

FROM HORACE MANN the Younger,
Monday 18 February 1788

Cotesmore near Stamford, Feb. 18, 1788.

My dear Sir,

YOUR friendly inquiries would have been more grateful to me, if they had been conveyed by your own hand. My constitution has sympathized with yours, as I now hope you do in recovery. After some severity of pain, I am again stout, and able to encounter every fatigue of the country. I must, however, soon quit my situation. I must again revisit Italy, but how different are my impressions to what they formerly were! When filial affection and gratitude were the motives and rewards of my journey, I hesitated not, but now my own credulity has so involved my affairs there, that nothing I could do by the agency of others can restore them. My uncle's unbounded benevolence has created numberless importunities, which I am unable to satisfy. I must go to settle every claim; to dispose of all the furniture for the benefit of the servants, and possibly of all the plate to liquidate every demand. The government here not only refuse every compensation, but I am not even thought worthy by Mr Pitt of having answers to my letters. Such is the treatment to which I must submit.

When I return to London, I will not fail to bring the letters you have mentioned. I will at the same time bring the dimensions of the monument at Linton, that you may judge in what manner to pay a tribute of friendship to a man who deserved it of you. I fear very little can be done in the small space that can be allotted to it.—Adieu, my dear Sir, with the sincerest regard and respect, I am

Your most affectionate and most obliged servant,

HORACE MANN