

Centerville: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1846

Dear Madam:

Yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> Ult. postmarked the 28<sup>th</sup> was received yesterday (Sunday) and although pressed with public business (having to make my quarterly report to the Treasurer this day) I hasten to reply to remove from your mind the impressions arising from a most erroneous construction of my letter to you of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the last month. In that letter I expressly stated that I knew Mr. Gilman to be an honest man, and I may add once for all, I never for a moment supposed him capable of a dishonest or dishonorable act. All that I meant to say was, that he was not infallible, but like all other men, was liable to error, and had erred in the claims he left on his books against me. This I think was very far from charging him with dishonorable conduct, and I must now be permitted to express my surprise that such a construction should have been given to my letter. And that there may be in future no mistake in regard to this matter, I now reassert that I have never directly or indirectly intended to cast the least imputation on the character of Major Gilman, for whom I entertained a sincere respect and regard, and which I believed had been fully reciprocated to the hour of his death, until recently apprised by you that his feelings towards me for a short time had been estranged in consequence of the award made by the late Judge Earle and myself between him and the late Mr. E. Gilman.

It is however a source of gratification to me