


1811

## 15: 1811 November 20: William Dunbar "Son" (Princeton) to Mrs. William Dunbar (Natchez)

William Dunbar

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### Recommended Citation

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Princeton 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1811

Duty & affection call me again to the remem-  
- brance of my beloved mother, & to that enjoyment  
which I consider as the greatest in the world  
when separated from my family. You cannot  
conceive how loving I feel towards you all at  
these present calamitous times; it caused <sup>me</sup> to wish  
strongly to behold you all again, & indeed if I  
thought I could not enjoy that comfort in 2 years  
time from this, I should feel miserable indeed. By  
former letters you have by this time heard of my  
situation in Princeton; whatever you may have  
entertained respecting the dissipation of this place,  
Believe me, I saw infinitely more in Philadel-  
-phia, in fact I have not as yet seen any here;  
And even if there were; would not my dear mother

place confidence in her son, when he tells her that  
he does, <sup>not</sup> enter into it? no, I will not enter into  
it, to waste myself away; I will rather hoard  
myself up as treasure to be a support to my  
mother who has always treated me with so much  
kindness, & who has manifested so much affec-  
-tion for me. The reputation of this college  
has <sup>been</sup> of late, considerably raised, & the number of  
students have ~~been~~ very much increased; my  
ambition is to make myself a good scholar & to  
return home with honor to myself & family, hav-  
-ing graduated in the most renowned college in  
the Union. Ask the opinion of that amiable  
young man Thomas Percy, respecting this place;  
he will answer that one who is disposed to study  
may obtain here, the most noble of acquisitions

he may polish himself, & has before him every  
advantage possible. Thomas Percy was looked upon  
by the folks of this Town as one of the finest young  
men that ever entered that college together with his  
friend Walker; both of whom received honors, as  
good scholars.

I keep up a regular correspondence with Archy &  
Vaughan. I gave A. your advice which the good  
little fellow will certainly attend to. I told J.  
Vidall that his father was anxious to hear  
from him. I agree with you maina, that he  
spends too much for a young man, particularly  
living in the country. I believe my expenses here,  
can be very little more than \$600 pr. An.

My love to all my dear brothers & Sisters, if you please

From your affectionate brother son

William Dunbar

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Mr. William Dunbar

Natchez

Mississippi Territ.

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