

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., October 23, 1834, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, October 23, 1834.

Dear Andrew, I have this moment recd. your letter of the 13th instant, giving an account of the unfortunate occurrence of the burning of my dwelling House. As no neglect is imputed to any one, and as it appears one of those accidental occurrences where there is no blame to attach to any, we ought, and I do meet it, as an act of providence, and always reconciled to his will, and prepared to say at all times and under all circumstances, "the Lords will be done", it was he that gave me the means to build it, and he has the right to destroy it, and blessed be his name. Tell Sarah [to] cease to mourn its loss. I will have it rebuilt. was it not on the site selected by my dear departed wife I would build it higher up the Hill, but I will have it repaired. You say the walls are uninjured. Let workmen be forthwith employed to repair it. Let Scantlin and Brick be got and have it covered in before the hard frost with rain injures the walls. if tin can be got in Nashville have a tin roof put on it. if the walls can be repaired and the House covered in before the winter, the windows can be so closed as to prevent the walls, or scantlin within from being injured. I write to Col Armstrong whose letter is before me, who will aid you in obtaining the materials and workmen, to cover in and repair the House. I write in haste, say to Sarah not to grieve or repine about the loss, we will have it all repaired. I write to Mr. Toland this evening to send on by the Ship *Chandler Price* via New Orleans as much tin as will cover a House 80 feet by 44 and hope it will reach in due time. This will enable you to borrow the tin in Nashville from any one who has it. I suppose all the wines in the cellar has been destroyed with Mrs.

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Donelsons Box of china. give me as accurate account of the loss of furniture as you can at as early a period as possible.

In all your bustle, and improvement my son, have your cotton picked out and Housed, it becomes us now to act with oeco[no]my, and use industry to repair and regain the Loss. Therefore as the only fund to aid in paying for the Land and repairing the building and other engagements are the cotton crop, I urge you have it carefully taken in, gin'd baled and sent to markt.

Present me affectionately to Sarah and the sweet babes and all our connections and believe me

yr affectionate father