

Boston 29th 10/12

Dear John,

We received your last letter with satisfaction. Were sorry to hear that you had been sick, and glad to hear that you were well again; but why did you conceal your ill state of health so long? — We feel a little concerned that we have not received a single line from Andrew these six weeks, or more. When have you heard from him last? I fear he maybe sick, and that he imprudently conceals it as his brother has done. If you have heard from him lately let us know, if not, ^{Why cannot} ~~will~~ you go there? I wrote to him last week & sent him 20 dollars. —

I approve the idea of your visiting Albany. When you go, you must call on D Mann who is in the camp & is surgeon general. He desired me to give you a letter to him, but it will be the same thing if you call on him at my request, so that you may see a little of the Camp & c. — Albany is worth your notice. Its situation is such as to give it importance in war. Consult the map, and see how it lays in reference to the Mohawk-river, and Lake-George. Observe the old-dutch-built houses, & see what a fine, deep ^{the town} river it stands on. Its central situation has made it the seat of government. York & Albany were named after the royal Duke of York & Albany. The country on the Mohawk is surprizingly fertile. There is a fine cascade or fall upon it.

We are all well, & our garden & fields look finely. Your mother says that she does better without you than she feared. But she insists on being made acquainted with your state of health.

The Constitution arrived safe in this harbour day before yesterday after being chased & fired on by the Britishes frigate for sixty hours. Capt. Hull has great credit for his management. Our privateers are bringing in prizes every day. We have met with no great loss as yet. There is nothing yet to discourage the government, or to create exultation in our own, base, domestic enemies, who are infinitely more inveterate than the English. — Some of our fast sermons have been shocking, & even treasonable. Dr Ware gave one of a very different sort, to Thacher's congregation. I suspect he will feel the effects of it, from the pulpit, who make a part of that congregation. It is my opinion that many of our ministers are fast destroying themselves. Your box of minerals is arrived, & will not be opened before your return. Can you find any earths for plates & tea pots? or any marble? Do you see on the Connecticut any thing like gigantic basaltes? — Your mother says the insects are not suffering. The room is kept close, & few go into it. — It is now raining, and it rains more or less every day. The country looks beautiful. Daniel & Peetey went to Andover yesterday to carry Ben.

I have seen the Northampton Republican address & resolutions, and think it infinitely better written than the anti American one. Do you see the Patriot? There is some observations in it by Sallust., and some on the Northampton & other county conventions. By the time the anti American have blowed their blast, the true Americans will begin to speak. I wish you would tell me in your next when you expect to return to Boston, as I have some thoughts of going to Providence, & cannot go while you are away. But I do not

with you to balk your excursion on that account. as long as you are making money stay abroad. You have never given me the least information on that head.

'Tis said that the President has again called on our Governor to draft the militia, & that a council is to be called on that subject. Massachusetts must comply, if she regards the constitution of the United States. If she disregards it, she must no longer call herself one of the Union.

Take it for granted that you have deposited Mr Gray's money in the Northampton-bank in your own name. I guess when you find yourself at Albany you may be tempted to go farther, by land, by water, or by steamer. S. Dana has received his box of minerals. - Your mother is apprehensive that you need articles of cloathing, but that is a minor concern, provided you have health. -

My college business stands stock still. They find they have taken too rank hold of this business, and I believe they know not well what to do next.

Write to us, every ten days or so, & mention your movements & ascertain whether there be a post office in the town you go to, -

From
Benjamin & Betsey Hill

B. & E. Waterhouse

25
Mr John. F. Waterhouse

Worthington

Map.

