

My dear Son

Washington 6th Feb. 1837

I received your last favor, and regretted to find from it that you had not heard from your Mares. I received information of their safe arrival at N. Orleans, and that they were very much admired. I am afraid that they were detained on the river by the ice, but hope they have reached you by this time, in safety. I have heard nothing further from Mr. Hearley. If our letters were shipped, as he wrote me they would be, at Havre, in the mouth of Dec. they ought by this time to be at or near N. Orleans.

On the subject of Russia Hemp, the result of my enquiries is that altho' there is some there is not any very great increase in the production. But Manilla Hemp answers many of the purposes of Russia Hemp, altho' there are some of the uses of Russia Hemp to which the Manilla can not be applied. Manilla Hemp is admitted free, or with a duty merely nominal. And there has been a great increase in the amount of Manilla Hemp imported.

The real cause however of the fall in the price of R. Hemp is the fall in the price of the articles into which it is manufactured. And the late high price of bagging (which I always thought unfortunate) has led to the establishment of other manufactures of that article, out of Hemp, flax &c and tended to reduce the price.

I will make further enquiries on this subject. My - Smith has sold my sack, and I must let
them