Litchfield May 8th 1820

My Dear Sir

With diffidence and with emotions I cannot describe I now address on a subject the importance of which will be a sufficient apology for the liberty I have thus taken.

You are perhaps ignorant that an attachment exists between your daughter and myself and deeming it improper to permit that attachment to increase and strengthen without the consent of yourself and Mrs Conard. — the only true and honourable course for me to pursue is to inform you of our situation and for our mutual happiness and welfare request that consent and approbation which my vanity has flattered myself to believe you would bestow.

As to the respectability of my connection you are too well aquainted with the chief actors on our political stage to need information

As to any you may require of my situation and standing in society — I refer you to the communication which your daughter