

Palmyra Nov. 11th 1839

Dear Brother. Yours of the 21st Oct, was received on the 28th. It was postmarked the 22nd. So that it arrived in six days which is but half the usual time. The Rail Roads will shortly bring us within three days of other in the way of news. Letters come from Chambersburg here in 8 hours. If it was not for Jackson & Van Buren's cursed experiment on the Currency it would be incredible what amount of internal communication would have been in full operation in the United States, in a few more years. That Jackson was wrong does not admit of a doubt, but it is equally true that our country is pushing her improvements too rapidly, and that wholly on borrowed capital. Any individual that would go on in the same way as our State and some others would be set down as mad, and yet we have thousands who are for still continuing the borrowing system to no one knows what extent. Our State debt now is about 30 millions and in ten years will be 50 if the present course is pursued, which can never be paid by the works but must finally be by direct taxation. I would like you had told me the different amounts of my County, State, Road & School taxes for A. S. 1839. I mailed Picknell's Reporter for you on Saturday which will give you full accounts of the causes of the second suspension of our Philadelphia Banks. Our Elections have went against us worse than ever. The loco focos have one of a majority in the Senate and 39 in joint ballot so that they can do as they please this winter. We carried our whole ticket in Lebanon by about 175 majority. Londonderry stood 155 Antimason to 16 Van Buren 71 majority less than in 1838. & 115 votes less poll. The people are generally well pleased with the operation of our Amended Constitution. And I am in hopes that it will break down party in a great measure and ^{make} Candidates stand more or less on their own popularity. What caused our total discomfiture throughout the State was the defection of the Whigs who dont wish to be under the Antimasons and I think a great many voted the other ticket in order to crush the party, and in some counties

When they thought even as strong as the Anti's the two separate tickets. In Chester County the Whig ticket rec^d 4000 votes and the Anti. 3000 & better and the Van Buren 3800 leaving a majority of 800 over the Anti's when we had I think 400 last year. The certainty of defeat no doubt made many an Anti stay at home or we would not have been so scandalously beaten there. Notwithstanding all defeat here and elsewhere this fall I firmly believe that if ^{our} Harrison is settled by the National Convention that he will defeat Van Buren with all his patronage. New Jersey don't see and hope New York will also. I will try and send on that paper as soon as possible. I have heard nothing of our Newville relations since my last. From James I learnt from Mr Early that he was well. Our region has been middling healthy since my last and we have had our healths. Wheat is 1.16 Rye 60 cts, Corn 50 cts, Oats 25 cts, Beef 8 cts, Pork the same. Live stock of all kinds scarce and high. Cows sell as high as 35 & 40 dollars. Money is very scarce but the change is not yet so much so as at the first suspension. I was out 3 days trying to collect tax and got but 150 out of Two Thousand that I have to collect between this and the first of January. I forget whether I told you or not that our old ^{the} Teacher Abraham Philips Esq. had fell into the Union canal and was drowned in a drunken fit and that they brutes that found him and had known him for years buried him in an old feeding trough in the Bank of the Canal about two feet under ground. Hat, Coat, shoes mud and all as they found him. His children raised him and buried him decently. The Crops have been the most abundant that have been for years, Hay only excepted. Cloverseed was last year 15 dolls. and it be no less this. You have never informed me how Clover Timothy succeeds with Robert and generally in your State. I have never seen Judge Gibson's decision on the Presbyterian case but I am fully of your opinion for I have little confidence in any of his decisions. It was him who decided the N. Gadder case against father the first time in the Circuit Court of Sebam

County and ^{my} Father appealed to the Supreme Court notwithstanding
he was Chief Justice and the rest of the Judges unanimous
reversed his decision and sent it back when it was tried by Judge
Houston who made a much more favorable decision but still I am
sure a wrong one, but to which father submitted. And it was
Judge Rogers who defended ^{my} Father alone in that case
of ^{my} Kaaks and to whom they all finally yielded and
reversed all their first decisions. These facts I have from the
best authority. All the hope I have is in that man to defeat
the lawyers. Judge Gibson's decision on the ^{my} Gadden case
would have forced father to pay ^{my} Gadden his share of all the
uncollected notes of the heirs to grandfather Joseph Sawyer's
among the rest and he was bankrupt before Grandfather's death.
Such a decision would have played the very mischief. ^{my} They tried
the same thing with me in the last trial in respect to the Doal
note that remains unpaid but did not succeed. ^{my} The other
~~to~~ outraged common sense too far for them to attempt.

What ^{my} Mr Gibson is can be seen by the way he was appointed
the second time to his present post. He was the first Judge
that our amended Constitution would have removed from
the Supreme Court Bench and in order to save himself he and
Gov. Pitner made out that he should resign and be reappo-
inted which was accordingly done before the new Constitution
came into force. That was the only thing I condemned Pitner
in during his whole administration. ^{my} There has no thing of
consequence happened amongst your old acquaintances here
of any import since my last. I think the Lerry Church &
Spring with perhaps four acres that now remains might be
bought for 60 dollars and could be rented for forty
or fifty yearly. All the hill out of which the Spring issues has
been sold some years. The walls of the yard wont stand long &
They are down then will soon be nothing more of the kind. I
think the wall ought to be rebuilt and the property given in charge to
some one who will look for the bones of his father.

Wm. G. Gaddis

Jamill

William Gaddis



Palm Beach }
Nov 30 }

1839

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Mr John Geddes
Ypsilanti
Michigan

John
Geddes