Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson

Section 4, Pages 91 - 120

These letters were written by Joseph Alderson to his son, Lewis Allen Alderson. Lewis later moved to Atchison, Kansas, in 1858 and was a prominent Baptist minister. He died in Atchison in 1881.

Date: January 1829-January 1834

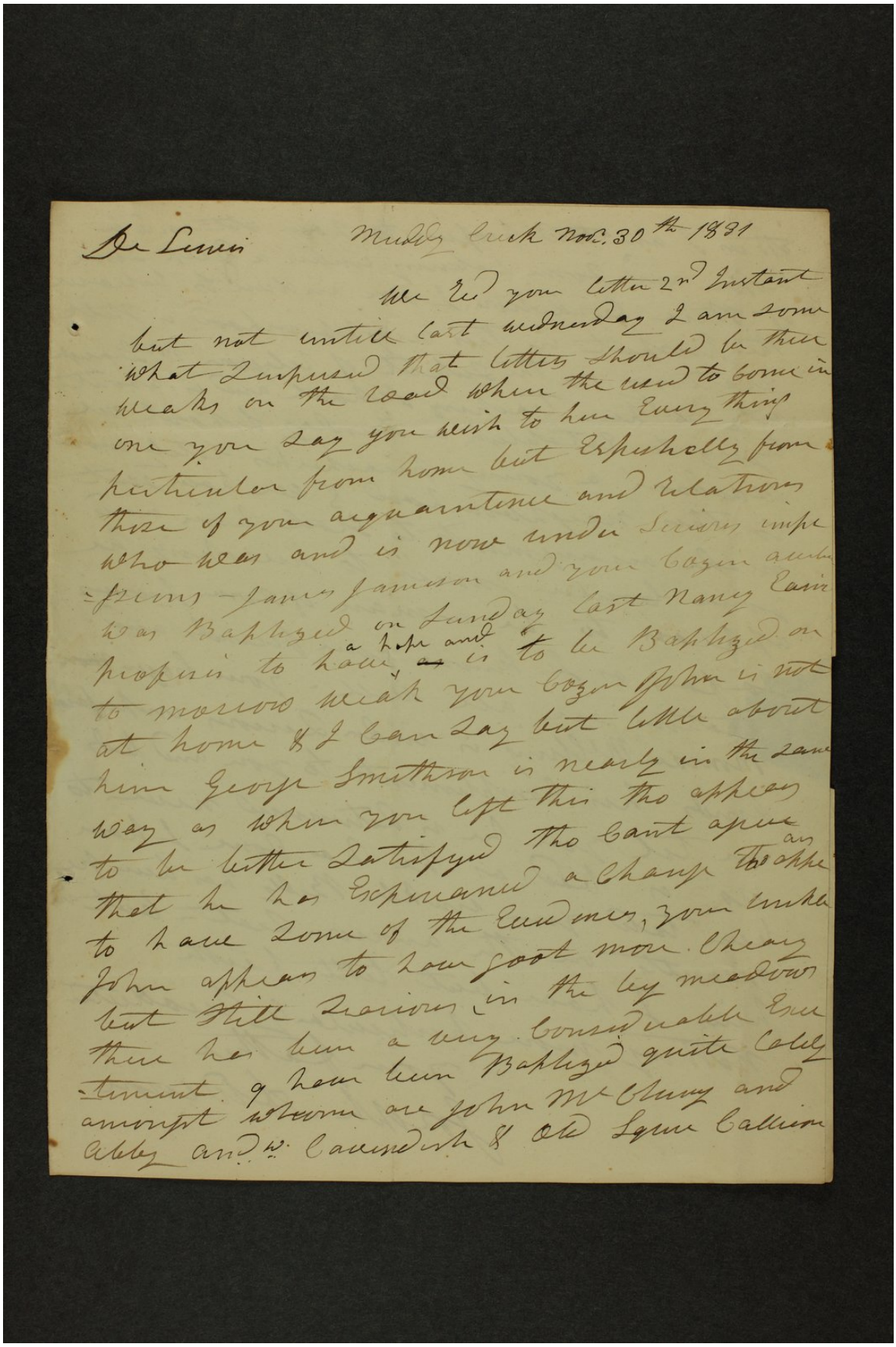
Callnumber: Lewis Allen Alderson Coll. #255, Folder 5A-5B

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 228643

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www.kansasmemory.org/item/228643

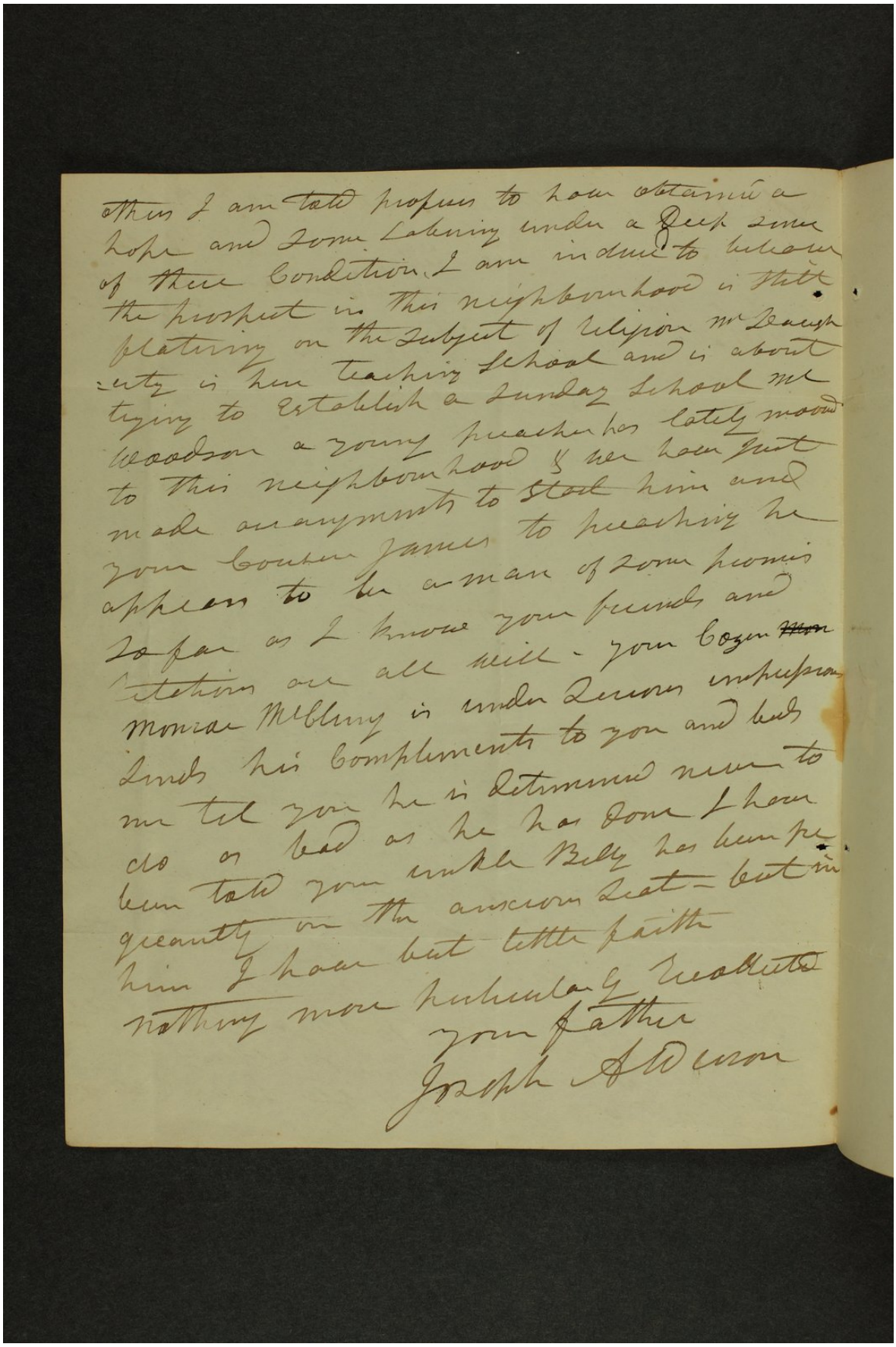
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dr Lewis Muddy Creek Nov. 30th 1831

We Rec'd your letter 2nd Instant but not until last wednesday 2 am sorry what I supposed that letters should be three weeks on the road when the used to come in one you say you wish to hear Every thing particular from home but Especially from those of your acquaintance and relations who near and is now under Serious impressions - James Jamison and your Cozin Annie was Baptized on Sunday last Nancy Cain propers to have a hope and is to be Baptized on to morrow next you Cozin John is not at home & I can say but little about him George Smithson is nearly in the same way as when you left this tho appears to be better Satisfyed tho Cant apprehend that he has Experianed a Change tho appears to have some of the Evidences, Your brother John appears to have lost most Cheary but Still Serious in the ley meadows there has been a very Considerable Exercitment & been Baptized quite Lately amongst whom are John McClung and Abby and W. Cauvendish & old Lyne Callison

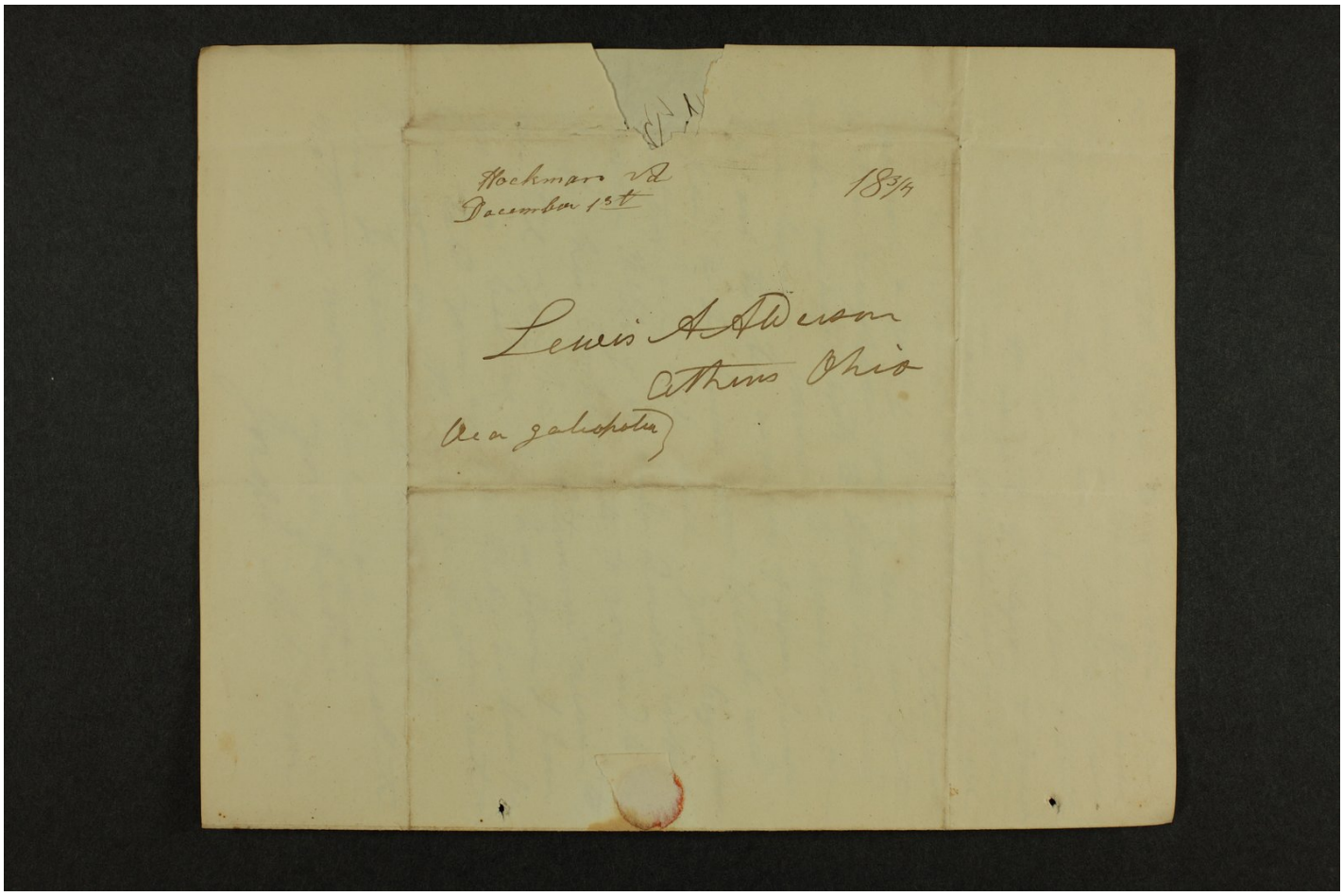
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



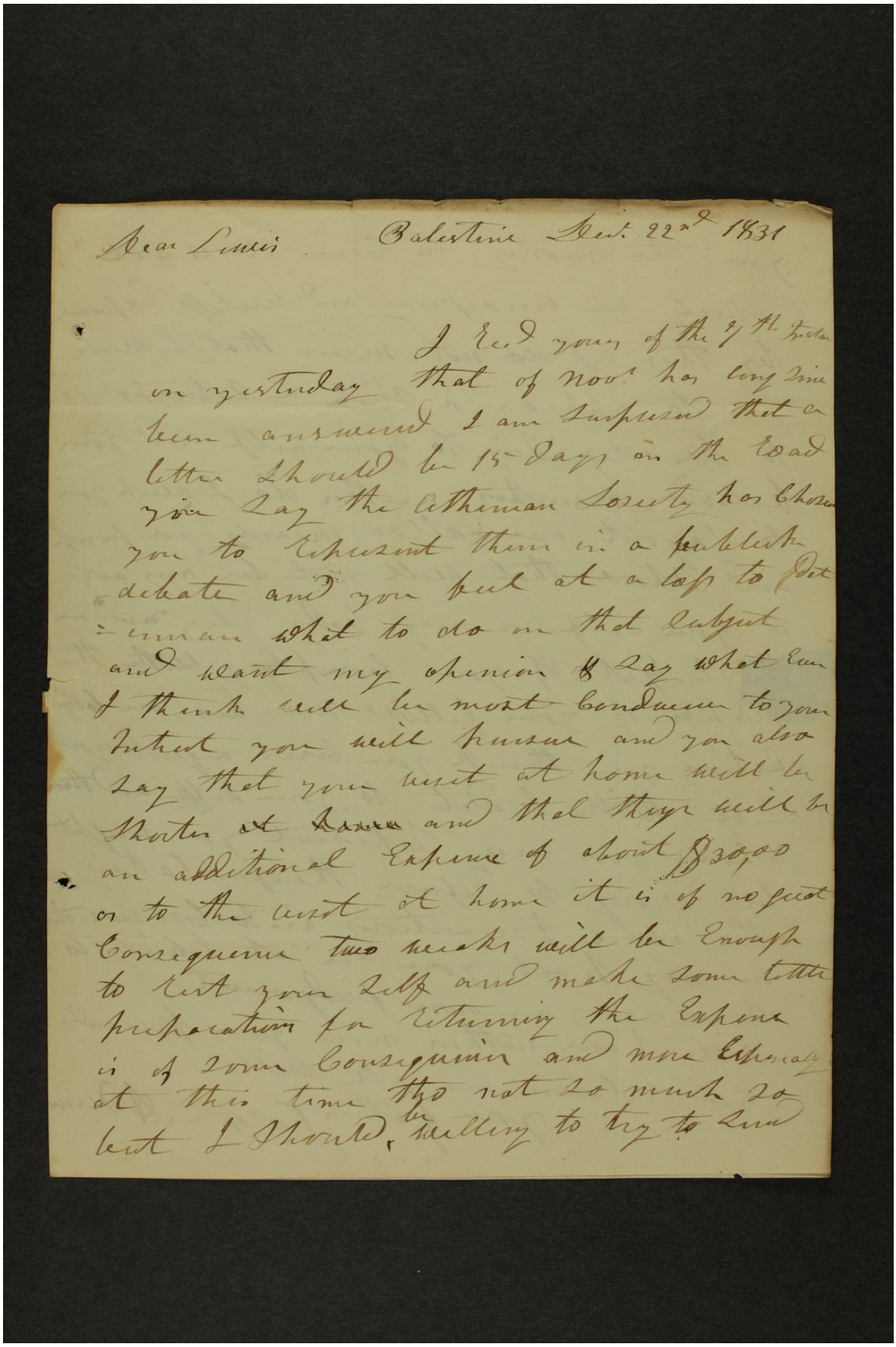
Thus I am told proves to have obtained a hope and some laboring under a deep sense of their condition. I am indeed to believe the prospect in this neighborhood is flattering on the subject of religion Mr Vaughty is here teaching school and is about trying to establish a Sunday School Mr Woodson a young preacher has lately moved to this neighborhood & we have just made an arrangement to Station him and your Cousin James to preaching he appears to be a man of some promis so far as I know your friends and relations are all well - your Cozen Marian McElroy is under Seven inspiration sends his Compliments to you and bids me tell you he is Returned never to do as bad as he has done I have been told you rode Billy has been pe greatly on the ancient seat - but in him I have but little faith nothing more Remains yours Respectfully

your father
Joseph Alderson

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson


Hockmans Va
December 1st
1814
Lewis A Alderson
Athens Ohio
Ohio a galliopolis

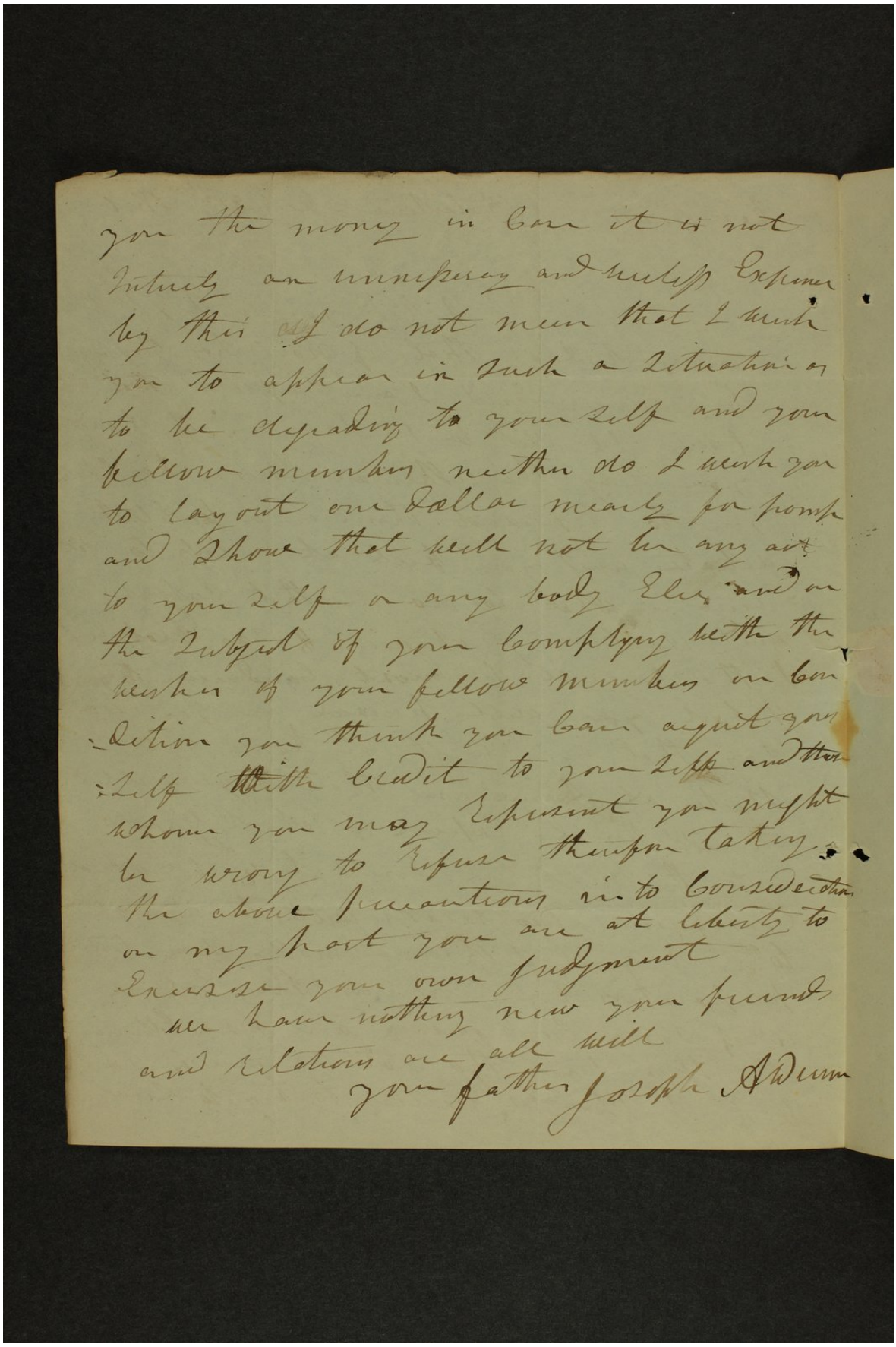
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dear Lewis Palestine Dec. 22nd 1831

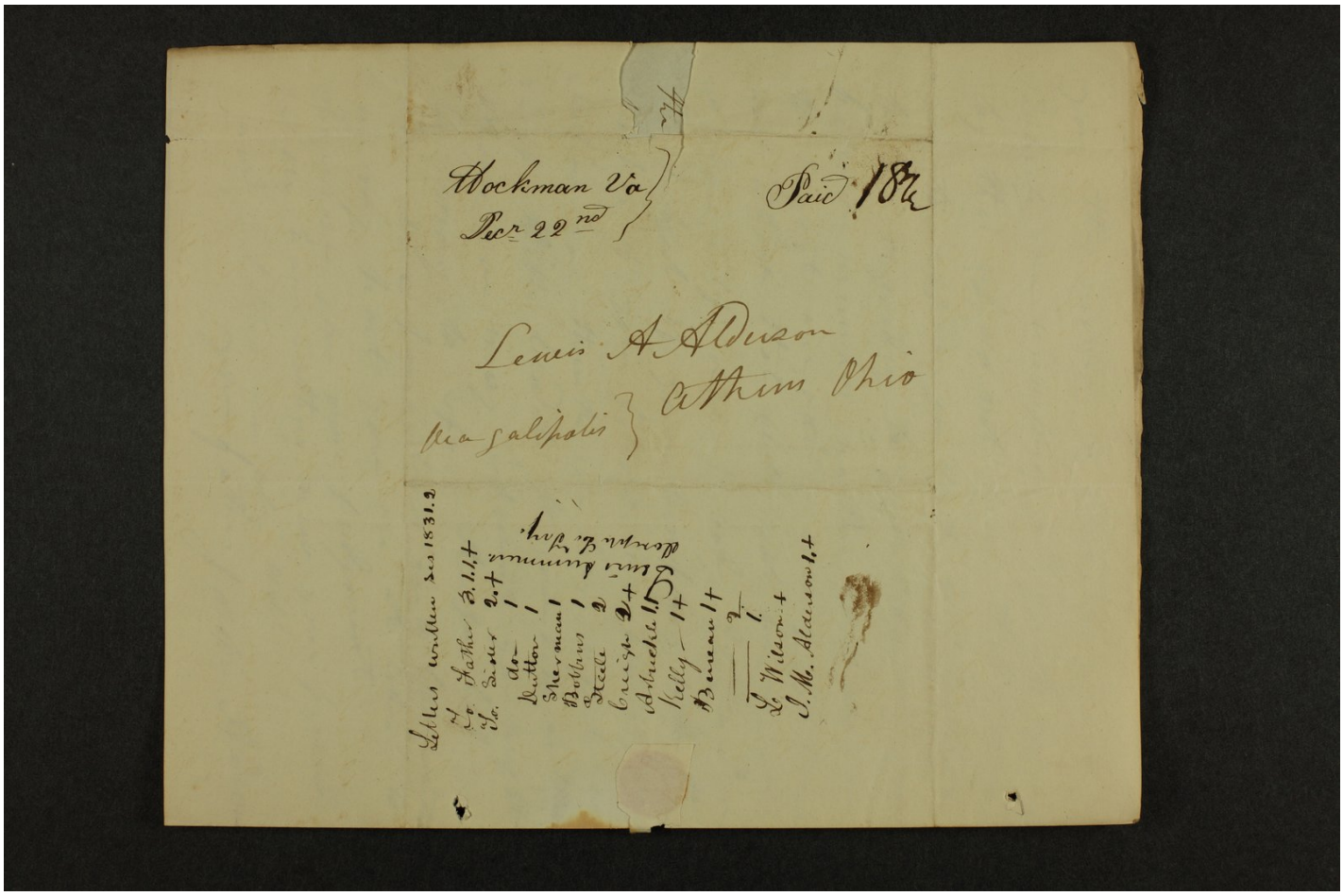
I Rec'd yours of the 7th inst. on yesterday that of Nov. has long since been answered I am surprised that a letter should be 15 days on the road you say the Athenian Society has chosen you to represent them in a public debate and you feel at a loss to determine what to do on that subject and want my opinion & say what I think will be most condusive to your interest you will excuse me when I say that your visit at home will be shorten at best and that there will be an additional Expense of about $30,00 or to the visit at home it is of no great Consequence two weeks will be Enough to rest your self and make some little preparation for returning the Expense is of some Consequence and more Especially at this time tho not so much so but I should be willing to try to find

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson

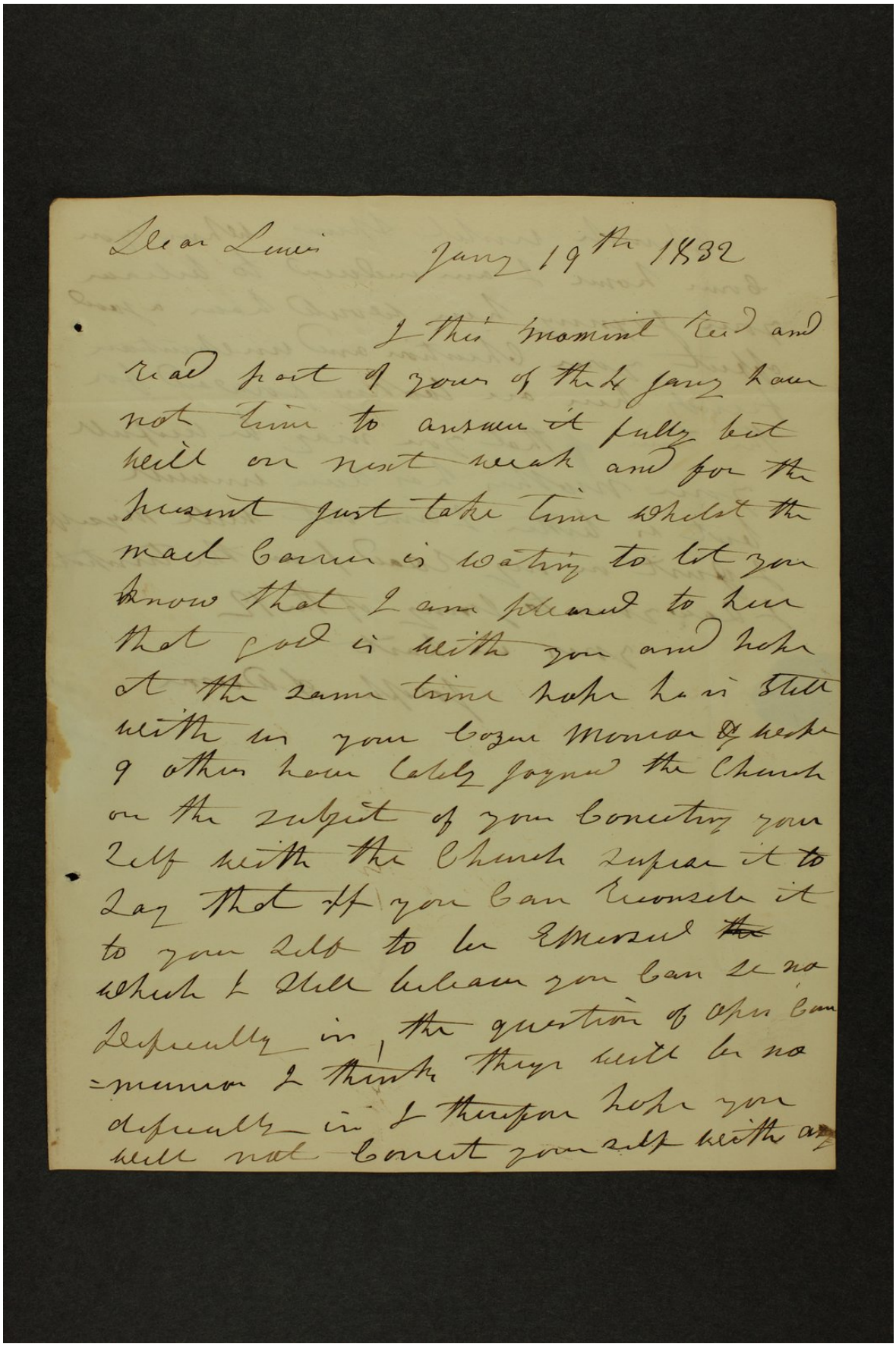


you the money in Case it is not
Intirely an unnecessary and useless Expence
by this & I do not mean that I wish
you to appear in such a situation as
to be degrading to yourself and your
fellow members neither do I wish you
to lay out one Dollar meanly for pomp
and Show that will not be any aid
to yourself or any body Else and on
the Subject of your complying with the
wishes of your fellow members on Con
dition you think you Can acquit your
self with Credit to your self and those
whom you may Represent you might
be wrong to Refuse them upon taking
the above precautions in to Consideration
on my part you are at Liberty to
Exercise your own Judgment
we have nothing new your friends
and relations are all well
your father Joseph Alderson

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



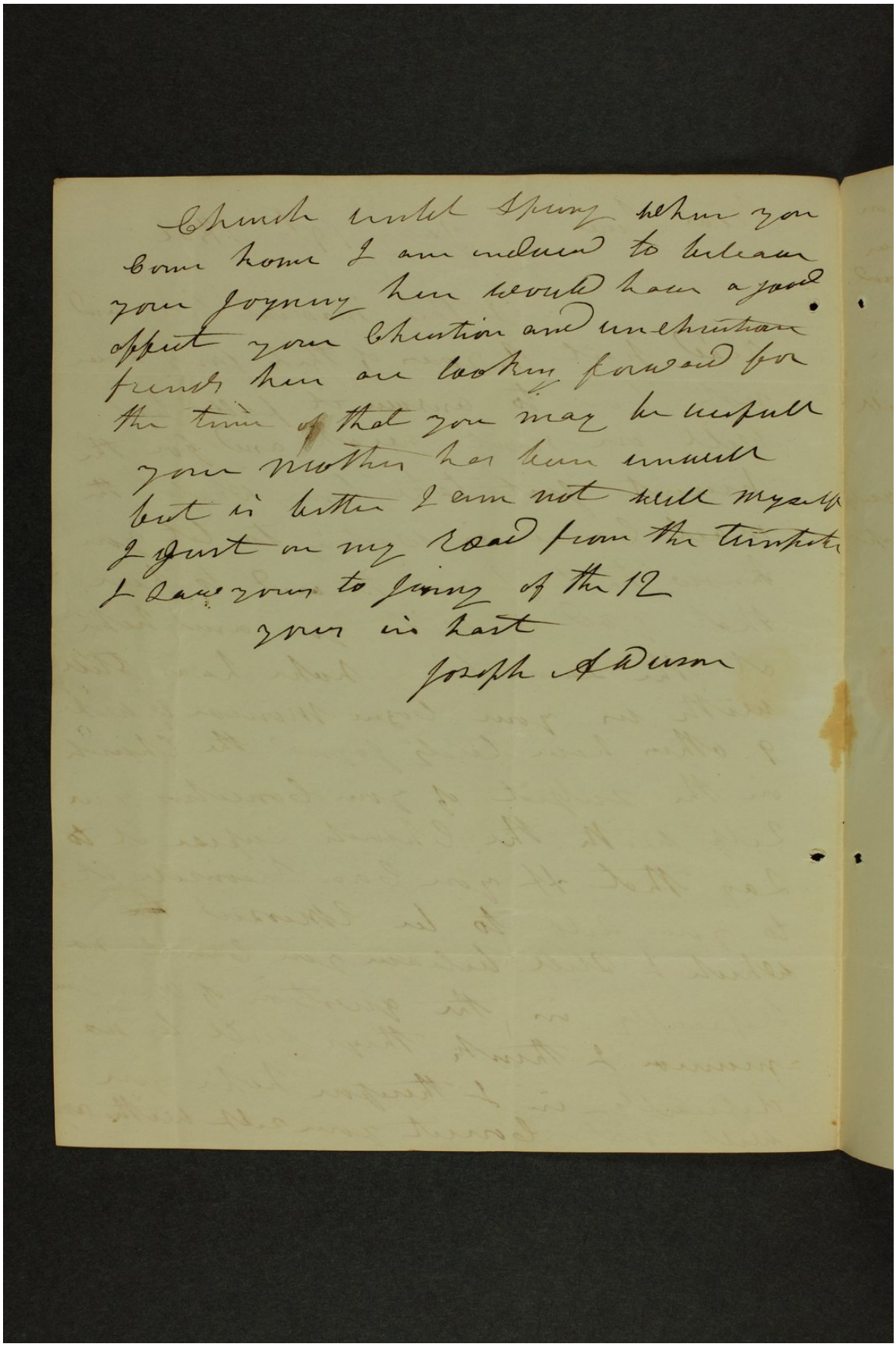
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dear Lewis Jany 19th 1832

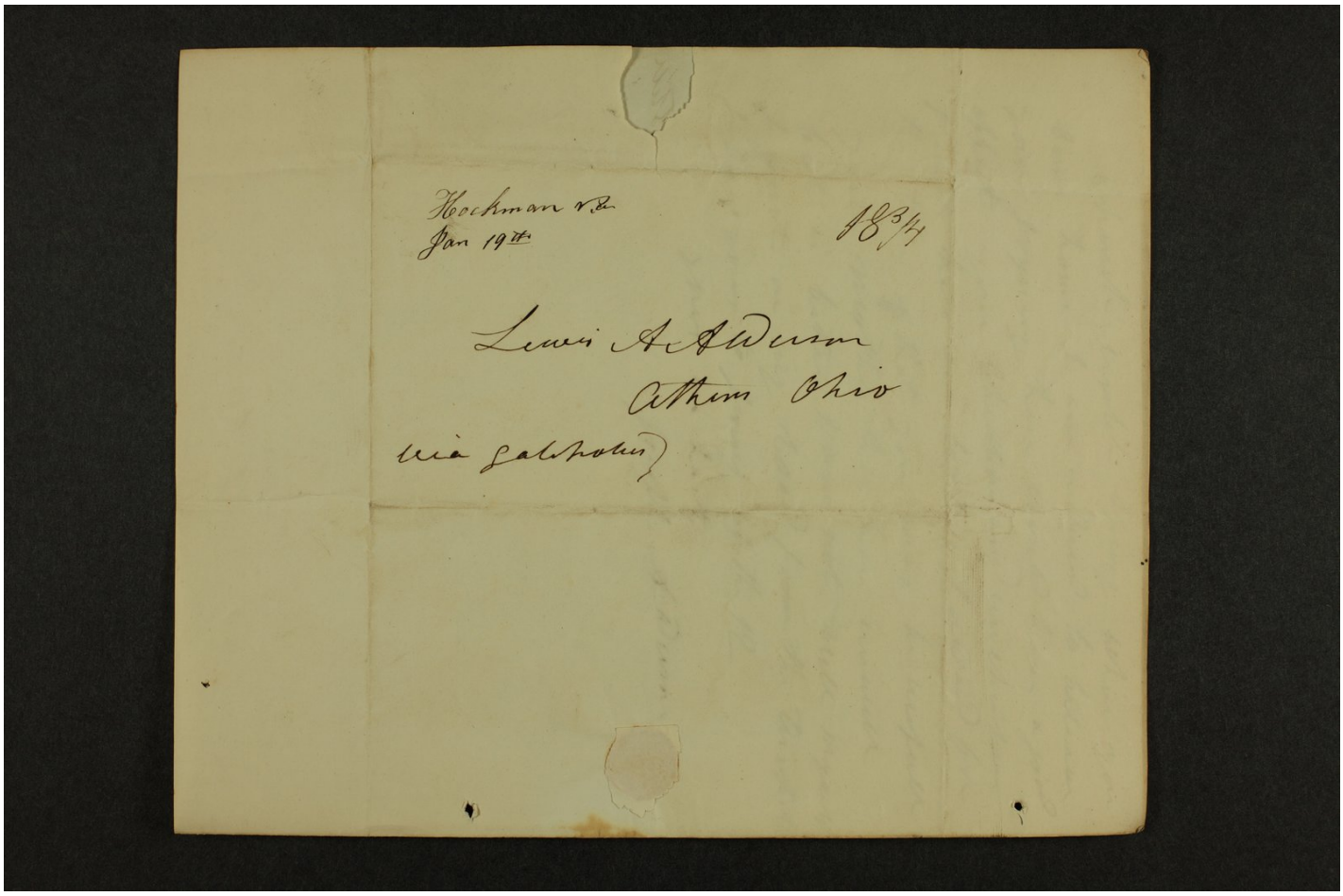
I this morning Red and
Read part of your of the 4 Jany have
not time to answer it fully but
will on next week and for the
present just take time whilst the
mail Carrier is waiting to let you
know that I am pleased to hear
that God is with you and hope
& the same time hope he is Still
with us your Cozen Monroe & wife
& other have lately joyned the Church
on the subject of you Counting you
self with the Church Respecting it to
Say that if you Can Reconcile it
to your self to be Exercised the
which I Still believe you Can & no
Especially in the question of Opposition
=nence I think there will be no
especially in I therefore hope you
will not Count yourself with any

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson

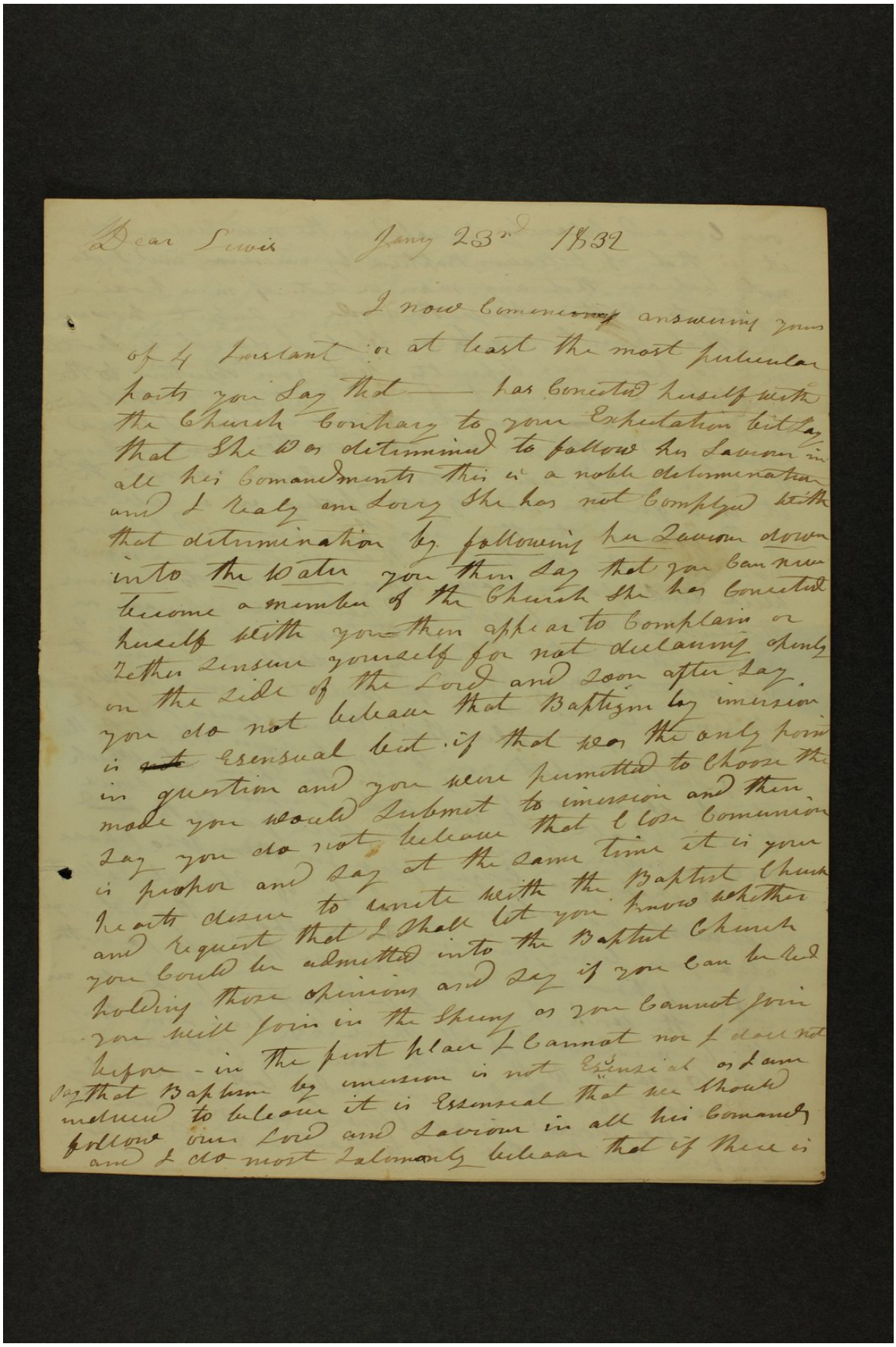


Church united Sunday when you
come home I am indeed to believe
your journey here would have a good
effect your Christian and unchristian
friends here are looking forward for
the time of that you may be restored
your mother has been unwell
but is better I am not well myself
I just on my road from the trimpeter
I have gone to Jesus of the 12
yours in haste
Joseph A Dunn

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson


Hockmans P.O.
Jan 19th
1834
Lewis A. Alderson
Athens Ohio
via Lakeport

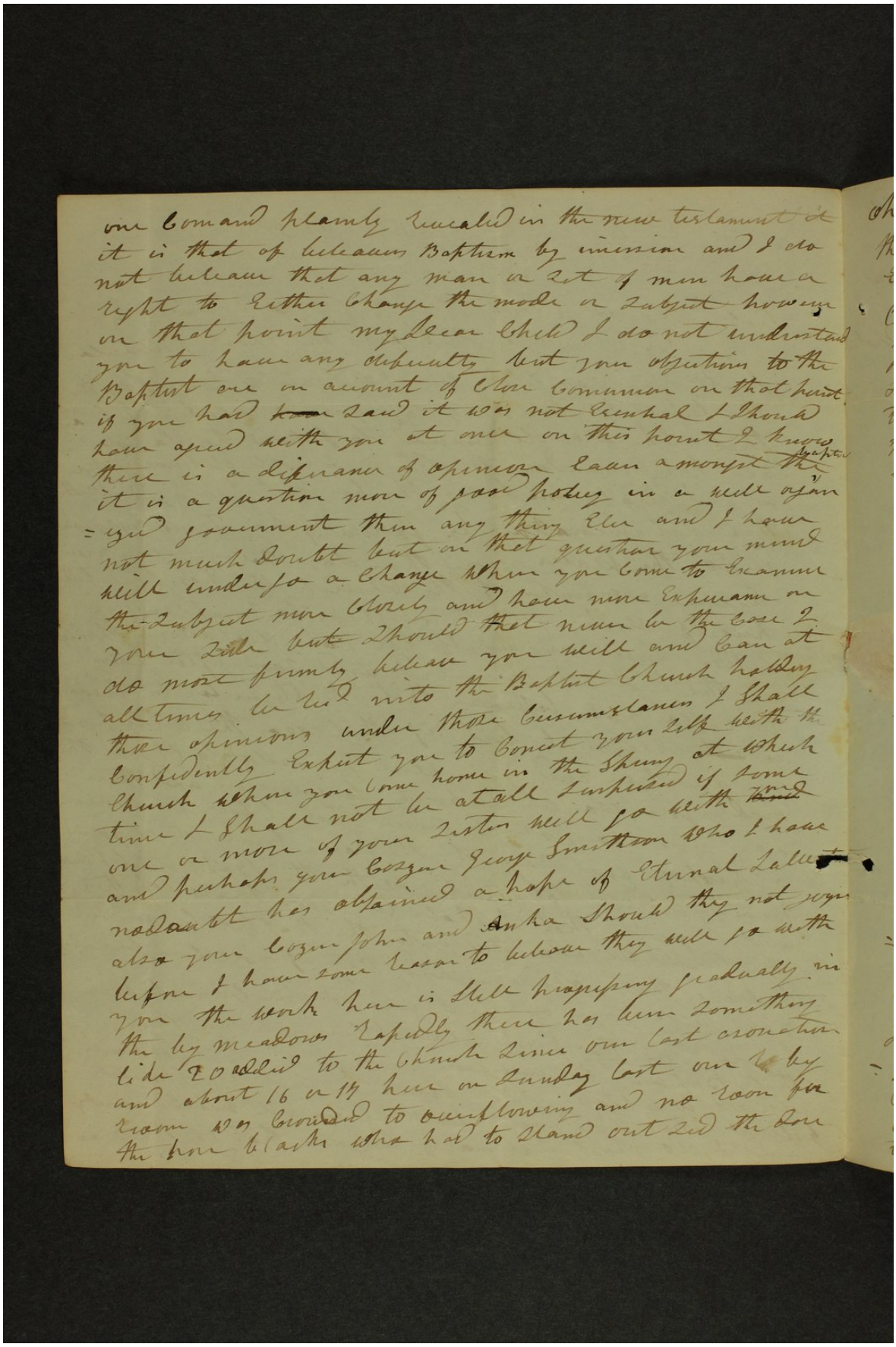
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dear Lewis Jany 23rd 1832

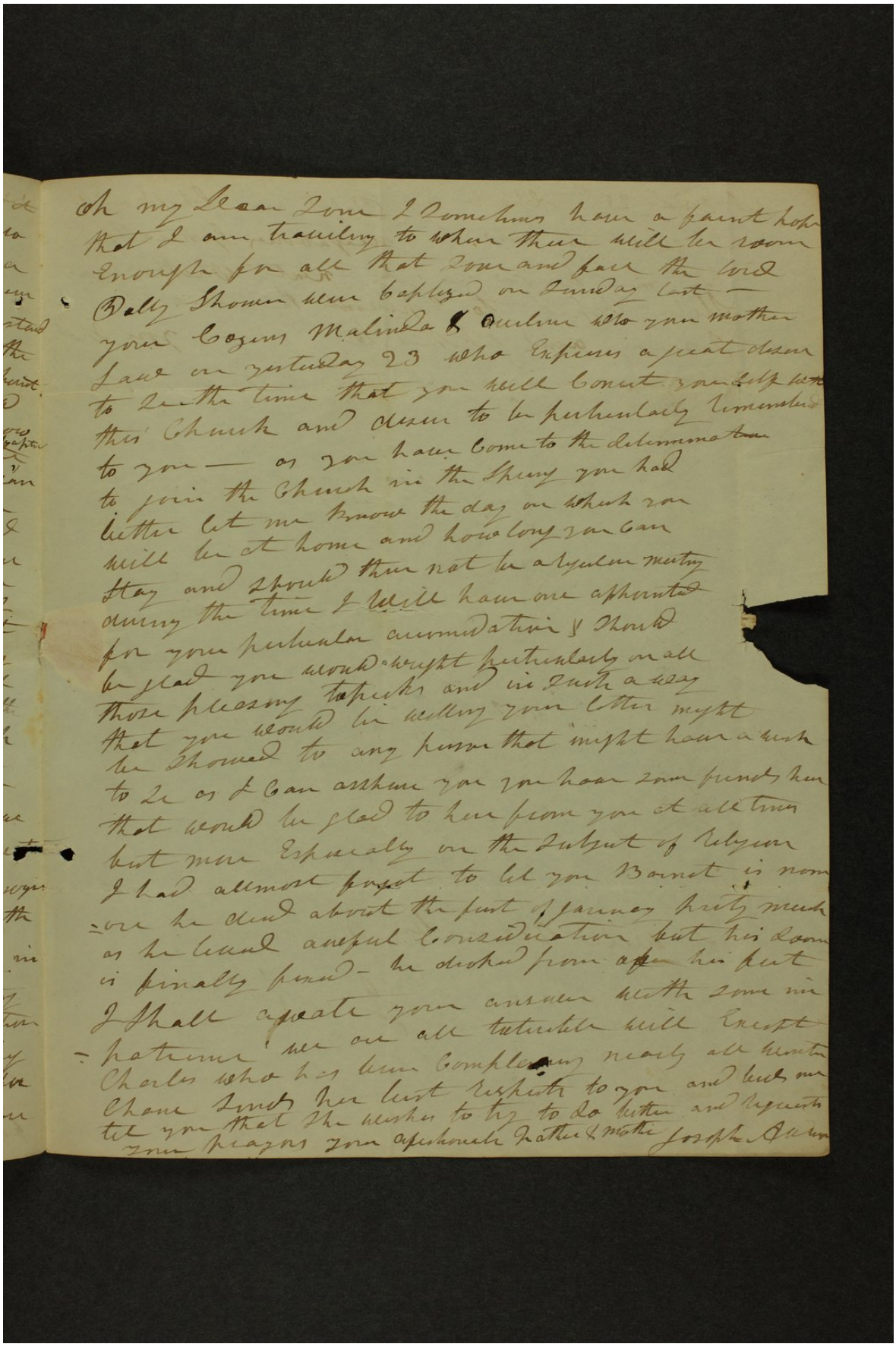
I now Comence answering yours of 4 Instant or at least the most pertenent parts you Say that ——— has Conected herself with the Church Contrary to your Expectation but Say that She was determined to follow her Saviour in all his Comandments this is a noble determination and I realy am Sorry She has not Complyed with that determination by following her Saviour down into the Water you then Say that you Can now become a member of the Church She has Conected herself with you then appear to Complain or Rether Censure yourself for not declaring openly on the Side of the Lord and Soon after Say you do not believe that Baptism by immersion is ~~not~~ Essensial but if that was the only point in question and you were permitted to Choose the mode you would Submit to immersion and then Say you do not believe that Close Comunion is proper and Say at the same time it is your hearts desire to unite with the Baptist Church and request that I shall let you know whether you could be admitted into the Baptist Church holding those opinions and Say if you can be led to join in the Spring as you Cannot join before - in the first place I Cannot nor I dare not Say that Baptism by immersion is not Essencial as I am Convinced to believe it is Essencial that we should follow our Lord and Saviour in all his Comands and I do most Solemnly believe that if there is

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



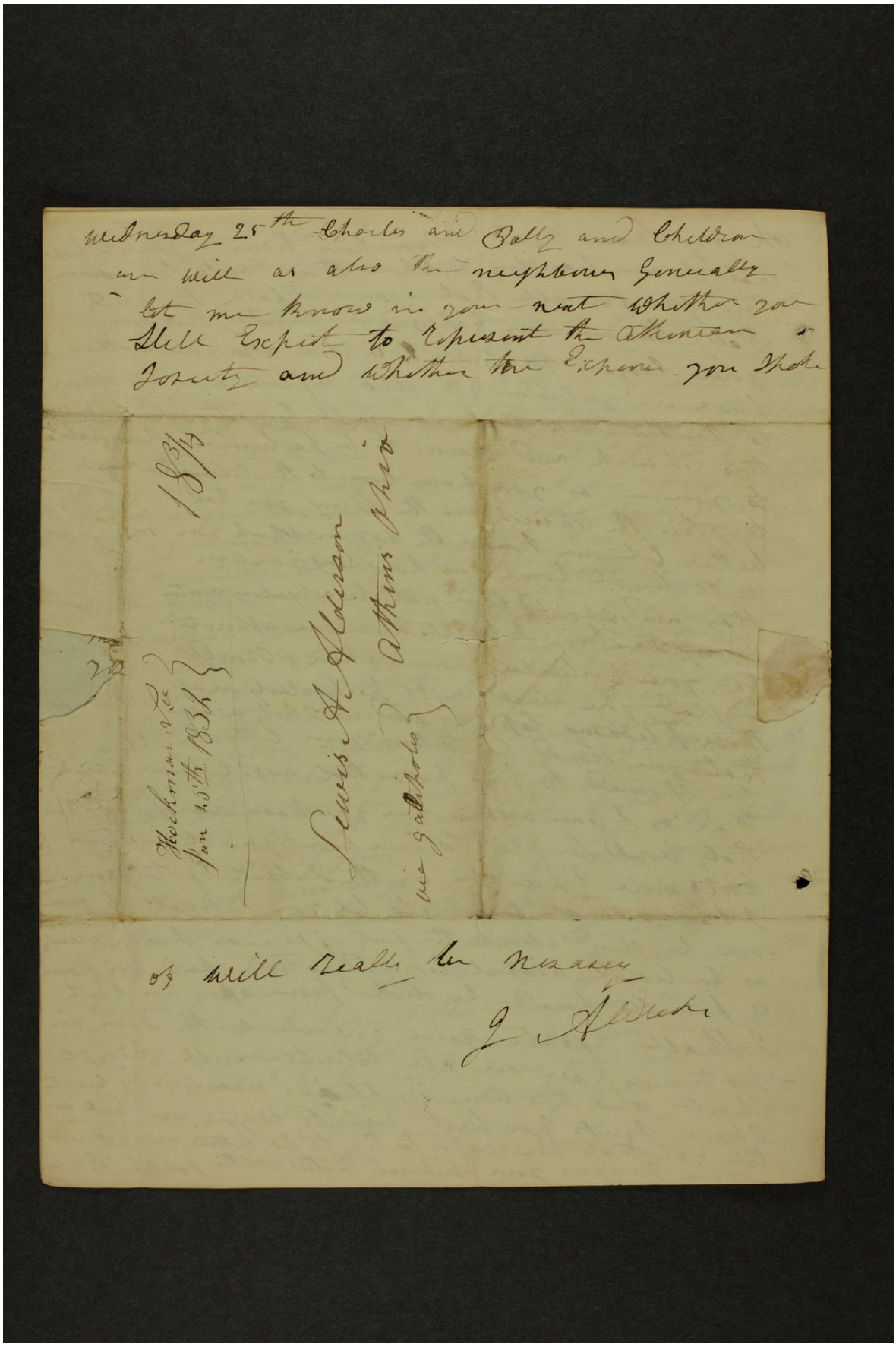
one Command plainly revealed in the new testament it it is that of believers Baptism by imersion and I do not believe that any man or set of men have a right to Either Change the mode or Subject however on that point my Dear Child I do not understand you to have any difficulty but your objections to the Baptist are on account of close Communion on that point if you had ~~com~~ said it was not Scriptural I should have agreed with you at once on this point I know there is a difference of opinion Exists amongst the Baptist it is a question more of good policy in a well ordered = ~~gu~~ government than any thing Else and I have not much Doubt but on that question your mind will undergo a Change When you come to examine the Subject more closely and have more Experience as you Say but I should not even be the case I do most firmly believe you will and can at all times be led into the Baptist Church holding these opinions under those Circumstances I Shall Confidently Exhort you to Connect your self with the Church where you come home in the Spring at which time I Shall not be at all Surprised if some one or more of your Sisters will go with you and perhaps your Cozen George Smithson who I have no doubt has obtained a hope of Eternal Life also your Cozen John and Anna Should they not go before I have some reason to believe they will go with you the work here is Still progressing gradually in the ley meadows Rapidly there has been Something like 20 added to the Church Since our last Conference and about 16 or 17 here on Sunday last one day room was Crowded to overflowing and no room for the poor blacks who had to Stand out and the Door

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Oh my Dear Son I Sometimes have a faint hope that I am traveling to where there will be room Enough for all that Love and fear the Lord Baby Thomas was baptized on Sunday last — your Cozins Malinda & Caroline Who your mother gave on Saturday 23 who Expects a great deal to See the time that you will Count yourself with this Church and desire to be particularly remembered to you — as you have Come to the determination to join the Church in the Spring you had better let me know the day on which you will be at home and how long you Can stay and Should there not be a Jubilee meeting during the time I will have one appointed for your particular accomodation & Should be glad you would weight particularly on all those pleasing topicks and in Such a way that you would be willing your letter might be showed to any person that might have a wish to See as I Can assure you you have Some friends here that would be glad to hear from you at all times but more Especially on the Subject of Religion I had almost forgot to let you Barnet is now gone he died about the first of January Pretty much as he lived awful Consideration but his Doom is finally fixed — he choked from after his last I Shall expect you answer with Some in patience we are all tolerable well Except Charles who has been Complaining nearly all Winter Cheney Sends her best respects to you and bids me tell you that She wishes to hy to do better and requests your prayers Your affectionate Father & Mother Joseph Alderson

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson


Wednesday 25th Charles and Polly and Children are well as also the neighbors Generally let me know in your next Whether you Shall Except to Represent the Athenian District and Whether the Expence you Make

1831/4

Mr. Lewis A. Alderson
Athens Ala
via Gainesville

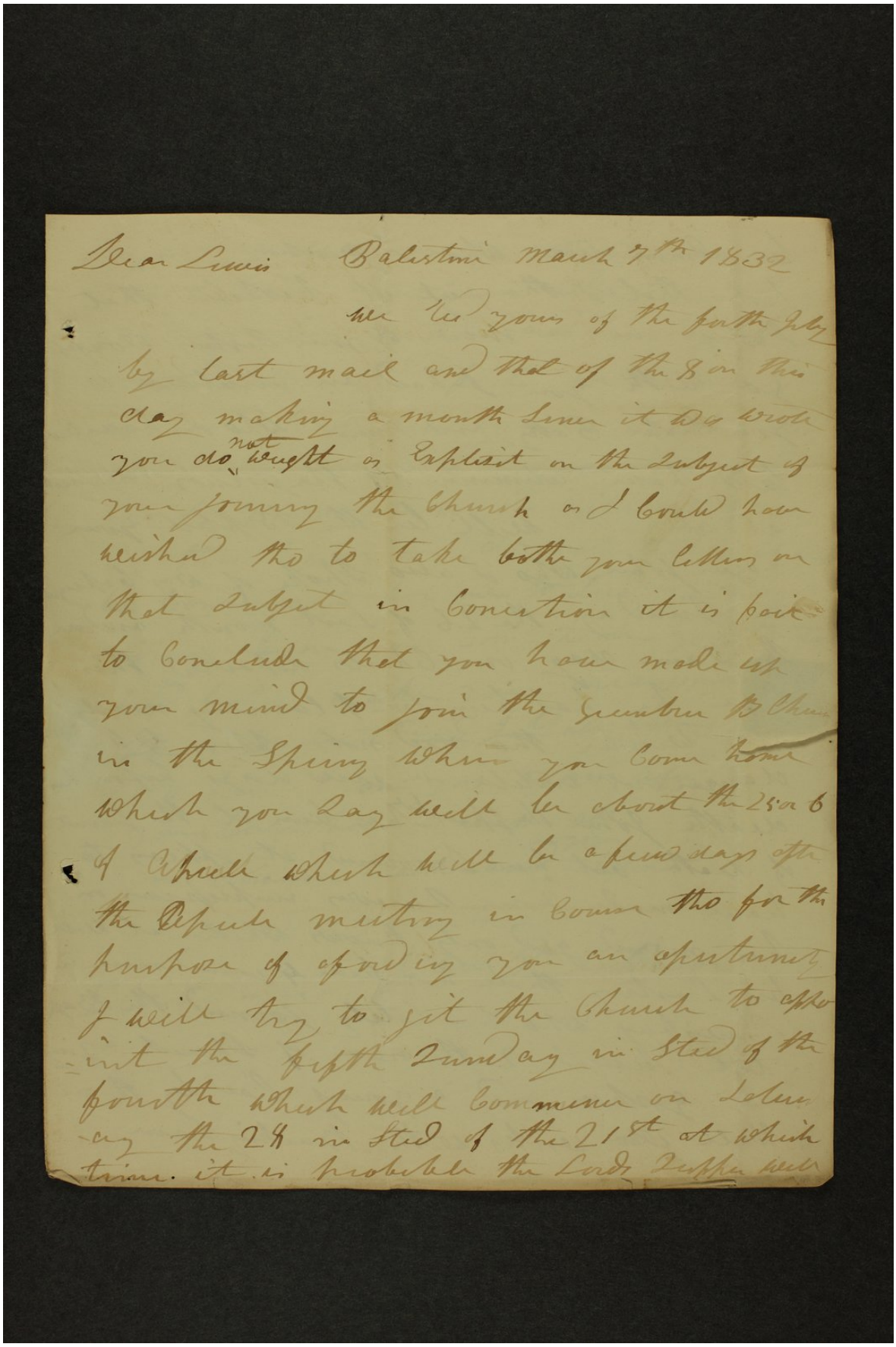
Hackman's Ferry
Jan 15th 1832

20

of will Really be necessary

J. Alderson

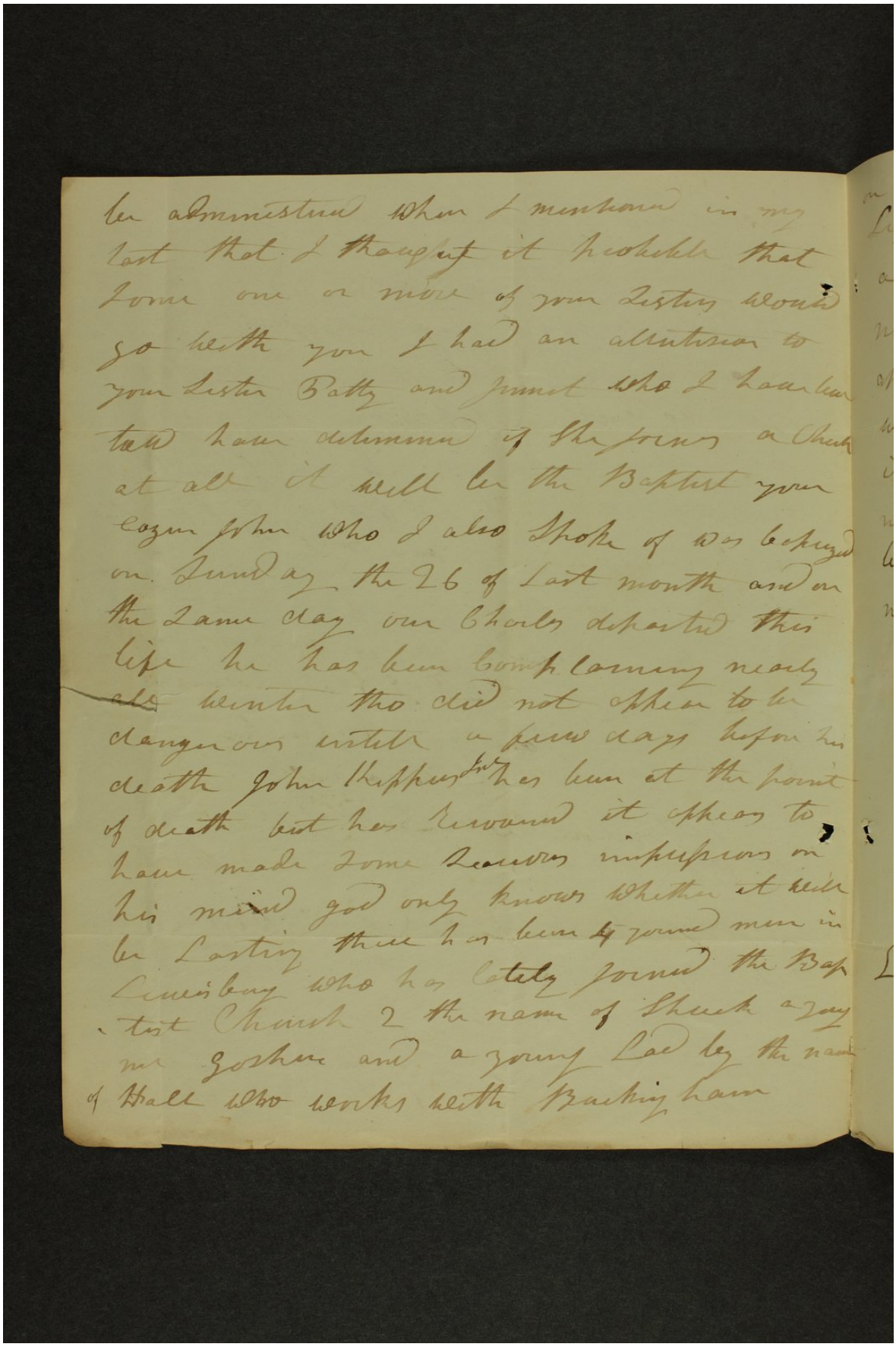
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dear Lewis Palestine March 7th 1832

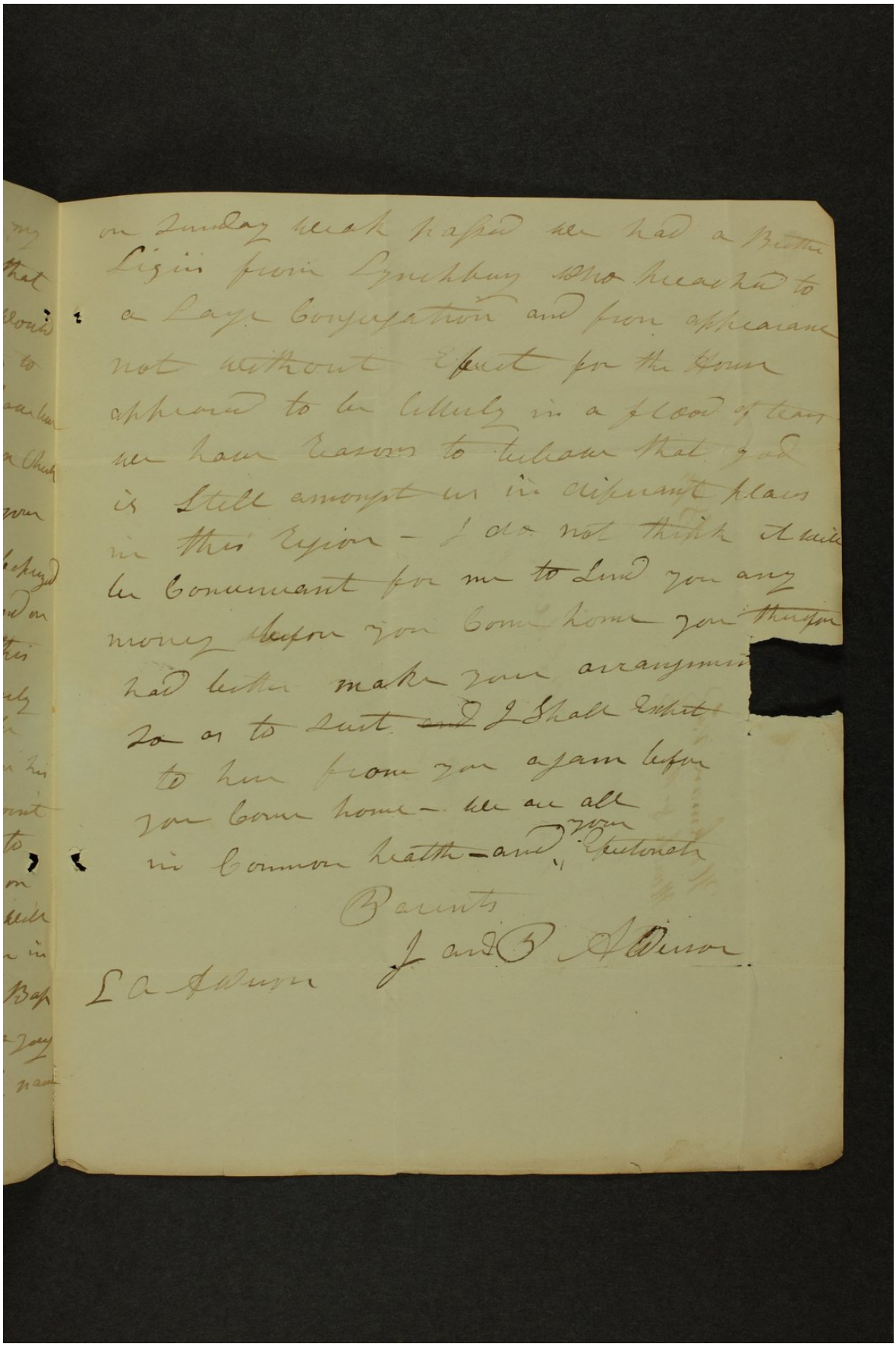
We Recd yours of the fourth July by last mail and that of the 8 in this day making a month since it Do appear you do not wright as Explisit on the Subject of your joining the Church as I could have wished tho to take both your Letters on that Subject in Conection it is fair to Conclude that you have made up your mind to join the Church in the Spring When you Come home which you say will be about the 25th or 6 of March which will be a few days after the Annual meeting in Conn tho for the purpose of affording you an opertunity I will try to get the Church to appoint the fifth Sunday in Stead of the fourth which will Commence on Saturday the 24 in Stead of the 21st at which time it is probable the Lord Supper will

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



be administered When I mentioned in my
last that I thought it probable that
some one or more of your Sisters would
go with you I had an allusion to
your Sister Patty and must who I have un-
-tell have determined if the Lord is Check
at all it will be the Baptist your
cozen John Who I also spoke of was baptized
on Sunday the 26 of last month and on
the same day our Charles departed this
life he has been comfortable coming nearly
all winter tho did not appear to be
dangerous until a few days before his
death John Hopper has been at the point
of death but his wound it appears to
have made some Lasting impressions on
his mind god only knows Whether it will
be Lasting there has been 4 young men in
Lewisburg who has lately joined the Bap-
-tist Church 2 the name of Check a Young
man Goshen and a young Lad by the name
of Hall Who works with Buckingham

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



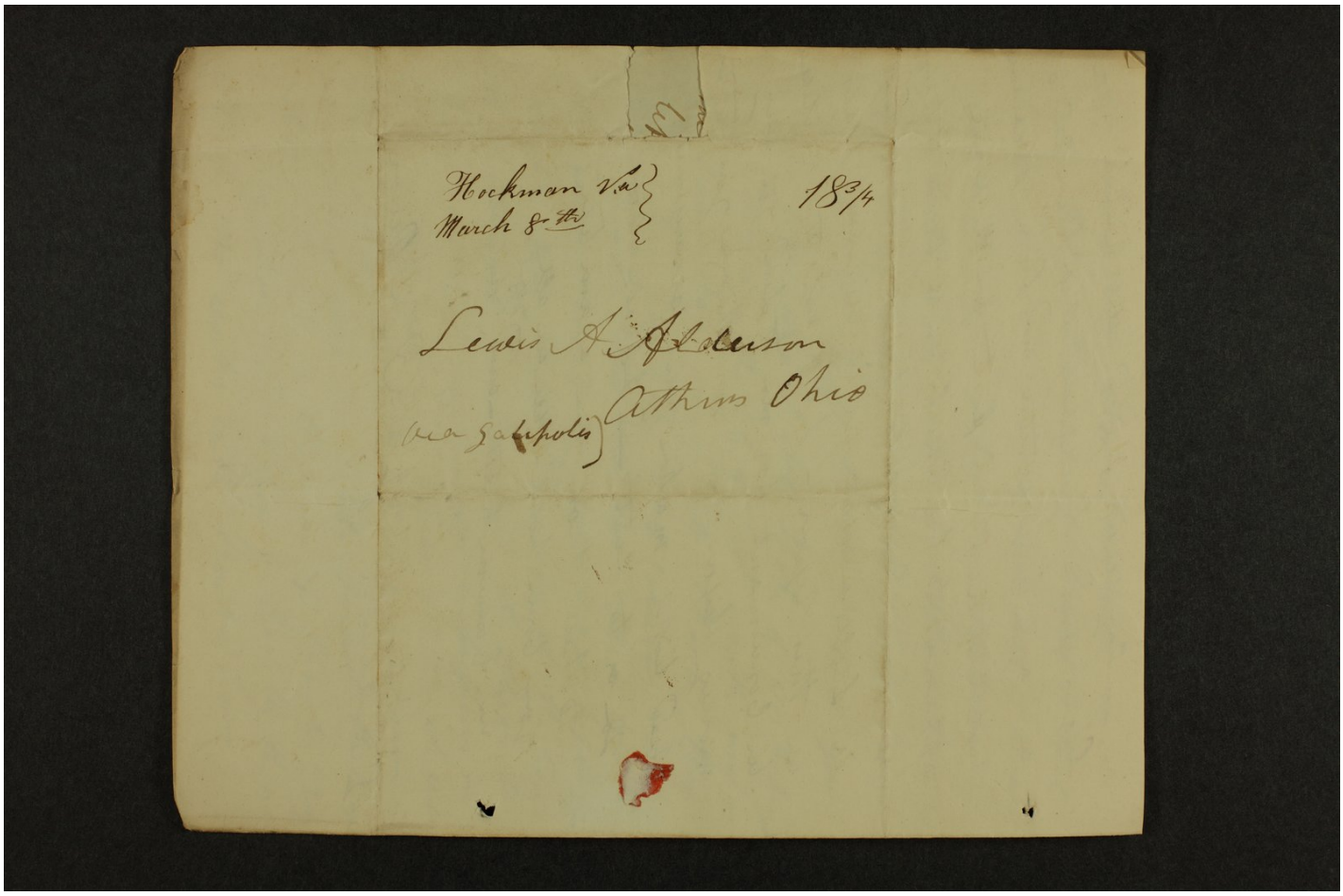
on Sunday week passed we had a Brother
Elijah from Lynchburg who preached to
a Large Congregation and from appearance
not without effect for the House
appeared to be Literly in a flood of tears
we have reasons to believe that God
is Still amongst us in Clemency Mercy
in this Region - I do not think it will
be Convenient for me to Lend you any
money before you Come home for the[n]
had better make your arrangements
to or to Suit - I Shall Expect
to hear from you again before
you Come home - we are all
in Common health - and Remain

Yours

J and B Alderson

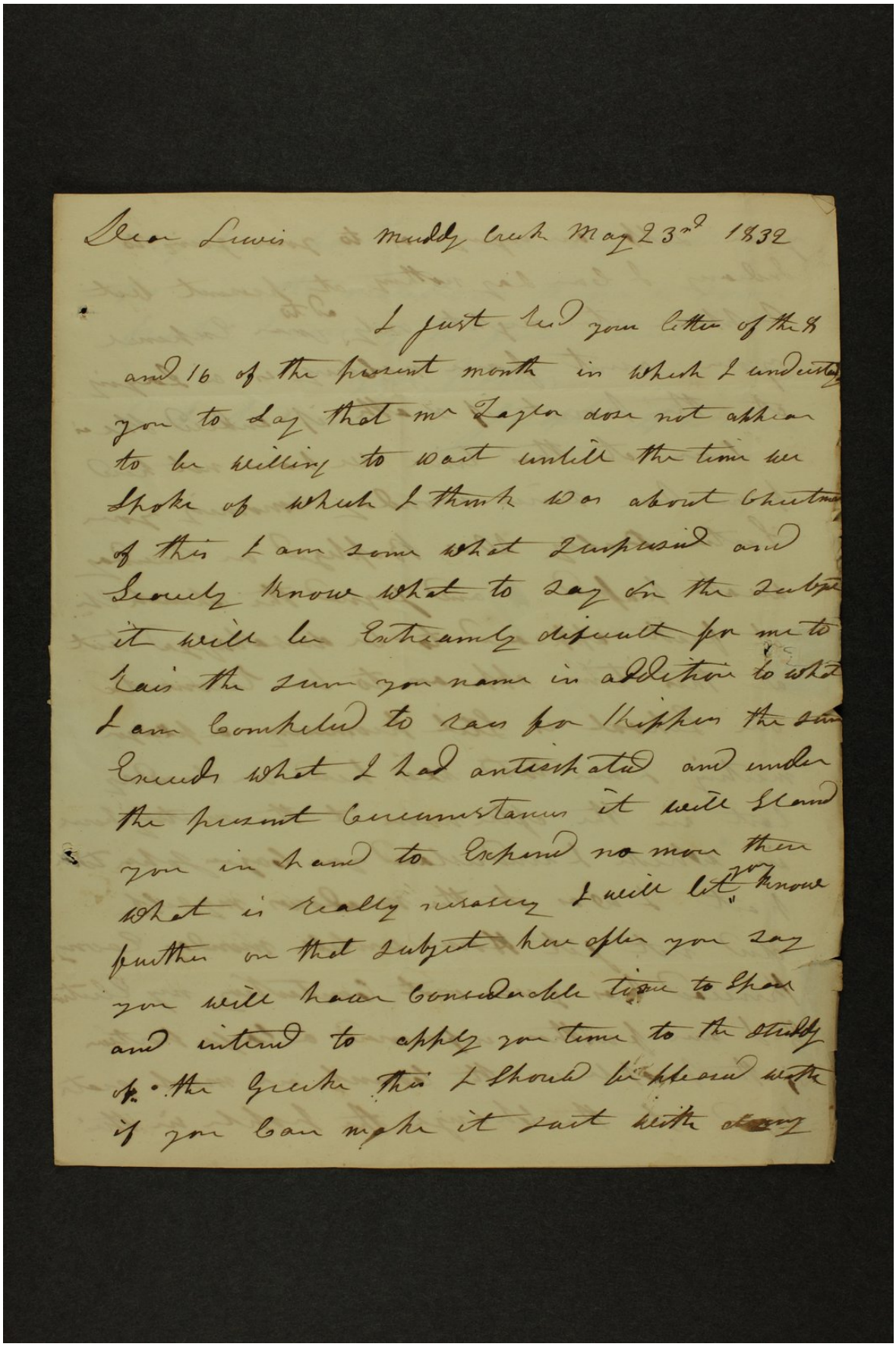
L A Alderson

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson


Hockman Va
March 8th
1834

Lewis A. Alderson
(via Gallipolis) Athens Ohio

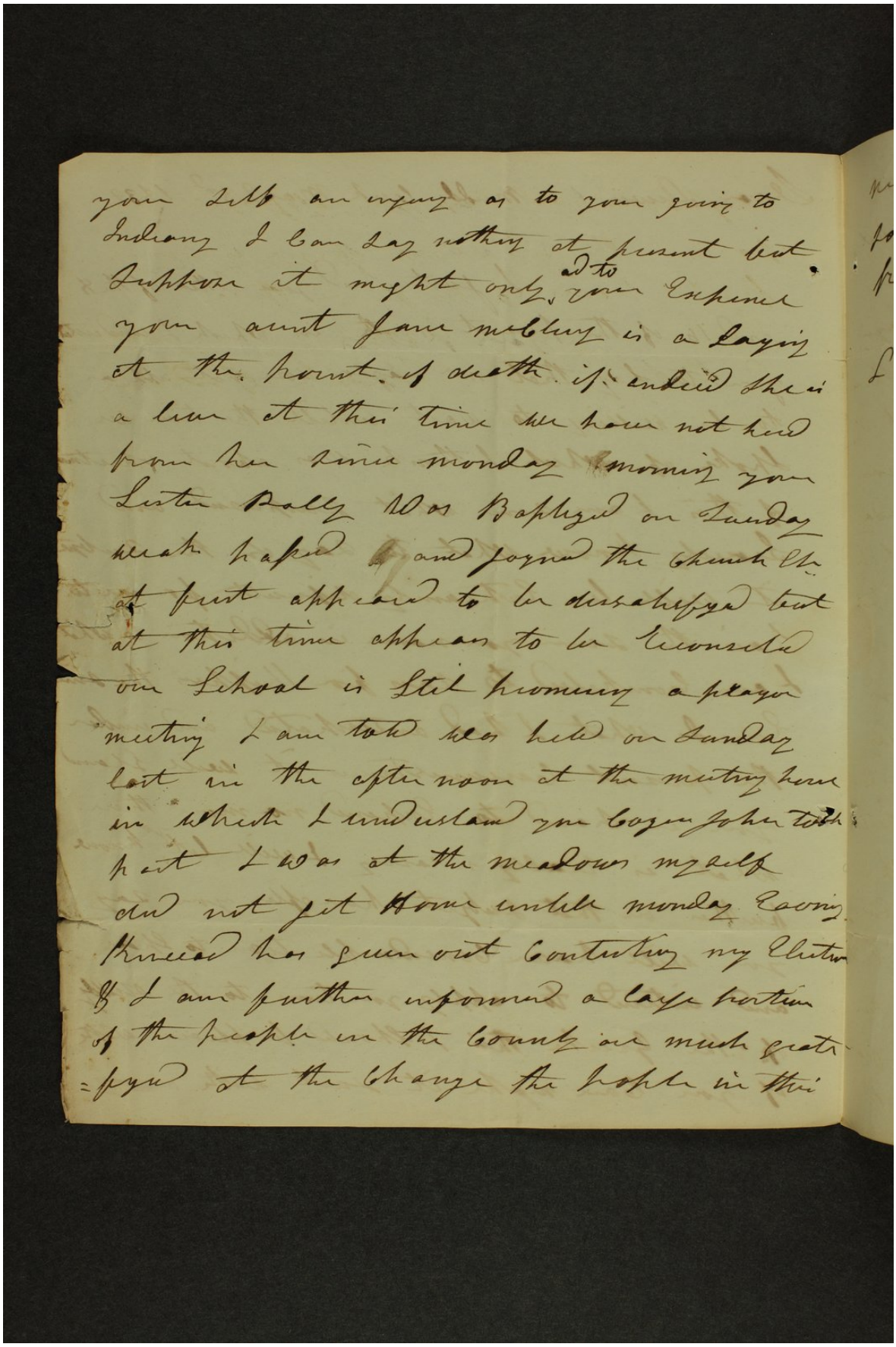
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dear Lewis Muddy Creek May 23rd 1832

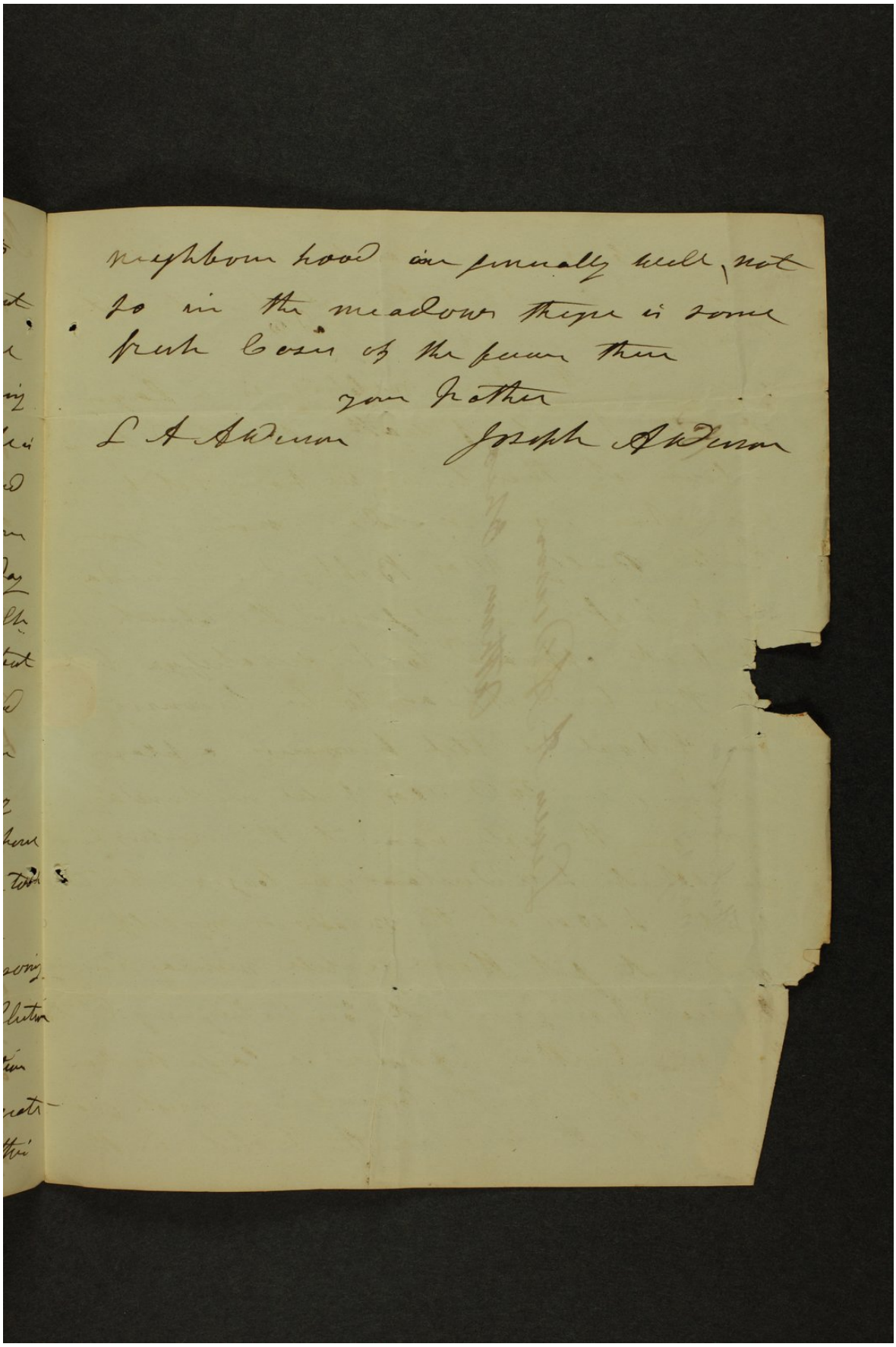
I just rec'd your letter of the 8 and 16 of the present month in which I understand you to say that mr Taylor does not appear to be willing to wait until the time we spoke of which I think was about Christmas of this I am some what surprised and scarcely know what to say on the subject it will be Extreamly difficult for me to raise the sum you name in addition to what I am compelled to raise for Shipper the sum Exceeds what I had anticipated and under the present circumstances it will Stand you in hand to Expend no more than what is really necessary I will let you know further on that subject hereafter you say you will have considerable time to Spare and intend to apply you time to the study of the Greek this I should be pleased with if you can make it suit with convy

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



you Ask an enquiry as to your going to Indiana I can say nothing at present but suppose it might only add to your Expense your aunt Jane Mcclung is a Laying at the point of death if indeed she is a live at this time we have not heard from her since monday morning your Sister Sally was Baptized on Sunday week last and joyned the church she at first appeared to be dissatisfyed but at this time appears to be reconciled our School is Still keeping a prayer meeting I am told was held on Sunday last in the afternoon at the meeting house in which I understand your Cozen John took part I was at the meadows myself and not get Home until monday Evening Rhoda has been out Contending my Clothes & I am further informed a Large portion of the people in the County are much greatly pleased at the change the people in this

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



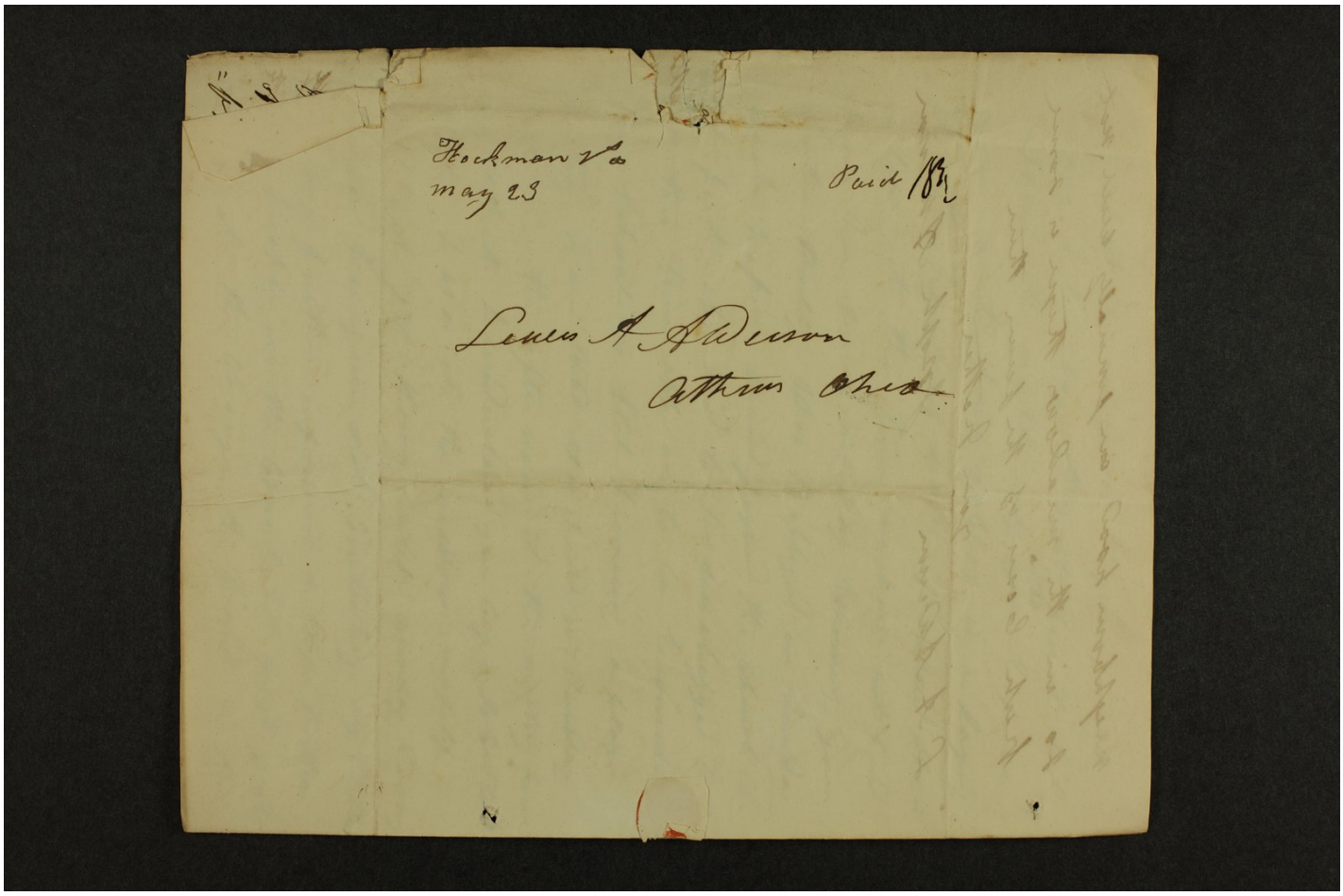
neighbourhood are generally well, not so in the meadows there is some sick cases of the fever there

your Brother

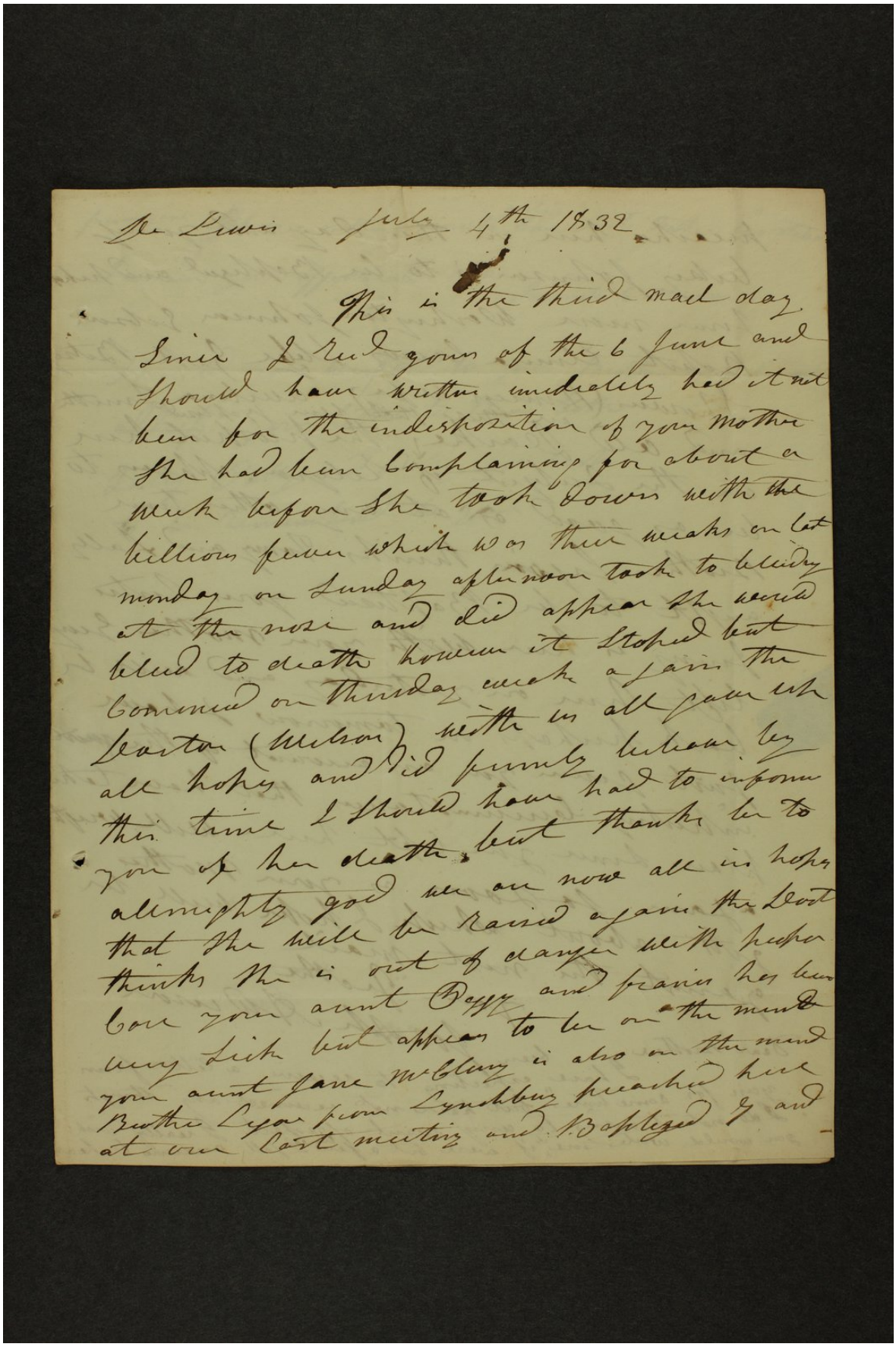
L A Alderson

Joseph A Alderson

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dr Lewis June 4th 1832

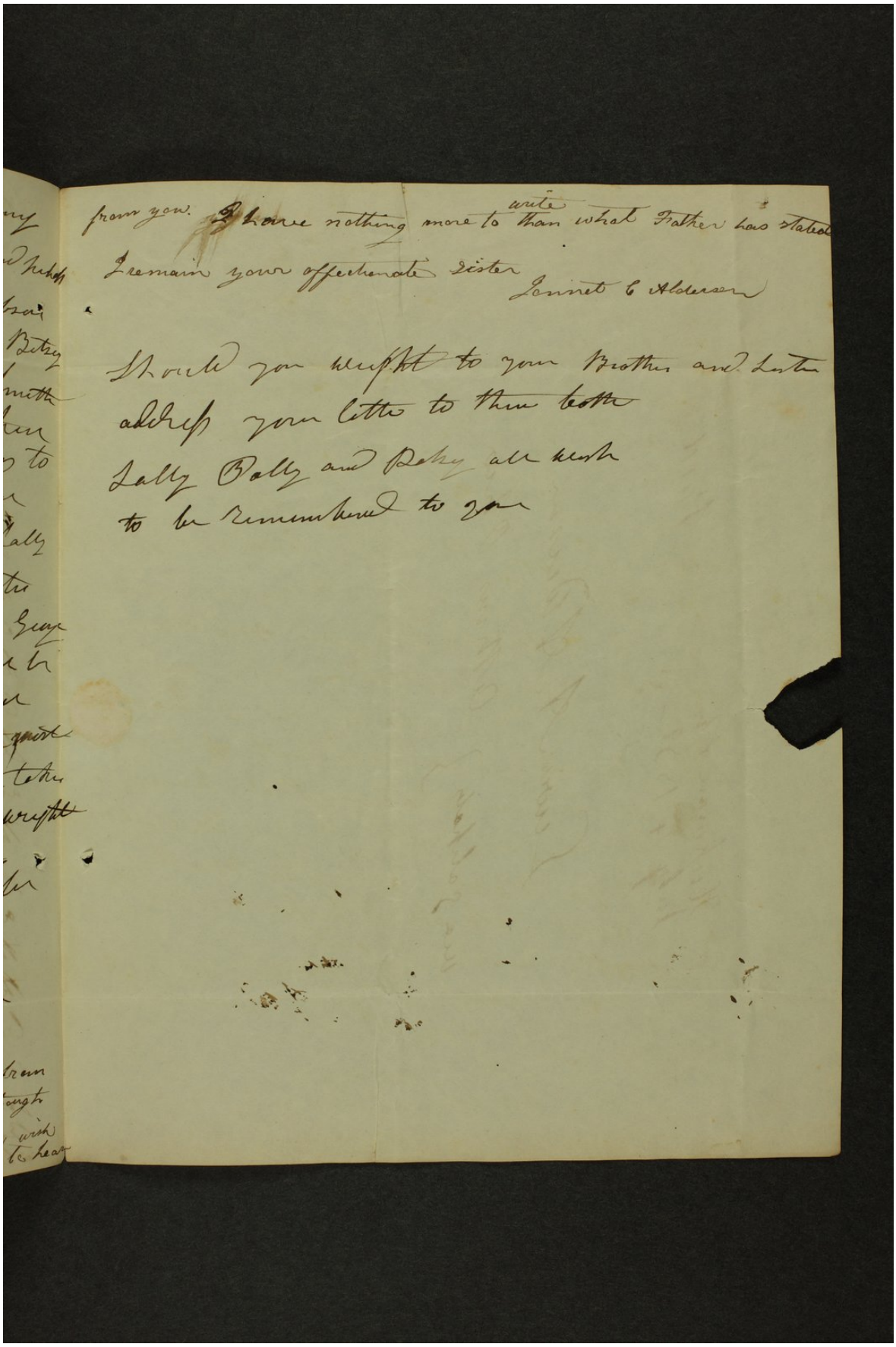
This is the third mail day since I rec'd yours of the 6 June and should have written immediately had it not been for the indisposition of your mother She had been complaining for about a week before She took down with the billious fever which was then makes on last monday or Sunday afternoon took to bleeding at the nose and did appear She would bleed to death however it stoped but Commenced on Thursday morn a fair the Doctor (Nelson) with us all gave us all hopes and did pretty between by this time I should have had to inform you of her death but thanks be to allmighty god we are now all in hopes that She will be raised again the Doct thinks She is out of danger with respect to your aunt Betty and Francis has been very sick but appears to be on the mend your aunt Jane McClung is also on the mend Brother Lyon from Lynchburg preached here at our last meeting and Baptized 7 and

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson

preaches here on this day and Tommy
Lesley Johnson is to be Baptized and Rebecca
Jane more Worthington Johnson Gibson
Robert Elmira Crews Lloyd Gill Betsy
Thomas (Henrys wife) Caroline Smith
and old Deakey the preacht here
on the Subject of Religion appears to
be as good at any other time
Brother Lyon thinks Tommy and Sally
ought to be Baptized your Sister
Jenny is here with your mother Lizzy
left here on yesterday and will be
back perhaps on tomorrow I have
just given you an account of the present
interesting circumstances that have taken
place since you left here - will write
again so soon as your mother
gets about which I hope will be
against the next mail
your Brother
Joseph Alderson

Dear Brother I have been expecting to receive a letter from
you for some time but have not received any thought
I do not it owing to any want of respect. I really wish
you would write me if it were but a few lines I fell anxious to hear

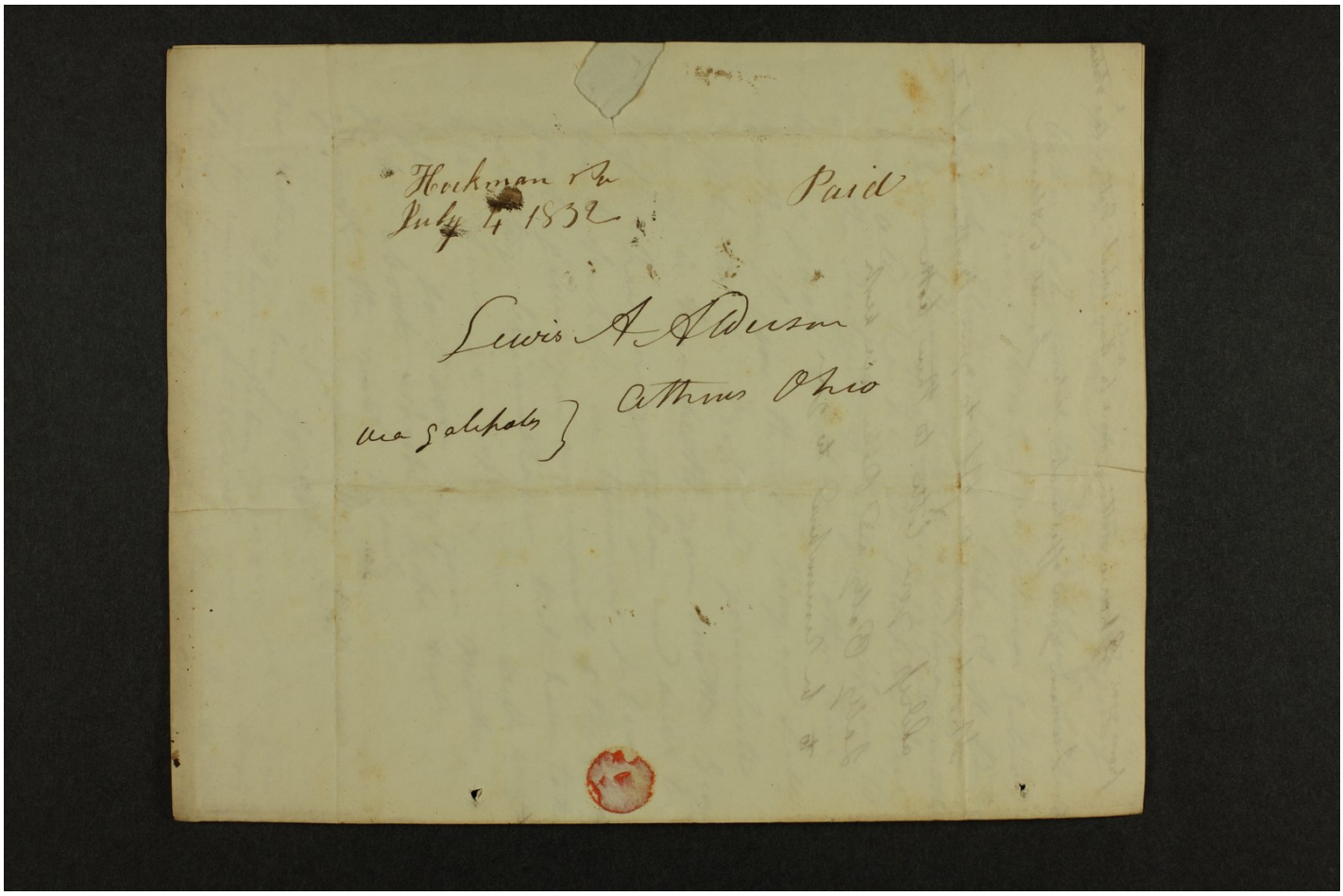
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



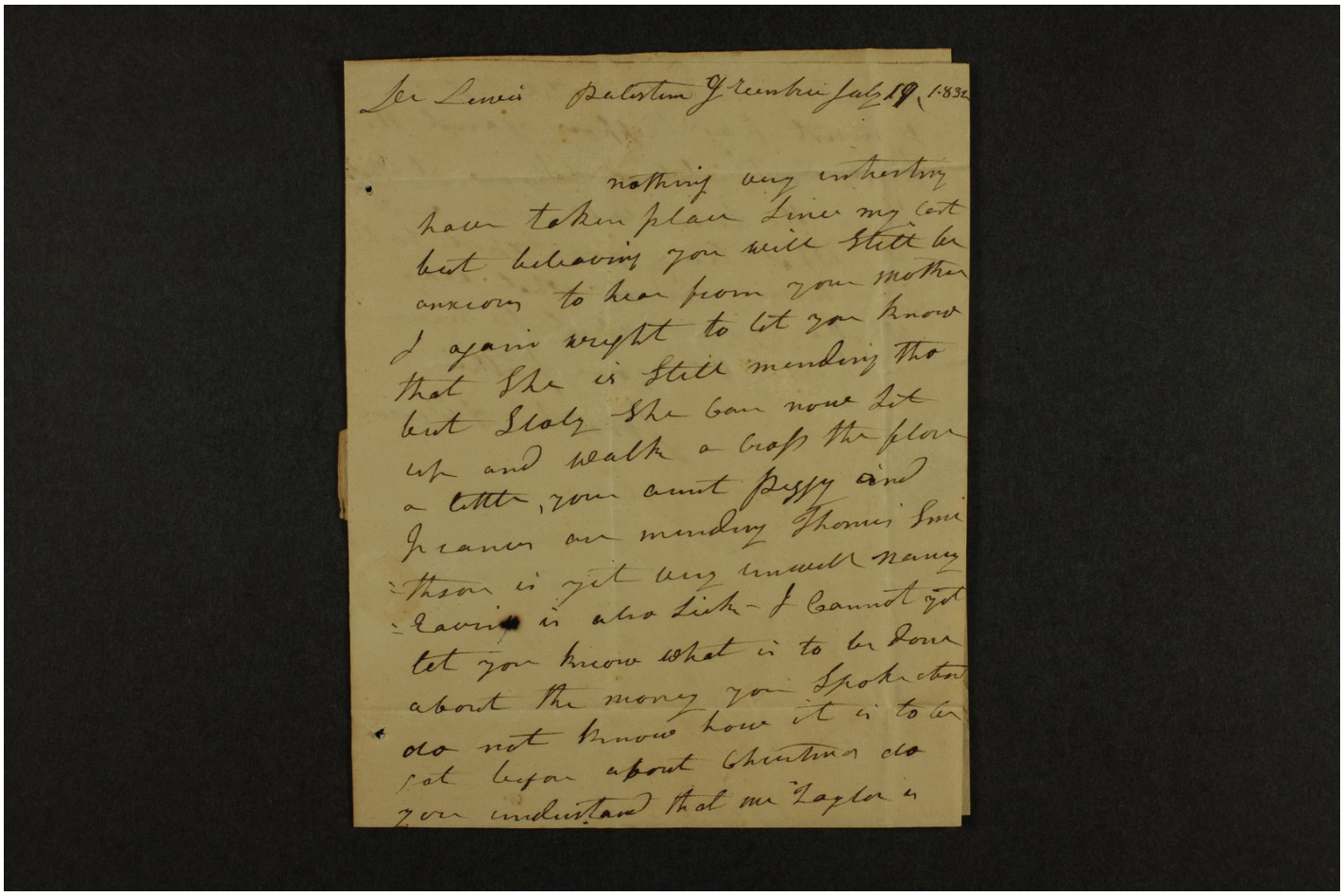
from you. I have nothing more to write than what Father has stated
I remain your affectionate sister
Jennet C Alderson

Would you wright to your Brother and Lester
address your letter to them both
Sally Polly and Betsy all wish
to be remembered to you

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



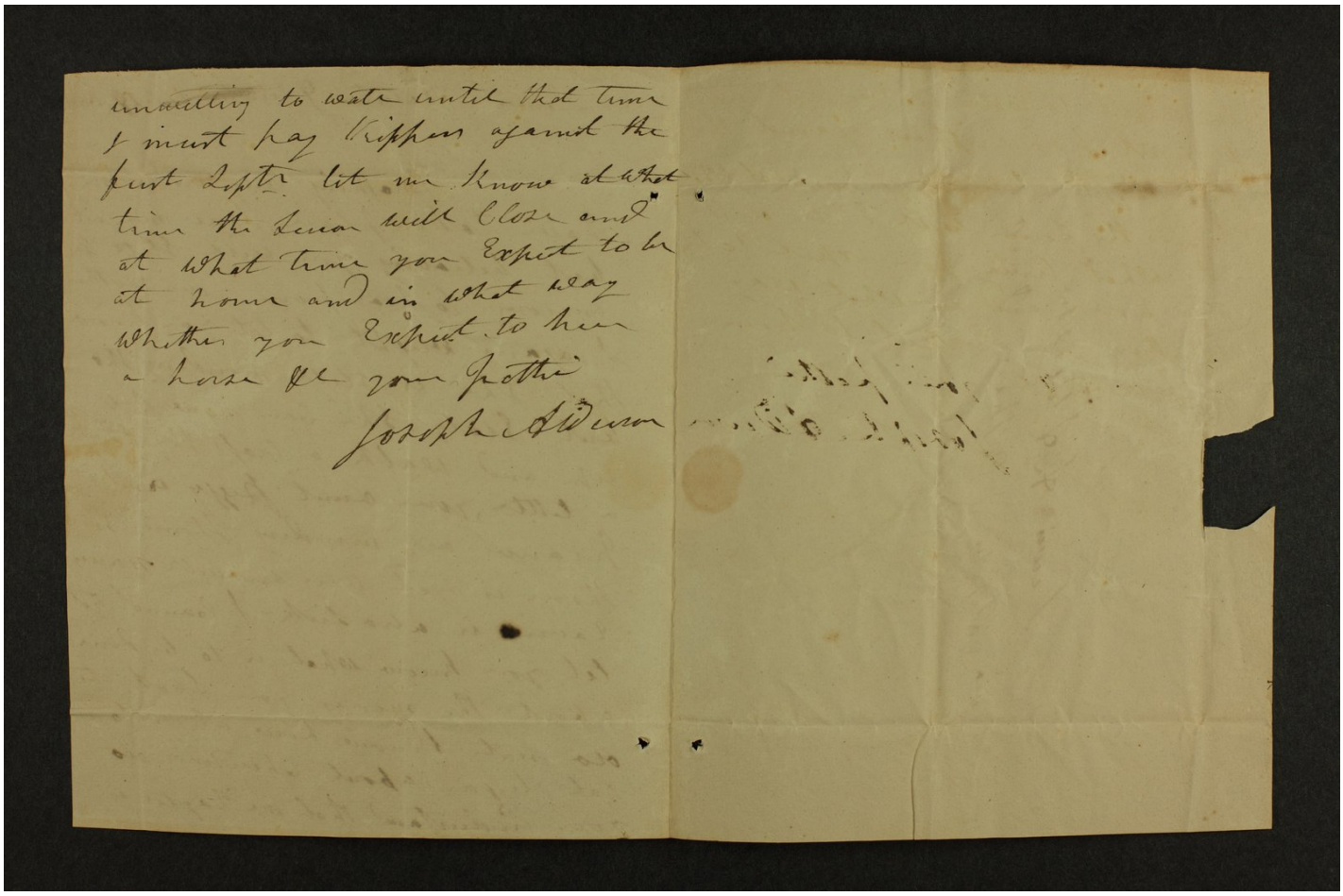
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



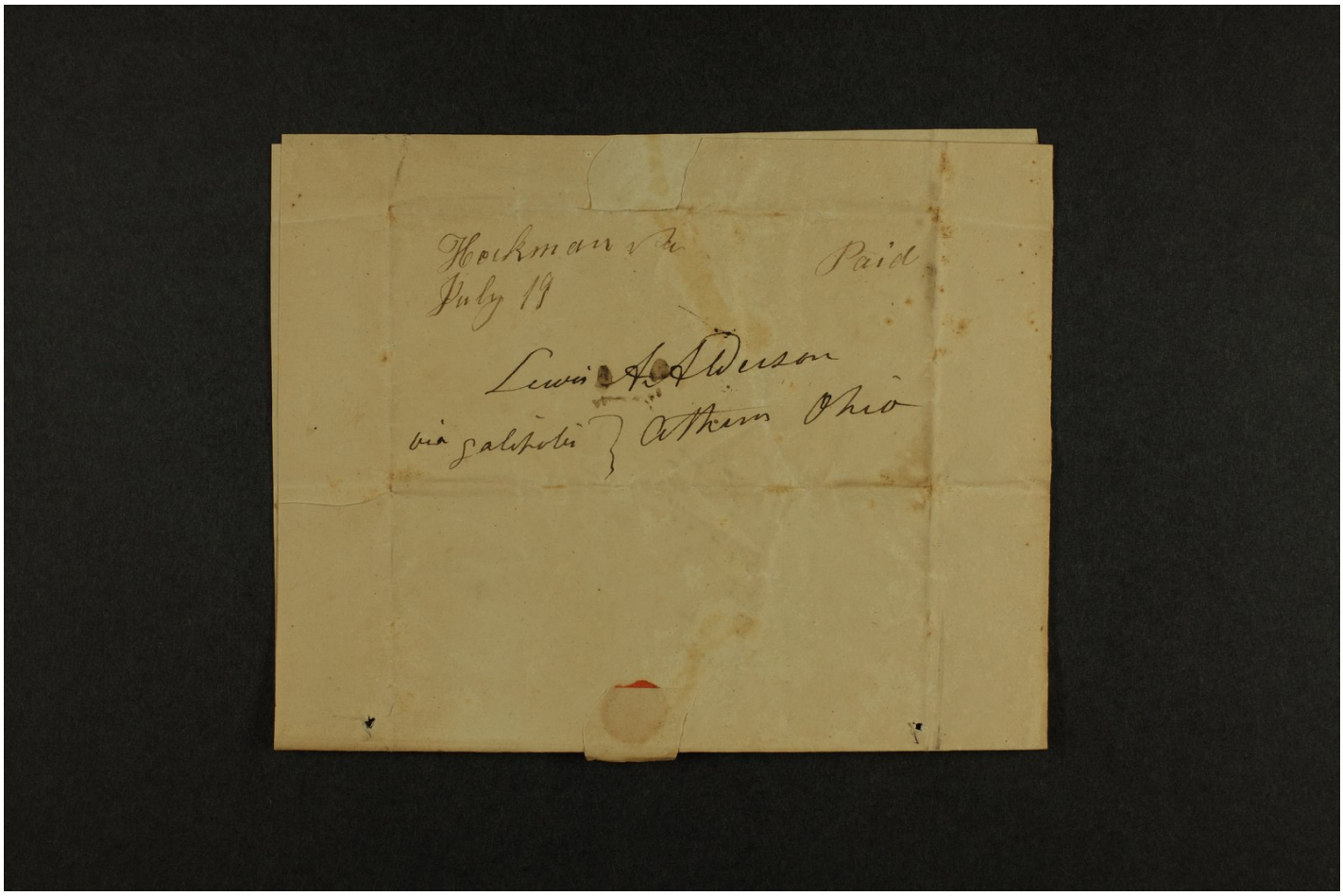
Dr Lewis Palestine Greenbrier July 19, 1832

nothing very interesting
have taken place since my last
but believing you will still be
anxious to hear from your mother
I again write to let you know
that She is still mending tho
but Slowly She can now sit
up and walk across the floor
a little, your aunt Peggy and
Jeanes are minding Thomas Smi
Thos is yet very unwell Nancy
Lavina is also sick I cannot yet
let you know what is to be done
about the money you Spoke about
do not know how it is to be
got began about Christmas do
you understand that Mr Taylor is

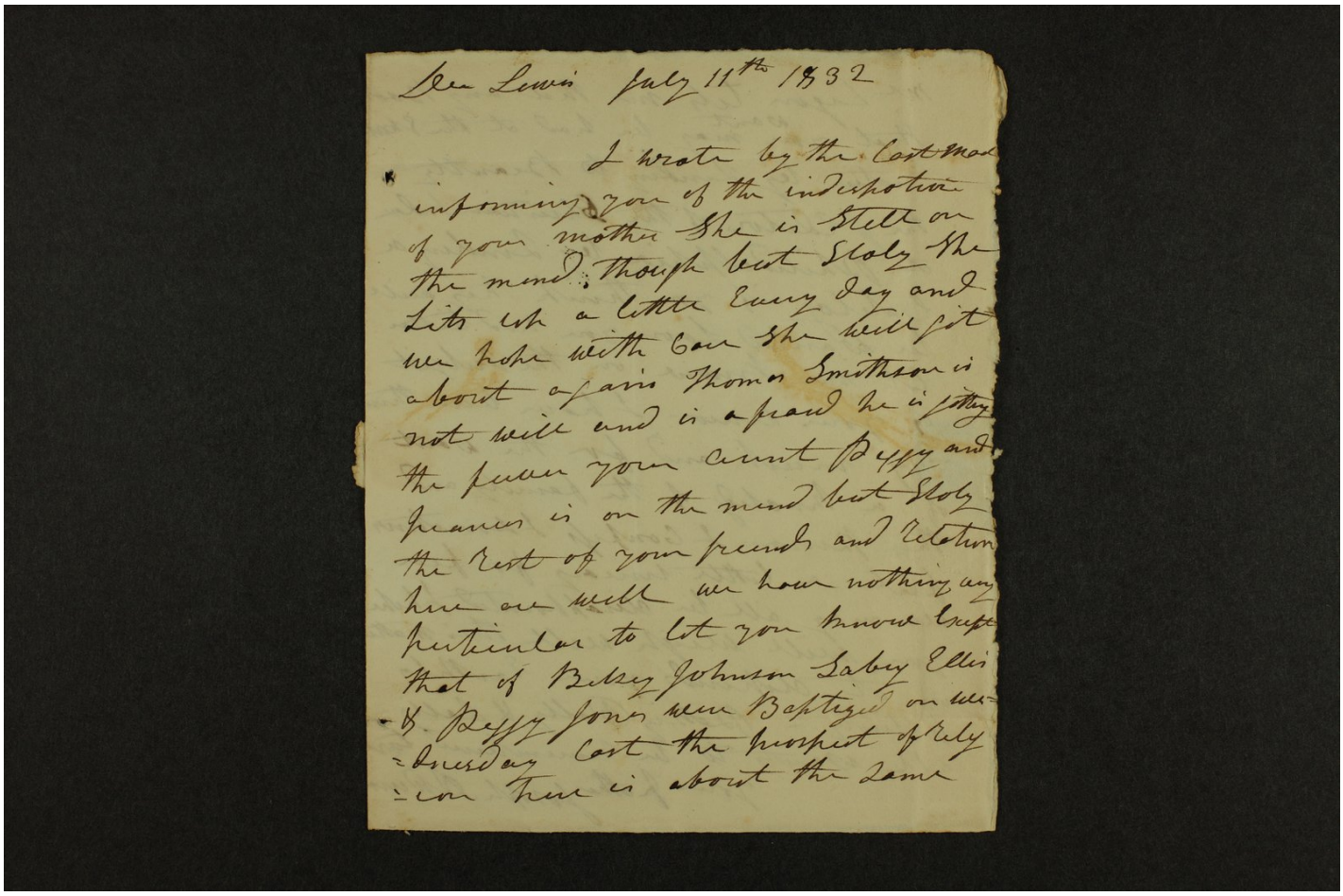
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson


unwilling to wate until that time
I must hay Kippers against the
first Septr let me know at what
time the Lecun will Close and
at what time you Expect to be
at home and in what way
whether you Expect to have
a horse at your Brothers
Joseph Alderson

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



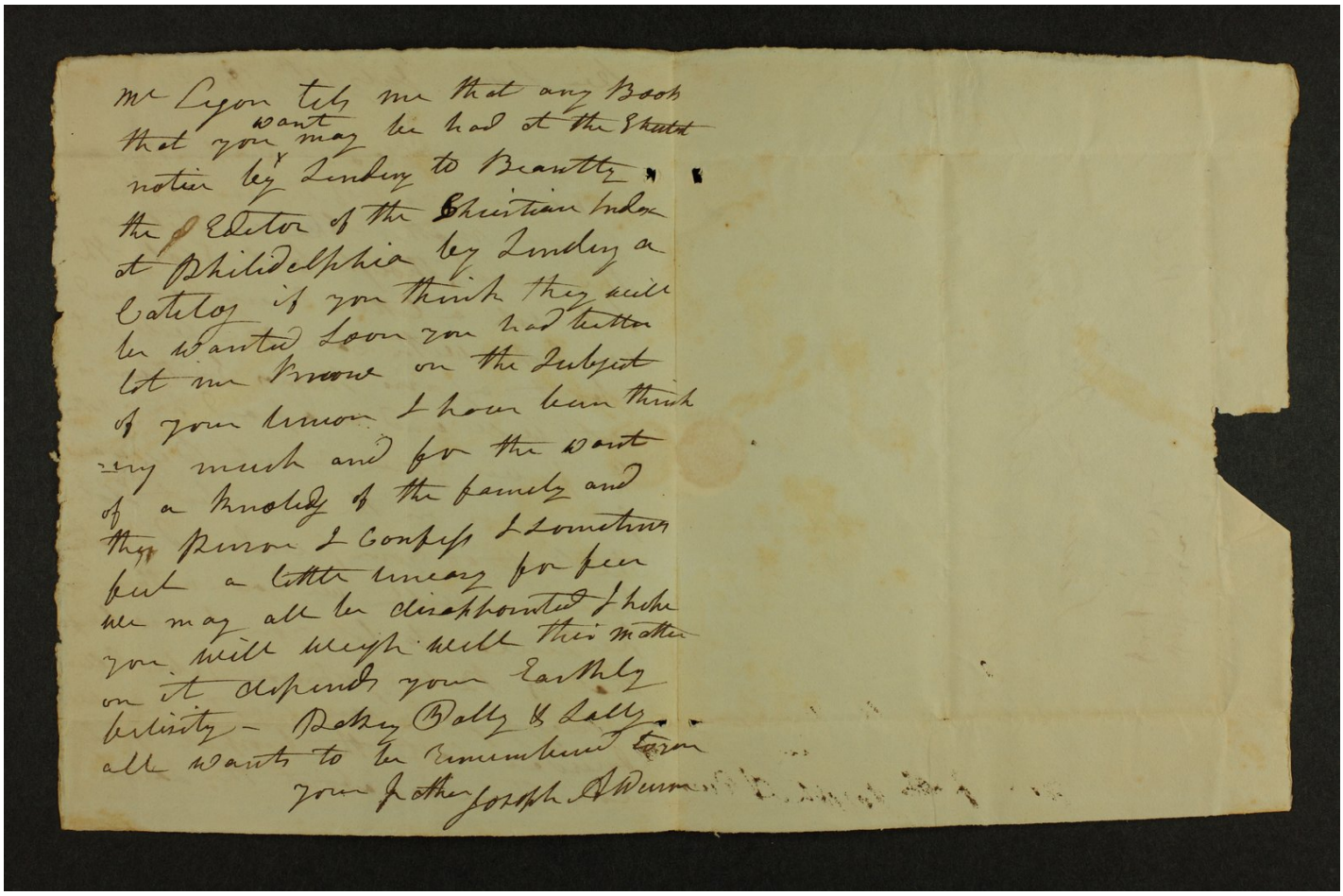
Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Dear Lewis July 11th 1832

I wrote by the last mail informing you of the indisposition of your mother She is still on the mend though but Slowly She Lets on a little Every day and we hope with Care She will get about again Thomas Smithson is not well and is afraid he is going the fever your aunt Betty and Frances is on the mend but Slowly the Rest of your friends and Relations here are well we have nothing any particular to let you know except that of Betsy Johnson Sabry Ellis & Betty Jones were Baptized on Wednesday last the prospect of Religion here is about the same

Joseph Alderson to Lewis Allen Alderson



Mr Lyon tells me that any Book that you may want may be had at the Store notice by Lindsey to Beaulty & the Editor of the Christian Index at Philidelphia by Lindsey a Catelog if you think they will be wanted Soon you had better let me know on the Subject of your Lessons I have been think very much and for the want of a Knolidg of the family and they Power I Confess I Sometimes but a Letter cannot be seen we may all be disappointed I hope you will Keep well their Mother on it depends your Earthly Felicity - Betsy Polly & Sally all wants to be remembered from your Father Joseph A Alderson