

Dear Brother,

Beaufort Oct. 18th 1805

By yours of the 15th of July I had the disagreeable news of brother Daniels unhappy course of life which I sincerely regret. Also Israel Smiths unhappy situation. I have also seen accounts in print of the wasting epidemic prevailing both in New York, Philadelphia, New Haven and some other places to the northward. Our thanks are due to the divine goodness that general health has prevailed in this part of the Country during Summer and at present there are very few cases of any thing worse than agues & fevers and other intermittants that do not prove mortal and a few instances of the dysentery of a favourable kind. The Summer & the fall hitherto have been an almost continued series of clear, warm weather attended with reasonable showers and we have not had a settled rain even of 12 hours duration, as I recollect, since February last, the crops of corn are supposed in general to be better than ever was known and every other production of the earth uncommonly good. O that the goodness of God might lead us to repentance and fill our hearts with gratitude for all his blessings bestowed on the children of men. I have sent Saml. with his uncle Thomas Duncan, to assist in doing my business and as he proposes to make you a short visit he can inform you of every particular circumstance relating to our affairs here, I shall therefore be less particular in writing. David Sellers has been very hearty since his arrival here and looks much better than he did, but he has received so little countenance on account of his diverting his business that he seems desirous of returning provided he could be free from Mr. Osborn for whom he seems to entertain an irreconcilable aversion. I have wrote to John Vanklostrand to know whether he could take him to himself and shall wait his answer before I put him to any other business. I found on his return that instead of improving in writing and the use of figures

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Mr. John Lefferts

Hempstead

Long Island

figures he had in a great measure lost what he had
I have therefore had him at school the 3 month past
which has about reinstated him in what he knew before.
I hope you will have friendship enough for George to keep
him in a way of improvement until something is further
determined for him. — Possibly if life and health will per-
mit I may attempt to make one visit more to native place
in the course of the next summer which, if Providence per-
mits, will I presume be my last visit among my aged re-
lations and friends, in the mean time I consider every
letter as a testimonial of friendship which may proba-
bly be the last, I therefore request you to give my most
affectionate respects to all my relations and friends at and
about Hempstead and let them know that altho' my memory
will scarcely retain the common occurrences of life for a
month yet I have not forgot to love my friends. — My
Wife and Daughters desire to be remembered to you and
all relations — I remain your ever loving brother

Saml. Leffers