

*[Written by Archie Spaulding in East Thomaston to Rufus Knight in Lincolnville]*

East Thomaston Nov 23 1833

Dear Friend

I received your favor but yesterday In answer I would say that I should feel highly pleased to spend the winter among those whom I have ever esteemed as any real friends in any capacity but especially in that of your Schoolmaster but the situation in which I may find myself placed is so different from what it was five years since that it would be inconvenient for me to accept of your friendly offer I am now bound to New York from whence I expect to return home to remain the rest of the winter but shall probably not get back before the last of December after which I shall have some business to attend which would not permit my leaving the place You can no doubt supply yourself to better advantage than by employing me I feel much obliged to you for the friendly sentimental expressions in your letter and also for the preference given me by the district at large – I hope you are [enjoying] a good state of health. Please to give my respects to your mother brothers and sisters & all enquiring friends from your friend & servant

Archie Spaulding

P.S. I shall probably call up to see you this winter if I live