

Woburn 29 of Aug 1799

Dear Madam

I have received your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> but by the distressing sickness which has for so long time grievously afflicted my late dear companion in life and which ended in her dissolution the 8<sup>th</sup> inst, has prevented my answer to it. — this time However the bills have been ready for your order ever since the period for drawing them commenced — in addition to all my trouble I have to lament with you that we are not to see (that Man favoured above all men) your Dear Son & his daughter in this country the present season

For by two letters from the countess to M<sup>rs</sup> Baldwin one dated the 16 March the other the 6 Apr<sup>l</sup> last which we recivd a little before M<sup>rs</sup> Baldwins death, we were first made acquainted with this disappointment. Salley was very well at the date of both those letters & desired to be remembered to all her relations & friends. —

I have this day received a letter from you son the Count dated the 14 of March last with a paragraph in it which seems to belong to you, as well as myself, and notwithstanding there is too much in it that will excite our regret yet there is something to elevate & add Satisfaction to the mind, the paragraphy is as follows

"My Dear friend,

"I will not attempt to describe the pain  
to  
=full disappointment I felt at being obliged ^ give  
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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through  
Maine Historical Society

Date: August 19, 1799

Description: Loammie Baldwin on Count Rumford.

"friends in America this year, a small pamphlet which you will receive with this letter will acquaint you with the reasons that have induced me to postpone my intended voyage: and you will, I am confident agree with me in opinion that I have done right in sacrificing the pleasure that voyage would have afforded me, to the most important object to which my attention has been call'd. I beg you would be so kind as to give my dear mother the earliest notice of this change in my plans, and that you would at the same time endeavour to give her just ideas of the very great importance of the undertaking in which I have been call'd upon to give my assistance;— and show her how impossible it was for me to refuse that assistance especially as it was asked in a manner so honourable to myself, and as the success of the undertaking will be productive of so much good, and will place me in so distinguished a situation in the eyes of the world and of posterity, — you will I am persuaded find little difficulty in persuading her that I have done perfectly right, and in reconciling her to the disappointment she will naturally feel at not seeing me arrive in America at the time appointed. <sup>here end the paragraph</sup> I think madam, that after this elegant & reasonable Appology nothing that I can say will do any good.

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The pamphlet which the Count alludes to, is the plan of  
a new Institution for founding a society for  
of the British dominion. <sup>(The pamphlet is now with the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Governor & it must come with the title)</sup> <sup>capitol</sup> the principal management  
of which, I understand is intrusted to his care.  
There is ano<sup>r</sup> consolation for us that tho, we do not  
see him this year, his visit is only postponed for by  
a paragraph in a letter he wrote to Doct<sup>r</sup> Walter  
I find that he has not given<sup>up</sup> the design but means  
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1799. I have asked Mr Sam<sup>l</sup> Clapp if he will be kind  
enough to take the bills & dispose of them & send you  
the proceeds &c. agreeably to your desire, and he  
says that he will; but advises by all means not  
to dispose of them<sup>just</sup> at this time if you can do  
without; for bills are selling now at 10 p<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>t</sup> or  
more under par. he thinks they will be higher in  
in a short time.  
I wish you would let your son Josiah know  
that his mother Thompson is very desirous of  
seeing him at Woburn soon as possible  
Please to remember me to your good Husband your  
sons & Daughters & all enquiring friends. And am with  
much respect your friend & humble servant  
M<sup>rs</sup> Ruth Pierce Loammie Baldwin

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