

My wife's death bereaves for the last 6 or 8 months is very unsettled, and I think a trip to New Orleans, might be of great service to her; if therefore you & sister Sarah will join us in St. Louis any time in the month of April, when I shall be all the month attending court, we will with great pleasure join you in a trip to New Orleans with Beliza - Ben has I believe - been to the Sea South, and a trip in April to St. Louis, you give them boats, would be delightful

Answered March 20th 1842



Colo Thomas A. Rufin

Lexington

Haystack Co
Kentucky

Col West Rufin



indeed; I think of them you should promote your own state, it would be well to mention your own death - if therefore you are in earnest for a trip see it to you, and I don't see why you should not be there - I see leave a deputy in my place for 2 or 3 weeks - let me see you immediately - there are no news - the weather is delightful - Our best regards to sister Sarah - she is well - I am most sincerely affectionately
 Colo Thomas A. Rufin
 Your obliged brother
 Wm Rufin

Bluffton 3rd March 1842

My Dear Brother

Been steady, long looked for, but welcome and most excellent, of the 18th ultimo has just come to hand, and for fear that my many engagements might cause a longer post & postponement of an acknowledgment of its receipt than than I desire, I have concluded at once, before the sensations its perusal excited had subsided, to answer it -

I can imagine that the suddenness of the shock that you experienced, when the death of our dear, & venerable parent was announced to you, might have produced more poignant grief, than if you had been an eye witness, like myself, of the progress of the disease that terminated in his death, but I presume the ultimate state of your mind is very similar to my own, and charitably we should conclude like all the rest of our family -

He had left my home just one week after Spotswood started for home, in fine spirits, and in better health I thought, than he had enjoyed for a year or so, but one week previous to his death I was summoned to attend his sick bed, which I never left day or night until he breathed his last. The evening I preached for him, he talked much