

July 26th 1838

Dear Kate,

I fear dear sister, that you have thought me negligent in not answering your last letter before this; but when I tell that I have no need for my baby and that my time is almost wholly occupied in attending to her I hope that you will consider it a sufficient excuse. We have just returned from the funeral of poor John Hart who was struck by lightning yesterday afternoon as he was returning to his own place from town, he took shelter under a tree from the rain and from all appearances must have been instant-ly killed, he was found an hour or two after the storm by one of his neighbors who was going into town. The first that his father wife heard of it, was from the man who had discovered the body and told her without the slightest preparation, poor creature I pity her sincerely