Darling Pet/

Many thanks for your letter of last night – It is now raining hard (7 o'clock AM) tho' the wind is from the West & it may clear up by 11 in that case we will get off to day – all is ready – except the weather – the Cutter arrived last night from New York & I staid [sic] in town all night so as to meet my friend Mr. Scharff who came on in the ship. If it were not wrong to grumble at the weather for fear of indirectly censuring Him who does all things well, I fear I should growl & grumble to my hearts content this morning – to commence to rain for the first time <u>for five weeks</u> on the very day we are to start on a pleasure excursion.

Do not have the least fear for me, my sweet Mary. I am too much accustomed to the water to do anything "rush". If we do not stop at Annapolis on the excursion we will in all probability run over on Saturday evening – we must so arrange it as to take a little trip on Savana at once on leaving the cars as Mr. Scharff is anxious to try her – Would you ask your father to please to tell Ben to have steam up & have the yacht at your wharf at that hour so that we can all take another little trip – you dearest must go if well – Mr. Scharff is sitting by me & asks me to send you his kind regards & say he looks forward with so much pleasure to seeing you on Saturday –

Adieu my sweet one from your ever devoted JBH.