1810, May 12

Hartford Saturday

I am just informed that you are now in Northampton and I therefore seize this opp.y to give you a short statement of my transactions there. My plan I before developped to you. — I had directed my agent the last winter to make a number of purchases of Coal rights, some of which were effected others had promised and the generality were disposed to sell at a small price. I left North.n for New Haven directing my agent ~~there~~ at South Hadley, who not suspecting any rivalship in a speculation like this had delayed concluding all the bargains, to finish them immediately. — I knew Nichols was coming on but from my having ~~had~~ laid open the R. I Coal to the World (as you know) which saved him from bankruptcy, and from having been so instrumental in procuring a Charter for this Comp.y, I left South Hadley without any fear of him. — I had scarcely left when he came down to the canal, where he was introduced by the respectable name of Mr Perkins of Boston, and before he was discovered made two considerable purchases of Coal rights; One of which the Owner in the morning had agreed to call in the afternoon to receive the money for of my agent. — This and a number of details equally dishonorable to Mr Nichols can be well substantiated. I send them to you for your own government and desire you at the same time to communicate them to Col. Perkins