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Mary Easton Sibley Papers

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Letter from Mary Sibley to Rufus Easton, February 11, 1816

Mary Easton Sibley

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Hon. Rufus Easton
Delegate in Congress
Washington City

Mary S. Easton Sibley
11 Feb. '16
St. Louis

St. Louis Missouri T.- February 11th, 1816.

Dear Father

I will write to you, (however great my aversion to letter writing) for I see plainly you have determined to try me, or else you would surely have given me some kind advice, as you were used to do when absent, & also would have desired me ere you departed, ("not to forget to write you often," but I suppose you think, it is as much as I can do to attend to the wise lessons of a husband, if you do, I assure you; you are mistaken, but even supposing it were so, my dear Father might at least have sent me a line, to say he did not forget I was still in existence.

Our great Town has been lively enough this winter, if Balls would make it so; In the first place, three at Mr. Garnier's Mr. Carr gave a very splendid Party; it is a wonder he did not wait till the Legislature were convened, that he might have the honor of that great body being present, for it was only a week before,- next five assembly Balls at Mr. Peebles, who keeps tavern where Mr. Austin formerly did; besides which the balls of the second class are highly celebrated. Mr. Sollomon has opened his Drawing Room, where every one who pays a Dollar & a half is admitted to eat tough Pancakes & dances as long as they please, he will get rich by it no doubt as they have them regularly once a week, the young Gentlemen who went there, were finely fixed, they were made Kings & obliged to give those People a Ball & very great presents to their Queens, I suppose it cost each of them forty or fifty Dollars.

What the Legislature have been doing, some wise member has already informed you, I suppose,- Mr. Russell before he went away invited 6 or 7 of them here to spend the evening, he told mamma she ought to invite the remainder, however she did not, why, I do not know.-

We are all very well; Langdon begins to talk, call every one's name, about the House very well; Daniel still continues to get Drunk every two or three days. as by mamma's letter you will perceive he has become very unfaithful, but she thinks he is better than he was when she wrote to you. I hope my dear Father you will write me a few lines, if you have not leisure for more.-

Your affectionate

Mary S. Easton Sibley

Mr. Bates informed me a week ago that you had referred him to a Letter which you had written me on Some particular Subject- I add this note merely to Say that no such Letter or indeed any Letter has yet reached me from you. I set off in a few days (by land) for F. Osage, Shall be down again in April- Pray write me if anything occurs interesting respecting Indian Affairs- Try and keep the British Canada Traders out of our Country by Law- I hope Mr. Birdeye's motion will become a Law- try also to prevent the President's Late Proclamation from crushing one of the most promising and deserving settlements in the Western Country- I mean the Boone's Lick Sett. of course.

Yrs. &c.

G. C. S.

Sibley Mss. V. I
Missouri Historical Society