

Washington Jan. 23^d 1819

Dear Samuel,

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Although I have nothing very special to write about, yet to prevent your feeling any anxiety respecting me I feel it my duty to write every mail - your letter of the 2^d of January is the last I have received from home, or even from Craftsbury; but I flatter myself there may be some on the way which I shall receive soon - I want very much to learn how you succeed in passing the winter - I have heard that the weather was very cold in Vermont the latter part of December - but I expect it has lately been more comfortable. It was severely cold here for some time, but for nearly or quite a fortnight the weather has been much milder, the snow is all disappeared and the frost mostly out of the ground, which is very muddy - You wrote me in your last letter that you expected to tarry at home, and pursue your studies there - If you can do it to as much advantage to yourself, I shall be better pleased to have you at home, as it will take considerable burden and trouble from your Mamma, who, I fear, will find, after all you can do to assist her, as many inconveniences and privations as the infirm state of her health can endure. I rely upon your discretion in attending to the concerns of the family with the advice of your Mamma - I hear nothing from Farmington, except what I get from Mr. Pithin, from whom I learn that our friends were well a week or two since perhaps, and I hope it is the case, that you have received letters