

McKinly---Letters.....#1

LewisTown 27. Sept. 1773

My dearest Jenny

I hope recd. my Letter directed to the Care of Mr. Monro since which till now I have not had any opportunity of writing to you which has given me the more uneasiness as therein I expressed my hopes of seeing you by this time which not being able to accomplish I know must make you uneasy & whilst I think that you are so, & being uncertain about your health which I left you in such

to me from enjoying any satisfaction

not be many Days

Months,

could I be certain of your health all would be trifling thereto, for I hope our Friends have used their best Endeavours to make the time pass as agreeable as possible. I thank God I am in perfect health My Love to all Relations & Friends I am I assure closely engaged in Bussiness which will prove most advantagious to the Publick - God bless & make happy my Dearest Jenny Adieu

Jn^o. M^o. Kinly

P. S. On reading over the above that it but very indifferently expresses that Love & Esteem I have for you & the uneasiness our absence occasions but I am so hurried & my head so filled with this perplexing affair I have not time to write it over & amend it

McKinly Letters----#2

OnBoard the Solibay off New Castle

My Dearest Jönnny

We came here Yesterday Morning & I imagine may remain here for sometime as Cap. Symonds is appointed to the command of the Vessels stationed at this place & has been pleased to permit me to send herewith what dirty Linen I have to be washed, & would be glad how soon the same could be done as our Stay may be uncertain - Since I wrote to You I had an Opportunity of speaking to Cap^t Hamond who was pleased to promise that he would represent my Case to Lord How who arrived at Chester some Days agoe, but as his Lordship ever since his arrival has been much engaged with the Affairs of the publick I know not how soon he may have Leisure to attend to my Case, nor can I conjecture what may be his determination thereon, tho^t I must confess that I have of late ? of being soon enlarged - this I can assure You would but little affect me were it not for being absent from You & especially at a time when You have so much need of Consolation Advice & Assistance, & the full persuasion that such Absence & the Uncertainty of its continuance must be your greatest trouble, but I hope You will be enabled to bear those Misfortunes with a becoming fortitude - but let us hope for the best, tho^t it is prudent to be prepared for the worst- Lieutenant Wright & Lieutenant Chad have both been so kind as to inform me of your wellfare, but I know & consider your Situation, however I hope Sister Armstrong still

McKinly Letters---#2 cont.

continues with You & that your Brother has been to see You- I am glad to hear Major M^cDonald is amongst the Officers who stay at the House as he appeared to me to be a Gentleman of good nature & humanity & who I believe will protect You from any Insult & endeavour to make your Situation as agreeable as possible- I am persuaded also that Colonel M^cDonald will not suffer your private property to be taken from You, & I would fondly hope that a sufficiency of Hay may be left for the House & Cow in the Winter--I cannot take upon me at present to advise You whether to stay where You are or to go to your Brother or elsewhere- perhaps You will be better able to judge thereof some time hence- Shou'd I not be permitted to return soon, I have no doubt of being permitted hereafter to write you more fully concerning our private Affairs- My Love to all Relations & Friends & believe me to be with the most tender & affectionate Regard

Dearest Jenny

Y^r ever loving Husband

Jn^o M^cKinly

Please to look in the upper Drawer of the Desk for some Buttons for the Jacket I have here & send them with the Linnen as I shall soon want them & if you have any more Shirts at home please to send them - the black Silk Stock you sent I perceive is fashionable here & answers very well- I have sent four Shirts & they are very

McKinly Letters----#2 conti.

dirty but I was forced thro' OEconomy to wear them much longer than usual if You cannot find an opportunity of sending them otherwise M^r Henry Reynolds or some other carefull hand may procure a Pass from Col^o M^cDonald & bring them - by whom I can send some Old Paper money I have which I find will be of no use to me here-

Please to send me the Powder in a wide mouthed flint Vial with a brass Stopper which stands, I think on the third Shelf from the bottom on the Pillar between the Shop Door & Window, about the third from the Window, & is marked I suppose Pulv. Cost. Puruv. & if Doct. Latimer is in Town get him to send me the 1/4^p he promised me in Powder, for tho' I am thank God quite well now, yet perhaps I may want it hereafter as it is scarce on Board- Should you write please to enclose your Letter under a Cover directed to Thomas Symond Esquire Commander of his Majesties Ship Solebay, which will prevent it from being opened by any other & procure a safe Conveyance, & that Gentleman having been marryed will readily make proper allowances- N.B. perhaps I may forward the Letter without the Linnen & if I cannot get the letter sent conveniently

Solebay off New Castle 21 Oct. 1777-

My Dearest Jenny

I rec^d your's by George Walker with the two Shirts & Stock you mentioned therein- I have since got my Linnen washed at New Castle, as I had no opportunity of sending the same to Wilmington As You are once more become Mistress of your own House, I suppose you will continue there- notwithstanding the Number of Horses which You mention that were kept on the Hay, I am persuaded a full sufficiency must remain for the Winter, unless great Waste has been made- It is high time You should engage Wood for the Winter from some trusty hand- perhaps Billy Armor may supply You- I should be glad to know whether Col^o M^oDonald left any of my things with You, out of the Chest whereof I gave him the Key, or took the Chest & all its' Contents with him- As the Servants made so free with what was in the Shop, I fear they have done the same elsewhere- I wrote some days agoe to Capt^t Hamond who bears an exceeding good Character & is very intimate with Lord How, in hopes thro' his means to obtain a hearing, but have as yet rec^d no Answer as they are at present so engaged with the Affairs of the publick I cannot expect it very soon- I should therefore be glad, as soon as you can conveniently, that You would send me in a small Chest or Trunk my new lghtish coloured Coat & two pair of Britches, & brownish Silk Jacket, & either my white Cloth Jacket with the plate Buttons or old crimson plush Jacket- I recollect that on the back of the Account I left with You, there was a credit given which ought to be crossed out, as the same was settled in the Ballance mentioned in the

first Article, since which I have not rec^d a farthing from any Person, so that the whole charged was advanced by me & is still due- Henry Reynolds hath paid no Rent either for last year or this, but I am persuaded he will do Justice- John Thellwell rec^d as Constable from John Forsyth Six Pounds Ten Shillings for a Years Rent due last February which he did not pay me, so the same is still in Thellwell' hands- I had some Apprehension a few Days agoe that the Solebay would have been ordered to Sea, for which I was a good deal concerned as having got so well acquainted with the Officers, who still treat me with much Civility, however on speaking to the Capt, he was so good as to promise me that he would put me on board some Vessel in the River where I should likewise be well treated- if that shou'd happen I shall let you know as soon after as possible- when You write me please to direct, on the Cover, enclosing, to Cap^t Symond as I before mentioned, & I shall receive it safely, if he is here which can readily be known- I am exceedingly glad Sister Armstrong is so well recovered & I hope She will not think of leaving You this Winter, as my Return in that time is very uncertain- My sincere Love to her & all other Relations & Friends- I thank God I continue in perfect Health- & I can assure You that the thoughts of your trouble & misfortunes give me vastly more uneasiness than of any thing that can possibly befall myself, however I hope you endeavour to bear them with a becoming fortitude & that we shall yet live happily together- In the mean time I remain with most ardent Wishes for your welfare & in the sincerest manner

Dearest Jenny

Y. Everloving Husband

Jn^o M^cKinly

Solebay 4 Nov. 1777

My Dearest Jenny

I rec^d. your Letter & the Clothing by M^r. Reynolds together with very agreeable News of your being in good health & that Sister Armstrong was well recovered- I now think with You that the Jackets I wrote for are in the Chest that is under the Care of Coll^o M^cDonald, as are my Account Books & concerning which I propose Writing to that Gentleman in a few Days, when I shall gratefully acknowledge his polite Behaviour- It is but doing Justice to the Gentlemen who were Lodgers with You to inform that my Bridle Spurs &c were taken when Cap^t Monro was there, & I suppose the Saddle &c has gone the same way- also that my Desk was opened & all material Papers taken thereout the Night I was arrested- but why you found it open I know not as scarce any Key wou'd open it but the one I had- as to the List you mention, I fancy I gave it to You before the Pocket Book & that You may find it in your own- but if lost there is little damage, only be careful of the Originals. Partisul^{lary} of M^r. Campbells' Rec^t for Vogans Bond ? delivered to him by Mr. Read- I am glad that Sister Armstrong stays with you & I think you did very right in refusing the application made to You from another Quarter- the Loss of ungratefull Fortune is not much, Thomy may supply his place for a while, it will be of service to him to be more employed than he has heretofore been- I much approve of Brother Richards' taking the horse & using him as his own, You can^{get} him from thence at any time You shou'd want him- I hope he will often call to see You- My Pistols & Sword are here as Coll^o M^cDonald informed You- The Losses of the Fences is very great on account of the Hay & Pasturage, but it is not worth while to

repair them untill Matters are better settled- I sent what Old Paper money I had by M^r. Reynolds as it was of no use to me here- by him I expect the Blank Letter of Attorney, which I desired might be drawn by M^r. Stapler, as soon as convenient, it is highly necessary You shou'd have it, shou'd I be detained any length of time-which I am still very uncertain about, not having as yet rec^d an Answer from Capt. Hammond to whom I wrote relative to that Affair- I thank God I am in perfect Health & as I have ever endeavoured to act honestly & uprightly with all Men & as all my Conduct in our late unhappy Disturbances was solely directed by an earnest desire to promote the public good, the Consciousness thereof affords me that peace of mind as to fortify me against any thing that can befall myself- but as your care, satisfaction, & happiness was ever my greatest pride & pleasure, & the contrary my greatest pain & uneasiness, so now the thoughts of your being so involved in difficulties of which perhaps I may in some measure have been, tho very undesignedly, the unhappy Cause, is so far my greatest trouble- however I have often experienced in Life that such things, as I have thought at the time they happened were unfortunate have proved by the wise Direction of providence the very reverse, so now I hope that however grievous our present State may be, yet the same may be intended to prevent greater misfortunes or procure greater blessings- You see my Side of paper is near finished as usual, so shall conclude with sincere Love to all Relations & Friends, from him who shall ever remain with hearty Prayers for your happiness-

Dearest Jenny - Your most Loving Husb.^d

Jn.^o M.^o Kinly

Solebay off New Castle 22 Nov. 1777

My dearest Jenny

Your last Letter informing me of your own & Sister Armstrong's Healths - of your resignation to the Divine Will - & of your persuasion that as my conduct has been honest & generous to all, therefore You have hopes, that 'tho the present dispensation of Providence has been very afflictive, yet the same will finally terminate in our mutual happiness - hath afforded me much satisfaction - & I Doubt not but you will still continue in those Sentiments & cherish such hopes - it is but right to consider that altho our present Circumstances are so very different from what we could wish or expect, yet many things might have happened to render them still more insupportable - & be assured that I shall at all times on every occasion continue to support the Character of an honest Man & a Man of honour & integrity- The Occasion of my present Writing is to inform You that Yesterday we rec^d advice here that the Continental Troops have evacuated & destroyed the Fort at Red Bank whereby the passage to Philadelphia will now be unmolested, in consequence whereof Orders have been rec^d here for the Solibay, on board of which I have been ever since I left You, to proceed down this River & for me to go on Board the Sloop of War Swift commanded by Mr. Kepple Son to the late Earle of Albemarle, who is to proceed up the River toward Philad^a but how or where I am afterward to be off(?of) I know not at present but shall endeavour to let You know as soon as in my Power- I thank God I still continue in good Health - this will go to the Care of Theodore Maurice Esq. who I dobt not will forward it at as soon as possible - My sincere Love to good Sister Armstrong & all other our Relations & Friends & believe me to be in the most sincere & affectionate manner-

My dearest Jenny

your ever loving Husband
Jn^o W. M^o Kinly

State House Philad^a 6th Decem. 1777-

Dearest Jenny

I wrote to You this Day two Weeks from the Solebay off New Castle with a Note recommending the same to the Care of Theodore Maurice Esq. both which Cap. Symond was so kind as to send on Shore by especial Messenger, who informed me that M^r. Maurice would carry the Letter to You immediately in Person, so that I am persuaded You must have rec^d. it- therein I informed You that in consequence of Cap Symond being ordered down the Bay I was to go on Board the Swift Sloop of War commanded by Cap^t. Kepple which I did that Evening & was treated very politely by the Cap^t. & Officers who conveyed above Chester the Prison Ship on Board of which I was then put to proceed To Philad^a. (as Cap^t. Kepple was ordered to Sea) & the Cap^t. of the said Prison Ship one Brown an honest YorkshireMan & M^r. Miller the Marine Officer belonging to the Bristol, under whose immediate Care I was, both treated me with much kindness & civility until my arrival here last Monday- As several Persons from Wilmington have been permitted to visit me here, who promised to let You know how I was, they have no doubt informed You of my Situation, which renders it necessary to acquaint You, that altho^t I was at first filled with a good deal of Surprize & Uneasiness at being closely confined here in a Room, without any distinction, amongst about Twenty or thirty Prisoners chiefly Continental Officers & Strangers to me save L^t. Coll^o. Percifer Frazer & Coll^o. John Hannum & Major John Harper who I found in a mess by themselves, supplied by the Widow Jenkins, I with their hearty approbation joined them & Mrs. Jenkins calling to see me next day, has ever since supplied

McKinly Letters-----#6 cont.

us very well & as I have become acquainted with the rest of my fellow Prisoners who behave toward me with much respect, &&& I have ^{also} become quite expert in waiting upon myself & enjoy my Health very well, I pass the time much better than I at first expected and as I am very conscious that I always did every thing in my Power to promote the peace & happiness of the publick & never oppressed any Individual I hope to be enabled to bear any thing that can befall me with a becoming Fortitude & much more so since the receival of your last Letter wherein You express such Sentiments as render You, if possible, still more dear to me & has afforded me great Satisfaction & I hope You will always continue to cherish the same, so that as You were never too much elated with prosperity so I hope You will not be too depressed with any adverse Fortune, but bear the same with Fortitude & Resignation, which whilst You do, & I am not afraid but You will, there is nothing that can despirit me- Cap.^t Reeve called to see me the first Day I came here & told me if I wou'd be admitted to my Parole I shou'd be welcome to his House, but You know my Temper, I never cou'd bear being beholden to any Person & much less now- however I have not seen him since- a general Parole is talked of taking place, but I fancy it is very uncertain especially as to me who had no Commission in the Continental Army or Navy or under Congress- As the Old Paper Currency which wou'd not pass on Board the Ships of War, passes here, please to send me by the first safe conveyance about the same Sum I sent You by Henry Reynolds that I may save the Gold as much as I can- pray allow for my writing in a Crowd without leisure or correct- & assure yourself that on every trial I shall still support the Character of a Man of Candour honesty & honour- My Time & Paper fail, must therefore

McKinly Letters----#6 cont.

conclud with Love to all Relations & Friends & be assured that I
shall ever remain with most tender & sincere affection- Dearest Jenny

Your most loving Husband

Jn.^o M.^oKinly

If you write to me enclose the Letter open under a Cover directed
to Captain of the Guard State House, Philad

Original in The His. Soc. of Del.

Order to Mrs. McKinly

January 7th 1778

Madam

Please to deliver to Cap^t. Robison of Newport what publick
arms you have and he will give you a receipt

Your most obd^t Se^r

Sam^l. Patterson

To Mrs. M^cKinly

Reverse

Wilmington January 8 1778

Then Rece^d of

Messr^s. M^cKinley 6 Muskets agreble to the within

William Robison Captⁿ

Jn ? .. M: D: S

McKinly Letters----#7

Flat Bush on Long Island 8th July 1778

Dearest Jenny

I had hopes of being permitted to return home on my parole & thereby be enabled to effect an Exchange more speedily, until half an Hour before my Departure from Philad^a, which was all the Space I had to prepare for the Voyage, & consequently did not afford me time to write to You a few Lines to inform You thereof, but Cap: Reve promised me he wou'd do it - under his care I left Fortune, at his own desire, to be sent to You as soon after as possible- & with M^r Stephen Collins I left several things w^{ch} he promised he wou'd take care to forward to You, as speedily as he cou'd, which I have no doubt he performed accordingly, as he is both carefull & honest- I likewise got him to undertake to settle with M^{rs} Langdale as I had no leisure to do it, & ordered him to draw upon You for the Ballance, & I suppose about Seven Pound, I likewise gave himself a Draught upon you for Ten Pound, both which I am certain You wou'd pay directly; & by that means I reserved so much Gold in hand, whereof I think I shall have enought to defray Expenses whilst here, so that You need not give Yourself any trouble on that Account- I had written You a Letter in hopes of getting an opportunity of sending it when going down the Delaware, but cou'd find none- I had my Health very well on the Voyage, not evin the least Sea-Sickness; & here, I thank God, I enjoy it perfectly, & have a pretty large District around allowed me to walk or ride about in, which affords handsome prospects of a fine & Well cultivated Country & of the Ocean;

McKinly Letters----#7 cont.

& I am placed at my own desire, with Brigad. General Irvine as a Companion, in a very decent, orderly, & obliging Family, where we have plenty of very good Country Fare, & at a very low rate- in short my greatest unhappiness, together with being a Prisoner, is the being absent from You, who are seldom out of my thoughts- however I hope the time is not far distant when we shall meet again never to part, & I flatter myself that in the meantime while, You will bear my absence & your other late misfortunes with that fortitude of mind which is so highly becoming You, & which has so exceedingly endeared You to me- I am sorry that I have not had the opportunity of writing to You sooner since I left Philad.^a & you may assure Yourself that I shall miss none that may be found- my sincere love to all our Relations, & best Respects to such Friends as you know I esteem, & believe me to be with the greatest Regard & most tender Affection

Dearest Jenny

Your ever loving Husband

Jn.^o M.^cKinly

You may observe that I have always avoided making any remarks on that neglect which has been shown by those from whom I had reason to expect some more attention-

Flat Bush on Long Island 28^h July 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You on the 8.th & 24.^h Inst: in which I informed You that ~~my~~ my hurry in leaving Philad.^a was so great as wou'd not admit of a Minute to write You, & that I left several things with M.^r Collins to be sent You, as soon as Possible, & of two small Sums which I gave orders for You to pay, & in both Letters I let You know how well I enjoyed my Health, which thank God still continues, likewise that Expenses are so much lower here than in Philad.^a, That I apprehend I shall have Gold sufficient to defray all, until I have the pleasure of seeing You, unless that time shou'd prove far longer than I imagine; but in order to shorten the same as much as possible, I wrote You in my last what I thought best to ~~be~~ done, but least a miscarriage might happen I shall repeat the purport thereof, namely, that as nothing has been done, that I know of, by those from whom I might have expected some Exertions for my enlargement, but as on the contrary I have reason to believe great pains have been taken by one, who has had too good an opportunity, to prejudice Congress against me, thro' whom only I may expect to be exchanged, I wou'd have You therefore to send for & speak either to M.^r George Evans or M.^r George Latimer & get them to apply to M.^r Bedford & M.^r M^c Donagh that they may join in an Application to Congress setting forth my Case & Conduct, with which they are best acquainted, & inform them that I lent to M.^r Robert Bryan my Book containing Copies of all my publick Letters, from whom they may get it, which will shew in part that Conduct & is ^{only} the Book or Paper as You know, that was left

McKinly Letters----#9 continued.

me, I have no doubt that those Gentlemen will cheerfully undertake & perform in the best manner in their power, & as soon as convenient, this essential Service for me, my sincerest Love to all our Relations & most hearty Respects to all my old Friends & Neighbours & believe me to be in the most affectionate manner

Dearest Jenny

Your ever loving Husband

JN McKinly

Aug 1st. 1778 As the Gentleman by whom this was intended to be sent failed to go at the time expected- & as M^r. Hall by whom my last was to have been delivered, failed likewise to go at that time, but caused that Letter to be forwarded by a Flag, and as he has kindly undertaken to deliver this personally, he can onform You of my continuance in Health & any other particulars You wou'd be desirous of knowing concernong my Situation, God bless You JMK

McKinly Letter----#10

Philad.^a 11.^h Aug 1778

Dearest Jenny

On a 3.^d Application to General Clinton for a farther enlargement on my Parole, in order the more readily to effect an Exchange for Governor Franklin, to which Exchange he had formerly consented; he was pleased last Wednesday to grant that Enlargement for a Month, at the Expiration of which time, shou'd I fail to obtain said Exchange I promised to surrender myself again at New York- in consequence whereof I arrived here in Company with the Bearer Lieut Hall of Cecil County Maryland, on parole likewise, & on Sat^{ur}days Evening last, & on Sunday's Afternoon & yesterday's Morning I waited in Company with Coz.ⁿ Jonath.ⁿ Smith, on several of the Members of Congress, of most influence, from all of whom I rec.^d promises of their Votes & Interests in Congress for effecting this ? Exchange, & that they wou'd endeavour to have the same moved for & on Yesterday, or as soon as possible, notwithstanding of the great deal of publick Business now before that Honourable Body: but Yesterday several Expresses arrived from Head Quarters &c which I fear prevented its being then brought on, but I am still in hopes of having it finished soon according to my Wishes: indeed I have no doubt of succeeding when brought before Congress, but there is the difficulty in these busy times, & therefore I thought it best to stay & promote its being finished, that when I have the great pleasure of seeing You I may remain with You, especially as I have heard by severals that You are in good Health, Cozen Sukey has got a young hearty Daughter about a week agoe & is in a fair way- Brother & Sister Reeve are well so is Cozen Be y Richardson & Nich^s Walls Family- I hear Sister Johnston is to be soon a Resident in

Mick

McKinly Letters----#10 cont.

Wilmington again- My Sincerest Love to all Relations & best Respects to old Friends & Neighbours- You may be assured that I am very impatient to see You all, yet I want to have my staying with You reduced to a certainty, for I shou'd be very uneasy if a doubt remained of my returning again to New York; & I have no doubt of your approving of my present Stay for such a purpose- tho the Hours pass very heavily that I am constrained to remain here, at such distance from You, yet the good prospect I have that thereby I shall procure the pleasure of remaining always with You does make ample amend- I lodge at Mr. Collins- I hear Cozen Hazelton & her Daughter Miriam are gone to Billy in Kent- when I began this Letter I expected the Bearer every minute, & still I found I had time have patched it out, which makes it a strange incoherent one, but odd as it is I know it will afford You satisfaction- I have two former Letters that the Bearer was to have delivered to You, which I intend as an Irish Man, to deliver myself- I have many things to relate to You that I hope will afford You entertainment in hearing, for I flatter myself that all our past Losses, Sufferings, & Disappointments will only give a better relish to our future enjoyments, for you may be fully assured that my constant Endeavours shall always be to make your future Life as happy as it will be in my power to render it - for I have no doubt but you will continue to deserve my warmest Love & most tender Affection- May God grant You length of Days & complete happiness both here & hereafter- but my Paper fails, You see I have not forgot my old Custom of finishing the Side, & now I know You will excuse it- Adieu therefore my Dearest Jenny & accept of the most ardent Regard of Your ever loving Husband

Jno McKinly

McKinly Letters-----#11

Original in Hist. Soc. of Del.

Philad.^a 13th August 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You on Tuesday Morning last which I expected wou'd have been delivered by Lieut^r Hall, but which I sent Cap.^t Halph Walker Yesterday together with the Trunk with my Cloths, my Cott Bed & bedding & an half Barrell containing 12 or 13 Gall. of old Jamacia Spirits- also a small Trunk tyed with a Cord with Sundry therein & a Matress belonging Maj. Aguila Gyles of Maryland, all of which I hope will come safe to your Hand, seeing they are under Care of Cap.^t Walker- I then expected to have been able to have left this place in my this Morning, therefore reserved nothing but what I was then , save my great Coat & a Shirt & Cravat for fear of Accidents; & Coll.^o Hollingsworth wou'd have taken me in his Chair, but Yesterday, when I hoped that my Business wou'd have been taken up & finished favourably in Congress, was engrossed by some publick Affair of great Consequence, & this Day as altogether alloted to the like purpose, but I have strong Assurances that mine will be gone upon to Morrow & there seems litle doubt but it will end according to my Wishes- I find however that my attendance has been highly necessary to accomplish my purpose- Jonathan Smith is going down to Bombay Hook & is to take me with him in his Chair & I will I hope be with You on Saturday's Evening next- the time seems excessively tedious till I have the pleasure of seeing You, but as my present staying may prevent my return to Captivity, & ensure my

McKinly Letters----#11 cont.

Exchange & Freedom, whereby I may enjoy the happiness of remaining always with You hereafter, I bear this absence more patiently- I hear Sister Armstrong is about to leave you & take up Housekeeping again, so that my coming home will be the more opportunely- Sister Johnston I hear is likewise coming immediately to Wilmington, so that I hope we shall soon be happy again together- My Side You see is near done, & it wou'd be too much to You with another- May God grant You all manner of Blessings- My Love to all Relations- this goes by Mr. Means- Yr. loving Jno. McKinly

McKinly Letters----#12

Philad.^a 14th Aug. 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You Yesterday by M^r. Hugh Means & altho I have nothing new, would nevertheless not fail to embrace this Opportunity by M^r. George Latimer to let You know that I am well & still have hopes that this Day Congress will determine my Exchange agreeable to my Wishes, & that I shall have the great pleasure of being with You to Morrow Night, & expect Jonⁿ. Smith will go with me. Cap. Reeve & Sis^{tr}. are well so is Betty Richardson, who talks of returning home the beginning of next Week- My Love to Relations & Friends & believe me to be with the most sincere & tender affection

Dearest Jenny

Y^r. ever loving Husb.^d

Jn.^o M^c Kinly

McKinly Letters----#13

Philad^a 13^h Sept. 1778

My Dearest Jenny,

I have only time to let You know, as the Bearer waits that I am in good Health only somewhat lamer by much walking- I have no doubt of returning to Wilmington, either exchanged or enjoined by the Congress, & I hope the former- altho it is not yet determined which for Congress is well disposed to relieve me but differ in the manner- to Morrow I am informed will at length put an End to those Debates, so that I expect to see You on Tuesday's Evening- all Relations are well- Remember to those with You- Excuse haste I am

Your's in the most sincere & affectionate
manner whilst

Jn.^o McKinly

McKinly Letters----#14

Original in His. Soc. of Del.

NewYork 9^h May 1785

Dearest Jenny

As no doubt You will be anxious to know concerning my Journey here & welfare, I ~~therefore~~ now write to gratify that desire, to go by the Post who I am told leaves this place today Joseph Grubb who was to leave Philadelphia last Thursday Morning, & take home my Mare, I desired that he wou'd inform You that I was as well on the Wednesday's Evening, when I saw him- I left Philad.^a next Morning being Thursday at 4 O'Clock & got safely to my Lodging here that Evening, before 8 O'Clock, without scarce any fatigue, altho the great Rain of the preceding Day made the Road a good deal worse than they had been, & carried some Obstruction by a considerable fresh in one Creek which we were forced to pass in a Batteau I lodge with a very genteel Family where M.^r Bedford lodged, & which he recommended, one M.^r Elsworth- M.^r Cha.^s Thompson the Secretary of Congress came here with his Wife only the other Evening from Philad.^a & am to wait upon him this Morning for his advice & assistance which I am certain he will very readily afford me- I have already applied to some Members of Congress that I knew, & hope to succeed in my Business but I fear that I must attend longer than I cou'd wish as they are engaged in Business of great consequence, namely the Back or Western publick Lands But I intend to proceed entirely by Secretary Thompson's advice which I am this moment going to take

Same Day 10 O'Clock

I have just returned from waiting on M.^r Thompson who together with his

McKinly Letters-----#14 continued

Wife are yet at Lodgings & received me in the most friendly manner
I afterwards waited on the President of Congress who treated me with
much politeness, & with whom I am to dine to Day & I hope thro' his
meanst to have my
Business finished in a few Days - Yesterday I dined with my old
Acquaintance Doct. Cochran- I have received an Invitation in writing
from Doct. Rodgers to dine with him to Morrow- There is nothing of
News here worth communicating- I thank God I continue in perfect
Health- the Streets of this are exceedingly irregular & at present
very dirty after so much wet Weather, but this day is fine, with the
novelty of Sunshine, which will I expect soon dry the Streets- I hope
to find on my return home- Sister Johnston's Fan in a fair way of
mending- My love to Sist^r Armstrong & her Cozen Johny, his Sisters,
& all other Relations & Friends that You may think proper & find
convenient- You see that according to Custom I have nearly finished
my Paper altho' I have so little worth writing about- You may depend
that I shall use my utmost Endeavours to see You as soon as possible
& being with most sincere & tender Regard & Affection

Dearest Jenny

Your ever loving Husband

Jn.^o M.^cKinly

Dover 4th June 1788

Dearest Jenny

Altho I rec^d. notice the beginning of April last from the Auditor of Aud.^t, that he wou'd lay the Omission that he alledged I had made in my Aud. against the public of a Sum of money I had rec^d. before the Assembly at their present meeting--&& I wrote him twice since letting him know that I wou'd attend accordingly, & desiring him to be prepared with his Report for that purpose, so that I might be detained as short a time as possible- yet notwithstanding I have pressed him to do as he promised, repeatedly since I came here, but all to no purpose he still pleads that he is unprepared- therefore I have told him of my Intention to apply to the Assembly toMorrow for Redress, which I intend to perform, so that it is uncertain when I can get home; but hope I shall toward the latter end of the Week- thank God I am in good health- remember me to all Relations & Friends- & believe me to be in the most sincere & affectionate manner

Dearest Jenny

Y^r. ever loving Husb.^d

Jn.^o M.^cKinly

of the sick

Letter to Jno McKinly (Orig. in Hist. Soc. of Del.)

London 30th October 1762

Dear Sir

I am very Sorry I had not an opportunity of Seeing You before I America, tho upon Second thoughts Parting with those we love is rather to be avoided than to be wished for, I could have been glad however, (could I have done it in any Manner than by a last Interview) to have return'd Your most Sincere thanks for all Your Kindness Shewn me while at Philadelphia, I beg You will therefore accept of my most gratefull unto and be assured I shall Ever remember Your Goodness in the warmest Manner I am capable of.

After a Passage of Six Weeks from New England we arrived here- A Peace was at that Time hourly Expected, ^{tho'} it Still remains unconcluded our at the Havanna & Newfoundland its thought have raised our demands so much that Spain will protract matters rather than comply and by forcing her way into Portugal oblige us to be more moderate. What the issue will be Nobody knows but as the Parliament will meet then few weeks we conclude nothing will be done till the General Sense of the Nation is then Collected relative to this Important Event.

Letter to Jno McKinly-Continued.

I herewith Send to Mr. West (who has the Care of this Letter) a Gold Seal which I request You wou'd hang to Your watch in Token of an old Friend, it is Engraved with ? Heads- Mars, Venus & Jupiter- If you will Call on Mr. West he will Deliver it I hope it may prove to Your Mind and be worth Your Acceptance

My Father desires his best Complim.^{ts} and to You and Sincerely thanks You for all the trouble You have taken in his affairs he desires me to assure You he Shall always retain the Strongest Sense of Your Kindness

I am

D.^r Sir

Your most obedient Serv^t

Please to Direct for me to the Care of Messrs Grubb & Watson in

John M^c Kinty 1724-1796.

The first Governor of Delaware, was John M^c Kinty, born in Ireland, February 24, 1721. He studied medicine, later emigrated to this country, and began practicing medicine in Wilmington, where he soon attained a fine reputation as a physician. Preparatory to the impending war in the Colonies, he was commissioned a Colonel of militia. March 10, 1775, and on September 11, 1775, Brigadier General of the first Brigade of Delaware Militia. In 1777, he was elected the first Resident (Governor) of the Delaware State. During the Revolution he took a rather prominent part until he was captured by the British on the night of September 26, 1777 (the night ^{of} the Battle of Brandywine) and imprisoned on the British frigate Solebay, then stationed in the Delaware River under the command of Thomas Symonds, Esquire. In August of the following year he was paroled and returned to Wilmington, residing in his mansion at the ^{northwest} corner of Third and French streets. After a long useful and honorable life Dr. M^c Kinty died August 31, 1796, and was buried in the cemetery of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington.

October 3, 1935.

Miss Adeline Roberts,
44 West 9th Street,
New York City.

Dear Miss Roberts:

In response to your letter of September 30th, I wish to advise that John McKinly was elected President of the Delaware State February 12, 1777. On February 21, 1777 he accepted the office, and the same day took the oath of office.

As Governor McKinly, in his writings, does not state which day he was captured we shall have to infer that it was either the night of September 12th, or the morning of the 13th.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist.

LdeV:R.

Dr. John McKinley, the first President of Delaware, resided at the northwest corner of Third and French Streets, where he built a mansion; back of which, extending to King Street, was a beautiful garden of tulips and other rare flowers. The doctor died here in 1796. The property was afterwards occupied by Governor Caleb P. Bennett.

p. 477.

Dr. John McKinley was born in Ireland, February 24, 1721. He resided in Wilmington and practiced his profession for some years. In 1777 he was elected President of the State of Delaware, being the first to fill that office after the formation of the Constitution of the State. On the evening after the battle of Brandywine, Sept. 13, 1777, a detachment of British troops entered the town of Wilmington, and having learned where the President resided, made their way in the dark to his house, took him prisoner and carried him to Philadelphia.

During the summer of 1778, Dr. McKinley was permitted to return home on parole. In the meantime, however, Caesar Rodney had been elected President of the State.

Dr. McKinley died Aug. 31, 1796, and was buried in the cemetery of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, a pillar at the feet of which commemorated his bounty to that church. Although a Presbyterian, he at one time offered a lot of ground at the corner of Seventh & Market Streets to the vestry of Old Swedes Church if they would build a church there, which, however, they declined to do. He was one of the founders of the Delaware Medical Society.

WILLIAM J. MUSTARD
LAURA S. RICHARDS
JOHN PRICE HYATT

STATE ARCHIVIST
HENRY C. CONRAD

THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES COMMISSION
OF DELAWARE

PRESIDENT
MABEL LLOYD RIDGELY
SECRETARY
JOSEPHINE TATNALL SMITH
ASST. SECRETARY
S. WARREN HALL

Del. Hist. Archives No. 1170.

Del. Congress, 14 Sept. 1778.

Resolved.

That Congress consent to the exchange of
William Greenleaf Esq. late governor of New
Jersey, for John Mc Kinkay Esq. late Governor
of the State of Delaware, agreeable to the
propositions of Genl. Sir Henry Clinton.

Extract from the Minutes

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

1778. 4. 18th

Minutes of Tryn Council

2nd Sept. A.D. 1778.

The Board taking into consideration the inability
of John Mc Kinkay, Esq., late President of this
State, captured by a detachment of the British Army,
in Sept. 1777, at Washington, and now prisoner under
a strict guard to which his exchange for William
Greenleaf Esq., late Governor of New Jersey,
stands to the following Resolutions, to Wit:—

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Board, that the
said John Mc Kinkay, was duly the commencement of the
present Contest between Great Britain and America with
his ability, property, and a very active part in
support of the Liberties of all Letters against the
oppressive measures of the former — that in the specu-
lative course he filled the several offices of
Chairman of the Committee of Inspection and Observation
for New Castle County, Colonel of a Battalion of Militia
there, Brigadier-General, President of the Council of
Safety, Speaker of the House of Assembly, member
of the present Frame of Government — and lastly
that of Commodore in Chief of this State —

discharge the several duties with attention, zeal
and ability.

(Continued)

Resolved, therefore

V

That the President do request the Delegates from this State in Congress to make immediate application to that Honourable Body, that they would be pleased to take order, in such way as to them shall seem most proper, for the speedy exchange of Mr. Mc Kinty; as his public services do certainly merit public favour and regard.

THE LIBRARY OF THE CONGRESS

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1864
LIBRARY OF THE CONGRESS
WASHINGTON

Wilmington 14th Aug^t 1776

Dear Sir

The enclosed Return is rather more perfect than the former sent to You-- I shou'd be glad that you wou'd apply to M^r. Fleeson for the 8 Drums & Fifes--4 small Colours & one Standard not very large & both it & Colours without Tassells for Coll. Patterson-- Mr. Fleeson considering the money he has rec^d. from this Governm^t. may afford to trust awhile--

Some of our Companies are complete wou'd it not be proper that they shou'd march as completed under the Care of some of the Field Officers-- The People have got such a Notion of privateering as much hinders the compleating the Companies--Excuse haste

Y^{rs}. sincerely

Jn^o. M^o Kinly

Gov. of Delaware.

Not printed in Military Archives

*Transcribed April 21, 1932
from a document owned by
Elmer V. Heise, Syracuse.*

NewCastle County	<u>Captains</u>	Kent County	Sussex
1 Wm. Moody	Sep ^r . 1775	2 ^d Jos. Caldwell----	23 ^d Jany. 1776 Nath ^l Mitchel. Adjut
3 Tho ^s . Kean	30 th M ^{ch} 1776	5 T. Skillington	10 April 1776.
4 Ja ^s . Dunn	April 1776	6 Math ^w . Manlove	a 2 ^d . Lieut ^t

1st Lieutenants

3 Geo. Bush	a 2 ^d . L ^t Jan ^v . 1775.	1 Pet. Lowber-----	M ^{ch} or April 1776	Stephen Hill
4 And ^w . Alexander	do. Oct ^r . 1775	2 John Marim	11 April 1776	
5 J. M ^c Lean	d ^g . M ^{ch} 1776	6 Benj ^a . Gibbs	2 ^d . Lieut ^t D ^o	

2^d Lieutenants

1 Rich ^d . Wilds	2 ^d . 1 st Sep ^r . 1775	2 Dav ^d . Maxwell	20 th . April 1776	Geo: Wiltbank
3 William M ^c Kennan.		5 Coe Gordon		
4 Abel Miles		6 Tredwell Manlove		

Ensigns

1 William Elliott	Jun ^r . Nov ^r . 1775	2 John Lackey	Nov ^r . 1775	Robert Shankland
1 William Elliott		5 William Dill		
3 James Anderson		6 Mark Cahoon		
4 John Codrick				

On Reverse:
 To George Read Esq. a
 Philad.
 pr Favour of]
 Capt. West.]

Letter to Jno McKinly (Orig. in Hist. Soc. of Del.)

London 30th October 1762

Dear Sir

I am very Sorry I had not an opportunity of Seeing You before I America, tho upon Second thoughts Parting with those we love is rather to be avoided than to be wished for, I could have been glad however, (could I have done it in any Manner than by a last Interview) to have return'd Your most Sincere thanks for all Your Kindness Shewn me while at Philadelphia, I beg You will therefore accept of my most gratefull unto and be assured I shall Ever remember Your Goodness in the warmest Manner I am capable of.

After a Passage of Six Weeks from New England we arrived here- A Peace was at that Time hourly Expected, tho' it Still remains unconcluded our at the Havanna & Newfoundland its thought have raised our demands so much that Spain will protract matters rather than comply and by forcing her way into Portugal oblige us to be more moderate. What the issue will be Nobody knows but as the Parliament will meet then few weeks we conclude nothing will be done till the General Sense of the Nation is then Collected relative to this Important Event.

Letter to Jno McKinly-Continued.

I herewith Send to Mr. West (who has the Care of this Letter) a Gold Seal which I request You wou'd hang to Your watch in Token of an old Friend, it is Engraved with Heads- Mars, Venus & Jupiter- If you will Call on Mr. West he will Deliver it I hope it may prove to Your Mind and be worth Your Acciptance

My Father desires his best Complim.^{ts} and to You and Sincerely thanks You for all the trouble You have taken in his affairs he desires me to assure You he Shall always retain the Strongest Sense of Your Kindness

I am

D.^r Sir

Your most obedient Serv^t

Please to Direct for me to the Care of Messrs Grubb & Watson in

McKinly---Letters.....#1

LewisTown 27. Sept. 1773

My dearest Jenny

I hope recd. my Letter directed to the Care of Mr. Monro since which till now I have not had any opportunity of writing to you which has given me the more uneasiness as therein I expressed my hopes of seeing you by this time which not being able to accomplish I know must make you uneasy & whilst I think that you are so, & being uncertain about your health which I left you in such

to me from enjoying any satisfaction

not be many Days

Months,

could I be certain of your health all would be trifling thereto, for I hope our Friends have used their best Endeavours to make the time pass as agreeable as possible. I thank God I am in perfect health My Love to all Relations & Friends I am I assure closely engaged in Bussiness which will prove most advantagious to the Publick - God bless & make happy my Dearest Jenny Adieu

Jn.^o M.^o Kinly

P. S. On reading over the above that it but very indifferently expresses that Love & Esteem I have for you & the uneasiness our absence occasions but I am so hurried & my head so filled with this perplexing **Affair** I have not time to write it over & amend it

McKinly Letters----#2

OnBoard the Solibay off New Castle

My Dearest Jenny

We came here Yesterday Morning & I imagine may remain here for sometime as Cap. Symonds is appointed to the command of the Vessels stationed at this place & has been pleased to permit me to send herewith what dirty Linen I have to be washed, & would be glad how soon the same could be done as our Stay may be uncertain - Since I wrote to You I had an Opportunity of speaking to Cap^t Hamond who was pleased to promise that he would represent my Case to Lord How who arrived at Chester some Days agoe, but as his Lordship ever since his arrival has been much engaged with the Affairs of the publick I know not how soon he may have Leisure to attend to my Case, nor can I conjecture what may be his determination thereon, tho' I must confess that I have of late ? of being soon enlarged - this I can assure You would but little affect me were it not for being absent from You & especially at a time when You have so much need of Consolation Advice & Assistance, & the full persuasion that such Absence & the Uncertainty of its continuance must be your greatest trouble, but I hope You will be enabled to bear those Misfortunes with a becoming fortitude - but let us hope for the best, tho' it is prudent to be prepared for the worst- Lieutenant Wright & Lieutenant Chad have both been so kind as to inform me of your wellfare, but I know & consider your Situation, however I hope Sister Armstrong still

McKinly Letters----#2 cont.

continues with You & that your Brother has been to see You- I am glad to hear Major M^CDonald is amongst the Officers who stay at the House as he appeared to me to be a Gentleman of good nature & humanity & who I believe will protect You from any Insult & endeavour to make your Situation as agreeable as possible- I am persuaded also that Colonel M^CDonald will not suffer your private property to be taken from You, & I would fondly hope that a sufficiency of Hay may be left for the House & Cow in the Winter--I cannot take upon me at present to advise You whether to stay where You are or to go to your Brother or elsewhere- perhaps You will be better able to judge thereof some time hence- Shou'd I not be permitted to return soon, I have no doubt of being permitted here- after to write you more fully concerning our private Affairs- My Love to all Relations & Friends & believe me to be with the most tender & affectionate Regard

Dearest Jenny

Y^r ever loving Husband

Jn^O M^CKinly

Please to look in the upper Drawer of the Desk for some Buttons for the Jacket I have here & send them with the Linnen as I shall soon want them & if you have any more Shirts at home please to send them - the black Silk Stock you sent I perceive is fashionable here & answers very well- I have sent four Shirts & they are very

McKinly Letters----#2 conti.

dirty but I was forced thro' OEconomy to wear them much longer than usual if You cannot find an opportunity of sending them otherwise M^r Henry Reynolds or some other carefull hand may procure a Pass from Col^o M^cDonald & bring them - by whom I can send some Old Paper money I have which I find will be of no use to me here-

Please to send me the Powder in a wide mouthed flint Vial with a brass Stopper which stands, I think on the third Shelf from the bottom on the Pillar between the Shop Door & Window, about the third from the Window, & is marked I suppose Pulv. Cost. Puruv. & if Doct. Latimer is in Town get him to send me the 1/4^P he promised me in Powder, for tho' I am thank God quite well now, yet perhaps I may want it hereafter as it is scarce on Board- Should you write please to enclose your Letter under a Cover directed to Thomas Symond Esquire Commander of his Majesties Ship Solebay, which will prevent it from being opened by any other & procure a safe Conveyance, & that Gentleman having been marryed will readily make proper allowances- N.B. perhaps I may forward the Letter without the Linnen & if I cannot get the latter sent conveniently

Solebay off New Castle 21 Oct. 1777-

My Dearest Jenny

I rec^d. your's by George Walker with the two Shirts & Stock you mentioned therein- I have since got my Linnen washed at New Castle, as I had no opportunity of sending the same to Wilmington As You are once more become Mistress of your own House, I suppose you will continue there- notwithstanding the Number of Horses which You mention that were kept on the Hay, I am persuaded a full sufficiency must remain for the Winter, unless great Waste has been made- It is high time You should engage Wood for the Winter from some trusty hand- perhaps Billy Armor may supply You- I should be glad to know whether Col^o. M^cDonald left any of my things with You, out of the Chest whereof I gave him the Key, or took the Chest & all its' Contents with him- As the Servants made so free with what was in the Shop, I fear they have done the same elsewhere- I wrote some days agoe to Cap^t Hamond who bears an exceeding good Character & is very intimate with Lord How, in hopes thro' his means to obtain a hearing, but have as yet rec^d. no Answer as they are at present so engaged with the Affairs of the publick I cannot expect it very soon- I should therefore be glad, as soon as you can conveniently, that You would send me in a small Chest or Trunk my new lghtish coloured Coat & two pair of Britches, & brownish Silk Jacket, & either my white Cloth Jacket with the plate Buttons or old Grimson plush Jacket- I recollect that on the back of the Account I left with You, there was a credit given which ought to be crossed out, as the same was settled in the Ballance mentioned in the

first Article, since which I have not rec^d a farthing from any Person, so that the whole charged was advanced by me & is still due- Henry Reynolds hath paid no Rent either for last year or this, but I am persuaded he will do Justice- John Thellwell rec^d as Constable from John Forsyth Six Pounds Ten Shillings for a Years Rent due last February which he did not pay me, so the same is still in Thellwell' hands- I had some Apprehension a few Days agoe that the Solebay would have been ordered to Sea, for which I was a good deal concerned as having got so well acquainted with the Officers, who still treat me with much Civility, however on speaking to the Capt, he was so good as to promise me that he would put me on board some Vessel in the River where I should likewise be well treated- if that shou'd happen I shall let you know as soon after as possible- when You write me please to direct, on the Cover, enclosing, to Cap^t Symond as I before mentioned, & I shall receive it safely, if he is here which can readily be known- I am exceedingly glad Sister Armstrong is so well recovered & I hope She will not think of leaving You this Winter, as my Return in that time is very uncertain- My sincere Love to her & all other Relations & Friends- I thank God I continue in perfect Health- & I can assure You that the thoughts of your trouble & misfortunes give me vastly more uneasiness than of any thing that can possibly befall myself, however I hope you endeavour to bear them with a becoming fortitude & that we shall yet live happily together- In the mean time I remain with most ardent Wishes for your welfare & in the sincerest manner

Dearest Jenny

Y. Everloving Husband

Jn^o M^cKinly

Solebay 4 Nov. 1777

My Dearest Jenny

I rec^d. your Letter & the Clothing by M^r. Reynolds together with very agreeable News of your being in good health & that Sister Armstrong was well recovered- I now think with You that the Jackets I wrote for are in the Chest that is under the Care of Coll^o M^cDonald, as are my Account Books & concerning which I propose Writing to that Gentleman in a few Days, when I shall gratefully acknowledge his polite Behaviour- It is but doing Justice to the Gentlemen, who were Lodgers with You to inform that my Bridle Spurs &c were taken when Cap^t Monro was there, & I suppose the Saddle &c has gone the same way- also that my Desk was opened & all material Papers taken thereout the Night I was arrested- but why you found it open I know not as scarce any Key wou'd open it but the one I had- as to the List you mention, I fancy I gave it to You before the Pocket Book & that You may find it in your own- but if lost there is little damage, only be careful of the Originals. Partisul^{lary} of M^r. Campbells' Rec^t for Vogans Bond ? delivered to him by Mr. Read- I am glad that Sister Armstrong stays with you & I think you did very right in refusing the application made to You from another Quarter- the Loss of ungratefull Fortune is not much, Thomy may supply his place for a while, it will be of service to him to be more employed than he has heretofore been- I much approve of Brother Richards' taking the horse & using him as his own, You can^{get} him from thence at any time You shou'd want him- I hope he will often call to see You- My Pistols & Sword are here as Coll^o M^cDonald informed You- The Losses of the Fences is very great on account of the Hay & Pasturage, but it is not worth while to

repair them untill Matters are better settled- I sent what Old Paper money I had by M^r. Reynolds as it was of no use to me here- by him I expect the Blank Letter of Attorney, which I desired might be drawn by M^r. Stapler, as soon as convenient, it is highly necessary You shou'd have it, shou'd I be detained any length of time-which I am still very uncertain about, not having as yet rec^d an Answer from Capt. Hammond to whom I wrote relative to that Affair- I thank God I am in perfect Health & as I have ever endeavoured to act honestly & uprightly with all Men & as all my Conduct in our late unhappy Disturbances was solely directed by an earnest desire to promote the public good, the Consciousness thereof affords me that peace of mind as to fortify me against any thing that can befall myself- but as your care, satisfaction, & happiness was ever my greatest pride & pleasure, & the contrary my greatest pain & uneasiness, so now the thoughts of your being so involved in difficulties of which perhaps I may in some measure have been, tho very undesignedly, the unhappy Cause, is so far my greatest trouble- however I have often experienced in Life that such things, as I have thought at the time they happened were unfortunate have proved by the wise Direction of providence the very reverse, so now I hope that however grievous our present State may be, yet the same may be intended to prevent greater misfortunes or procure greater blessings- You see my Side of paper is near finished as usual, so shall conclude with sincere Love to all Relations & Friends, from him who shall ever remain with hearty Prayers for your happiness-

Dearest Jenny - Your most Loving Husb.^d

Jn^o. M^c. Kinly

McKinly Letters----#5

Solebay off New Castle 22 Nov. 1777

My dearest Jenny

Your last Letter informing me of your own & Sister Armstrong's Healths - of your resignation to the Divine Will - & of your persuasion that as my conduct has been honest & generous to all, therefore You have hopes, that 'tho the present dispensation of Providence has been very afflictive, yet the same will finally terminate in our mutual happiness - hath afforded me much satisfaction - & I Doubt not but you will still continue in those Sentiments & cherish such hopes - it is but right to consider that altho our present Circumstances are so very different from what we could wish or expect, yet many things might have happened to render them still more insupportable - & be assured that I shall at all times on every occasion continue to support the Character of an honest Man & a Man of honour & integrity- The Occasion of my present Writing is to inform You that Yesterday we rec^d advice here that the Continental Troops have evacuated & destroyed the Fort at Red Bank whereby the passage to Philadelphia will now be unmolested, in consequence whereof Orders have been rec^d here for the Solibay, on board of which I have been ever since I left You, to proceed down this River & for me to go on Board the Sloop of War Swift commanded by Mr. Kepple Son to the late Earle of Albemarle, who is to proceed up the River toward Philad^a but how or where I am afterward to be off(?of) I know not at present but shall endeavour to let You know as soon as in my Power- I thank God I still continue in good Health - this will go to the Care of Theodore Maurice Esq. who I dobt not will forward it at as soon as possible - My sincere Love to good Sister Armstrong & all other our Relations & Friends & believe me to be in the most sincere & affectionate manner-
My dearest Jenny

your ever loving Husband
Jn^o W. M^c Kinly

Original in The His. Soc. of Del.

Order to Mrs. McKinly

January 7th 1778

Madam

Please to deliver to Cap^t. Robison of Newport what publick
arms you have and he will give you a receipt.

Your most obd^t Se^r

Sam^l. Patterson

To Mrs. M^cKinly

Reverse

Wilmington, January 8 1778

Then Rece^d of

Messr^s. M^cKinley 6 Muskets agreble to the within

William Robison Captⁿ

Jn ? .. M: D: S

McKinly Letters-----#6

State House Philad^a 6th Decem. 1777--

Dearest Jenny

I wrote to You this Day two Weeks from the Solebay off New Castle with a Note recommending the same to the Care of Theodore Maurice Esq. both which Cap. Symond was so kind as to send on Shore by especial Messenger, who informed me that M^r. Maurice would carry the Letter to You immediately in Person, so that I am persuaded You must have rec^d. it- therein I informed You that in consequence of Cap Symond being ordered down the Bay I was to go on Board the Swift Sloop of War commanded by Cap^t. Kepple which I did that Evening & was treated very politely by the Cap^t & Officers who conveyed above Chester the Prison Ship on Board of which I was then put to proceed To Philad^a. (as Cap^t. Kepple was ordered to Sea) & the Cap^t. of the said Prison Ship one Brown an honest Yorkshireman & M^r. Miller the Marine Officer belonging to the Bristol, under whose immediate Care I was, both treated me with much kindness & civility until my arrival here last Monday- As several Persons from Wilmington have been permitted to visit me here, who promised to let You know how I was, they have no doubt informed You of my Situation, which renders it necessary to acquaint You, that altho' I was at first filled with a good deal of Surprize & Uneasiness at being closely confined here in a Room, without any distinction, amongst about Twenty or thirty Prisoners chiefly Continental Officers & Strangers to me save L^t. Coll^o. Percifer Frazer & Coll^o. John Hannum & Major John Harper who I found in a mess by themselves, supplied by the Widow Jenkins, I with their hearty approbation joined them & Mrs. Jenkins calling to see me next day, has ever since supplied

McKinly Letters-----#6 cont.

us very well & as I have become acquainted with the rest of my fellow
Prisoners who behave toward me with much respect, &&& I have ^{also} become
quite expert in waiting upon myself & enjoy my Health very well, I pass
the time much better than I at first expected and as I am very conscious
that I always did every thing in my Power to promote the peace & happiness
of the publick & never oppressed any Individual I hope to be enabled to
bear any thing that can befall me with a becoming Fortitude & much more
so since the receival of your last Letter wherein You express such Senti-
ments as render You, if possible, still more dear to me & has afforded
me great Satisfaction & I hope You will always continue to cherish the
same, so that as You were never too much elated with prosperity so I
hope You will not be too depressed with any adverse Fortune, but bear
the same with Fortitude & Resignation, which whilst You do, & I am not
afraid but You will, there is nothing that can despirit me- Cap^t. Reeve
called to see me the first Day I came here & told me if I wou'd be admitted
to my Parole I shou'd be welcome to his House, but You know my Temper, I
never cou'd bear being beholden to any Person & much less now- however I
have not seen him since- a general Parole is talked of taking place, but
I fancy it is very uncertain especially as to me who had no Commission
in the Continental Army or Navy or under Congress- As the Old Paper
Currency which wou'd not pass on Board the Ships of War, passes here,
please to send me by the first safe conveyance about the same Sum I sent
You by Henry Reynolds that I may save the Gold as much as I can- pray
allow for my writing in a Crowd without leisure or correct- & assure
yourself that on every trial I shall still support the Character of a
Man of Candour honesty & honour- My Time & Paper fail, must therefore

McKinly Letters----#6 cont.

conclud with Love to all Relations & Friends & be assured that I shall ever remain with most tender & sincere affection- Dearest Jenny

Your most loving Husband

Jn^o M.^cKinly

If you write to me enclose the Letter open under a Cover directed to Captain of the Guard State House, Philad

McKinly Letters-----#7

Flat Bush on Long Island 8th July 1778

Dearest Jenny

I had hopes of being permitted to return home on my parole & thereby be enabled to effect an Exchange more speedily, until half an Hour before my Departure from Philad^a, which was all the Space I had to prepare for the Voyage, & consequently did not afford me time to write to You a few Lines to inform You thereof, but Cap: Reve promised me he wou'd do it - under his care I left Fortune, at his own desire, to be sent to You as soon after as possible- & with M^r Stephen Collins I left several things w^{ch} he promised he wou'd take care to forward to You, as speedily as he cou'd, which I have no doubt he performed accordingly, as he is both carefull & honest- I likewise got him to undertake to settle with M^{rs} Langdale, as I had no leisure to do it, & ordered him to draw upon You for the Ballance, & I suppose about Seven Pound, I likewise gave himself a Draught upon you for Ten Pound, both Which I am certain You wou'd pay directly; & by that means I reserved so much Gold in hand, whereof I think I shall have enought to defray Expenses whilst here, so that You need not give Yourself any trouble on that Account- I had written You a Letter in hopes of getting an opportunity of sending it when going down the Delaware, but cou'd find none- I had my Health very well on the Voyage, not evin the least Sea-Sickness; & here, I thank God, I enjoy it perfectly, & have a pretty large District around allowed me to walk or ride about in, which affords handsome prospects of a fine & Well cultivated Country & of the Ocean;

McKinly Letters----#7 cont.

& I am placed at my own desire, with Brigad. General Irvine as a Companion, in a very decent, orderly, & obliging Family, where we have plenty of very good Country Fare, & at a very low rate- in short my greatest unhappiness, together with being a Prisoner, is the being absent from You, who are seldom out of my thoughts- however I hope the time is not far distant when we shall meet again never to part, & I flatter myself that in the meantime while, You will bear my absence & your other late misfortunes with that fortitude of mind which is so highly becoming You, & which has so exceedingly endeared You to me- I am sorry that I have not had the opportunity of writing to You sooner since I left Philad.^a & you may assure Yourself that I shall miss none that may be found- my sincere love to all our Relations, & best Respects to such Friends as you know I esteem, & believe me to be with the greatest Regard & most tender Affection

Dearest Jenny

Your ever loving Husband

Jn.^o M.^cKinly

You may observe that I have always avoided making any remarks on that neglect which has been shown by those from whom I had reason to expect some more attention-

McKinly Letters----#8

Flat Bush on Long Island 23^d July 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You from Here on the 8^h Instant since which time I have had no opportunity & I have some fears that even the above-mentioned may perhaps have miscarried- therein I informed You of my hurry at my unexpected coming here from Philad^a. which did not afford me the least time to write You- of my leaving Fortune with Cap. Reeve & several things with M^r. Collins to be sent You as soon after as possible & gave orders to the latter to settle with & draw upon You for yhat Ballance wou'd be due to M^{rs}. Langdale & gave him a Draught on You for Ten Pounds, both which Sums no doubt You will pay on demand- I likewise therein informed You that I imagined I had Gold sufficient to defray my Expenses whilst here & therefore desired You wou'd give yourself no trouble on that Acco^t. & I am still of the same opinion for the Expences of Boarding & on this Island are vastly lower than at Philad^a. I thank God I still continue in perfect Health nor have had the least Sickness since I saw You, the Bearer M^r. Hall who has been long a Prisoner on this Island & is now going home to Maryland on Parole can tell you Particulars.- As I know how uneasy You must be on account of my long absence & confinement I wou'd therefore have You to speak to M^r. George Evans or M^r. George Latimer & get either of them to apply to the rest of their late Brother Counsellors to make Application to Congress for my exchange, who mat readily obtain it, & those Gentlemen may easily perceive the propriety & necessity of such an application as they well know what pains have been taken & by whom to predjudice Congress against me & can fully certifie how unjustly- I hope Sister Armstrong still continues to live with You, my sincere Love to her & all other our Relations, remember me likewise to all my old Friends & Neighbours & assure yourself that I shall always remain with the greatest esteem & most tender affection

Dearest Jenny
Your ever loving Husband Jno McKinly

Flat Bush on Long Island 28^h July 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You on the 8.th & 24.^h Inst: in which I informed You that ~~my~~ my hurry in leaving Philad.^a was so great as wou'd not admit of a Minute to write You, & that I left several things with M.^r Collins to be sent You, as soon as Possible, & of two small Sums which I gave orders for You to pay, & in both Letters I let You know how well I enjoyed my Health, which thank God still continues, likewise that Expenses are so much lower here than in Philad.^a, That I apprehend I shall have Gold sufficient to defray all, until I have the pleasure of seeing You, unless that time shou'd prove far longer than I imagine; but in order to shorten the same as much as possible, I wrote You in my last what I thought best to be done, but least a miscarriage might happen I shall repeat the purport thereof, namely, that as nothing has been done, that I know of, by those from whom I might have expected some Exertions for my enlargement, but as on the contrary I have reason to believe great pains have been taken by one, who has had too good an opportunity, to prejudice Congress against me, thro' whom only I may expect to be exchanged, I wou'd have You therefore to send for & speak either to M.^r George Evans or M.^r George Latimer & get them to apply to M.^r Bedford & M.^r M^cDonagh that they may join in an Application to Congress setting forth my Case & Conduct, with which they are best acquainted, & inform them that I lent to M.^r Robert Bryan my Book containing Copies of all my publick Letters, from whom they may get it, which will shew in part that Conduct & is ^{only} the Book or Paper as You know, that was left

McKinly Letters----#9 continued.

me, I have no doubt that those Gentlemen will cheerfully undertake & perform in the best manner in their power, & as soon as convenient, this essential Service for me, my sincerest Love to all our Relations & most hearty Respects to all my old Friends & Neighbours & believe me to be in the most affectionate manner

Dearest Jenny

Your ever loving Husband

JN McKinly

Aug 1st. 1778 As the Gentleman by whom this was intended to be sent failed to go at the time expected- & as M^r. Hall by whom my last was to have been delivered, failed likewise to go at that time, but caused that Letter to be forwarded by a Flag. and as he has kindly undertaken to deliver this personally, he can onform You of my continuance in Health & any other particulars You wou'd be desirous of knowing concernong my Situation, God bless You JMK

McKinly Letter---#10

Philad.^a 11.^h Aug 1778

Dearest Jenny

On a 3.^d Application to General Clinton for a farther enlargement on my Parole, in order the more readily to effect an Exchange for Governor Franklin, to which Exchange he had formerly consented; he was pleased last Wednesday to grant that Enlargement for a Month, at the Expiration of which time, shou'd I fail to obtain said Exchange I promised to surrender myself again at New York- in consequence whereof I arrived here in Company with the Bearer Lieut^{ur} Hall of Cecil County Maryland, on parole likewise, & on Sat^{ur}days Evening last, & on Sunday's Afternoon & yesterday's Morning I waited in Company with Coz.ⁿ Jonath.ⁿ Smith, on several of the Members of Congress, of most influence, from all of whom I rec.^d promises of their Votes & Interests in Congress for effecting this ? Exchange, & that they wou'd endeavour to have the same moved for & on Yesterday, or as soon as possible, notwithstanding of the great deal of publick Business now before that Honourable Body: but Yesterday several Expresses arrived from Head Quarters &c which I fear prevented its being then brought on, but I am still in hopes of having it finished soon according to my Wishes: indeed I have no doubt of succeeding when brought before Congress, but there is the difficulty in these busy times, & therefore I thought it best to stay & promote its being finished, that when I have the great pleasure of seeing You I may remain with You, especially as I have heard by severals that You are in good Health, Cozen Sukey has got a young hearty Daughter about a week agoe & is in a fair way- Brother & Sister Reeve are well so is Cozen Be y Richardson & Nich^s Walls Family- I hear Sister Johnston is to be soon a Resident in

Mick

McKinly Letters-----#10 cont.

Wilmington again- My Sincerest Love to all Relations & best Respects to old Friends & Neighbours- You may be assured that I am very impatient to see You all, yet I want to have my staying with You reduced to a certainty, for I shou'd be very uneasy if a doubt remained of my returning again to New York; & I have no doubt of your approving of my present Stay for such a purpose- tho the Hours pass very heavily that I am constrained to remain here, at such distance from You, yet the good prospect I have that thereby I shall procure the pleasure of remaining always with You does make ample amend- I lodge at Mr. Collins- I hear Cozen Hazelton & her Daughter Miriam are gone to Billy in Kent- when I began this Letter I expected the Bearer every minute, & still I found I had time have patched it out, which makes it a strange incoherent one, but odd as it is I know it will afford You satisfaction- I have two former Letters that the Bearer was to have delivered to You, which I intend as an Irish Man, to deliver myself- I have many things to relate to You that I hope will afford You entertainment in hearing, for I flatter myself that all our past Losses, Sufferings, & Disapointments will only give a better relish to our future enjoyments, for you may be fully assured that my constant Endeavours shall always be to make your future Life as happy as it will be in my power to render it - for I have no doubt but you will continue to deserve my warmest Love & most tender Affection- May God grant You length of Days & complete happiness both here & hereafter- but my Paper fails, You see I have not forgot my old Custom of finishing the Side, & now I know You will excuse it- Adieu therefore my Dearest Jenny & accept of the most ardent Regard of Your ever loving Husband

Jno McKinly

McKinly Letters----#11

Original in Hist. Soc. of Del.

Philad.^a 13th August 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You on Tuesday Morning last which I expected wou'd have been delivered by Lieut' Hall, but which I sent Cap.^t Halph Walker Yesterday together with the Trunk with my Cloths, my Cott Bed & bedding & an half Barrell containing 12 or 13 Gall. of old Jamacia Spirits- also a small Trunk tyed with a Cord with Sundry therein & a Matrass belonging Maj. Aguila Gyles of Maryland, all of which I hope will come safe to your Hand, seeing they are under Care of Cap.^t Walker- I then expected to have been able to have left this place in my this Morning, therefore reserved nothing but what I was then ? , save my great Coat & a Shirt & Cravat for fear of Accidents; & Coll.^o Hollingsworth wou'd have taken me in his Chair, but Yesterday, when I hoped that my Business wou'd have been taken up & finished favourably in Congress, was engrossed by some publick Affair of great Consequence, & this Day as altogether allotted to the like purpose, but I have strong Assurances that mine will be gone upon to Morrow & there seems litle doubt but it will end according to my Wishes- I find however that my attendance has been highly necessary to accomplish my purpose- Jonathan Smith is going down to Bombay Hook & is to take me with him in his Chair & I will I hope be with You on Saturday's Evening next- the time seems excessively tedious till I have the pleasure of seeing You, but as my present staying may prevent my return to Captivity, & ensure my

McKinly Letters----#11 cont.

Exchange & Freedom, whereby I may enjoy the happiness of remaining
always with You hereafter, I bear this absence more patiently- I
hear Sister Armstrong is about to leave you & take up Housekeeping
again, so that my coming home will be the more opportunely- Sist^r
Johnston I hear is likewise coming immediately to Wilmington, so that
I hope we shall soon be happy again together- My Side You see is near
done, & it wou'd be too much to You with another- May God grant You
all manner of Blessings- My Love to all Relations- this goes by Mr.
Means- Yr. loving Jno. McKinly

McKinly Letters----#12

Philad.^a 14th Aug. 1778

My Dearest Jenny

I wrote You Yesterday by M^r. Hugh Means & altho I have nothing new, would nevertheless not fail to embrace this Opportunity by M^r George Latimer to let You know that I am well & still have hopes that this Day Congress will determine my Exchange agreeable to my Wishes, & that I shall have the great pleasure of being with You to Morrow Night, & expect Jonⁿ. Smith will go with me. Cap. Reeve & Sis^{tr}. are well so is Betty Richardson, who talks of returning home the beginning of next Week- My Love to Relations & Friends & believe me to be with the most sincere & tender affection

Dearest Jenny

Y^r. ever loving Husb.^d

Jn.^o M^c Kinly

McKinly Letters----#13

Philad^a 13^h Sept. 1778

My Dearest Jenny,

I have only time to let You know, as the Bearer waits that I am in good Health only somewhat lamer by much walking- I have no doubt of returning to Wilmington, either exchanged or enjoined by the Congress, & I hope the former- altho it is not yet determined which for Congress is well disposed to relieve me but differ in the manner- to Morrow I am informed will at length put an End to those Debates, so that I expect to see You on Tuesday's Evening- all Relations are well- Remember to those with You- Excuse haste I am

Your's in the most sincere & affectionate
manner whilst

Jn.^o McKinly

McKinly Letters----#14

Original in His. Soc. of Del.

NewYork 9^h May 1785

Dearest Jenny

As no doubt You will be anxious to know concerning my Journey here & wellfare, I ~~xxxxxx~~ now write to gratify that desire, to go by the Post who I am told leaves this place today Joseph Grubb who was to leave Philadelphia last Thursday Morning, & take home my Mare, I desired that he wou'd inform You that I was as well on the Wednesday's Evening, when I saw him- I left Philad.^a next Morning being Thursday at 4 O'Clock & got safely to my Lodging here that Evening, before 8 O'Clock, without scarce any fatigue, altho the great Rain of the preceding Day made the Road a good deal worse than they had been, & carried some Obstruction by a considerable fresh in one Creek which we were forced to pass in a Batteau I lodge with a very genteel Family where M.^r Bedford lodged, & which he recommended, one M.^r Elsworth- M.^r Cha.^s Thompson the Secretary of Congress came here with his Wife only the other Evening from Philad.^a & am to wait upon him this Morning for his advice & assistance which I am certain he will very readily afford me- I have already applied to some Members of Congress that I knew, & hope to succeed in my Business but I fear that I must attend longer than I cou'd wish as they are engaged in Business of great consequence, namely the Back or Western publick Lands But I intend to proceed entirely by Secretary Thompson's advice which I am this moment going to take

Same Day 10 O'Clock

I have just returned from waiting on M.^r Thompson who together with his

McKinly Letters-----#14 continued

Wife are yet at Lodgings & received me in the most friendly manner
I afterwards waited on the President of Congress who treated me with
much politeness, & with whom I am to dine to Day & I hope thro' his
meanst to have my
Business finished in a few Days - Yesterday I dined with my old
Acquaintance Doct. Cochran- I have received an Invitation in writing
from Doct. Rodgers to dine with him to Morrow- There is nothing of
News here worth communicating- I thank God I continue in perfect
Health- the Streets of this are exceedingly irregular & at present
very dirty after so much wet Weather, but this day is fine, with the
novelty of Sunshine, which will I expect soon dry the Streets- I hope
to find on my return home- Sister Johnston's Fan in a fair way of
mending- My love to Sist^r. Armstrong & her Cozen Johny, his Sisters,
& all other Relations & Friends that You may think proper & find
convenient- You see that according to Custom I have nearly finished
my Paper altho' I have so little worth writing about- You may depend
that I shall use my utmost Endeavours to see You as soon as possible
& being with most sincere & tender Regard & Affection

Dearest Jenny

Your ever loving Husband

Jn.^O M.^CKinly

Dover 4th June 1788

Dearest Jenny

Altho I rec^d. notice the beginning of April last from the Auditor of Aud.^t, that he wou'd lay the Omission that he alledged I had made in my Aud. against the public of a Sum of money I had rec^d. before the Assembly at their present meeting--&& I wrote him twice since letting him know that I wou'd attend accordingly, & desiring him to be prepared with his Report for that purpose, so that I might be detained as short a time as possible- yet notwithstanding I have pressed him to do as he promised, repeatedly since I came here, but all to no purpose he still pleads that he is unprepared- therefore I have told him of my Intention to apply to the Assembly toMorrow for Redress, which I intend to perform, so that it is uncertain when I can get home; but hope I shall toward the latter end of the Week- thank God I am in good health- remember me to all Relations & Friends- & believe me to be in the most sincere & affectionate manner

Dearest Jenny

Y.^r ever loving Husb.^d

Jn.^o M.^cKinly

of the sick

Dear Sir

Wilmington 20th Jan^y 1769

After speaking to M^r. Duff several Times
& allowing him time to peruse & compare the inclosed, he
found it was right as stated, & was willing to give
a common Bond for payment thereof next April, alledg-
ing that he could not sooner recover the money from what-
hels Acc^{ts} & complaining of some hard treatment he had
met with in settling with them - how that was told him
I knew not, but thought you were justly entitled to a judg-
ment Bond as your demand was for a Judgment executed
& it was surely therefore in his Power to have said & rais-
ed the money when he pleased, but the judgement he
would not give but hath promised that he will be as di-
ligent to raise & pay the money as if he had given one.
I have therefore left the Affair as it was, seeing you can as
speedily recover, & are at least as safe as on a common
Bond. & assure yourself that I shall not fail to use my
best endeavours to get him to pay it as soon as possible
for which purpose have kept a Copy of the inclosed
being with real regard

Y^r very humble Serv^t
W. M. Kinley

Memorials
of John W. Stoney Esq.
Jan'y 10. 1787. read.

equivalent to the amount of specie on the last Day of Nov. of 1776, & that it should require £1500000 to equal the value of
1000000 on the first Day of Nov. of 1777, say different from the more equitable & gradual method of the Continental Bank
Court in 1765 & was not paid & was then my mind that it should, until the 22^d of 1777, but would have appeared reasonable
sufficient in the situation, when they required the same, should they have made the depreciation to commence before, or were made as
reasonable time after the date of the said order. & it is well known that the operation of the said Law was supposed to continue, un-
less to the extent desired & intention of money reducible to 1/10, to the entire ruin of you, every great injury of them, until you
acted on the 3^d of Nov. 1781, and that on conformity to the said order Law, the commissioners were appointed by act of the Assembly on the
1779, for receiving money from the former trustees of the Loan Office & others in duty bound, on a charge, made on 1774
concerning the repayment of £2000000 due voluntarily received & the large sum which had been on bank, & that the
said Office in 1781, namely on Nov. 4. 1779, & Dec. 1. 1780, which payments were undertaken by both branches of the Assembly as
friend discharges to all concerned, altho' that Court, at those times, was not by degrees, as may appear by the letter of the charging
over of 1780. & therefore so strict an adherence to the Law of the State was shown by former subscribers thereof in ordinary business
payment, in discharge of such large Debt, altho' incurred by public Defection, in money's greatly depreciated, & who by their Obse-
dience of the 3^d of Nov. 1785 have ordered that the Continental Bank of money borrowed on the credit of the State, should be reduc-
ed, where done, & applicable to the Laws of the State, upon charge, therefore has compliance, that the present Assembly will not operate
from those laws & conditions & intention of the said Law, especially as it will require, to have upon were then done
constant in the State, & concerned on the public Affairs thereof, that no depreciation must be maintained, even in the summer of 1777,
and besides the contrary, in those years Honor, it would, altho' a depriving to Comprehension, & were granted by those in the greatest reason
to suppose, that this was the case in the more distant periods, and on a Review of the kind of your Honor, this operation will be
performed, as all the money he has therein advanced, paid as specie, for not only that which does amount to a considerable part of
namely, what he did advance for payment of the foreign money, that were stationed at the port in London, for to whom the same may be re-
turned and on Major Walker who was appointed to that command in Feb. 1777, that they are not to be paid, that on 1776, but even the last
Article changed in the 3^d of Nov. for service then rendered, was the same that had been paid a year before, viz. 50% for riding & pay from the
numbers of Army, including Provisions & Expenses, and in such a review it will appear, who had a great part of his said Debt was due
from the public in 1776, however that is certain that he advanced no money but what he received, at that value & even such may be de-
rived that the public wants should be supplied, that he advanced more several Cent. taken before the War, to raise money for that purpose
and he is recommended that all money which has been loaned to the Government, even for the space of six Months after our said commenc-
ed, is accounted as specie, & has no more, & that continues to remain, & that you Honor, does not give reasons, that it
has always been the practice to settle such Debts, as is applicable to the Laws of the State. & it is likewise manifest, that
in the difficulty of doing, may make his Report applicable to those Laws & Conditions, & more particularly according to the Declaration of
both Commissions of the Legislature in 1782 in the face of your Honor, & in those to whom your Honor's Report was then due, or may
concerned, which is not government to pay, it was proper to give an opinion, that you Honor, in the course of your Honor's
should bear interest on the said Money, Honor, therefore holds that pursuant to the Declaration of the Provision of the said Law, the
sum total that he has reported, & which includes the interest of 3 years & 6 Months from the 3^d of Feb. 1779, may be discharged, &
which & was interest from the date of the said Report, for which your Honor, is allowed only simple interest for the six years
since he advanced the money, during which time he has been in receipt for a debt, it is quite evident that such an allowance
would do him no interest to have, instead of the legal interest of 6% per cent, & he cannot suppose that the Assembly would treat
him in this manner, or much worse than Mr. Coram & others, or than the before mentioned Laws, Declaration, & do provide
your Honor will take the freedom to inform your Honor, that the Auditor was very sensible of the aforementioned error of
1780, but alleges that he was restricted from rectifying it, as the same had been settled by the said Assembly. & it is very likewise
from that in their hands, which your Honor had before the Assembly, in the year of 1778, he had tried to change Commissions, on the money which
he had paid to Landries, altho' such Commissions were allowed to himself, & others, in the said Law, or former Declaration, with the
your Honor, as will appear on Examination, both they Commissions he has your Honor will now rectify. And your Honor
would also be liable to recommend to the Governor of the Assembly the discharge by you, & report of the Commission of
June 1783 & that of the Auditor of your Honor, 1784, whereby it will appear that the Commission have allowed the salary paid by Law
on the Credit of the State during the whole time your Honor, was a Governor, but want to the arbitrary method in all such cases,
but the Auditor has only allowed said salary until his discharge was a promise, & as your Honor's Father himself that your Honor
will do either approve of the allowance made by the Commission, which has therefore stated his said account, to which said
Account, Honor, wishes to call the attention of your Honor, in full confidence, that the demand, & which will be the
in duty bound will pray &c.

Wm. M. Smith

Letter

The Hon^{ble} John Cook Esq^r
Speaker of the House of Assembly

State of Delaware

Mr Speaker

Sir

I have made free to trouble you with the enclosed Memorial, together with the Copies thereon mentioned, & I do request that you would be pleased to lay the same before the Assembly, as soon as you can conveniently. I was very to find that I could not, as I apprehended, insert the said Memorial with safety as it seems necessary, but only to give a full relation, to those Assemblies, which, I was informed, had so much influence, as to induce a majority of the late House of Assembly, to declare the charter changed in my said, & which different Committee, the Father of Gods, &c. had judge proper to allow in their Restauration, that I should justify them the reasonableness of every Article in this said, & moreover I imagined that it might be an impediment to exclude such a claim, that the present Assembly should be made acquainted with the various impediments that have not writ, in my endeavours to procure the same, from former Speakers, for so many years past, I have therefore given a Detail of these Inventions, in a serious manner, as seemed consistent with that intention - but should that Detail on reading, prove disagreeable to any, I hope such will consider how much more freeness it must have proved to me, in going to many distant Journeys, & in giving such long & often repeated instances of such a kind of Sple & to so little purpose, especially as there were many reasons that occurred, which create an Opinion, that I ought not to have met with any delays & trouble, that could have been prevented in writings that kind. - However I have now full confidence that this Hon. Assembly when they know & duly consider what is set forth in this Memorial, they will then think it is high time to put an end to this business, which has been so managed as to occasion to me, such extraordinary fatigue, trouble & expense; & that they will on speaking as possible, make the same agreeable to Justice & Equity, & the Laws & Constitutions of the State, which is all I require, & I cannot suppose that this will prove so difficult - but should any new Complots or Resolutions yet be made, on halting this said, that any make an impediment on any Member, who will assist me in an opportunity of removing the same, whereby doubt not, I can readily do, & for that purpose, without staying here in town whilst necessary - I have the honour to be with all due regard -

Your 15 Jan 1787

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Thos. M^r John Cook Esq^r
Speaker of the House of Assembly
State of Delaware

Thos M^r Smith

NO. 73690
SIX SHILLINGS.



THIS In-
dented BILL
shall pay current
for SIX SHIL-
LINGS, ac-
cording to an Act of
General Assembly of
the counties of New-

castle, Kent and Sussex, upon De-
laware, passed in the 15th Year of the
Reign of His
Majest. Geo. *Wm. Finley*
the 3d. Dat- *Wm. Finley*
ed the First
Day of Jan.
1776. VIIs. *B. Manlove*

SIX SHILLINGS.

Six Shillings. VI.