

Northampton County, North Carolina  
 February 16<sup>th</sup> - 1797

Dear Brother -

Our Worthy Brother Wm Brame came to my  
 House last evening & in our discourse he  
 informed me, that he was acquainted with  
 a Preacher named Isaac Backus calling to  
 mind the reading of a Piece of your Letter  
 forth some Years past, caused me to crave  
 the happiness of seeing your face in Time  
 but thinking of the Distance being so great  
 & the many Years <sup>not</sup> that we have both seen can  
 expect it, therefore have made bold to  
 write to you <sup>as a</sup> stranger; Dear Brother some  
 years past the candle of the Lord seemed to  
 shine among us, sinners were crying  
 for Mercy & Saints rejoicing in the Lord  
 but our present state seems to be much  
 to the reverse, many have lately departed  
 from the Faith & is to be feared given  
 heed to seducing spirits, Iniquity abo  
 unding & the love of <sup>an</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> ~~Warring~~ <sup>Warring</sup> Cold, which  
 causes me many times to complain of my hard  
 ness, & makes me often crave the Prayers of  
 all them that know the truth, If we cannot  
 by your Personal Presence we hope to be <sup>heard</sup> ~~remembered~~  
 in Prayer, so I do with a sincere desire that the  
 Lord may add many <sup>to</sup> ~~be~~ to your Ministry  
 & your last Days may be your best Days, I am