Worcester, August 19th, 1842

Mr. John B. Green

Dear Sir,

I suppose to several letters from you which remain unseen.

I do not particularly remember the contents of these letters, which may occur to my memory, and your must contain very inaccuracies which

I shall hint, as you do on such points, as may occur to me, as well meant, if not so properly expressed, as I knew your good reputations always at heart. I shall hope, my dearest sir, that your name came to be known, as I am getting old; the history of past events may

time to warrant your favor in leisure moments, and I will give my mind to the several inaccuracies which have prevailed, may have impressed any thing particular in my mind. After I had been three years, I have

months living in Groton in this country. I was

persuaded to return to Worcester, or to the change of the old farm of my father, as my brother John who had the charge of the farm, as executor to my

who had control of the farm, as my sister, my mother, my mother-in-law, my father, & to only having hired help on the place, no other interest there is to get their wages. The farm was much men and laborious, but the house which had been formerly repaired in the year that my father—
In complete letter from William E. Green to Doctor John P. Green,
August 19th 1842
[John P. Green Mss. – L]

Worcester August 19th 1842

To Doctor John P. Green
Dear Son,
I have received several letters from you which remain unanswered, and, as I do not particularly remember the contents of them particularly, I shall hint, or touch on such parts, as many over to my memory, & you must pardon my inaccuracies which may occur, & take what is written, as well meant, if not, so properly expressed, as I have your good my dear son always at heart [sic], I shall begin by a relation why your name came to be John, as I am getting old the history of past events may serve to amuse you for a leisure moment, & will give my mind that ease of resolution [sic] which the several anniversaries which have passed may have impressed any thing particular on my mind. After I had been three years, & a few months settled in Grafton in this county, I was persuaded to return to Worcester, & take charge of the old farm of my fathers, as my brother John who had the charge of the farm, as executor to my fathers will, & my sister Mary, & my Mother lived on the farm, and only having hired help on the plow who had no other interest than to get their wages the farm was much run out [Ms. illegible] poor, & the house which had been partially repaired the year that my father
died was in an unfinished state yet tolerably comfortable for the family - The barn was poor no hay floors or stables which were convenient or scarcely comfortable for the cattle. There were a pair of small cattle on the plow four cows small, & one horse which brother John bought & put on the farm he had taken a colt which was deemed from the mare father purchased of old Mr. Starks who formerly lived on the farm where Darius Rice now lives & from which Mare sprung the present breed of horses now on the farm from a steed which was given to my mother by her father Brigadier Timothy Ruggles when my father married her - My brother Timothy was settled in N. York, & having seen the situation of the farm, & knowing the situation of his affairs & the plow or old family farm he with my brother John was urgent to have me leave Grafton & come to Worcester go into partnership with Edward Bangs Esq[ire] an attourney settled in Worcester at that time, & the same with whom I studied law, & after considerable urging I consented to go into company with Esq[ui]r[e] Bangs, & continued in the company thirteen years most of the time residing on the farm, & kept my office in the street untill [sic] Mr. Bangs was appointed under the new arrangement of the Court of Common Pleas & General Sessions of the Peace a Judge of that court - when I continued the practice alone in the same office untill [sic] Mr. Bang's son Edward Dillingham Bangs was admitted to practice & then we went into copartnership for a time years about four I believe & then at the request of Mr. Bangs we dissolved & I opened an office by myself &
I married here in five years after I lost many relations of my early years, and continued to reside with them until the next year, when I went to Boston. I was married there a second time in the year 1789, and lived in Boston until my death in 1793.

I resided in Boston for many years, and continued to reside there until my death. I was married to my second wife in the year 1793, and lived in Boston until my death in 1793.

I resided in Boston for many years, and continued to reside there until my death. I was married to my second wife in the year 1793, and lived in Boston until my death in 1793.
practiced law a few years after & Mr. Bangs continued as Judge untill [sic] he died, & his son continued the practice of the law untill [sic] I was chosen secretary of state of the state of Massachusetts - I now will mention the the [sic] period of my leaving Grafton & came on the old farm where I found every thing, as hardly situated as was possible [sic][.] while [sic] in Grafton I had made nearly 1,500 dollars in money, & I owed no man a dollar[.] I came on to the farm found it was necessary to make some repairs & alter the [Ms. illegible] of carrying on the plow, I repaired the fences built some new walls new [Ms. illegible] the farm barn, & new floored it. I still attended to my professional business, & devoted a few hours each day to the oversight of the farm and generally rose at four O. clock in the morning & was about the oversight of the farm untill eight O. clock in the morning, & after that I went to my office untill [sic] 12 O clock or 1 o'clock came home to dinner & returned to my office generally about 2 o'clock & there continued to attend to seek business as was necessary to be done untill [sic] night, & some times untill [sic] quite late in the evening. All this time I had no tittle [sic] to the farm but was promised a little by brothers John, & Timothy. I continued to take charge of the farm for four years & more, & had expended all my earnings in cultivation [Ms. illegible] farming & repairs untill [sic] I could go no further without a little to the plow Brother Timo[thy] was sunk [Ms. illegible] in his business -
I have no time to write now; my health is very bad and I have much work to do. I hope to write to you again soon.
& brother John the same having neglected to settle his accounts with his patients for many years - at last after much urging brother Tim[oth]ly came on to Worcester with an intention to settle the estate of my father, & as I had always been particular to take bills & receipts for all labor done & business rendered by repairs on the farm it was ascertained that without any pay for my services I had paid out four thousand dollars, brother Timo[thy] then saw that at the price farms were selling at that a settlement which was secured by my fathers will for my mother & two sisters would be defrated [defrayed?] provided I was paid out of the [Ms. illegible] estate, & he wished me to take a deed of the farm, & mortgage it back to him to pay what monies he had advanced to brother Thomas & what my three youngest brothers and I could not agree to that method of doing the business, & I was bound for brother John at that time about four or five thousand dollars - & he was kind to lend me his name but left me from the hurry of his business always to look out & raise money to meet all his, & my own liabilities which harassed me very much, & after Timo[thy] & John & I had consulted several days & had looked over my vouchers for my payments we parted, as I could not do any thing to [Ms. illegible] my mother's or sisters settlements on the estate I concluded to give up my claim for advances & leave the farm, & loose [sic] what I had paid & I was fully determined so to do unless Timothy would take such a deed & execute

Transcribed by Emily S. Dunster