

Cambridge August 28th. 1798

Dear Sir

My friend Mr. Wolber being just about to depart for Providence induces me to write ~~to~~ you a line on a subject which you & I conversed on when I had the pleasure of seeing you last, namely on my connection, or disconnection with your college.

You were polite enough to express a wish that I should still connect myself with it as a Natural History Professor if not as one of the Corporation, altho' I have long since sent my resignation of both. Since that time I have turned the matter over in my mind, & have concluded that if your Corporation should ever think it worth while to request me to give another course of Natural History lectures (for example this time twelve months - July or August 1799) I would endeavour to come up & give one. I however wish to trust the matter entirely to your judgement & discretion, after saying that I would not wish to appear as applying myself in the business but as a matter originating with them. I have therefore no objection to your mentioning the matter at your meeting next week, but at the same time I reiterate the assertion that it is an affair about which I am not solicitous as it could not be accomplished without a considerable sacrifice of my business as a physician here.

I hope you are all in the right road for discovering the true holy:cross. Some of you I know are zealous pilgrims. By what I can learn from my kinsman George Waterhouse who went as the assistant to the

to the Astronomers, the people dwelling on the disputed ground are more uneasy respecting the line of division than they need to be. Such is the sameness of laws, customs, & language that one would think no one need be very uneasy respecting the government they should hereafter live under. It has been repeatedly said that the investigation is pursued with a spirit of candor highly honorable to both parties. — It is on such occasions and at such periods that a whole nation stamps its own character on the hearts of the other merely by the fair, candid & honorable proceedings of two or three of its citizens —

I am, Dear Sir, with great esteem
your friend & humble serv^t.

Benj^m Waterhouse

Doublet M^r Howel

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Honorable David Lowell Esq.

Carried by Providence
Professor Webster

28 Aug. 48.

West. Waterhouse.