

Washington. The distance was at least eight hundred miles by the way traveled.

He was fond of reading and a lover of books. He collected an extensive library, which was divided between his two sons after his death. His letters from Washington to his wife are calculated to raise a smile when they set forth the "book buyer's apology to his wife" in the usual persuasive style. In a letter written December 12, 1818, he says :

"I have again been dabbling in the book auctions, and purchased to a small amount. The books you requested I have not seen, but am going to-day to Georgetown to a large book store where I may probably find them. I am determined, if I can get them tolerably cheap, to add considerably to my library. Besides affording needed instruction, thus will a rational, and I hope successful, source of amusement be added as old age advances and deprives of other sources. I shall never have another so good an opportunity. If you think of any other books you would wish, name them."

In another letter he also writes :

"I am still going on in the purchase of books. If I succeed in getting all I design to get, you will suppose, when you see them, that I am about to become a student in my old age, and so I certainly shall if I can bring myself to the task. But I fear the day for study is passed with me. If so, they will still be useful. They will aid us in the work of rectifying our hearts. They will amuse our solitary hours. Above all, they will be highly beneficial to those who are to succeed us."

He was fond of writing, and wrote well. He contributed liberally to the papers of his day, among them the *National Intelligencer*, published at Washington. He was a Whig in politics, an emancipationist, and an advocate of total abstinence. He wrote liberally on all these subjects. Those who knew him tell of his keen observation of men and events, of his clear, intelligent judgment and wide range of information. He was a friend and correspondent of Henry Clay, and a number of Clay's letters to him are still preserved. In 1821, 1822 and 1840 he was a member of the Kentucky Legislature.

He was a refined, cultivated, dignified man. His manner was graceful and polished. He was charming in con-