

W
Mr. William Hayes

West Milton

Saratoga City
New York



New-York March 15th 1832

My dear friend

It is now rather a long period since I left your hospitable family last, and I should have addressed you by letter perhaps before this time. If I had had any thing of interest to communicate I should doubtless have informed you of it ere this. Some weeks since I wrote a letter to Mr. John Wilson imparting such intelligence as I thought of general interest to the congregation; nor has there any thing occurred since, either in my own prospects or in outward circumstances worthy of special notice. My own health has been generally good and I have been constantly and laboriously employed during the whole winter. Mr. & Mrs. Seed has been constantly with me at my father's and her health appears to be somewhat improved. Mylie is well, and is a very smart and thriving child. I expect in a week or two to take them on to Phil^a. to make a visit, and I shall have then three

when I return to Selway. My father's health is still
but feeble, and he has officiated but little since
I came down to the city. For the greater part of
the time he is confined to his own room.

With the whole congregation I sympathize in the
loss sustained by Mr Gardner's decease. I feel
as if one of its pillars had been removed.

All these considerations tend to increase my regret
at my own necessary absence from them. They
need the steady administration of the ordinances,
among them, and as I am still their pastor I
cannot remain satisfied, that they are in want.

I can say very little that is encouraging with
reference to my return. But I have come
to the resolution that I will either remain
permanently with them in the performance
of all necessary pastoral duties, or ask a
dissolution of the relationship that they may
be provided with one who can pay to them
the exclusive attention which they deserve.

I love the people, I wish them well for time
and eternity, and I commend them all to God.
I will return about the first of May and then

arrangements must be made for future movements.
There is nothing new here. The Spring seems to
be very dilatory in opening and it is even now
very cold. I am very anxious to hear from
you, how you have passed the winter, and in
what condition ~~your~~ horses &c are. Be so good
as write me immediately every thing respecting your
family and the congregation that would be interest-
ing to me. I shall always retain a remembrance
of the kindness of your family to me and ~~mine~~
should an opportunity offer I should like to
tell ~~as~~ my gratitude by something more
substantial than words. Please give
my respects to Mrs. Hayes and the
children, to Sam and Beal and all inquiring friends.
Do not forget to present my compliments to Mr. Thayer
-son and Jane, if I had had any thing worth com-
municating I would have written to myself.
I received a letter from Mr. Wilson a few days since
which I will answer on the first leisure moment.

I conclude at present, and remain
your sincere friend
John A. McLeod

Mrs. W. Hayes
Calvary -