

Cambridge Sep<sup>r</sup>. 23<sup>d</sup>. 1800—

Dear Sir,

Thirty hours after I left New York, I arrived at Newport. There I staid two days, chiefly to gratify Dr. Hothericill. On the 3<sup>d</sup> morning we departed for Boston, he one way, and I another. I have seen him but a few minutes since.

Now persons can look <sup>back</sup> on a months excursion from home with more entire satisfaction. Not a moment of bad weather, no cross accident, nor indisposition, nor any occurrence that could come fairly under any of the heads of parson Beresford's miserics. It was an additional satisfaction to find that my professional business had not suffered by my absence. I never had a more agreeable tour, and I am indebted for a considerable portion of it to the politeness of Dr. Hosack.

I hope nothing will impede your progress in the work you spoke of. We want something more on that subject than has yet appeared among us. Although I was the first who gave lectures on botany in the United States (viz 1780 at the Rhode Island college) my labours in that branch have been trifling compared to what you have done, and can do. I here send a proof sheet of the last number of the Botanist. I meant it for the final one, and wrote "the end" Finis," but the editors of the anthology did not seem to admit it, because they thought it was done in a low spirit. I may possibly squeeze out another number. So the subject of it shall be "the Sun, the eye & soul of this lower world", especially of the vegetable world. Tell me who has succeeded best in describing the Lactus grandiflorus, the Botanist

words, or Thornton in colours? I wish you to shew this xv<sup>th</sup>  
number to Dr. Mitchell, because it is chiefly chemical, a  
subject with which he is infinitely better acquainted than  
I am. If I can "take in" some printer, by giving him the  
copy right, I will collect & publish these numbers in a  
little volume. If you ask me how our botanic garden comes  
on in Cambridge, I promptly answer that I know not. Those  
gentlemen who are principally concerned in that business  
have ever kept at a great distance from me, and to be  
consistent, they always will. During my absence Mr Peck,  
has called, for the first time, at my house. Would it not be  
carrying the farce too far if I were, knowing him to be absent,  
to call & leave a card at his lodgings? It was the obser-  
vation of a negro, who lived in the house of a Prof. of Ma-  
-thematics, that the wisest folks were the greatest fools!

Please to give my compliments to Dr Post, to Mr Mc-  
Cormick & Col. Williams - Mrs Waterhouse joins me in  
a respectful remembrance to Mrs Hasack, whom she  
wishes to see again at Cambridge.

When I got to Rhode Island, I took the willows out of the box,  
and wrapt them in wet moss. They are now in the ground. The  
have been, I find in this quarter, but have degenerated; I  
-pect we have not sufficient warmth for them. I found  
in a pretty deep ravine at Rhode Island, entirely sheltered from  
that resembled yours, but some on exposed ground evidently dete-  
I hope to hear from you as occasion occurs, in the mean time I beg  
to accept the respectful & friendly salutations of Ben<sup>n</sup> Waterhouse

Handwritten text, possibly a list or notes, including the number '3'.

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name.



Dr Hosack . . .

New York —