

Dear Sir

After writing the inclosed letter to the Governor it occurred to me that knowing nothing of the case except from the printed trial in the newspapers it would be proper that I should submit it to you before putting it in the mail addressed to him. Please return it to me after perusal with any remarks you may deem proper. I have no acquaintance with Professor Webster or his family - yet I can readily appreciate the anguish of their condition - especially that of his poor wife and daughters. Like the jury, as they say, "I have sought counsel of heaven," and the result is a clear and firm impression, that "under the law and evidence," the verdict was utterly unjustifiable and its execution would be adding another to the already too long catalogue of judicial murders.

Yours respectfully

James V. Roosevelt

Hon
Judge Merrick



New York April 7th 1850