

CHATTANOOGA HISTORY CENTER

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Rome 16 March 1847

Dear William [Crutchfield],

I left Washington on Thursday morning the 4th Inst., and reached this place on Monday the 8th – And I have been retained here, separated from my family until this time, by the unprecedented rains and the rise in the creeks and rivers – I shall leave here in a day or two for Athens Tennessee = I have been endeavoring since I reached here to make arrangements for House keeping for this year = I cannot obtain possession of a House for two months to come in any times whatever – And it is important to me at this time to be permanently located at home within my (?) = During the last election my constituents complained that I did not live among them, and now my name is associated with another and a higher office, it is important that I should be permanently located at home with my family = I have reached that point now with my affairs where I can begin to think of settling myself down permanently for life – I know that my wife is tired of our separation, and desires me to settle myself down and live at home with her and the children, and I am determined to do it = I am elected as you know to Congress for two years to come, and if not promoted I shall in all probability – go back to Washington for two years, but I am determined to go there no longer afterwards = I am unable now to say what will be the result of our nomination for Governor? in this state in June next – my friends? are speaking of me for that appointment but I cannot say what will be the result = I would be gratified at an Election for Governor principally because I would see in it the End at no distant day, of my political career = I want to go home, and pursue (?) – business, and be with my wife, and superintend? the raising and Education of the children, what I have written before? on the subject of my wishes and intentions and that of my friends towards me, are for? your eye and that of your father only, + you must not speak of it to others = I have sent you by Mr. Alexanders Wagons?, the parish? and bushes for which you wrote, and also, the music books for the Accordion = I hope that they will please you = I shall leave here tomorrow or next day for Athens and I shall be there a week or two = I would be glad to make arrangements to live? here for the balance of the year but I cannot tell what I shall (?) if I commence House keeping I shall need a cook, and I shall expect you to furnish? me = write me to Athens Tennessee as soon as you get this letter

Your Brother,

John H. Lumpkin