

To the Honorable Court of Common Pleas holden at Litchfield
within & for the County of Litchfield

The serious Memorial, faithful Representation &
constitutional address of Jedidiah Strong of said Litchfield
Humbly Sheweth

That on the memorable first Day of December last,
the Select Men of said Litchfield, without any previous
Inspections, Notice or Examination, Law, Evidence or
just Occasion, or other or better than Consciousness of
being much indebted to him for good Services and
liberal Disbursements to very considerable Amount, &
therefore & for various other Reasons, Causes or Considerations,
instigated by others equally or like wise interested &
concerned, to extinguish his righteous Claims
against them respectively, without any fair
Trial or impartial Hearing thereof, after repeated
antecedent, similar insidious Attempts, did arbitrarily
presume to attempt to contribute, appoint & authorize
Capt. Samuel Seymour of said Litchfield (curiously selected
for the Purpose, however unequal to the Responsibility
of his mistaken Usurpation) to manacle & disable
the Memorialist still further & most effectually,
from taking Care of Himself & Property whilst in
extreme low & singularly emaciated State of Health
& unfortunately already fatigued & still involved in
distracting Cares of interesting, important Business,
particularly the remaining Duties conversant with
the closing Scene of irksome Administration on his Brother's
Estate of many Thousand Pounds Consequence
unhappily desisted by cruel Operation of a Sham
Instrument or political Death Warrant in the Words &
Figures following viz.

Whereas it has been represented to us the Select Men of the Town of Litchfield that
Jedidiah Strong Esq^r by Insanity or Mismanagement
& Bad Husbandry, is likely to waste the little Remains of his
Property & come to Want: We do therefore hereby appoint
Samuel Seymour of said Litchfield to be Overseer to direct
said Strong in the Management of his Business,
accordingly to Law for the Term of one year from
this Date Dated at Litchfield the first Day of December
1798

Heber Stone

James Morris Select Men
Triplicates

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Triplicates whereof were clandestinely attached to the be-
nighted Sign Post, lodged with the Town Clerk & palmed

upon the Memorialization on the 4th of said December accompanied with an ill chosen imperious, gambling, intemperate, indomable, profligate Ruffian & obnoxious Brood of mercenary, vindictive & malign Interlopers, tyrannically thrust in upon the dejected Memorialist & intercept his favorite Progress in Business & Convalescence imbitter every Enjoyment & mar every Delight in Life, not only through unpardonable Neglect & indirect Negation of other Assistance, but actual Exposition to every Description of needless Expense, wanton Havock, concerted Spoliation & determinate Ruin of his Interest, Health, Character Peace, comfort & Happiness, till gradually reduced to utmost extreme Experiment or Effects of Sufferings & intolerable Want of Necessaries as well as Comfort of Life And though he has ever since, apparently remained incorrigible & even at utmost Remove from any visible Signs or discernable Symptoms or Indications of Reformation, however patiently enduring Persecution on Principle as usual, yet neither said Samuel nor his Constituents, Employers or Promptors or others, have attempted further Persecution of the Law respecting him or his Estate (whereof he had a very considerable Amount in Possessions & Reversion Exclusive his Deposit on the Town Treasury as aforesaid) otherwise than by (worse than in Total Neglect) violent Invasion & direct or indirect Devastation & profuse Waste, in a shocking Series of variable Instances, to enormous Amount in the Aggregate & inexpressible Disadvantage All which he has hitherto, or to this hopeful Day, endured with unparralleled Patience till irresistable Conviction of obligatory self Preservation compels this dutiful Mode of constitutional Application for immediate Redress of intolerable Grievances, by present Relief & reasonable Provision for future probationary Subsistence, Comfort & usefulness to Himself & others, Connections or otherwise in chearful Obedience to the indispensable Requisitions of the sixth Command of the Decalogue dictating & originating most sincerely A Humble, importunate Request That whereas the Group or Hordes of insidious Aggressors combined against a disarmed, defenceless Prisoner (conscious of no ^{other} Provocation (or worse) than a busy Life interspersed with various Scenes or Series of distinguished good Services

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& eminent utility, with irreprehensible Fidelity &
alas ^{attended & followed} ~~accompanied~~ with too much Success__
involving consequential, enviable Influence &
Respectability and proportionate Persecution)
have so effectually squandered, entangled or
embarrassed his patrimonial Estate and
depreciated his Health & Abilities, that he cannot
now help Himself, at least with that Promptitude
Magnanimity, Perseverance & Decision which the
Exigency of his peculiar Situation & Circumstances,
his Sufferings & Prospects & especially the Justice
of his singular Cause requires, that your Honors
will supersede or relieve the said Samuel as Overseer
by substituting some more impartial & therefore
less exceptionable Nonresident, personally capable,
qualified & disposed, (instead of yielding to combined
Exertions to inodiate, thwart, perplex, subjugate &
ruin him and involve, prejudice & pervert his
Connections, Interest & every sublunary Dependence)
to espouse, pursue & defend his Cause & Emolument
with occasional Propriety & undaunted to Fidelity-
To shield him from further [?sions torn] of
any implacable juncto or individual, sworn
antagonist, pursuant the dutiful Track of
seasonable suitable Retribution in some most
notorious Instances of Wrongs & Injuries –
Or otherwise grant expedient Relief
Your Honors respectful Memorialist seriously
contemplating his forlorn situation, ruminating
on the obvious & occult Causes or ostensible &
real Instruments of it in & through Extremes
of human or inhuman Vicissitude, & thereupon
viewing Himself as strangely arrived to a
suitable Stage of Life to choose a Guardian,
begs Leave to nominate Nehemiah Strong Esquire of
New Milford, late Professor &c former Preceptor &
Triennial Tutor of the Memorialist And ever since
Commencement of that Collegiate Acquaintance &
correspondent Relation, regarded as most respectable,
confidential Patron & otherwise esteemed singularly
qualified & calculated as a Christian Philosopher
to take the domestic Helm & memorate, reform
&

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retrieve the unfortunate Memorialist, his
deplorable Condition & circumstance & all interesting

Concerns, and especially (an eligible & preferable Character) for as much as much of important urgent, unfinished Business still remains on Hands of the Memorialist as Administrator as aforesaid & otherwise, always more & more emphatically demanding immediate Negotiation in Person or by judicious fiduciary Proxy — Whilst your Honors may forever afterwards entertain & cherish a pleasing Reflection on such opportune Subrogation as not only peculiarly beneficial, as well as gratifying to a better deserving grateful, suffering, languishing Victim, but more especially productive of general & particular distributive & commutative Justice in desirable Extent among those intimately concerned — And finally, especially and forever as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.
Litchfield 24th Sept^r 1799 Jedidiah Strong

Litchfield 25th Sept^r 1799
I hereby freely signify and manifest my full & explicit Consent and Wishes that Nehemiah Strong Esq^r may be appointed (in my Room & stead) Overseer or Conservator of the Memorialist agreeably to his foregoing Request

Samuel Seymour

Jedediah Strong
Memorial Sept.^r 1799

Small Acquisitions; Jedediah Strong collection (2010-122-0)
Litchfield Historical Society
Helga J. Ingraham Memorial Library
7 South Street
P.O. Box 385
Litchfield, Connecticut 06759