

Three Rivers Mass March 20<sup>th</sup> 1840

Friend A. W. S. Esq  
Dear Sir I should like  
very well to hear from You. I have been trying  
this 4 weeks to come home. But our Books are so  
Behind hand, that I cannot come yet. & when I do  
not know. Probably not in 3 or 4 weeks. I shall now  
Excuse Your neglect of Writing to me. on account  
of Your Expecting me home. The times are so  
dull here that there is nothing hardly going on  
The Agent feels much discouraged. on account of  
the Country's being in such a dull state. The  
Manufacture People think that all business must  
stop. unless we are protected By a tariff and a Good  
one I think that If the rest of the duties comes  
off that our W. S. will be ruined And it must  
take place if the people do not take it in hand  
Under the present Administration our Country  
must run down We ought to have a Protecting  
Tariff one that will Excommunicate all Importations  
on Articles that we can Manufacture ourselves  
And unless something is done Soon thousands  
& thousands will be out of employ Congress says  
we will Give the Manufacturer Cheap Labour;  
You reduce the price of Labour and You reduce  
Everything on Earth Because it is the honest and most  
over

