Litchfield May 15 1820

My Dear Sir

I now address you on subject the nature of which I am sorry to say ought to have been a sufficient stimulus for communicating it to you sooner.

You are perhaps not aware that an attachment has existed for some time between a young Lady of this town and myself. It was from frequently seeing her at the houses of persons whom I visited in town that our intimacy commenced. — The sweetness of her disposition and the modesty of her demeanour and in fact every requisite in the compound of a fine were conceived in her — her good qualities were the inexaustible theme of her teachers and her associates — I was pleased with her — I visited her at her boarding house — my visits were politely though modestly received, It was a duty that I owed to you as a parent to have advised with you on so momentous a subject, and an still greater one, before I entered into an engagement which must effect the honour and credit of the family. I continued my visits and