

De Kalb, July 31, 1806

My Dear Sir (Wm. Cooper),

I have to inform you that as yet there is no joiners work done to the hotel, more than when I last wrote. Your brother has provided a good large quantity of stuff for the hotel. We have been obliged to get along with Whitmarsh as well as we could; he has worked faithfully. He has lathed almost the whole of the house, leaving places for the wash and floorboards and casements. He has done the chief part of the furring and laid loose boards for the floors so that he could lath. Mr. Cleghorn has assisted considerable. Carver has come when called. If the joiner work was done Whitmarsh would be able to go about the plastering immediately. He is very uneasy and says he cannot be upon his oars at so much expense for nothing, if the Hotel is not put in a situation for him to go on with his work. He has taken a job of Mr. Stacy, which will last him about twenty days, and then he must be idle without the Hotel is put in a situation for him to finish it. But the great difficulty will be lyme. On opening Holt's kiln to the disappointment of us all, there is no lyme: and Whitmarsh says it has took so much for the chimneys, that he shall want at least a 100 bushels more than you have got. He will want a good deal I am certain. What shall be done? Campbell would have been able to have got to work at the Hotel very soon, had he been well. He has been sick which has put him back so that he will not be able to finish the Doctor's House under some (?); and the Doctor will not release him to work at the Hotel. The reason is he expects to take wife soon, and he wants a shelter for her. Workmen are to be got, but I do not know the terms upon which you would hire. Whitmarsh's case seems hard to him. Two men by the name of Eggleston & Walker are making the sash upon the terms you agreed with Jackson. And would work after the sash was finished, if they knew it would be agreeable to you. If you can possibly come out soon I think it would be for your interest. Or if you will give me particular and explicit orders, I will endeavor to obey them.

Mr. Cleghorn has got his cloth & your letter; but he has not been able to get any person to work the ore bed. I have taken an inventory and find our concern in a better situation than I expected. When you come in this quarter I wish you would fetch Walton's freight bill. Walton & Turner of Utica have sent a man here without the freight of goods bot of K&S last fall. The impression on my mind is that those goods were included in Walton's Bill. I paid the bill, but made him leave me a note, that if the money had previously been paid to J. Walton of Schenectady it should be paid back on demand.

I am dear sir yours, sincerely,

Th. B. Benedict