Dear Sir

Hamburg S.C.
25 October 1854

Your letter ought to have been received some time ago but I have been absent from Hamburg. I am at a loss what to do in regard to the subject of your letter. Dr. Cobb is just as he was with no prospect of a reformation but he has many companions in this community and I shall by taking the course you desire bring upon myself the hostility of his relations who may do me some private injury.

It would afford me pleasure in assisting your daughter in the very justifiable course she is about to take.

I think your best plan is to persuade some one of your representatives to visit Hamburg & stay a few days and he will be able to collect information from all quarters and that information delivered by a member to the North Carolina legislature will have more effect than certificates - If you cannot persuade one of your members or some friend of influence to come, your next best plan would be to employ a lawyer of Augusta (say J. B. Miller) to take affidavits of citizens here & send them on.

With great respect W. W. Starke.

My respects to Elbert - Mr. Starke desires to be remembered &c.