



Letter to Achsa Johnson of Worthington, Oh from Mary Johnson in Washington City, Feb. 25, 1841

Subject: Describes stagecoach travel from Worthington to Washington

[Handwritten note, script]

Washington Feb 25, 1841

Dear Mother

It is with an air of great importance that I now date this letter from this City but I must beg pardon for commencing my letter thus. We arrived in this place today a delightful morning & in fine spirits. It was the first 40 miles that we passed over without some acquaintances. We left Columbus on Thursday morning as we expected with but one gentleman with whom we were acquainted G. Minor there being 9 inside beside several deck passengers & arrived at Zanesville about dusk where suped [*sic*] & then packed up & started (as the chief of the Miami tribe would say). At this place Mr. Trescot & Mr. Worman took a deck passage, from thence to Hebron [apparent mistake since Hebron is west of Zanesville] where we breakfasted. It would be in vain for me to attempt to describe to you my varied feelings during the twelve hours between Thursday & Friday sometimes almost trembling with fear but the next moment ready to burst with laughter & could not sleep till nearly morning there I was shut up in a little narrow contrapted [*sic*] concern with eight men just think. I tell you it was no very pleasant situation but nothing like getting used to anything and the second night I rested very well considering we had a very pleasant trip over the mountains it was nothing to what I expected we had good company long yarns & lots of fun.

The second night I rested very well & the third was perfectly at home & would have rested finely had it not been for the news of some of the passengers as we were then passing over the most dangerous places of the mountains but I slept very soundly all night although I little expected to ever again see the daylight or at least from the awful descriptions which were given but the minority must yield to the majority—or had I of said stay that would have been sufficient but I thought that in order to retain the good will & wishes of all I would say go & thought that we might pass safely over & then we would [be] so much farther along & we would pass the danger & not see it we did so & without a single accident. We still continued our journey on Sunday & arrived at Fredericktown that evening where I told pa that I could not stand to travel another night without resting, consequently several of the passengers laid by Mr. G. Minor & Mr. Trescot from Columbus Mr. Worman from Zanesville & Mr. Morison from Dayton my favorite and the rest continued on I retired to rest quite early & arose early & after breakfast



promenaded the streets for an hour & a half in company with Mr. Worman & tho' a beautiful place but not time or room to say anything more at a half past 10

We again set out for Baltimore in company with Mr. W. & T although they left us some 20 miles from B & passed directly on to W. We left B. on Tuesday morning for W. & arrived there about eleven & had several calls from gentlemen & an invitation from Mr. Douglas of Ohio to visit the capitol on the following morning but when morning came it was very different from the preceding the snow was falling very fast which prevented me from going. We remain here some ten days or more & from here we shall pass directly to Boston where we shall again meet Mr. T & W. We are very pleasantly situated in a pleasant private family although several boarders at this time & withal Mr. Ridgway. I am some expecting Mrs. Howard from Tiffin to call upon me this morning also Mrs. Hinton of Delaware. Mr. Hinton called yesterday.

I think it quite uncertain about pa purchasing any furniture. he says you said nothing to him about it. I wish you would answer this immediately or send to Mansfield requesting him to purchase some furniture.

I dreamed & dreamed since I left home which I must communicate which is that Ann Tull was married. My love to all & particularly to Call. Tell Call to say to Mary A. Cowles that I have found something which I think would be sufficient to occupy her attention for some time but & hardly think I shall communicate.

Ma do not let any one parse this letter it is written in great haste. I will write to you from Mansfield.

Nothing more to write but remain

Your affectionate daughter

Mary Johnson

Tell Call I want her to write me while at Mansfield