

I must therefore request thee
 to excuse my ~~own~~ ^{thy}
 compliance with ~~thy~~
 obliging desire -
~~which~~ I am very
 sorry to be obliged to
 return ~~so~~ unaccounted
 a reply to thy enquiries,
 but it cannot be otherwise.

Believe me,
 notwithstanding,
 my equal,
 thy obliged sincere friend

ps. Amelia Speer
 I fear thy present
 work will prevent thy finding leisure
 to write another novel -

Norwich 11th Mo 29th 44

Respected friend,

Pray excuse my
 apparent rudeness in
 not answering thy note
 received some time ago.
 I fancied that I had
 done so -

So obliging a note
 deserved to have been
 answered by return of
 post & would have been
 so if I could have
 prevailed on myself to
 answer it to thy

satisfaction - but I have
always reticently disap-
proved of a plan like
that which thus harshly
communicated to me &
nothing could ever induce
me to assist any one
so engaged, with materials
for my own biography -
When the grace has
closed on me - any
one that denies it
may write a memoir
of me - but never with

my consent, during my
life - If I did it for
any one, I would do it
for those of that be-
liever -

There were three or four
biographies of me written
many years ago when
I first published - without
my knowledge, & approbation
& I have seen myself
in some french work -
but, *Je ne me suis
jamais mise en évidence
moi-même, de cette manière
Là -*