

Litchfield, Conn. May 9<sup>th</sup> 1825

Dear Bell

I have most shamefully neglected yr. letter and have nothing to plead in my own behalf- but that native indolence which I fear will be my companion till the last moment of my life\_ How often have I begun to write and how often have I deferred it till a more propitious season! Necessity now requires it, and I believe I shall now accomplish what I have been months in mediating. According to the statement of yr. accounts which you gave me you were indebted to Cook \$18\_ and to [John Peter] Jackson  $2\frac{05}{100}$ \_ In amount  $20\frac{05}{100}$ \_ You had a claim against [William S.] Buchanan of \$15.20, against [John L.] Wight of 75 cts and against myself of  $4\frac{37\frac{1}{2}}{100}$  (I believe)\_ In amt.  $20.32\frac{1}{2}$ \_ Buchanan thought that he owed you  $14\frac{70}{100}$  only and paid that sum over to Cook) which reduced the ^whole amt of yr funds to \$19.827\_ This was paid over in proper proportions to Jackson & Cook who upon becoming acquainted with the cause of the deficiency was perfectly satisfied\_ Thus I have discharged all yr. debts and can bear witness that payment was received in full)

To accommodate me you left in my possession two numbers or yr. notes on Executors &c. which I promised to forward to you by mail\_ A few hours after yr. departure, [?] ~~has on~~ finding a large ~~xxxxx~~ quantity of paper in yr room\_ brought it to me; and I was not a little surprised to find ~~the~~ all the remaining numbers except one\_ These will make a bulk, in whatever form I may pack them, too large & ponderous for the mail\_ I have therefore thought it advisable to consult you upon the method I should adopt to have them safely transported to you. I did think of leaving them with yr. brother in N. York (if I could learn his address) from <sup>^whom</sup> you could at some future day receive them. I should be [Page 2] be pleased to hear from you on the subject, as soon as convenient

as I expect to leave Litchfield for my native home in about two weeks  
from this time\_ say the 25<sup>th</sup> Inst.

We have had but a small number of Students in the office this  
Winter\_ and this number continues to dwindle.

I have no further news to communicate except a flying report  
which I am inclined to [credit?] that [William] Yates is engaged to marry the  
lovely Miss Cooke\_ But more of this hereafter\_ I have been so closely  
confined all day in preparing for my departure that I am very un-  
willing and indeed unable to gossip much\_ When I arrive in  
Maryland and am more at leisure\_ I will take occasion to <sup>^give you a</sup> more  
detailed history of matters & things in general\_

At present farewell  
& believe <sup>me</sup> yr friend &c  
John C. Grome

My place of residence will be  
Elkton, Maryland\_ at which  
place I shall always be glad to hear  
from you, or see you.

[Cover]

Paid 18 ¢

Litchfield

May 11

Conn

Mr. James Bell  
Chester  
New Hampshire

Mail