

Washington Jan. 30th 1820

Dear Sir,

It has been so long since I have written to you, and in fact since I have received any letter from you, that I begin to feel some goadings of conscience on that account; and have therefore come to the determination to attempt to revive a correspondence, which heretofore has afforded me much pleasure; and which I flatter myself will again, occasionally, afford me the satisfaction of receiving an answer from you. For my own part I must plead guilty; for, upon a full examination of my defence, I find that I have no good and sufficient excuse to offer in my justification; and hope, since I am so sensible of my default, that you will require no farther penance. On the other side of the question, it may be as well for me, perhaps, to be silent.

I have learned, with much pleasure, of your removal to Hartford, and your establishing yourself there, in the practice; as I am persuaded that in a place where you are so well known, you can hardly fail of having as much business as you can attend to, and with vastly less fatigue of both body and mind, than in Farmington; or, indeed, in any country village; and at the same time you have not been obliged to make the sacrifice of the society of your numerous and valuable friends.

I receive letters from home nearly every week, and have the satisfaction to inform you that my family were all in good health and spirits, so lately as the 18th inst. the date of their last letter. Mrs Crafts has enjoyed a good state of