

Dr. Brother

Straits near Beauf. 10th Sept. 1815

Das. Hellen was with me to day and informed me that he was going to New York and I immediately set about writing a letter which ^{has} become a very uncommon thing with me, I rec^d. a letter from brother Lef. fort dated at Wilmington the 29 of May last which informed me that he ^{was} loading a ship for Liverpool but did not let me know whether he was going there himself or not, his like the rest of his letters were short barely informing me that he believ'd our friends in general were well, The prospect before us here is very discouraging we were visited with a storm on the 3. & 4th of this instant which raised the tide to such a tremendous height that it overflow'd all the low lands on the sea board and altho the lower floors of our houses are generally 2 feet or more above the ground yet I have heard of but very few but what had the tide on the floor, the sea made a fair breach over the land washing away fences and every thing ^{that} would float, what was carried in large rafts over the corn fields laying every thing waste in their progress, great numbers of stock are drowned, and without some unexpected relief I fear

many of the poorer class must suffer the effects of famine
I have seen a number of Hurricanes during my
residence in this country but never saw such an
inundation before and I could have wished that I
might have been permitted to have finished my pil-
grimage before it happened. I am within a few weeks
of finishing my 79th year and altho I am blest with
a good degree of health the infirmities of age are
daily reducing my strength and I can perceive my
mental powers also are fast declining therefore you
needs not be at a loss to account for the imperfections
of my letters, as my eyesight is much impaired of
late I shall attempt to write but one letter mak-
ing use of you as my proxy to deliver my most
cordial respects to all my dear relations & friends
warning them that this is likely to be my farewell
address. The surviving members of my family here
are generally in tolerable health but some of them
I fear will suffer severely by common calamity a-
bove described as they are in low circumstances &
have large families of small children. I am Dear
Brother with every consideration of love and respect
your aged brother
Sam^l. Lefferts



Mr. John Lefferts

Hempstead

Long Island