



Cornell University Library

BOUGHT WITH THE INCOME
FROM THE
SAGE ENDOWMENT FUND
THE GIFT OF
Henry W. Sage
1891

A.130641

11/11/899

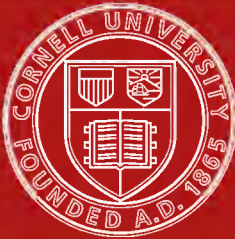
Cornell University Library
F 1583 B941899

Selections from letters written by Edwar



3 1924 028 861 586

olin



Cornell University Library

The original of this book is in
the Cornell University Library.

There are no known copyright restrictions in
the United States on the use of the text.

<http://archive.org/details/cu31924028861586>



The Burd Papers.

SELECTIONS

FROM

LETTERS WRITTEN

BY

EDWARD BURD.

1763—1828.

EDITED BY

LEWIS BURD WALKER.

1899.

One hundred and thirty copies of this book have been printed, each signed and numbered ; of which, numbers 1 to 12 are on Holland hand-made paper ; and Nos. 13 to 130, are on Dickinson paper. This copy is No. 116

Lewis B. Walker

PREFACE.

Edward Burd, the son of Colonel James and Sarah (Shippen) Burd, was born February 5th, 1751. He studied law with his Uncle, Chief Justice Edward Shippen, whose daughter Elizabeth he married on December 13th, 1778. He was appointed Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on September 1st, 1778; and held the office until his resignation on Dec. 29th, 1805.

Upon the outbreak of the Revolution, he was chosen Major, and was taken prisoner by the British, in the disastrous battle of Long Island. He died in Philadelphia, July 24th, 1833.

The Letters from which the following selections were made number over 800 and cover a period of sixty-five years.

I desire especially to acknowledge my obligation to Dr. Alfred Whelen, of Philadelphia, for his courtesy in allowing the use of the very large body of letters in his possession; the letters (Wh) being used to designate those from his collection. I have also added all letters that I could find of interest, in the Shippen Mss. in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; together with the "Burd Papers" in my own hands.

SELECTIONS

—FROM—

EDWARD BURD'S LETTERS.

To Sarah Burd.

Philada. May 19th, 1763.

Dear Sister :

I am very sorry for the Death of sister Betsy, but we must console ourselves for her for we must all die some time or other and we ought to prepare for Death for it may come unexpectedly, & if in this world we are good, we will be in everlasting happiness hereafter, but if bad, in everlasting misery.

Please to deliver the inclosed pieces to Daddy Shippen. I have met with an Exercise book & now send the old one back for Brother Allen. Nancy remembers her kind love to you all.

Please to give my Duty to Daddy & mammy Burd, daddy & mammy Shippen & Love to Brother & Sisters & all the Family.

I am with great Tenderness

Your most affectionate & Loving Brother,
Edward Burd.

To J. Burd.

Lancaster, Dec. 26, 1764.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

My Grandpapa has been so kind to send Peter down for me and I came here on Saturday & yesterday being Christmas Day we all dined at mammy Shippens where we only wanted your good company to make us happy. I have no News worth your notice but refer you to the papers where you may observe that Lieutenant Brehme & three other officers went down the Straights in 3 Row Gallies with 60 Men to reconnoitre the Camp of the Savages; and 200 of them were in Canoes & one Batteau; ye latter of which bore down favoured by a continual fire of 150 Savages from each Shore upon Lieutenant Brehme's Stern with 30 Savages in it, & he thought it best to pour his grape Shot into her, which he did so effectually that he soon cleared it of 29; & the other fellow paddled ashore, whom he could easily have taken, only that the Canoes began to advance & he played upon them, & they retreated; their loss must have been very great in 3 hours firing.

Mammy, Daddy & Mammy Shippen Granny Gray & Miss Patty, Brother & Sister, & all the Family conclude with me in wishing you a merry Christmas & happy New Year and a continuation of them.

To Sarah Burd.

Philadelphia, April 28th, 1765.

Dear Sister :

I received your acceptable favour the 28th March, & must own I have been a little tardy in answering it. I dont doubt your good nature has suggested many things in my behalf upon account of your repeated disappointments. Though I hardly think that after all, you have hit the Nail upon the head. To keep you no longer in suspence, I will disclose all to you.

I have now been two weeks in College laboring for Dr. Alison's opinion, which when once granted, will not easily be lost. I will proceed to make you acquainted with the ceremony of entering College. About three weeks ago our Class was alarmed with the News of being examined by the Trustees. Luckily we had three days to prepare for it. All which time we were much afraid of the Issue. I sat up until eleven O'clock & rose before five studying very hard. At length the much dreaded day arrived. We are conducted into the Electricity room; where the Rev'd Mr. Duchee, Mr. Stedman, Dr. Alison, & Mr. Beveridge were assembled.

You may inform Grandpapa that we were first desired to translate a piece out of English into Latin, then we were examined in Horace & lastly in Homer. The public Examination of the Senior Class was next day; when we were again desired to attend at the Electricity Room. Mr. Stedman spoke as follows viz: "On account of your Yesterday's extraordinary performance Ye are admitted into College." Uncles,

Aunts & Cousins & particularly Cousin Stirling desire to be remembered to all their relations in your part of the Province, in which I sincerely join.

P. S. Please to tell Grandpapa that I could hardly squeeze time to write this but I will certainly send what he desires in my next short letter.

To. Col. James Burd.

Philadelphia, September 18th, 1765.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I send you here inclosed the Key that belongs to Sister Molly's Desk, for which I dont suppose she'll be very sorry. She may clear the Desk of my Papers, and what you think proper to be laid by she'll put in the Drawer. Some of Mama's Letters are there deposited by herself; and a Counterfeit Journal and Log Book of mine. In my last I forgot to remind you of your Promise, viz: that of sending me a bass and fine String for my Violin.

We have had advice lately of a joyful change in the ministry, for which last night the mob made a bon-fire and burnt an effigy for our stamper, and surrounded his house, whooping and hallooing, which caused him to load his arms. I heartily wish that you may be successful in the ensuing election. I believe the Quakers will leave out Hughes and Gallo-way this time. Some think that Bucks will do something, but that is uncertain. The Dutch express a great detestation to Hughes' party.

To his Sister, Sarah Burd. Oct. 5th, 1765.

It is with extreme Satisfaction I received your agreeable Favour of the 22nd Inst. & beg you will congratulate Papa in my name that his Interest was so good in the Borough, as to be elected its chief Magistrate. But in Exchange for your good News, mine will create Sorrow in every patriotic Breast. This 5th day of October will be as memorable in Pennsylvania as the fifth day of November is in England, for from hence we may date our Slavery. The Ship in which the Stamp Papers are deposited is here arrived. But for the Quakers' Consolation they have entirely gained the Election. And what is more cutting, the Votes for Burgesses are balanced.

Be so good as to acquaint Papa I had not, (nor indeed do I as yet know when I shall have) time to send up the Portmanteau. We have already naturalized near two thousand Germans. Each of whom pays two Dollars, one fourth to Uncle Joseph & the Remainder to Uncle Edward. I believe the Court will last a long while. I should be sorry to hear that Sister Molly is so noisy as to carry a Bell among her acquaintances which you reckon such a pretty Accomplishment.

To Col. J. Burd.

Nov. 26 1765.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I was exceedingly disappointed in my expectations of receiving your Epistle—and gladly embrace Mr. Yeates' offer of carrying my Letter. I ended a List of Germans, naturalized this Supreme Court, the Day before Uncle came Home. They filled up (or I should have said above) a Quire of Paper. Their Number was 2650. I began Euclid again, and am at present in the middle of the third Book. I hope I shall soon have the Start of my Class.

I had lately the Pleasure of seeing Mr. — Anderson my third Cousin, arrive from Scotland in seven Weeks Passage A likely Lad, whom I take to be about seventeen Years of Age, who says our Relations are well in Scotland. I proposed your Corresponding with him at New York where he is going to an Officer, his Uncle. Inclosed is his Letter of Recommendation from Mrs Allan. He gave it me unsealed which I transmit in the same Manner. Mr. Black with whom he lodges will shortly go to Scotland.

I was sorry to hear of Grandmama's Indisposition & wish her a speedy Recovery. Be pleased to give my Love & Duty to Mama, Grand Papa and Mama, & Granney Gray. My Love to Brother Josey or Rosy and Sister &c.

To Col. J. Burd.

Philada. 24. Feby. 1765.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I received your most acceptable Favor of the 11th just at a time when I was longing for it very much. I am very sorry your Letter did not come sooner to hand, (I received it the 20th Inst) for it has been the loss of your opportunity. Mr. John Black exported himself to go to Edinburg between the Date of your Favour and this letter without my being advertised of it. I must beg leave to send the Receipt of Messrs Willing & Morris in my next as the intermediate time is so short since the Receipt of your Favour.

Dear Papa, how could you criticise upon my Expressions. I mistook the Name of my Brother, and thought he merited the Appellation of Rosy being so sweet a child. I send inclosed a great Number of Names but very little Variety, thinking that the Choice depended upon the Capitals & that a plain Way was best, tho, indeed I cannot flourish.

News I have none — Unless that Abraham, Uncle Edward's Negro Boy, stole ten Dollars of Uncle's Money under my care—and has confessed. I had received a considerable Sum of Money for Uncle in Dollars. I put them in an open Closet in the Office, locked the Office Door, & put the Key in my Pocket, he got in a back Window as he confesses, & took a handful of Dollars out of the Closet which he found afterwards to be ten in Number. He also robbed Aunt Shippen of £80 in Gold of which she has recovered but £40. He was clapped in Gaol, was

whipped & sent off to Madeira.

Mr. Henderson has already gone to New York the Ship having only touched here for a few days.

I must always plead hurry; I assure you it has always been the case. I now intend to have my Letter always ready, & then I can have them wrote at my Leisure, I am much afraid that the young Man whom I intend the Bearer has already sett off. Be pleased to give my Love and Duty to our Family as you think proper, I have not time to be particular.

— —

To Sarah Burd.

Philadelphia, January 14th, 1767.

Dear Sister:

I did not receive your beautiful Letter of the 26th Novem till the 10th Dec. since when I have been busy about the Mayor's Court which was the Reason of my missing some Opportunities.

All my little Cousins & Cousin Peggy Willing begun the New Year by celebrating your Birth-Day at our Batchelor Uncle's, where they all were highly diverted, little Neddy goes to the Academy & reads in Æsop's Fables.

There is a Nest of Robbers here which makes the People more careful about their Houses. Two Fellows, Hagarty & Morrison at Noon Day went into the Street Door of the Gov.rs House & stole two Silver Candlesticks out of the Pantry at the other End of the House: they were happily detected & have

received their Punishment. The same Morrison went into a Tavernkeeper's House (before the other Theft) & bore off a man's great Coat from the Back of his Chair, while he warmed himself at the Fire, but was not caught. The same two Fellows & Consiglio & Bowman went into a Tavernkeeper's House & carried off a Mahogany Chest full of Player's Cloathes from a Room up two pair of Stairs while the Family were at Supper: They would have been hanged for this Robbery, could any one have proved that the Chamber Door was shut at that Time. They are secured now & tho' some short Time ago they broke out of Gaol & committed Robberies. They behaved like hardened Villians at their Tryals & I fancied I saw their Villiany painted in their Countenances.

Uncle J. S. made me a present of a Ticket to see the Play. Mr. Hallam is the best Actor according to the common Opinion, but I am fonder of Mr. Allyn. Miss Cheer & Miss Wainwright are the best Actresses; the latter is the best Woman Singer & Mr. Wools is their excellent Man Singer. James Goodwin who used to be Mr. Tioli's dancing Boy dances & acts upon the Stage: They say he gets £4 per Week. A young Gentleman by Name Mr. Gravel has commenced an Actor on Account of his Debts, for He is accounted an extravagant Young Fellow. He was of a good Family in South Carolina. And was sent to Prince Town College with a view of qualifying him for the Gown—But disliking the strict Rules of that Seminary He came to our College, & shortly after

left it too & commenced a Student of the Law under Mr. Galloway, but his Mother having married again, She refused to supply his Extravagance upon which he now takes to the Stage for his Support, notwithstanding the kind Offers of Mrs. Galloway to maintain him till he is settled in the World, if he will quit his Designs. He is a very handsome young Fellow & has a clear Voice—He has acted twice but has no action which is the very Soul of good Playing. The People in general here rather pity than condemn him: this is the Consequence of loose Morals & may serve as a Lesson to others.

— —

To S. Burd.

Philada. 23rd May, 1767.

Dear Sister:

I received your last very agreeable Letter, & intended to have answered it by Mr. Yeates, but as I was busy then, I deferred it 'till Uncle went up. I congratulate you on the pleasure you received from your Jaunt to Shippensburgh, particularly on the Time you spent with our dear Parents. I apprehend Grandpapa was obliged, to run the Risk of your fainting by the way, without any Security, as no kind Grandmama was then at hand to warrant you.

Cousin Peggy Willing has been confined a week by a Fever & Ague. It has thinned her a little, but I think she looks much handsomer for it, as she was rather too fat before. Cousin Abby Willing is arrived,

& is very hearty. She was escorted by the two Mr. Apthorpes & Mrs. Apthorpe, who luckily were designing to come to Philadelphia, at the same Time as she. The whole Family went out to conduct them into Town, & they entered it in great Procession.

I should be very fond of hearing the innocent prattle of my pretty Brother, & can readily conceive the pleasure you enjoy with him. Our Cousin Jemmy is a humorous little Rogue. He understands almost any thing, that is said to him, suited to the capacity of a child, & will often speak his short sentences very apropos. When my Gentleman is *disposed*, he will endeavor to imitate the sound of whats dictated to him. If I can form a judgment of his Conceptions, he thinks himself very droll, at these times, for seeing that he tickles his hearers, he laughs heartily himself.

Our Relations here are hearty & well. Be pleased to give my Love & Duty to Grandpapa & Grandmama, & Love to Miss Patty

To Col. J. Burd.

Philadelphia, 18th September, 1767.

Dear & honoured Sir:

Mr. Wm. Wallace informed me that as he waited on you for your Commands to Philada. the Negro Woman acquainted him that you and Mama were both laid up with the Fever and Ague, which made him unwilling to disturb you. This Account is indeed very alarm-

ing, especially as Mama and you suffered to much some time ago, that I fear you will be hardly strong enough to support the Pains of this terrible Disorder. But Uncle assures me that its Consequences are by no means dangerous and represents the Bark as a certain Remedy. This Assurance from one of his Experience gives me some Ease. But I hope you have got Bark in Time without relying upon Uncle's sending it from Lancaster as he did not receive your Letter till a Week after his Arrival here. I am very much concerned that Mama and you should be sick at once lest you should not be properly attended. Oh that I could always be present with my dear Parents, to afford them my little Assistance & alleviate their Grievs! but that is impossible. And I must wait with Anxiety for a Letter which may give me some assured Intelligence of the Condition of Persons the Dearest in the World to me. I must conclude with my Love to my Sisters, earnestly praying that your and dear Mama's Healths may be soon restored to their former state.

To Sarah Burd.

Philada. 17th Novr. 1767.

Dear Sister:

I am now seated with a Design of writing to You. And indeed I think it is high time as I have not wrote to You since I have seen You. But I know You will not on'y have Goodness enough to bless me

with an answer soon, but will also excuse my Neglect. Indeed I should have expected a Letter by Uncle at any Rate. However I was resolved that You should have no Opportunity of pleading my ill Example as your Excuse.

Doubtless You have heard of Cousin Jemmy Willing's Arrival from England. He is now in Mr. West's Compting House being designed a Merchant. His relations wanted him to study Law, but he said He would rather be brought up to a Profession in which there was a Possibility of being honest. Tho I should be glad to Know why a Lawyer does not earn his Money as Honestly as a Merchant.

Some Young Gentlemen have subscribed to an Assembly for this Season. Among the Principal Managers are Billy Allen & Jemmy Willing. The Subscribers may send a Ticket to any Young Lady for the Evening; Notwithstanding which Priviledge J. Willing tells me that He is almost tired of it because the Girls are so little.

I suppose You are quite lively at Lancaster with so much good Company. I dare say the Bearer of this Letter will be heartily welcome & wish we in Philada. had the like opportunity of welcoming his Welcomers, One of whom I was indulging the pleasing Hopes of seeing this Fall wich are now entirely blasted. Tho' I would rather forfeit the Pleasure than that Grandpapa should run the least Risque of a Relapse; Please to inform him that I have inquired for Cambray's Dialogues on Eloquence & that it cannot be procured at any Bookseller's Shop in Town.

I was present this morning at the Commencement when I should have stood a Candidate for the Degree of Batchelor of Arts if I had remained at College. I did not seem sorry for having quitted it as the Attention of so splendid & numerous an assembly entirely engaged by me would have thrown such a Damp on my spirits that my Performance would have been poor indeed. As for my Class they brav'd it thro' undauntedly & indeed Some of them bordered on the presumptuous Extreme I enclose You a Dialogue that was composed by Mr. T. Coombe & delivered by two of his Candidates.

Cousin Sukey Shippen is married to the Rev'd Mr Blair & gone to Boston with him. And one of Uncle J. Shippen's Daughters is married to Mr. Spence a very rich Gentleman. She & One of her Sisters have sailed with him to Jamaica, but he intends to return when his Affairs are settled.

The Players must soon leave off here & will not be again permitted to act these two Years. They are Going to New York but it is believed that the Opposition will be strong enough to prevent their acting there.

I have resumed my french Studies under our most noble Professor, Mr. Fooks. And if I am happy enough to compleat myself in this Language this Winter, I am to learn Dutch in the Spring which Uncle tells me & I am convinced must be of great service to me.

Some Time ago I sent Papa's Chain & Compass up to him. I have received a letter from him since with

(out) his mentioning a Word of it. I am afraid he has not received it & would be glad to be certified of it. For the Waggoner was a Country Man but he seemed like an honest man. I think his name was Rennicks.

Please to remember my kind Love & Duty to Grandpapa, Grandmama & Granny Gray, my Love to Miss Patty & my Respects to Mr. Yeates & Family, I am Dear Sister,

Your most affectionate Brother
Edw.d Burd.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 9th February 1768.

Dear & Honoured Sir.

In Obedience to your Commands I have made a Copy of the Deed written by Mr. Breintnall & now enclose it with the Original. I wish I could have done it better, for the Satisfaction of a Person who, I must acknowledge with the deepest Gratitude, has always had my Education so much at Heart. But I will endeavor to improve in my writing as much as possible & shall not fail of sending you the Copies out of Shelley's Copperplate punctually every Fortnight if Opportunity offers. However I must beg your Indulgence the first Fortnight as I intend to return one of your french Letters with my Translation of it and Mr. Fookes' Corrections. It will be very Long & Time will not permit me to do both.

As Uncle could not procure the Copperplate You wrote for, Any where in Town, He thought to have returned the 20s. Bill You sent him to purchase it with, but having forgot to do it in his Letter, at his Desire you will find it inclosed in mine.

If You should incline to have my Copperplate till you can be provided with one I shall very gladly send it up, & can in the mean while use Mr. Keble's to copy those Plates which You have directed me.

There has been a grand Match lately concluded on here, almost within the Precincts of our Family, between Mr. Jas. Allen & Miss Betsy Lawrence, which it is expected will be solemnized in about a Month. Be pleased to give my Love & Duty to Grandmama and acquaint her with this joyful News. My kind Love to my Sister & Family & to Miss Patty.



E. B. to Col. James Burd.

Philadelphia 5th March, 1768.

Dear & honoured Sir :

I could not let slip so good an Opportunity of informing You that we are all well & of desiring to hear if my dear Mama is got hearty again, & how my little Brother & all the Family are.

Uncle has now determined on taking that young Gentleman, whom I mentioned in my last, Apprentice. (He will be?) with us this Month I expect, which I am (very g?)lad of, as the Common Pleas, Mayor's & (Orphans'?) Courts are approaching & he may assist

me a little in the Business which they will occasion. I am also very glad on other accounts as it may possibly procure me a little longer vacation than my last; & we may discourse with one another on what we read and thereby imprint it stronger on our Memories.

I have been nine or ten Months at Mr. Fookes's French School & have now left it. Uncle proposes to send me to Dutch School. The Speaking Part of which Language may be more easily attained in this Country than that of the French—because we can have frequent Opportunities of putting what we learn in Practice.

If you can remember what became of a Lad who was your Apprentice, sailed with you to Jamaica & whose Indentures you assigned over to a Silver Smith there at his own Request; I beg you (will?) inform me that I may tell it to his (Mother?). She comes to Town & calls on me (about it. I) have forgot her name. but if her Story is (true, I?) suppose you may recollect it from these few Circumstances. The woman seemed to me in great Distress as she has never seen him since. I don't know whether she will ever call on me again, but I would be glad to be prepared as I gave her my Word after a great deal of teasing that I would write to you about it.

Old Mrs Lawrence the Mother of Mr John Lawrence died last Sunday;—which Accident I suppose will retard the Marriage of her Grand Daughter for some time. Please to give my Love and Duty to Mama & my Love to my Sisters & Brothers.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster

Phila. 7th July 1768.

Dr & Hon'd Sir :

I am extremely hurried by the Mayor's Court— & the Post is just setting off. I made a Shift to get one of the Farmer's Pamphlets as also one of Dr. Chauncey's Answers &c., the last one that Mr. Bradford has.— They say there is no Basket Salt to be got in Town. I return you your Bottle filled with red Ink.

The Farmer's Letters cost 1s. 6d.

The Answer &c 3s.

& the red Ink 6d.

I shall be more particular in my next with Regard to your other Commands & am with great Duty to Grandmama,

Honoured Sir,

Your most affectionate & dutiful Grandson
Edward Burd.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster

Phila da. 23 July, 1768.

Dear & honoured Sir :

I received your very acceptable Favour of the 9th Instant, with the 5s. inclosed. I am very thankful for your wholesome advice & am convinced that many of the Ancient Heathens had a greater Sense of their Duty to their Creator than many Christians now have. The several Quotations you have made from the Ancients evidence both their Sensibility of the divine Favours & their Morality.

I inclose you a Quebec News Paper & will endeavor either to subscribe according to your Directions or send you what News Papers, of that Place, I can procure.

I saw the Saddle Bags made for you by Mr. Young, & told him that they would not suit you as they were not large enough. I directed him to make them 2 Inches broader & deeper than usual, with 3 Straps to connect the two Bags; which after raising his Objections, he promised me he would comply with.

If Grandmama desires some of the Salt that Aunt Shippen uses, which is very good, I shall be proud of obeying her Commands.

Be pleased to give my Duty to her & Love to Miss Patty & the Family.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 11 Aug. 1768.

Dear & honoured Sir :

I send you a Barrel of Spruce by the Bearer—Boyd. Uncle told me to send it by the first Waggoner whether for Town or Country, as Grandmama was in need of it which I have accordingly done.

Uncle set off yesterday with the Governor, Mrs. Penn, Miss Peggy Allen & Miss Galloway for Black Point where they propose staying 9 or 10 days. He also entrusted some other of your Commands to me viz. to procure you the Answer to Dr Chauncey; & the Bishop of Llandaff's Sermon; which I shall not fail to obey as soon as possible. The latter I believe is bound up with the Minutes of the Society for pro-

pagating the Gospel for the year 1767, & mu t there-
fore be had together.

Be pleased to remember my Duty to Grandmama
& Love to all the Family.

—

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 18th Oct. 1768.

Dear & honoured Sir :

Dr. Adams did not deliver me your Letter of the
12th Inst. till this Morning. & tells me that he shall
return to Lancaster in an hour's time.

Cousin Betsy Shippen has been sick for four or five
days with a Fever. She is got much better now. I
hope this Sickness will be no Impediment to her
Journey.

I sent off your Box, Salmon & Bag half full of
Spruce presently after Mr. Yeates left Philadelphia,
the 10th of October; but the Waggoner did not go
till next morning,—as also two Letters which I was
desired to forward to you.

Uncle's office goes on very slowly. It is just raised
& is not shingled nor the Chimnies carried up.
Please to remember my Duty to Grandmama. I am
not yet certain whether Aunt Shippen can send the
Yarn by Dr. Kuhn,—if not the Post will be here
Thursday & and it will be forwarded by him also
give my Love to my Sisters and the Family.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

20th Oct.r 1768.

Dr. & hon'd Sir :

I have learnt since I wrote my Letter by a mere Accident that Dr. Adams has deferred his Journey.

Aunt Shippen has procured the Yarn for Grand-mama at the Price of 4s. 6d. & I sent it to you by the Doctor. I have sent a Pacquet for the Sheriff of Cumberland under Mr. Yeates' Care, if he is not returned from the Courts be pleased to forward it.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 9th, Dec. 1768.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I thankfully acknowledge your Kindness in sending me a Dutch Grammar but I am obliged to return it as not suitable to my Purpose, the Rules being in Dutch & adapted solely for the Instructions of Germans in the English Language.

I should have wrote you sooner but I could not find Mr. Roberts at home tho' I called there seven or eight times. I saw him Yesterday & he told me that he had given you Credit for the money you had paid him & that he would write to you.

Mr. Hall says he does not recollect the Number of Mr. Story's Journals but he intends to write to you ; he thinks his orders for Shelley's Copperplates were too late for this Season tho' he is not without Expectations. The Books which Mr. Read wanted are not yet arrived from England. Mr. Hall will endeavour to procure those two Books which you desired of him in your Letter & send them to you.

Dr. Bond's Son desires you will please to inclose me the Copy of the Will of Thomas Rouse formerly a Blacksmith; he died about 10 years ago; Mr. Bond cannot ascertain the Time exactly. John Rouse & Charles Rouse the Testator's Brothers were nominated Executors by the Will. Be pleased to send it to me with the Expense of it by the first safe opportunity or by the Post, if none offer sooner.

Uncle J. S. will dine at home next Sunday with Aunt Shippen & Mrs. Mifflin & not return to Mrs. Mifflin's any more altho the Office is not near finished. Be pleased to remember my Duty to Grandmama & my Love to my Sister & and all our Family.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Phila. Decr. 25th, 1768.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

Your acceptable Favour of the 15th Instant was delivered into my Hands this Afternoon by Mr. Tush. I have just come from Sally Green's, the second time, but could not find her at home. I was therefore under the Necessity of purchasing the Citron at another Place.

Your Money that I received,	
was.....	5s.
	3s.
	1s. 6d.
For the Copy of Rouse's Will..	2s. 9d.
	12s. 3d.

I expended as follows :

Lilly's Grammar.....	3s. 0d.
¼ Quire of Marble Paper..	1s. 0d.
Ld. Baltimore's Tryal.....	3s. 0d.
1½lb Citron at 3s. 6d.....	5s. 3d.

12s. 3d.

I could not get Lilly's Grammar of the kind you wanted nor one better than I now send you. When I delivered your Note to Aunt Shippen She was not certain whether She could procure any good Yarn of the Colour of the Sample till Market Day;—if she does, it shall be sent by this Opportunity, otherwise by the Post.

I had not Time to go to Mr. Young's today but I shall wait on him tomorrow;—and shall also shortly transcribe one of the Minutes of Council written by Mr. Coleman in Obedience to your Command.

I am very well convinced of the Impropriety of making the Secretary "r" in round hand and shall endeavour to break myself of it.

Mr. Hall says he has sent you his Account, but cannot recollect the Number of Mr. Story's Journals &c, and must therefore depend upon your Memorandum of that Matter.

The Dutchess of Gordon is to appear to Night at the Assembly & is to be richly deckt with Diamonds & other Jewels & dressed most splendidly in Silver Silks. Neither she or Coll. Morris chuse to dance whenever they can avoid it, and therefore the Company will be deprived of the Honour of dancing with a Dutchess. She has nothing to boast of with Regard to her Face or Person. Yet she is well esteemed as

She is pretty sociable and don't seem to require that Pre-eminence over other Ladies which the York Ladies are so ambitious of.

Aunt Shippen is now settled at home and behaves very agreeably. I believe She is a young Lady of a most amiable Disposition, & have a very great Esteem for her. The Loneliness of a Batchelor's House seems to wear off and I believe Uncle's present Manner of Living with so good a Companion gives him a great deal of Happiness and Satisfaction.

Be pleased to remember my Duty & Affection & Grandmama & Love to our Family, & I hope they may spend an agreeable Christmas.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 19th December, 1768.

Honoured Sir :

Aunt Shippen sends her Love to Grandmama with the Yarn as near the Colour of the Sample as it could be got.

Mr. Tush tried at a great many Places to purchase some Lemons but was unsuccessful. I mentioned it this Morning to Aunt E. Shippen and she was lucky enough to get six or seven & inclosed them in the Bundle with the Yarn.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, December 27th, 1768.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I received your Favour by Mr. Piper & am glad that Grandmama is pleased with my little Endeavours to serve her as I always am whenever She pleases to

honour me with her Commands.

I enclose according to your Desire, a Transcript of a Minute of the Common Council written by Mr. Coleman.

Mr. Hall, I think, mentioned, the last Time I saw him his having sent you an Account of what Books you have had from him. If you have not received it, I suppose, the Letter has miscarried.

Please to give My Duty to Grandmam & my Love to my Sister, Miss Patty & all the Family.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, April 25, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I received your agreeable Favor of the 19th Inst, & am rejoiced at your safe Return from Shippensburg. I delivered your Letter to Mr. Hiltzeimer who informed me that he charges 6s. per Week for the Pasturage of Mares without Corn—& 20d. per Day for Corn without Pasturage for they cant have both he says.

I have been at the Shop of Mr. Samuel Taylor to inquire the Prices of these things which you desire—he told me the Prices marked on each particular as follows, but says he will look at the Bill of their Prime Cost, & see if he can afford them cheaper.

40s. for Fredericus's Lexicon—large quarto.

6s. for Croxal's Oesop.

15s. for largest Common Prayer Book bound in Morocco & gilt with a Companion to the Altar, & Tate & Brady's Psalms—says he has none without,—but if he had, the differ-

ence of Price would not exceed a shilling.

With regard to Bishop's Scale, Mr. Taylor says it is the Printer's Error—for it should have been, Bishop's Draught, instead of Bishop's Scale & Compass—he has indeed a Scale which very much resembles Gunter's Scale with Lines of Numbers, Sines, Tangents, &c, & is chiefly designed, as he says, for Surveyors.

I waited upon Dr. Allison with your Compliments, & requested the Favor of him to procure you a Translation of Castalio's Dialogues—He said you should be welcome to one if he had it, but that he never heard of any Translation of them.

Mr. Read is now in Town with his Son Collinson, with whom I have contracted an Acquaintance & think him a very sprightly agreeable Companion.

Uncle E. S. proposes setting off for Lancaster on Saturday with Cousin Betsy. Aunt E. Shippen has been indisposed for two or three Days, but she is now getting well. For this Month past I have been extremely hurried with Business, which will continue at least a fortnight longer. I suppose you have long ago heard of Mrs. T. Willing's safe Delivery—All our Friends are well generally speaking.

I beg my loving Duty to Grandmama. & my Love to my Sister, Miss Kitty, Mrs. Ewing, Miss Patty & all the Family.

—

To J. Burd.

Philadelphia, 12th May, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

It is so long since I wrote to you last that perhaps

an Apology for my seeming Negligance may be thought not unnecessary. I dont pretend that I am entirely faultless, as time might have been found, to express my Affection for you if I had any thing else worth communicating to you. I am now just released from the Load of Business which each Supream Court brings along with it & may study again without much Interruption.

I bought at the Auction of Mr. Stedman's Books in February—Hawkin's Pleas of Crown & Puffendorf's Law of Nature—with the Money which Uncle J. S. had of mine, as I thought it could never be laid out for a better Purpose. Uncle E. S. bought at the same Auction two Law Books, viz: Fitzgibbon's Reports & Hobart's Reports and very kindly made me a Present of them.

A Ship arived here from Scotland tother Day. Inquired if there were any Letters for you, but found none. If you should have Occasion to write to your Relations in Scotland, I believe it would be easy for me to find Vessels sailing to that part of the Kingdom, as Mr. Sproat and several other Merchants trade there.

You may remember you wanted a Water Dog last year. I can get you one if you are not yet supplied either a White curled Puppy of the Water Breed for five shillings, or a black curled Puppy for 7s. 6d. I waited upon Mr. William Logan several times for two black eyed Rabbits which were promised to you, but did not find him at home till the last time when he was too sick to come down stairs or hear any thing

about the Matter.

Be pleased to give my kind Love to Mama, Cousin Betsy if she is at Tinian, Sister Molly and my other Sisters & Brothers.

P. S. The Circuit Courts happening in May I imagine has prevented my enjoying your company in that Month, but June tho a warm Month I believe will be my happy one.

To J. Yeates.

Philadelphia, 29 May, 1769.

Uncle E. S. set out for Reading yesterday, & has a bad cold which I fear will be increased by the Badness of the Weather. It is very remarkable he hardly ever sets off without bad Weather. When he went from here with Cousin Betsy for Lancaster he pretended her bad Luck accompanied them, but this is a plain Proof that he is the Jonas. Our Relations are all well. Cousin Sukey Blair is expected here very shortly from Boston.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 4th June, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

Uncle E. S. has permitted me to pay the long wished for Visit to my Friends in Lancaster County, on Monday Week. But how I shall get up is a Matter of some Difficulty; as Uncle J. S. will use his Horse tomorrow in going with the Governor to the Assembly at New Castle; Uncle E. S. will have Occasion for his to attend at the Nisi Prius Court, at Easton the 22nd of this Month. I am a little apprehensive that Papa wont know it soon enough to send

me a Horse in time. But as I have frequently experienced your Goodness I hope you will please to write to him by the first Opportunity that I may lose as little Time as possible.

Uncle J. S. being one of the Committee appointed to view the Transit of Venus has been employed these two days in making preparatory Observations for that Purpose & is now very busy in viewing it.

The Judges are returned from their Circuit heartily fatigued. Cousin Willing says he can hardly fancy himself at home yet.

Mrs. Penn, Miss Peggy Allen, Miss Polly Hockley & Mr. John Allen set out this Morning for Black Point, where the Governor intends to go directly from New Castle & spend three Months of his Time.

Be pleased to remember my affectionate Duty to Grandmama, my Love to Miss Patty, Sister Sally & all the Family.

I remain in hopes of seeing you soon.

—

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, January 16th, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

Uncle desires you will please to deliver the 3 inclosed Letters to Mr. Galloway if he is in Lancaster—but if he is gone to Maryland that you will please to return them by the first Opportunity that they may be sent to him.

Mr. Coleman is dead and was buried last Saturday Afternoon. Near two hundred of our principal Men attended his Corpse to the Grave. I saw his Coffin upon the Shoulders of Mr. Chew, Mr. Tilghman,

Uncle E. S. & Mr. Gibson, this I believe is the Quaker Custom. He has left an Estate valued at £15,000, £6,000 of which he has devised to Mr. George Clymer & £3,000 to each of his Sisters—his wife died shortly after his return from England. Mr. John Ross has been laid up with the Gout, some time past as well as his Brother George.

Be pleased to remember my Duty to Grandmama.

— — —

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 4th Febr'y., 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

Witwin these 2 or 3 days I received your most agreeable Favor & and am greatly indebted to you for the kind Instructions contained in it which I esteem at too high a Rate to be careless of—but always have indorsed them & tied them up in a bundle. The near Approach of the Lancaster & Berks Courts has prevented my inquiring after English Leather for you but on Monday next I shall make that Inquiry my particular Business. The Saddles I sent up to you by the Post & doubt not but you have received them.

I inclose a Copy of Ar. Cox's Letter out of Shelley's Copperplate. As I am apt to imagine that I can write better by Day-Light than Candle-Light I shall make another Tryal.

I perceive by the last Letter Papa wrote me that the Indentures of his two Dutch Servants never reached him. I committed them to the Care of Mr. Andrew Allen under Cover. Papa did not attend that Court, wherefore Mr. Allen says he delivered the

Letter to Mr. Yeates.

Uncle J. S. desired me to inclose you the within Account. And I also inclose you a Catalogue of Books belonging to Mr. Alexander Stedman; which have been long under Execution. Those marked— are already sold & the others are yet to be disposed of at public Auction.

Please to give my Duty to Mama & Grandmama & Love to Miss Patty & all the Family.

P. S. Uncle E. S. advised me to buy two or three Law Books at the Auction, but they as well as the Books on other Subjects sold too high:—many of them for more than Mr. Hall sells them.

—

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 24th Feby., 1769

Dear and Honoured Sir:

You expressed a Desire in a Note directed to me of Learning from Mr. Fookes Something of the Vanilla which the Spaniards mix with their Chocolate. I waited Accordingly upon Mr. Fookes and was informed by him that it grew upon Stalks resembling those which bear Mustard Seed that its shape was exactly like a Bean of the small Sort—& its Colour I think he said was partly bluish or sky-coloured, and partly brown. As for its Qualities—it is odoriferous & very heating. One Vanilla would be sufficient to Scent a whole Room and he is of opinion that one Vanilla is a Good Proportion to a Pound of Chocolate—and that more would probably throw a Person into a Fever. Young Persons he thinks have no Occasion for this Composition, but that it would not be improper for old Men, being of a reviving Nature.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 1st March, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

I received your very acceptable Favour of the 23rd Ulto, and have agreeable to your Desire bought of Mr. Bradford, Castalio's Dialogi Sacri. which cost 3s. I could not get the Translation of them. I will send it to-morrow by the Post together with the Grafts which Uncle J. S. intends to send.

Mr. Hall says that no London Vessel has arrived since I was with him last & therefore he has not got any of Shelly's Copperplates.

The Yarn, which in your Letter to Uncle J. S. you desired Aunt Shippen to buy, could not be procured. It is only sold in Market & there not every Market Day. Aunt Shippen intends to try again on next Saturday. I wrote you the largest dimensions of the English boot leathers sold by Saml. Sympson, B. Kendal having none at present, viz: 2 feet in Length, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ Inches across ye Calf & 11 Inches across the Ancle, ye Price with upper Leathers for ye Shoes is 20s.

Please to remember my Duty to Mamma & Grandmama, my Love to Miss Patty, my Sister and all the Family.

P. S. The Leather for the Ancle will stretch as wide as the Calf & suit any Ancle Mr. Sympson says.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 18 April, 1769.

* * Mr. Chew received a Letter from the Attorney Gen'l of New England, inclosing the Opin-

ion of ye Attorney Gen'l at Home, Mr. De Gray with regard to the Legality of the Supream Court's issuing a general Writ of Assistance to the Custom House Officers to authorize them to break open Houses &c. whenever they expected a Concealment of Run Goods—informing him that a learned Judge at Boston made no scruple of granting such Warrants, & requiring Mr. Chew to move the Supreme Court for such a writ—which he did accordingly—but the Court were of Opinion clearly that general Writs of Assistance were not grantable by them.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster

Philadelphia, 15th Junc, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

Uncle E. S. gave me Leave to set out for Lancaster last Monday the 12th Instant of which I informed you by Letter dated the 5th Instant which I sent by John Stoner; desiring that you would please to embrace the first Opportunity of writing to Papa for a Horse as I could not find any one going from here to Papa's. I waited with anxious Expectations of getting a Horse last Week but as I received no Letter I thought Stoner had not delievered the Letter as soon as he got to Lancaster. In certain Hopes of getting a Horse by this Post, I waited but none arrived. I have concluded that you never received my Letter & that the Post whom I desired last Week to wait upon you & inform you of my Situation neglected it.

I feel Disappointed the more sensibly as Uncle allowed me to stay from ye 12th Instant to the 1st of July the Saturday before the Mayor's Court. Neither

of my Uncles can spare me a Horse, for Uncle J. S. is at New Castle with the Governor and Uncle E. S. attends the Circuit Court at Easton in a few Days.

I make no Doubt of experiencing that Tenderness on this Occasion which I have had such frequent Reasons to acknowledge; & I am in Hopes of seeing all Friends at Lancaster & Tinian soon.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 31 July, 1769.

Dear Sir :

I have made Inquiry at our Bookseller's Shops for Yorick's Sermons, but without Success—and as long as the present Agreement of Non-Importation subsists, I suppose none of those Books can be bought.

A Vessel is arrived here laden with Goods from Liverpool, consigned to one Pollard, who is in Maryland.—It was reported last Saturday that the Goods had been privately landed & secreted. But that Report is without Foundation.—The Committee, who were appointed by the People of this City to inspect all such Matters, are to meet this morning at O'Clock to deliberate on what is best to be done.

To Edward Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, Aug 4th, 1769.

* * I am sure, my Obligations for your kind Behaviour to me, require far greater Acknowledgements than Mr. Barton could possibly deserve from Dr. Cooper, & it always rejoices me whenever it lies in my power to do you or Grandmama any little

Service. I have inquired of Aunt Shippen about the Dyer as I was desired by Grandmama. A.t Sh.n says that there is a very good Dyer in Town lately from Scotland; that she has seen Things dyed by him Green & blue but has never seen any thing dyed yellow by him—that She thinks he excels in dying green, and that he also dyes a very good blue;—I shall punctually obey my dear Grandmama's Orders whenever she pleases to send them. Cousin Peggy Shippen stands over my shoulder, & particularly desires her Love to Grandmama & yourself, in which I sincerely join.

P. S. I was much pleased with my Jaunt to Reading, where I was treated with great Civility by Mr. Read. The Situation of that Town is extremely pleasant & the Prospect of it from ye surrounding Hills very beautiful. Mr. Read talks of sailing to Europe, & putting his Son Apprentice to a Lawyer in Philadelphia.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 17th August, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

I have received your Letters by Shenck with £7 2s. inclosed; £6 of which I paid to Mrs. Maddox for which the Receipt is inclosed in this Letter & the Remaining £1 2s. I delivered to Aunt Shippen to pay for the Cheese & dying Grandmama's Quilt, which came safe. Aunt Shippen inquired of the Dyer whether he could dye yellow—he said he had no Dye Stuff for that purpose, therefore she will order him to dye the Quilt blue, which he can do very well—The

price will not exceed 8s. & ye Overplus will be returned.

Mr. Wallace told me that £6 was not the exact Balance to Mr. Maddox's Estate; but he believes it to be about that sum £5 being the principal, he could not calculate it rightly for want of the Bond & says you are welcome to inspect the Books,—he gives his Compliments to you.

I waited upon Mr. Shee & delivered your Message to him; he had received your Letter & says he only waited for the Receipt of some Guineas which he expected, & will transmit you the Rent as soon as he receives them.

I called at a Confectioners who frequents Lancaster Fair, but was not Lucky enough to find him at home, & none of the Family knew that he had any Molasses of the Kind you mentioned. I will therefore go to him again & let you know his Answer.

I shall take particular Care in forwarding Grandmama's Quilt when it is finished. Aunt J. Shippen wrote to Uncle J. S. by the Post and desires you will please to retain the Letter in your Hands 'till Uncle's Arrival at Lancaster. She joins with me in Love to Grandmama & all the Family.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 16th Sept. 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

Uncle E. S. sends you by the Bearer a Gloucester Cheese—the only one which was to be sold. Mrs. Samuel Howell had none, but this was bought of Mrs. Bringhurst. It is pretty soft, but unless this had

been procured, you must have waited for English Cheese 'till solved by a Repeal of the Revenue Act. The Cheese cost 7s. 6d. Aunt Shippen will account with you altogether, when she sends up Grandmama's Quilted petticoat.' Notwithstanding the Promises of the Dyer, he has not dyed it yet; but engages to do it very soon, when it shall be conveyed to Lancaster by the first Opportunity.

I have bought, according to your Desire, a Book from Mr. Bradford, written originally by the Archbishop of Cambray but the Title differs a little from your Description of it, tho I suppose it to be the same Book; because they told me that Mr. Read, who recommended it to you, had bought one of the same Kind at Mr. Bradford's Shop. It is entitled "a Demonstration of the Existence of God." I took it with a Liberty of returning it, if you please, provided it be not defaced. You sent me 6s. of which this Book cost 5s. 9d. & 4d. I paid for a phyel to get a Taste of Molasses in for Uncle.

I could not get the Original of the inclosed translated Book; but Mr. Bradford has taken a Memorandum of it and will send for it after the Repeal of the Revenue Act. Nor could I get you any french Newspapers as Mr. Bradford does not take them now.

Uncle desired me to let you know that Mr. Shee's Molasses is in Tierces & that he will not break them. Hoffman has sold all his Molasses but will have some next Monday when he will send you 25 Gallons of it.

Mr. Powell & his Spouse set out last Week for Vir-

ginia but were obliged to return as the Storm had stopped up their Way by the numbers of Trees which it caused to fall across the Road. I received 20s. inclosed in a Letter to Uncle E. S. to pay the Taylor for making my Coat; for which I return you a great many Thanks; but am at a Loss to find out what Coat it is you mean; be pleased to inform me in your next favour.

I am in hopes Mama is getting better as her Fever has left her; without which I am told her State cannot be dangerous. Be pleased to give my Duty to Grandmama & hope she is getting better by this time & Love to Miss Patty.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia 20th Sept. 1769.

Dear & Hooured Sir:

I send you by the Bearer 25 Galls. of Molasses & inclose you a Bill of Parcels for it. I likewise send you in a little Box Grandmama's Quilt.

When I wrote my last Letter the Box inclosing my Home-Spun Cloth, &c. had not been opened. I thank you for your Kindness in sending me Lining & Trimings for my Coat & also for the Money you sent to pay for the making of it. I was in Doubt whether to get it made up this Winter as I have pretty good Cloaths & Homespun wont do for next Summer. If I do, I must lay by my blue Cloaths till next Spring. I shall be very proud of wearing a Coat which was spun in our Family & for that reason think I had better wear it while ye Revenue Act remains unrepealed.

It would give me great Satisfaction to hear frequently from you how my poor Mama is, as you have Opportunities oftener than Papa. Please to remember my Duty to Grandmama & Love to Miss Patty & all the Family.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, September 25th, 1769.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I have received your agreeable Favour of the 21st Instant & hardly have Time to acknowledge the Receipt as the Supreme Court begins at 10 O'clock. I am very glad Grandmama is so much pleased with her Cheese.

By a Letter Uncle received yesterday I am told that Mama is quite freed from her Disorder which is a later Account than your Letter & gives me Infinite Pleasure.

I have acknowledged the Receipt of the Broadcloth, Trimmings, &c, & sent up 25 Gallons of Hoffman's Molasses, & Grandmama's Silk petticoat by one Bentz, a Waggoner. I have no Time to write more but desire you will please to forward the inclosed Letter to the Sheriff of York.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 29th September, 1769.

Dear & Honour'd Sir:

I received your last Favour with £3 inclosed to pay for the Molasses which I have accordingly done and inclose you the Receipt of Hoffman's Clerk for £2 10s 4d. You desire ye odd 10d may be applied towards buying Cakes for the Children—but the Overplus being 9s. 8d. makes me think you were mistaken in the Sum.

I was yesterday at the Races, when four Horses viz: Lath, Nonpareil, Gov'r Sharp's Mare called Britannia & ye Irish Horse started for a purse of One hundred Pounds:—the first Heat the Irish Horse was almost distanced & was lamed so much that he was taken off the Field. At the first setting out, upon his gaining a little Advantage, the Irish set up such a Halloo as almost stunned me, but at his coming in they disowned him entirely, that he was an Irish Horse but only an English One imported here by the Way of Ireland.

Lath won the purse in two Heats; ye first Heat followed closely by Britannia, & ye second Heat by Nonpareil.

The Keeper of Britannia, after the Race, said with a very confident Air, that Britannia was very able to beat either Lath or Nonpareil;—that he had purposely desired the Rider to lose the first Heat to Lath, that he had no Doubt of Nonpareil's getting the second Heat from Lath & therefore he ordered his Jockey to permit Nonpareil to win the second Heat;

—& then Brittannia would gain the third and fourth Heats by which Means more Sport might be afforded to the Ladies and Gentlemen. This a Specimen of what lengths these honest Jockeys will give to their Tongue to save the Credit of a Horse or cozen a simple Fellow out of his Money.

The Commons is a mere Camp; I believe there are 100 Booths erected there for the Entertainment of the lower Class of People; from which frequent Battles ensue; as those People think it a Time of Merriment & consequently they must get drunk; when being like Ships without Helms they unavoidably run foul of each other.

It gives me infinite Pleasure to hear of my dear Mama's perfect Recovery after that dangerous Disorder she was afflicted with.

I beg you will send my Duty to her when you write & remember it likewise to Grandmama & my Love to Miss Patty & all the Family.

P. S. I hope Mrs. Ewing is recovered from her Fever & Ague by this time

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philadelphia, 14th Nov. 1769.

Dear Sir:

I received both your last favours with your Ticket in the second Class of Philada. & Worcester Lottery, and now send you a Ticket of the same number in the third Class:—which I hope will be as successful as you can wish.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 26th January, 1770.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I received this Morning your very agreeable Favor of the 13th Instant. Mr. Slough told me he shall set off tomorrow Morning on his Return to Lancaster, I therefore made a second Inquiry at the Booksellers Shops but with my former Success. I went to Church Alley and could not observe any Printers Shop or Books at the Windows any where near that place except at Stewarts old Shop, where I could get none. Mr. Hall, Mr. Bradford, Mr. Dunlap, Evitt, Sellers, and Cruikshank are all without them, except Mr. Hall, who, as I wrote you before, has them without a Translation. Yet I do not despair to be able to buy some, of Persons who have left School in a short Time. I know a Lad who has a *Sententiae pueriles* which he would dispose of, but the two first leaves are missing, and would be glad you would inform me whether you would have that or not, in the meantime I will endeavour to get them complete if possible. Johnny Coxe has not got a Book of that Kind, and Mr. Bass says he never advertised those Erasmus' you write about or any other Books

Mrs. Flowers, of whose Marriage I made mention in my last, denied it because her Husband was a Witness to Col. Flowers' Will and the Marriage would have invalidated his Testimony ; but last Wednesday she set all the chyming Bells a ringing very early in the morning and continued almost the whole Day, for Joy of her scandalous Marriage, and would fain per-

suade the Town that she was not married before Day, but Mr. Goodard has got a Certificate of her Marriage from the Minister confirming the common Report.

Last Saturday Mr. John Relfe intending to go to Wilmington, and attempting to mount his Horse found some Difficulty in it; on which he desired a Negro to help him; but he found it impossible even with the Negro's Assistance; he then said he was not very well, but would go and lay down for a Quarter of an hour and perhaps he would be better and be able to perform his Journey, but he never got off the Bed again alive; for he died Monday Morning and was burried Wednesday. An Inflammation in his Bowels was the Cause of his Death which, tis supposed, he received from the confined and loathsome Air of the Gaol.

Mr. Andrew Allen prosecuted this Session in the Mayor's Court pro Domino Rege but he did not display his Abilities as there was no Cause tried, which he judged to be of sufficient Consequence to throw away a Speech upon or take up the time of the Jury.

I shall obey your Command in copying your French Dialogue, which I think is written with a good easy Stile, and will preserve it as a Specimen of your Knowledge of the french Tongue. If you will permit me, Sir, I will take an Opportunity of letting Mr. Fookes see it, as, I know it will please him to read a french Dialogue written and composed by a Person who was never in a french Country. The

word Dialogue, in the Spelling of which you thought, you had erred, was spelt right.

Please to give my Duty to Grandmama and Love to Miss Patty.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada: Feby. 1770.

Dear & Honoured Sir.

I received your last agreeable Favor and went this Morning and got a Sententiae Pueriles for you which has four leaves torn out; I don't know what the young Fellow will charge for it yet. I am promised another which as soon as it is given to me I will forward to you. I have no time to lengthen my Letter as Uncle sets off in a few Minutes. I am with my Duty to Grandmama, &c.

P. S. Be pleased to forward the inclosed to Papa as soon as possible.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 21st March, 1770.

I have been this winter, at two Balls at the Lodge, and one Dance, and had the pleasure of dancing with three very amiable young Ladies. I take this Opportunity of writing to you, lest after this Evening's Drubbing, with which I am threatened, I should be incapacitated to discharge that Duty. All the Belles are to spend this Evening at Uncle's, and tell me if I offer to intrude, they will pummel me (with their delicate hands) most unmercifully—if they should kill me, I shall die a Death of Pleasure, but I apprehend more Danger from their Eyes, than any other Weapons they can use.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. May 17th, 1770.

* * In consequence of the News with Regard to the Revenue Acts, the Merchants have met and resolved to postpone their Determination about importing Goods 'till the 5th of June,—in order to consult the Merchants of the neighbouring Colonies, and be informed of their Sentiments on the occasion, and in the mean time have appointed a Committee to draw up a List of Goods necessary and proper for their Importation in case they should then determine to import partially.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 22nd June, 1770.

* * My Father you may remember presented me with a small Sword when I was at Tinian. When I arrived at the Ship, a Cargo of Irish Servants with very roguish Looks landed out of a Lancaster vessel, and took their abode there that Evening as well as myself. This called to my Remembrance the many frightful Stories I had read of ye Irish Rogues and rapparees in my Childhood. My trusty Toledo was then of singular use to quiet my apprehensions. I drew it and put it close to my Bedside, and covered it with a blanket,—placed the Money intrusted to me under my Pillow, and went to sleep with an easy mind;—the Noise and rattling of the Waggoners Chains awaked me early in ye morning, when I pursued my Journey, to the no small Astonishment of the poor country People. They graped and opened their Mouths so wide, that I almost feared the sad

Fate of Jonas of being buried alive. A country Booby could not resist expressing his surprise at the sight of my destructive Weapon. "I vow, a Sword" said he. It's well he was not a Feme covert enseint, else I could not answer for ye consequences. To prevent therefore any damage to his Majesty's future subjects, and ye Depopulation of the Province, I rode into ye Woods, got strings out of my Saddlebags, tied my Sword over my waistcoat and buttoned my coat;— and thus ends ye Adventures of me and my Sword.

To. J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadadelphia, 5 July, 1770.

* * I am just going to the Mayor's Court where I expect a high Entertainment. A woman, who is indicted for Adultery and is to be tried today, swears she will serve Mr. Dickinson, who is employed by her prosecutor, with a plate of stuffed Pidgeons in open Court, alluding to some ludicrous story, she relates of him, and unless he keeps his Tongue under Curb, she is determined to horsewhip him. I dont imagine she will carry matters so far, but I expect a little diversion from her unruly Member.

To J. Burd.

Philadadelphia. October 4th, 1770.

Dear and Hon'd Sir:

On the arrival of a Dutch ship, I informed uncle Edward Shippen of it, who ordered me to purchase for you a servant, which I have done accordingly, and send to grandpapa's care. He cost £19 17s. or 18s., I am not certain which, and staid two or three days in town. His indenture cost 4s. 6d., and I gave him 7s. 6d. earnest money, according to custom. I

would not get an assignment of his indenture, which is enclosed, as it would only be an additional expense without necessity. The young man has been used to farming, so that he will be of immediate service to you. He is to wear his own clothes so long as they will last, and then have provision from you. This was by particular agreement.

Mr. Galloway is turned out of the Assembly, (if not elected at Bucks,) and Mr Taylor put in his room. This was principally owing to a pamphlet written by Goddard, which I have sent to grandpapa for his perusal, and desired afterwards to forward it to you.

—

To J. Burd.

Philadelphia, 7th January, 1771.

Dear & honoured Sir :

I wrote you lately by Dr. Norris. Uncle Edward received lately a letter from Grandpapa inclosing one of yours concerning your expectations from Scotland, and desired me to inquire of Mrs. Snowden what she knows relative to that matter. I waited on her, and was informed she had been two years from Scotland, that she was intimately acquainted with my Aunts, and endeavoured to persuade one to come to Pennsa. with her.

Mrs. Snowden never made particular Inquiry about the Estate, but understood that my Grandfather's Affairs were a good deal involved, but that my Grandmother enjoyed an income of between £40 and £50 a year and that each of my Aunts were entitled to the interest of about £200.

Mr. Dewer, she says, is a young man just entering

into business, and does not make his Payments as regularly as could be wished, and that as my Aunts thought you were well settled in this Province, and have no occasion for your share of my Grandfather's Estate they were wishing you would relinquish your Claim to it, which would make their circumstances pretty easy. Mrs. Snowden says there is an ancient Gentleman one Dr. McFarlin who is very intimate in the family, and a relation. She thinks if he could be engaged in your interest, his authority would have great influence, and make Mr. Dewer less dilatory.

Mr. Sproat goes to New York today in order to take shipping for Edinburgh; as there was not time to inform you of this opportunity, Uncle E. S. advised me to write to Mr. Dewer, requesting him to send you an account of his proceedings in consequence of your power of Attorney. I wrote also a letter to my Grandmother, which I have long had an inclination to do. Inclosed you have copies of both letters. I believe they have a very wrong notion in Scotland of your circumstances; they think you are abounding in wealth and that you have no occasion for the money due to you. I have in my letter given a hint to the contrary, and hope they will not after that think of your giving up your interests.

Mr. Sproat very politely offered to take care of any Memorandums which I should give to him. I did not trouble him with many particulars. I inclosed a copy of the Memorandum I gave him, and he promised punctually to deliver the letters, and endeavour to obtain answers.

I have promised to visit Mrs. Snowden sometimes on the score of her intimacy with my Aunts. If you have anything particular to inquire of her be pleased to let me know it.

Please to give my love to Mama and all the family and accept the same.

To Col. J. Burd.

Philadelphia, 8th May, 1771.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I wrote you lately wherein I informed you that Mr. Jennings had been with me about the Rent, acknowledged your Forbearance to be kind, but wanted to get an Abatement for Repairs. I imagine the gaining of this Point is very material as it will cause him to live in the House almost Rent free. He said he intended to go your Way in about three Weeks from that time, which was about a Week ago, when he would call on you and settle the Matter and therefore there was no Settlement between us.

I likewise begged that a few Shirts might be made for me. My Homespun Clothes were so ill dyed that that Dye Stuff came off on my Shirts and painted them of the same Colour which occasioned so much Rubbing by the Washerwoman to get them clean that they wore out my Shirts for me. The Risbands, Collars &c., are quite ragged.

The Governor is embarked for England, sold his House and Garden to Mr. Chew for £5000,—and the heavy Furniture will be sold at Publick Sale today, such as Chairs, Tables, Beds, Kitchen Furniture, &c.

I am in too great a Hurry to write any more, only that I am in hopes to see you the latter of this Month or the beginning of June.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, July, 1771.

* * I was one of a Party yesterday to a young Gentleman Country Seat. But my conscience wont suffer me to say I received as much pleasure from the Conversation and Behaviour of the young Ladies as I might reasonably have expected in the Company of so many young People.—So reserved and so silent that it is enough to disgust any one who has a relish for happy Ease and Freedom.

I had the Happiness of being introduced last Sunday to my Cousin Mrs. Byrd from Virginia, and of tasting her sweet Lips—a Happiness seldom enjoyed here by the People of Fashion, which is a Tyrant that I am afraid will in time be the Destruction of all social Pleasures.

—

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 30th Nov., 1771.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I received your agreeable Favor per Sheaffer and agreeable to your Directions have bought Citron, Raisins and Currants which I send per Sheaffer packed up in the little Box.

4lb of Citron at 2s. 3d.....	0	9s.	0
6lb Currants at 10d.....	0	5s.	0
6lb Raisins at 10d.....	0	5s.	0
		<hr/>	
		0	19s. 0

The Raisins are better than those I wrote of before and are 1d. per lb dearer and the Currants are

2d. per lb cheaper and are very clean and good. The Overplus 1s. I inclose. I was obliged to put in some of ye Citron without being papered but I am assured that it wont contract any bad Taste from the Wood being Popolar or Maple I forgot which. I crammed the Box as full as it could hold and could not get in quite all the Raisins. I hope they will please Grandmama and are I believe very cheap for their Goodness.

I wrote you a Letter last Week wherein I informed you that I accidentally found an 11d. piece under the papers on the Table which I suppose had dropt unperceived when I opened your Letter. I therefore retain only 9d. which I paid for ye Box.

In my last I returned my Thanks to you and Grandmama for your kind Promises to me which I hope I may be able to deserve and make the warmest Returns of Affection for your Goodness that a grateful Heart is capable of. I know that you must have been at a good deal of Expense about Sister Molly, which makes me loth to ask any Favors of you at this time as perhaps it would suit you better to spare the Money when I am about settling. But I am under the Necessity of doing it—my white Clothes are too thin for even the present Weather and my brown Homespun is very threadbare and make me in Compny a little shabby. If I had a good Suit to wear on Sundays and other proper times, I could wear my brown Homespun in common and save my new Clothes, so that they might be as good as new when I settle. I dont know whether Codringer would require Cash for the Cloth if he was to get it for me—but that is all which will demand Cash as Codringer brings in his Account for Trimmings Making &c., only once a Year.

Uncle has spoke to me about Reading, and I am much better pleased with settling there than at Northampton. Uncle was so good as to promise his Interest for me with the principal People of his Acquaintance in that County which I take very kindly.

I beg my Duty to Grandmama.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster

Philada. 21st December, 1771.

Dear and honoured Sir :

Thursday Week I was told by the Post that Sheaffer would be in Town that Evening. I inquired in the Evening ; but he was not arrived then, and was expected in next morning. I have gone there Morning, Noon and Night ever since with as little Success as I had at first, till this Morning when I found him come at last.

In the Box Aunt Shippen says she has sent Thread Lace instead of Blond Lace because it will wash and be very serviceable ; Handkerchiefs she says, are quite out of Fashion ; in the Room of which she has sent a Tippet and Tucker which is the present Mode.

Agreeable to your Desire I purchased one of Peletiah Webster's dummed Codfish which cost 10d. and is sent by Shaeffer. They are sold at 20s. a half Quintal.

I received your Letter per Billy Barton, who has been in the Office between two and three Weeks. I think him a very well behaved agreeable young Gentleman and any little Assistancess I am capable of affording him, either with Regard to the Business of the Office, or in explaining any difficult passages,

which he may meet with at first, I shall gladly render him both for my Friend's Sake, and his own.

I return many Thanks for your kind Promises to me. As the Place I am to settle at, is changed there will be no occasion for my going to Northampton this Month, but I hope to have the Pleasure of seeing you at Lancaster next February Court; when Uncle thinks I should get admitted; as also at the next Reading Court; If therefore you would please to send down the Horse you kindly intend to let me have the Use of, so as I may ride him up to the next Court, I shall be obliged to you.

Mrs. Tilghman died last Wednesday Evening of an apoplectic Fit as is commonly said: She was a very sick Woman, and has suffered a great deal of Pain. Her Death has relieved her from extreme Misery but occasioned very violent Grief in her Husband and Children She was esteemed a very prudent and affectionate Mother, and a good Woman. Her Loss will be very severely felt by her young Daughters. Her three eldest Sons are in Maryland and did not know Their Mother was sick.

Mr. Hall has promised to draw out your Account next week. Please to give my Duty to Grandmama and Love to Miss Patty.

P. S. The agreeable Prospect that Sister Molly has, gives me a great deal of Pleasure. Mr. Sanders told me he heard from Mr. Barton you was as merry as any at the Wedding and surprized him by your Activity in dancing the Cobbler's Jig.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 10 March, 1772.

* * I have gone thro' a pretty strict Examination from Mr. Chew, in which he examined me upon ye Doctrine of contingent Remainders and executory Devises, and made a Report of me much to my Satisfaction, if I thought myself deserving of it.

I suppose you have heard that the Gov. was paying his Addresses to Miss Masters. He pays such frequent visits and shows so much Attention to ye Lady, that the Town entertains no Doubt of ye Match.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 21st, 1772.

* * I enclose you $\frac{1}{2}$ an Ounce of Boss of ye Fineness of ye Sample you sent, and $\frac{1}{2}$ an Ounce a size finer, which cost 5s. and is in my Opinion excessively dear. Nobody knew it by ye name of Boss, not even ye Milliner.

P. S. I am become a Legislator ; being appointed by 20 young Fellows to draw up ye Rules of their Club. I intend to be careful of Liberty in ye Choice and Quantity of Liquor, and Time of Departure, of confining the Time of Staying to a certain hour in order to avoid Drunkenness, in making Contention penal.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. April 24th, 1772.

* * That Gentleman (i. e. Mr. Allen) was so kind as to consent to my prosecuting for ye Crown in ye new County at Uncle's request. They say the Gov.r is to be married to Miss Masters the last Thursday in this Month. He pays her great Attention, and dances constant attendance with her at Balls and Parties.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster

Reading, 18th May, 1772.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I wrote you lately by Mr. Hubley wherein I Informed you of my proceedings till that time. I then expected to be lodged entirely at Mr. Lightfoot's, but Things have turned out otherwise. Mrs. Wickersham has rented half of Mr. Lightfoot's House and provides Victuals for him. It was therefore necessary to consult her on the Occasion, and it proved inconvenient to her either to diet and lodge me; however I have an Office in the House, and from what I have learned from some People here, I may expect every good Office which lays in Mr. Lightfoot's Power to do me. Mrs. Wickersham has expressed her Uneasiness to her Acquaintance at not being able to accommodate me, however I have got into decent Lodgings where I hope to be well satisfied. It is at Mr. Whitehead's —with whom Mr. Dundas a Gentleman of very good Character diets also. I am to pay 13s. 6d. per Week for my Lodgings, deducting all my absent Time out of the Account I am to pay Mr. Lightfoot £5 per

Annun for my Office which is close to the Court House, and must be a pleasant Room. It is not unlikely that I shall be absent from Reading near a quarter of the Year which will reduce the Price of my Lodging to £26. The Account of my Lodging Expenses, my Office, my House, my travelling expenses, and other necessary Matters will for the first Year at least square with my Income. I intend to be extremely industrious and fugal, and trust they will be serviceable to me. If I do not get much Business at first, it will give me the greater Opportunity of improving my knowledge. I am treated with great Politeness by Mr. Read and his Family and propose cultivating the Acquaintance of a chosen few. I find that Berks County is almost entirely inhabited by Germans and shall therefore attend particularly to the learning their language. I shall set off for Fort Augusta next Saturday with a pretty large Convoy, some of whom are well acquainted with the Road. The Judges came here yesterday noon. My Uncle Edward Shippen set off last Friday for Philadelphia. I hope Grandmama is recovering her Health. Please give my Duty to her and Love to Miss Patty.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, 29th November, 1772

Dear & Honoured Sir :

* * I returned Saturday morning from Fort Augusta, where I got as much business as I could expect. There were 24 actions to the term, in 9 of which I am concerned. But there was no Crown business, two Prisoners having broke Gaol, which is not

strong enough to secure any body. * * *

* * * If I can easily get a horse, it is very likely I shall go to Tinian about Christmas. I was sorry to hear of my Father's hurt, but glad he is cured of it. Mr. Lightfoot's intended Wife's sister is come up and taken my bed. I have paid for my Diet &c., and intend to go to the Sheriff's tomorrow. He has a bedstead. Mr. Dundas will lend me a Bed, and I must shift as well as I can for Bed Cloaths till I receive the Field Bed &c. which my Father promised me. * * * * *

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

PORTION OF LETTER.

Necessity of living at a Tavern near Weeks which cost £3 13s. of which Uncle E. S. paid £1 11s. I afterwards went to Fort Augusta which cost £1 17s. 1d. then to Easton, principally about ye House in that County. This cost me £2 11s. 11d. Afterwards to Lancaster which with ye Hire of a Horse cost £1 4s. 6d., and then to Fort Augusta, which cost £1 14s. besides 20s., I paid for ye $\frac{1}{2}$ of two Lots in Northumberland and 7s. 6d. for a Ticket for a Lot in Sunbury. Besides this I paid £3 14s. towards my Board; 20s. for a Quarter's Washing; 10s. for 2 Advertisements in the Papers relative to ye sale of the House in Northampton; 13s. for Hairdressing; 8s. 6d. for Pasturing the Horse; 8s. for shoeing; 24s. 4d. for Carriage of my Chest to Reading, for Paper, blank Books &c., and my Clubs of Reckonings, besides Expenses for Necessaries to a great Amount.

I am now indebted for my Boarding about £15, and for ye Keeping of my Horse £5 3s. 10d., and have only 40s. in my Pocket which I must reserve for my Journey to Northampton next Friday.

Altho' the Persons to whom I owe this Money are not importunate yet they may become so before I am able to pay it off.

I should not write with so much Freedom on this Subject, had not you authorized it by your Commands. And the Debts being £10 or £11. is not to be wondered at considering the smallness of my Stock at setting out, my being settled in a strange Place unknown to every Body, living in a genteel way and keeping a Horse and obliged to hire at the same time, and having such a competitor as Mr. Biddle whose Abilities and Goodness of Heart have deeply rooted him in the affections of the People of this County.

I could have lived within Compass, but I know you would not approve of my living any otherwise than genteely, which I hope I shall be able to afford by and by without requesting the Assistance of my Friends.

I have received the new Hat you sent me, which is very handsome and fits me well; for which I return you and my Grandmama Thanks.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, 2nd Jan, 1773.

* * I fully expected to have had the pleasure of your Company, and that of my Sister, and Miss Kitty Ewing at Tinian during Christmas, but I suppose the condition of your children prevented

your taking the Journey. Mr. Grubb told me of the Dance at Lancaster to which he was going, but I had played Truant so long from Reading, that I could not go with him.

Mr. James Scull was this day interred in the Quaker's Burial Ground of this Town. He was very hearty about a Fortnight ago; he contracted a Pleurisy by being in a damp place, which brought on the Gout in his feet, and afterwards it settled in his stomach, and killed him. Mr. Biddle is greatly affected at his Death.

Mrs. Read had like to have been brought to her End last night by a Pot of live Coals put in her Chamber, which had no Chimney in it, but she is now out of Danger. Coll. Read is to be married on twelfth Night, and is gone down with his Father to celebrate his Nuptials.

—

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, 27th June, 1773.

* * Col. Francis arrived here to-day and intends for Fort Augusta tomorrow, in order to lay out some lands he has opposite to Sunbury into Out Lots.

I am told that Billy Allen went up to Lancaster with Mr. Hamilton; if so, please give my kind compliments to him. * *

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, 30th June, 1773.

* * We had a very jolly Trout Frolick yesterday with Col. Francis, who set off this Morning for Fort Augusta. Mr Biddle is not much the better for it this Morning, owing more I believe to his being very warm and dry and taking a few large draughts of Punch in that condition, than to any great Quantity of Liquor. When Mr. Biddle was preparing to return in his Phaeton, he found the Horses so very unruly that he would not venture. Upon which the Sheriff mounted one of them who reared and flounced and afterwards fell down;—broke the Swingle-Tree and gave the Sheriff a Bump on his Forehead.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 30th Aug. 1773.

Dear Sir :

I returned yesterday from Fort Augusta to Tinian and had a very good Court.

The Doctrine of Improvements came in question at the Court and it was determined,—that the putting up a few logs shoulder high with a design to settle before ye office opened and settling after the opening of ye office and improving gained a Title in preference to an early number in the Lottery.

To Col. J. Burd.

Oct. 20th, 1773.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I am at Womelsdorff Town where I have been sent for to draw Fred.k Weiser's Will, who is dangerously ill of a Dropsy—and am extremely busy. I just write this line to inform you that I heard yesterday that ye Turkey Bottom Lands have been advertised for Sale on ye 1st of November for non-payment of Taxes.

If that be ye Case, I suppose there will be a Necessity to send ye Money up immediately to prevent a Loss of ye Lands.

I am afraid this will not come in Time, as Mr. Patton is not ye most punctual Man in ye Delivery of Letters or any Business; however it is ye only Chance, I have of letting you know it. I hope soon to have ye pleasure of seeing you.

—

To J. Burd.

Lancaster, Feby 5th, 1774.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I herewith inclose you your letter from Uncle E. S. I shewed it to my grandfather who approved of it, as also of your letter to Uncle J. S. & General Haldemand, which I have sent down to my Uncle with the Commissions by Dr. Plunkett who set off yesterday and promised to take great care of them.

Uncle E. S. has made you an offer which I doubt not you will know before this reaches you of paying your Expenses to Virginia and all the fees for half your Right as Colonel. I do not think the offer

equivalent to ye value of your half, but it is such a one as under your circumstances, I do not think can be refused. I added to Uncle's offer that you should be provided with a suit of Broad Cloth, and a piece of linen for shirts. If Uncle agrees to this, I believe it would be advisable to accept his offer.

* * * I got Kelly to make a pair of shoes for my Mother, but I am afraid they are not big enough.

As you did not speak to Capt. Thompson, to pay him for the Survey, he let Mr. Feely have the tract he intended for you; but upon Uncle's J. S's interfering, he has let you have Col. Mercer's in the room, as that Gentleman has got his land in Bullets survey.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, July 3rd, 1774.

* * We have had a Meeting here on the present State of American Affairs, and entered into a Number of patriotic Resolves which you will soon see in the Papers.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, July 4th, 1774.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I received your kind Favor of the 13th, Ulto. and as so good an Opportunity offers as Mr. Read, I sit down to write a few lines to acknowledge it I observe

what you say with Regard to the unnatural Conduct of Great Britain towards her Children, who reverence her with filial affection instead of rebelling against her. It certainly ought not to be esteemed Rebellion to detest and exclaim against the Measures of a bad Minister, the End and Design of which are to reduce us to a state of Slavery. Affairs are now brought to a Crisis. The Parliament of Great Britain claim and have endeavored to enforce the Right of taxing America, she denies that such a Right exists and is determined to oppose ye Execution of it to Blood. If they both persist in a determined Resolution of this kind, wretched will be the Situation of us both. She, Great Britain may destroy our Trade, she may batter down our Cities. She may murder a great number of Americans, but they are a numerous, a brave People and will spill a great quantity of English Blood before they can be reduced to an abject Submission to the tyrannical Will of a Minister. The bad Consequences of such a War to Great Britain will be these. The Country upon which her beneficial Trade almost wholly depends will be depopulated, desolate and reduced to Poverty; consequently the Trade of the british Merchants must be greatly injured, by the Suspension of Commerce. by the Bankruptcies of our Merchants, and by the Poverty and Scarcity of our People. The Revenue will be greatly affected, by the withholding of the Tobacco Trade, and the impossibility of the West Indians sending home any of their Produce for want of Barrels and Hogheads.

The West Indies will be ruined for Want of Lumber and Provisions, besides the great Quantity of Blood spilt, and Treasure wasted by different parts of the same Empire, and if after the british Empire shall

be thus convulsed, they should be attacked by a foreign Power, it will hardly be able to sustain the shock.

To avert these dreadful Evils should be the Wish of every Briton and every American and any conciliating Measures which can be adopted with safety to the Liberties of the latter and the just Rights of the former, ought to be embraced with Raptures by them both.

In my Opinion, the ablest Men in America ought to be sent to a general Congress, and by their united Wisdom to form an American Bill of Rights; what that should be is a Matter of the greatest Difficulty to determine. The Bill of Rights with a dutifull Petition to the King, should be sent over, with all possible Dispatch, without using any intimidating Measures, because they would only tend to widen that Breach, which it would be our Happiness to fill up. Would it not be a ridiculous and inconsistent conduct to implore the favor and Protection of a great State, and at the same time using every Method to distress and starve her Inhabitants, and altho we have received a great deal of provocation, yet we ought to pursue such measures as will most probably turn out for our Good in preference to such as will in all likelihood exasperate our Mother country and drive her to Extremities to support what they call the Glory and Honor of Great Britain. If after every Method of Reconciliation tried by us, they should continue to reject our just Prayers, then when no Alternative but Liberty or Opposition is left, it will be time enough to oppose to the utmost of our Abilities the ministerial Schemes of Oppression. We shall by this Conduct gain a great

many Friends in Britain and be justified to our own Conscience and to the World. It may be objected that the People of Boston are suffering in the mean while. I commiserate their Situation from the Bottom of my Heart—and think that all America is wounded thro' their Sides.

It is our Duty to give them the most generous Contribution for their Support at this calamitous time—but dont let us thro' Resentment or thro' Consideration of the trivial Loss which they must sustain upon this Occasion endanger the Happiness and Safety of all America. Let us first send over a Message of Peace unmixt with Threats or threatening Behaviour with a firm and steady demand of our Rights as Men, and if we are refused, we shall soon have an Answer back, perhaps in three Months, and then if it is unfavorable, it will be Time enough to enter Resolves to break off all Commerce with them and behave to them as a distinct Kingdom. Better to run the Risque of No Existence than to exist in Slavery.

It will be a Herculeian Task to form a Bill of Rights to please both Great Britain and her Colonies, and requires great Knowledge and Foresight. Whether the Congress will not think upon something of this kind, I have been considering with myself.

That America shall not import Goods from any foreign Port, which she can procure from Britain of its own Manufacture, but she shall pay no more Duties for them than the People of Great Britain themselves pay. That we may export to any part of the World we please;—except in Time of War, that we should not supply the Enemies of Great Britain with any Military Stores. That Great Britain shall for the

future have no Power to make any Laws binding on us, except for the purposes above mentioned. That in Consideration of the Protection afforded us by the British fleets and Armies each Colony will pay such a certain Proportion of the Expenses of the Army and Navy as shall be agreed upon by the general congress upon a full view of our Situation and Circumstances compared with those of Great Britain. It would be a matter of great Difficulty to settle what that Proportion ought to be, but I think we are bound to pay some part of those Expenses. When we have once settled the Quantum, we must continue the Mode of raising it in the respective Assemblies. I would also have inserted in the Bill of Rights, that all the Laws of Trade should be repealed but those which respect Goods of british Manufacture.

I beg Pardon for troubling you with these Sentiments on Public Affairs, which I dare say will be conducted with the greatest of Wisdom, by the Persons appointed to the important Trust; but as you favored me with some of yours on the same Subject, perhaps mine may not be disagreeable to you.

I desire my kind Love and Duty to Grandmama and Love to Miss Patty. I am greatly at a Loss here for an Office here in in a good Situation, and I should be exceedingly glad of a fixed settled Place from which I cannot be removed. Dr. Kuhn has got a good House and Lot here which I would be very anxious of getting if it was possible, for a moderate Price and Terms of Payment. I have wrote over to Mr. Yeates by this Opportunity to find out from the Doctor, what his lowest Terms would be, and then I can conduct myself accordingly.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading. September 10th, 1774.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

We have been lately alarmed here with the most afflicting News that could happen to America. No less than that a civil war had actually commenced between us and the People of Great Britain. As the first Accounts that we received did not contain absolute Certainty of the Fact, we sent an Express down in order to be in Philadelphia when the Post came in, that we might be the sooner out of suspence and have our Intelligence good. We returned this Morning with an Account that the Story had been false, and that there was no Disturbance at all in Boston. It is true that General Gage did seize on part of the Powder belonging to the People of Boston, and in order to prevent his taking the rest they assembled about 4000 men. That the General ordered them to disperse, and threatened to fire on them if they refused; they did refuse and he drew out 1000 of his Men who told him they would obey any Orders but those of firing on their Fellow Subjects, so nothing further passed. But the Country got alarmed and 20,000 Men marched down to Boston under the Command of Israel Putnam, but when they found how Matters were circumstanced they all dispersed peaceably.

You may have seen a Letter published in the Papers said to have been signed by this Israel Putnam, which gave rise to this false and villanous Report, but that was forged. Mr. Putnam happened to hear soon of that Letter and immediately wrote to inform the Congress that it was a forgery. That Gentleman is said to have distinguished himself at the Tak-

ing of Louisburg, is esteemed an excellent Officer and is at the Head of the Massachusetts Militia. The troops at Philadelphia set off this morning for Boston and General Gage who has already 7000 Men with him has sent home for 6 Regiments more.

I mentioned to you when I had last the pleasure of seeing you, my Intentions to get a little land in Northumberland County if I could.

I staid a Week up there after the Court and have taken up in partnership about 1000 acres of which my share will be about 350 acres. Some of it is extraordinary good land, and some tolerably good Wheat land, but not of the best quality, it is only 4 miles from the River; 100 Acres I took intirely on your Plans. It appeared to me that about 15 Acres of Meadow might be made. The land about was exceedingly well timbered and tillable though stony, and being so nigh the River, I thought it might turn out to some account in a few years, and therefore secured it against the judgment of the person who was with me.

I beg my kind Duty to Grandmama and Love to my Sister who to my great Joy, I hear is safely delivered. Our late Loss made me very apprehensive for my dear Sister Sally especially as it had affected her so much, which greatly added to my Happiness on hearing the good News.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, 16th Nov., 1774.

Dear and Honour'd Sir:

I returned last night from Northampton where I

had gone last Sunday with Mr. James Allen at his pressing Instance. He treated me with great Politeness and good Humour. He took me all round the Town, introduced me to several of the People, and rode with me to a beautiful little Island he has in the great Lehi.

I suppose Mr. Yeates has informed you of the Resignation he has kindly made in my favor. It was as agreeable to me as unexpected; and I firmly believe will be advantageous to us both. It will introduce me to the particular Acquaintance of some of the first men in the Province, and the Income of the Office is a clever Thing for a young Fellow—With Respect to Mr. Yeates, altho his Trouble will be increased yet I imagine, he will make more Money by his Practice. The worst part of the Story to me is that I must give up my practice and King's Attorneyship at Northumberland, which has been pretty considerable to me; because the Supreme Courts of May and November will happen at the Time the Northumberland Courts are held. I must practice in Lieu of that Court at Easton and try to balance accounts by that means. However I do not intend to leave off practice at Fort Augusta till next Fall.

The having of an Office by which I am sure of a clever Income is a Thing that pleases me greatly; for Business is more precarious; and I am exceedingly obliged both to Mr. Yeates and my Uncle—to the one for resigning in my favor, and to the other for giving it to me with such Chearfulness.

I beg my kind Love and Duty to Grandmama and Love to Miss Patty.

To J Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, Feby 21st, 1775.

* * My best Compliments and Wishes attend all your good Family;—Among whom your sociable Neighbour (Dr. Edward Hand?) is not to be forgot, as he is so intimate that he may almost be reckoned one of the Family.—If you will not allow it now, I hope you must very shortly, and wish you a great deal of Happiness in the Connexion.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, 17th March, 1775.

* * I beg my best Compliments to the Bride and Bridegroom (Mrs. and Dr. Edward Hand,) and all Friends.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading. 10th June, 1775.

* * To a man of Integrity the bare Mention of a Bribe is an Injury and I can well judge of your Feelings on the Occasion. Nothing could be more absurd or incredible than the Charge against you. But the Conduct itself is so far from meriting even Censure, that in my Opinion it is praiseworthy. It is no more than what has been done in this County, and also in York County, as I found from the Copy of an Advertisement with Mr. Smith's name to

it. It is but reasonable that such free Americans as refuse to muster should either find a man in their Room, and pay a Proportion of the Expenses of the Company, or else pay the Wages of a Man every day of Muster, besides a Proportion of the other Expenses, but as to forcing a Man to act against his Conscience and ye prejudices of his Education deeply rooted with his Religion, I neither think there is a Necessity for it at this time, or can be at all justified on any good grounds.

There are so many poor People in the Companies that I think those Conscientious People paying more Money than the rest will rather be of service than otherwise. Some persons must stay at home to till the ground, and is it not better that these Tillers should be such Men as either dare not, or have no Stomach to fight.

I question much whether the making these People pay in the Manner I have mentioned is a proper thing to be done by a County Committee, or by a Provincial Convention. Our Committee have very little opposition to their Measures as yet.

Their Resolve about Arming is this. They first resolve that it is the Duty of every Freeman to take up Arms, and then that they consider every Freeman who does it not as an Enemy to the Liberties of America, "Except he be really prevented by conscientious Motives "from taking up Arms on any Occasion whatever."

I think you have been used exceedingly ill and the persons who have been active in the Matter should be brought to a publick Acknowledgement of their Misconduct. If you want any Assistance, you remember the Resolve of the Provincial Convention.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Prospect Hill, October 3rd, 1775.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

I have written a number of letters to you, and my other friends in Lancaster, many of which must certainly have miscarried. I find that I must not pay much regard to the cry of an engagement being likely to happen soon, as the same cry has been constantly echoed both before and since my arrival at the camp. When two armies are in sight of each other, there must be constant expectation of an engagement, no one can tell whether the opposite party will make an attack or not. I think I have acted as a volunteer at a time, and long enough to show my hearty disposition and wishes for the success of the cause we are engaged in, and have sacrificed voluntarily and freely as much, in proportion to my circumstances, as any one of them can boast. That no opportunity has offered, since my arrival, of my being in action, is not my fault. But that consideration ought not to keep me here to the ruin of my business, and longer than I can support my credit in the capacity I act. Indeed, I live as frugally as I possibly can, and would be able to continue here with what cash I have, a month longer. But how must my business suffer? I am therefore determined to set off next week on my return to Pennsylvania, and to be at the Lancaster Court if possible: When I shall enjoy the pleasure of seeing you and my other friends, increased by the great distance I have been from you. Gen'l Gage is going home, and Gen'l Howe will command in his stead. Dr. Church, the principal physician in our army is confined, for keepiug up a very criminal cor-

respondence with the regulars, by means of shorthand writing, is _____ and it appears that he has been as industrious as possible, in giving the enemy intelligence of our measures and situation.

To J. Burd.

Sunbury, Nov. 1st, 1775.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

I arrived here, after long delays and a little missing of the road, the day before yesterday noon. We took a path that led into Plout's valley, by which we went six miles out of our road. However, we feasted on venison all the way up, which made amends for the tediousness and length of the road

There was a great deal of talk here of going against the Yankees when I came up, but it has subsided a good deal. The snow and severity of the weather coming on, has made it a little discouraging. The Assembly and Governor are determined that the laws of this province shall be executed at Wyoming, the consequence of which will be a scuffle. When the attempt will be made I cannot tell, but I believe the justices are chiefly against it. At present, whether the Yankees will not by delay grow too strong to be attacked, I cannot say. I intend to set off on Saturday for Reading. I have not received a single farthing yet; bad times for us poor lawyers.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, Nov. 17th, 1775.

I have had a pretty good Court, notwithstanding the Badness of the Times. I have had 3 Arguments with Mr. Ross in which he has been uncommonly abusive. I did not spare Animadversions on his Conduct, altho' I would not descend to follow his Example in abuse. The Court have since expressed to me great Displeasure at Mr. Ross's Behaviour. I regard him not. * * * * *

I did not break the Matter we were speaking about. Want of Opportunity and time and certain Palpitations were the Causes. I intend shortly to write to you more particularly on the subject

To Col. James Burd.

Reading, 22nd December, 1775.

Dear & Honoured Sir.

I wrote lately to my Uncle, on the Subject I was mentioning to you and have waited for his answer before I shall write you. In my letter to him I set forth the Situation of my mind with the greatest freedom and Truth and as my Uncle and Friend as well as the Parent of * * I placed my Reliance. I received in answer a most affectionate Letter in which he told me that my Request was opposed by many prudential Considerations—the Times, the precariousness of Business and the Distance of the Place I lived in from Philadelphia all conspired to make the thing imprudent and improper, requested me to decline it and cease to consider in any other Light

than as a Friend and Cousin as such I should not fail of a kind Return. The warm Expressions of Friendship contained in my Uncle's Letter endear him to me; more than ever, but as it is impossible I can succeed in my Application which my Uncle would not have refused if it could be granted with any kind of Propriety or Prudence, I have wrote to him that I acquiesce in his Determination and shall never proceed any further in that Affair. This could not be done without feeling Pain. However I am determined to make my Words good and do all that lies in my Power to forget her, or at least master my Affection. I am greatly concerned that I did not mention the Matter to you in a more private Manner I would not for the World that anything I have said on the Subject should ever be repeated and should ever be glad that it was never more talked of in or out of the family. It is a Secret every where but with Mr. Yeates and at Tinian. I pray most earnestly it may remain so. There is a Delicacy which I feel about Things of this Nature which might be much worried. I was wrong in speaking so freely on that Head but the Fact was I was too presumptuous and too sanguine. However that Behaviour is past and cannot be now amended. Please to communicate this letter to my Mother and Sisters and give them the proper Cautions. If C——n and B——y should ever hear of my Behaviour it would make her very uneasy. But I trust the Subject will be dropped at Tinian and no more talked on either with one another but especially with no other Person. I beg the Compliments of the Season to my Mother and the Family with my kind love.

To J. Burd.

Reading, 20th Feby., 1776.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

I herewith send you your Fusee. I had lent it to one of the Associators here who has lost the Ramrod. I intended to have had it new stocked and a new Ramrod made to it before I sent it up, but as the Time of associating is near at hand and perhaps may not soon find another Opportunity, I send it as it is.

The Town of Reading is divided into districts and to form three Companies, the old Companies in the Town having been broken up. I am placed in the lower Division quite removed from that where I have Interest, as that I suppose I shall not be among the officers. In any other part of the Town I should have been chosen without dispute. I shall have the less trouble if I am not elected; Tho some talk of making me Captain. I am not acquainted with the people.

Mr. George Ross is laid up with the Gout and likely to stay some days. Dr. Potts has been seized with Colic, and was for some time delirious but is got better.

We have got some Tories here that were taken by General Schuyler; a number of the Family of McDonald from Scotland had settled on the Mohock River, with a great number of their clan. They were prevailed on by Sir John Johnson to take up arms against us, in the back parts of the New York Government, but were disarmed by General Schuyler, and six of the principal of them sent here as hostages.

It is said that Col. Dickinson has marched to join Gen. Lee at New York to oppose Clinton; but we have had no late (News?) from Philada.

To J. Burd.

Reading, Feby. 25th, 1776.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

This town is divided into districts: and three companies are to be formed in it. I am placed in the lower division, quite removed from that part where I have interests, so that I suppose I shall not be among the officers. In any other part of the town I should have been chosen without dispute. I shall have the less trouble if I am not elected—though there is some talk of making me Captain. Mr. George Ross is laid up with the gout here. We have got some tories here that were taken by Gen. Schuyler. A number of the family of Macdonald, from Scotland, had settled on the Mohawk, with great numbers of that clan. They were prevailed on by Sir John Johnson to take up arms against us in the back parts of New York, but were disarmed by Gen. Schuyler, and six of their principal men sent here as hostages.

To J. Burd.

Reading, 15th March, 1776.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

In the last letter I wrote you, I informed you of an intended election of Militia Officers in this Town. It is divided into 4 parts; and the lower Division in which I was, was contrived by a certain person so small and composed of so many of the people whom I know that did not associate, and almost all those who associated I was entirely unknown, so that I did not

expect hardly any office at all. However they chose me 1st Lieutenant, and Coll. Read 2nd Lieutenant; Mr. Joseph Hiester, Adam Witman's son-in-Law is the Captain. He himself is exceedingly anxious that I should be in his place and he in mine. But I would by no means consent to it. He is an exceedingly good humored friendly man, and I can esteem myself very happy in having such a person my Captain.

I send you herewith your Bayonet which I forgot to send you before.

We have very little News stirring, some people have been extremely solicitous for a Convention. But it made a great Noise in Philadelphia, and if not intirely knocked in the head, is at least postponed for the present. The people said in Philada. and very justly that when they elected a Committee it was for a particular purpose, but by no means as a Legislature in the Room of the Assembly. If they had imagined that to be the case, there would have been 10 times the number of electors. That the Committees not having been chosen for the purpose of Legislation by the People ought not to assume such powers. That the assembly had struck Money, passed Militia Law, ordered arms to be made and done every thing else that was proper on the Occasion for the Defence of the Province. That they are now raising 1500 Provincial Troops and intend to amend the Defects of the Militia Law. While they are proceeding in this course, they are doing their duty and there is no necessity for annihilating their powers, or transfer it into the hands of a Number of People who were not

delegated by the People for that purpose. These were the sentiments of a great number of People in Philadelphia and they were determined to abide by ye Assembly and support them. So that the talk of a Convention is now at an end. There ought however to be a fuller Representation of the back Counties. The Quakers have too much influence in the House for these times when a defensive War is to be vigorously carried on. This is a point which will and ought to be much insisted on. I do not think the Governor would refuse his consent to such a Law.

It is said Dunmore wanted Gen. Clinton to land and drive off some of our Troops; the latter asked him whether he thought they would not return. He was answered in the affirmative. Well then, said he, it will answer no purpose to do it. Lord Cornwallis is expected over very soon with 5000 troops. It is thought our ships are cruising in order to interrupt the Transports as they are coming over. They do not expect that we would be so hardy as to put a fleet to sea, and therefore would never think of sending Convoys with their Transports. I believe it to be the destination of our fleet and I do not think it to be a bad Scheme.

The Assembly it is said, intend to name such Officers as they please without appointing a day for a general Application. I question much whether that mode of proceeding will procure them the best officers, or be productive of success in recruiting. It will certainly cause great Dissatisfaction.

Business here is almost at a stand, at least with me. The people have got a Notion, that I intend again for the service, which is a great Hurt. This is a reward

for my Losses and Expense in the service of my Country. However I keep a light heart and I doubt not that I shall be able to maintain myself. There are a number of concurring causes to render my Business less at present. This I foresaw when I entered the service, but I can likewise prognosticate that Time and attention will bring all matters right again.

* * * * *

We expect some News of Importance from Boston very soon. General Washington is of the opinion that the Regulars intend to leave that City shortly and intends to give them a Brush before their departure. Common Sense is translated into Dutch and works on the Minds of those People amazingly. For my own part, I am against Independence, if we can possibly be reconciled upon terms consistent with our safety—but if these Commissioners only offer pardon, or will not treat with the Congress and secure us in our essential Rights, I do not know at present what would be my determination in such a case

I beg my most kind Duty to my Mother and Love to my Sisters and Brothers, and dear Sir, Your most affectionate and dutiful son.

E. Burd.

— —

Reading, 22nd April, 1776.

* * We were this day exercising the Battalion, so that I was detained a little longer than I could have wished from conducting Caty to a Tavern. Tho' I supposed it was not disagreeable to her to see the Battalion drawn up. This is the first time the Battalion has met. Tho' the men are not very perfect, yet every thing was done to their satisfaction.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, July 6th, 1776.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I mentioned in my last that I had been to Philadelphia. I found my Uncle E. S. had removed into the country, which you will naturally think was matter of great concern to me. My business would not permit me to pay him a visit at that time, but I hope that will not long be the case. My Uncle J. S. and his Family, I found in good health except their youngest daughter who had a little swelling under her chin. He purposes to purchase a farm but is not yet determined on the particular one.

I understand that you purpose to remove to Shippenburg, at some convenient time in case your office should be taken from you. I lament the cause, tho' I doubt not the measure is prudent. I wish it was my lot to live near you; but we must all be satisfied with our Situations in life.

I expect to be fixed on as a Major to proceed with the Militia Battalion of this county for the defense of the middle Colonies. If that should be the case, I think it my duty not to refuse. If an oath similar to that of Convention men was proposed to me, I should most certainly refuse, but I believe nothing of that kind will be imposed. I received two Letters from Uncle E. S., in the last of which he informs (me?) he is very comfortably settled, which makes me very happy.

To. J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, 6th July, 1776

* * I believe I mentioned to you my Ideas with respect to Independence. As the King of Great Britain is a limited Monarch and not absolute, and bound by his Coronation Oath to cause Justice in Mercy to be administered, and to protect his Subjects;—if he not only withdraws his Protection, but attempts their Destruction, I should think it amounted to a Discharge of their Allegiance which is only due in consideration of the Protection afforded. So far I am of independent Principles, but in Point of Policy, and for the sake of the Happiness of America, I have thought it wrong to declare Independence, because it strengthens the Hands of our Enemies and weakens our own, and it is a matter of doubt with me, whether we are able to attain, or support ourselves in such a State. Therefore I did not chuse to take an Oath to maintain it at all Events and at all times. The Oath of a Convention Man I cannot approve of. What Alteration my Sentiments may have at a future time I cannot determine, but at present I could not take it. If success does not attend our Pursuits I should think it hard to be bound up by an Oath to contest a Matter after all Hopes of Success are at an end. I am not unwilling to join in the Defense of America, altho' Independence is declared by Congress. I think it my Duty, and if we should become independent, perhaps we may still be a happy People. Wiser Heads than my own have determined that Point, and what is more, America has chosen it and with Respect to the matter of Policy I must submit, but of the matter of Right I entertain no Doubt.

There are no Oaths to be imposed on the officers as

I can find. I apprehended the Congress at Lancaster would have required them, but as the case stands, I have no Objections, but what would arise from matter of interest or Convenience for the time. These I am willing to sacrifice. I am sure it will cost me more Money than my Pay, but I must be contented. The Committee have left it to the Officers to chuse the Field. Officers. If I should not be elected, I shall be satisfied;—If I am, I shall go.

To J. Burd.

Reading, July 6th, 1776.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I lately went to Philadelphia, expecting to find my uncle there as usual, but both houses were shut up. It made me quite melancholy ; my uncle Edward Shippen has gone to the Jerseys, on a fine farm which he purchased there, about fifty miles from Philadelphia. I received a very kind invitation from him to go up to his place, but my affairs would not permit it. I will contrive before long to see them. It is not a day's ride from Easton, and if I do not turn out with the militia, it is possible I shall attend that court. But I believe, it will be expected of me to act as Major in the militia to be raised for a few months to serve in the middle colonies. If I am chosen, I am determined on going. as I have no notion of any man's refusing his service when his country calls on him. As this is a sudden emergency, I do not think I can see you before I go.

I bought a house and lot in Reading lately, and hope what payments are left behind will not be attended with any inconvenience, as I have a good many bonds, which, together with the rent, will nearly answer it, supposing all things to go ill with me.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, July 19th, 1776.

* * We expect to march off in two days time.

To J. Burd.

At a Town within 4 Miles of Berwick, }
 July 28th, 1776. }

Dear & honoured Sir :

I wrote you lately from Hitner's wherein I informed you of the reasons which induced me to step forth at this juncture. I wrote before of my intention so to do. I set off on Monday the 22nd Instant from Reading and went to Philadelphia where I had some business with the Convention. I there saw my Uncle J. S. and Family. He has purchased a little plantation of about 100 acres of Land, of which there is 30 Acres Meadow ground, with a neat house, office, barn &c. It lies about 12 miles west from Wilmington, not above a day's ride from Lancaster. He has sent part of his furniture there already, but does not intend to remove his family until the fall.

I set off from Philadelphia on Wednesday Evening and arrived at Trenton the next day in the afternoon; where I found the York and Lancaster Troops; consisting together of about 500 men—two of my companies making about 170 also arrived. According to the orders of General Mercer, they marched off yesterday (Saturday) morning and I expect will this night be in Brunswick; Part of them will go to Amboy and part to Elizabeth Town and Newark. We shall be stationed at Amboy, at my own request in order to be under the immediate direction of Gen. Mercer. Some more of the Lancaster and York Troops were expected in yesterday at Trenton; Capt. Witmore, and Capt. Postlewaite from Cumberl'd.

I took the Opportunity of crossing over to my uncle E. S. at Amwell, and shall be sooner at Brunswick than my men, from whence I intend to march to Amboy at their head about 12 miles.

I found my Uncle's family all in good health. Cousin Betsy was at Mr. John Allen's, about 12 miles from my Uncle's.

The Place is a very pretty—a fine House, tho' he enjoys but half of it for ye winter; a clever tract of land with a good deal of meadow. They are happily settled in these troublesome times. Mr. Elliott lives about 7 or 8 miles from them.

There has been a Cannonade at Amboy brought on by our firing at the Vessel which was aground; We lost one man killed and one wounded.—Tho' report has magnified it into a very important action. There are so many falsehoods spread abroad, that I never give credit to the first one, nor till I hear it confirmed several times.

. If any occurrences happen worth relating I shall not fail of communicating them from time to time.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Amboy, 30th July, 1776.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I arrived here yesterday afternoon and we are at present fixed in the Barracks tho' we expect shortly to be removed to some Houses in Town. We are within a short Distance of the Enemy but they are not very troublesome to us.

I am very kindly received by General Mercer, and am just going, to dine with him. We made a Parade just now thro the Streets of Amboy with a fine Body of men. I have not time at present to add more than I am with my kind Duty to Grandmama and Love to Miss Patty, &c.

To J. Yeates.

Long Island, 3rd Sept , 1776.

Dear Sir:

I was taken prisoner at an advanced Post on the morning of ye 27th Ult., after a skirmish. On the same Day Capts. Hubert and Heister were both made prisoners. I was used with great Civility by General Grant and admitted to my Parole. Brigadier General Agnew and Major Leslie and Major Batt also treated me with great Politeness.

You must be sensible that hard money can only be of Service in my present Situation. The Politeness of several Gentlemen would have fully supplied me with it, but I have only taken what will be immediately necessary for me. I should be much obliged to

you if you could procure me a small Bill of Exchange in which perhaps Mr. Dundas of Reading could assist you, or Gold to the amount of about £20.

I can not learn the fate of poor Col. Hand or Jesse Ewing, but believe they are not Prisoners. Col. Reed, the Adjutant General will be the only person who can convey anything to me My Letter must be short. My love to all the Family.

I am Dear sir;

Your affect. Brother, Edw. Burd.

—

To J. Burd.

Philadelphia, Dec. 12th, 1776.

Dear and Honoured Sir:

I am at last so fortunate as to be exchanged, though it happened not by intention, but accident. General Washington sent about ten or twelve prisoners to New York, and intended to name the persons who were to be sent in exchange; but Gen. Howe took the first Major, Captains, Lieutenants, &c, who happened to be on his list of prisoners, and sent them in exchange. I happened to be the first Major, and was therefore so lucky as to be returned. General Washington was surprised to see me. However he was so polite as to tell me, that from the character I bore he was satisfied with my being the person, though he did not like the mode, especially as I was in a Standing Regiment I do not know what he could mean by that, as the time of our regiment will expire by the first of June next, and I am sure the men will not stay a day longer.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philadelphia, 12th Dec., 1776.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I arrived here yesterday morning from New York, having been exchanged for Major McDonald of the Royal Emigrants. I am in good health, which I am confident from my own feelings will not be a disagreeable piece of news to you. The Regulars advanced Guard were yesterday at Burlington, and every body expects that an attack will soon be made on Philadelphia. General Washington is opposite to them, with I suppose about 6000 men and General Lee is no great distance from him in the Jerseys. The Windmill Island and some other places were fortifying yesterday, and the Gondolas are all ready to prevent their crossing. God knows what will be the event. I intend to go out this morning to see my Uncle's Family where I propose staying two or three days. I then must go to Reading, from whence I shall go to Lancaster and Tinian,



To E. Shippen of Lancaster

Tinian, March 7th, 1777.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I herewith send you the Battle of Bunker Hill, of which I beg your Acceptance—I have laid out my Summer Work here but whether another or myself will have to do with one part depends upon an Incertainty.

If anything extraordinary happens I doubt not you will communicate the Intelligence.

I beg my Duty to Grandmama and Love to Miss
 Patty. I am Dear Sir,
 Your affectionate and dutiful Grandson,
 Ed. Burd.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, March 29th, 1777.

* * The Ides of May will be very apt to
 catch me in the famous City of Philadelphia, unless
 some evil Genius should send Gen. Howe there. We
 have had the laughing Mr. Clymer and Mr. Jack here
 a day or two.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, April 21st, 1777.

Dear Sir:

I inclose you a letter to my fair one, which I beg
 you to forward by a safe hand. I am much obliged
 to you for your Care in forwarding the Letters up to
 me. It is a matter of great Importance to me. It
 was extremely agreeable to receive our past Letter,
 the Contents however were not fully satisfactory to
 me, but I have no right to complain. Allowances
 must be made for the Modesty of ye Sex, of which
 she possesses a very great share. There is nothing
 unfavorable, which is all I could expect.

I shall be down about the middle of May. Be
 pleased to see a little about my Waistcoats and
 Breeches.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 7th May, 1777.

* * Your Sentiments respecting my most interesting Affair flatter my Hopes greatly. I cannot easily account for it but so it is that I always fear the worst that can happen. However I cannot help thinking that from my fair One's Conduct, She is favorably inclined towards me. These times are so exceedingly alarming, that it will be almost impossible to obtain any degree of certainty on that point. No industry or attempts on my part shall fail to procure it. But I can hardly help looking on myself as criminal to do it lest my Situation in these distressed and calamitous State of Affairs may not intitle me to so fine a Girl. I weary myself with fears and conjectures and plague you too;—do forgive my Impertinence. I am always thinking and too fond of talking and writing on this subject.

P. S. The Stocking Weaver up above George Hoofnagel's promised me to weave my Stockings for me. I wish my Sister would remind him of it, and prevail on him to weave both Thread and Cotton by the latter End of next Week. It will do me a great Kindness as otherwise I shall only have old stockings to wear in Philadelphia. My good Summer Cloathing were all lost at Long Island.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, May 12th, 1777.

* * By two Letters I received from Cousin Neddy I find my Answer to Cousin Betsy did not come to hand. * * I here inclose a

fresh letter, for fear of ye worst, and if you cannot find a very good opportunity be so good as to give it to ye Post immediately. If ye Post would take ye Trouble of calling on Mr. Robeson who lives directly opposite to Jos. Yeates's Tavern in Chestnut Street midway between 2nd and 3rd Streets it would greatly oblige me. * * * Elijah Wickersham is dead and buried.

To J. Burd.

Lancaster, 26th, May, 1777.

As I found that almost every Body had got Hessians for Servants, I thought it would not be amiss as Harvest is coming on to try to get a couple for you. I have applied to Mr. Atlee for that Purpose who says if he can get two clever fellows for you he will do it. The Price the Committee has limited their Wages at is 1s. per diem, to prevent People outbidding each other, You can make them thresh, mend the fence, assist at your new Meadow whiles Honnes and Jack are at ye Plough and Paul at ye Garden. At any Rate if you do not like them you can return them. I am just setting off for Philadelphia.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 13th June, 1777.

* * * Those silk Waistcoats I got at Lancaster are the most rotten things I ever wore. They

stand me in 6 dollars each. I herewith send one to you, and must beg the favor of you to send it to any vendue that happens to be made at Lancaster. Perhaps some of your great young Men may take a fancy to it and purchase it. Whatever it brings I shall be contented for it is Extravagance to wear it if I can only get two dollars for it. The other is too much to sell, and I must trudge on with it.

I inclose you a Packet of consequence. You find I am not slow in pursuing the Advice of my friends when it corresponds so strongly with my own Inclinations. I fancy one of the inclosed Letters will produce an Answer. How we flatter ourselves. Quaere says my Lord Coke, for which same word many weighty Reasons might be advanced, did Time and Opportunity offer My Hemp looks tolerably well. I must raise my House next week.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 11th July, 1777.

* * Col. Lutz having behaved in the most shameful, pitiful manner, by an offer of Continental Money in the room of the Gold. To put me to Straits in paying Money furnished him on such a pressing occasion, I look upon as the basest Ingratitude. * * * * There is a Report that Colonel Miles is come home. I hope it is true.

To. J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 3rd September, 1777.

Dear Sir :

I received your very acceptable favor which gave me a double Pleasure—that you are safe returned to your family at this troublesome time and that I am not quite indifferent to my Charmer. Indeed you could not have chosen a subject more agreeable to me, and I will give your good nature so much Credit as to be persuaded that the Pleasure you enjoyed in communicating to me so much Happiness overbalanced the Pain you endured in writing the Letters. * *

* I believe I informed you in a former Letter that my fair one gave me as much satisfaction in her Epistle as such an Animal as I dared to wish for and from all Circumstances I flatter myself that was I in a way of maintaining a family, I might hope for the completion of my Desires ;—but alas ! that time appears far distant—I wish I could turn the Perspective and bring the Prospect nearer to my view. She tells me to keep up my Spirits and not to be indulge my melancholy Ideas. Is not that written with a generous Spirit? A Girl of the greatest Modesty, without the smallest Tincture of Prudery. She is all that my Imagination can paint lovely or “that youthful poets fancy when they love.” The affair of the fan I think shows that she looks upon herself in a different Light with Respect to me than her Sisters ;—else why her Embarrassment more than others ; her Reserve upon that Topic and Freedom upon others is a little ominous.

My Industry shall not be wanting to remove the Obstacles even tho' these troublesome times should continue, unless we should be absolutely ruined. And I have no doubt of bringing matters about in a couple

of Years, but that seems a couple of Ages to me, and I do not know how I shall be able to support such a length of time, but Necessity will bring me Patience. It is in vain to attempt to remove Mountains. *

* * I shall have a great deal of that (trouble) in clearing the Remainder of my Island which I must endeavour to effect. It is honoured with the name of Elizabeth Island, which is a Circumstance that tends not a little to endear it to me, and is not unknown to the Person whose name it has taken.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 17th November, 1777.

* * If Salt Peter is not too extravagantly high, please to send us a pound for our Winter's Meat, and charge it to me.

I am just getting over my Hemp from the Island which will be a troublesome job.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 14th Dec. 1777.

* * I shall be obliged to you if you could procure me 2 lb. Chocolate. If none is to be had, please to send me a quarter of a pound of Bohea Tea.

I am getting heartier and had some thoughts of paying you a visit when my Health was certainly re-established, as sometimes Relapses come on, but it will depend on circumstances.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 5th Dec. 1777.

I wrote you a long letter but * * * determined to destroy it as my Indignation at some of the Measures of Government was too freely expressed in it. A Stranger to Pennsylvania who should peruse our Declaration of Rights which was framed by the Convention as the fundamentals of our Constitution would think me either in jest, or that I meant to slander the G..... A..... To acquit me of such a Charge—I need only mention, that our representative Body, to whom alone the Power of Legislation was thought to be intrusted, have delegated that power into the hands of another Body, the Executive Council of State; which is liable to four great objections, 1. That they are not invested with such a Power either by the People or the Constitution. 2. That by such a Delegation the People lose the grand Privilege of being governed by their Representatives. 3. The legislative and executive Authority become united which all political writers declare to be a state of Despotism. 4. If the Assembly is now sitting, we have two Legislatures at the same time, than which there can be no greater absurdity; and since I am objecting I will add; 5. If an Assembly can alter the Constitution so materially without the People's consent, if they can constitute a new Legislature for five Months, why cannot they do it in perpetuum.

And this new Council or rather Legislature have made a most inhuman Law, in giving Power to deprive People of all their Subsistence, both in Eatables and Clothing, and even those who may be left a little por-

tion of their own, they are not paid much above half the value of what is taken away. If this Act is carried into Execution with all the Rigor with which it is penned (And horrible it is to be at the mercy of Jack Nokes or Tom Stiles) miserable will be the State of the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania.

If you are allowed to speak with John Brown, perhaps he might be able to give some information respecting my Uncle E. S's Situation.

I am doubtful whether this Letter would not according to the high Hand with which things are carried on be considered in a criminal Light, but certain I am that if there is the smallest Spark of Freedom in the State, they might be safely published to the World.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, 24th Dec. 1777.

* * We wish you all a merry Christmas and the Return of many in happier times than the present. Adam Witman has been here and presses hard for me to go to Reading. I excused myself because the Constitution was not settled. He said never mind the Constitution, all the Acts done under this Constitution will be confirmed. I am told some Strangers are running away with all the Business. But being in another County, if I was ever so well disposed to act, which at present I do not seem inclined to; how could I get over the Line of the two Counties, it is as bad as passing the Rubicon.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Tinian, May 3rd, 1778.

Dear Sir :

You have greatly surprized me by your late Advices. I have seen the York Town Papers, which contain ye Draughts of ye Bills to be presented to Parliament, and ye Resolutions of Congress thereon. I think ye English have left themselves very open, tho' they still appear desirous of preserving the Right. How ridiculous to declare they will not tax us, and yet declare that they have a Right to do it This is the very Bone of Contention. It is the Matter of Right which has inflamed the Colonies, not the severe or rigorous Exercise of it. It could not therefore answer the End of Conciliation indirectly to declare they would not give up that Point.

Before ever Peace can take place, I think the Conduct on the other side of the Water must be open, plain, and liable to no double constructions, to be made use of as Occasion serves. It really astonishes me to reflect upon ye Conduct of so wise, politic, enlightened and (upon other Occasions) generous a Nation as the british is. The difficulty of carrying on a War to enslave a People who had been accustomed to ye Sweets of Freedom, at so great a Distance must have occurred to any one. The Assistance France would give might easily be foreseen by reflecting on her former Behaviour when Scotland and England were distinct Kingdoms. It is true that the strength of America was unknown, but when the feelings of a Nation are attacked and roused it gives them strength, or at least occasions every Exertion of it. They did not give the least Alloy to the Bitterness of ye Pill, America was to swallow till it was too late. All ye

Treatment was harsh, unkind, and contemptuous. Now that America has fallen into other Views, she is willing to do them Justice and that only by halves. I fear the Consequences however of these things, and dread ye fate that still awaits America.

To J. Burd.

Lancaster, June 12th, 1778.

Commissioners are arrived from England and prevented the Evacuation of the City. It is thought however that they will not effect any Thing and that it will only retard the Departure of the Enemy for a short Time. Some say that some Re-inforcements are arrived with them; others deny it. Some also say that the Commissioners have Powers full even to the Acknowledgement of Independence, but I cannot believe that their Powers can extend further than the two Acts of Parliament, which we have seen published, and which were put to ye Congress by Gen.l Clinton, specify:—an Express from the Commissioners went thro here late the night before last to the Congress. Gen.l Clinton's Secretary came to our Picquett Guard with a Message lately, at which Gen.l Washington expressed great Displeasure as ye usual Formalities were not observed. Gen.l Washington moved nearer ye Enemy yesterday morning. All is quiet at present in Expectation of ye Proposals of ye Commissioners and Proceedings thereon. I expect nothing from them.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Reading, 22nd August, 1778.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

I have just received a Letter from Mr. McKean in which the Appointment of Prothonotary of the Supreme Court is made certain to me, and I am to be in Philada. by the first day of September next.

I am very sorry that you had not the desired Success in your Application, but it was owing I suppose to its being made even after the Commission had been granted and even in this Town.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadadelphia, 3rd January, 1779.

Dear Sir;

Being now become an old married fellow, I can sit down to Business with more composure than formerly—that is I have relapsed into a reasonable Being, which I had almost lost all Pretensions to, by the happy Event which had taken place. The serious Care of providing for a Family will soon employ my Attention and Industry. I am almost frightened when I consider of the amazing Price of every Article and Necessary of Life in this City. Suppose I had an Inclination to purchase 20^{or} 30 Bushels of Wheat what could I procure it for in or near your City? Mrs. Francis has a neat new House at the Corner of fourth and Walnut Streets, which she intends to let me have the Use of for six or eight Months as well as of her Furniture; I paying the House Rent, Maid's Wages, and replacing the Wood, flour and such other Articles as I shall consume when I leave the House.

It is such a House as I would chuse. It is large enough, warm, convenient, and not 100 Yards from Mr. Shippen's, and rents at £60 per Annum. Could any thing happen more fortunately for a young Couple just beginning the World? I have purchased and bespoke many Articles of Household furniture. I think I have Money enough to furnish off a small House tolerably genteel and that my Way is pretty clear. There is one unfortunate Circumstance. I am obliged to lay out £250 in the purchase of a Horse, as my Mare is with foal and cannot be used. She suits me so well in every particular that I cannot think of parting with her without some necessity, or my getting another that will suit me as well both for the Saddle and Chair. I keep her now at 3 dollars a Week upon hay. I herewith send you a Copy of the Laws passed at the last Session of the late Assembly; which I procured as a favor for they are not to be sold. The Laws of the first Session of this Assembly are yet in the Press. When they are published under COLOUR of OFFICE I must get two Copies again, one of which you shall have.

Your Bargain of the House for £3000., I think a good one considering the Depreciation of the Money—**GO ON AND PROSPER.** Mr. Shippen had some Thoughts, I believe, of purchasing it.

I wrote you as soon after my Marriage as my attention to Company and flutter of Spirits would permit.

You mention a Report of another Wedding being likely to take place in the family. You may recollect my Suspicions, when I last saw you notwithstanding the Refusal. My Expectations have been answered; I was almost sure it could not be otherwise. A lame Leg is at present the only Obstacle. But a Lady who

makes that the only Objection, and is firmly persuaded it will soon be well can never retract, however expressly conditional an Engagement may have been made. However we have every Reason to hope it will be well again, tho' I am not so sanguine as he is with respect to the time;—but the Leg will be a couple of Inches shorter than the other and disfigured. He appears from the slight Knowledge I have of him to be a well disposed Man, and one that will use his best Endeavours to make P..... happy, and I doubt not will succeed. He has acquired something handsome and a Settlement will be previously made.

I can write you no News but that Mr. McKean has prosecuted General Thompson for a Libel, he was discharged upon ye first Warrant for its Irregularity.

Betsy joins in the sincerest good Wishes to Sally, yourself, and family.

Your very Affectionate Brother,

E. Burd.

General Cadwalader, the Town says is to be married to Miss Willy Bond. He has laid a dozen pair of Gloves with Peggy Shippen that there will be 12 Marriages among her Acquaintances before next Christmas, my Wedding and his own inclusive.

To J. Burd.

Philadelphia, March 12th, 1779.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

The cat is not yet let out of the bag ; the good news which it is said was so favorable to America, is yet kept a profound secret. Thus far we are informed, that it is of a cabinet nature, and it is of the utmost

importance. Amid so great a variety of conjecture, we have no ground on which we can build any opinion. We are told that we know every thing, that is for our advantage at present to be informed of. Many people believe that Congress has only spread the report, with a view to keep up the spirit of the people, and raise the credit of the paper money, but I am of a far different opinion. I firmly believe that there is some news which will lead to matters of the utmost consequence, but they are not yet sufficiently ripened to be asserted as facts to the public. Great Britain is preparing for a vigorous campaign; as far at least as voting in the House of Commons will make it, but there are old maxims that dictate the most vigorous exertions, in order to get the better peace, so that this circumstance does not discourage me. I expect to get to housekeeping the latter end of this month. I should be glad you would send the boy to Lancaster the last week in March—perhaps he might go behind some man—or you might possibly (get) to take him down, if no other mode can be used. He must come down from Lancaster in a wagon. There is a pair of candlesticks which I bought of Ab'm Wickersham, which please send to Mr. Yeates, as early as possible. If no opportunity offers before the boy comes down, please to contrive to send them by him to Mr. Yeates.

I shall set off tomorrow with my dear Betsy, on a visit to Uncle Joseph Shippen, in Chester County, if the weather is favorable; we have been waiting for good weather and roads some days. Mrs. Francis, Mr. Shippen, Betsy and the family, join in kind love to you all.

To Col. James Burd.

Philadelphia, March 23, 1779.

Dear & Honoured Sir:

* * * * *

The Assembly are now trying whether ye Proprietors have a Right to any Quit Rents or to more than 1-10th of ye Lands in Philadelphia. This matter is now in Debate before ye House. I will at my Leisure give you a particular account of it.

There is a rumor that Spain and Russia have interceded and procured ye offer of Terms of Peace and that new Commissioners are coming over, but I do not know what Dependence to place upon it.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 23 March, 1779.

* * On Thursday last Mr. Ross opened the Propriety Cause, to show Reasons why the Quit Rents should not be abolished, and 9-10ths of the unpurchased Lands vested in the State. Yesterday Mr. Sergeant and Mr. Ingersoll spoke in behalf of the State. Mr. Sergeant divided his Argument into two parts. In one he considered the point in the View of private Justice to the Penn Family; in the other, he considered it in the View of publick Justice.

In considering the 1st Point, he insisted that Charles the 2d had no Right to Pennsylvania, as it was not a Conquest; for that the Discovery of Pagan Lands gave no right at all, but only of derelict Lands. That the Indians were the true and only Proprietors of this

Province. That the only just Title, was that of purchase, but in this the Assembly of Pennsylvania, furnished the principal part of the Expence, which was that of holding Treaties. The unpurchased Lands, if acquired by Congress from ye Indians last year, he contends ye Proprietaries will have no right to. That the Purchase Money paid by the Proprietaries was trifling in comparison of that Expence. That whoever paid the Money of ye Purchase, ought to have Use : but allowing ye Penns had ye Right, yet ye Concessions operated as a Defeazance to that Right. That it was executed by Wm. Penn with the 1st Adventurers, representing the then future Settlers of Pennsylvania. This was evidenced by the Laws, which it provided for, and could not be confined to a few. That it reserved Quit Rents only in the case of servants ; which excluded them in all other Cases. That by ye Votes of ye Assembly it appeared that Quit Rents were revived by Wm. Penn merely as Governor : that his Government ceasing by ye Declaration of Independence, abolished the Quit Rents, as no longer necessary for that purpose, which gave rise to them ; and that ye Proprietaries by those Concessions reserved to themselves only a right to 1-10th, and that by lot, and not picked out.

But in ye publick view, so enormous a Property in ye hands of one person was dangerous to ye Liberty, and to ye State as in ye case of Crassus, ye family of Medici &c., and tho' he thought it would not be right, suddenly to introduce an agrarian Law, because it might cause Tumults; yet no one person ought to possess so enormous a property, as to become dangerous to ye Liberty of ye Country.

To J. Burd.

Philadelphia, June 18th, 1779.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

Having been much engaged since my return to the city, and expecting a full confirmation of the very important news from Charleston, I have delayed writing till this time. I am sorry it is not so well authenticated as I wished, but the accounts came through such a variety of channels, and all the same in substance, that we must give credit to it, though perhaps the truth may vary in some circumstances. We have been looking for an express every day since my arrival, but to no purpose. We are greatly at a loss to account for the neglect in the people of Charleston. Some say that they are offended at the inattention shown by congress to their defence, others attribute it to the continuance of the warlike operations before the town, which engrosses all their time and attention, notwithstanding the repulse and loss of the enemy. Their remaining force is very considerable. A sailor arrived yesterday, who says, as I am informed by some, that he was in the battle, by others, that he was within a few miles of the place, and received the information from others, but I am inclined to believe from circumstances of the relation that he was in the garrison at the time of the engagement.

The account he gives is this. That before the invasion of Carolina, an embargo had been laid on the vessels in port, that on the 7th May, the gates were shut, and martial law declared, that on the 9th the enemy advanced, and on the 10th, in the evening at five o'clock, made an assault upon the town with about 3500 British troops and as many Tory refugees, which continued till 9 o'clock. They had brought pontoons

with them and attempted to cross with 1500 men, and land on another part of the town, while the main body attacked in front, but this plan was prevented by two or three vessels, and a battery, which not only hindered the execution of the design but also kept the troops from returning to the shore. They were obliged to put over to an island, called James Island, and a body of our troops are between them and their main body. The enemy were entirely repulsed, and left 653 dead on the field. They retreated to a place called the Neck, about five miles off, some say eight or nine miles off. General Williamson had got into the town, and the garrison was a very large one. General Lincoln was three days march in the rear, and the bridges were all broken by the enemy, to retard his march.

Their success is not decisive, but is nevertheless of great consequence, as it will raise the spirits of the people, and make many more join the army than perhaps otherwise would have done. I am in hopes of further good accounts from this quarter.

What is a great confirmation of the repulse is the entire silence of the New York papers, so late as the 10th instant. They pretend to know nothing of it but what they have from our papers. Such quantities of sugar have come in lately that it sells for the barrell £100 per the hundred. We are in very great want of our boy; I wish it was possible to get him down soon. If he has not left Tinian before this reaches you, be pleased to send him to Mr. Yeates, at Lancaster, as I believe that will be the quickest method of getting him down. We are really at a great loss without him.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 18th June, 1779.

Dear & Honoured Sir :

I sent you 1 lb. of Chocolate per Johnny Hubley for 8 dollars and 6 lb. more in a Box to Mr. Yeates at 7 dollars per pound for which your Son has paid the Money. I wrote you also per the Waggoner who took the Chocolate what Mr. Harbeson had said with respect to the Copper Kettle.

A Man has arrived from Carolina who says he was in the Engagement and confirms the Accounts we have had of the Repulse ; the New York Papers are silent about the Matter which is thought to be a favorable Circumstance.

Betsy joins with me in our Duty to you and love to Miss Patty.

To Col. J. Burd.

Philadelphia, July 9th, 1779.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I am sorry to tell you that the enemy are not in that dangerous situation at Charleston that we wished, but it is certain that they retreated suddenly from before the town, and by the help of some ferry boats got upon John and James Islands. General Lincoln writes, that the enemy's force is men that his own is 2000. That General Moultrie has 1500 men, Governor Rutledge 1000, and that he can keep them from doing injury to the country, and that the town is under no apprehension. 2000 continental troops are upon their way from Virginia, and 700 militia to join the troops, at Charleston. We have

the greatest reason to expect a Spanish War. A man just from Havana says, that the harbor was ordered to be cleared for 12 sail of Spanish men-of-war while he was there, and that goods rose fifty per cent. I saw this man.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 14 July, 1779.

* * I bought a tolerably handsome pinch-beck chain for 50 Dollars—The Steel Chains for 60 dollars were very ugly.

Your Watch is a very beautiful one, and reducing ye continental to specie perhaps it would not be dear.

Poor Mr. Ross is gone at last. I was one of his Carriers. He said he was gone to a cooler Climate, and behaved in the same cheerful way at his exit that he did all thro' the different trying scenes of life.

To Col. J. Burd.

Philadelphia, July 25th, 1779.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

You doubtless have heard of the taking the strong fort, garrisoned with near 600 men, at Stony Point. It was a curious affair, and is no inconsiderable loss to the enemy. I suppose the enemy will soon be at Lancaster. I send you a couple of papers that mention it.

The people are to have a town meeting today, when it is expected that matters of some consequence will

be transacted. George Ross you find is dead. He was very cheerful on his death-bed; he said he was going a long journey, and that he was almost tired before he set off, but the place was cool, and that there were most excellent wines there, and he should fare deliciously. . That Mrs. Ross did not expect to see him so soon after her, &c.

To J. Burd.

Lancaster, 6 August, 1779.

Dear and Honoured Sir.

I sent you up a few Newspapers by my Uncle J. S. which I preserved purposely, for you. I do not recollect whether General Waynes particular account of the attack upon ye fort at Stony Point was in them; if it was not do let me know and when I return to Phila. will try to send you that Paper; I was so busied that I could not write you by my Uncle.

A Paper of Tuesday last came to Lancaster in which there is so much good News that if one-half of it is true, I think it very great for us. It mentions I am told for I have not seen the Paper, That the French have taken the Islands of Jersey and Guernsey—That Count D'Estaing has had a Battle with the English fleet under Byron and beat him. That General Grant was blocked up with the English Army at St. Vincents. That the Kings of Spain and Prussia had acceded to our Independence and that the King of Prussia was at the head of 100,000 men. That the Irish had come to an agreement not to import any Woolens from England and that the New Englanders had taken a large number of British prisoners. This

is only hearsay evidence on my part, nor do I know how well it is authenticated. If upon my Return to Philadelphia, I can give you anything more particular concerning it, I shall not fail to do it.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 26th August, 1779.

I send you herewith 3 Bags of Salt and one Bag of Coffee. One Bag of the coarse Salt containing 1½ Bushels is for my Father—the other 2 Bags one of fine, the other of coarse Salt for yourself. The bag of Coffee contains 20 lb It is with the greatest Difficulty these things could be procured, and was it not for the willing Friendship of Mr. John Mae it would be impossible.

To Col. J. Burd.

Lancaster, October 9th, 1779.

Dear & Honour'd Sir:

I received your kind letters, and intended to have wrote to you by Mr. Crouch, but the business of the court took up all my time.

To-morrow I shall set off for York. The week after I shall be at Carlisle, and understand that there will be so much business at York that I must return from Carlisle to York, but on my return to the Lancaster sessions, I must ride to Tinian to see you, if time will permit. I will spend as much at Tinian as possible; but I am determin'd to be there even if my

time should be pinched. I shall be obliged to depend upon my island for my bread the ensuing year, and exchange the corn for wheat and get it pounded into flour and sent down to me, therefore be pleased to get my share of the corn from the island Michael owes me sixteen bushels of corn. I will speak about that when I go up to Tinian.

The troubles in Philadelphia, I dare say, you have heard. I have only time to tell you that I received a letter from Betsy, dated October 7th, which says things are tolerably quiet at Philadelphia now. You may have heard that General Arnold was in gaol and had been in Wilson's house, but neither of these is true; he is at home with his wife. It is true he was in the street with the rest of the citizens, and even pursued by two men, but he happened to have pistols with him and prevented them from violence by threatening to fire at them. He applied to the Congress for protection, who referred him to the executive power of the state, who have provided for him.

— —

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 17th April, 1780.

* * * * I have been to Lewis's and packed part of ye Books into ye Box. Lewis could not settle ye prices of some of them till he could see Worrel's Catalogue, and has gone to Mr. Gunney's for it. I am just going to Lewis's again and will try to get off your Books today. I received ye Butter.— Mrs. Arnold does not want any, and indeed I am afraid of ye weather to keep any Quantity. However I thank you for your Trouble.

To James Burd.

Lancaster, Nov. 10th, 1780.

Dear and Honoured Sir:

I was in great hopes of receiving a letter from you this Court; But as some of the Paxton People will be a going up this afternoon I must embrace the opportunity of writing to you.

You have doubtless heard of the unfortunate affair of Mrs. Arnold. We tried every means to prevail on the Council to permit her to say among us, and not to (compel her) to go to that infernal villain, her husband in New York. The Council seemed for a considerable time to favor our request, but at length have ordered her away. Yesterday was the day she was to have set off, and Mr. Shippen intending to accompany her the greatest part of the way, could not be up at this Court.

This circumstance has involved the whole family in the deepest distress. Mr. Shippen had promised the Council, and Mrs. Arnold had signed a writing to the same purpose, engaging not to write to Gen. Arnold any letters whatever, and to receive no letters without showing them to the Council, if she was permitted to stay.

However this did not answer the purpose we hoped for. If she could have staid, Mr. Shippen would not have wished her ever to be united to him again. It makes me melancholy every time I think of the matter. I cannot bear the idea of her reunion. The sacrifice was an immense one, at her being married to him at all. It is much more so to be obliged, against her will, to go to the arms of a man who appears to be so very black.

Uncle J. Shippen is here and very hearty as is his

family. My Grandfather looks very well. Please to inform me whether Dunnell has threshed rye and what crop he has put in this fall. He should deliver it to you as soon as possible. I bought two cows of Mr. Shippen's tenant who was to put them upon his meadow and afterwards upon some rye sown for the purpose of fattening Cattle. I intend to go down there tomorrow and order them to be sent to Phila. There is no news of any consequence that I know of. It is the prevailing opinion that the English have left Virginia.

I received your letter respecting Mr. * * *

* Behaviour. Peggy is the best Judge, whether he has sufficiently apologized or not. His former conduct was not quite agreeable to our Notions of Propriety. I believe however he is a clever young fellow and hope he will conduct himself better in that affair.

I beg my love in which Uncle Shippen joins me to my Mother and all the family and am, Dear Sir;
Your Affectionate and dutiful Son,

E. Burd.

To E. Shippen of Lancaster.

Philada. 26th Dec. 1780.

Dear and Honoured Sir :

I received both your agreeable favors and would have written you sooner had I not been much en-

gaged in Business and could not conveniently take a Journey to the upper part of the Town to seek an Opportunity. We live so far out of the Way that it consumes half a day to do a trifling Matter at the upper End of the Town. I do not mean that I would not cheerfully take ten times the Trouble to do any thing that is agreeable to you but it has so happened that Business of one kind or other has taken up my whole Attention.

My little son would I dare say be very happy if he had sense enough to make a Return of your kind attention to him. He begins to walk without any Assistance but chuses to be silent except in one kind of Language that is not very pleasant. We may suppose that he is collecting a store of Words, and when he shall begin to talk he will have a Number of Words to use. His health is very good and he is really a very fine Child.

We remain much in the dark about the Affairs to the Southward. There has been no Confirmation officially, or so that it can be depended on, of the Battle between Colonel Tarleton and General Sumter. There has been an Embarkation of Troops lately at New York, but nobody knows whither it is bound I should suppose to the Southward. The Plan of the Enemy I believe is to get as much of the Country as possible within their Grasp, in order that if a Negotiation of Peace should take place it might probably be one of the Terms that each party should keep as much as they were then in possession of. Betsy joins me in Love to you and Miss Patty, wishing you a happy Christmas.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 27th, 1780.

* * We have had a famous Tryal upon Impeachment of the Assembly. Mr. Hopkinson was charged with three Crimes. The first of employing Mr. Clarkson to ask Mr. McClenachan for a Suit of Clothes for an Appointment as Agent of the unrepresented prize Shares of Seamen. The Second; for issuing a writ to sell a Cargo of Salt before Condemnation of the Prize. 3rd for Extortion in taking £1300 for his fee in condemning a Vessel under 100 Tuns Burthen where he was intitled by Law only to £500. Mr. Smith and Mr. Galbraith appeared from the Assembly as Managers of the prosecution and were assisted by the Attorney General. I am very sorry to say that I thought Mr. Smith very full and indiscriminate in the abuse of the former Judges of Admiralty both for receiving Presents and taking extortionate fees I never heard a Hint of that kind with respect to the former Judges of Admiralty in Pennsylvania, and I believe I am not singular in thinking that his Observations more particularly pointed to them. Fair solid manly Argument, I am always pleased to hear, I love to find a Point fully discussed, but unnecessary Abuse, especially of Characters who have no Opportunity of answering to the Charges is cruel Mr. Smith may talk of old things being done away, and proceeding now entirely upon a new footing; but I will aver that as far as I am able to judge; the Courts of Justice under the late Government were as pure and free from Bribery as we could wish them. The first Charge in my Opinion seemed to strike deepest, but when we consider the Provocation received by Mr. Clarkson, his being turned out of Office;

his want of Recollection of some very material facts, which were inquired of him, and the time which had elapsed, also the very great difference a small Turn of Expression might occasion, the Eagerness of ye Marshall that Mr. McClenachan might be appointed, his great Dissatisfaction at its not being done and no Mention then of this Matter to his Brother as being ye cause of ye Refusal, the Proposal never reaching Mr. McClenachan's Ears, nor any thing of the kind being even hinted at to Meade and Fitzsimmons who received ye Appointment;—Mr. Hopkinson also at the time declaring to Mr. Robeson the Marshall's pressing him to appoint Mr. McClenachan, and his great dislike of it as being contrary to the Intention of the Law, that an Owner should be an Agent; and the Answer of Mr. Hopkinson, which said he only mentioned it to Mr. Clarkson as a friend for his Opinion, whether there would be any thing wrong in his accepting of ye Compliment of a Suit of Cloathes after such an Occasion, and who answered that he thought not, and his afterwards altering his own Opinion, and mentioning it to Mr. Clarkson, desiring him not to say any thing about it to Mr. McClenachan seemed to make it rather severe to construe ye Conduct as absolutely criminal, tho' it was very improper even to entertain an Idea of the Kind.

In the Case of the Order for ye Sale of the Cargo of Salt, there were Circumstances to alleviate it. The order when found wrong was countermanded, and ye salt not sold. The publick were then in great want of that article, and ye Judge might order it sold in small parcels to accommodate the people in general; and a claim had been made on ye part of ye Empress of Russia, which would greatly retard ye Decree. He

asked Mr. Wilson's Opinion, who thought as it was water-born, it might be looked upon as a perishable commodity, and procured ye consent of Mr. Morris ye Libellant to whom it belonged to do it without any Reward or sinister Motive being even imputed to him for ye action :—all these seemed to render him excusable in point of fact, but (if) a Judge should be mistaken in a point of Law it would be hard indeed to institute criminal Suit against him for it. I believe no Judge or Justice in Pennsylvania would escape from Punishment on such a Charge.

The third Charge was Extortion. It was agreed that the Vessel was under 100 Tons Burthen. But it was said that ye Intention of ye Act of Assembly was to limit the Fees upon ye common Contest, whether the vessel was Prize or not, and not to include every extraneous matter that might appear in ye Course of the suit ;—in this Case a Claim was put in by persons who would have libelled her first, had their papers arrived in time. This depends upon another set of Evidence and different principles, as did the claims of freedom set up by two Negroes found on Board, and ye appointment of an Agency, which was a Power given since the Act about ye fees of ye Judge of Admiralty was made ; for these extra services ye customary fees were charged, which when properly liquidated would have made ye Judges Bill £1320.

So that Mr. Hopkinson was unanimously acquitted by ye Council of all the Charges.

* * Betsy made Inquiry all over Town for a Doll for my Neice. She found but two at one, Mrs. Robinson's, who said they were bespoke by Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Mease. . Whenever any can be had, Betsy will not be inattentive to the Girls.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 16th Jany, 1781.

Dear Sir:

There has been a Meeting of the Bench and Bar here in order to consider the several Acts of Assembly relative to fees. The Result was that by the opinion of the whole meeting no Law prevented the receipt of hard Money, State Money, or the new Money to be issued for fees, dollar for dollar, and that Officers were set at Liberty in the same manner as other People with respect to Continental Money, that is to take it at such depreciation as the law establishes; and it was determined by a Majority to make that the Rule of Conduct; for that the Exercise of such a Right was a matter that could not be delayed without the greatest injury.

Indeed the Officers have been suffered to languish so much without a possibility of ever being repaid a farthing of depreciation, that it is wonderful how they could maintain themselves so long. My Office has not maintained my small family hitherto, tho' I live with great frugality.

By the Tender Law, Officers were precluded from receiving more continental Money than Gold for fees by the words, "Debts hereafter accruing by reason of any Contract, Promise or Assumption." Fees were deemed to accrue by implied Contract, as is indeed the case and the Officers restrained from more than nominal fees in Continental money, however great the Depreciation might be. To this evil, which the Assem-

bly declared to be a great one, they applied temporary Remedies, till at length the Repeal of the Tender Act and the making the Act directly following seem to afford an adequate Remedy, tho' in fact Depreciation has even outstripped that.

The Wheat Bill was passed for the Advantage of the Officers, and however wheat may be called the Standard, yet in fact hard Money was the Standard, the 10s. per Bushel was the sum to be calculated from, and if the Assembly had performed their Engagements in fixing the current prices of Wheat every Sessions, there would not have been much Injustice done. It can only be accounted for upon the Principle of Continental Money being declared no longer a legal Tender. For ye Assembly have told the publick that the Officers of Government could not subsist without at least their fees being brought back to their old footing. They were constantly afraid of making a Comparison between hard and continental Money, till the Resolve of Congress of ye 18th March last, and afterwards they reduced Contracts to their old footing.

The Wheat Bill says ye officers may be tendered their fees at the Rate there declared in any lawful money of this State &c. The Question under this Law would arise, what is Lawful Money of this State. The Continental money is declared no longer a legal Tender, but the new State Money is declared a legal Tender. Is it not therefore most agreeable to the Letter of ye Law that we should receive State Money at 40 for one for our fees? But as the suspending Law prevents our being tendered our fees in continental Money so the Act next immediately following it, puts the whole matter upon a reasonable footing.

—after taking away all penalty for dealing in Gold and Silver, and taking more continental than hard money for services &c., this clause follows; “And from and after passing this Act, all Contracts whatsoever hereinafter made, shall take effect and be payable according to the special nature of such Contract, any Law heretofore to the contrary notwithstanding.”

If in a Law which did injustice to the Officers it was the acknowledged the true Construction of the word contract to include fees there is greater reason the same word should include them where it tends to do them justice; and the nature of the contract is certainly for hard money or the Equivalent, and to reduce them to this Standard has been the plain tendency of all ye Acts of Assembly, altho’ thro’ political motives they have attributed their motives, not to Depreciation of continental Money but the Rise of the necessities of life.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 15 March 1781.

* * Give my love to ye Girls, and tell them that there are good Examples set them in Town. Col. Harry B. Livingston was last night married to Miss Nancy Shippen, daughter of Dr. W. Shippen, Colonel Walter Stewart is shortly to be married to Miss McClenachan. I suppose a Couple of Mrs. Rhea’s Daughters will shortly figure in ye same way.

It is said that Gen. Greene and Lord Cornwallis are so near each other that a Battle must ensue. Expresses arrived today from the southward, and that is all ye news I have been able to hear.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. May 1st, 1781.

* * * * * Mr. Meese's Tryal has lasted from Wednesday last to last night, when ye Chief Justice summed rather favorably for the Defts, in point legal Criminality :—Mr. Bryan spoke after him and dissented in opinion.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Aug. 25, 1781.

* * * * * Great Expectations are formed from the designs of ye French and Spaniards.—Mr. Hodge's Son was in the french fleet, who were then upon their way to Cuba, there to be joined by 11 Sail of ye Spaniards with a large Body of Men, making in ye whole 15000,—and an attack is to be made on ye british posts in America, beginning at Augustine and proceeding northwards ;—if they are expeditious, they have every reasonable Expectation of Success.

It is said some Troops are arrived at New York, but I think it probable that they are from ye Southward.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Sept. 29, 1781.

* * * We are under uneasiness about ye British coming to pay us a visit. I cannot serve a

regular Tour of two months but mean to be with them in case of necessity.

We are very anxious about my grandfather, having not heard from Lancaster since your letter. From your account, however painful it is to us to hear of his Dissolution, it is what we can have no hopes of his avoiding. He was a good Man, an affectionate Parent, and will be sincerely lamented by us all.

* *

Ballendine * was robbed, I hear on ye road, as well as Painter, ye Tavernkeeper and ye Sheriff of Chester and one Wheelin. The Tavernkeeper lost 200 dollars, Wheelin 12 half Joes, and theirHorses, Boots, &c; by 3 Men who lodged in ye House and were armed.

—

To. J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. April 14th, 1782.

* * The settled Design of stopping up our Ports will I fear make every thing rise most extravagantly in our shops and I fear be very injurious to the Country in general, as well as to the Merchants. The Havanna Fleet, which they are waiting for it is said will have with them 500.000. Dollars; what a great Acquisition would this Money be to us, and what a proportionate Loss. * *

General Hand goes to Camp tomorrow. His Family are all well. I drank tea with them on Friday.

* * *

—

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. 17 June, 1782.

* * Betsy and I walked about the shops to purchase you some fine Cambrick fit for Ruffles. You ordered six Yards, and I have purchased 8, being a piece; for what you will I think esteem a very good Reason which is that in any of the shops where cambrick was cut the price of six yards was greater than this piece will cost. I think ye price of it is £9 13s. 6d. and at Jo. LeBlou's, cambrick of equal fineness sold at 35s per yard. The Powder Puff was a dollar.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Sept. 28th, 1782.

* * I am very sorry for the Indisposition of your Family, and hope they will soon recover. I heard M. Marbois say that the french Physicians treated the fever and ague very differently from the people of this Country; that above 300 of ye French Army had it at Baltimore, and that they dieted them very strictly with a little Bread and a little Broth and gave them a glass of Claret twice a day, and that they were recovering fast from the disorder. They esteem Bark as an injurious Medicine;—how Doctors will differ.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Jany. 3, 1783.

* * * Lady Stirling is dead, and ye Family wears Crapes and Ribbands thro' Respect to ye Willing Family.

To J Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 20th Feby. 1783.

* * I should be glad to give you any further Lights respecting ye grand Affair of Peace that I could. It was reported that a Packet had arrived at New York with a confirmation of the News, but that is not true. The Public were much staggered in their Opinions by the accounts of a vessel from Nantz, which had been captured, and taken into New York. It was said that she had left Nantz ye 23rd December and that ye Peace was not then concluded. The Mate of that Vessel is in Town. It appears by his account that ye Vessel had not been for 10 days before that at Nantz, but had fallen down, and had no communication with the Shore. This brings it to ye 13th of December, ye day on which it was said ye peace was signed. It must have taken 3 or 4 days I suppose to have ye Intelligence from Paris, which would bring it to ye 9th or 10th December. This Arrival therefore weighs nothing against the Story. And ye Mate further says that it was a prevailing Opinion at Nantz that Peace would soon take place, and that in consequence of that Idea, Capt. All had declined sailing his intended Voyage and was altering his Voyage to London;—but what appears irrefragable Testimony to ye Merchants is that Tobacco bears but a bad price, and indeed will hardly sell at any price. This Circumstance they say strongly evidences the Opinion of the french Merchants. There are indeed people among us who look upon ye King's Speech as a Deception, but we shall, upon every subject that presents itself, see some people affect singularity in their Opinions. It is true we have not a Certainty of the Conclusion of ye Peace between the

belligerent Powers, but as a lawyer would say, *
 Strong presumptive Evidence.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 18th, 1783.

* * I took a great deal of Pains to get you large and good Silk Stockings but I could not find both Qualities. As you wanted them I suppose for best Stockings I would not buy you such as I purchased for myself because they were coarse. but I purchased 3 pair at 25s. per pair * * I am just going to an Entertainment provided for the Officers of ye Troops stationed near the City by the Gentlemen of this City.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 21 Aug. 1783.

* * Mr. Hamilton is dead and ye Lancaster Estate will belong to B. Hamilton together with the bulk of his Estate. It was attempted to settle it strictly but I am told it will not fully answer ye Purpose, there being no Trustees to support Contingent Remainders. He devised a Tract of 8000. Acres of land in Jersey to Jemmy Hamilton, a son of Andrew, but had only two Witnesses to his Will, and by a Law of Jersey, an Uncle's Estate is liable to distribution, and it is said that Andrew himself will have a third; Billy Hamilton one third; and ye remaining property will go to ye Allen Family. He

also revoked some devises to John Allen &c. but not having devised them again will also fall to ye Heir at Law.

So that with all Mr. Hamilton's Understanding &c. his Estate will not intirely pass agreeably to his Will. It is said that B. Hamilton's Estate is worth £150.000. Andrew Hamilton has an Annuity of £420 per annum, and a Provision for some of his Children, but none for ye family of ye Allens, I am told.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 15, 1783.

* * There is no Bristol Beer or Taunton Ale that I can find imported.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 4, 1784.

* * It was carried by a Majority of one or two of ye Committee that the new Bank should be incorporated. A Memorial was presented by ye old Bank on its being received in ye House to be heard by Counsel on ye subject; as they conceived it tended to injure their Rights. The Assembly refused it, but appointed a Committee to hear ye President Directors & Compy. on ye Memorial: under ye word Compy., Gov. Morris and Mr. Wilson appeared on ye part of ye old Bank, and Sergeant, Ingersoll,

Bradford and Miers Fisher appeared in behalf of the new Bank. They have consumed 2 afternoons and Evenings, and this Evening Mr. Wilson is to conclude it. I suppose a Report will be made to ye House, and they will then debate it among themselves.

The old Bank pleaded their Services to ye publick, their Whiggism and ye impropriety and unprecedency of 2 incorporated Banks in ye same State, and went so far as to wish ye Assembly not to permit ye Institution of any other Bank whatever. On ye part of ye new Bank, they acknowledged the merit of ye old Bank, but that Whiggism was not so much confined to them as to deprive every Citizen of ye State of similar privileges :—If they furnished money ;—others served on ye field ;—many others have been totally ruined by ye war : these have served themselves at the same time they have been useful to ye public. That Monopolies were destructive to a trading Country. That they were an abridgement of ye Rights of Freemen, and odious in every view. They set before their Eyes the example of Gen.l Washington, who claimed no exclusive privileges over his fellow Citizens, from his public services. That they were dangerous to Liberty and that ye old Bank was upon a plan inconsistent with the preservation of Liberty, and that a very wealthy man, who had likewise abilities might at a future time make it an engine against ye freedom of ye Country. That there was an instance of the two Banks in Scotland, both of which flourished, were very useful and assisted each other, and Miers Fisher spoke extremely well. I did not hear him nor shall I hear Wilson.

The Bill for ye Administration of Justice was printed in Bradford's papers of last week, this week

and to be concluded in ye next paper. You will find it a very simple and I believe useful Plan, but I do not interest myself in it at all.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 24th, 1784.

* * Molly Yeates's Silk cost 35s. I hear you have had a jovial time of it with Mr. Hamilton; we were afraid Bush Hill was on fire, and I sent out my Buckets and Servant to assist them, but it proved to be Springetsbury, which is all burnt down except ye kitchen.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 25, 1784.

* * Yesterday and today the Assembly have been on ye subject of striking Paper Money. It seems rather probable ye Scheme will carry. 30 of the House are in favor of it against 25; tho' some of ye Majority are against making it a legal Tender.

The Bank have offered to lend 300.000. dollars at 5 per cent and take ye Impost fund as their security till payment, if ye paper money scheme will be dropped: this has been refused.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 26th Sept. 1784.

Dear Sir:

I was yesterday informed by a Letter from Mr. Joseph Shippen to his Brother of the great Misfortune we have sustained. I had some little fears before of

the Event owing to a Report of the Kind which had been in Town. but the Post leaving Lancaster on Tuesday and no Account of it from the family, I entertained some hopes that my dear Mother was still in being. The shock is great, and the loss heavy to us all. So good, so affectionate, and so dear a Mother must insure from all her Children the warmest Returns. These I believe she possessed from all of us. What must our feelings be then, when she is snatched from us so unexpectedly, never, never to be seen again. You are one of the family: You have always shown her the same Affection and Attention as one of her Children, and I am sure will lament her loss to us almost as much as one of her own Offspring. I therefore can express my feelings without Reserve. She seemed to live only for her Children and friends and would at any time sacrifice her own Satisfaction to their Enjoyments. Indeed her Benevolence was not confined to them. It was extensive and universal. Her Merits will remain imprinted in our Hearts as long as we can have any Ideas, and I pray that her Children may imitate her Example, and deserve those Praises which are due to her.

I fear that my Father will be inconsolable. I have written him a Letter to comfort him if possible, and am very sorry I cannot possibly go up to see him. I am afraid that the loss of my Mother will make him melancholy, and affect his Health.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 14, 1785.

* * * Dr. McIlvaine was married to
Miss Molly Shippen on ye 17 June, one of ye hottest

Nights this year. They had ye condolence of all ye Ladies and Gent. in Town on ye unlucky state of ye weather.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 14 Dec. 1785.

* * I suppose you heard of Mr. E. Shippen's Marriage to Miss Betsy Footman ye week before last. (November 23, 1785.) She is now perfectly reconciled to ye new state into which she has entered.

May it please your Honors :

Having yesterday received a Notification from the Honorable the Council, by their Secretary, that they had come to a Determination that the Appointment of a Prothonotary or Clerk of the Supreme Court was vested in them by a Law passed the 4th of April, 1785, and that on Friday next they would go into the appointment for that Office ; Hoping that my Conduct in the Office hitherto has met with their Approbation, I request that the honorable Council will be pleased to reappoint me to it.

I have the Honor to be,

Their most obedient humble Servant,

Edward Burd.

25th Jany. 1786.

The Honorable

The Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

To. J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 30 March, 1786.

* * Curtis Grubb set out from Philadelphia this morning. I met him in ye Street twice ye day ye Report of ye Committee was to be brought on. He bristled up when he came near me and began to whistle; I looked steadily at him, till at last he made a little Inclination of his Head, which I returned. The second time we passed each other without even that small Ceremony. The Report was called up, and Adam Ort undertook to say in ye House that the Variation of ye Line would not injure ye Children, as I have been informed. We had all ye Speakers, Mr. Morris, Mr. Clymer, Mr. Whitehill, and Mr. Snively on our side. However as ye House did not well understand ye Matter, they moved to postpone the Consideration of the Report, which was carried by 4 votes. But even among the minority we have a great many friends who only wish the Bill to be brought in saving the Rights of the Children.

I inclose you a Copy of the Report by which you will observe that they have not quite conformed to ye Report drawn up for them;—They declaring that the Rights of the Children shall be saved, and that the Dispute and Proceedings shall be commenced, &c., in Lancaster County in ye same manner as if the Alterations had not been made in the County Line. This only puts us in the Situation we should have been after the Act erecting Dauphin County was passed. If by that Act the Furnace and Ore are in Dauphin County we are still in a bad Situation. It is however incumbent on us to proceed and speedily to have ye Line ascertained. I believe there is no Risk. I am convinced from all the conduct of Ort and Curtis

Grubb, they have examined the Line, and are certain that the Furnace and ye Ore are in Lancaster County; they seem in doubt about ye House, but ye Mill they say is in Dauphin. Their next Manoeuvre will be with the Surveyors; they have already been tryiug to persuade Col. Cunningham that the Head Spring of Couawago is different from what he thinks,—but he says he knows ye Waters too well to be deceived; —and promises to run ye Line as soon as he gets home.

Give Betsy's and my Love to my Niece, and tell her that Betsy has bought her a Hat, which has been much admired. I advised the Expence of the feathers, and if it is thought dear will take all ye blame on myself. In an Affair of this kind, I think a few shillings ought not to be thought of. We had ye Hat made by a French Hatmaker; it cost £2. 5s. The feathers and Ribbands £2. 7s. 2d. The Band Box 4s. 6d. Total £4. 16s. 8d. Betsy was the Milliner herself.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. April 8th, 1786.

* * I spoke to him (John Wall) about the Rittenhouse Stove Patterns, he said he knew a Man who had served his time with Powell, and who made the Grubb's Pattern, his name Hall, that he was much more to be depended on than Powell, both in Respect to Execution and Dispatch, and would send him to me. I was today spoke to by Mr. Reynolds to do the carving work. He says there are but two Carvers

and that he and the other Carver work together. I know he is a good Carver, and think I can prevail on him to dispatch the Work. I have some thoughts of getting Mr. Pine, the English Painter to sketch me ye Design of ye Frontispiece. Mr. Shippen and I have fixed on the Plan of ye Stove and the Dimensions, and think we have improved upon it both as to Beauty and real usefulness. * *

I have been inquiring about Pot Patterns. It is said they are not permitted to be sent here from England now. That ye Potts Family had taken English pots and made them serve as moulds, which made their Pots too heavy and clumsy. Mr. Wall says this man can make wooden Patterns; Mr. Baker says they may serve once, and if they are made very thin, you might cast pots thin enough to serve as Patterns, but the wooden Patterns will not last long, because they will warp. He says Mr. Rutter is going to have Pewter Patterns, which may be hardened as much as brass, and will let me know if the thing takes effect. * * *

Curtis Grubb still remains here. The Assembly are broke up and have adjourned till ye 2nd August. We can have time enough in ye mean while to have the Line run and ye Estate divided before any Law can be even published for consideration against us. Ort says that it was intended to take in all Lebanon Township into ye new County, and it was entirely owing to Stoy's Folly it was not done. This Idea I find he has impressed on ye Berks Members and others. The Alteration of ye Line will be opposed by many of ye Republicans on political Grounds, but political Ground would not be safe for us as ye majority are Constitutionalists, and many of them have

now a leaning towards us because they think our cause is ye cause of Justice.

* * Curtis complains that there are 20 Waggons a day at ye Hills, and that ye whole Hills will be soon hauled away; how consistent this with his declarations that ye Hills would supply all the furnaces in America with ore.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. June 8, 1786.

* * The Delegates of Connecticut finding that Congress had ratified the Decision at Trenton, and intended to interfere and prevent a War between Connecticut and Pennsylvania; proposed that ye Susquehanna Company should have a Tract of Country to ye westward of Pennsylvania, bounding on ye Lakes in lieu of their Claims on Pennsylvania, which was acceded to by 8 States out of 11. So that I hope this will put an end to this very troublesome Dispute. Connecticut means to let ye Susquehanna Company have ye Land, and they to grant ye rest.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 30 Aug. 1786.

* * I have bought Madame Sevigne's Letters and paid 45s. for them. The Contes de bergers were sold;—there are some Letters of ye Comtesse de Genlis, which I understand are in high Estimation. They have been translated into ye English

language, and ye translation sent by Mr. Hamilton from England as a present to his Niece, Miss P. Hamilton.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 26, 1786.

Dear Sir :

I am sorry to find my Father has added so many expensive Articles to the List we had concluded upon. However as you fortunately had not mentioned our Intentions of sending him any Cash, it will make it the easier for us to comply with the bulk of the things he wants. My Father does not want ye Cloathes made up below, but only the materials—and do not suppose that exclusive of the Bed, Bolster, and Pillows the additional Articles will exceed £20 ; that is £5 more than we intended to have sent him. As to the Bed, Bolster, and Pillows they will be very expensive, and I should suppose if they are necessary to be provided by him that he might possibly spare them from Tinian. However that may be I should wish him to drop that article if he can. For your Declarations about my Situation are perfectly just. It is money that I can not well spare, as I am now paying Interest for £600 that I have borrowed at the bank, and am endeavouring to replace by degrees ; which the want of cash for ye Furnace and Peggy's Wedding will retard, for some time. I am very glad of the Hints you gave my Father about ye Company at ye Wedding. All Weddings in this City are as

private as they possibly can be made, and none but ye nearest Connexions are invited. Mr. Hubley I suppose will mention a few friends he would wish to be invited, and neither Propriety or ye Situation of my Father would admit of its otherwise than as private and with as little Expence as possible.

Betsy does not suppose that my Sister can possibly want a dress Hat and a Dress Bonnet too.

I am not able to say any thing more, now being obliged this moment to go to Court, only that Betsy has bought a pink Silk. and a piece of white Russia Sheeting for my Sister, which will be sent up next week, and I will endeavour to get a Cheese tomorrow: —and ye other things will be as speedily got as we can.

5th October, 1786.

I have broke open this Letter to inform you that I send by Fred, A piece of Russia Sheeting, a pink Silk, A piece of white Ribband, 5 pair Women's and 3 pair Men's Gloves; we shall send 2 pair more of men's Gloves. By next Post, if ye things can be possibly done, Betsy will send up ye Hat, cap, handkerchiefs, and Ruffles, Silk Cloak, a pair of best and pair of common Blankets, and the Cloth and Trimmings for my Father. Also the Cheese which is purchased. I think you had better have a Side-Saddle bespoke of Tressler. I think Jenny's cost £3. 10s.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 13 Oct. 1786.

* *

Col. Cox says he has ye only brass

pot moulds in America ; they cost him £300 ; he has them from 1 to 12 gallons, and would not take £1.000. for them. He says if we would get wooden Moulds made out of Laurel Root or Mahogany and cast a mould in Iron, it would do ; as laurel Root and Mahogany, take ye best polish.—If not you must take some of his pots as patterns and file them in two. Perhaps in our Situation it would be ye best plan to do so ; some other furnaces have done it.

To J Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. 12 Sept. 1787.

* * Miss S..... is to lose her liberty next friday Evening ; but this is not known in this City and is intended to be private.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philadelphia, 27 Sept 1787.

* * Sister Sally was on Friday Evening married to Mr. Lea by Mr. White. I delivered your message, and have their affectionate Compliments in Return. She goes home next Sunday Evening ;—all this week being devoted to seeing visitors in ye evening. Mr. Lea lives in a good House opposite to Mrs. Harrison's in Front Street, where his Wife will make her first Exhibit as a House-Keeper.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. April 17th, 1788.

* * There has been a disagreeable Riot at New York. The Mob were exasperated with ye Physicians for taking up some dead body. They rose and ye Doctors were obliged to fly. They proceeded to Dr. Cochran's House, and were about to pull it down, when ye Governor dispatched a Company to prevent it. They were disarmed. However it prevented ye Execution of ye Intention that day. The next day the Mob rose in greater numbers, and went to ye Gaol where Drs. Cochran and McKnight and two others fled for Shelter. They intended to break ye Gaol and murder them but ye Governor assembled a number of Gentleman; armed them and went to the Gaol, but finding the Mob obstinately bent on Mischief; he was obliged to fire; and killed four of ye Rioters, wounded 8 more, and dispersed them all. It is said that he is hurt and Gen. Steuben much more so.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 17, 1788.

* * Oswald refused to answer Interrogatories, and was fined £10. and committed for one month. Dr. Hutchinson is carrying about Petitions to be signed to Council to pardon him.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 6, 1788.

Dear Sir:

We returned from Long Branch on Tuesday morning. We were frightened away by ye appearance of another storm. It having rained all Sunday forenoon; —the Weather had been very bad after our arrival at Long Branch and continued an easterly storm for five days. I find since it was a very uncommon thing, and has done very considerable Injury to ye southward; so that we need not have feared a violent repetition of it. We got great plenty of crabs during our stay, and when ye fishermen were able to get out to sea, they provided us with Sea Bass, Weak fish and Lobsters. We also messed on Sheeps Head twice. It was in fine a delightful situation in clear weather. There was a constant coolness in ye Air, which was very refreshing This was owing to a Sea Breeze, which I found on riding out to be carried either one or two miles into ye Country according to ye strength of ye wind. But ye air being in constant motion by means of this Breeze must be kept in a state of purification. * *

The Congress have not yet determined on ye place of meeting of ye new Congress. Philada. lost it by ye Division of ye Delaware State:—Dyer Kearney, a silly young man, having weakly supposed that if Philada. lost it, Wilmington would be ye place. New York also lost it, and ye Vote was carried for Baltimore, Penna also joining: This has however alarmed ye Eastern States, and they are about reconsidering their Vote.

From some late Intelligence, the Court expect to hold a Court of Oyer and Terminer in Luzerne County. Col Pickering is returned to his family: the Wild

Boys not being able to bear ye expence of keeping a Guard on him. The Rewards offered by Council have set them all against each other, and several of ye Rioters have been taken, one killed by ye Connecticut People themselves. Zebulon Butler writes to Council that ye Gov.t Party has become very strong.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 4th, 1788.

* * * * I am extremely sorry to hear that Burd has behaved so ill. What is best to be done with him I cannot tell. If you can suggest anything that would effect a settlement of his wandering Temper, I should be glad of it. The leaving School before he is acquainted fully with Arithmetic or Merchants' Accounts I fear will be very prejudicial to him, and whether he would behave better with a Master, I have my doubts. In short where a Boy is determined to be under no restraints but to be guided by his own selfwill, it is barely possible that any good can be expected from him.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 11, 1788.

* * There is an Association formed here for getting the paper Money intirely out of Circulation, by ye people who have it, and who are entitled to it from ye public; provided subscribers to ye amount of £83.000. can be procured. It is proposed to be by Government in 4 Installments of £20.000. each annually. I am very doubtful about ye plan's

succeeding, and if it does, I cannot see how ye public can make good ye Engagements of £20.000. annually, and pay ye Interest of ye public debts assumed by them also.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 18 Sept. 1788.

* * The Association respecting paper money has had more success than I imagined. (£10.000. has been already subscribed.) It is said ye Proprietaries' agents will subscribe £20.000. if they think the Scheme is likely to be carried thro'. And by a publication in this day's paper, Dunlap & Claypoole, it seems as if Congress had come to a Resolution to let ye States pay their own Citizens for ye next year.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 3rd 1788.

* * I understand from Mr. Lewis that the Idea of an attack on my Office is dropped, but the public Creditors are making a severe attack on all ye public officers by getting a Bill to oblige them to receive their fees in paper. I thought ye Idea was dropped, but I hear that a Bill is actually brought in, which will be attended with very injurious consequences to ye officers, without a single advantage to ye public creditors.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 11th 1788.

* * * * * Mr. Sheldon informed me that Burd is determined not to go to School longer than next Spring. He thinks himself qualified to go to business as well as Mr. Ege's son & that he ought to have time to learn it. This will interfere with our Arrangements a good deal. A knowledge of Merchants' Accounts is particularly necessary for him, not only to prevent impositions & to carry on his business but to enable him to settle his Accounts properly with his Uncle.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 18th Dec. 1788.

* * A thought struck me that will probably obviate some of the difficulties we have been under with respect to Burd. Mr. John Wall jr. is a very regular punctual Merchant, & keeps very good Books. He deals in Flour, Iron & ye produce of ye country, very largely. Benjamin Morgan, who has lately set up a capital Iron Store &c., was with him 15 months, & in that time became an excellent accountant: perhaps more by ye benefit of Wall's having a very excellent clerk than from his own knowledge merely of accounts; but if it can be acquired in his store, that is sufficient. Wall you know is a near Relation, & his family under obligations to ye Children. He is very much liked by Burd; when he used to come to ye City, he always remained at Mr. Wall's,

& I could hardly get him to my house even to dine with me. Now if Wall would take him without a fee for a couple of Years & he only paid for his board, I think it would answer our purpose fully. In two years it will be time enough to put him apprentice to learn ye business of Iron works. His being instructed in ye mercantile business may be of use to him: if he should meet with Misfortune, it will be a profession to him. If he is fortunate, it will be of use to him in his business at ye Ironworks, as well as enabling him to settle with his Uncle Curtis. He may also go to dancing School a quarter. He will be a little more polished than if he was bred up intirely in ye Coutry. He will have a good example & precepts in Mr. Wall's family. He will be able to know the ways & means of disposing of his iron to ye best advantage here, & how to get most cheaply supplied with articles necessary for ye works from ye City. He will also know characters in ye City & whom to trust. & what I think a grand object, he will be kept from Ruin, by acquiring ye habit of Sotting at an Ironworks.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Jany 10th, 1789.

* * I heard a most extraordinary thing: that my father was shortly to be married to Mrs. Graydon; but I cannot believe it. Some young Gentleman mentioned it to Mrs. Lea at ye play last night. If my father thinks he would be happier with another wife, I should have no other objections to it, than what would arise from his own situation and

that of his younger children. His expences, I fear would not only be increased by ye wife herself, but some of her children who depend greatly on her for support, would transfer that dependence to my Father. How far he is able to bear such an addition to his expences, he must determine for himself. I should fear that his Estate would melt, as ye Income would be by no means sufficient: but I cannot believe ye fact, as possibly his usual Complaisance to ye Ladies may have been mistaken for a more particular attachment.

* * * I have found out since writing, that Mr. Fisher related the story of my Father's intended marriage to Mrs. Lea, * * * but he does not speak of it as a fact, but only as a report, and that my Father is very particular to Mrs. Graydon. He says she was Brides maid to my mother. I cannot give any credit to ye report.

—

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Feby 12, 1789.

* * * Mrs. Shippen continues extremely ill with the Rheumatism. She is hardly able to stir and has not left her chamber this Winter. The rest of ye family are doing well. Betsy joins me in love to your family. I beg my Duty to my Father, and request you will bespeak a new Wig for him of Mr. Myers, which I mean to make him a present of as I think his old Wig is too rusty and he will not get another.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. March 4th 1789.

* * Mr. Francis broke a Doubloon yesterday in my presence. of which the case only was gold, and the inside silver.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. June 11, 1789.

* * I have only time to inform you that the Chief Justice's Daughter, Miss Letty McKean is to be married to-night to Dr. Buchanan. It was to have taken place last week but some accident prevented it.

To. J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. July 2nd 1789.

* * Mrs. Lea only accompanies Mrs. Shippen to ye Seaside, who is ye Valetudinarian, and expects nothing will be of service to her Rheumatism; —which makes her quite a cripple.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. July 30th, 1789.

* * Mr. Shippen remembers ye case of Kitzmiller very well, but says there are no notes, and ye records of that time are not in existence. He says the Attorney General of Maryland made a motion to ye Court against their Jurisdiction in order to

prevent them proceeding to ye business; but Mr. Francis said that the Court could not take any notice of such a Matter unless there was a regular plea in abatement filed; but this was not done; the trial proceeded, and an acquittal took place.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept 24th 1789.

* * I am told there will be contests in ye Convention about ye Court of Chancery: at any rate there ought to be great additional Powers annexed to ye Courts of Common Law, for they cannot at present administer complete Justice to ye Suitors. The Courts cannot now make the parties disclose secret Trusts or Frauds on Oath; they cannot execute agreements specifically; they cannot make proper parties in contests between Merchants Partners, and many other cases; and cannot by regular verdicts have certain matters performed by both parties; which is sometimes necessary to do complete Justice; and which the parties are obliged by consent to empower Referrees to act as Chancellors between them; but Justice ought not to depend on one of ye parties. It is a subject however I have not considered or made up my mind upon. I am told there will be great objections to ye other part of ye plan, about ye Common Pleas, which appears to me absolutely necessary for ye good of ye Country.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 8th 1789.

* * We tried five men this afternoon for Murder, and they are all convicted. * *

I have charged the Commissioners my fee on an Indictment against Wm. Cole, who was condemned and executed for ye offence of Burglary.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 13th, 1789.

* * I have heard ye Chief Justice sometimes hint ye propriety of vesting ye appointment of ye Prothys of ye Supreme Court in the Chief Justice, as he says the Writs of Error are directed to ye Chief Justice, and he is therefore ye responsible man. Tho' the fact is not so here, all writs of Error from ye High Court of Errors are directed to all ye Justices of the Supreme Court. Perhaps he may not carry ye matter so far as to propose it in the Convention, but if he does, I should wish my friends to oppose it; As I both believe it would be attended with ye loss of my office in a short period, and that ye thing itself is really improper and contrary to ye old Establishment of our Supreme Court. I was very much concerned to hear you had declined a Seat in the Convention. I fear it will be taken hard of you, but the thing is past Remedy.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 15th 1789.

* * I have a most violent cold, and in-

deed the whole City seem to have it; they call it ye influenza. The Lawyers were to settle ye docquet yesterday; and five of them were so ill, they could not attend it, and it is adjourned till Saturday.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 15th 1789.

* * We have received an account of Mrs. Arnold's Arrival at New York tho' no Letters have been received from her. The vessel she came in, ye papers say run ashore, but I suppose must have got off, or she would not have been in New York. I understand she has brought a child with her. Her friends will be extremely rejoiced to see her, as she was exceedingly beloved for her many good qualities.

* * The Chief Justice's Cause for the Depreciation of his Salary from ye year 1785 to the present time was tried last Monday and Tuesday on an issue directed by the Assembly for that purpose before Mr. Shipp-n in the Common Pleas. The Disposition of the Jury to find against ye Chief Justice was discovered, and he would not take ye Verdict, but suffered a Non-suit. For my own part I thought them entitled to their Salaries in specie;—and if they had given receipts for ye nominal sum, yet they were as much impelled to it by ye measures taken by ye Government, as if it had been a legal Tender, and therefore no Advantage ought to have been taken of this circumstance; and I thought that from ye manner in which ye Resolution of ye House was penned they did not intend to take any advantage of it; but others

have been of a different Opinion;—and I much fear that this precedent will have a weight with ye other Juries.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 3rd, 1789.

* * * Mrs. Arnold requests her kind Remembrance of yourself, Mrs. Yeates and family, in which Betsy joins her.

I understand that the Convention have at last agreed to take ye old Constitution as ye Basis, and propose their alterations. Thy have, with ye dissenting voices of only four, determined the Legislature ought to consist of more than one Branch;—and I have reason to think that ye Minority wish to give ye Executive some share in ye Legislature by way of checking them, but there will be some Contest whether the Executive should consist of only one or have a small Council to assist him, elected out of Districts.

Our great Men in this City I have heard have been thinking of many changes in ye Officers of Government but do not know what they will consist of.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Phila. Dec. 10, 1789.

* * * I am sorry for the death of poor old Mr. Wall, altho' his life could not be of advantage to himself or any one else. * * * I am much obliged to you for ye steps you have taken respecting the intended Innovation, and it has had its

Use. Gen. Hand yesterday morning informed me that the Chief Justice had, in a Club called ye Convention Club, which had met for the first time on Friday Evening, proposed ye appointment of ye Officers of ye Court to be in the Head of ye Department;—but it met with no approbation. This morning Mr. Lewis told me he had a warm debate with the Chief Justice on ye same subject; (I believe it was also at a Meeting of ye Club;) that he was intent on accomplishing ye object, and when he found he could not succeed, turned quite pale. His intent is too plain to be mistaken. I have no doubt he would pretend, I should be continued in Office, but I am as certain that he would pick a hole in my Coat in a short time afterwards, and deprive me of my Office. His conduct on a former Occasion leaves me no Room for Hesitation about it.

Mr. Sergeant told me that in a Conversation he had with Mr. McClean, he thought a little matter would induce him to move that all ye old officers of Government should be continued during ye time for which they were appointed, and that ye Executive should only make new appointments as vacancies should happen.

If this is not done, there must be a great deal of Confusion in ye public Business. The new Officers will not be immediately conversant in the Department, and will be Creatures of ye new President.

It is a thing which would not happen again with another President, or else ye situation of public Officers would be very precarious. If they are to be changed on the Election of every new President, they would certainly be in the condition of Slaves.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 17, 1789.

* * I have seen the Judiciary Plan, which Mr. Lewis, I believe has framed, and which will probably carry, tho' the Plan is yet a secret. I will communicate to you some of ye leading features in it. There is to be a Chancellor, and ye different Courts to return to ye Court of Chancery ye Powers borrowed from it, except that of issuing Commissions for ye Examinations of Witnesses. There is to be one judge of ye Common Pleas from each County. The State is to be divided into Districts and ye Judges of ye Common Pleas for the several Counties in the same district to sit together, and form both a Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, with a President at their head. This Court to have Chancery Powers with appeal to ye Chancellor; to have also ye Powers of ye Orphan's and Register's Courts, and to issue Certificates to ye Justices of ye Peace in their district in ye absence of ye Supreme Court. The people to elect two Justices of ye Peace, for each part of ye county where justices are necessary; out of which the President is to commisionate one, and this power of Election to be abolished if ye Legislature should think proper to do it. These are ye principal Outlines as well as I can recollect them on a single Reading. It will serve to provide retiring places for ye elderly Gentlemen of ye Profession who wish to decline ye trouble of practice, and be an amazing advantage to ye Country, tho' it will be expensive.

I shall attend to your Hint. The Ch. looks at me with a jealous Eye, I believe; He thinks I suspect his Designs.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Phila. Dec. 31 1789.

* * * * I understand ye Idea is to continue the public Officers for six Months after ye new Gov. comes in force, & then they are to be newly commissioned—I communicated with John Hubley, while ye Idea of Amending ye Constitution was on ye Carpet, but he said all ye main Pillars being altered, ye inferior ones must give way of course, & we must all take our Chances, & since so *total* a Change will be made, I begin to join him in Opinion, & that it is not possible for any Officer to remain under his old Commission;—tho' many of old officers will probably be continued.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Jany. 17th 1790.

Dear Sir :

It is an unfortunate thing for our correspondence that the Post should be established on its present Terms. The necessity we are under frequently of transmitting bulky papers of considerable consequence makes it too expensive to make use of the post as a Conveyance for them; on the other hand the danger we run of losing valuable papers, the uncertainty of their being delivered in proper time and the difficulty of procuring opportunities added to ye Certainty of a great deal of trouble in procuring them make it necessary that some expedient should be found out by us. If we were to write regularly whenever we can by the post to each other one half sheet the Expense would not amount to above 26s. per annum at 9d. a Letter for eight months, & I do

not think that either of us will be able to use ye post so long as that period ; for we shall be together in the Spring for five or six weeks ; I shall be four or five weeks on ye fall circuit ; and you are generally absent for twelve weeks at the County Courts. We might then send all other papers by the post in a cover unsealed up but tied with a string which I dare say he would undertake to deliver for four dollars more. By which means we may be able to keep up our constant Communication ; for about double ye sum we at present pay. I will pay the postage on your letters and you pay the postage of mine and as we have a constant correspondence, there will be no difference between us. If either of us send above half a Sheet let him charge himself with the additional postage as a debtor for it to the other. Each of us can agree with the Post Rider at a certain price to deliver all Packages &c., not under seal that we shall have occasion to transmit from one place to ye other, or it might perhaps be more simple for each of us to pay his own postage.

* I attended ye meeting of ye Stockholders ye 11th Jany. instant when ye old Directors were re-chosen. Mr. Willing then declared to us that ye affairs of ye Bank were in a very flourishing way which had enabled them to divide an interest at ye rate of 7 p. c. This sum I will receive for you ; you know your number of Shares & can easily calculate ye amount at $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. cent for six months.

Mr. Willing told us that 12 or 15 shares had been sold at Par since ye 1st January so that I did not think it was necessary to make any further inquiries.

The Court has not done any business this term on account of Mr. McKean & Mr. Atlee being in the

convention; & in lieu of it they have proposed having a Court of Nisi Prius in ye middle of March, which will throw all my business together in such a manner that it will be difficult to bring up ye business of ye Circuit with any kind of ease. I shall therefore be much obliged to you, if you will send me your distringases in order that I may prepare them together with ye Nisi Prius records in ye vacation. If you would get Mr. Thomas Smith's precipes, also Mr. Hamilton's, Duncan's, Kittera's & ye other Gentlemen it would much oblige me as I can then take time by ye forelock. The Chief Justice talks of going over ye Mountains in ye Spring himself.

I have been spoken to by Mr. McClean to prepare something by way of Resolutions in order to keep in all ye present Officers of Government, till they shall be legally removed, except such whose (offices are) abolished supplied or are inconsistent with the Constitution. This Idea I am told is supported by Mr. Whitehill & Mr. Finly, ye latter has actually declared ye sentiment in the Convention & that there is a great prospect of its being carried there! The motion will be undoubtedly made for ye purpose. In addition to ye hardship of turning out all ye Officers of Government, who have adopted their views to their present situations, & thrown themselves out of other means of getting their bread under an Expectation of its being a provision for Life, if they behaved well, there is a danger of powerful men endeavouring to throw ye State into Revolutions frequently, with a view to ye change of ye Officers of Government, which would certainly be an Ingredient in such a business by no means suited to the Interests of ye Community.

If Officers misbehave it is easy to displace them; but there is an essential difference between displacing an officer, & making a new appointment in which latter case, it is to be presumed ye Governor would think he ought to seek out for those of whom he approved best as he is *responsible* for the Appointment. In this view of the business I leave it to your good judgment to determine whether ye present Officers do not run a considerable Risk if something is not done to continue ye present Gentlemen in Office.

Mr. Bryan was with me today on ye business & indeed it is ye third or fourth time he was here to speak to me about it. He is sure it may be accomplished & expects Mr. Lewis to bring it forward. Two or three weeks ago I put my sentiments in writing in ye form of a Resolution embracing a variety of objects & gave it to Mr. Lewis to make any use of he thought fit. It may possibly furnish him some hints. But it would oblige me much if you would interest your friends in it adding your Reasons for ye measure. I spoke to Hubley about it about two weeks ago, but he thought it would not go down and it discouraged me from proceeding any further. Indeed I am afraid it would be deemed indelicate in me to urge such a thing. Hubley says ye Governor must reappoint all ye old Officers, but I am rather of a different opinion. * * *

* * * As you are about going to my Fathers, the affairs, of Jemmy's Lease will naturally come on ye Carpet, but I will reserve what I have to say for another Letter.

To J. Burd.

Philada. April 7, 1790.

You may well imagine the pain which the accounts of Jemmy's behaviour have given me. The motives of it appear to me very extraordinary and unaccountable. To refuse to see Mr. Yeates, to buy Pistols, to set off in the dead of night with two horses for Fort Pitt. appears to me totally irrational and I cannot conjecture what his views could have been. These steps however have destroyed my confidence in him and neither Mr Yeates or myself think he ought to be trusted with your farms except in assisting you to work the farm; but that you ought to reassume the entire direction and care of your Estate. The lower places, I am told you have rented out on the shares to Stoner and Dunnets. You should I think take the farm about your house entirely into your own hands and work it as well as you can. Jemmy ought certainly assist you in order to regain his reputation & behave as a dutiful son ought to do, & you of course will provide him with necessaries as you used to do. But I would not trust entirely to him, but have a servant also. But if he should decline his assistance, I think you had better pass it by & do without it, at the same time permitting him to live with you. If he should take a new turn and alter his conduct for *such a length of time* as we may conclude that he is really reformed, we may then fall upon such plan for his advantage as may be thought prudent & practicable. It is a disagreeable thing for you to be situated as you are, but do my dear Father endeavour to support yourself with constancy & firmness, at the same time that you do or say as little as possible that would make him despair or be wretched. You should be firm in keeping the staff in your own

hands & not be dependent on him for your support. Perhaps by a steady & firm treatment of him in the way I propose, he may be convinced that nothing can be gained by Rudeness & disobedience & be brought gradually to a sense of duty which would be a most desirable object. I intend this Spring to go over the Allegheny, & on my way shall call to see you about ye 7th or 8th of May, but I shall be only able to stay one day. I shall not return till about ye 19th June. I think you are perfectly right in not thinking of building. It would be better to lose ye difference in ye price of ye materials as you would, to laying out a great deal of money without a suitable recompense. I have written to Jemmy a long letter stating his behaviour in the light we all view it, which I hope will have some effect upon him. He wishes the old plan to be pursued, but I do not think he has a right to expect it, or that he could even now perform it.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. April 26, 1790.

* * Mrs Arnold is this moment setting off for New York in order to take her Passage for St. Johns.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 10, 1790.

* * It is carried in ye House of Repre-

sentatives, as well as ye Senate, that Congress are to sit at Philadelphia next meeting & it to be ye seat of Government for 10 years, & afterwards ye permanent Seat of Congress to be at ye Potowmac. The New Yorkers are so extremely irritated at ye Removal of Congress that they set no bounds either to their words or publications against ye Philadelphians.

To His Brother James.

Philada. 10th Aug. 1790.

Dear James :

In a Letter which I this moment received from you instead of an answer to a long and friendly letter which I wrote to you from Lancaster I was surprized to find an obstinate adherence to your old wish of living on my Father's land. No notice was taken of my Advice to you, but it was treated with a contemptuous Silence. But as you thought I might possibly be of use in endeavouring to forward your application to my Father you are willing to make use of me as an instrument for that purpose. As to my giving you any more advice that I have found by experience to be intirely fruitless. Your actions having been constantly in opposition to it, altho you have professed a willingness to be guided by it. You have now better advisers who have I suppose advised you to act in direct opposition to your Father's wishes & to give him as much pain as possible. You well know how disagreeable a thing your Marriage under its circumstances was to your Father & that remaining in the neighbourhood with your wife would be a constant source of uneasiness to him as well as your Sis-

ter, yet it is your express determination to do it. You complain of my Father & my both being hard to you, preferring strangers to you and turning you out into the street; perhaps all this you have deserved but how dare you speak of such being the Treatment of you to me who have been almost a Father to you, who has by every means in my power advanced your interest even when you had treated my Father in the most undutiful & unwarrantable manner, and finally brought misery upon him & disgrace upon yourself by your Connexion? Have my constant solicitude for your Interest & welfare, my presents, my persuading your Father to purchase Lands for you, of which I advanced the price, my procuring from him a beneficial Lease for you when your conduct merited indeed a very different treatment from him, and finally my offering to assist you, after your disgrace, to come forward as an owner of land, & help you to stock & carry it on;—are all these evidences of my hardness of heart to you and turning you out into the street (as you term it)? What an unfeeling ungrateful heart you have! Because my Father does not chuse that you should be the master of his property, or live in disgrace and poverty under his nose & because I do not use my interest with him to do a thing which I think highly improper myself, therefore we are both to be abused and all our kind actions to be forgotten;—no Jemmy, if you was brought to a proper sense of your situation you would accuse yourself of undutifulness to your father; of making him miserable by your conduct & of hardness of heart yourself.

Suppose you should live on my Father's land, how will that injure me? It is not my land, nor shall I have the disagreeableness of seeing that wretched

state in which you would live there; but the case is different with my Father. The wish shows that you do not possess the independent spirit of a man. To prefer being a tenant, (for otherwise you know you could not be) to living and improving on your own land independent of all ye world is not the proof of a generous mind. If there are any persons who advise you constantly to oppose the wishes of every part of your family, depend upon it they are not your friends, or if they mean you well, it will be very silly in you to follow such advice for one plain reason, independent of all regard for them of which it seems to me you now have very little. The reason is this, that your friends have no need of your assistance, but you have considerable occasion for theirs, so that if you merely consult your own interest, you ought not to break with them, or treat them ill. It has grieved me much to see the steps you have taken for several years past. I have been willing to forgive, provided you would amend your conduct. You well know that you and my Father cannot agree together and that there must be a separation between you. It will therefore be in vain for you to force yourself on his land against his consent.

You have not taken ye trouble of looking at the Mahontongo Land. Whether it is a good tract or not, I know not, but if you was to see it, you yourself could then judge.

You do not expressly say whether you will go to Fort Pitt or not tho I suppose you do not chuse to do that. If neither of those plans suit, good land may be had in ye new purchase at a moderate price, which you may improve into a valuable interest; but on a rented tract you have no prospect but misery; a

family coming upon you without the means of maintaining them. If I was in your situation, and my Father was ever so willing to let me be on his land, I would not live there. It is contrary to your interest and your Happiness; but my advice is only thrown away upon you. You have constantly acted in opposition to it and I suppose will continue to do it. When you show yourself worthy of my friendly assistance, I possibly may help you. At present I suppose you rely more upon your new friends. I must therefore conclude with a sincere wish, that as you have brought your present unhappiness on yourself by your own imprudence, so that you would accommodate your mind to your present prospects, and and by harmonizing with your family make the best of your situation. Abusing your best friends, will have no tendency to assist you. I despise the abuse, and shall not fail to assist you, provided you show yourself worthy of it; otherwise not.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug 25, 1790.

* * We have had the whole day consumed by the publication of the Constitution and the arrival and Entertainment of the President. He looks remarkably well, I think: He dined with ye Corporation today;—probably with the Convention tomorrow;—and a cold Collation is to be prepared for him at Gray's on Saturday.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 12, 1790.

Our Nephew, Henry Grubb agreeably to his Engagements, will set off this morning on his Return. He has made ye same favorable Impressions on me that you had received of him;—what Pity it is that his Brother does not possess a little common Sense, and conduct himself in a similar manner. * *

* *

We are unanimous here for Mr. Mifflin as Governor; John Sellers of Delaware and Richard Peters of Phila. County I believe will run generally as Senators in our district, but there will be a considerable Contest between Mr. Powel and Mr. Miles as the third Senator. I am doubtful which will carry in the city, but ye Interest of Mr. Miles in Phila. County I fancy will overbalance Mr Powel's in Delaware County. We shall certainly have Mr. Bingham, Mr. Hiltzheimer and Mr. Stickle as three of our Representatives. But the Contest will be between Richard Wells and Francis Gurney of ye Quaker Interest, and John Barclay and George Fox of ye German and Irish Interest. The Weight of ye public Creditors will be thrown in ye Scale of ye latter, as it is believed that Mr. Wells particularly means the Injury of public Creditors and paring all ye Offices of Government. If such an economical System as his narrow head may probably form should be adopted, the new Establishment of President in ye County Courts will become a Curse instead of a blessing, as no Gentleman of ye Law uniting Abilities with Integrity will accept of this Office to ye utter Ruin of himself and family, and ye Office with all its Powers must fall into low hands and be debased. I would much rather see

a plain honest Countryman as ye head of ye Bench, than have it filled by a low designing Character.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Reading, 4 Nov. 1790.

* * Upon talking with Mr. Collins on ye subject of ye Salaries for ye Presidents of ye Courts of Common Pleas, he says the Sentiment of ye members of this County is to allow £750 per Annum and ye Judges to bear their own Expenses, or £600 and ye public to bear them. The Allowance is, I think, a good one, and hope it will be made. Many people think they will with difficulty be brought to give £500, which would be too small a sum to insure good Appointments in my Opinion.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 30, 1790.

* * Our poor Friend, Col. Hartley, has broke his Arm by a fall from ye State House Steps. I went to see him, but he has been so much visited, that it is thought best to keep him quiet, and I could not see him, but make no doubt from what I heard, that he will do well.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Jan. 31st, 1791.

* * Mr. Shippen has been appointed and accepted ye Office of a Judge of the Supreme Court in the room of Mr. Bryan, who is dead. Mr. James Biddle is to succeed Mr. Shippen, and Mr. Chas. Biddle will be ye Prothy.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 8th Feby., 1791.

* * Mr Shippen has received his Commission as Judge of ye Supreme Court, and Mr. Jas. Biddle now presides in ye Common Pleas and Charles Biddle acts as Prothy. I think that Mr. Shippen will add some respectability to the Court.

The Supreme Court of the United States opened on Monday the 7th Inst. in which Chief Justice Jay and Judges Cushing, Wilson and Iredell sat. A number of ye Gentlemen of ye Bar of this City attended at their Lodgings and escorted them to the State House. The Court opened but there was no Business done.

The Gentlemen of the Bar applied for admission but a Rule of the Court stood in their way, which made it necessary previously to their Admission that they had practised in the Supreme Court of the State three years, and that they had good Moral Characters, and possessed good legal Abilities. I obviated the first Objection by my Certificate of their Admission in ye Supreme Court.

The Court took then as Evidence of ye latter Qualities, that Mr. Wilcocks was Recorder of the City: Mr. Bradford was Attorney General of ye State;

Mr. Lewis was Attorney for ye District ; Mr. Fisher was vouched for by Mr. Wilson, with apparent Reluctance as against his wishes to do it for any one. Mr. Sergeant proposed that as Mr. Fisher was admitted. He should vouch for ye rest of ye Bar, but ye Chief Justice said that they had determined that one lawyer should not vouch for another. However he remarked that Mr. Sergeant had been Attorney General which was an Evidence of his good Character and legal Ability, and therefore he was admitted. Mr. Ingersoll was then proposed, and Mr. Randolph stated to ye Court that he had been a Member of Congress, and of ye Federal Convention. Chief Justice Jay observed that he might be a very good Member of Congress, and yet no Lawyer. Mr. Ingersoll then formally withdrew his application for Admission till another period.

After a little while Mr. Wilson said that it was from no difficulty about either that Gentleman's Character or legal Ability, for every body knew that if he said any thing about him, he must have said that he was one of ye most eminent at ye Bar. He was admitted without any Renewal of his Application ; and Mr. Jay also paid him some Compliments.

So many difficulties occurring the rest of the Bar declined bringing forward their Applications, having expected that from Mr. Wilson's knowledge of them, every thing might have been made easy.

The Court then adjourned till One o'clock, when the proper Certificates having been provided all who applied were admitted.

The Bar thought they might have been treated with a little more delicacy by a Gentleman who knew them all intimately. However I do not think that he meant any Offence to them, but merely adopted the

Rule of discriminating between the deserving and undeserving of ye profession. It seems he might have acted with more fortitude if he had declared his good Opinion of some, and called for Certificates only as to such whom he did not know particularly;—or if he had positively refused to declare his opinion respecting any of ye profession without written Evidence.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 3rd, 1791.

* * You must give me leave to congratulate you on your new appointment to a Seat on our Bench. For altho' from my friendship for ye Gentlemen who were on ye Bench, I do not wish their Removal, yet as that was a Measure determined on, it gave me not a little Pleasure to hear that my Brother & friend was not only appointed, but had agreed to accept ye Station. I am in hopes it will contribute both to your Health and Longevity; and I have ye pleasure to find that ye appointment will be very generally satisfactory.

Gov. Mifflin has his enemies, and he has been publicly attacked for displacing Mr. Rush, but no objections have been made to his Successor. The sacrifice you have made is great, but there is some satisfaction in the Reflexion that a Son in Law of your own will have his fortune made by it. * * * *
But as the Indian War may possibly rage on ye frontier in ye Spring they (the Judges) may possibly not cross ye Mountains.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. March. 10, 1791.

* * I see plainly that my brother James cannot possibly go to ye westward this year. The consequence would immediately be his going into ye Militia which by Vote of ye Assembly are to be draughted out and they have resolved to allow £4.000. for ye Expense.

—

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. March 22nd, 1791.

* * You have kept your appointment to ye office of a Judge of ye Supreme Court very secret. I think in your Communications to me. However, I need not tell you what pleasure it will give me. I very sincerely congratulate you, and make no doubt it will not only be some ease to yourself to quit ye Bar for ye Bench, but it will be an advantage to ye public. This you will permit me to mention as my Sentiment without Flattery. * * * *

The great anxiety of Mr. Clymer to get £750. for Mr. Biddle has not only lost him that sum, but also ye puisne Judges in ye opinion of Mr. Bradford. He says that if that Salary had been proposed for ye puisne Judges, it would have carried, and ye President of ye Common Pleas with it, but that a number of ye Members would not consent to exalt ye President of ye Common Pleas over a puisne Judge of ye Supreme Court. I suppose you have heard how ye Compensation Bill has gone throu' ye House of Representatives.

£1.000. per Ann. to ye Chief Justice.

£600. to each of ye puisne Judges.
 } and 30s. p. diem
 } for Expenses.

£600. to ye President Phila Com. Pleas.

£500. to ye Presid. of each of ye other Districts, but no traveling expenses to them, ye Atty Gen.l or prothy. It is intended to push for these Expenses in ye Senate. I am a little afraid of doing it tho' I have no doubt of carrying it thro' that body. Mr. Bradford and I talked of 3 dollars a day for each of us.

I hope our friend, Mr Atlee, will be continued on ye Bench ;—It would give me great pleasure. * *

It is ye Opinion of many people that the Bank will go triumphantly thro'. The Legislature, I believe will patronize it ;—and the Quakers have bought so many shares in it that ye friends of ye Bank it is thought have a decided majority.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 4th, 1791.

* * Dr. McIlvaine has embraced the Opportunity afforded by Dr. Jones' Death of coming to Town. He is now in one of Mr. Bache's new Houses in Market Street; he is a good Surgeon and an excellent Physician. * * * Gen.l and Mrs. Arnold are going to leave St. Johns for England in a very short time.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 18, 1791.

* * * * I suppose you have heard of ye prevailing madness about Scrip in this City;— it raised in the Course of three days to 310 dollars for each subscription for a share in ye National Bank. I had 24 shares which I thought prudent to sell at 270 dollars for each share the day before ye Scrip fell and all that day it was rising and some thought I was too early in making sale;—But I was certain that ye profits of ye Bank would never authorize such a price, and was glad to sell. The money is payable and Scrip deliverable in 30 days. An attempt was made to get me to cancel ye agreement by artifice and Falsehoods before I knew any thing of ye fall of ye article in price, but I was too well pleased with my contract to fall into ye trap.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Phila. Dec. 22, 1791.

* * I * * * expect in a day or two to get the State *Giblets* (Certificates) as they are called. * * The new Bank is going with full sail. She discounts amazingly, and has drawn a monstrous sum in Specie from ye old Bank, besides refusing to take her Notes.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 9 Feby. 1792.

* * The Judges Bill was made the order of the day for Friday, but the Friends of it think it prudent to defer it till ye new Members will be chosen for Philadelphia County, which will be done next Monday. Antony Morris, jun. is expected to be the Person who will be a dead vote, but if Mr. Robinson should be elected, he is also counted upon. Mr. Scott's coming down early next week will be of consequence as ye friends of ye Bill are very apprehensive about their Success unless their Force is collected.

Mrs. Tilghman has been given over by her physicians, but there are some faint hopes today yet.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 22nd, 1792.

* * Mr. Dawes, it is said has failed for 350.000. Dollars, tho' he says his funds are fully adequate to his debts, he called his Creditors together last Monday in New York to show them his Resources. I saw an advertisement in ye New York paper of Tuesday, signed by a dozen Gentlemen in which they say they have deferred ye Investigation till Saturday, as his Transactions were of such magnitude he could not lay them before them sooner. He has opened all ye old Dutchmen's Chests, in Long Island by ye temptation of exorbitant Interest, and his failure would have very extensive Consequences in that Island and New York. People say he can pay all his debts except those of an usurious nature in a short time, and he says he can even discharge them in a twelve-month.

A Combination of men of fortune in New York, among whom are Brockholst Livingston and Dr. Craigie has produced the great scarcity of Specie;—they drew out of the Banks immense sums in specie on purpose to prevent ye Banks from discounting, and to lower ye price of Certificates, which they have effectually done:—deferred debts having lowered from 16s. to 12s., and 6 per cents from 26s. to 21s.

I congratulate you on ye happy Birth of your Grand-son. This is a kind of Regeneration to you.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 29, 1792.

* * A match is soon to take place between Mr. John Coxe and Miss Polly Footman, who is an exceeding clever girl.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. June 14th, 1792.

* * There was great Confusion in this City about ye Subscription to the Turnpike Road. I intended to have subscribed a few shares by way of encouraging ye Object, but finding that unnecessary I gave myself no further trouble about ye matter. My Office was deserted the whole day by Mr. Davis and my apprentices, they having been infected with ye Turnpike Rage. Every thing is now turned into Speculation. The quiet Quakers who attended for ye

purpose of joining in ye Subscription, and encouraging the Road, finding such an uproar, withdrew.

* * *

The Judges at Mifflin have completely subdued the spirit of Riot there—Sheriff Wilson is fined £50—David Walker £40—Wm Beales £10—George Wilson £6 on their Submissions;—William Starret and Thomas Beales not being ready for their Trials, traversed their Indictments, and were bound over to ye next Sessions;—John Beales also was indicted, but not being taken, a Capias issued against him. The Judges I understand in order to know how to assess fines, inquired into ye provocation given by Mr Bry a County Lieutenant in not suffering some officers, who had been duly elected by ye People to take their places. They found him reprehensible, and it served to mitigate the fine * *

We had a Report that the Vessel in which Mr. and Mrs. Penn, and Andrew Allen, with his 7 children had embarked, had drove to pieces in ye Bay, and every soul perished; but ye Report is false as to any Vessel having met with that Disaster: but ye letters of Mr. Butler mention that they were not to sail till 21 May.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 9th, 1792.

* * * The Germans you saw advertised were sent for to settle ye Lands Mr. Morris sold to European Gentlemen. I have made Inquiry for Irish Servants, but can find none. The *Passengers* who lately came from Ireland have paid their Passages, or have got friends to do it for them.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 1st, 1792.

* * We have a Report that ye Spaniards have joined against ye French. They will have all Europe against them. I fear they have ruined a good Cause by improper Conduct.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 6th, 1792.

* * I can readily conceive the necessity you are under of keeping yourself employed. The very industrious and active Life you have led makes it absolutely necessary to your Happiness that you should not discontinue your Industry. A running stream is preserved in purity, while a stagnated pool becomes corrupt. People who are even accustomed to lounging cannot bear the stupidity of that Kind of Life. Without any object, time hangs heavy on our Hands, and the present tedious moment being past; the next becomes equally insupportable. With the Experience you have had in the Line of your profession, and the Improvement you are daily acquiring, you will be exceedingly well qualified for ye important Station you fill. With the Advancement you have made in Legal Science, I suppose that you receive great pleasure in your Investigations as well as Information.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. June 27, 1793.

* * A Report has been spread by Mr. Musser that an Express had gone to Mr. Atlee to inform him of a large Fortune lately left to him in England. I fancy it must be something relative to his old Claim. I sincerely wish him Success.

— —

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 10th, 1793.

* * It appears to me that if ye War continues between Great Britain and France, we shall be lugged into it. M. Genet gives Commissions to fit out Privateers;—one has been fitted out here, which is called ye Democrat, formerly ye Little Sarah, being a Prize to ye Ambuscade He was extremely violent when ye Governor and ye United States Executive Officers applied for ye dismantling her, and threatened to oppose force by force. The President is expected today, or tomorrow, and something decisive I suppose will be then done. I fear six per cents in ye present aspect of things will not be a good Speculation. A Report is spread of ye Spaniards who had invaded France, being utterly defeated.

July 12th. Old Mr. Joseph Shippen died in ye Evening of ye 10th Inst, and is to be buried today. Tom Shippen has narrowly escaped Death at New York. His Imposthume is broken, and he has now a Chance of recovery. My Uncle Joseph Shippen has ye Rheumatism so badly in his Head, that John was obliged to answer a letter I wrote him.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Aug. 1, 1793.

* * Mr Clement Biddle has hurt himself much among ye Merchants of this City by a Jury which he returned in ye Case of one Henfield, a Citizen of ye United States accused of serving on board ye Democrat, a Privateer fitted out by ye French in Philadelphia. Henfield was acquitted,—and ye Merchants being of Opinion that Mr. Biddle has acted improperly are determined to withdraw their business from him, and are about setting up Jacob Howell in his place.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. 22, Aug. 1793.

* * We have all had ye Influenza. It is a disagreeable Complaint. We are getting better, tho' I still have a Cough.

To Jacob Hubley.

Phila. August 24th, 1793.

I am very sorry to hear of your Indisposition, and of my Sister's. I did not suppose that your situation at Reading was unhealthy; it formerly was thought a very healthy place, and yet you have a great deal of sickness there; whatever be the cause of your ill-health, I sincerely sympathize with you both.

* * * * *

Mrs. Burd is

very unwell, as well as Edward, myself and almost all my family with ye Influenza; but there is another more dangerous Disorder in Town called ye Yellow Fever—which has already carried off many, and a great number of others are afflicted. It is chiefly confined at present to Front and Water Streets between Arch and Race Streets. I am told there are 70 people ill with it in that quarter, but as it is contagious, we are afraid of its spreading to other parts of ye City.

The patient is carried off in a few days; when once ye putrid Symptoms appear there is no Remedy.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 4, 1793.

* * Dr. McIlvaine was thought by Dr. Rush to have a slight touch of ye yellow fever, but he is better and I have some doubt whether it was that Disorder. It has been very mortal in this City, which is almost deserted by ye wealthy Inhabitants. Our families are otherwise well. Mrs. Lea and Mrs. McIlvaine and their Children are gone to Burlington.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 19, 1793.

* * I have taken my family to my Place on Schuylkill, but am in a day or two to join Mr. Shippen's at the Lawrence Place where ye House is

larger and more convenient. We are much obliged to you for your friendly offer, but ye distance from ye City is too great for me, who am obliged to attend my Office. * * I am afraid to go to the United States Bank, two of their Clerks having died of ye yellow fever; and Mr. Willing is sick of it, at this time.

To Jacob Hubley.

Easton Sept. 25th, 1793.

* * * I intended to have the pleasure of delivering them (i. e. papers) in person, but we have accounts here of the death of Mr. Lea. This coming several different ways, tho' not from the family induces us not to credit it, especially as Mr. Lea kept his bed, when we left home; tho' we were informed it was not with that Disorder.

The Business of this Court is almost finished and Mr. Shippen and I shall set off on our return tomorrow morning.

We have our Families together at Mr. Lawrence's Country Seat near the Falls of Schuylkill. The Uneasiness of our families on this melancholy event, and perhaps some necessary Assistance to be afforded may make our return expedient.

It is not at all improbable however that I may be at Lancaster during that Court, and proceed on ye Circuit afterwards.

I shall be glad of any monies you may collect for me from ye Commissioners or otherwise, as Business is almost at an End in Philadelphia. A fi. fa. issued

in Lawertswyle vs Plain, perhaps ye Sheriff may be ble to pay you that money. This with other monies I shall be glad to receive, as my principal dependence must be at present from ye Country, everything being at a stand in ye City.

The situation of that City is a most melancholy one. The numbers that die are so great, that there is a difficulty in getting ye dead buried. It is ye greatest Calamity of ye Kind that I have heard of, and nobody can tell the Result or amount of it.

I am glad to hear that Peggy is better as well as yourself.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Easton, Sept. 26, 1793.

The most melancholy news of the Death of Mr. Lea, which tho' not coming immediately from the family, yet coming in three different ways, added to his being sick when we left home induce Mr. Shippen and myself immediately to return home. * *

Mr. Shippen's family went to Mr. Lawrence's Place on Schuylkill on Friday week, where my family joined them. So that they are in a place of safety, unless from Town Visitors, of which we are not at present under apprehension.

The State of ye City is most deplorable. The number of ye dead is amazing and there is no knowing when ye Calamity will stop. It is dangerous to walk thro' ye Streets. I remained in ye City till Tuesday ye 17 Inst., and I had finished all ye business neces-

sary for ye Nisi Prius. On that day 100 people were buried. * * * * *

My House is entirely Shut up.—People dying all round it and no venturing there without risque, the Disorder being so easily taken that many people herdly know how they have caught ye Infection. From ye best Accounts I can collect there must have been 500 or 600 people buried last Week. The physicians are much lessened;—Dr. Kuhn and Dr. Shippen removed from Town, Dr. Hutchinson and Dr. Pennington dead;—Drs. Rush, Say and Wistar indisposed. The Doctors also differing essentially in their mode of Treating ye Disease must have a tendency to hurt ye Citizens from a Difficulty of making a Choice; but Dr. Rush's method seems to be most generally approved. The Disorder soon however baffles all ye Art of Physicians; Dr. Rush's being only effectual while ye state of ye Body is inflammatory, before ye putridity has taken place. * * * * * Mr. Meredith has had ye Yellow Fever, but in curing him of it, he has been thrown into a fit of ye Gout.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 14, 1793.

* * * I opened my Office on ye 4th Inst. at the usual place and attended personally ye 5th and every day since in ye forenoon. To-morrow I shall bring ye Family to Town without ye smallest apprehension of Danger, there having been no new Infection for this fortnight or 3 weeks past.

To J Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 21, 1793.

* * The Affairs of my poor friend Lea drew me first to Burlington and afterwards to Wilmington. Immediately on my return I opened my Office at the usual place. Davis came in on ye 4th Inst. and I attended ye next day. and every day afterwards till ye 15th Inst., when, thinking the City perfectly safe, Mr. Shippen's family and mine both removed back to ye City. We find it very healthy, and no danger to be apprehended. Great numbers of the Citizens have returned, but some of ye more timid still keep back, but their number is very small.

The President I saw in Market Street near ye River ye other day;—and have no doubts that Congress will sit here. The House is ready for their Reception of which ye Governor has given Notice to ye President.

Mrs Lea arrived in ye City on Tuesday afternoon with her two children She will live at her Father's this winter. Dr. Rush has taken her Father's House Rents continue as usual. I let my House in Third Street for ye same Rent I got last year. * *

* If no sinister Event should happen next Summer, Philada. will again lift up her Head. The New Yorkers till very lately affected to consider it as unsafe to have any communication with us, but it is at length restored as usual for all healthy people. *

* I was present at ye opening of Mr. Powel's Will * * The Residue of his fortune he gave absolutely to Mrs. Powel, and made her sole Executrix.* * * She is supposed to be worth \$200,000.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. 20 Dec. 1793.

* * The concluding of a Peace between ye Portuguese and Algerines has set ye latter at Liberty to cruize in the Mediterranean, and frightened all our Traders so much that ye orders for Goods will be much lessened for ye next Importation. Another Circumstance has much alarmed our Mercantile Gentlemen, which is that Mr. Pinckney has orders to press ye British Court, till ye 1st December to deliver up the western Posts, and then to cease. This Period was the Meeting of Congress, and has ye appearance of some decisive Measures being taken in case of Refusal. I hope however that as ye British are industrious in building Forts on ye opposite side of ye Lake, that ye storm will blow over.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. March 6, 1794.

* * I have not been able to get Mr. Nicholson to do Mr. Chambers' business. He has been so much engaged about his Impeachment.

To Jacob Hubley.

York, May 5th, 1794.

* * You must excuse me for saying that I cannot approve of your Removal to your Father's place at Lancaster. There are but 63 writs issued to next Term at Lancaster which is near at hand. Many

Lawyers established there, and ye £20 Law being passed will reduce ye practice still more.

Living on a farm too, that is worth £2.000, without additional Improvements is really paying a great interest. If you think farming worth your while, think again of my Father's place. As to health, I am determined that ye big Swamp shall be cleared. If it cannot be done by contract with ye Neighbours, I will lend Jo, money for ye purpose, and that will make a great difference in it. Last year was a very uncommon year. And if you even buy it on Speculation, it will be worth your attention. I am satisfied that Conewago Falls being cleared, and ye turnpike Road all ye way to Wright's Ferry will greatly increase its value, and I would advise you, even if you did not remove to it, to purchase. I think you can get it at \$20 per Acre.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada 31st May, 1794

Dear Sir :

I am now about to inform you of an Event, that will be a most severe stroke on the future happiness in this Life of Mr. Shippen. No less than the loss of Mrs. Shippen. She died on Wednesday morning, 28th Inst. at 8 o'clock of ye Gout in her Stomach and Head.

On my return from Norristown on Thursday Evening, I found she had been very ill;—On Friday we sent to Burlington for Dr. McIlvaine; who came down with his wife on Saturday forenoon, and Mrs. Shippen appeared then so far recovered, that we were obliged to apologize for sending for ye Doctor, and

she was very sorry for it. On Sunday she was again attacked with a violent and incessant puking, and the Doctor was of Opinion that It was ye Gout in her Stomach, and prescribed Medicine. In ye Course of ye evening it was checked, and ye next day he had some hopes, but her pulse being almost gone ye next morning. and she refusing all sustenance from ye very disordered state of her Stomach, made us so apprehensive of her fate, that we dispatched an Express for Mr. Shippen. After ye Express was gone however, she took a little Refreshment which staid on her Stomach, but ye Disorder towards Evening reached her Head. and rendered her insensible of those attentions, that all her friends around her were paying to her, and also to ye pain which a great difficulty of Respiration for a long time would have caused to her :—She went off on Wednesday Morning without a Groan.

Mr. Shippen set off about 9 o'clock ye same morning from Reading about an hour after ye Express had arrived, and rode on that day thro' ye Rain. Ye next day ye Perquioming was raised to such an immense Height., that it was impassible, and on Friday morning he was obliged to drive his Horses into ye Stream which carried them considerably down it before they passed over. He crossed with difficulty in a Canoe. He fortunately for his own feelings did not arrive in time for ye Funeral, altho' he thought he had when he entered ye House. Indeed I rode out at ye Time of ye Funeral to ye falls to meet him, tho' without success in order to save him ye immense pain of being there at that moment. When he arrived among us, he said it was a shock that would kill a poor old Man and burst from us to Retirement among his Daughters.

He appears now more composed, but he will feel ye loss every day he lives. It is (well?) that Mrs. Lea lives at present with him, and her cheerful Disposition and good understanding will prevent ye Change being so great as it would have otherwise have been if he had been alone in ye House.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 6 June, 1794.

* * Your letter (after the Death of Mrs. Shippen) affected Mr. Shippen very much, and made him very gloomy, the day he received it. He is getting more composed. He lets Strangers see into ye State of his mind as little as possible.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 3rd, 1794.

* * Mr. W. Tilghman was married on Tuesday Evening to Miss Peggy Allen.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. August 1st, 1794.

* * There is a Court of Oyer and Terminer fixed for ye 23rd Inst. to try ye Soldiers who killed Dr. Redman's Negro.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, Oct. 2nd, 1794.

* * The alarm about ye Yellow Fever has greatly subsided, and Mrs. Burd's fears are quite over, but Mrs. Lea is going to Burlington for a short time. In the House in Dock Street, where ye fever is said to be so infectious, not one of ye family have caught it altho' several of them sat with ye man on ye bed when he died. Harry Clymer, who is said also to have had that disorder has not communicated it to any of Mr. Willing's large family. None of Mr. Hazlehurst's family who were reported to have been infected, and in ye neighborhood of ye Complaint are now ill. There will always be a number of Deaths at this Season of ye year particularly in so large a City, but if ye Fever that is now prevalent is ye Yellow fever, there is not much danger to be apprehended of taking ye Infection, if we may judge from ye little Progress it has yet made.

The same observation that ye Americans made of Lord Howe, that he was a better Soldier than penman, the British may return with Respect to Gen. Wayne. A "devious" I should not suppose to be a direct path;—nor can ye word "Emporium" be very properly applied to a number of Corn-fields.

· ———

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 9th, 1794.

* * Our fears of Yellow fever are now entirely over, as we are satisfied that if it does exist, it is not contagious, a very fortunate Circumstance.

The strong Approbation of ye President must be

very pleasing to you, as it is never given without just Reason.

Gen.ls Stuart and Moylan have decided by a written Certificate that Mr. Meade's abusive Language to me deserved ye Resentment that followed it, and we have engaged to let Matters rest as they are. So that that Affair is at an End.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 13th Nov. 1794.

* * We have not been able yet to have a Senate, there being one wanting of ye number. The House of Representatives proceed without them in preparing business, &c.

I suppose ye President will lay some of Mr. Jay's proceedings before Congress in his Speech. He has just received dispatches thro' Mr. Morris's Son.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 19, 1794.

* * The Senate have at last made a House, and yesterday the President delivered his speech to both Houses in which he pays a Compliment to ye Commissioners who treated with the Insurgents, for their firmness and ability.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Dec. 18, 1794.

* * I hope your Alarms about your Gout will prove groundless. Many of our Western Heroes have been much indisposed since their Return. Mr. Ingersoll has had a severe fever, and is still so weak, tho' mending, that I do not think he can go thro' much business next Court. The Governor too has been much indisposed but has recovered. Many have slight colds.

Polly Shippen has been in town lately, and returned a few days ago to Plumley. The Town says the Match will certainly take place, and his frequent visits, and that of all of ye family at Mr. Bordley's put the thing out of Doubt. I sincerely hope, he may make her as good a Husband as she deserves to have and she will be a happy Woman.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 2, 1795.

* * I was at Easton Court all last week; the dispute about ye dry Lands after a Jury sworn and Evidence given and some rejected was settled by compromise.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 4, 1796.

* * Ruin is staring in ye faces of most

of ye Land Speculators. The Day of reckoning is at hand, and no prospect of disposing of their Lands. There are a great number of Judgments against your friend Wilson lately confessed by him. People speak very freely as to ye Situation he is likely to be in very shortly.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. July 8th, 1797.

* * The wicked scheme of Mr. Blount makes a great deal of noise. He is to be heard by Counsel in ye Senate on a Motion made by Mr. Ross to expel him from that body. Some people censure Mr Liston for not communicating ye plan to our Government. It would have been well for us that he should have done so; but I cannot see under what obligation he was to communicate ye Intelligence. He is also blamed for stating ye offer made to his Court. I think he would have been wrong to have withheld ye Knowledge of ye Transaction; and ye Expression of his disapproval surely could not be thought wrong even by the Spanish nation.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug 24th, 1797.

* * I was in great hopes from ye Rains and cool Weather and ye Measures which have been adopted, ye Yellow Fever, which is in ye City would have been checked. Yesterday's publication of 15

new Cases since ye 21st, I must acknowledge has damped my hopes exceedingly.

Great numbers of People have deserted ye City; particularly from Pine Street, and its vicinity where ye Fever first began. I am glad of ye Circumstance, as it not only preserves those citizens; but renders it safer for those who remain.

There is no Yellow Fever in houses very near to me, unless you reckon Col. Johnson's & Israel's stables near. I am told that a Mr. Eton, a nephew of Col. Johnson, at his house has been in that disorder a considerable time past, but is on the Recovery. Israel removed from his House near his Stable to ye corner of 3rd and Chestnut Streets, and rented his house to a man who came from Pine Street; this Man had ye yellow fever and on its being discovered was removed to ye Wigwam on Schuylkill, a House prepared for a Hospital. He died on ye day after his removal, and it is said that another person in ye House he left is sickened. John Pinkerton Jr. in Front Street died yesterday. A servant of Mr. Conyngham on the opposite side of ye way, tho' much nearer Walnut Street has ye disorder;—how he contracted it I know not. Mr. Joseph Fisher Jr. ye Hatter in Market Street is not expected to live; tho' his case is said to be a bilious fever; he was at Cape May and returned in a boat; it being very hot he slept 3 nights on Deck and was attacked shortly after his return.

Dr. Rush told me two days ago that ye number of Patients he had had previous to this time was 17, of which he had lost only one * * I had kept up my spirits till yesterday. But if the Account that is published is accurate, it is very alarming;—

and it is certainly taken from ye Reports of Physicians, whether all to be depended on I know not. *

*
Mrs. Burd, Mrs. Rush, and Mrs. Stewart have kept up each others spirits, put I fancy ye Knot will soon be broken. Mrs Stewart begins to be alarmed. Betsy is desirous to stay as long as I do, but I shall in a few days insist on her and Edward leaving me. If I find ye fever coming closer to me, I will remove my office; up Market or Chestnut Street and will not desert my post without absolute necessity.

— —

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 30, 1797.

Dear Sir :

I have only time to inform you that the Judges agreed not to meet at Nisi Prius on account of ye spreading of ye Yellow Fever. I believe one half ye City is deserted. Altho' there have been but few deaths of that Disorder, yet it is undoubtedly infectious and ye People from ye Example of 1793, and its being early in ye Season are not willing to encounter ye danger.

— —

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

The Grove, Sept. 30, 1797,

* * About 10 or 12 days ago I removed my Office to 13th Street between Market and Chestnut Streets, and have little fear in that situation of any danger. The disorder has spread lately to no

great distance from my house in Fourth Street. There was a bed of infection in Mifflin's Court, or Elfreth's Alley in Second Street below Dock Street, 3 weeks ago; and I expected it would spread in that neighborhood. It has since become very bad in Pear Street, which runs from Third a little below Walnut to ye Dock. Many people have died out of it. Dr. Shippen's Street is much infected, as is Carlisle's Alley, by ye African Church; so that it might not have been safe to have remained at my office, The Gentlemen of ye Bar are chiefly out of Town, who come to me in my present situation, but were afraid of going to my office in town.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 29, 1797.

* * I was all yesterday at Germantown attending a vendue of Uncle Shippen's Lands. *

* I moved my office last Monday morning from ye Centre Square to my House in Fourth Street; and both Mr. Shippen's family and mine came to town on Friday, as we think that there remains no more danger of infection from ye yellow fever.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 26 Jany. 1798.

* * Your letter respecting my Brother Jo's intended Marriage is confirmed by one from himself. He speaks of ye Girl as a fine Girl and wants me to lend him a sum of money without mentioning ye amount for ye purpose of ye Marriage, buying furniture, &c.

* * He says Miss Stewart is possessed of some property. I should have wished that he had not taken her out of a Tavern, and that Mr. Andrew Lee had not been so near a Connexion, notwithstanding which ye Girl may be worthy.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 26th Sept. 1798.

* * The great mortality still continues in ye City. Among other valuable Citizens, I am just informed we have to lament ye loss of our late worthy Mayor, Hilary Baker, Esq.

To Sarah Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 10th, 1798.

My Dear Sister:

You have no doubt been concerned least I or some of my family may have been attacked with ye prevailing Epidemic in our unfortunate City. I have

ye satisfaction to inform you, we have all escaped it as yet. A black servant of Mr. Shippen's appeared a few days to have several of ye symptoms, and in consequence went to town to have ye benefit of a physician, but Dr. Rush, who was at Mr. Shippen's place yesterday, was of opinion it was only a common fall fever, and that he will soon get ye better of it.

I have built myself a good house at Schuylkill, which I expect to raise in a few days, and call it Ormiston after ye name of our Grandfather's Seat near Edinburgh. I am very fond of ye Country in Summer and intend to keep my family there hereafter in that Season.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 8, 1798.

* * I removed my office into the City this day week, and think myself and Clerks very safe unless we go into Houses where people have died of ye yellow fever; which has proved fatal to a few that I have heard of after their Return to ye City. If care was taken to clean and purify ye Houses, I believe there would be no danger of infection.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Aug. 21st, 1799.

* * * * * The fears of being visited by ye Yellow Fever and driven out of ye City become stronger every day. The Disorder when once begun, we know by sad Experience spreads like

Wild-fire.—I suppose ye Judges under ye powers given by Act of Assembly will meet at Germantown. Nothing has yet been determined.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 23rd, 1799.

* * The Yellow fever has increased for the few last days. We were in hopes it was going off, but have still reason to fear its continuance.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Jany. 23, 1800.

Dear Sir:

We thank you all for your kind Congratulations on our Daughter's Wedding. It is pleasing to see her settled to our Satisfaction in all respects, and that pleasure is much enhanced by ye prospect of living not only in ye same City, but so near to us as almost to form one family. Those who have experienced this pleasure must know ye value of it. *

* It is to be lamented that Party Spirit runs so high. I make a point of intermixing very little and of not saying much to violent Partizans of either side. * * You will doubtless ere this reaches you hear Wonderful accounts of a new Revolution in France. The French people here particularly I am told Mr. Le T give credit to it, and it appears to have some Corroboration from Circumstances; to wit—Buonaparte leaving Egypt at

a critical time;—ye Report of his treaty or truce with ye grand Signior; The Armistice between Massena and Prince Charles; ye withdrawal of the Russians to ye
 ;—ye blowing up a strong fortification of great consequence by mutual consent;—proposed Evacuation of Switzerland :—all these Circumstances must have been produced by some great cause, God grant that there may be peace speedily.

— —

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. June 2, 1801.

I am happy to inform you that the Travellers have returned safe home. I do not perceive much alteration in Mrs. Coxe's favor, but make no doubt if she pursues Gen.l Hand's advice of rising early in the Summer and enjoying the bracing cool of ye morning and taking exercise every day it will be of great benefit to her health.

* * * Aunt Shippen's Death was matter of great grief to us. I had ye sincerest affection for her as well as ye highest Esteem for her many amiable and excellent qualities. To a person however of her frail and sickly Constitution. life was not very desirable and ye misfortune of her death is greater to her friends than herself.

Every new loss of a friend adds a pang whenever ye recollection strikes us.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 18th July. 1801.

It is well that you can derive Consolation under the Torments inflicted by your new Visitant from the Circumstances of its being hereditary. I trust the reflection that it may from the same reason be transmitted to your own Posterity, will not constitute any part of your Comfort. I am happy to find it not to be the Case, and if ye Sins of ye Fathers be visited on ye Children till ye 3rd and 4th Generation that they will end with yourself. I fear your disposition to be a bon vivant has at least furnished the predisposing Cause.

* * * * I expected to have been before this time at Long Branch to have joined the female part of my family, but the Sea Shore not agreeing with my daughter Peggy, Mrs. Burd returned with her after being there about 8 or 9 days. I believe, ye shower Bath and Air of Ormiston with exercise every day, will do her more service than travelling about the Country.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 29th Jany, 1802.

Dear Sir :

The High Court of Errors have determined in my favor after an argument of four days:—Judges Smith, Brackenridge, and Rush decidedly in my favor; Judge Addison doubting, and Coxe contra. Coxe gave his arguments at length, and I think if he had been a Counsel at ye Bar, and made such a

speech, ye Court would have stopped him. In order to support his Opinion, he distorted both Law and fact most egregiously. I have ye pleasure to find that all ye Gentlemen of ye Bar who have spoken with me on ye subject, adhered to my side of ye Question.

* * The Subscription to ye new Bank, I believe filled here very easily;—indeed they refused Subscriptions for above 10.000. shares which had been made in New York. If ye Assembly give them a Charter, it will affect all ye Bank Dividends, particularly in ye Bank of Penna.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Ormiston, 8th Sept. 1802.

Dear Sir :

We all sincerely sympathize with you in the unexpected Loss of so dear a friend and Connexion and so excellent a Man, as Gen.l Hand. His Loss is a public one in the different relations in which he stood. It is a great one to your Family and his friends generally, but to his own it is irreparable. Happy it is for us that Providence has so blinded us that we are not constantly sensible of the fleeting and transitory State we are in, or we should be deprived of every enjoyment it has so kindly afforded us. We know with absolute certainty, that our stay will be short, and yet we act and feel as if it was permanent. Fortunate Delusion, when it does not effect our moral Character, and prevent our acting with propriety in life. Our dear friend has led the way, and in a very short time, we all must follow him. I waited on Mrs. Crawford yesterday at her Country Seat, and in-

formed her of the melancholy Event, at which she expressed a great deal of Concern. Mr. Keppele had told her a day or two before that Gen.l Hand was ill from an apoplectic Stroke, but she had not heard of his Death.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 27 June, 1803.

* * * * * Mr. Shippen intends to pass his Summer at Burlington tho' he will attend at his office every Saturday Morning.

To E. S. Burd.

Lebanon Springs, 1st August, 1803.

My dear Son ;

While Peggy was writing to Mr. Coxe, it was unnecessary to continue my correspondence with you, but as she is too lazy to sit down to her writing table today, or more probably is engaged with her novel, taken from the public library here, consisting of 30 Novels, I must take up ye pen.

During the short stay we made at New Haven we received as much attention from Mr. Chauncey's father and family as ye time would admit of and it will certainly be incumbent on us to take notice of young Mr. Chauncey, as in addition to this circum-

stance, I believe him to be a young Gentleman of merit. I did not deliver letters I had to other Gentlemen as our object was not to be much in company but to be constantly travelling.

We went to Hartford, thence up ye Connecticut River as far as Northampton, and intended to have proceeded to Bellows Falls, and possibly to Dartmouth College; but were prevented by information of there being some rough road on ye route, and our desire of getting to this place, where we were told ye situation was high, ye air pure, and ye water good. Its vicinity to mountains added to its northern climate made me conclude it might be the proper place for Peggy to remain at, and she might have ye opportunity of riding as far every day, as if she was upon a journey, without ye fatigue of packing and repacking, &c We were told there was a turnpike road from Northampton to Albany, thro Lebanon, and expected a delightful ride. It is true ye road was turnpiked in ye manner of this country, which is nothing more than taking out ye stones, rounding ye road, and putting any bad places in good order, which makes ye road in fair condition as a summer road, but is not so well for ye winter and spring seasons; but we found nothing but a continued ascent and descent of mountains almost all ye way. We consoled ourselves for the business of ye road, in ye idea that the air must be pure in this elevated country and most proper for our dear invalid.

When we arrived at the Lebanon Springs, we were exceedingly pleased with its situation, altho we could not at first enjoy it on account of a rainy spell, which lasted two or three days.

It was fortunate for us at such a time to be in good quarters, and in agreeable society. I do not believe we could have found anywhere a place so well calculated for ye restoration of Peggy's Health, and everybody tells us there is a visible change in her appearance and she declares herself that she finds her health and strength improving greatly. If these favorable circumstances should continue we shall not be in a hurry to remove, but give her the full benefit of this situation.

Your Mama met with an old acquaintance who will remain here during ye summer, in a Mrs. Hamilton, formerly Miss Lynch of S. Carolina, who has three daughters, one of them grown up and very clever.

Gov. Crawford and wife, formerly Miss Swift, another old acquaintance, are also at this spring, besides a number of agreeable girls, with whom Sally is very sociable. Mr. Harry Livingston, who married Miss Polly Allen, with his wife and other genteel company are expected in a few days, which will be a pleasing accession to ye society. In short there is a continual succession of people that makes ye place very lively.

We shall be very glad to hear from Mr. Coxe and yourself. Write your letters immediately and direct them to ye Lebanon Springs, in ye State of New York. If anything should happen, which I do not expect, to cause our removal before they arrive, Mrs. Hamilton will return them to us by post. The whole family join me in their love to yourself and Mr. Coxe.

To E. S. Burd.

Lebanon, Springs, 3rd, August, 1803

My dear Son :

I embrace the opportunity of a Gentleman going to Philada. of dropping you a line to inform you of the good effects of our plan of making our stay here, and using the same exercise as if we were on a journey. In the beginning, we had so much rain that it was impossible to ride, but as soon as it was in our power, our plan was put in operation

Peggy sets off at six o'clock, after taking her tumbler of new milk, and rides between three and four hours on a most excellent road.

Our situation is so high and exposure so good a one, that we have a fine air and even wind almost all day, and are kept extremely pleasant, provided we do not heat ourselves by walking in ye sun.

The change in Peggy's appearance was yesterday taken notice of by all ye company, and she finds herself so much better, that we have the most sanguine hopes from this journey. About a week ago ye tooth over which ye excrescence grew, and was cut off, ached so much that she had it extracted, which will save her from much pain as an excrescence of flesh had again begun its appearance

The resort of company to this spring is very considerable, and constantly changing. Mr. and Mrs. Alston, Miss Huger, Mrs. Livingston, daughter of Edw. Livingston, and Miss Patterson arrived yesterday, and a great number of genteel people are expected next week.

Your Mama having heard that Mrs. P. Livingston intended to be here ye latter end of ye week, and not being certain that we should remain so long, sent a

message to inform her that she was here, and wished her to come as soon as she could. We have understood ye message was delivered to another Mrs. Livingston.

We now intend however to remain all this week, and probably part of next, if we find that Peggy continues recruiting her health.

We have been afraid to let Peggy go into ye bath, but we all drink no other than ye water of ye spring. It is too warm to be pleasant without ice, of which there is plenty. The water is very soft, I therefore suppose there is no limestonc in it, nor is it a chalybeate water; perhaps a little mixture of sulphur may be ye cause of ye heat. The Balls Town water is said to be excellent for billious complaints. A gentleman told me, that altho' he had been cured of such a disorder in a few days, which he had been afflicted with ever since last spring, but it is injurious in many cases, and ye situation and air of ye place is not good for invalids.

Our Landlady at Northampton, a Mrs. Pomeroy, informed us that many years ago she was afflicted with a disorder, which she called a salt rheum. It was a little breaking out on the skin, and itching over almost her whole body. She comes here every year, and is cured by bathing in ye water and drinking it. She says that in one year, she went three times to ye Spring, and ye complaint did not return for three years afterwards.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Aug 27, 1803.

I returned from my Eastern tour on Monday last. I have the pleasure of informing you that my daughter has been greatly benefitted by ye journey having got rid of all her complaints, and her appearance greatly improved. I am this day taking her out to Ormiston in order to have ye country air til ye summer season shall be past. She will there use ye same exercise she did on her journey.

* Mr. Shippen and Mrs. Lea and daughter have been at Burlington, during our absence, and will remain there till late in ye fall. Mr. Shippen comes to town every Friday morning, and returns on Saturday afternoon. He will be in town during September Term. Our City is very healthy and free from any contagious fever.

— —

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Sept. 30, 1803.

* * * Tho' there have been some Deaths in consequence of Yellow Fever in this City, yet the number of them has not been great. And numbers who were said to have had ye Yellow fever either had it not or ye Disorder has more easily yielded to Medicine than formerly. Mr. Jos. S. Lewis was yesterday at ye Coffee House, I saw Mr. Bell at his Door and a Daughter of Mr. Harris (?) is well, all of whom were said to have had ye Yellow fever.

* * * * We have just heard that George Barclay & Co. are broke in London—probably

in consequence of stopping the Intercourse between G. Britain and ye Continent. It is said they had a house at Antwerp and great Connexions with Ham-
burgh. This Break is greatly injurious to ye Ameri-
can Merchants, many of whom made them their
Bankers. Stephen Girard had £40.000. or £50.000.
Sterling in their Hands. He drew out £25.000.
Sterling some time ago to fit out an East India ship
with.—(They say he can bear ye loss being worth a
Million of Dollars.) Mr. Joseph Sims had a large
sum in his hands. A great many Foreign Attach-
ments have been issued here in consequence of ye
news.

To Yeates, Mrs.

(Wh)

Philada. 4th Oct., 1803.

* * My family continue in the Country,
but I attend my office regularly without any appre-
hension of danger I am in great hopes that we
shall very shortly have Icy Gutters, which will re-
lieve us from the dreadful malady with which the City
is afflicted.

To J Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 12 Feby., 1805.

Dear Sir ;

I need not tell you how much rejoiced we all
were at the Acquittal of ye Judges and it has been a
matter of great Satisfaction to great Numbers of Peo-
ple in this City, as well on the public accoutt, as of
the Judges themselves.

I saw a Pamphlet of Richard North and Benj. Davis that seemed to portend some new attack either on ye Judges or the Governor or both, I understand a Committee of nine was appointed for ye purpose of ye Investigation, and great Pains were taken to procure Evidence in this City by North who was to have gone to Lancaster, ye latter end of last week.

Mr. Andrew Pettit called at my Office today with a letter addressed to him by Mr. Thompson ye Secretary of ye Commonwealth in which it is mentioned that the Legislature had resolved to pay ye Witnesses of ye Judges, and ye sum of \$150.50 was sent to Mr. Pettit for ye purpose.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 15th, 1805.

* Mr. Relfe announced my resignation prematurely, and by my desire, and also that of Mr. Reed contradicted it in his next paper. I informed the Governor about ten days ago that I should resign on ye 18 of this month. He told me I was welcome to keep ye office as long as I chose, but I said my mind was made up on the subject. He then informed me he had heard so, and had thought of Mr. Joseph Reed as my Successor. I believed him to be a very worthy man, and do not doubt that he will execute ye Office to public satisfaction. A few days afterwards Mr. Reed waited on me and informed me that it was impossible for him to take ye Office at that time, that he must assist Mr. Bache at ye Court of Quarter Sessions, and also attend to ye settling his

business at ye Supreme Court. I endeavoured in vain to prevail on him to take ye office. I mentioned ye particular Inconvenience, I laboured under of being obliged to attend ye Court of Chancery at Annapolis on my Lawsuit on ye 17th Dec., and he agreed at length to act with my Son ye latter end of ye Term.

The united Constitutionals have some thoughts of me as ye Senator of this District, in ye Room of Mr. Gable; and I have consented to let my name be used provided Mr. Reed will accept ye office of Prothy. previous to ye Term in case I should be elected. Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Ingersoll will know his mind on that subject.

It would be quite a new scene to me, but I must in case of my Election substitute Edward in my room to attend my suit at Annapolis, as I should think it my bounden Duty to attend at Lancaster.

It is however yet only in fieri, and I request that you will not disclose ye particulars of my Letter to any one. The Report is still to be made to a general Meeting of Citizens, and may not be approved of at that Meeting. It can only yet be said that I have been thought of as a Candidate, by the Committee of Federalists, and also by some of the constitutional Republicans, but that it has not yet been sanctioned by ye Meeting that appointed ye Committees.

—

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Nov. 18th, 1805.

Understanding that a number of ye Federalists wished Mr. Hollowell to be appointed to ye Senator-

ship, and that he was willing to serve if elected, I have just informed ye Committee, who are to report to a general Meeting this Evening that I declined being a Candidate, or to suffer my name to be used.

* * * As the Governor was under some difficulties in ye Appointment of a Chief Justice, I understand that Mr. Shippen has consented to continue to serve some time longer.

Sir :

Agreably to my Intention formerly mentioned to you, I beg leave to resign my Commission as Prothonotary of ye Supreme Court of Pa. This Resignation to be considered as taking place on ye 2nd day of January; on which day if it should be convenient to you I should wish my Successor to be installed in his office.

Permit me Sir, to take this opportunity of expressing my Gratitude for ye favors you have bestowed on me, and the pride I feel in having uniformly enjoyed ye good Opinion and Friendship of a Gentleman of your Knowledge and Integrity.

With every Wish for your Happiness and Prosperity,

I am Sir ;

Your most obedient humble Servant,
Edward Burd.

December 29th, 1805.

His Excellency Governor McKean.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 13th Jany, 1806.

* * My Opinion is that ye World has been much deceived with respect to ye Governor's Intention of filling ye Office of Chief Justice. He is so close-mouthed that ye Reports depend only upon Supposition. General St. Clair who is just arrived from Lancaster, says ye current Report there is that James Ross is to be ye Man;—which I do not give credit to.

An unpleasant and false publication lately appeared in ye Aurora, respecting a Conversation on this subject, which Mr. Shippen had with some man, who had applied to him for a Habeas Corpus.

The Applicant was a Mr. Hopper, who requested Mr. Shippen to grant a Habeas Corpus, for some person, and was told he was no longer Chief Justice. Who then says Mr. Hopper is to be ye Chief Justice? Mr. Shippen answered that he did not know; some people supposed that Mr. Wm. Tilghman, others that Mr. McKean's Son would be appointed, but he *knew nothing about it*. To which Hopper replied that if ye Governor should appoint his Son, he would lose a great many of his friends; Mr. Shippen was then silent.

The manner in which ye Aurora represents ye Conversation is disrespectful to ye Governor and his family, and is totally denied by Mr. Shippen.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 24th, 1806.

* * The Burning of Mr. Patterson's House was confirmed to me by Mr. Andrew Nelson. I understand his Furniture was saved.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. 2nd April, 1806.

* * Mr. Coxe's Store has been burnt to ye Ground with many books and papers. Fortunately * * * his Day Book and bundles of Receipts have been saved. * * Mr. Coxe had a swelled face and nevertheless dined with me with a few friends on Saturday. He was seized in ye Evening with a fever which prevented his going to his Country House, and by the advice of Dr. Kuhn had 16 ounces of blood taken from him, and 40 drops of Laudanum administered.

The Fire broke out at 3 o'clock in ye morning, and was then in such an immense volume that there was no possibility of extinguishing it. We were all in ye greatest danger. * * *

In fine, altho' Mr. Coxe has suffered approximately \$3.000. or \$4.000., yet it might have been worse, and we ought to be thankful.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. April 17, 1806.

Mr. Smith immediately after the sad Event that

has lately happened in our family promised me to communicate it to you, since which our Minds have been greatly distracted and occupied.

Mr. Shippen was in very good Spirits in the morning and intended to have set out for Burlington, but was prevented by ye weather. Never had he less reason to apprehend such an awful Change. After a hearty Meal of rich Food he was suddenly seized with a Convulsion and expired without uttering a word.

The attendance of Dr. Rush was instantly procured, and a Vein opened, but alas! Life was fled, never to return. Warm applications were continued all Night to obtain ye possibility of a Resuscitation, but without effect. Thus have we lost a very dear friend! a man of the kindest and most benevolent Disposition, with the soundest and most enlightened Judgment, and what is highly to be esteemed, a Man just and upright in all his Intercourse with Mankind. This Loss is great and irretrievable, and particularly severe to those of his friends with whom he spent the chief part of his time. We have to console ourselves with the Reflexion that he died without pain of body or Mind; that he had reached ye fulness of Age in great Respectability of Character, and that he could not have looked forward to much further Enjoyment in this Life;—fully believing that by that just Being, who presides over ye Universe, a Life well spent will be duly appreciated and rewarded.

Mr. Shippen's Distribution of his Property has been satisfactory to all the Branches of his family. Dr. McIlvaine, Mrs. Lea and I are appointed his Executors.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. 13 June, 1808.

Peggy Lea was married on Thursday last and has this day set off with her Husband and Father-in-Law for New York.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Ormiston, 15th August, 1808.

* * * * * Mrs. McIlvaine's family,
 Mrs. Lea and Mr. and Mrs. Lynch are at Burlington. I am told that the three latter will go to old Mr. Lynch's at West Chester, about ye middle of Sept. and remain there all fall, and then remove to their House in New York.

To J. Yeates. (Wh)

Philada. Aug 3, 1809.

* * * * * The situation of our worthy friend Mr. E. Tilghman is truly distressing. About two months ago he believed himself to be a man of handsome and independent fortune, but now his productive property will be swept away by the Endeavours of a kind Father to assist and bring forward an imprudent Son. All his Arrangements with respect to his Creditors have been made with that conscientious regard to Justice and Honor that you had expected.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 1st Feby., 1810.

* * There is another piece of business, that I must trouble you with, which is to ask Mr. Elliott whether he received a letter from me desiring him to enquire of Mr. James Gibbons, whether he has not a Dolland Telescope, belonging to ye College of Phila; and to endeavour to procure a return of it. It was a Telescope, that appears by a paper in ye Hand-writing of Dr. Smith to have been presented to ye College by the Proprietaries, and which I am one of the committee of ye Board of Trustees, appointed to obtain ye Return of. If Mr. Elliott should not chuse to undertake ye business, I will write a letter to Mr. Gibbons on ye Subject. and request you to have it delivered for me.

To Sarah Burd.

Philada. 28th Sept. 1810.

My dear Daughter :

It is not necessary that you should receive a letter from me to convince you of my affection; of that you must be fully satisfied. There is a satisfaction however in receiving a line from a friend and I flatter myself that your feelings correspond with mine on that point. It was a great Sacrifice to be deprived of the Society of all our Children at once and nothing but the very pleasing Cause of it and ye Expectation of their safe return to us could console us for the loss, Your Mama and I have been very happy with each other and the scene has been sometimes enlivened by the Company of some of our good friends.

But we returned so much earlier to ye City than usual that the Houses of a great many of our friends only presented closed window Shutters to us. They begin now to open and ye Town will shortly be soon enlivened by ye Return of all its Citizens.

We were pleased to learn that you had received grateful attentions from ye polite people of Boston. For altho' you had a pleasant society among yourselves, yet your pleasures would be increased by a Variety of Company and you would have been mortified by a total Neglect. Notwithstanding ye gay Scenes thro' which you have passed or may yet enjoy you will be sensible that the most solid Comfort is to be found at home. This truth is universally acknowledged and is wisely so ordained by the Ruler of the Universe, who causes the Hollander to be satisfied with his unhealthy Marshes and the Swiss with his bleak and barren mountains.

I cannot give much News from your own Circle here. Miss B. R. appears very disconsolate at not being able to see her Lover I was sorry to observe that she did not behave so as to prevent its being observed in Company. Her Brother is returned in bad Health. Mrs. Chew's House is undergoing such Alterations in its internal appointments as almost to amount to Renovation. Even the Pictures in the Entry exhibit a fresh and lively Colour instead of the dark and sombre Hue it had exhibited.

The Town has given the Journey of Mr. H. Wikoff to New York a matrimonial Motive; of this however your Situation there will enable you to give us Information. Williamina Smith has returned from Maryland in very bad Health. In all probability it will be a long time before her former Health will be re-estab-

lished. The Return of Mrs. Blodget is shortly expected. I do not believe that she will be received with ye same Cordiality she formerly experienced by the Smith family

Mr. and Mrs. Grubb passed thro' the City a few days ago. They have had a wonderful peregrination. They set off in a Gig to visit ye falls of Niagara. They proceeded up ye West Branch of Susquehanna to my Lands in Lycoming where they were detained by Rains for several days. They afterwards prosecuted their Journey to Tyoga having crossed ye Lycoming Creek 36 times during that Route owing to ye Mountains alternately coming close to ye Creek on each side. They then found that ye Roads and Accommodations made it impracticable to pursue their original plan. They then struck down thro' New York and Jersey to Schooly Mountain and Long Branch and by the time they reached Philada. found it necessary to make short Journies to enable them to take home their Horse in Safety.

Give our Love to all your beloved Party and our thanks to Mr. Coxe for his attentive Communications to us of your Situation and Views. We hope you may enjoy great pleasure at New York and still greater Pleasure on your Return to the Arms of your affectionate parents.

To Mrs. E. Burd.

Shippensburg, 5 May, 1812.

I arrived at this place on Saturday evening a little fatigued by my long and rapid Journey and want of Sleep but I now find myself perfectly recruited and

well. I was fortunate in having agreeable Companions on my Journey When I went to see Mr. Yeates's family I could only stay a few minutes. I found there ye Table spread for me but could not partake of ye good Cheer as I had dined on ye Road, altho as Mr. Yeates observed to his wife that she had asked me four times to taste her mince pies. She gave me as she always has done the kindest Reception. Mrs. Smith expressed great obligation for ye attentions paid by ye family to her Daughter.

The people who purchased ye outlots are coming in with their Instalments, altho in some cases indulgence will be necessary. One man who had 20 barrels of flour raised on ye land he bought, was caught by ye Embargo, owing to his not being able to have his wheat ground in time on account of ye scarcity of water. The luxuriant wheat and rye have been beaten down by ye great snow which fell on Sunday and which will probably blast our fine prospects of fruit as it was succeeded by a black frost. I cannot promise myself that Philadelphia has escaped this visitation as it has ye appearance of having been general. The north side of ye South Mountain directly in my view is entirely covered with ye snow and exhibits ye appearance of winter altho everywhere else ye snow has disappeared.

Last night Mr. Carrol and Mr. Hanson ye son-in-law of General Ridgely arrived at this house. I was engaged ye whole evening and did not know until I met them at breakfast, who they were; having been told their names were Mr. Carr and Mr. Anson. They have been over ye Mountains and are perfectly well. They told Mr. Rippey that they should tstar

before day break but I suppose their weariness and good beds tempted them to lay till 7 O'clock.

The fame of "Thinks I to myself" has spread thro all my Route, and its being said to be ye production of a British Minister, contributes not a little to enhance its value. Several volumes were in ye hands of my fellow travellers to take to Kentucky and Tennessee. Even Captain Rippey makes ye title a bye-word on every occasion.

Henry Shippen has succeeded extremely well in ye eight months he has been in practise. His name is very useful to him and he is very politic in embracing all opportunities of putting himself forward, and has made many friends by his attention to business and proper conduct. He has turned his purchases to very good account and has only retained such of his lands as will probably rise in value, and those he has leased out on improving leases, and saved himself both ye trouble and expence of attention to Taxes and Intrusions of Squatters.

Nothing but my sense of duty would induce me, dear Betsy, to be so long absent from you and undergo the fatigues necessarily arising from my situation, and I hope I shall be able in a year or two more to settle all ye business that has been entrusted to me, and to be able to enjoy myself more with my dear family. They are my World and my Happiness, and I would not spare any exertion to contribute to their ease and comfort. Remember me affectionately to them all, and I regard ye interval as but lost time until I shall have the Happiness of being re-united to you. With the tenderest affection I am sincerely yours.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. April 19, 1813.

* * The Volunteers were all ordered out to-day to encamp at Mantua Village over Schuylkill, and expected to remain in encampment, but I understand that Genl. Bloomfield will permit them after ye review to return to their homes until further orders in order to avoid the great expense that would be occasioned by their incampment.

Dr. Rush is given over by his Physicians after a short Illness and by some believed to be of ye typhous fever. All is bustle at Baltimore on account of an expected attack from ye British. The british Navy Officers express themselves under great obligations to Mr. Madison for the war as it will be the making of their fortunes. They do not think that Peace will be soon re-established on account of ye difficulty of adjusting their claim of Impressment.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 14 May, 1814.

* * I did expect that the new Loan would have been taken at lower terms than I find it has brought and that ye News of Blockade would have lowered ye stocks, but they have kept up to a good price, tho' they have been a little higher than I have purchased them for;—\$20.000. having been sold ye day before yesterday at 87½.

To Jacob Hubley.

Philada. 17th Sept. 1814.

Dear Sir :

I was in hopes of seeing you in this City to-day, when I intended to have made an arrangement with you about my Papers being put under your Care in case it was necessary to remove them, which I am in great hopes will not be necessary. But in order to provide for all events, I request you to inform me whether you can bring down a covered wagon to ye City on a day's Notice to take up my papers to your house.

If this can be done by you I will make no other provisions for that purpose but entirely depend on you. My sister Yeates has kindly invited our 3 families to her house and I have accepted her offer for ye female part of our family in case we should conclude on removing to so great a distance from ye City. We intend to remove into ye City on Monday Evening.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. 1 October, 1814.

* * * * I am so little of a public Man, that I am not able to afford you authentic Intelligence. The Report of the day is that Lord Hill is coming out with an additional force of 12000 Men and that the enemy mean to concentrate their force. Will it not be necessary for our Cities to counteract

that Plan by a League for their mutual Defence, otherwise they may be overpowered by successive Attacks on the different Cities.

Sometime ago I received an affectionate Invitation from my Sister Yeates, similar to that contained in your letter. I shall thankfully embrace your kind offer, if I should find it necessary to remove to so great distance from the City. But as I ought to have the valuable papers belonging to others as well as myself, not only in a place of Security, but where I could readily have access to them, I intend to place them with Mr. Hubley at Pottsgrove whenever Demonstrations of an Attack on this City shall be made.

*

Give my best Compliments to Mr. Tilghman. His Sister has been very ill,—but is so far recovered as to be able to sit up. His Daughter, Miss Tilghman has gone with her Aunt, Mrs. Greenleaf to Northampton. Miss Shoemaker, I understand is to be married next Week to Mr. James Tilghman. Mr. Rawle has met with a great Loss by ye death of a very favorite child, Miss Becky Rawle, to ye great grief of all ye family.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Oct. 30th, 1814.

* * * * * Our fear of invasion this fall of our City has wholly subsided, but I am not without apprehension that Lord Hill is destined for New York unless there should be a necessity of keep-

ing his troops at home for any emergency. I think that there are many difficulties to arrange before the division of ye European States can be finally settled. Perhaps the jealousy of the British tyrranizing on ye ocean and cutting up ye trade of ye continental Powers may be the cause of some disturbance. There is a report that Russia and Sweden have remonstrated against ye Blockade of ye American Coast. Many vessels belonging to ye European Powers have been captured under that pretence, while it is not improbable that Britain herself is smuggling in her goods thro' ye means of Castine and other Eastern ports. Our finances appear to be in a very disordered state and altho' I sincerely wish that the system of finance may be adopted so as to answer ye purposes of effectual defense ; yet it certainly is still far from being certain that it will succeed. It has however had the effect in this City of raising the funds from 76 to 80. Whether this has been done by management of the brokers or not I do not know. They are certainly deeply interested to do all in their power to have a rise in the price of stocks.

If New England should break off from ye Union, they will not only refuse to pay any proportion of this new debt, but perhaps occasion a greater army to be raised, and of course greater supplies to be wanted.

The federal Republican gave a hint that the disputes with Massachusetts were in a train of settlement, but since ye arrival of Mr. Gerry at Congress, he intimates that Mr. Madison is determined to coerce them. * * *

It is announced in town that Mr. B. Chew is engaged to be married to Miss Eliz. Tilghman when she arrives at ye age of 21, which will be about 2 years

hence, provided it is agreeable to both parties at that time, otherwise each party to be at liberty to break off. This certainly ought to be the case for unless their affection to each other should then continue there would be no prospect of Happiness, and by an express stipulation to this Effect, a breach of *positive* Engagement is avoided.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Ormiston, August 2nd, 1815.

It is with great Concern that I lately learnt your severe Indisposition. I was very happy to learn by your Letter that you were better. I hope that you relax something of that indefatigable Attention to Business. to which I know you to be so much addicted, I know by myself the injurious Effects it has on Health, and at your time of Life I think it is a Duty both to yourself, and your friends to attend to your health.

To J. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. Sept. 18th, 1815.

* * D. Clarkson was so obliging as to inform me that No. 1670 in the St. James's Church Lottery had drawn a prize of 2.000. dollars, under a supposition that it was one of those you had disposed of to me, but it was a Mistake; my numbers having

been 1691 to 1700 inclusive; and those taken by Mr. Coxe from No. 1681 to 1690 inclusive. I shall thank you for Information as to the fate of those Tickets when the Lottery is drawn.

To Mrs. Yeates.

(Wh)

Philada. March 19, 1817.

My Dear Sister:

We were all sincerely grieved, and have much lamented the Loss our dear departed Friend, and can readily conceive how severely it must have been felt by a Wife and Children to whom he had been so excellent a Husband and Father. It must have been a great Consolation to you to reflect on his suffering so little pain in his last moments.

To whatever period of time such a melancholy Event might have been protracted, it would have been attended with great affliction to his friends whenever it did happen; and when we consider his increasing bodily Infirmities at his advanced age, perhaps a long continuance of Life might have rendered it miserable.

However as there is no remedy for this great Calamity, I hope and trust my dear Sister that your Religion and piety will sustain you under it, and that you will not suffer it to prey too much on your spirits.

To Jacob Hubley.

Philada. 8th Aug. 1823.

Dear Sir :

I inclose \$125. We have remained this Summer in the City, and had several returns of our chills and fevers, both Mrs. Burd and myself; from the smallest Indiscretions. It is very difficult to eradicate them from our constitutions. I hope that your family is free from the disorder; altho' your situation is not a favorable one.

It was expected that the Schuylkill Navigation would be completed as far as Reading in the course of this month. What is the opinion entertained of this in Pottstown?

To Jacob Hubley.

Philada. 18th May, 1824.

Dear Sir :

I sincerely sympathize with you in the great loss you have sustained, by the Decease of a most amiable and endearing Child.

Her preparation for a future state is very consoling to you and the Certainty that we are all to follow her in a very short space of time reminds us not only of the necessity of following her good example, but of the Uselessness of indulging those sad feelings which Nature will always occasion in us at first, but which Time will kindly assuage.

I was very favorably impressed towards her by a Letter which she wrote me last Summer, not only indicative of good feelings, but of a cultivated mind.

Give my kind love to my Sister and the family.

— —

To Wm. Rawle, Esq. :

25 Aug., 1825.

Dear Sir;

From Mr. Shippen's correspondence with his friends I must have been mistaken in saying he had been *three* years at the Temple. He could not have been there much above two years. I was led into the error by a Receipt of the fees for his Commission as Judge of the Vice Admiralty which was dated 1 June 1752 and which I supposed had been paid by himself in England, but he being then in Philadelphia they must have been paid by his agent in London.

When I was Prothonotary of the Supreme Court I made a Roll of all the Attornies who had been admitted into the Court with the times of their admissions and entered it in the Beginning of one of the large Docquets. I find this Entry on the Roll, 'Edward Shippen on the 28 Sept. produced a certificate from the Treasurer of the Middle Temple that he is an Utter Barrister of the Society of that Temple which was read.'

I find no admission of Mr. Shippen as an Attorney but suppose the production of the Certificate and the entry on the Record was considered as intitling him to practice in the Court.

In what year the entry was made is not stated nor could I lay my hands on the original Docquet from which the entry was transcribed.

I found that at September Term 1778 being the first Supreme Court that was held after the evacua-

tion of the City by the British Army 32 attornies were admitted among which were Mr. Shippen and myself althó' I had been appointed Prothonotary of the Court during the preceding summer I did not lose my right to be admitted by it as an attorney of the Court.

A considerable number more of the attornies were admitted at the adjourned Courts in the Fall as their Rights under the Royal Government to practice as attornies ceased by the Revolution.

To Wm. Rawle, Esq.

Philada. 17, Dec. 1825.

Dear Sir:

I was informed by my Nephew Mr. Willm. McIlvaine that Mr. Roberts Vaux had desired to be informed whether the first Edward Shippen was not one of the Groupe of Persons in the print of those who were present at the Treaty made by William Penn with the Indians in the year 1683 and also at what period the Shippen Family left the Society of Friends and changed their Religion.

To the first Question I think I can safely answer in the Negative and althó' I cannot trace precisely the time of Mr. Shippen's emigration with his wife Elizabeth from England to Boston or of their Removal to Philadelphia—Yet the family Records of Births and Marriages prove that they must have been in Boston prior to the year 1673 for they had a Daughter born in Boston 2d Feb. 1673—And Mr. Shippen

could not have resided in Philadelphia in 1683 because a Mr. Chas Jones a Merchant in London who broke in the year 1687 assigned his effects for the use of Edwd Shippen of Boston and others and Consignments were made in consequence to him at Boston. By Tradition in the Family they suffered some kind of persecution in Boston on account of Religion and were induced by Wm. Penn to remove to Philad. but I do not know whether it was on that account or from Friendship for him being of the same Religion or on account of his large monied Capital wh. would be of great use in the Improvement of the City. I think however he must have removed before the year 1697 from some circumstances— He signed as one of the Proprietary and Governor's Council the Charter of privileges granted by Wm. Penn to the Inhabitants of Pennsylv. on 28 Oct. 1701 and was appointed Mayor of Philad. in the Charter granted to the City of Philadelphia 25 Oct. 1701.

Edward Shippen the first died 2d Oct 1712 and was buried in Friends Burial Ground in Philada.—His eldest son Edwd. who married his Cousin Francisca Daughter of Thomas and Ann Story died in Philad. 26 tenth Month 1714 and was buried in Friends Burial Ground by the side of his Father. Therefore both Father and Son must have remained all their lives in the Quaker persuasion.

Edwd. Shippen the Son left a Daughter who having married Mr. Jekyll an English Gentleman that branch afterwards became of the Episcopal Religion.

Edwd. Shippen the first having lost his first wife married Esther Wilcox sister of Samuel Powell's wife and probably a Quaker had only one child William

who attained the age of 22 years made a will and nominated Quakers his Executors and probably was of that Religion himself.

Joseph the 2d son of the first Edwd. Shippen married a Miss Abigail Gross in Boston who being related to the Bowdoins Russels, Fairwethers and Greenoughs was probably a Presbyterian and instilled the principles of that Religion into the minds of her Children.

Their eldest son Edward Shippen born the 9 July 1703 and Father of Chief Justice Shippen was married in his Father's House in Philad. by the Revd. Jedidiah Andrews a Presbyterian clergyman on 20th Sept. 1725 being then about 22 years of age.

In October 1727 Edwd. Shippen and his two sons Joseph and William who died in their minority, were baptized by the Revd. Mr. Andrews in the Presbyterian meeting in Phila. His Brother Dr. Wm Shippen and all his family were Presbyterians. His brother Joseph was I believe an Episcopalian and his sister Ann married Mr. Charles Willing an Episcopalian.

Mr. Edwd. Shippen removed to Lancaster about the year 1754. He was a very religious and charitable man and had family prayers said every morning to which his servants were all summoned—Yet he was liberal in his sentiments with respect to the different religious sects and thinking that the Episcopal and Presbyterian Religions differed only in non-essentials—and there being no Presbyterian meeting in Lancaster he had a pew in the Episcopal Church, but the parson attending two other congregations in rotation in the country and performing divine service in Lancaster only once in three weeks he joined with

others in having a Presbyterian meeting built and attended both places of worship alternately.

Chief Justice Shippen having married an Episcopalian wife became himself an Episcopalian which is the Religion at present of all his Descendants.

Altho' I am thus particular in order to show *
* * * for my Belief—yet the Result can be only
material * * * to * * * take notice
of this.

That Edwd. Shippen the elder and his sons Edwd. and William and Daughter Ann were Quakers—That his second son Joseph having married into a Presbyterian family their Descendants became Presbyterians. Edwd. Shippen Father of Chief Justice Shippen and two sons Joseph and William who died in their minority were all baptized by a Presbyterian parson in October 1727.

Having lived in Lancaster till I was 11 years of age I recollect that the Father of the famous Robert Fulton who had a very sonorous and stentorian voice used to raise the Psalm in the Court House where Presbyterian Parsons occasionally preached.

(This and the preceding letter of August 25, 1825, are from the "Rawle Papers" in the Historical Society of Pa. and are reprinted from Penna. Magazine of July, 1899.)



To Miss Catherine Yeates (Wh)

Philada. 16th Sept. 1828.

* * * I find by a letter I received from my
Brother (Joseph Burd, two years ago, he informed
me that his son Edwin was Eleven years old on 27th

Feby, 1826, that he had very fine abilities, had a singular talent for public speaking, in which he far excelled all the other scholars, that he was far advanced in classical Learning, and was under the tuition of an excellent Teacher of the learned Languages in Shippensburg; I therefore conclude that he is rather prepared to enter a College than the Flushing Seminary * * I have intimated to my Brother an Inclination to assist him in putting his Son to the Carlisle College.

I do not know whether you have been made acquainted with the Circumstance, but I have just received a letter from my Brother Joseph informing me that he had married a Miss Harriet Bailey, whom he had known for 20 years, and was made extremely happy. I am glad that he has chosen a Woman of a suitable age for his Partner.

To Catherine Yeates.

(Wh)

Philadelphia, 26 Dec. 1828.

* * The profiles you sent me of my Father and Mother gave me great Satisfaction. I think them very well executed, and very good Likenesses, and do not wish for any other. I intend to have them handsomely framed.

INDEX.

Abraham, a slave	- 11
Actors,	- 13, 18
Adams, Dr.	- 24, 25
Addison Judge,	- 200
Agnew, Gen.	- 90
Alison, Dr.	- 7, 30
All, Captain	- 128
Allan, Mrs.	- 10
Allen, Andrew	- 34, 47, 59, 176
Allen, Family	- 129, 130
Allen, James	- 20, 73
Allen, John	- 33, 89, 130
Allen, Peggy	- 23, 33
Allen, Polly	- 204
Allen, William	- 17, 63
Allyn, Mr.	- 13
Alston, Mr. and Mrs.	- 205
Anderson, Mr.	- 10
Andrews, Jedidiah	- 231
Apthorpe, Mr.	- 15
Arnold, Benedict	- 104, 105, 115, 116, 172
Arnold, " Mrs.	115, 116, 152, 153, 161, 172 (See "Peggy Shippen.")
Assembly, The Philadelphia	- 17
Atlee, Mr.	- 95, 157, 172, 178

"Aurora" The	-	-	-	-	212
Bache, Mr.	-	-	-	172,	209
Bailey, Harriet	-	-	-	-	233
Baker, Hilary	-	-	-	-	196
" Mr.	-	-	-	-	137
Ballendine,	-	-	-	-	126
Bank,	130,	131,	132,	157,	172,
Barclay, George	-	-	-	-	207
" John	-	-	-	-	166
Barton, Mr.	-	-	-	-	38,
" Wm.	-	-	-	-	56
Bass, Mr.	-	-	-	-	46
Batt, Major	-	-	-	-	90
Beales, John, Thomas, and William	-	-	-	-	176
Bell, Mr.	-	-	-	-	207
Beveridge, Mr.	-	-	-	-	7
Biddle, Charles	-	-	-	-	168
" Clement	-	-	-	-	179
" James	-	-	-	-	168,
" Mr.	-	-	-	-	171
Bingham, William	-	-	-	-	62,
Black, John	-	-	-	-	63,
Blair, Rev.	-	-	-	-	64
Blockade,	-	-	-	-	166
Blodgett, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	10,
Bloomfield, General	-	-	-	-	11
Blount, Mr.	-	-	-	-	18
Bond, Dr.	-	-	-	-	221
" Miss Willy	-	-	-	-	218
Bordley Mr.	-	-	-	-	221
Boston,	-	-	-	-	192
Bowdoins,	-	-	-	-	26
Bowman,	-	-	-	-	105
Boyd,	-	-	-	-	191
Brackenridge, Judge	-	-	-	-	71
					231
					13
					23
					200

Bradford, Mr.	-	-	22, 36, 41, 46, 131
" William	-	-	131, 168, 171, 172
Brehme, Lieutenant	-	-	6
Breintnall, Mr.	-	-	19
Bringhurst, Mrs.	-	-	40
Brown, John	-	-	100
Bry, Mr.	-	-	176
Bryan, George	-	-	125, 159, 168
Buchanan, Dr.	-	-	149
Bullet's Survey,	-	-	66
Bunker Hill,	-	-	92
Burd Allen,	-	-	5
" Edward,	3, 57, 60, 73, 82, 84, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 98, 103, 134, 145, 151, 180, 228, 229.		
" Mrs. Edward		179, 189, 194, 200, 227	(See Elizabeth Shippen.)
" Edward of Scotland,		51, 52,	197
" Edward, S.,	-	118, 180, 194,	210
" Edwin,	-	-	232
" Elizabeth	-	-	5
" Col James	- 8, 9, 32, 51, 134, 140, 147, 148, 160, 233.		
" James, Jr.	-	159, to 165,	171
" Joseph	-	186, 196,	233
" Margaret	-	-	139, 140
" Margaret	-	-	198
			(See Mrs. D. W. Coxse.)
" Mary	-	-	9, 55, 57
" Mrs. Sarah,	-	-	66, 133, 233
Bush, Hill	-	-	132
Butler, Zebulun	-	-	144
Byrd, Mrs.	-	-	54
Byron, Admiral	-	-	113
Cadwalader, Gen. John	-	-	105

Carroll, Mr.	-	-	-	-	219
Chambers Mr ,	-	-	-	-	185
Charleston,	-	-	-	109, 110, 111	
Chauncey, Dr.	-	-	-	-	22, 23
" Mr.	-	-	-	-	202
Cheer, Miss	-	-	-	-	13
Chew, Benjamin	-	-	-	33, 36, 53, 58,	224
" Mrs.	-	-	-	-	217
Church, Dr.	-	-	-	-	76
Clarkson, Mr.	-	-	-	-	119, 120
" D.	-	-	-	-	225
Claypoole, -	-	-	-	-	145
Clinton, Sir Henry	-	-	-	-	80, 83, 102
Clothes, -	-	-	-	-	42, 55, 56, 95
Clymer, George	-	-	-	-	34, 135, 171
" Harry	-	-	-	-	189
" Mr.	-	-	-	-	93
Cochran, Dr.	-	-	-	-	142
Codringer,	-	-	-	-	55
Cole, William	-	-	-	-	151
Coleman, Wm.	-	-	-	-	27, 29, 33
Collins, Mr.	-	-	-	-	167
Common Sense, by Paine	-	-	-	-	84
Congress, 68, 71, 86, 87,	101, 115, 123, 138, 143,				145, 162: 184, 190.
Connecticut Intrusion,				77, 138, 143, 144	
Consiglio,	-	-	-	-	13
Conyngam's, Mr. servant	-	-	-	-	193
Coombe, T.	-	-	-	-	18
Cooper, Dr.	-	-	-	-	38
Cornwallis, Lord	-	-	-	-	83, 124
Courts, 32, 34, 37, 43, 47,	50, 57, 73, 78, 150,				155
Cox, A.	-	-	-	-	34
" Col.	-	-	-	-	140

Coxe, D. W.	-	202, 204, 213, 226, 218
“ Mrs. D. W.	-	199, 200, 202, 204, 205, 206
“ John	-	- - 46, 175
“ Judge	-	- - 200
Cragie, Dr.	-	- - 175
Crawford, Gov.	-	- - 204
“ Mrs.	-	- - 201, 204
Crouch, Mr.	-	- - 114
Cruikshank,	-	- - 46
Cunningham, Col.	-	- - 136
Cushing, Judge	-	- - 168
Dancing,	-	- - 48
Davis, Benj.	-	- - 209
“ George	-	- - 175
Dawes, Mr.	-	- - 174
DeGray,	-	- - 37
D’Estaing,	-	- - 113
Dewer, Mr.	-	- - 51, 52
Dickinson, John	-	- - 22, 50
“ Col.	-	- - 80
Dolland, Telescope	-	- - 216
Duchee, Dr.	-	- - 7
Duncan, Thos.	-	- - 158
Dundas, Mr.	-	- - 59, 61, 91
Dunlap,	-	- - 46, 145
Dunmore,	-	- - 83
Dunnell,	-	- - 117
Dunnets,	-	- - 160
Dyer, The.	-	- - 39, 40, 41
Ege, Mr.	-	- - 146
Elliott, Mr.	-	- - 89, 216
Eton, Mr.	-	- - 193
Evitt,	-	- - 46
Ewing, Jesse	-	- - 91
“ Kitty	-	- - 30, 62

Ewing, Mrs.	-	-	-	30, 45
Examination, College	-	-	-	7
" Law	-	-	-	58
Expenses,	-	-	-	61
Executive Council,	-	-	-	99
Fairwethers,	-	-	-	231
Feely,	-	-	-	66
Fever,	-	-	-	15, 42
			(See Yellow Fever)	
Finly,	-	-	-	158
Fisher, Joseph Jr.	-	-	-	193
" Miers	-	-	-	131, 169
" Mr.	-	-	-	148
Fitzsimmons, Mr.	-	-	-	120
Flowers, Col. and Mrs.	-	-	-	46
Fooks, Mr.	-	-	18, 19, 21, 35,	47
Footman, Elizabeth	-	-	-	134
" Polly	-	-	-	175
Fort Augusta,	-	-	60, 63,	64
Fox, George	-	-	-	166
Francis, Col.	-	-	63,	64
" Mr.	-	-	-	149
" Mrs.	-	-	103,	106
" Tench	-	-	-	150
Fulton, Robert	-	-	-	232
Gable, Mr.	-	-	-	210
Gage, Gen.	-	-	71, 72,	76
Galbraith, Mr.	-	-	-	119
Galloway, Jane	-	-	-	23
" John	-	-	-	33
" Joseph	-	-	8, 14,	51
" Mrs.,	-	-	-	14
Genet,	-	-	-	178
Gerry, Mr.	-	-	-	224
Gibbons, James	-	-	-	216

Gibson, Mr.	-	-	-	-	34
Girard, Stephen	-	-	-	-	208
Goddard,	-	-	-	-	47, 51
Goodwin, James	-	-	-	-	13
Gordon, Duchess of	-	-	-	-	27
Grant, General	-	-	-	-	113
Gravel, Mr.	-	-	-	-	13, 14
Gray,	-	-	-	-	165
Graydon, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	147, 148
Green, Sally	-	-	-	-	26
Greene, Gen.	-	-	-	-	124
Greenleaf, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	223
Greenoughs,	-	-	-	-	231
Gross, Abigail	-	-	-	-	231
Grubb, Burd	-	-	-	-	144, 146
“ Curtis	-	-	135, 137, 138,	-	147
“ Henry	-	-	-	-	166
“ Mr. and Mrs.	-	-	-	-	218
“ Peter	-	-	-	-	63
Gunney, Mr.	-	-	-	-	115
Gurney Francis	-	-	-	-	166
Hagarty,	-	-	-	-	12, 13
Haldemand, Gen.	-	-	-	-	65
Hall, Mr.	-	25, 27, 29, 35, 36, 46;	57, 136	-	
Hallam, Mr.	-	-	-	-	13
Hamilton, Andrew	-	-	-	-	129, 130
“ James	-	-	-	63, 129,	130
“ Jemmy	-	-	-	-	129
“ Margaret	-	-	-	-	139
“ Mr.	-	-	-	-	158
“ Mrs.	-	-	-	-	204
“ Wm.	-	-	129, 130, 132,	-	139
Hand, Gen.	-	74, 91, 126, 154, 199,	201, 202	-	
Hanson, Mr.	-	-	-	-	219
Harbeson, Mr.	-	-	-	-	111

Harris', Mr. daughter	-	-	207
Harrison, Mrs.	-	-	141
Hartley, Col.	-	-	167
Hazlehurst, Mr.	-	-	189
Henderson, Mr.	-	-	12
Henfield,	-	-	179
Hiester, Joseph	-	-	82, 90
Hill, Lord	-	-	222, 223
Hiltzeimer, Mr.	-	-	29, 166
Hockley, Miss Polly	-	-	33
Hodge, Mr	-	-	125
Hoffman,	-	-	41, 43, 44
Hollowell, Mr.	-	-	210
Homespun Clothes,	-	-	53, 55
Hoofnagel, George	-	-	94
Hopkinson, Francis	-	-	119, 120, 121
Hopper, Mr.	-	-	212
Horse Race,	-	-	44, 45
Howe, Gen.	-	-	76, 91, 93, 189
Howell, Jacob	-	-	179
" Mrs. Samuel	-	-	40
Hubert, Captain	-	-	90
Hubley, Jacob	-	-	140, 179, 185, 223
" John	-	-	111, 156, 159
" Margaret Mrs.	-	-	179, 182
" Margaret B.	-	-	227
" -	-	-	59
Huger, Miss	-	-	205
Hughes, John	-	-	8
Hutchinson, Dr.	-	-	142, 183
Independence,	-	-	84, 86, 102
Indians,	-	-	6
Influenza,	-	-	152, 179
Ingersoll, Jared	-	-	107, 130, 169, 191, 210
Iredell. Judge	-	-	168

Israel,	-	-	-	193
Jack, Mr	-	-	-	93
Jay, John, Chief Justice	-	-	168, 169,	190
Jekyll, John	-	-	-	230
Jennings, Mr.	-	-	-	53
Johnson, Col.	-	-	-	193
" Sir John	-	-	-	80, 81
Jones, Charles	-	-	-	230
" Dr.	-	-	-	172
Judges, Acquittal of the	-	-	-	208
Kearney, Dyer	-	-	-	143
Keble, Mr.	-	-	-	20
Kelly,	-	-	-	66
Kendal, B.	-	-	-	36
Keppele, Mr.	-	-	-	202
Kittera, Mr.	-	-	-	158
Kitzmilller's Case,	-	-	-	149
Kuhn, Dr.	24, 70, 183 :	prescription by,	-	213
Land Speculators,	-	-	-	192
Lands,	-	-	-	65, 72
Lawrence, Betsy	-	-	-	20
" John	-	-	-	21
" Mr.	-	-	-	180, 181
" Mrs.	-	-	-	21
Lea, Margaret	-	-	-	215
" Mrs. Sarah	147, 148, 149, 180, 184, 188, 189,	-	-	207, 214, 215.
" Thomas	-	141, 181, 182,	-	184
Le Blou Joseph	-	-	-	127
Lee, Andrew	-	-	-	196
" General	-	-	-	80, 92
Leslie, Major	-	-	-	90

Letters to

Burd, Edward S.	-	-	202, 205
“ James	6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 20, 30, 50, 53, 65, 77, 78, 80, 81, 87, 88, 91, 95, 102, 105, 107, 109, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 160.		
“ James Jr	-	-	162
“ Mrs. E.	-	-	218
“ Sally	-	5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16	(See Mrs. Yeates,)
“ Sarah Miss	-	-	216
Hubley, Jacob		179, 181, 185, 222, 227	
McKean, Thomas		-	211
Rawle, Wm.		-	228, 229
Shippen, Edward of Lancaster		19, 22 to 28, 32 to 36, 37, 38 to 44, 46, 48, 54, 56, 59, 60, 61, 63, 66 to 72, 76, 85, 88, 90, 93, 103, 111, 117.	
Supreme Executive Council,		-	134
Yeates, Catherine		-	232, 233
“ Jasper		32, 36, 38, 45, 48 to 50, 54, 58, 59, 62, 64, 66, 74, 78, 86, 90, 92, 94, 95 to 101, 103, 107, 112, 114, 115, 119 to 134, 135 to 156, 161, 165 to 179, 180, 182, 183, 184, 185 to 195, 197 to 202, 207, 208 to 216, 221, 222 to 225.	
Yeates, Mrs.		-	196, 208, 226
Levis, Joseph S.		-	207
Lewis, Mr.		115, 145, 154, 155, 159, 169	
Lightfoot, Mr.		-	59, 61
Lincoln, General		-	110, 111
Liston, Mr.		-	192
Livingston, Brockholst		-	175
“ Edward		-	205
“ Harry B.		-	124
“ Henry		-	204
“ Mrs.		-	205, 206

Livingston, Mrs. P.	-	-	205
Llandaff's, Bishop of Sermon	-	-	23
Logan, Wm.	-	-	31
Lotteries,	-	-	45, 225
Lutz, Col.	-	-	96
Lynch, Miss	-	-	204
" Mr.	-	-	215
Maddox, Mr. and Mrs.	-	-	39, 40
Madison, President	-	-	221, 224
Mae, John	-	-	114
Marbois, M.	-	-	127
Masters, Miss Mary	-	-	58, 59
McClean, Mr	-	-	154, 158
McClenachan, Miss	-	-	124
" Mr.	-	-	119, 120
McDonald,	-	-	80, 81
" Major	-	-	92
McFarlin, Dr.	-	-	52
McIlvaine, Dr.	133, 172, 180, 186,	214	
" Mrs.	-	-	180
" Wm.	-	-	229
McKean, Miss Letty	-	-	149
" Thomas	103, 105, 125, 151, 152, 154, 157, 158,	211, 212.	
McKnight, Dr.	-	-	142
Meade, Mr.	-	-	120, 190
Mease, Mr.	-	-	125
" Mrs.	-	-	121
Mercer, Col.	-	-	66, 89, 90
Meredith, Mr.	-	-	183
Mifflin, Mrs.	-	-	26
" Thomas F.	-	-	166, 170, 191
Miles, Col.	-	-	96
" Mr.	-	-	166
Money Depreciation,	-	-	122, 123, 152

Morgan, Benjamin	-	-	146
Morris, Anthony Jr.	-	-	174
“ Gouverneur	-	-	130
“ Mr.	-	121, 135, 176,	190
“ Mrs.	-	-	121
“ Col. Staats	-	-	27
Morrison,	-	-	12, 13
Moultrie, Gen.	-	-	111
Moylan, Gen.	-	-	190
Musser, Mr.	-	-	178
Myers, Mr.	-	-	148
Nelson, Andrew	-	-	213
Niagara, Journey to	-	-	218
Nicholson, Mr.	-	-	185
Non-Importation,	-	-	38, 49
Norris, Dr.	-	-	51
North, Richard	-	-	209
Northampton,	-	-	57
Ormiston,	-	197, 200,	207
Ort, Adam	-	-	135, 137
Oswald,	-	-	142
Paine, Thos.	-	-	84
Paper Money,	-	132, 144,	145
Party,	-	-	54
Patterson, Miss	-	-	205
“ Mr. house burned	-	-	213
Patton, Mr.	-	-	65
Peace,	-	-	128
Penn, Anne	-	23, 33,	176
“ Governor John	-	23, 33, 53,	176
“ “ Richard	-	-	58, 59
“ Title divested,	-	-	107, 108
“ William	-	108, 229,	230
Pennington, Dr.	-	-	183

Pennsylvania Constitution,	100, 150, 151, 153, 154, 155, 156.
Pennsylvania Convention,	82, 88, 150, 151, 153, 154
" Legislature,	82, 99, 108, 123, 124, 130, 132, 137, 145.
Peters, Richard	- - - 166
Pettit, Andrew	- - - 209
Pickering, Col	- - - 143
Pinckney, Mr.	- - - 185
Pine, Mr.	- - - 137
Pinkerton, John Jr.	- - - 193
Piper, Mr.	- - - 28
Plunkett, Dr.	- - - 65
Pollard, -	- - - 38
Pomeroy, Mrs.	- - - 206
Post, -	- - - 156, 157
Postlethwaite, Capt.	- - - 89
Potts, Dr.	- - - 80
" Family,	- - - 137
Powel, Mr.	- - - 166, 184, 230
Powell, Mr.	- - - 41, 136
Princetown College,	- - - 13
Proprietaries,	- - - 107, 108, 216
Putnam, Israel	- - - 71
Quaker funeral Custom	- - - 34
Quebec paper,	- - - 23
Quilt,	- - - 39, 40, 41, 42, 43
Randolph. Mr.	- - - 169
Rawle, Rebecca	- - - 223
" Wm.	- - - 223
Read, Collinson	- - - 30, 39, 63, 87
" James	- - - 25, 30, 39, 41, 60, 66
" Mrs. James	- - - 63
Reed, Col. Joseph	- - - 91
" Mr.	- - - 209, 210

Redman's, Dr. Negro	-	-	188
Relfe, John	-	-	47
" Mr.	-	-	209
Rennicks,	-	-	19
Revolution in France,	-	-	198
Revolutionary War, 75, 76, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 101, 102, 105, 107, 109 to 113, 116, 118, 125, to 128.			
Reynolds, Mr.	-	-	136
Rhea, Mrs.	-	-	124
Ridgely, Gen.	-	-	219
Rippy, Mr.	-	-	219, 220
Roberts, Mr.	-	-	25
Robeson, Mr.	-	-	95, 120
Robinson, Mr.	-	-	174
" Mrs.	-	-	121
Ross, George,	-	34, 80, 81, 112,	113
" James	-	-	212
" John	-	-	34
" Mr.	-	-	78, 192
Rouse, Charles, John and Thomas	-	-	26
Russels.	-	-	231
Rush, Benjamin Dr. 180, 183, 184, 193, 197, 214, 221.			
" Jacob	-	-	170, 200
" Mrs.	-	-	194
Rutledge, Gov.	-	-	111
Rutter, Mr.	-	-	137
Sanders. Mr.	-	-	57
Say, Mr.	-	-	183
Schenck,	-	-	39
Schuyler, General	-	-	80, 81
Schuykill Navigation Co.,	-	-	227
Scull, James	-	-	63
Sellers, John	-	-	166

Sellers, Mr.	-	-	-	46
Sergeant, Mr.	-	-	107, 130, 154,	169
Servants,	-	-	-	50, 95
Sharp, Gov.	-	-	-	44
Shaeffer,	-	-	-	54, 56
Shee, Mr.	-	-	-	40, 41
Sheldon, Mr.	-	-	-	146
Shippen, Abigail	-	-	-	18
“ Anna	-	-	124, 231,	232
“ Edward, Mayor	-	-	229, 230,	232
“ Edward 2nd.	-	-	-	230, 232
“ Edward of Lancaster	57,	85,	103, 117,	126,
	231,	232.		
“ Edward C. J.	3, 9, 11,	20, 30, 31, 32,	34,	
	35, 37, 38, 40, 42,	50, 51, 52, 57, 60, 65, 79,	85,	
	87, 89, 100, 104, 106, 116,	137, 149, 152, 168,		
	181, 182, 184, 186, 187 188,	195, 197, 202, 207,		
	211, 212, 214, 228, 229,	232.		
“ Edward Jr.	-	-	12, 94,	134
“ Elizabeth	3, 24, 30, 32,	78, 79, 89, 93,	94,	
	97, 97, 103, 115, 121,	136.		
“ Henry	-	-	-	220
“ Jane G.	-	-	28, 40,	199
“ John	-	-	-	178
“ Joseph	-	-	-	231, 232
“ “Gentlemen Joe”	-	-	18, 178,	195, 231
“ Joseph Jr	9, 12, 13, 23, 24,	26, 28, 32, 33,		
	35, 36, 38, 40, 65, 66,	85, 88, 106, 113, 116,		
	132, 178.			
“ Margaret Mrs.	11, 24, 25, 26, 27,	28, 30,		
	39, 41, 56, 148, 149,	186, 187, 188,	232.	
“ Mary	-	-	-	133
“ “Peggy”	-	-	39, 104,	105
“ “Polly”	-	-	-	191

Shippen, Sarah	-	-	141
“ Susan	-	-	18, 32
“ Thomas	-	-	178
“ William	-	-	232
“ William Dr.	-	124, 183, 195,	231
Shoemaker, Miss	-	-	223
Sims, Joseph	-	-	208
Slough, Mr.	-	-	46
Smith, Mr.	-	74, 119,	213
“ Mrs.	-	-	219
“ Thomas	-	-	158, 200
“ William Dr.	-	-	216
“ Williamina	-	-	217
Snively, Mr.	-	-	135
Snowden, Mrs.	-	-	51, 52
Spence, Edward	-	-	18
Springetsbury,	-	-	132
Sproat, Mr.	-	-	31, 52
Stamp and Revenue Acts,	-	8, 9, 41, 42,	49
Starret, William	-	-	176
St. Clair, General	-	-	212
Stedman, Mr.	-	-	7, 31, 35
Steuben, General	-	-	142
Stewart, Miss	-	-	196
“ Mr.	-	-	46
“ Mrs.	-	-	194
“ Walter	-	-	124
Stickle, Mr.	-	-	166
Stirling, Cousin	-	-	8
“ Lady	-	-	127
Stoner, John	-	-	37, 160
Stony Point,	-	-	112, 113
Story, Anna, Francisca, and Thomas	-	-	230
“ Mr.	-	-	25, 27
Stoy,	-	-	137

Stuart, Gen.	-	-	-	190
Sumter, Gen.	-	-	-	118
Swift, Miss	-	-	-	204
Sword,	-	-	-	49
Sympson, Sam.	-	-	-	36
Tarleton, Col.	-	-	-	118
Taylor, Mr.	-	-	-	51
Taylor, Sam	-	-	-	29, 30
Telescope, Dolland of Pa. University				216
Thompson, Capt.		-	-	66
" Gen.	-	-	-	209
" Mr.		-	-	105
Tilghman, Anne Mrs.		-	-	57
" E.	-	-	-	215
" Elizabeth	-	-	-	223, 224
" James		-	-	223
" Mr.	-	-	-	33, 210
" Mrs	-	-	-	174
" William	-	-	-	188, 212, 223
Tinian,		-	-	61, 62, 186
Tioli, Mr.	-	-	-	13
Tories,	-	-	-	80, 81
Tressler,		-	-	140
Trials,	-	50, 107, 119,	188; 191,	208
Tush, Mr.	-	-	-	26, 28
University of Penn.		-	-	7, 13, 18, 216
U. S. Constitution,	-	-	-	165
" Senate not full		-	-	190
Vanilla,	-	-	-	35
Vaux, Roberts		-	-	229
Venus, Transit of	-	-	-	33
Volunteers,	-	-	-	221
Wainwright, Miss	-	-	-	13
Walker, David		-	-	176
Wall, John	-	136, 137, 146,	147,	153

Wallace, Wm.	-	-	15, 40
War of 1812,	-	-	221, 222
Washington, George	84, 91, 92, 102,	131, 165, 178,	
	184, 189, 190.		
Wayne, Anthony	-	-	113, 189
Webster, Peletiah	-	-	56
Weiser, Fred.	-	-	65
Wells, Richard	-	-	166
West, Mr.	-	-	17
Wheelin,	-	-	126
White, Bishop	-	-	141
Whitehead, Mr.	-	-	59
Whitehill, Mr.	-	-	135, 158
Wickersham, Abraham	-	-	106
" Elijah	-	-	95
" Mrs.	-	-	59
Wikoff, H.	-	-	217
Wilcocks, Mr.	-	-	168
Wilcox, Esther	-	-	230
Williamson, Gen	-	-	110
Wiling. and Morris	-	-	11
" Abby	-	-	14
" Charles	-	-	231
" Family	-	-	127, 189
" Jemmy	-	-	17
" Mrs. T.	-	-	30
" Peggy	-	-	12, 14
" Thomas	-	-	33, 157, 181
Wilson, George	-	-	176
" James	115, 121, 130, 131,	168, 169, 192	
" Sheriff	-	-	176
Wistar, Dr.	-	-	183
Witman, Adam	-	-	82, 100
Witmore, Capt.	-	-	89
Wools, Mr.	-	-	13

Worrel, Mr.	-	-	115
Yeates, Jasper	10, 14, 24, 25, 35, 70, 73, 74, 79, 104, 106, 110, 127, 170, 171, 177, 189, 219, 225, 226.		
“ Joseph	-	-	95
“ Mrs. J.	-	-	153, 222, 223
“ Molly	-	-	132, 136
Yellow Fever,	180, 181, 182, 183. 189, 192, 193, 194, 197, 198, 208.		
Young, Mr.	-	-	23, 27

