Dear young friend,

Having your note from the last copy, asking my approval of an engagement between yourself and my daughter, here is my answer. I do not have any respect for them generally, or any feeling of regret for them. Such a union would not suit the character of my feelings. I know that the young man who affairs it was worthy of her. That he is a good fellow and not a jolly fellow but a good young man...
that he is of a kindly disposition, industrious & persevering - if it can be inferred of these qualities I may expect our Heavenly Father helping upon theirs - union and shall say yes - Then may think it strange - Varm, what I know nothing of my character either as a boy or as a young man - but to let you day daughter in the church I cannot.

My daughter has been friendly I suddenly brought up - been well educated and will make the man - she can through her respect or lose a first rate wife
Her happiness is far clearer to me than any material life. I thought I carried her fall into the hands of any one with mischief.

[Signature]

but too soon it passed away.

And now, what will become of me?
I think it's hard enough in the N.W. and it seems almost a sort of being a fact. But still I think you'll be able to arrange it.

I don't know that you will be able to do it better. So it may as well go.

My dear James,

I have liked this. I will send it, if not I will let it stand over for a time, or what. Show it to nobody — let no one see it — whether it goes or not.

S.R. Jr.

If it is sent I shall have to direct it myself after a fashion.