

Dear Brother,

It would seem by the time that ^{has} elapsed since I heard last from you that we had declined all correspondence and that our friendship had subsided into a cold indifference, I hope however it is not the case as my inclinations still lean toward you and I have hopes of hearing from you, I do not at present recollect the date of your last letter but think it is more than two years since I have heard from any of my friends on the Island, if so you need not wonder that I am desirous to know whether you are dead or living and other matters relating to your welfare, I was in so weakly a state when I was with you last and found the cold weather so disagreeable that I resolved if ever I made you another ^{visit} to take the warm season for it and felt a strong inclination to have gone in the month of May last but I had undertaken to build a house which took up my time and attention till August and as no opportunity has offered since I have declined it for the present, and one of my age must not depend too much on years to come altho' the prospect at present, with me, is somewhat flattering as I have enjoyed a greater degree of health for 4 months past than I have experienced for some years past, possibly if life and health continue and no obstacle intrudes I may undertake to visit my native country the next summer, and must intreat you to let me hear from you before that time otherwise I shall not be certain whether I have any friends there to visit or not, My situation at present is agreeable, my new house is calculated to my fancy and pleasantly situated, we have a fine prospect of the Sea in front have a good garden and Spring of water and are about 200 yds from the easternmost boundary of Beaufort town, I live retired and amuse myself with my Garden, my writing desk, my Books and a walk to town as fancy directs, and enjoy a competency of the comforts of life with resignation, and I hope with a becoming gratitude to the great disposer of all good, I know not where your residence may be at present but supposing you to be at Hempstead must request you to remember me in the most friendly manner to sister Abby and Betsey, to Sister Mary and all enquiring friends, My Wife likewise desires to be remembered. — Am assured your loving brother

Sam^l. Leffers

Spring Garden
near Beaufort Oct. 19th 1800 }

Wah End

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