

Strait's near Beaufort, August 27th 1821

Ever Dear Brother,

Your favour of the 9th instant I received the 24th with the usual satisfaction that ever attends them, Your liberal proposal intitles you to my most grateful acknowledgments and your generous donation, when received, if life permits, shall be applied in such manner as best answers your intentions as far as they are known.

As you are desirous to know my circumstances and how I spend my time it may proper to give you some account of both, my little farm and bank stock is nearly all the property I possess and all the income I have is ^{the} profit arising ^{from} my bank stock which notwithstanding the dividends have been small for 2 years past has proved sufficiently to furnish me with all the necessary comforts of life and a little to spare for other purposes.

finding my stomach often disordered by heavy diet and variety I came to resolution about 18 months ago to quit the use of flesh meat and of spirituous liquors of every kind since which my food has been fish, shellfish, ^{butter} bread, rice, potatoes and other vegetables, and my drink coffee which I use for breakfast & supper and occasionally at other times, this new mode of living soon became familiar and I never have had the least inclination to alter it my stomach and bowels are undisturbed and I feel no infirmity of body except ~~but~~ such as are the effect of old age, I enjoy tranquillity of mind and being at peace with ^{the} whole world I wish well to all the human race, I have made my will by which after bequeathing a few particular legacies I have ordered all the remainder of ^{my} estate to be equally divided among all my grandchildren who are living at the time of my decease for altho their merits may not be in all respects equal yet I thought it

dear

best to act indiscriminately and leave their virtues and vices to be rewarded or punished by a more competent Judge.

I am fond of retirement and spend the greatest part of time ^{my} by myself and as my bill of fare is very different from that of others I usually provide and dress my own provisions the employment of Cooking with some other trifling matters which ^{I am} able to do helps to lighten the burden of time which frequently lies heavy ~~lies heavy~~ on hands. — Thus I have given you a brief account in what manner I am journeying through the last stage of life and waiting for that summons which is to bring me to the place appointed for all the living where I hope through divine mercy to exchange my wearisome pilgrimage on earth for a quiet and lasting repose.

I have agreed with Samuel to go to New York when opportunity offers which I do not expect will happen till sometime in October, when he arrives you can arrange your matters with him and he can do my business without giving you further trouble, my Eyes are weary but I must comply with the tender feelings of my Heart and request you to remember me in the ^{most affectionate manner} to my sister and other relations whose welfare is dear to me and wishing that they with yourself may enjoy the smiles of a kind and gracious Providence I remain your aged brother

Sam^l. Leffers

Beaufort H^{ts}
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Mr John Lefferts

At my place Long Island

N.Y.

