

Edisto. I. C. | Edings bay | Oct 10<sup>th</sup> 1817  
Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 1817

Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> I have two letters unacknowledged  
9<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Sept. from Edm. Cambridge is worse than this island  
I have made perhaps a happy escape two weeks more  
will decide it after the 2<sup>d</sup> sickness is over week before  
last 7, died in Charleston 23 last week cold weather has  
blessed be God checked the the most fatal of all diseases  
I see mention of a circular on Dysentery in Yankee  
which I see <sup>constantly</sup> 36 deaths among 1000 people is worse  
than 7, among 30,000 send me a copy of it Tho' no  
I will send first chance I have it yet, I did not  
get black with it it was my own money and I cannot  
think of keeping it I would gladly add more but I  
cannot be generous now I think myself in a fair way  
to do what few do and at least what none of my  
brothers have done bear my own way and they  
had as good chance as I and if I do that it is always  
as much as can be expected of me Is it proper to tell  
wife or mother dead be particular I am curious  
to know what offer is (or of what nature) that is going  
to brighten the chain I have a part of a description

Edisto finished it is 40 miles <sup>from Charleston</sup> there is but one Edisto &  
none other than it I have been busy about it for some  
time it is slow work to collect facts but can not send  
it this time / neat times It is neither hot nor cold -  
seperate from the idea of the pestilence that walketh  
in darkness and disease at noon day October is the  
pleasantest month in a Carolina year - The cotton  
answers to the vows of planter and the sweat of the brow  
of his slave Nov: the 1<sup>st</sup> we look for frost and then  
return to the plantation I can say I have never  
been better or happier You foolishly suppose I have  
been too much alarmed in Carolina dialect No such  
a thing! Never!! In my school I come on well I have  
not lost a day and I may say an hour there are four  
schools on this bay and I have more scholars than  
all four together Dr McLeod will return in about three  
weeks he brings back his daughter from school in  
Philadelphia he is a widower and she his only  
child I wrote by the last boat the are scarey  
about sending it is so sick this goes by boat of Mr  
W Jenkins Esq one of my best friends He Mr Edings, Nichell  
and Leetnook, I cannot write more than this for I

been writing a great deal I wrote in answer to  
B. Haines but have not had any answer this was  
three months ago that means it when he asked me  
to write, if there is no such person a Warehouse  
I send her & her's ~~the~~ Good-bye!! Never forget to give  
best regards and affectionate remembrance to Miss  
Gleason for you see I think of her first and consider her  
as worthy of all my best wishes Grandmother Tho &  
Mrs Capen I shall long remember, Miles, and all  
whom I should remember; unnamed, I ask again  
for the funeral sermon send it. Why not to have had  
it printed when it would excited more interest  
that is <sup>the effect of</sup> not doing things in a hurry and leave  
it till it does no good, - Oct 16<sup>th</sup> More hot, sultry, or  
unpleasant weather this is the only chance  
that has offered since I last wrote, all is well,  
The hope to clear out from this place in two weeks  
more I shall rejoice to get on the plantation  
again some news of prospect and employment  
is too tiresome, Why may not bleeding be used  
in Dysentery is it not as well to loose blood one  
way as another? See the Charleston Courier  
of the 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. a piece of Dr. Davis coll's on Ecce  
Effusion in fevers especially Yellow fever  
and write at length upon opinion

on it as I wish to know with much little or no  
richness in Edisto de Be  
16th evening



25

Mail

Dr Benjamin Waterhouse  
Cambridge Mass.

HMS  
C 1712

Edisto Island S.C. Decem<sup>br</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1817.

At last we are settled on the Island were  
were detained on the bay three weeks by Mr Leabrooks  
sickness he has been so sick as ever a man was and  
live and is now out of danger (Yellow fever) The last week  
I spent - at Johns Island or I went over a week Saturday  
and returned Wednesday night rode down to the bay  
after dark from here it is 10 miles We have had a sick  
family Mr. S. & Mr Patterson both at the point of death  
letters by Mr Proctor and Diploma there one more  
Dr MacLeod has come he is at Mr S. place at Hang  
Island I wish to see him much in two weeks I shall go  
to town to stay a month or more I have no idea  
of leaving my school or of such a change If ever I  
do it is not mine to appoint a successor I want  
better encouragement and I could do but if not I must  
quit and that will be the first occasion of offence  
they give I can paddle my own boat altogether  
too many difficulties to encounter Dr MacLeod  
set things at rest when I see him This goes off in  
great haste as Mr S. is going on sudden business  
I only write to say I am well and to say I can say  
no more Send some apples but let them  
first note note of ours good enough for they  
had had fine ones this year from the other

This must come from me with no more as I am  
about commencing school and we are not yet  
settled Dr. MacLeod and daughter have just arrived  
Miss MacLeod is the handsomest girl I have seen  
in S.C. worth hundreds thousands This goes by the  
Leabrook Jr his father is yet in bed and has been  
there this whole month boats pass and repairs from  
town as usual and I shall write more and  
often I want nothing - I shall send sweet  
potatoes and ground nuts when I go to town  
send in return apples I can not send nice any  
cheaper than you can buy it in Boston for it is  
hardly to be had cheap but by the 100 barrels  
I will send the \$20 when I go to town in two weeks  
for at Christmas I have three weeks vacation  
Send me a letter to Dr. Pollock of Savannah  
for I shall go there only one days sail

Yours  
W. M. Matherhouse

*Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, oriented vertically.*

*Handwritten initials or a small mark.*



Do you know of any other  
books to Charles for?



Q. 5-

Dr Benjamin Waterhouse  
Cambridge Mass.





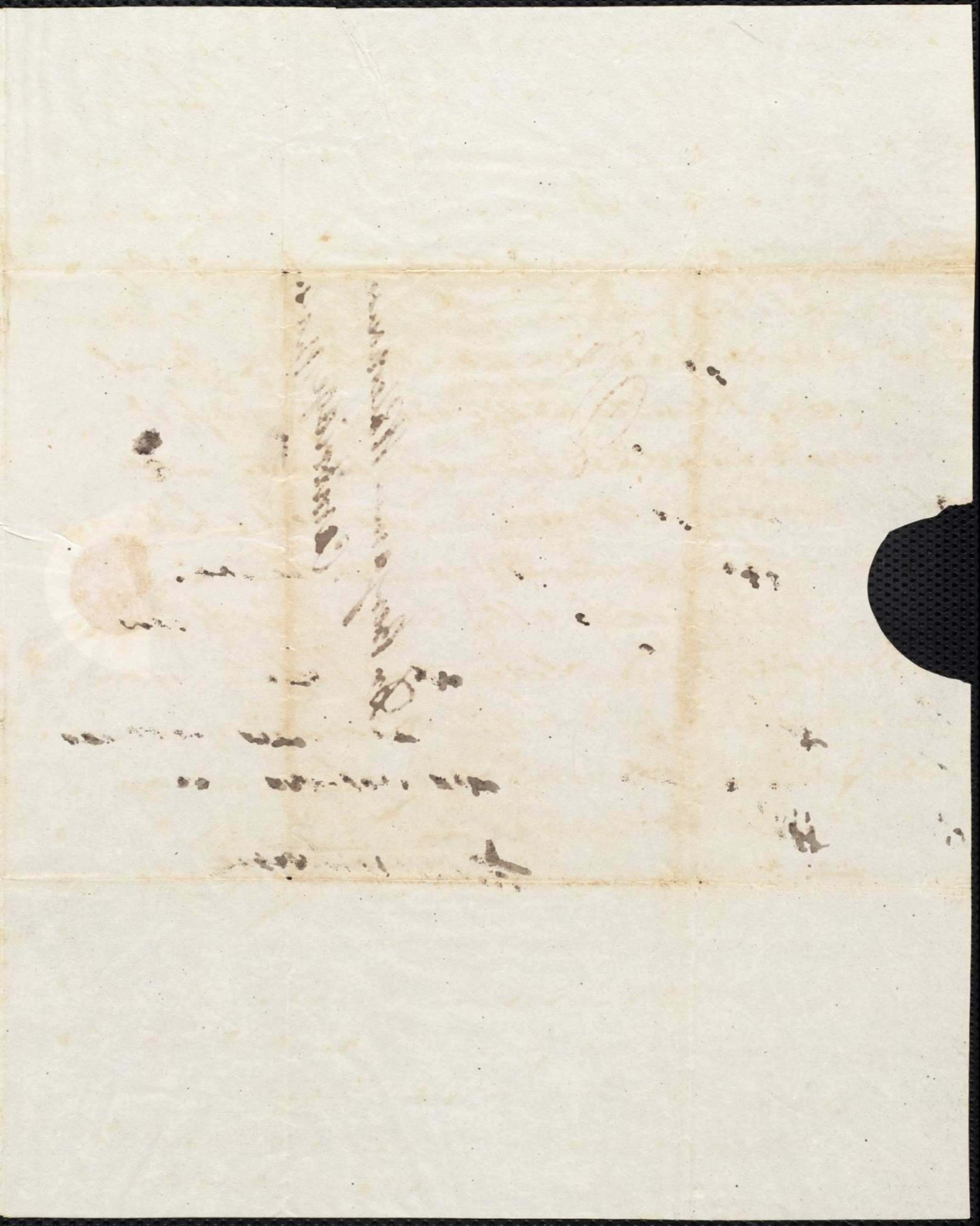
Edisto March 23<sup>d</sup>, 1818,

As Mr S goes off to town early tomorrow morning I can not let slip this opportunity without acknowledging the receipt of a letter by post and expressing my surprise at not hearing either from Eliza or Mary for near four months when I was in town. I wrote to E. and sent the \$20 of which I have heard nothing since! How is that? I am still here beating the same anvil and with too little success. I do not know whether it would be any satisfaction to you to hear whether I am making fifteen hundred or a thousand dollars but I wish I could say I was doing either far from it - know this that my being in the midst of death and frivolous have not deterred me from my business no one can say that ~~their~~ indolence or pleasure have allured me from the path of duty. As for Dr Chesester I did all I could and could do no more if any thing more is necessary you must write to the Dr. yourself as I can make them do nothing. I staid in Charles near two weeks to do it & thereby lost my voyage to Savannah

I do not know what you mean by your  
caution as to negroes I believe it unnecessary  
it is late and I can say no more only that not  
long since I wrote a very long letter to Miler  
which I desired him to send to you - I say  
this that I do not think I shall stay on Edwits  
all this season if I move you will have timely  
notice if I can do no better I may pass the  
summer in 42° and the next winter in 38°  
all however is covered by the veil of futurity  
Dr Mc Leods respects & will write soon.

Remembrance to all! Mr Pares's letter  
I ought to <sup>have</sup> acknowledged and hope to before  
long Spring in all its beauties peaches  
long since blossomed as well as many  
other trees

J. Waterhouse



MAR 25

LB

Dr Benjamin Waterhouse  
Cambridge Mass.



HMS  
C.17.2