

Washington April 8th 1822.

Dear Samuel,

Your letter of the 21 of March reached here on Wednesday last, & yours of the 28th last evening, which was several days sooner than your letters have generally come. I am very thankful to learn by them that you are all as well as you have been for some months past; and have only to regret that your Mamma's and your health has not become better established. You express a wish in your last letter to try the effect of the springs. I can certainly have no objections to the trial; nor am I altogether faithless as to efficacy of the waters in many kinds of complaints. But I am far from believing them, as some do, a cure for all disorders. James has written to me upon the same subject, and I shall do what I can to assist him and you also if you wish to make the trial; believing that the journey in a pleasant season of the year, if not the waters, may be found advantageous for both of you.

I am sorry to hear that you propose to suspend writing to me for the future, in the expectation that your letters will not find me at this place. I am very desirous to get home, to see the family and to relieve you from the thousand little embarrassments that I am sensible my absence must necessarily subject the family to. But I see no prospect of leaving this place short of four weeks, and possibly five, from this time. No time is yet fixed for adjournment; but the general opinion is at present that we can get away on the first Monday of May. The propositions which were made for an early adjournment, were not brought forward, with a belief that Congress could, by the time proposed, dispose of all the necessary business of legislation: But from personal and other considerations which intire them to but little credit.

You mention how much the people at Craftsbury are pleased with the specimen of flax I sent you and that Harvey Sesto felt a desire to obtain a patent right. A small machine has been exhibited here which I have exam-