

Col. William A. Russell

Wilton, N. H.

Washington City Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> 1841

Dear Russell

For an excuse for my long silence, you must look to the absorbing interest ~~of the action~~ felt by all, in the action of Congress, just before the close of the extraordinary session. I am aware that there is no excuse for a neglect of the business of another, by a professional man - And I cannot be justly charged with such a fault in relation to the business, which you have so kindly procured me. That Devil Hagner, as you call him, told <sup>me</sup> that it was wholly useless to present any more of those horse claims, until you had adduced the further evidence, which, (he says in a communication to you) he showed to be indispensably necessary. You have forwarded no such further evidence to me, and of course I could proceed no further.

The claims which you enclosed me, I have placed in in Mr Hagner's office. You will have seen in the papers before the