June 23, 1826

Think not my dear daughter, that I have been silent through want of seeing—I have sympathized with you in the repeated sorrows which you have been called to endure in the last two years. It was with the relatives, over the remains of a brave, unfortunate benevolent man, a kind affectionate & tender companion of life, whom he is gone to join in the world of spirits, separated from whom he has never been, appears to enjoy life or share in its pleasures. His parting with us, two years since, was most tender & affectionate; it left a deep impression upon my mind—so that I shuddered at his face no more. I thought to have gone before him, and may it not be in vain, that we have been thus summoned—may we be led to apply our hearts unto wisdom.

In a letter which I received from John of the last of May, he writes thus of his uncle Justin, "there never was a more noble soul, or more generous spirit animated him than his was. He had all the ability, and all the disposition to dispense the many blessings which he possessed I shall never forget, but shall always remain alive with gratitude for his exertions, by sacrifices to make us comfortable about him. Poor fellow, he little thought he should so soon be called to mourn over an officer still dear to him."

There is another subject. I should write to you upon, because I feel as tho I was responsible for the happiness of her who was early given to my care. I have seen her natural disposition had my fears least some passionating youth not worthy of her, should engage her affections, and that would be done with merit, exposing that confidence in me, which would be her safeguard, and security. I once, with some concern, communicated my fears to you..."