

Beaufort April 30th, 1816.

Dear Brother,

I received your favour of October last by David Hellen which is the last letter I have rec^d from New York and I never heard of brother Lefferts arrival from Europe till about 6 weeks ago when I saw a young man from New York who told me that brother returned in November but he knew nothing of his success in his voyage. I believe I gave you some account of the storm which we experienced here in September and of the distress which many people were reduced to on that account such distress as will not soon be forgotten, but as divine Providence never sends afflictions without a visible display of his mercy so the consequences of the calamity ~~has~~ has proved less fatal than what was expected. The fall and winter has been more sickly than usual and there has been many deaths especially among the aged and altho' I am one of the few that now compose the oldest class in the County I have this mercy enjoy'd an uncommon degree of health inso-^{not} much that I have ^{not} laid myself down on account of ill health since the month of August 1814. My children and grandchildren have suffered in the common calamity altho' they are in tolerable health

Mr. John Lefferts

Hempstead

Long Island

Said by —
David Hellen

Dated 1816

at present, I should be glad to hear how you
and the rest of my friends are as I still feel
an interest in your welfare altho' I have not
a hope left of ever seeing you again, my days
must be nearly number'd and my pilgrimage
on earth must be drawing to a close and
every epistle from a frail mortal in the eigh-
teenth year of his ^{age} may well be considered as
a valedictory address. Please to give my
best respects to all my relations and friends
and receive the best wishes of your aged
brother

Saml. Leffers