

Dear Sir

Boston April 20. 1778

I am now to acknowledge the Receipt of y<sup>r</sup> very kind & obliging Letter of 2: Instant which came to hand of Capt. Furrall the 9<sup>th</sup>. The fish, Sugar and Cyder I have since received, all in good Order & exceeding good. They came in very good Season, which renders them the more acceptable; particularly the Cyder, w<sup>ch</sup> I have been without for three Weeks or a month past, I have been oblig'd to buy from time to time at the dear Rate of 4/8 Gallon.

The Articles you have sent, their Quality, & especially that Cordiality & real Friendship with which y<sup>r</sup> Letter abounds, excite in me very grateful & pleasing Sentiments; for what is true Friendship but to Love & to be Loved, together with Actions correspondent to such Affections.

It is a pleasure to me to acknowledge my self greatly oblig'd to you; it is not in my power to retaliate. I am therefore willing to remain indebted

I thank you also for y<sup>r</sup> Care about the Mowing Ground, I now enclose the Receipt for the Rent of the last year; your Agreement with Mr. Ayers for the ensuing year is agreeable to me. I suppose the Collector will call upon you for the Taxes of the Lords in

Barrington. As I very seldom see your News papers, shall be  
further obliged to you for taking care to pay any Taxes that  
may arise, for which I will account with you.

One Mr. Andrew Hill (of Bittern) has some Weeks ago wrote  
me respecting some of the Barrington Lands, & that wild Lands  
had been sold at 10/6 or 12/6 acre. In answer to <sup>the</sup> Letter w. was dated  
Feb. 10 last, I wrote him that unless the Lands would fetch four  
& Dollars per acre (the price you mention in your Letter) I should not think  
of parting with them, & that unless he would give that price he  
need not trouble him self or me about them; & that he must send me his  
answer in a fortnight - I heard nothing from him untill Friday  
the 10. Inst. when Mr. Hastings informed me there was a Letter for  
me in the Office w. I found to be another from Mr. Hill dated  
March the 28: to which I wrote an answer last Thursday morn.

He now seems disposed to purchase, but does not certainly say  
he will; nor have I bound my self absolutely to sell. He is  
rather inclined to take only 300 Acres; but I wrote him I did not  
choose to part it (only Johnny the Doctors part I wrote him I could  
not sell) & I expect to <sup>see</sup> him towards the latter End of May. That

whole tract is called 600 Acres, but I think Bro: Jaffrey would have  
it was supposed it would hold out considerable more; if so, I have  
wrote Mr: Will he is to pay for it —

I suppose y<sup>r</sup>. Laws respecting Intestances are the same with  
Durs; i. e. (as I have been informed) when a Child dies without  
Issue & unmarried then the Father inherits. If it be so, I suppose  
I have a Right to  $\frac{3}{6}$  — It is necessary therefore to inform you,  
that my first Wife Mrs Sarah Jaffrey died leaving 5 Children  
viz. David, John, Katharine, Ann & Sarah — I suppose David,  
who not the First-born, (that was a John born July 1742. died Nov. 1743)  
being the eldest Child living when his Mother died, was  
entitled to a double portion — He died in London about 1762; &  
his Sister Sarah died the October next after the Death of her mother  
which was July 11. 1753 — perhaps you are Lawyer, your self  
enough to determine such a Question — If I am right in my Sup-  
positions — then David  $\frac{2}{6}$  <sup>his</sup> vs his share — Sarah  $\frac{1}{6}$  — John  $\frac{1}{6}$   
Kath:  $\frac{1}{6}$  — 2 Ann  $\frac{1}{6}$  — David & Sarah being dead, & since their  
mother,  $\frac{3}{6}$  will come to the Father. I suppose Bro: Hubbard  
Coll. Atkinson or H. Wentworth can readily determine the matter,  
I should be glad to be informed as soon as you can conveniently.

It will give me pleasure to hear that y<sup>r</sup>. Wife, Mother, Sister  
Hubbard &c. have been carried safely thro the Small-pox; it will  
be matter of Thankfulness to God, & Satisfaction to them. Had I  
been upon the spot, I should have advised to it —

I have now to congratulate you upon the very important  
News received yesterday — His most p<sup>h</sup>ian Majesty it seems hath  
concluded a Treaty of Friendship between France & the United  
States of America; in which Treaty, He i. e. the French King  
hath acted (as Dr Franklin writes of 27: July) generously &  
magnanimously — must refer you to the News paper for the  
rest — Capt: Murrell will deliver you a little blue paper bag  
with some Wipers for your Compting house, of which please to  
accept from —

Myself, my Wifes & Childrens  
Love to Sally & due regards to all —

Y<sup>r</sup>. Obedient Son & Son  
David Jaffrey

Joshua Wentworth Esq