

11-5-1854

## Letter from Thomas G. Clemson to Elias Baker, 1854 November 5

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richer & more in keeping, than any  
mable you could purchase -  
I desire to visit you & should be  
pleased to do so but I am not  
leaving them workmen here for  
if I were to absent myself nothing  
would be done & if done only  
half way - I am almost disgusted  
with workmen they give great trouble  
& charge high for half work I am  
too near the seat of Government  
where they pillage charge & get  
just what for as they please to  
ask Uncle Sam is unscrupulously  
cheated by every one who can turn his  
hand, in his pocket & purse  
If I can run over to see you I will  
do so I am anxious to see you all  
& get a glimpse of your furniture  
which must be (from accounts of  
the manufacturers) something of a  
dud - What ever you order hereafter  
I think you will have to pay a little more  
for than the best of prices of every thing in  
Europe is advancing very truly

E. Fisher Esq.

Thos. M. Allen

Bladenburg Nov 5<sup>th</sup> / 44

My dear Sir

I have just received yours of  
the 1<sup>st</sup> inst & regret to learn that  
you have had & still continue to have  
difficulties of a pecuniary nature - I had  
no idea that the money market was  
so strait & hope that it will be  
but momentary.

I wrote to Belgium some time since  
& promised to send the money shortly  
as I had written to make arrangements  
for the same. How long do you think  
it will be before you will be able  
to raise funds? I presumed that  
your carpet & every thing is pretty  
nearly finished by this time, as they  
wrote me that (if the carpets) would  
be finished with the other things &  
that he wished the funds to pay that  
as well as for finishing the other  
articles for moving on -

I am not forming an opinion about  
the other three you are better  
able to judge of the matter than

I can possibly be never having seen  
the apartments. One thing is certain  
mirrors in general have a fine effect  
and add much to the richness & the  
apparent size of the room or rooms  
in which they may be placed. But  
really look badly & after pictures nothing  
is so rich as mirrors & particularly  
when they are surrounded with such  
frames as those you will have being  
as they are wonderfully wrought with  
so much artistic skill, & producing  
so much effect -

You will have to make up your  
mind & if you wish give me the  
dimensions & I will order it for  
you. You know that it will  
take time to finish & therefore  
no time should be lost -

I will not write to him again  
until I can send him a remittance  
of it will look then & I can not  
give him explanations - Had I  
known myself that I am able

to raise the money without incon-  
venience if at all -

You ought to open your furniture  
of soon as convenient for it may be  
suffering, the mother may get in to a  
something else - & besides I wish to  
write what is or not injured. I have  
written for another slip for the  
fine screen & I have used him to  
finish every thing of soon as possible  
as you expressed a desire to have them  
here as soon as possible - indeed every  
letter I have written my partly filled  
with entreaty to stop & not lose  
any further time - His last letter  
told me that he was obliged to work  
for ready money to pay his workmen  
as he went along & that your furniture  
would have been finished sooner but  
for the want of funds -

The design of a chimney which  
I sent you was for an oak chimney  
piece to supply the places of stone  
or a carving wood or marble -  
It is beautiful & would have a fine  
effect with oak furniture such