S. Chamber 2d July 1838

My Dear Lee

I received your friendly letter through Mr. Carroll, proposing a visit to myself and other friends to your residence before or after the adjournment of Congress. I should be delighted to be able to accept your kind invitation; for I recollect with the most lively satisfaction the agreeable days I passed with you and Mrs. Lee on a former occasion. But I have been so long absent from home, and am so desirous of rejoining my family, that I cannot be tempted even by the attractions of Redwood to pause on the way.

I have consulted several other of the gentlemen proposed by you to form the party, and they two are so anxious to reach their respective homes that they are not disposed to go without me, and probably would not go with me. Mr. Bayard and I have therefore concluded it best to inform you of the regret which we feel on account of not being able to accept your friendly hospitality.

Do me the favor to present my best respects to Mrs. Lee and say to her that my disappointment in seeing her increases my regrets.

I am faithfully
Your friend
H. Clay

John Lee Esq.

1337

Hon. Henry Clay
July 2, 1838
Received July 4 –

John Lee Esq.
Redwood
near Petersville
Frederick Co.
Md.

Free H. Clay

MdHS 1974 [1412-1337]