

Albany 25 July 1799

Dear Sir,

I was yesterday favored with your letter of the 15th of this month by Mr. Isaacs, whom from your good opinion of him, I was glad to see and become acquainted with.

Mrs. Jay in a late letter informed me that she and Nancy had made you a visit, and were well pleased not only with the place, but with yours and Mrs. Lyons attentions to them.

It gives me pleasure that the carpenters have at last begun their work and are going on very briskly- the sooner the shingles are dressed, and put in a situation for becoming well dried and seasoned the better. As to Lime, make the best bargain you can- I shall be satisfied with it. I expect to go to New York sometime in the fall, and either in going or returning to pass a day or two with you. If the House could to be put undercover before frost comes, I should like it; but considering the delays to which all buildings in the country, are more or less exposed, I doubt the possibility of having it done in season. I have seen so much mischief and destruction done by frost to mortar and green walls, that in my opinion it is not very prudent to risk laying of brick after September. If however you should find all the materials so collected and ready, and your other affairs so dispatched, as to afford time for the masons to finish the walls completely before the end of September, let them begin-and that no disappointment may arise from their not coming up in June. Acquaint my son of the day when you expect to be ready, and wish them to begin and desire him to inform you whether the masons agree to come on that day or not.

I am Dear Sir,

Your most ob't Serv't.

John Jay-

Maj. Lyon