requesting this information is that I have a considerable claim in my hands which I wish to know whether I have any chance of collecting.

Please write to me soon and when you do let know how things have changed since I left C. T. I have never recd. or written a line to any creature since I left it. And I should like to know "what's what" & "who's who" now a days.

S. A. Nicker Esq.

Yours as ever Truly
Robt. B. Davidson

all

paid 10/2



Simon A. Wickes Esqr
Philadelphia
~~Charleston~~
~~West County~~
~~Virginia~~

Mail

John
New August

