

To the Inhabitants of Litchfield in annual  
Town Meeting assembled 7<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1795 –  
Gentlemen,

In the Course of a busy Rotation of  
several years, principally employing my Time &  
Abilities occasionally in Variety of the most important  
Occurances of the Town, through the ~~late~~ troublesome  
Scenes of the late War & Revolution wherein we had so  
large a share of the Burden –  
having faithfully endeavored to pay proper atten-  
-tion to the best possible Discharge of Official Duties  
in various Capacities & Situations, amidst more  
Business on Hand than I could possibly Transact  
in due Season & dispatch to advantage always  
however giving Preferance to the most urgent  
public Concerns, therefore rather devoted to Emolu-  
-ment of others, to the prejudicial Neglect of my own  
Health and Interest, whereby sundry considerable  
Demands gradually accrued for Services & Disburse-  
-ments, such as making Rate Bills procuring  
Record Books, Arms & Provisions &c. Whereof on late  
application for General Settlement unhappy Jeal-  
-ousies were suggested, surmising that probably upon  
the whole instead of being Creditor I was actually  
Debtor to the Town &c. –

Whereupon (in my absence when detained  
at home by sickness) the Select Men were, by  
Vote, forbid intermedling in any of those  
Matters & a special Committee selected & enjoined  
to investigate extensively the grounds of all those  
Claims & relative Transactions &c &c  
Who after having explored the [Purchases?], were at  
length, convinced, as appears by their written  
Certificate thereof, that the just Balance at all  
Events must lie on my Side & finally come  
out in my Favor, but being attended with some  
remaining uncertainty as to the exact aggregate

Amount

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Amount, some of those various Matters in ~~xxxxxxx~~  
Connection, appearing to require my personal  
application to several distant public Offices &c for the  
highest degree of Explanation & Certainty which  
necessary preparation, by Reason of my often or  
rather constant Infirmities & other unavoidable  
avocations, could not yet be accomplished –

Whereupon however all Law-Suits in Existence & Contemplation were dismissed, & the further Examination & Adjudication of my proposed Exhibits of Documents, & Credentials referred to & by said Committee, whereof one has since removed out of the State before I could possibly state those Matters ultimately before them or any other Forum –

By means of which unforeseen Delays & ~~suspensio~~ Suspensions, & other unfavorable Circumstances, Part of my righteous Demands, at least have inevitably become somehow outlawed, whilst my Interest & Inclination & every serious Consideration have a long Time & <sup>all</sup> along strongly ~~urged~~ recommended a Speedy Settlement as consistent with my languishing Health & other more pressing public & domestic ~~Concerns~~ Affairs Therefore on every agreeable Reflection, on long Observation & much Experience, still cherishing a consolatory Opinion, & Hope of Assurance, of your Gratitude & Justice, whatever I may have heretofore & hitherto suffered in Cash or Character, through any Mistakes, I can not yet be persuaded to believe the Town (as such at large) however superior in Numbers, Wealth & consequential Powers & Influence can wish to wrong a faithful Servant –  
~~xxx xxx xxxx~~ And being more & more if possible every Day & every Way Desirous & Necessitated to close a Settlement of all Accounts soon as possible, am advised & encouraged to make this frank address & supposed reasonable Request, that thereupon you will not only be Just & kind enough to revoke said special Interdiction

but

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but also particularly instruct your Select Men, with or without such other respectable & unexceptionable Fellow Citizens, of this Town or else where as I could readily nominate a Dozen or Score, more or less, in whose Candour & Impartiality although in Opposition & Antagonists in this Question, I could never the less cheerfully confide & rest determined, in order to save Cost & Expedite the Business to general if not universal Satisfaction, to liquidate adjust & finally Settle all my Claims according to the sacred rules of Justice & Equity ~~xxxxxxx~~ whenever I

may be able to attend thereon any outlawry  
Notwithstanding —  
And in Duty bound shall ever pray  
Gentlemen your most ~~obliged~~ obedient  
obliged, grateful & Humble Servant  
Jedidiah Strong

[Reverse]  
Jedidiah Strong's Memorial  
Voted to the  
Previous Question  
Taken Dec<sup>r</sup> 7 95

Small Acquisitions; Jedediah Strong collection (2010-122-0)  
Litchfield Historical Society  
Helga J. Ingraham Memorial Library  
7 South Street  
P.O. Box 385  
Litchfield, Connecticut 06759