

**Letter of A. S. Clayton to Doctor Henry Jackson (near Louisville, Georgia), January 31, 1819.  
Transcribed from Henry Jackson Papers, Hargrett Library, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.**

Athens, January 31<sup>st</sup> 1819

Dear Sir

When your favor of the 29<sup>th</sup> of last month reached this place, I was from home, and understanding on my return, that it had been answered by Mr. Golding, at the request of Mrs. Clayton, I flattered myself that this omission on my part to write to you, would be sufficiently explained by that circumstance, & that before this I should have had the pleasure of assuring you in person of the real satisfaction which your safe arrival has afforded me – Believe me, my dear Sir, that this delayed and answer [certainly?] resulted from a conviction, that the letter [unclear] to you by our friend Mr. Golding, would as to the objects sought in yours, be completely satisfactory & that before a line from me could reach you, you would either be here or on your way.

I need scarcely mention that your Professorship has been kept open for you, & that the public have been frequently notified that you would again occupy it, a circumstance, in relation to the future success of the college, which I can assure you has produced in that public & the Trustees the most flattering expectations. Before your arrival in Georgia, the Providential Committee, pursuant to an order of the Board of Trustees, had given notice, that the college would resume its exercises on the first [page 2] of the present month – In consequence of which a few students have been occasionally coming in since that time – We have not heard conclusively from the gentleman who is appointed President, although one or two private letters from him seeking information on the subject of the college, give strong indications of a determination on his part to accept the appointment.

The Professor of Languages & Mathematics & Mr. Tutor Newton are in their places, & they together with the Committee are anxiously expecting you to join us in one more effort to raise the institution from its languishing condition – I can [assure] you we never possessed so much ardor & confidence on [any] former occasion with reference to the affairs of the college [several illegible words] I expect so shortly to have the pleasure of seeing I [illegible] I [unclear] defer entering into a detail of the reasons which have produced so lively a concern.

I am dear Sir, very sincerely your friend & obt svt

[signed] A. S. Clayton