Monticello, Virginia
10th Dec. 1860

My Dear Sir,

The book upon
which you
were kind enough to send me
came safely to hand a few days
ago — your letter at the same
time — for both of which I thank
you most sincerely.

You have doubtless already
noticed that the patience of the
South (after a thirty year
endurance of injury, insult, and
injustice) is at last exhausted — and that
our people are determined to
leave the Union. At the consequence
be what it may — I feel as
certain of this result from Lincoln's
election last November as I do any
and said so to Mr. Wardbridge
of Saratoga. I fear they thought I
talked like times one of a woman —

Luther Price
This movement in the South is not a sudden outburst of feeling. Nor is it one of politicians. It is one that has been growing among the masses, rich and poor, from year to year, with an increasing conviction on their minds that it could come to this at last. And now their minds are fully made up that this is the time for the issue—And with the solemnity of the occasion they are going forward with the work of secession. There is no noise, excitement. Their political meetings are more like religious gatherings so calm and quiet; nothing else. But of this you may rest assured that our politicians are actually behind the people. God may intercede miraculously. But certainly no earthly power can overcome the movement.
We have had days of "fasting, humiliation, and prayer for guidance" appointed by most of our Southern Emperors which have been strictly observed. Stores all closed and every kind of business suspended. Watches for the day - Churches all thronged in a devout spirit appearing to protect the community. These seem to have saved all classes more solemnly to the work. Our people firmly believe (the Christians) that the spirit of intolerance is the spirit of infidelity. We therefore fight if fight we must. Not only for our liberty - our homes - but also for our religion. Once more the false judge of the Pope there is against this movement. I do sincerely believe that if the North would remove all her unconstitutional legislation there would give every promise of interference in future - that the
South and more to the south in her work - she has as faith in the south - and is at last as utterly alienated from the south as the north is from her - In short we are no longer a homogeneous people - I therefore shall be more comfortable as two nations - if not so huge - we are perfectly aware that we have true friends north - but they are powerless to protect our rights - and we must protect them ourselves - I hope this will be no alteration - But if they is - we are not prepared to meet it - in which case we must look for awful scenes - God avert such from us -

With very kind regards to Mrs. Howe I remain very sincerely yours in the bonds of Christian affection

Ellen A. Beattie

Once I take the liberty of requesting you to present my cordial remembrances to Professor Dr. Goodridge when you see them -