



Ulster American Treasures: The Migration Story





“There is no place in the world where a man
meets so rich a reward for good conduct
and industry as in America.”

John Dunlap, 1785

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Compiled and edited by Stephen Scarth

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Minister's Foreword

As Communities Minister, I am also Keeper of the Records of Northern Ireland, and in that role, I am delighted to welcome this specially commissioned book that commemorates the 250th anniversary of the United States of America in 2026. This landmark publication showcases the treasures relating to the USA that the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) has meticulously preserved for future generations. It tells the stories of those pioneering men and women who migrated from the nine counties of Ulster to forge a nation on the other side of the Atlantic.

The signing of the Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776 marked a historic milestone and was of profound significance in the development of the United States and a major international event. The diaspora from the island of Ireland and particularly those originating from the province of Ulster (which comprises modern day Northern Ireland and Counties Cavan, Monaghan and Donegal) contributed significantly to the creation and development of the USA and have made an immeasurable impression in key areas including government, civic society, business, and culture. The 250th anniversary provides the opportunity to remember the role of the people from Ulster who left an enduring imprint on the fledgling US nation.

Of particular importance, Charles Thomson from Upperlands, near Maghera, Co. Londonderry, was the first and only Secretary to the Continental Congress, one of only two signatories of the original Declaration of Independence and Co-Designer of the Great Seal of the United States. The Strabane-born printer, John Dunlap, was one of many Ulster printers who relocated to America and made history by founding America's first daily newspaper and printing the Declaration of Independence. Many US Presidents can trace their roots back to Ulster including Andrew Jackson, Ulysses S Grant and Woodrow Wilson. As leaders of their communities, Presbyterian Ministers

were at the forefront of the migration to America. Men such as Thomas Clark, the minister of Cahans Presbyterian Church, Co Monaghan, who is represented within this collection of documents.

As the National Archive for Northern Ireland, PRONI has been the unwavering guardian of the public record since its formation in 1923. From humble beginnings with no archives in its possession, it has amassed over three million records dating from 1219 onwards that reflects the community memory and way of life of those from the province of Ulster and beyond. PRONI has an extensive collection of US related historical records and collections that tell the story of America through a Northern Ireland lens. PRONI's online resources are used extensively by audiences in North America, and the archive regularly facilitates international visitors rediscovering their ancestral roots.

In reflecting on our shared cultural heritage, there is significant potential to build on this legacy of connection between Northern Ireland and the USA. Despite the many miles of ocean that separate us, our common history continues to bind us together. I therefore commend these treasures to you all.

Gordon Lyons
Minister for Communities
and Keeper of the Records
of Northern Ireland



Introduction

The connections between the province of Ulster in the north of Ireland and the United States of America run deep. As early as 9 September 1636, when 140 Presbyterians attempted - unsuccessfully - to emigrate to America on board the Eagle Wing, which sailed from Groomspoint, the lure of a life across the Atlantic remained compelling. Although early migrations from the nine counties of Ulster to the Americas are traditionally associated with members of the presbyterian community, some of the earliest successful transatlantic crossings were made by those from the Quaker faith. The earliest surviving recorded instance being the “Antelope”, which sailed from Belfast to Pennsylvania, arriving in December 1682.

The documents selected for this publication have been assembled from the archives at PRONI and illustrate the wide range of subjects associated with the migration story covering the past 250 years. Most of the records in this volume comprise letters written by correspondents from both sides of the Atlantic. However, there are also examples drawn from journals, maps, diaries and government files. Many of the stories are those of ‘ordinary’ people, who are striving to establish a new life on a foreign continent. Their reminiscences cover a broad spectrum including the challenges of perilous sea voyages to the Americas, the struggles and opportunities of finding employment, and international epoch-making events such as the American Revolutionary War.

The images selected in this publication are accompanied by short contextual summaries highlighting each document’s significance. Full transcripts are not included. However, most of the letters have been transcribed and are available - along with many others - on PRONI’s online electronic catalogue and the Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration (DIPPAM) website. Although some narratives are absent, care has been taken to reflect as many diverse voices as possible. No distinction has been made between the migrations of the eighteenth century and the mass exodus in the five years which followed the outbreak of the Great Famine in 1845. Each document has been selected for its own unique story.

The 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence is a significant milestone, yet many more anniversaries will be marked over the coming years. As a collecting institution, PRONI continues to welcome future deposits of records to the archive, particularly those that enrich the intricate tapestry of Ulster’s enduring relationship with the USA and contribute to a fuller understanding of our place in the world.

This publication could not have been produced without the professionalism and dedication of both current and former staff of the Public Record Office, our wider friends and families, and all those who have deposited collections with PRONI. It is a tribute to them all.

Stephen Scarth
February 2026

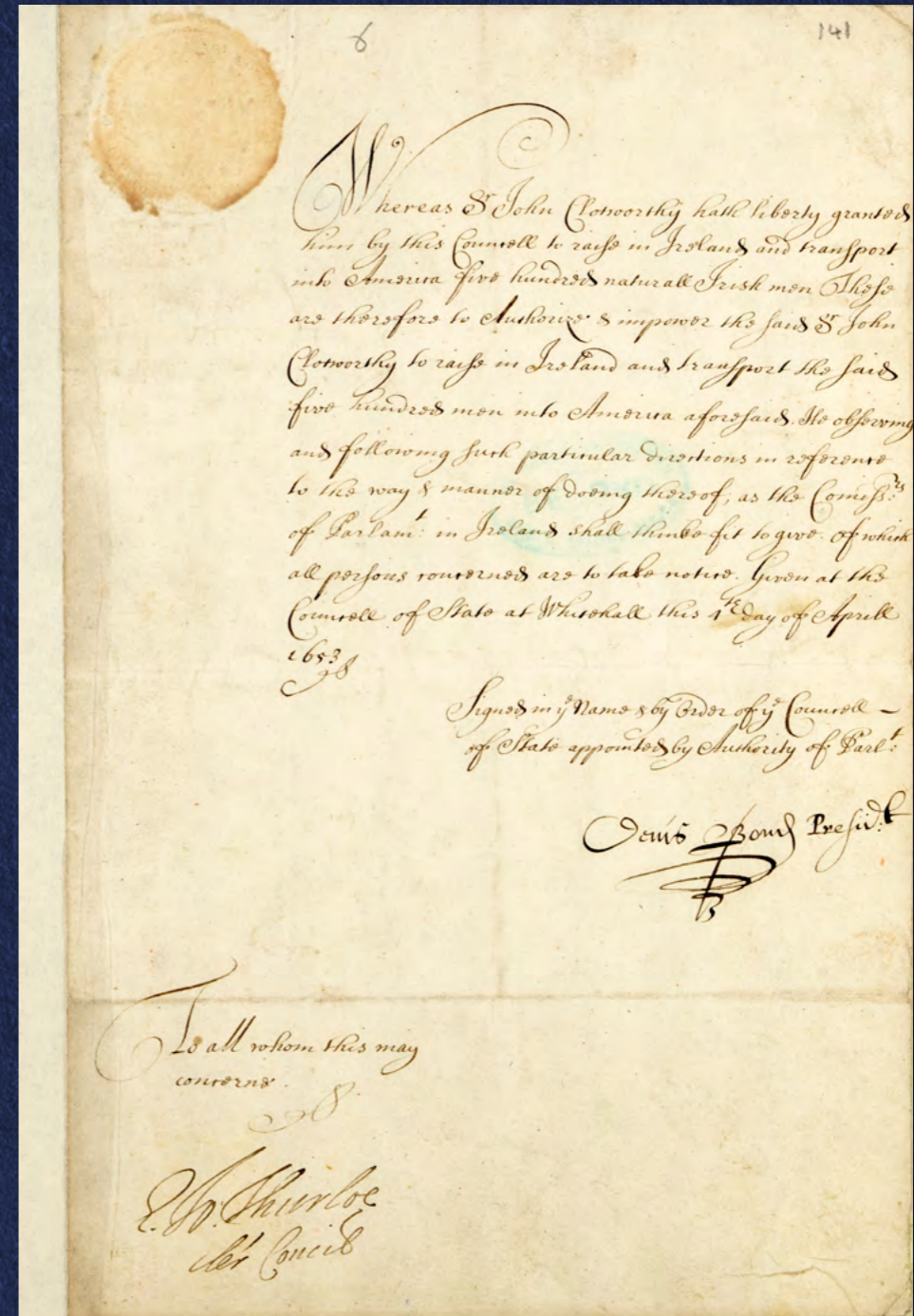
Document Ref: D207/15/3

4 April 1653

Order to raise and transport 500 Irishmen

Order sealed by Council of State authorising Sir John Clotworthy (later 1st Viscount Massereene), MP for Co. Antrim in the Irish House of Commons, to raise and transport to America 500 natural Irishmen. Dated 4 April 1653, this is the earliest reference in the PRONI collections of migration to the Americas. The period 1641-1653 Ireland had been

characterised by warfare, famine and disease and resulted in c.600,000 deaths and a fall in the population by about 20-30%. By the time Oliver Cromwell's conquest was complete in 1653, tens of thousands of 'Natural' Irish had been sent to Virginia, the Caribbean and New England either as indentured servants or forcibly transported.



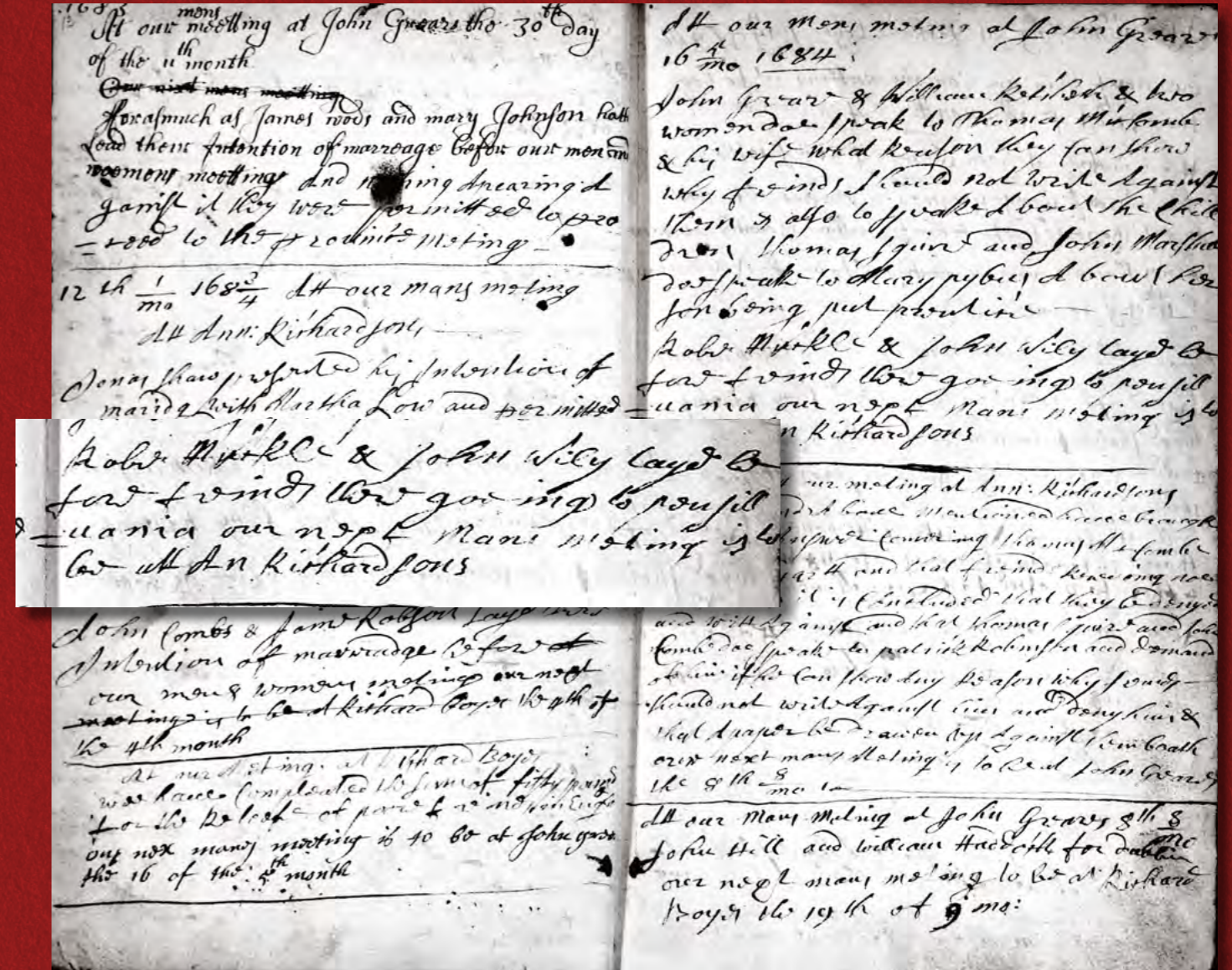
Document Ref: T1062/45/14

30 November 1684

Friends Minute Book

Minute book of the Society of Friends (Quakers) from Lisburn, Co. Antrim, recording their intention to leave for Pennsylvania, dated 30 November 1684. In return for £16,000, King Charles II had granted London-born Quaker, William Penn, land in North America that ensured the establishment in 1681 of a new colony called Pennsylvania. The new colony proved very enticing in attracting mostly English Quakers, but a considerable

body of them migrated from Ireland between 1682-1750. The register records that "Robt Merkle(?) and John Willy sayd to few friends there going to pensillvania". It is possible they were inspired by the recent successful transatlantic crossing of the "Antelope", which is considered to be the first ship with an Irish connection that sailed from Belfast to Pennsylvania, arriving in December 1682.



Document Ref: D2092/1/3

25 March 1729

Economic reasons for migration

Letter from Ezekiel Stewart at Fortstewart, Co. Donegal, to Judge Michael Ward at Castleward, Co. Down, 25 March 1729, discussing the motives of the Protestants of Ulster in migrating to America in increasingly large numbers. Stewart concluded that economic depression and optimism

about America, rather than the religious disabilities under which the Presbyterian laboured, were the primary causes of migration. The "Great Migration" of Scotch-Irish to America took place from 1717 through 1776. An estimated 200-250,000 Scotch-Irish migrated to America during this period.

Fortstewart March 25 1729

(209)

Being informed y^t y^e Lords Justices have desired y^e Judges in their Circuits, to inquire into y^e reasons, of the Protestants of y^e North of Ireland, transporting them Seales to New England, and other foreign Plantations, I have made bold to offer my thoughts to your L^{ty} Ship thereon.

The reasons these unhappy people give for their going are as various as their Circumstances, y^e Richer sort say, that if they stay in Ireland, their Children will be Slaves, & that it is better for them to make money of their Seales while they are worth something to enable them to transport themselves and families to America, a place where they are sure of better treatment, and although they shall meet with some hardships, they are very well assur'd their posterity will be for ever happy. The poorer sort are deluded by y^e artifice they have of y^e great wages is given there, to Labouring men, their Ignorance leads them in, not knowing y^e value of their money.

The Presbyterian Ministers have taken their share of pains to seduce their poor Ignorant hearers, by, bellowing from their pulpits against y^e Landlords and y^e Clergy, calling them Suckers of Beasts, and Sowers of Tythes, with other reflections of this nature, which they know is pleasing to their people, at same time telling them, that God had appointed a Country for them to dwell in (naming New England) and desires them to depart thence, where they will be freed from the bondage of Egypt and goe to y^e land of Canaan &c

There are two of these Teachers carry'd this affair to such a length that they went themselves to New England and carry'd numbers with them their names are Carnwell & Poylour, y^e first, minister of Cloughis and y^e latter minister of Astraw, both in y^e County of Tyrone, but the two Gentlemen not finding their art in the project, returned themselves but left their cargoes behind, the encouragement given by these men, and y^e corruption of human nature together, (makes us) ^{proceeds with} of parties even in affliction & misery, which ~~numbers~~ ^{proceeds with} numbers of these unhappy people that goe thither to make use of all ways & means to seduce their friends, and acquaintances to follow them, in order that they may be more happy, what they insinuate to them is to this purpose

Document Ref: D354/477

29 May 1729

Contract to transport servants

Contract made between John Fowler, the master of an emigrant ship called The Brierton, and Daniel Mussenden, a Belfast Merchant, 29 May 1729, binding Fowler to transport 32 servants to Philadelphia on Mussenden's behalf. These migrants signed an indenture to Mussenden who paid in advance the cost of their package in exchange for them becoming the property of a master for an agreed period. The names of the servants included John Brown, John McCully, John Green, David Bradley, James Mallot,

Thomas Carroll, James Brown, Robert Garron, Nicholas Evans, Samuel Carroll, William Walsh, James Aroney, Robert Smith, Daniell Brown, Hugh McDool, William Savage, Alexander Slater, Andrew Coulter, James Greenlees, James Coffe, John Hendren, Moses Thompson, William Hendron, Matthew Bradley, James Wilson, James Chrisell, Robert McClanahan, Samuel Chalmers, Philemon Murphy, Robert Scott, Rowland Moor and John Welsh.

Know all men by these presents that I John Fowler
Commander of the Good Ship called the Brierton of
Liverpool in South Brittain, do acknowledge
to be indebted to Daniell Mussenden of Belfast
the sum of one hundred pounds lawfully paid
to the said Daniell Mussenden his heirs Executors
and assigns wth lawful interest at or upon the first
day of August next ensuing this present date
and for the true performance of the same I bind me my
heirs Executors and assigns in the small sum of
two hundred pounds Sta of the money afore said
firmly by these presents as withnth my hand and seal
the twenty ninth of May one Thousand seven hundred
twenty and nine years 1729

The Condition of the above obligation is such that
wheras the above named John Fowler hath Indented
with John Brown John McCully John Green David Bradley James Mallot
Thomas Conde James Brown Robert Garron Nicholas Evans Samuel
Carroll William Welsh James Aroney Robert Smith Daniell
Brown Hugh McDool William Savage Alexander Slater Andrew
Coulter James Greenlees James Coffe John Hendren Moses
Thompson William Hendren Matthew Bradley James Wilson
James Chrisell Robert McClanahan Samuel Chalmers
Philemon Murphy Robert Scott Rowland Moor and John
Welsh brought to the said John Fowler to transport them
to Philadelphia in America; and if the said John Fowler
do apply Land the said servants in Chelmsford
or any other place and in no other place the Dangers of the seas
Be accepted and disposed of them according to the clauses
and conditions in these presents contained and it is so agreed
that then the above obligation shall be void otherwise
to remain in force & virtue in Law

Witness my hand
Hugh Lineford
James Cross

Jⁿ Fowler

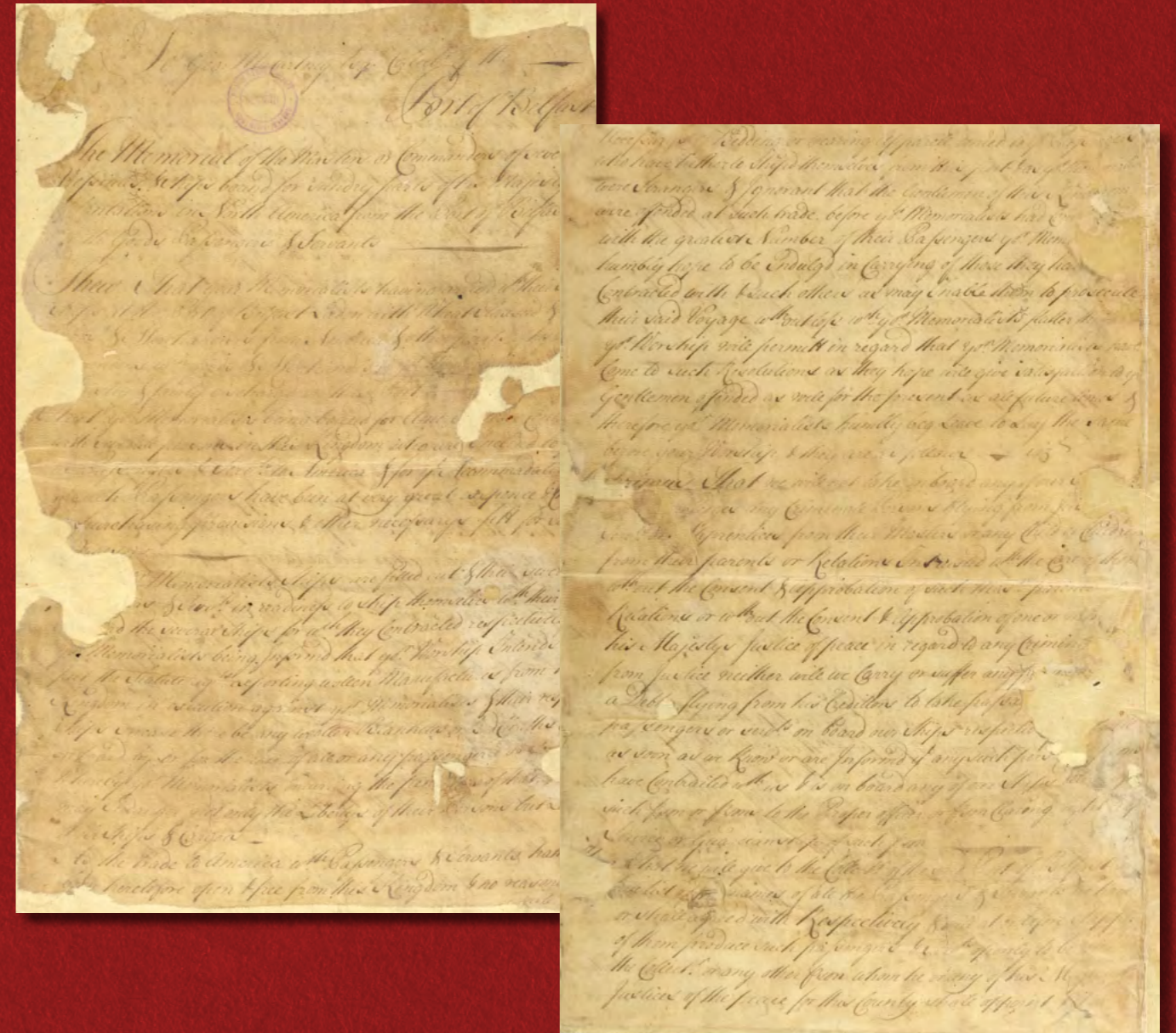
Document Ref: D354/508

19 April 1736

Petition from Nine Masters

Petition from nine masters of migrant ships to George Macartney, Collector of the port of Belfast, 19 April 1736, protesting at Macartney's refusal to allow their ships to sail from Belfast to North America. The Irish government and parliament had for some time been worried that the 'Protestant interest' in Ireland would be weakened by migration. Macartney had declined to give

vessels clearance papers following the denunciation by a committee of the Irish House of Commons in 1735 that emigration-promoters were enemies of Protestantism. The nine masters are named as Samuel Payton, Joseph Westry, Nataniel Magee, George Beard, Henry McLaughlin, James Stewart, John Martindall, Edward McCormick and Henry Laird.



Document Ref: D354/508

April 1751

Letter from Arthur Dodds to North Carolina

Letter from Arthur Dobbs of Castle Dobbs, Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim, to Matthew Rowan, his agent in North Carolina, April 1751, announcing the arrival of a new quota of settlers. This follows the purchase by Dodds of 400,000 acres of land in the south-east of North Carolina, and the subsequent organising of ships to carry hundreds of settlers from Ulster. In this instance, he gave his settlers the option of moving to the Black

River if their fears of native Americans in the outlying Pedee region were borne out. Dodbs would later be appointed Governor of North Carolina in 1753 and lived there from 1754 until his death in 1765. As Governor he often pressed for the establishment of direct trading links between North Carolina and Ireland: a policy foreshadowed in the letter by his hopes that 'soon a trade will be opened from Cape Fear to Ireland'.

Dr / r Copy to Rowan
 This I hope will be believed to
 you by Mr Robert Milhous who
 with Mr Saml Wylly and three Pa-
 mites and several other of My Pen-
 ants and their Neighbors and friends
 go to settle in North Carolina and
 have freighted a ship from Dublin
 to land them at Cape Fear River
 at Brunswick. It is to them and
 their associates that I have disposed
 of one of the 125,000 Tracts or 2
 half Tracts in the great Survey
 No 2. of 125,000 of 12500 or one penny
 & are for your quit Rent
 to Lady Day 1755 and I have
 Mr Robert Milhous with you in
 a Letter of Attorney; with a 2
 Barons as Agent with you, agree-
 ing to the Instructions mention'd
 therein, and such further Instru-
 tions as shall for the future be
 sent to you, as you will find it
 for our Interest to send to you
 the Instructions you to sell on for the
 other Tracts to best advantage
 according to their Report of the
 Country you may expect a further
 Trade to be opened from hence
 the North of Ireland, and therefore
 hope you will be friend them and
 assist them in their Settlements
 and advise them for the best -
 They wish to have, as in their
 option to settle on my Lands
 on the Black River and take
 that as so much of the 125,000
 acres, I have agreed with them
 for, paying the Quit Rent from
 the time they enter into it, as
 they are yet Strangers here, for
 they are from Planters if they
 settle on Pedee, so that if they
 agree upon that I give you Power
 to give them possession of it
 as you have already a Power
 from me to act in disposing of
 that Grant, their Reason for desir-
 ing it arose from your Letter to
 me acquainting me that a woman
 had been killed in my Lands by an
 Indian; so that until they arrive
 there they can't tell how far it
 may be safe for them to settle at
 Pedee till more Planters fix in
 their Neighbourhood - I have
 given Mr Milhous Instructions to
 settle the same according to
 the Patents around both my great
 Tracts and have given him a
 Chart from the Description in
 the several Patents how they
 lay in respect to each other and
 if any are dipped off you must
 let me know whether I am to
 send over the Patents from
 hence for the use of the Pur-
 chaser, I purchased a Tract
 in the great Tract No 4 -

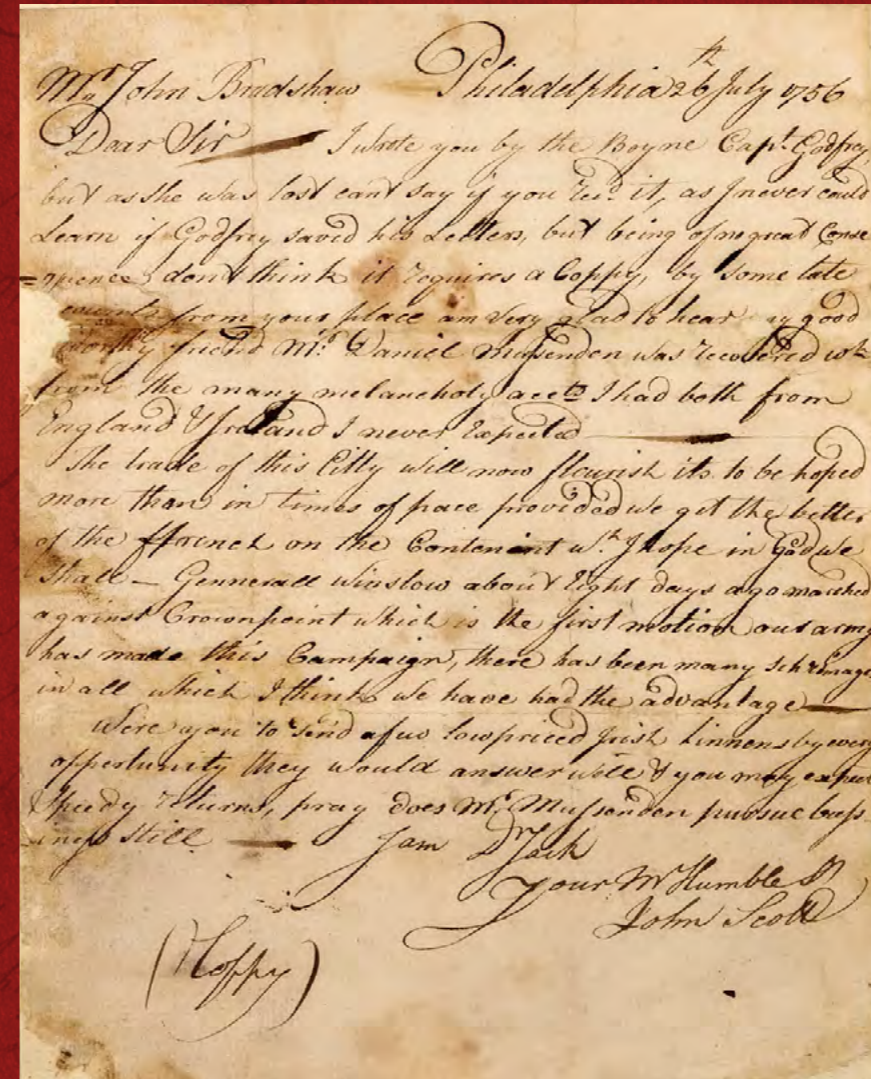
Document Ref: D354/1034

26 July 1756

Seven Years War letter

Letter from John Scott in Philadelphia to merchant and timber importer, John Bradshaw in Belfast. Dated 26 July 1756, he references trade during the Seven Years War (1754-63), a global conflict fought between England and France which resulted in the end of New France in North America. Scott's previous correspondence was lost when the British privateer ship, Boyne, sank on 15 February

1756. He believes the trade of Philadelphia will now flourish provided that 'we get the better of the French on the Continent'. He notes Major General John Winslow 'about eight days ago marched against Crown Point (upstate New York) which is the first motion our army has made this Campaign'. He exhorts Bradshaw to send a few low-price Irish linens at every opportunity.



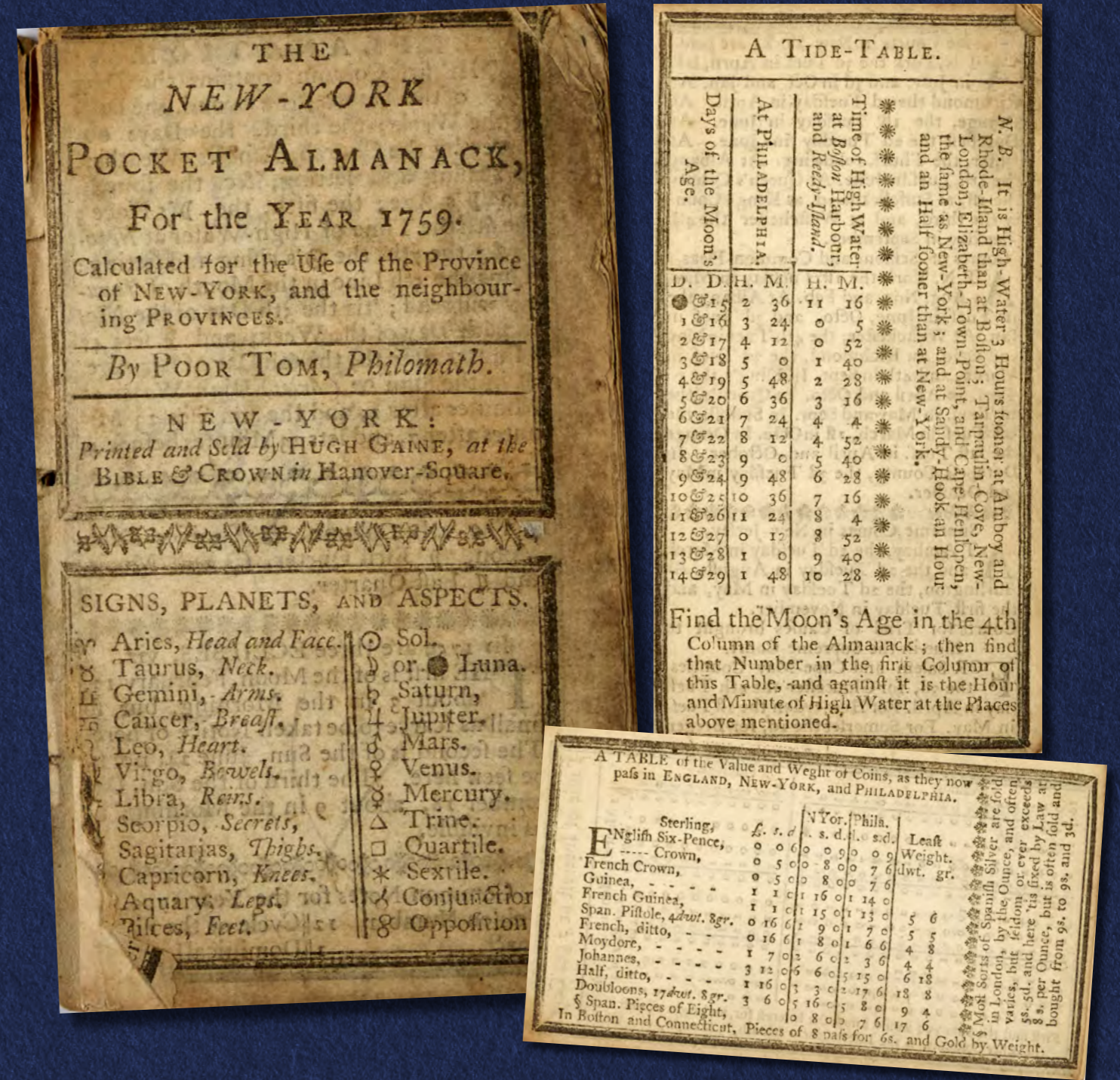
Document Ref: D679/1

1759

Hugh Gainé Almanac

New York pocket almanac dated 1759. From the mid-18th century business almanacs, containing diverse tables of information, generally of value to merchants engaged in the import-export trade, became popular in America. This almanac was printed by Belfast based (reputedly born in Portglenone, Co. Antrim) printer, newspaper publisher and bookseller, Hugh Gainé, who was the publisher of The New York Mercury and the New York Royal Gazette. Gainé is best

remembered as "the turncoat printer of the American Revolution" although later embraced the Patriot cause and was one of the printers of the Declaration of Independence. The almanac provides notes on currency exchange, times of tides and customs duties, among other things. This is one of the earliest examples from New York, holding suggestive clues to its having been used by an Ulster merchant of the day.



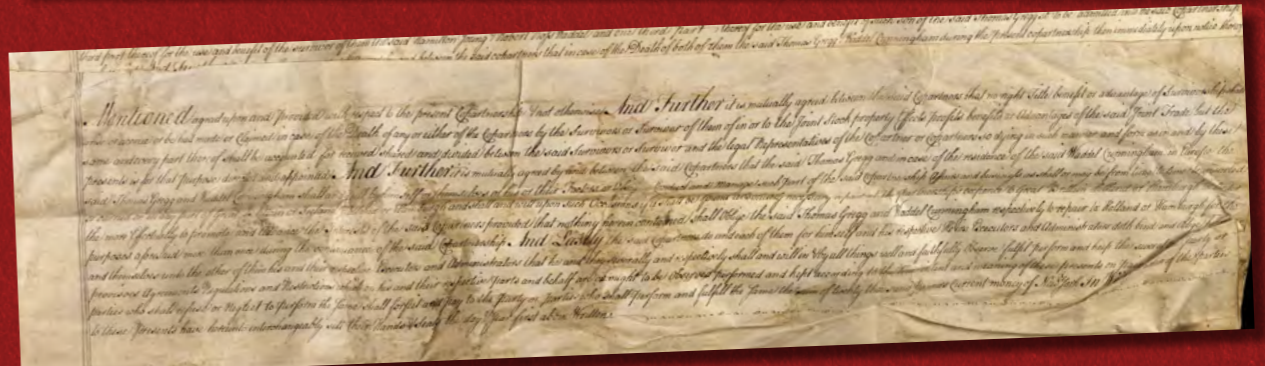
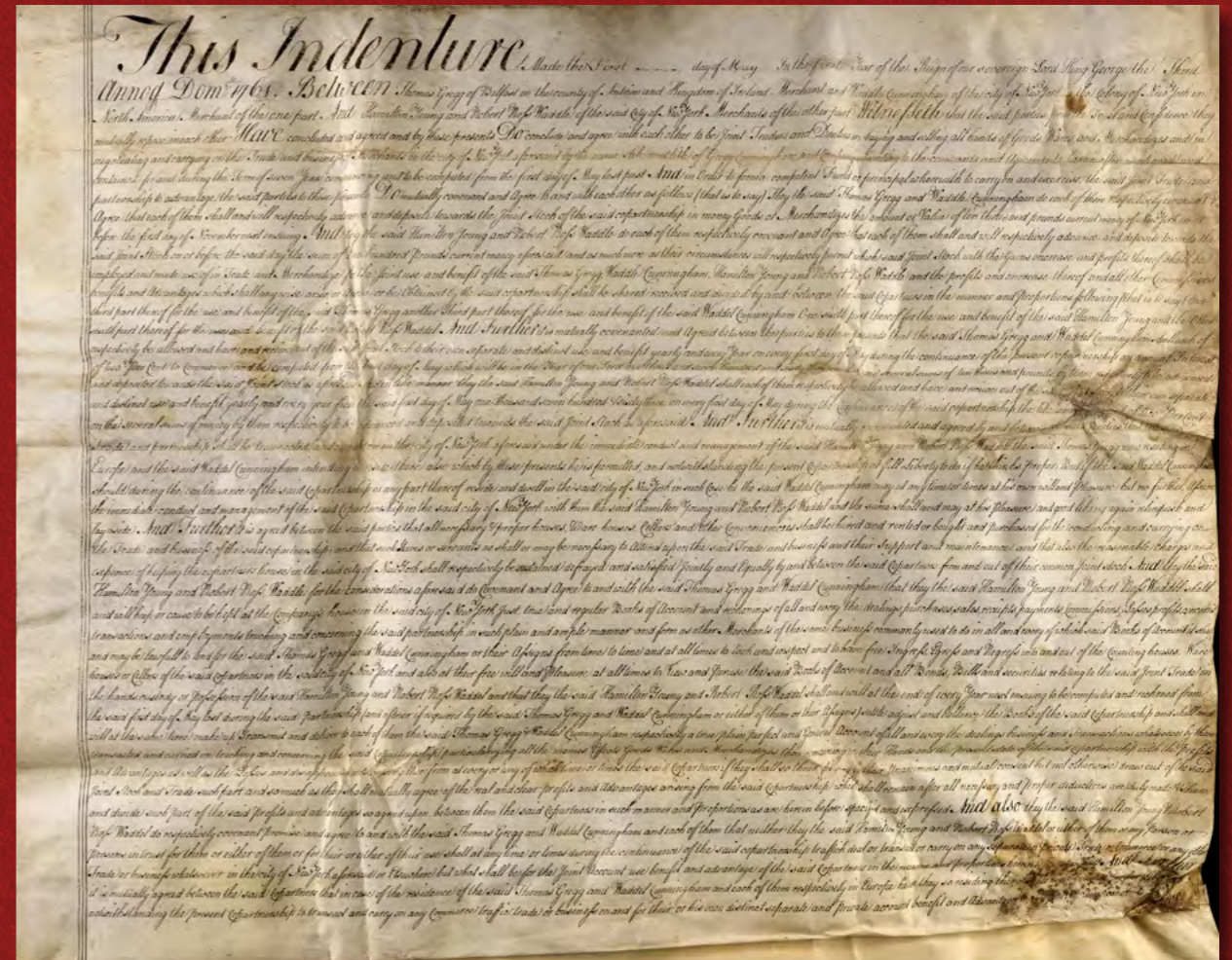
Document Ref: D270/6

01 May 1761

Waddell Cunningham & Thomas Gregg partnership

Deed of Co-partnership dated 1 May 1761, between Thomas Gregg, Belfast, Merchant and Waddell Cunningham, New York, Merchant and Hamilton Young and Robert Ross Waddell, New York, Merchants. As slave traders, both Cunningham and Gregg are figures of notoriety in Belfast's history. Cunningham born in Killead, Co. Antrim, (1729-97) was originally a sea captain before becoming a plantation owner and reputedly became the richest man in Belfast.

He teamed up with Gregg, a merchant from North Street, Belfast, to develop one of the largest ship companies in New York. Gregg and Cunningham bought their own plantation in Dominica out of the dividends from this endeavour calling it "Belfast". Cunningham is an example of a migrant to America who subsequently returns to Ulster. In 1785, he is thwarted in an unsuccessful attempt to introduce the slave trade into Belfast.



Document Ref: D1044/243

12 June 1770

Trade war with Britain

Letter from John Reynell, Philadelphia, to Thomas Greer, Dungannon, dated 12 June 1770. In the aftermath of the Seven Year War between Britain and France, Britain's national debt almost doubled. To address the debt problem, additional taxes were levied on the American colonies. The first of a series of Townshend Acts was the Revenue Act of 29 June 1767 which applied to tea. Reynell writes that the merchants in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia are determined to continue their

agreement not to import any goods from Great Britain. They call for the Act laying duty on tea in America to be repealed, otherwise they will send their orders for linen directly to Ireland and bypass the British mercantile system. This was a significant threat as the American market was particularly lucrative for British linen merchants. Irish exports of linen would mushroom during the 18th century, and particularly those from the province of Ulster.

Philadelphia 12th of 6^{mo}. 1770
 Estimated Friend
 Thomas Greer
 I have thy favor of 2nd of 6^{mo}.
 and as by the last advices we have from
 London, there doth not appear any prospect
 that part of the Revenue Act the Duty on
 Tea, will be Repealed this Session of
 Parliament, at which the Merchants, &
 indeed the whole body of the People both
 here, New York & Boston, are so displeas'd
 that they are determin'd to continue their
 agreement not to Import any Goods from
 Great Britain, but as by the said Agree-
 ment, liberty is given to Import Linens
 from Ireland directly, must desire they
 in case the act laying a Duty on Tea to
 be Paid in America be not Repealed, to
 ship me if first good opportunity directly
 from Ireland, all the Linens I write for
 in mine of the 30th of 11^{mo}. last. Please
 to give the shipping them all the dispatch
 thou can, that they may be here as early
 as possible in the Fall, I am with much
 Respect Thy affe'd Serv^t John Reynell

To
 Thomas Greer
 Merchant
 in
 Dungannon
 Ireland

D1044/243

Document Ref: D1140/1

17 May 1771

Cahans Exodus

Letter from Reverend Dr Thomas Clark at New Perth, County Albany, New York State to William Weir of Drumkern, Co. Tyrone, dated 17 May 1771. Clark, originally from Paisley in Scotland, had relocated to Ireland in 1749 where he practised as a Presbyterian Minister. In 1764, Clark along with 300 of his congregation, led what has become known as the 'Cahans exodus'. They left Ballybay, Co. Monaghan, to board a ship called 'John' at Newry and crossed the Atlantic to New York, arriving on 28 July 1764. The majority

settled in New Perth (modern day Salem) while others settled in the Abbeville area of South Carolina. Clark opens the letter by dramatically announcing reports of his death are "Sadly true for last summer for several weeks my left part was Dead ie Faith, Love, zeal". He retains an enduring hostility to the Anglican Church and urges his correspondent "to besiege Heaven with Crys (Cries?) that the Lord may prevent Bishops & Deans coming over into America".

New Perth County Albany May 17th 1771

Your very agreeable favour of Feb^r 20th ult^o I rec^d yesterday for which I thank you kindly. As to the report of my death in one respect it was sadly true for last summer for several weeks my left part was Dead ie Faith Love zeal & but of our sacrament Bles^d be His name He pass'd by to prove that my time of death was His time of love. Who is He that loves even them that are loathsome, that are loathed by their fellow captiv'd by the world & fit still from some argument to me that He hath accepted weak hope & despis'd things of the world ie that weakness in ability hope in temper & disposition that Hope even that our condition for heaven is amazing. I have yet the power to write you this is to me a wonder ie that I'm yet out of Hell & in health that I'm not have dropt in there since I did first exp^t 10000 as good by nature as Me. If Jesus loved Lazarus Dead body & wept over it & over many Unbelieving towns is not His love stronger than death than all the spiritual Deaths that vexes the poor dying things that He has set as a seal upon His heart. Does not the Husband love even the Corpse of His Dead spouse How great then must be the Love of Jesus even to the Dead grace in the heart & to the Dead Ordinances. Let us go & visit the Dead persons because they are His Dead Sacraments are yet His property alas for Mrs Cammerts Death but our life is her great gain Oh that the spirit of Prayer & zeal that rested on the mo^untain may yet come down on the Daughters I am to write her husband to day. I desire to bless the Lord for His and her friendship that I had My Ingratitude to God has been great my Dead part has not been flood up to magnify Him that took me out of 2 years and full & rebelled temptations when I was at school nor have I bless Him daily for taking me honourably out of Monaghan prison. Nor for His great goodness in making me usefull to 100 souls in Ballybay long ago. Nor for His raising me up so many Christian Dear friends. Let me beg of you then & of your worthy men whom I dearly love to go & ask the Lord to pardon

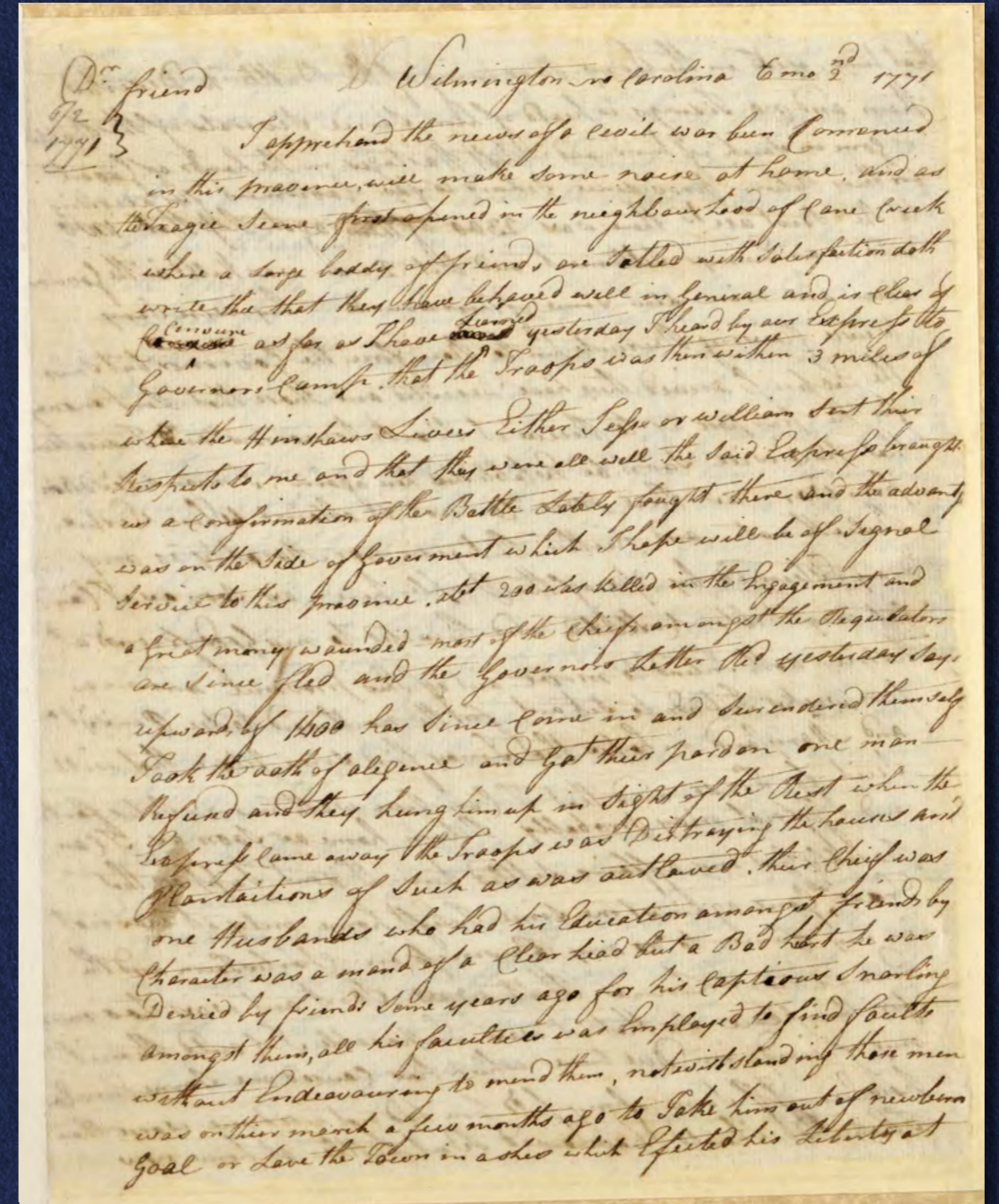
Document Ref: D1044/294

02 June 1771

Battle of Alamance

A letter from John McDonnell, a Quaker, at Wilmington, North Carolina, to Thomas Greer, a fellow Quaker at Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, 2 June 1771, expressing satisfaction at the suppression of a revolt in the colony. Militia under the command of Governor William Tryon of North Carolina had defeated a group of settlers calling themselves "Regulators" at the Battle of Alamance. Most of the Irish Dissenters who had settled there supported the Governor's action, and McDonnell was particularly scathing about (Herman)

Husband, an ex-Quaker and one of the unofficial leaders of the revolt. McDonnell believes that the suppression of the revolt 'will be of signal service to the province'. McDonnell expresses disquiet about life in North Carolina as there is no Quaker meeting house in the nearby vicinity, and partly because of a depression in the linen trade. He laments that "real peace cannot be obtained where virtue ruleth not, and neither religion nor morality is esteemed by 9/10 of the people here".



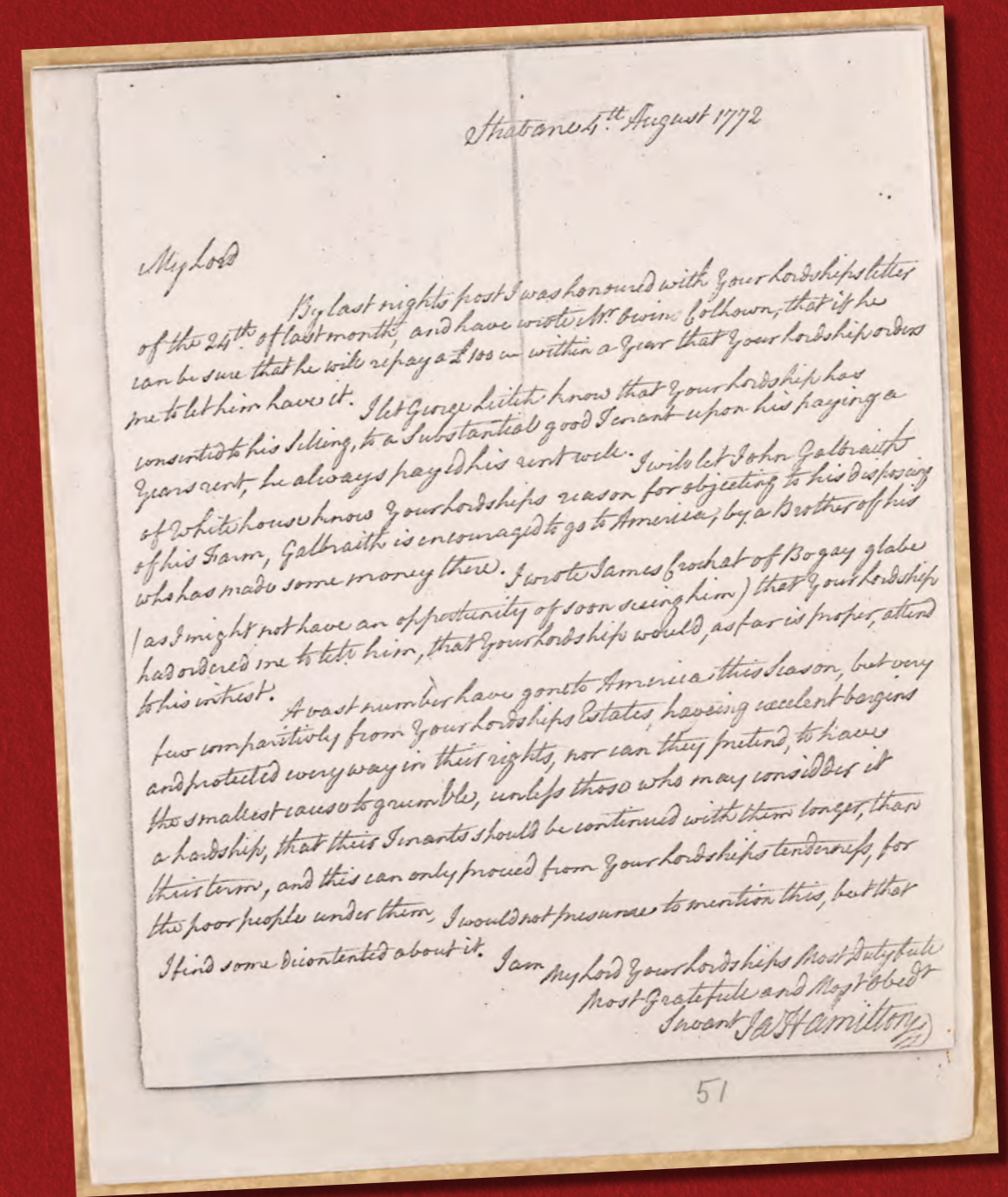
Document Ref: T2541/1A1/10/51

04 August 1772

Migration from Abercorn estate

A letter from James Hamilton, Strabane, head agent on the 8th Earl of Abercorn's estates in Co. Tyrone and Co. Donegal, to his employer, also named James Hamilton, in London, 4 August 1772. He reassures him about the extent of migration from Abercorn's Estates, writing "A vast number have gone to America this season, but very few comparatively from your Lordship's estates". The only grievance noted are

against those who remained as tenants after their leases had expired, and this was due to 'your Lordship's tenderness for the poor people under them'. Although there is evidence of kind behaviour in the letter, agents of absentee or largely absentee landlords like Abercorn had a natural bias to represent conditions on their masters' estates in as favourable a light as possible.



Document Ref: D562/8450

March 1771 – 23 March 1773

Migration from five Ulster ports

A list of the number of migrant ships which were advertised in the Belfast News Letter to sail from the five ports of Londonderry, Portrush, Larne, Belfast and Newry between March 1771 and 23 March 1773. In those years migration from Ireland, and particularly from Ulster, was on an unprecedented scale. The most important reason for this was a steep rise in rents, which more than doubled in the

twenty years before 1775. The situation was aggravated by high food prices, and a slump in the linen trade. The estimates recorded in this list indicate 17,400 left from the five major ports in Ulster over the two-year period. One notable observation is that Philadelphia was by far and away the most popular port of entry for Irish migrants.

An Account of the Ships which have sailed with Passengers to America from the Ports of Londonderry, Port-Rush, Larne, Belfast & Newry from March 1771 to 23rd March 1773 taken from the Advertisements in the Belfast News-Letter. —

From the Port of Londonderry

Ships	Captains	Tons	To what Port	Time of sailing
1 Eagle	Richard Green	300	New York	Mar. 1771
2 Jupiter	Alexander Living	300	Newcastl & Philad ^a	May 71
3 Admiral Hawk	J. M. Caddon	300	Ditto	April 71
4 Henry	Sat. Hunter	350	Ditto	June 71
5 Mar. Granby		300	Ditto	April 71
6 George	Richard Paul	250	Ditto	May 71
7 Phenix	James Mitchell	300	Ditto	June 71
8 Mallworth	C. McCausland	250	Ditto	May 71
9 Rose	W. Dysart	300	Ditto	July 71
10 Hopewell	F. McGown	250	Hatifax	July 71
11 Prince of Wales	Thos Morrison	300	Newcastl & Philad ^a	July 71
12 Ann	Pat. Miller	250	Ditto	July 71
13 Betty	James McKay	200	Wilmington	Aug. 71
14 Jupiter	Alex ^r Living	300	Philadelphia	April 72
15 Rose	Robert George	300	Ditto	April 72
16 Hannah	Jas. Mitchell	400	Ditto	"
17 Mallworth	C. McCausland	250	Ditto	"
18 Ann	Pat. Miller	250	Charleston	"
19 Nancy	Robt. Chivers	300	Wilmington	"
20 Hopewell	Jas. Campbell	250	Philadelphia	"
21 Prince of Wales	Thos Morrison	300	Baltimore	"
22 Jupiter	Alex ^r Living	300	Newcastl & Philad ^a	"
		6300		

From the Harbour of Port Newry

1 Rainbow	Jas. Caldwell	250	New York
2 Rainbow	Jas. Caldwell	250	Newcastl & Philad ^a
		500	

Ships from Londonderry 6300
 1 Ship from Portrush 400
 1730
 4970
 5400
 17400 - Number of souls may be taken to sail after the 25th March 1773.

From the Port of Larne

1 Jupiter	John Allen	250	Charleston	July 71
2 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	New York	Apr. 71
3 Jupiter	J. Hunter	250	Charleston	Apr. 71
4 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
5 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
6 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
7 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
8 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
9 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
10 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
11 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
12 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
13 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
14 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
15 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
16 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
17 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
18 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
19 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
20 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
21 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71
22 James Henry	J. Hunter	200	Ditto	Apr. 71

Ships advertised to sail after the 25th March 1773.

Ships	Captains	Tons	To what Port	Time of sailing
From Londonderry				
1 Jenny	Robt. Chivers	250	Newcastl & Philad ^a	
2 Hannah	Jas. Mitchell	400	Ditto	
3 Jupiter	Alex ^r Living	300	Ditto	
4 Alexander	J. Hunter	300	Ditto	
5 Mallworth	C. McCausland	250	Ditto	
From Larne				
1 Jupiter	John Allen	250	Charleston	
From Belfast				
1 Peggy	C. McCausland	250	Newcastl & Philad ^a	
2 James	Alex ^r Living	300	Ditto	
From Newry				
1 Rainbow	Jas. Caldwell	250	New York	
2 Charlotte	Thos Morrison	300	Ditto	
3 Betty	James McKay	200	Ditto	
4 William	Robt. Chivers	300	Ditto	
5 Robert	Jas. Campbell	250	Ditto	
6 James	James McKay	200	Ditto	

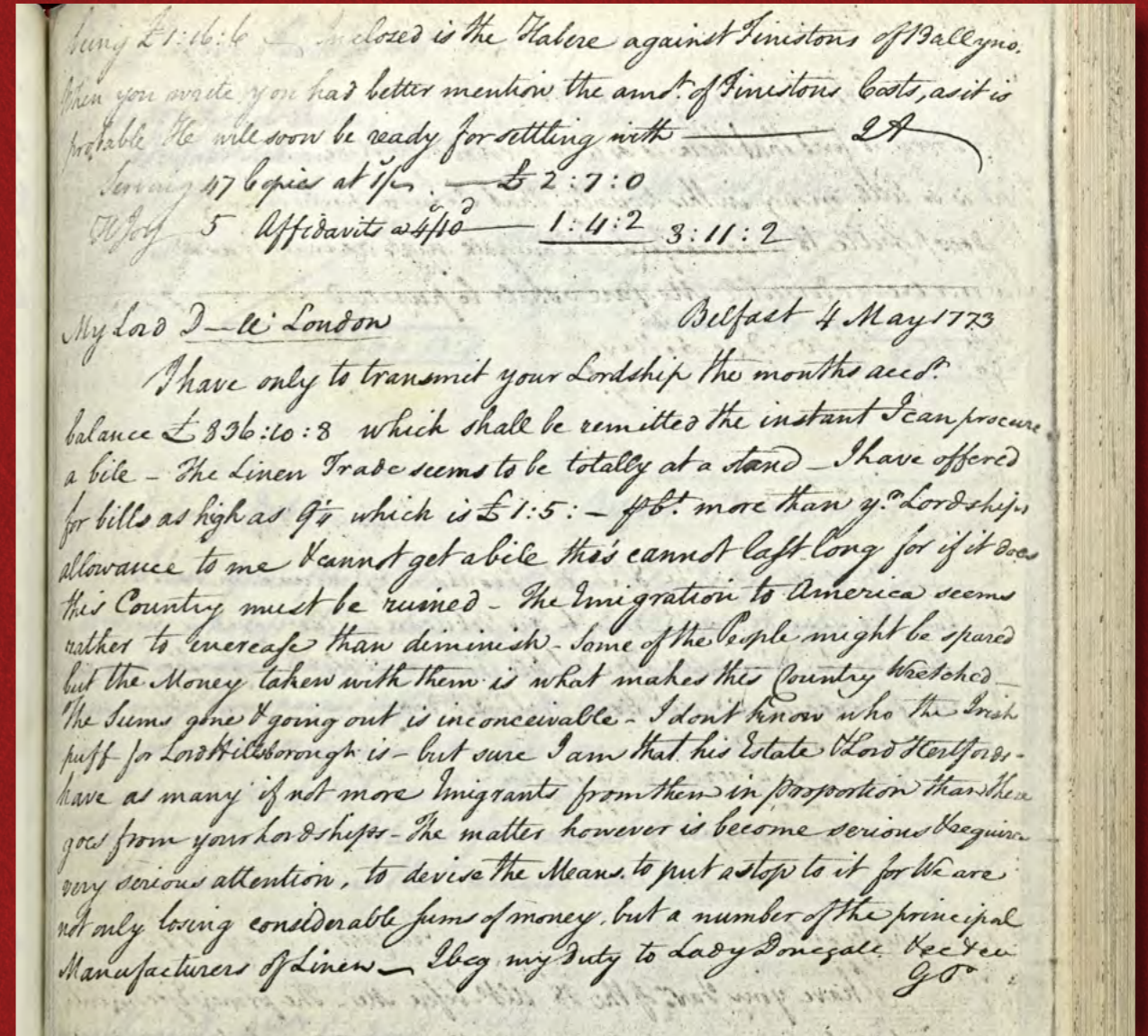
Document Ref: T1893/1

04 May 1773

Slump in Ulster Linen Trade

A letter from George Portis in Belfast, dated 4 May 1773, to his employer, Arthur Chichester, 1st Marquess of Donegall, lamenting the current depression in the linen industry, but reassuring Lord Donegall that the extent of migration from his Co. Antrim estates has been much exaggerated. Portis suggests that migration is greater from the estates of Lords Hillsborough and Hertford. However, Portis is not a reliable source as Lord Donegall had a reputation for

unjust treatment of tenants in contrast to Lords Hillsborough and Hertford who were regarded as more enlightened landlords. The letter does though underline the slump in the Ulster linen trade in 1772-73 following a sudden decline in foreign demand and an increase in linen merchants relocating to America. Portis writes "we are not only losing considerable sums of money, but a number of the principal manufacturers of linen".



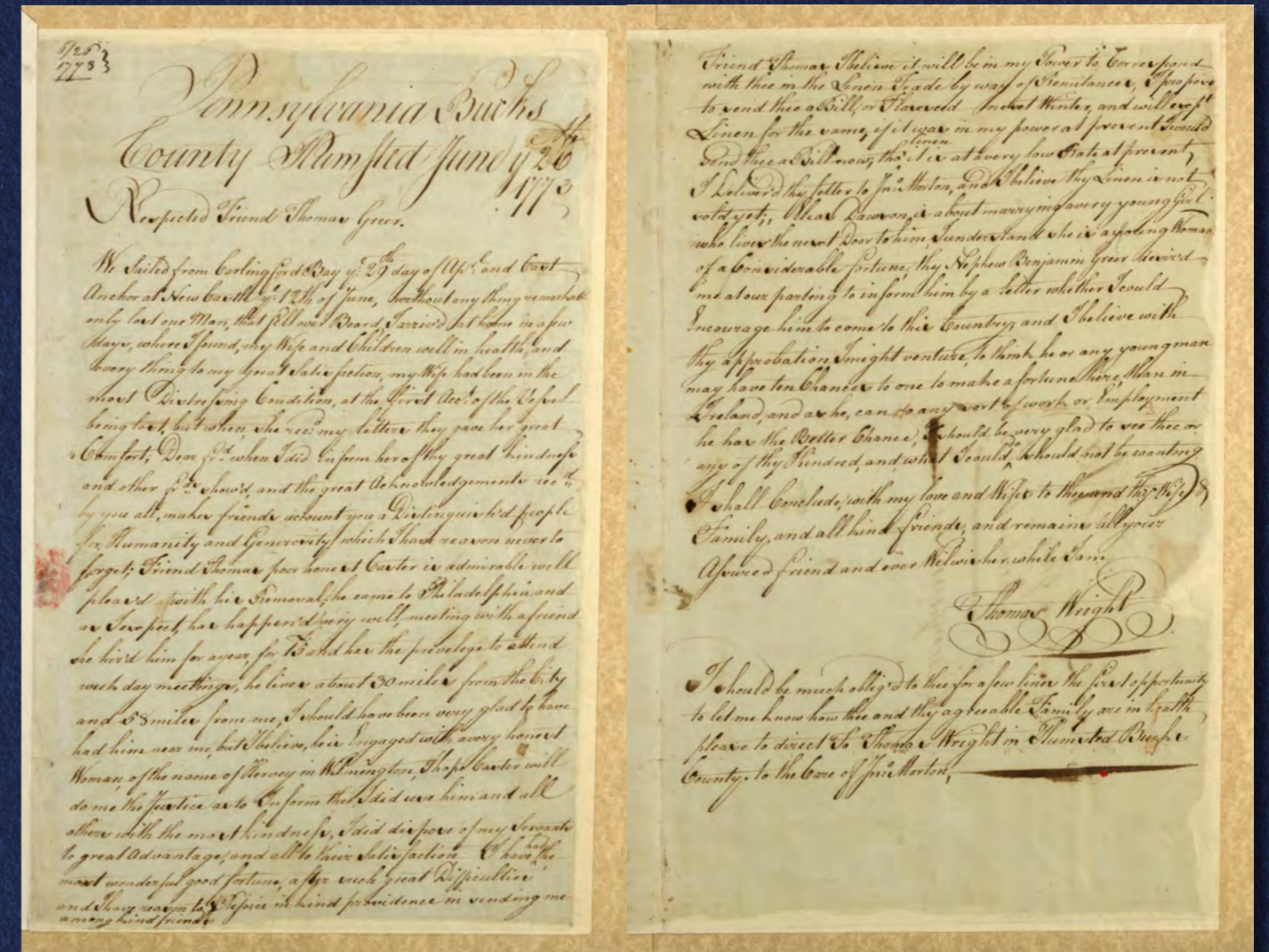
Document Ref: D1044/373

26 June 1773

Linens Trade in America

A letter from Thomas Wright, a Quaker settler, in Plumstead, Pennsylvania, to another Quaker, Thomas Greer, at Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, 26 June 1773, about the trade in linen and flaxseed. Greer was a linen merchant who owned a bleach green at Rhone Hill. He exported much of his linen – in one year his entire output – to America and sometime after 1757, received flaxseed in return. Wright was clearly a successful flaxseed merchant as he notes 'any young man may have ten chances to one to make a fortune here than in

Ireland'. However, in the early 1770s there was an abundant supply of linen in Philadelphia, and this is borne out by Wright noting 'I would send thee a bill now, though linen is at a very low rate at present. I delivered thy letter to John Morton, and I believe thy linen is not sold yet'. Pennsylvania was the centre of Irish emigration in the 18th century. Benjamin Franklin estimated in 1774 that Scotch-Irish and their descendants made up about one third of the colony's 350,000 inhabitants.



Document Ref: D1782/2

23 April 1777

Hardships in Florida

A letter from William Holmes at Silver Bluebluff, near Pensacola, Florida, to his father, William Holmes, at Tullygoney, Benburb, Co. Tyrone, 23 April 1777, reporting the progress he has made in the last two years and asking for news from home. There was probably little or no migration from Ireland to Florida until the conclusion of the Seven Year War in 1763 when, by the terms of the Peace of Paris, Florida was ceded to Britain by Spain. Soon afterwards, in 1766, the New York Gazette reported that 200 settlers

had reached Pensacola from Ireland, and Holmes may well have been among them. The letter depicts the hardships of the settler's life. Disease was rampant, communications were poor and essentials were scarce. Holmes writes "I have a hundred slaves working under me. I have 165 pound a year. I have been sick with the fever and ague since I came in, at different times 8 or 9 months. But, blessed be God, I am in good health at present".

Dr Father Silver Bluebluff 23 April 1777

Take this opportunity of writing to you as I don't know of another for some time ago I have not received a letter from you since the one that you dated 14 of May 1775 which makes me very uneasy for I have sent ~~it~~ ^{it} or my sense but got no answer long time has got later but I'll speak your self I'll take the opportunity of writing for the future shall be in the same place since I went before but not in the same employ I am in Mr George Galphin's employ since the 1 of January 1777 last I have abandoned slaves ~~work~~ ^{work} under me I have 165 pound a year I have been sick with the fever and ague since I came in at different times 8 or 9 months but blessed be God I am in good health at present I and in heaps of friends you and all my friends Brothers and sisters in the same time I have not seen you but I do miss them very much I believe every thing in this country is very dear and very hard to be got at any where I have heard you should be glad if you had men in your first letters how James Johnson used me in the things he had promised I hope to say you in about two years if I please to preserve you and my life so long in this world that I am unable to be remembered to all your friends Dear father Remember me to all my friends & acquaintances that enquire after

Remember me in particular to my Mother I'm in heaps of health the first opportunity that you have a great deal of pleasure & satisfaction in your family it is some great pleasure of ours it is to be so for both parties Dear Father and Mother I am your son in law James Holmes

Direct your letters to the care of Mr D Holmes Living at Pensacola

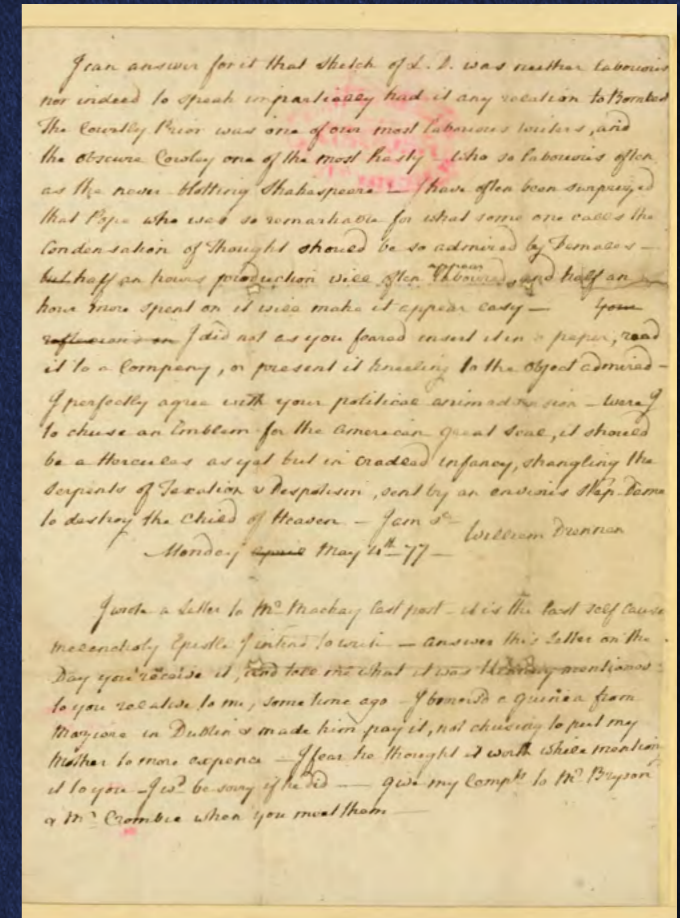
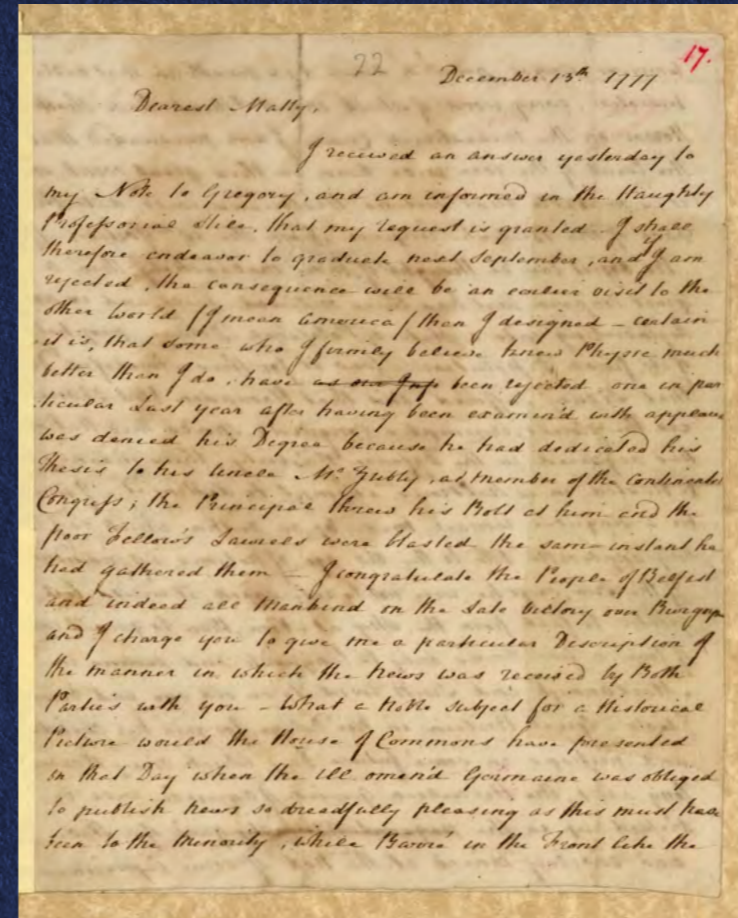
Document Ref: D591/1/1/8

04 May 1777

Drennan letter of American sympathy

Letter from William Drennan, Edinburgh, on 4 May 1777 to his sister Martha McTier, North Street, Belfast sharing his sympathies with the American struggle for independence. Drennan was an Irish physician, poet, writer, Ulster Presbyterian, a founding member of the United Irishmen and was credited with coining the description of Ireland as 'the emerald isle' in a 1795 poem. Martha "Matty" McTier (1742–1837) was an advocate in

Belfast for women's health and education, and a supporter of democratic reform. In this letter, he writes "...I perfectly agree with your political animadversion. Were I to chuse (choose?) an Emblem for the American Great Seal, it should be a Hercules as yet but in cradled infancy, strangling the serpents of Taxation and Despotism, sent by envious Step-Dame to destroy the Child of Heaven ..."



Document Ref: D591/1/1/17

29 August 1777

Quaker Non-Violence

A letter from William Fraser, Under Secretary at State at St James Palace to Sir Robert Murray Keith, British envoy at Vienna, dated 29 August 1777. Fraser notes the refusal of a group of Philadelphia Quakers to help defend the city against the imminent invasion by British troops. The Quaker colonists had a difficult decision on whether to follow their nonviolent beliefs or participate in the war. Congress ordered Pennsylvania to apprehend them, which resulted in twenty men - seventeen of them Quakers - banished to Virginia. Fraser writes "... Since Sunday last there are accounts received of the Grand Fleet with General Howe's

(commander of the British land forces in the American War of Independence) army on board being off Chesapeake Bay on the 27th July. Yesterday there were accounts that the Quakers in Philadelphia tired of their new government which extorted money from them for not taking up arms, had thrown off the yoke, and had taken possession of the city, which they meant to give up to Sir William Howe on his arrival. This is believed and we impatiently expect the confirmation. ... He concludes by saying Old England is too tough for all her enemies and they had better not try to provoke her".

MS Fraser 162
August 29th 1777
My dear Sir
As I saw the Gazette Extra⁴⁹⁷
of Monday last was sent to you from here,
and I was with Mr. Premier when he
induced me to you, I thought it unnecessary
to increase your Postage on Sunday
last. - You will have received the Notice
I gave you of Lord Suffolk's Marriage, &
I conclude your Conjectures on the
occasion are on the Road; you may safely
make them for they not only now are happy
but I am persuaded they will continue to
be so, which with any other new Married
Couple would be a good Addition in these
Days. Since Sunday last there are
Accounts received of the Grand Fleet with
Gen. Howe's Army on board being off
Chesapeake Bay on the 27th Yesterday
there

there were Rumors to that the Quakers in
Philadelphia tired of their new Government
which extorted Money from them for
not taking up Arms, had thrown off the
Yoke, & had taken Possession of the
City, which they meant to give up to
Sir W. Howe on his Arrival. This
is believed & we impatiently expect
the Confirmation. Not that you have
already received & what is promised
I hope you will hold out and laugh at
the Ill Wishes to old England. She is too
tough for all her Enemies, & they had
better not try to provoke her.
Lord Suffolk desires me to thank
you in the kindest Manner for your Notice
of the Lottery on which he will probably
soon. I am Dear Sir, Very faithfully &
affectionately
W. Fraser

Document Ref: D591/1/17

13 December 1777

Drennan congratulates Belfast

Letter from William Drennan, Edinburgh, on 13 December 1777 to his sister Martha McTier, North Street, Belfast. Drennan congratulates the people of Belfast on the late victory over British General and playwright, John Burgoyne at the second battle of Saratoga, New York in October 1777. This proved to be a crucial victory and was pivotal in persuading France to enter the war. Drennan perceptively observes "it is probable that future historians will date the fall of the British Empire, from

the 16th of October (17)77. No object can be thought of, more melancholy, than a great empire that has thus outlived itself and is now degenerating into a state of political dotage, prophetic of its final dissolution". The congratulating of Belfast may refer to the town's merchants publicly celebrating the American cause in July 1777 when they hoisted flags and publishing letters of support in newspapers like the Belfast News Letter.

72 December 13th 1777 17.

Dearest Mally,

I received an answer yesterday to my Note to Gregory, and am informed in the Haughty Professorial stile, that my request is granted. I shall therefore endeavor to graduate next September, and if am rejected, the consequence will be an earlier visit to the other world (I mean America) than I designed - certain it is, that some who I firmly believe knew Physics much better than I do, have ~~as yet~~ been rejected - one in particular last year after having been examined with applause was denied his Degree because he had dedicated his Thesis to his tuncle M^r. Zubly, a member of the Continental Congress; the Principal threw his Ball at him and the floor Fellow's Sarcasms were wasted the same instant he had gathered them - I congratulate the People of Belfast and indeed all Mankind on the late victory over Burgoyne and I charge you to give me a particular Description of the manner in which the News was received by Both Parties with you - What a noble Subject for a Historical Picture would the House of Commons have presented on that Day when the ill-omen'd German was obliged to publish News so dreadfully pleasing as this must have been to the Minority, while Prussia in the Front like the

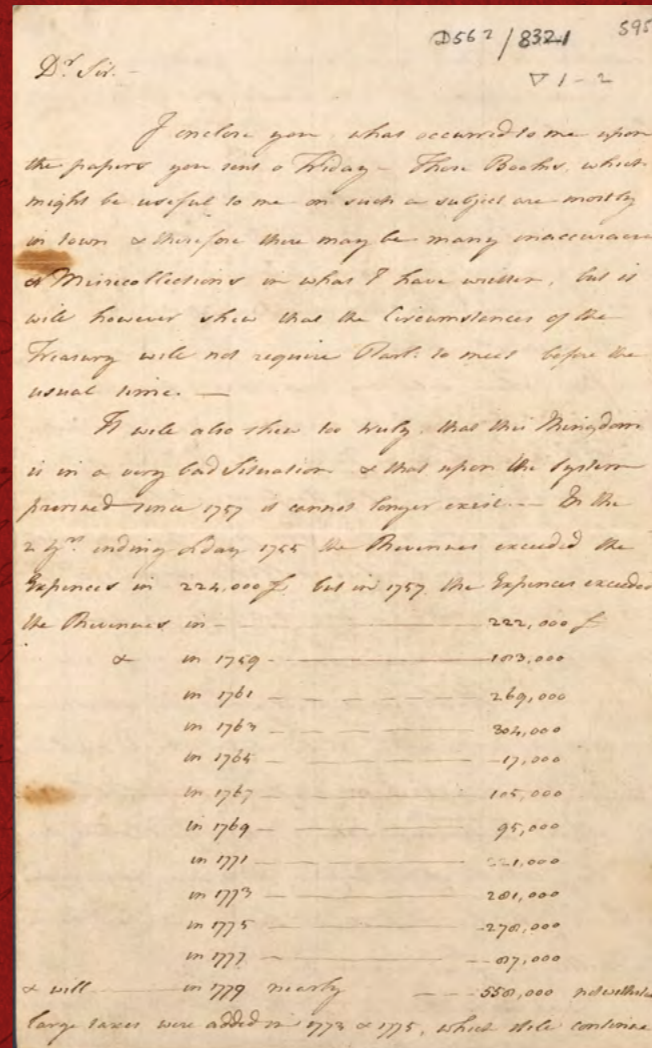
Document Ref: D562/8321

25 October 1778

Letter about Irish trade restraints

A draft of a letter from John Foster, acting Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer, to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Sir Richard Heron, 25 October 1778, stressing the need to alleviate Ireland's economic distress and so prevent any further growth in the rate of emigration. In 1778 most of the restraints by which Britain had since the 17th century shackled Irish trade were still in force. Ireland, however, was growing increasingly restive and Foster raised concerns that "the moment American

troubles cease, emigration from hence will probably begin. Thousands will leave a country sinking into ruin". Eventually, in 1779, the government, overawed by the Irish Volunteers and frightened that Ireland might follow the example of the American colonies, gave way to the popular demand. From then on, Ireland was allowed to export glass, wool and woollen goods to all parts of the world and to trade freely with the British colonies in America and the West Indies.



Document Ref: D671/M/11/3

c.1780

Siege of Charleston map

Map, c.1780, of Charleston, South Carolina, depicting the enemy (American) and King's (British) forces prior to the Siege of Charleston, 29 March-12 May 1780, which was a major British victory in the American Revolutionary War. Irish-born Lt Col. Francis Rawdon (later Francis Rawdon-Hastings) from Moira, Co. Down, was one of the British leaders and was in command of The

Volunteers of Ireland (also known as the 2nd American Regiment and 105th Regiment of Foot), which was composed of largely American Irish. The map records the enemy lines in red under the command of Lieutenant General Lincoln and the King's army lines in yellow under the command of General Sir Henry Clinton.



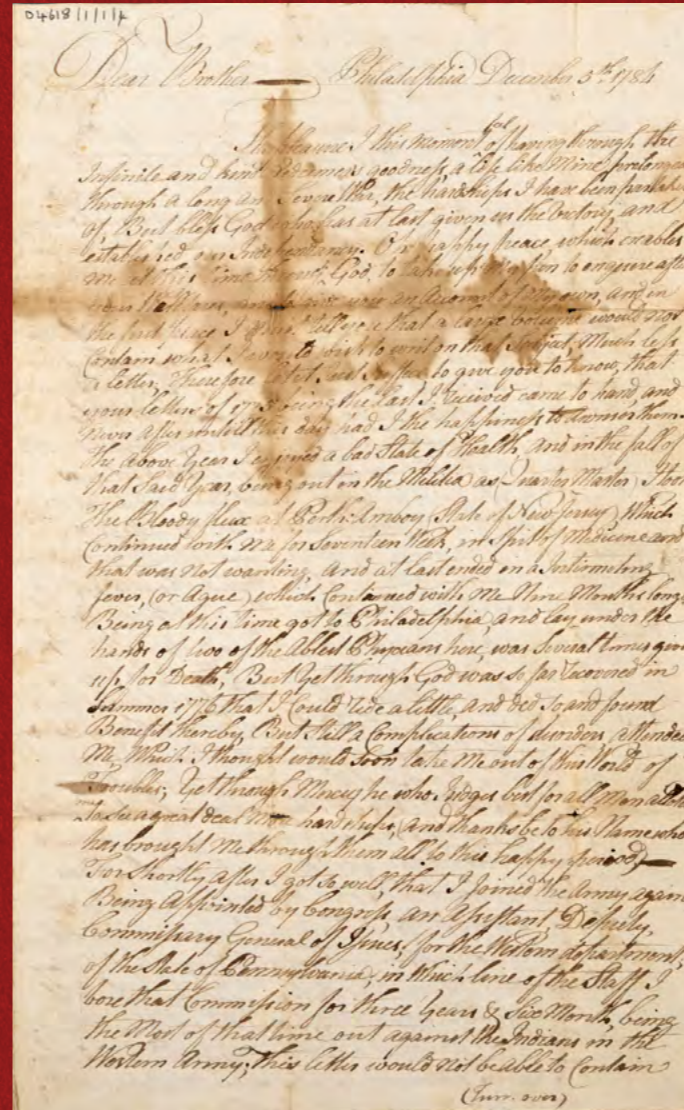
Document Ref: D4618/1/1/4

05 December 1784

End of American Revolutionary War

Letter from Job Johnson, Philadelphia to his brother Robert Johnson at Slaghtybog, Co. Londonderry, on 5 December 1784 expressing celebration following the conclusion of the American Revolutionary War (on 13 September 1783) in which he served as an Assistant Deputy Commissioner for the State of Pennsylvania. The tone is largely jubilant and he writes "bless God who has at last given us the Victory, and established our Independency". He describes initially fighting the native American population before joining

up with General Washington and the French at the Siege of Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781. "We got to Williamsburg and begun the Siege 28th of Sept. 1781 which lasted until the 19th of October, all which times was like nothing but one continued clap of thunder between us and them". He concludes by referencing his 'ailing constitution' and that since the end of the war, he has had a "severe spell of either one disorder or another; the Flux (dysentery) once, and Ague (fever, possibly malaria) twice".



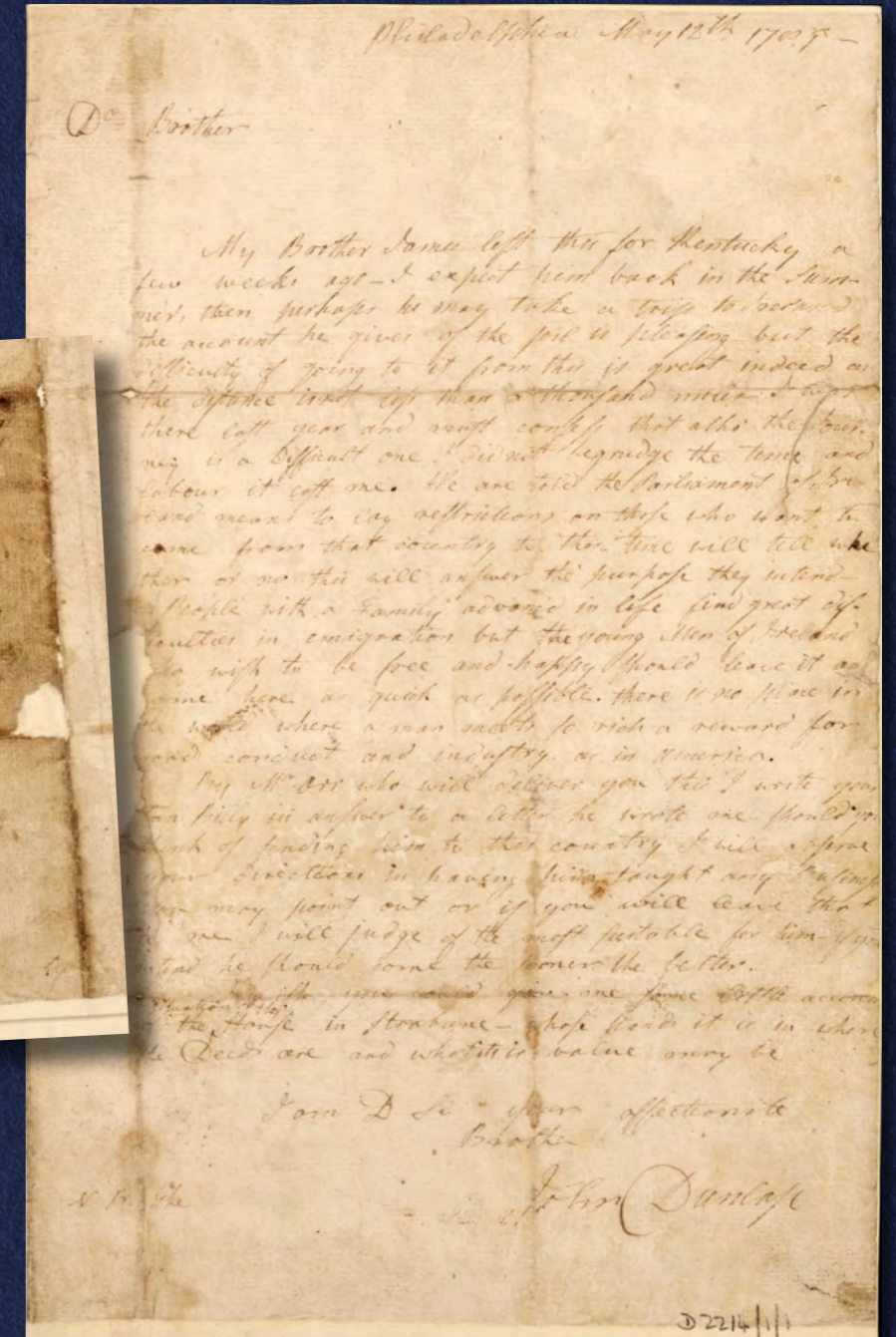
Document Ref: D2214/1/1

12 May 1785

John Dunlap letter

A letter from John Dunlap, at Philadelphia, to his brother-in-law, Robert Rutherford, at Strabane, Co. Tyrone, 12 May 1785, extolling the advantages of the New World. John Dunlap, born in Strabane in 1746, joined his uncle in Philadelphia at the age of eight or nine and entered the printing trade. A dedicated American patriot, best known for printing the first copies of the American Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776; publisher of the Pennsylvania Packet from 1771; printer to the Continental Congress from 1776; and printer to the Constitutional Convention of 1787

which met in Philadelphia and published the US Constitution. He writes: "We are told the Parliament of Ireland means to lay restrictions on those who want to come from that country to this. Time will tell whether or not this will answer the purpose they intend. People with a family advanced in life find great difficulties in emigration, but the young men of Ireland who wish to be free and happy should leave it and come here as quick as possible. There is no place in the world where a man meets so rich a reward for good conduct and industry as in America".



Document Ref: T1227/1

22 October 1787

Discouraging account of New World

A letter from David Pollock at Chambersburg, Ohio, to his sister, Mrs. Anne MacLurg, at Templemoyle, Limavady, Co. Londonderry, 22 October 1787, giving a discouraging account of his progress in the New World. In contrast to John Dunlap, Pollock warns his relations who were considering joining him that 'you will have time enough to repent it if you come'. Such discouraging sentiments are rare in migrant letters – one reason being, as the

Belfast News Letter suggested in 1774, that the mail was often conveyed from America to Ireland by returning migrant ships, whose masters were inclined to censor letters containing unflattering reports of life on the other side. This is particularly the case in politically sensitive times, eg the American Revolutionary War or the United Irishmen uprising in Ireland..

Chambersburg 22 October 1787
 Dear Sister this Comes with my kind love and Duty to let you know that I am in a good State of health at present. Thanks to god for his great mercies to me and hopes these will find you and your husband and family in the like good Condition I long waded for a few lines from you in your own ^{hand} but fears a long absence of your former tenderness to me has convinced that it is not for want of friendship but rather want of Convenience as for particulars I have little to write to you but will Refer you to my other letters. You desired me by Brother Robert to send you a list of trees in Respect of the Country or your coming to it but in this I will Refer you to my other letters also only I suppose from what Sunderland David will be for coming here and I will say nothing in such a Case between you but that I am confident you will have time enough to repent it if you come if I thought it was to your advantage to come here would I have not have Encouraged all my friends before their time when I am here alone without Relations though I believe not without friends I have always enjoyed a good State of health since I came to this Country and agree with the Climate very well still I ~~generally~~ ^{will} desire the pleasures of the Company of my friends and Relations again in my Native Country which would be a great Satisfaction to me Remember my love in particular to my mother I desire you will give yourself the trouble of writing a few lines to me so I conclude with Subscribing myself your for distant but loving Brother to Dear
 David Pollock

Document Ref: D394/2

1795

John Cunningham's passage to America

An extract from the journal of John Cunningham, a passenger on the ship 'America', describing his voyage from Belfast to Boston, 27 September to 12 December 1795. Voyages from the north of Ireland to North America usually took between seven and eight weeks. Conditions on board ship were severe by present day standards, particularly in stormy weather. Cunningham exclaims, "How little does those on shore know what we undergo. I dare venture to say if they did, there would be such an emigration to America,

at least in the fall of the year". Disease was ever present on trans-Atlantic crossings. Cunningham mentions two children and a sailor were "all bad in the smallpox" and he was "very ill with the cold". He notes the Captain's dog was washed overboard in a storm and lost and describes how "the Captain struck a dolphin ... All hands dined on the dolphin today. The sailors made what they call a chouda of it which was a most excellent dinner. It was really delicious".



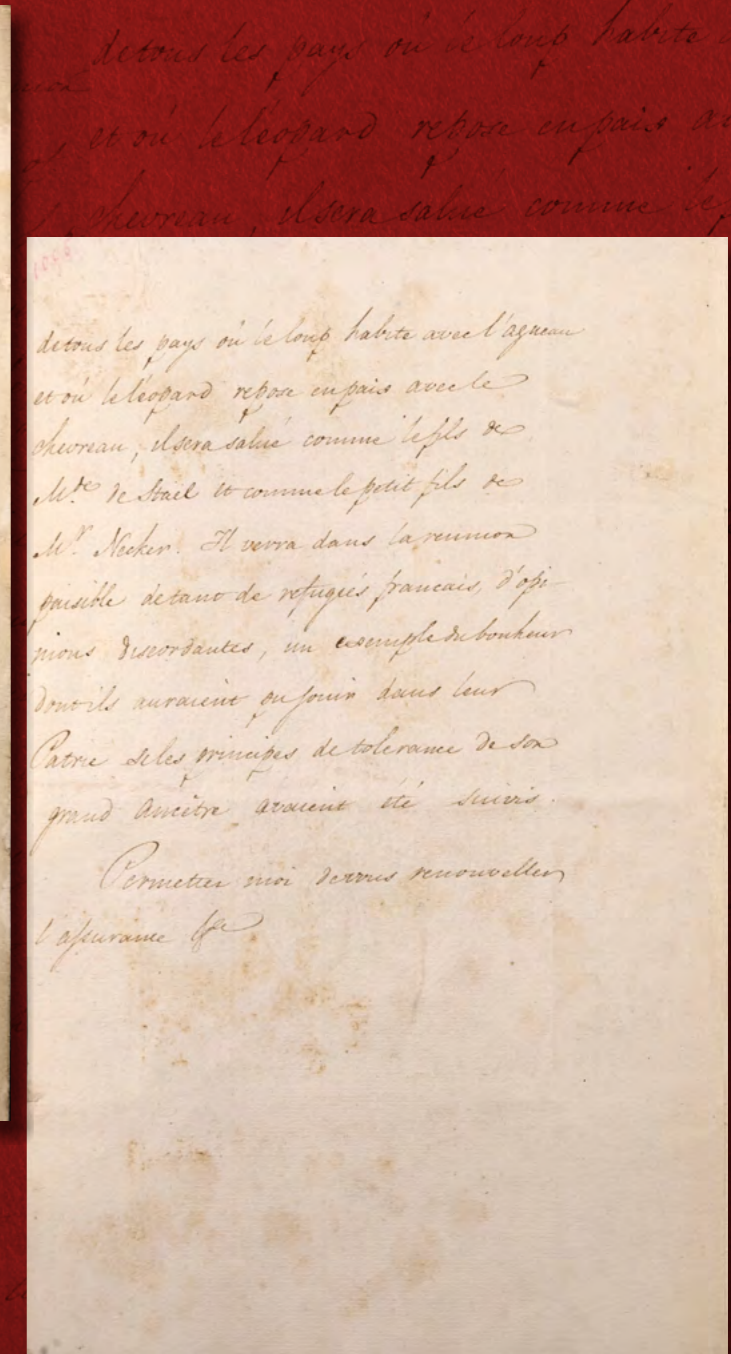
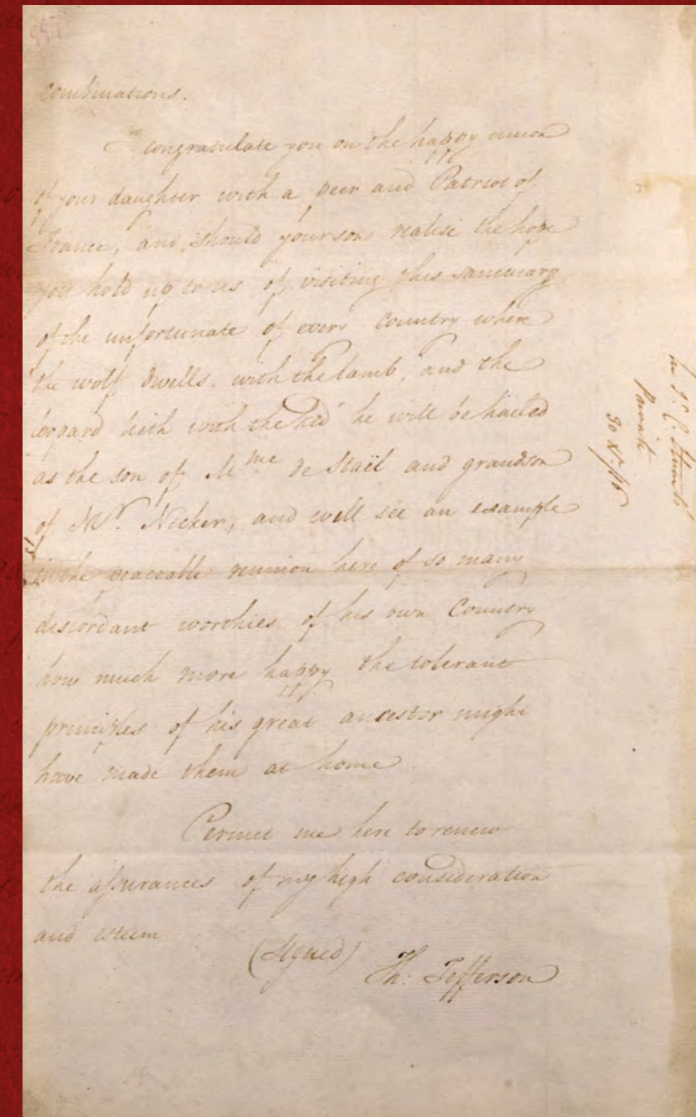
Document Ref: D3030/5168

06 September 1816

Thomas Jefferson letter

Copy letter and Translation, dated 6 September 1816, within the Castlereagh Papers from Thomas Jefferson at Monticello, Virginia, to Madame de Stael, a Genevan novelist, letter writer and philosopher and daughter of Jacques Necker, a former Director General of the French Royal Treasury. The original is in the Jefferson papers in the Archives du Château de Broglie, Haute-Normandie, France. Robert Stewart, Lord

Castlereagh would have obtained a copy while serving as British Foreign Secretary although it is not clear whether he received it out of liberal sympathies or through British intelligence. Jefferson writes about the state of the Spanish colonies in South America and congratulates her on the marriage of her daughter, Albertine, to Victor de Broglie, "a peer and Patriot of France".



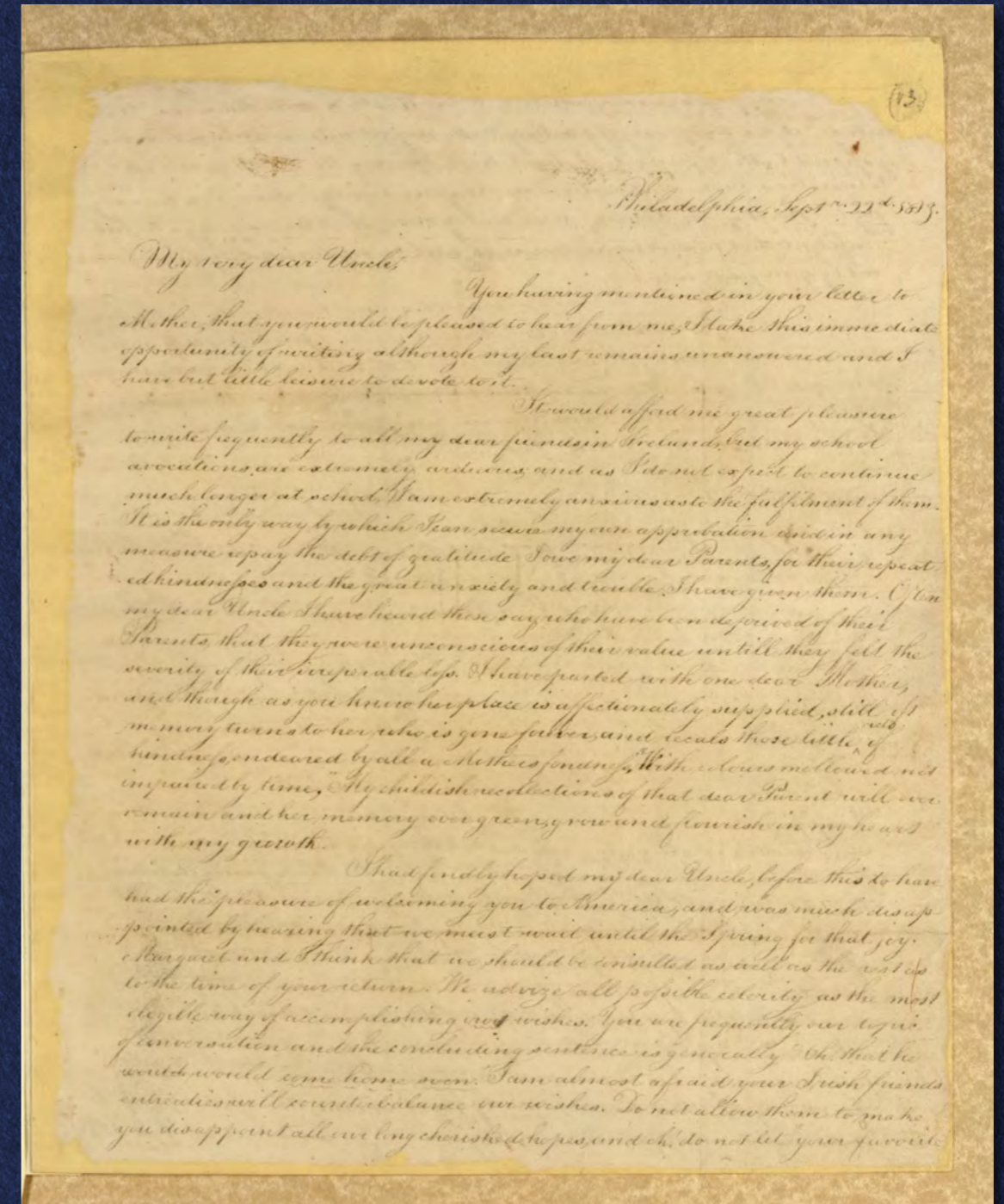
Document Ref: D1140/1

September 1819

Elizabeth Weir family letter

Letter, dated September 1819 from Elizabeth P. Weir in Philadelphia to her uncle, James Weir in Belfast. Elizabeth is one of fourteen children (six of whom died in infancy) of William and Sarah Weir of Stewartstown, Co. Tyrone. She wishes to write more frequently to Ireland but has time constraints due to 'arduous' school commitments. She is anxious to repay the debt of gratitude she owes her parents for their kindness and notes she has parted with "one dear mother". She implores James to return to America and

informs him that "I am fearful some young ladies of your acquaintance will have ceased to be such and you will lament your delay. We are all much pleased with our new cousin Robert Robinson: he is extremely lively and agreeable and has usurped your place in our romps". America was plagued with major epidemics during the 19th century, and Elizabeth references concerns about yellow fever in Baltimore and New York where "the infected part of the city is entirely evacuated".



Document Ref: D856/D/52

21 April 1836

Defeat of Santa Anna

Letter from P. Macaulay, Hermitage, near Baltimore, Maryland to John Sharman Crawford (son of William Sharman Crawford) of Crawfordsburn, Co Down who was visiting the United States, staying at the Mansion House, New York. Dated 19 August 1836, Macaulay discusses politics in the United States of America, Britain and Europe. He notes "My late letters from Europe express the highest astonishment that a handful of Emigrants from the west shores should have

met Santa Ana and his myrmidons (mythical Greek warriors) in Texas and have defeated them ... This proves incontestably how little the character of such a people, as those who inhabit the U(nited) States is known in Europe, and the effect of representation and free institutions upon national character". The reference is to the defeat of Mexican General, Santa Anna, by the Texan army at the Battle of San Jacinto on 21 April 1836.

(2)

Makes are subservient, such a state of things can never be seen - and thus, with the exception of Great Britain, the cradle of representative government, and where through reform is inevitable, ~~also~~ ^{when} the excrescences which have grown upon her glorious constitution shall have been severed from it - no other country in Europe exhibits a picture very flattering to the present century. My late letters from Europe express the highest astonishment that a handful of emigrants from the west shores should have met Santa Anna and his myrmidons in Texas and have defeated them - Santa Anna's reputation in Europe as a soldier is considerable and his subjugation of the colony was deemed a matter of course. This proves incontestably, how little the character of such a people, as those who inhabit the U. States, is known in Europe, and the effect of representation and free institutions upon national character. I have been much pleased with a speech lately made in the house of commons by Mr. Grote and although I differed somewhat with him when in England, on the effect which he supposed the introduction of the vote by ballot would have, his late speech has gone very far to convince me that it would prove in a great degree abominable to

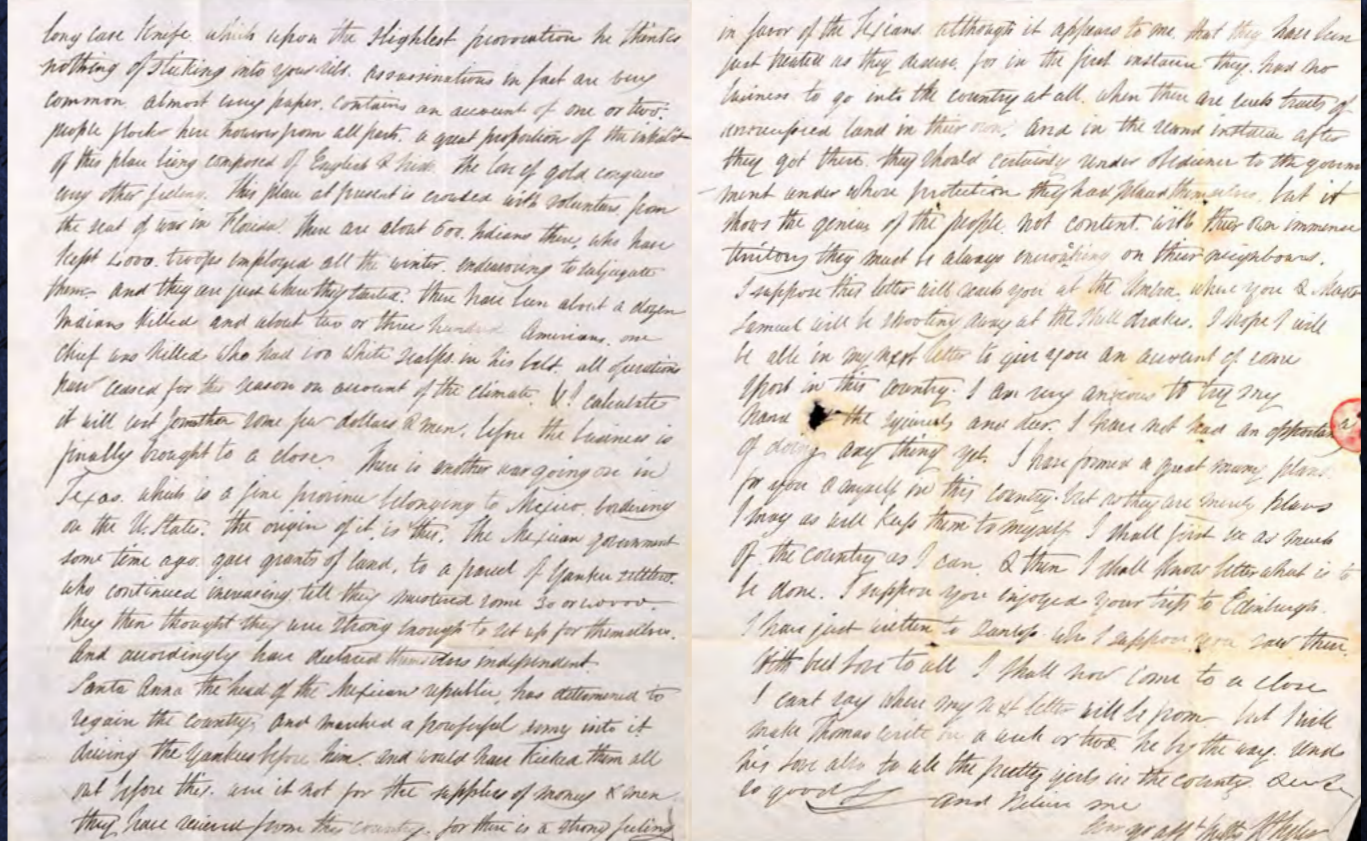
Document Ref: D3220/4/36

07 May 1836

Observations of South Carolina

Letter from Henry Tyler in Charleston, South Carolina, to his brother Alexander Tyler, in Limavady, dated 7 May 1836. Henry was the second son of Dr Henry Huey Tyler, a local medical doctor and landowner. Tyler had served in the Madras artillery before travelling across the USA, Canada and Cuba. He complains about the "unhealthiness of the climate" in South Carolina, the prevalence of slavery, the pervasiveness of knife carrying, the regularity of assassinations, soldiers subjugating the native American population, and notes the Second Seminole

War in Florida between the US army and native Seminoles, and the war with Mexico in Texas. He shows little sympathy to the Texans who he feels "have been just treated as they deserve, for in the final instance they had no business to go into the country at all". He does note that "a great proportion of the inhabitants of this place being composed of English and Irish". He concludes by writing that his travelling companion and future brother-in-law, Thomas Cather, "sends his love also to all the pretty girls in the country".



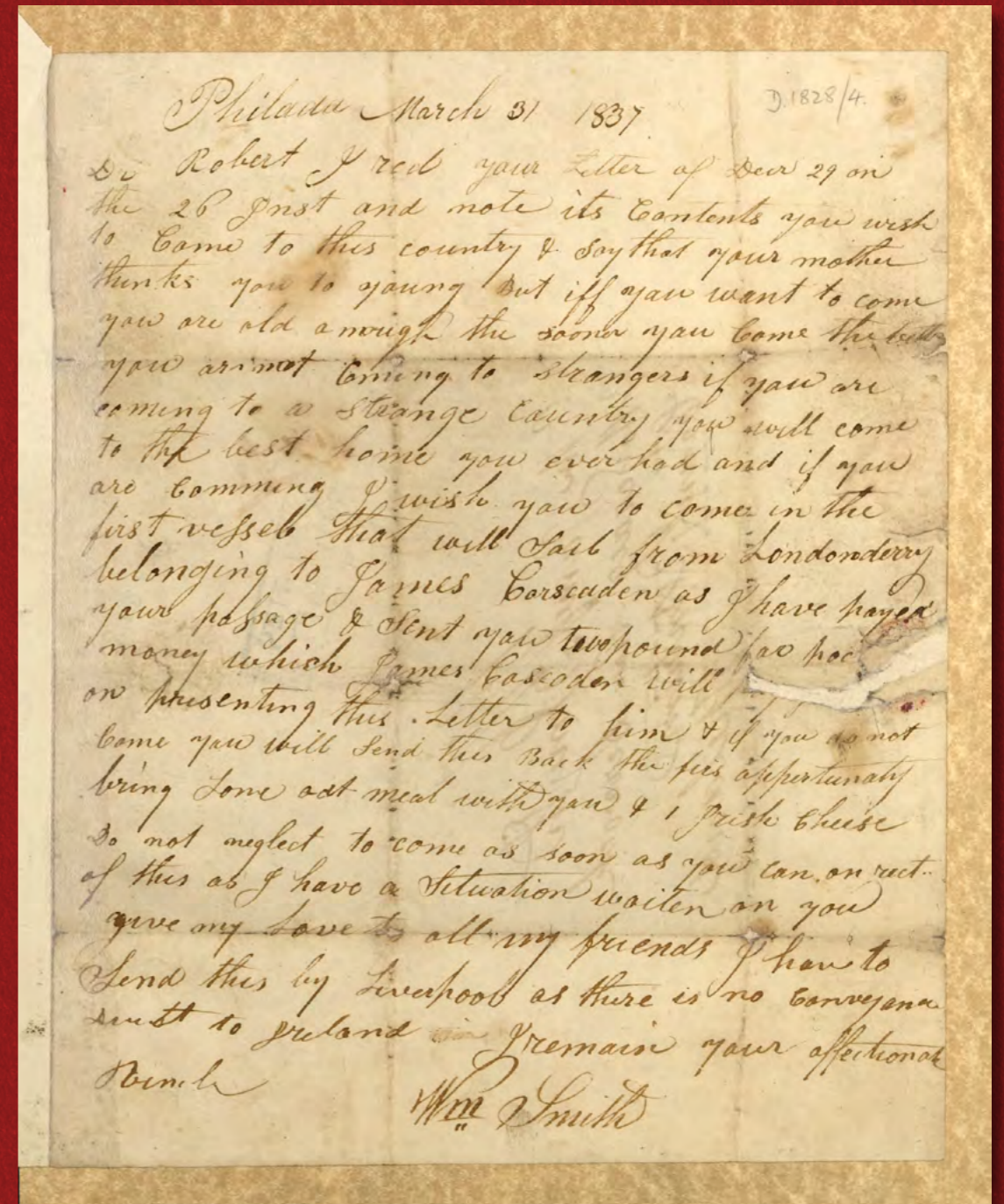
Document Ref: D1828/4

31 March 1837

Opportunities in America

One of a number of letters to and from the Smith family of Moycraig, Co. Antrim. William Smith, Philadelphia, writes to his nephew, James Smith, dated 31 March 1837 urging him to relocate to America. He notes that "your mother thinks you to(o) young. But if you want to come you are old enough, the sooner you come the better ... you come to the best home you ever had and if you are coming I wish you to come in the first vessel that will sail from Londonderry belonging to James Corscaden

as I have payed your passage". William has also forwarded £2 of pocket money and has arranged a situation for him in America. He asks James to bring some oatmeal and 1 Irish Cheese. This letter is an example of how push and pull factors influenced migration as although the Great Famine was still to arrive, rural Ulster would have offered few opportunities compared to the lifestyle enjoyed by successful relatives such as William who works in the liquor trade.



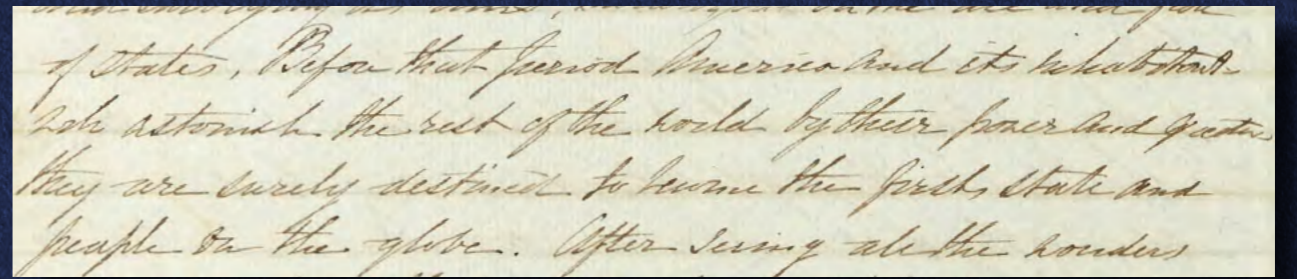
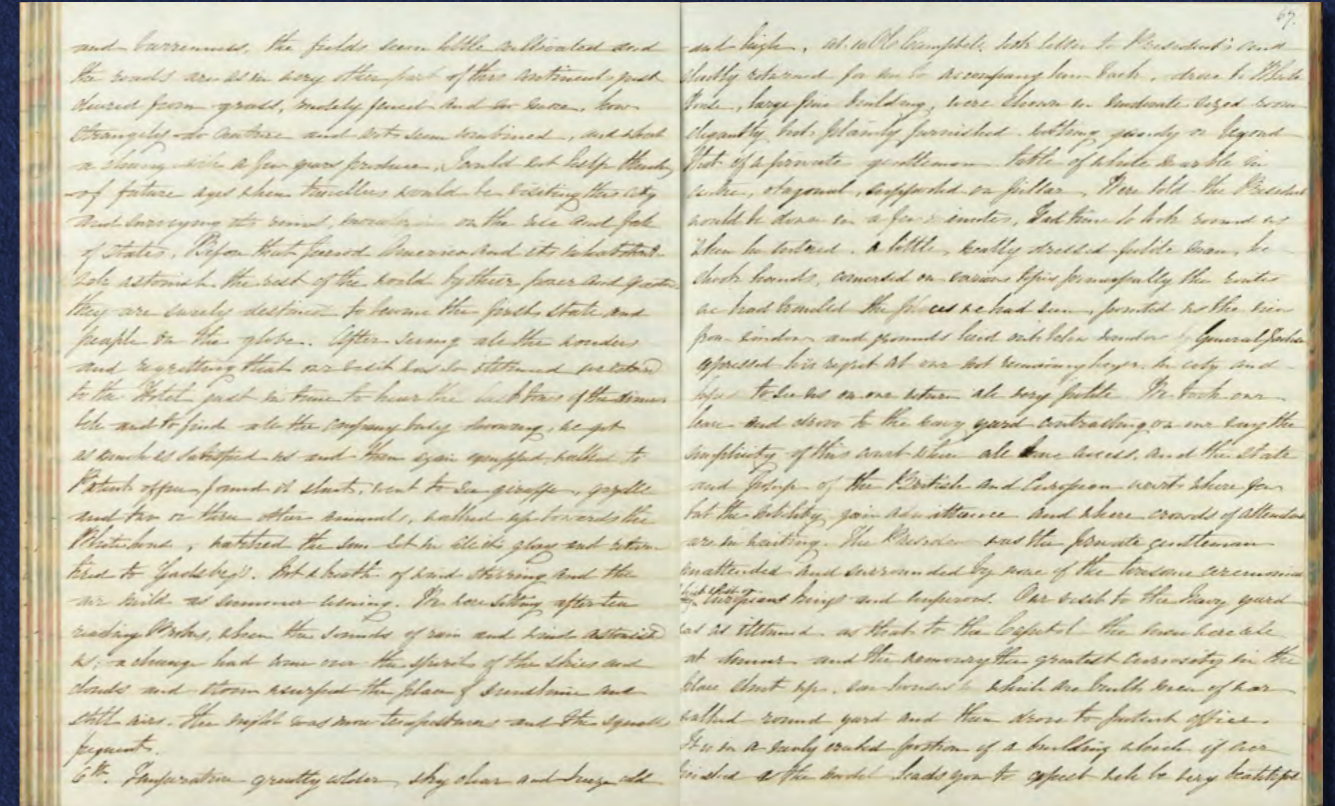
Document Ref: D1558/2/2

1838-39

Journal of Isabella Campbell Allen

Journal of Isabella Campbell Allen (nee Marshall) of Belfast, wife of a Belfast merchant, William John Campbell Allen, who had close connections with the United States. For their honeymoon, Isabella and her husband visited the USA from 6 September 1838 – 15 March. She noted that Native American women did not strike her as 'peculiar in appearance'. She met

with Ulster emigrants, visited Capitol Hill and met President Martin Van Buren. She foresaw that "America and its inhabitants will astonish the rest of the world by their power and greatness. They are surely destined to become the first state and people of the globe". In the later famine years, Isabella would play an active role in the Belfast Ladies Association for the Relief of Irish Destitution.



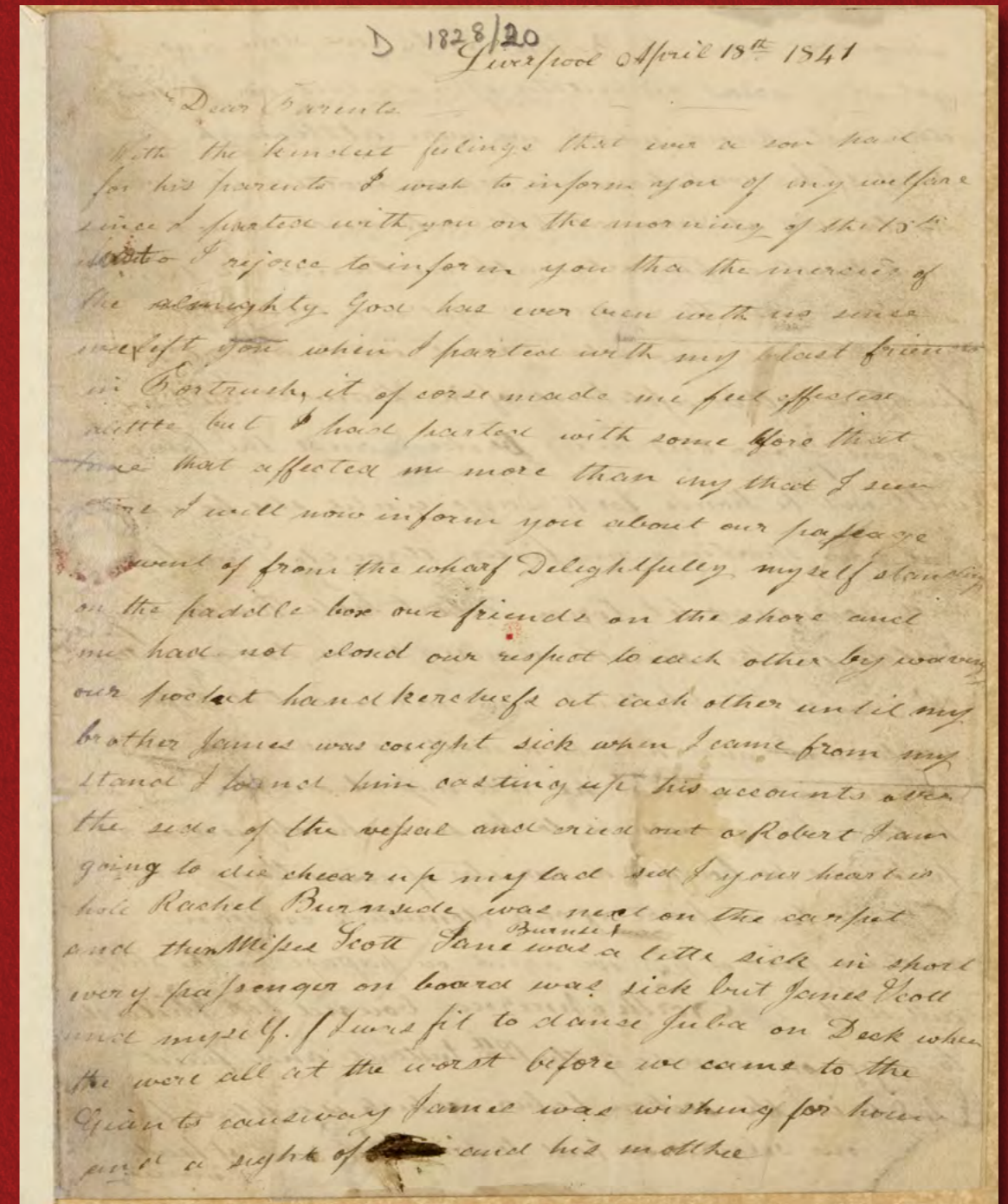
Document Ref: D1828/20

18 April 1841

Migrant experiences at Liverpool

Letter, dated 18 April 1841, from Robert Smith, Liverpool to "Dear Parents" endorsed "to Mr James Smith, Moycraig, County Antrim, Parish of Billy Ireland in care of the Mosside Post Master. He describes the voyage from Portrush to Liverpool. Although, many Irish migrants left directly from Ireland, the majority went to America via Liverpool, particularly 1820-1880. Robert and his brother James experienced a bout of sea sickness before cheering when the ship passes the Giants Causeway. They disembark briefly at

Ballycastle where they note 'a great quantity of Potatoes', then endure a sea crossing punctuated by one of the engines breaking down. At Liverpool, they arrange second class cabin passage to Philadelphia for the sum of £4. He notes that had James not already had his ticket paid for, he would have returned home due to the disagreeableness of being at sea and the 'immense' crowd of vessels at Liverpool. It is important to highlight the centrality of Liverpool in the experience of 19th century migrants..



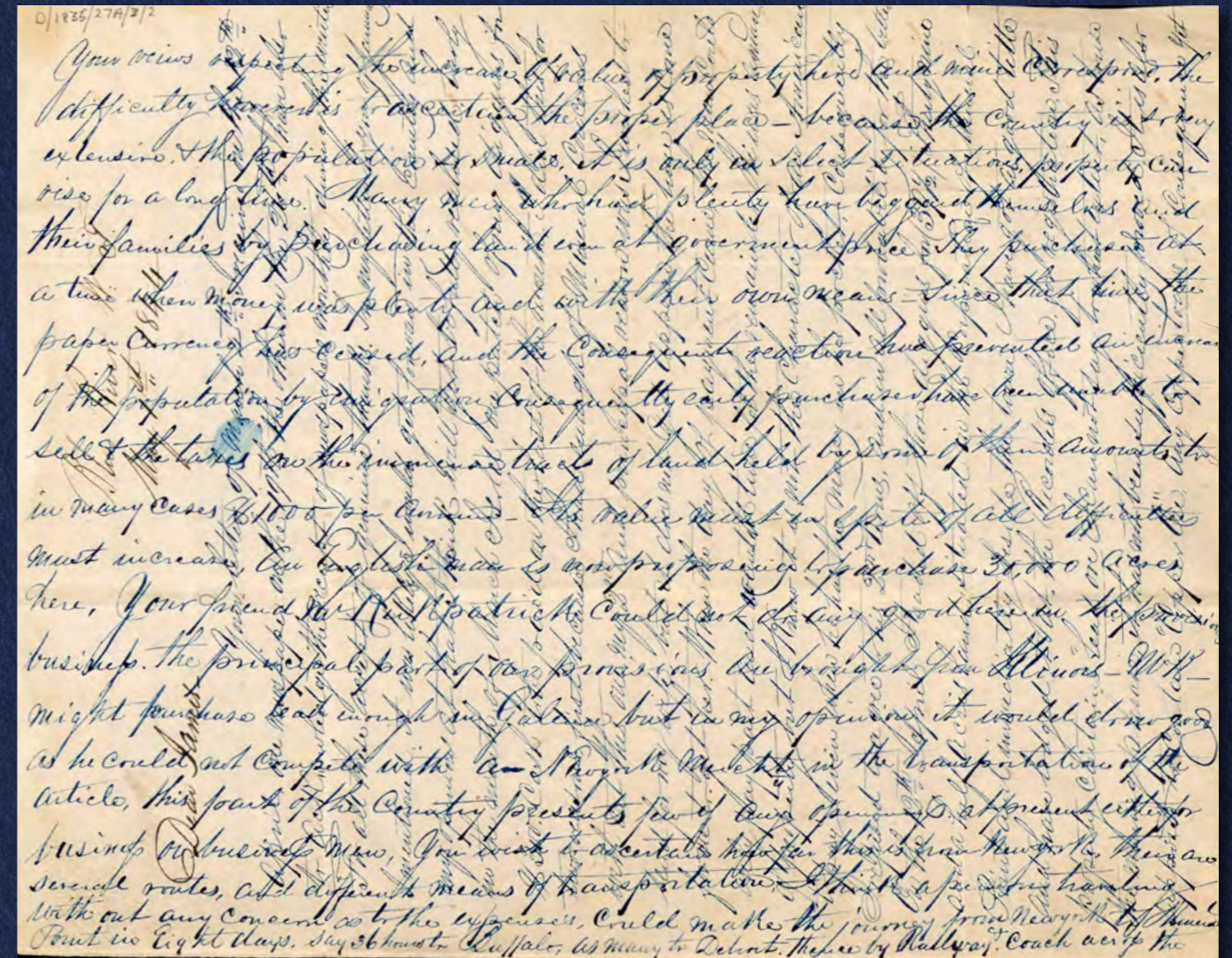
Document Ref: D1835/27A/3/2

01 May 1844

Mining in Tennessee

Crossed letter from William Stavelly, Blue River, West Tennessee (now incorporated into Nashville) USA, to his brother James Stavelly, 14 Charlotte Street, Manchester, England on 1 May 1844. Crossed letters were a common practice in the 19th century to save on expensive postage charges. This letter is from the papers of the Stavelly Family of Ballyboyland, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim. William outlines that he has sold one of his 'diggings' (excavation site) for \$300 partly because

he already had "enough mineral concerns without this one" but principally to "send for my wife but it does not yet appear the time is come for me to get her". He procures 39.5 acres at Mineral Point which apparently contains a rich vein of lead and copper ore. While he is sleeping, the property "like the Scotchman's trees, is growing if not in size, in value". He concludes by saying I send 'a thing called a newspaper but it is of no value'".



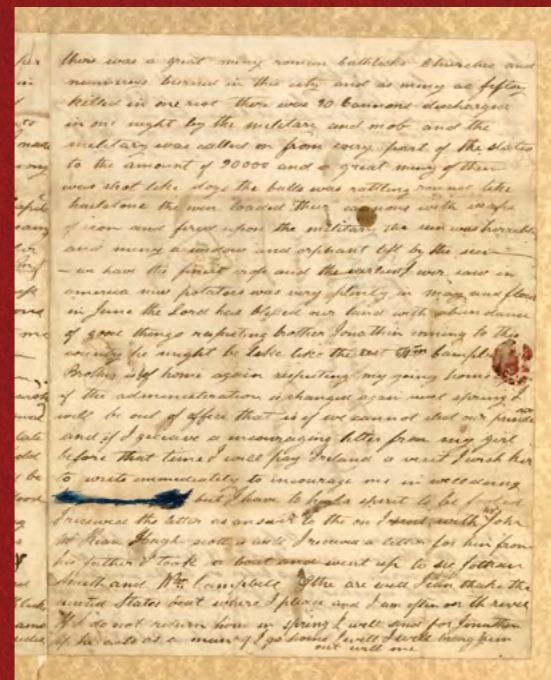
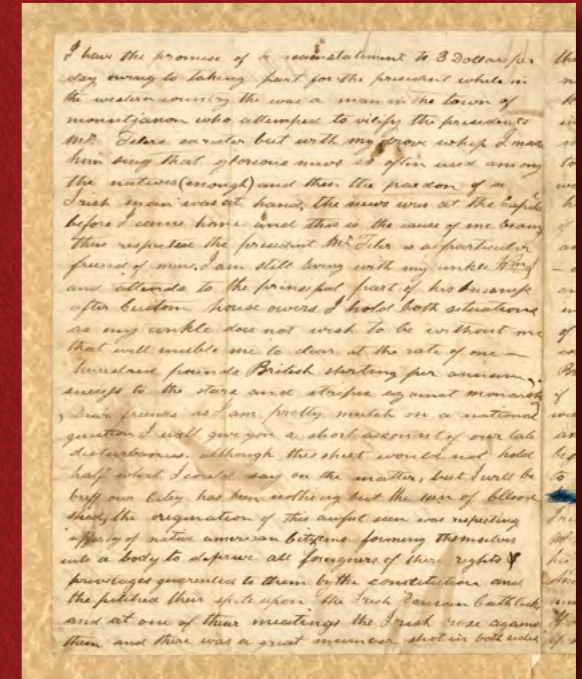
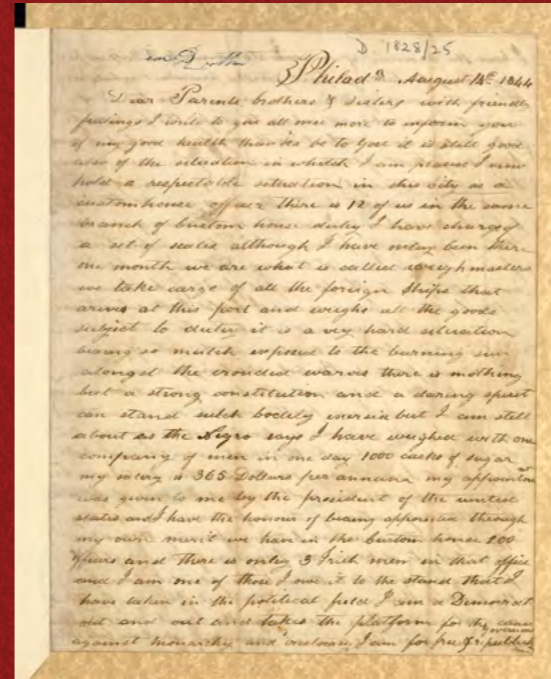
Document Ref: D1828/25

14 August 1844

Irish riot in Philadelphia

Letter from Robert Smith, Philadelphia to his family (parents, brothers and sisters) endorsed "Mr James Smith, Moycraig, Co. Antrim, Ireland - Mosside PD on 14 August 1844, describing attacks on Roman Catholics in the city. Smith is one of 12 customs house officers who weighs goods from foreign ships that are subject to duty. He notes: "my appointment was given to me by the President of the United States (John Tyler) and I have the honour of being appointed through my own merit, we have in the Custom house 200 officers and there is

only 3 Irish men in that office". He declares that he is politically a "Democrat out and out and take the platform for the cause against monarchy and aristocracy". He describes the "bloodshed which had resulted from rising anti-Catholic sentiment at the growing population of Irish Catholic immigrants: "the Irish rose against them and there was a great number shot in both sides there was a great many roman Cathlick Churches and Nunnereys burned in this city and as many as fifty killed".



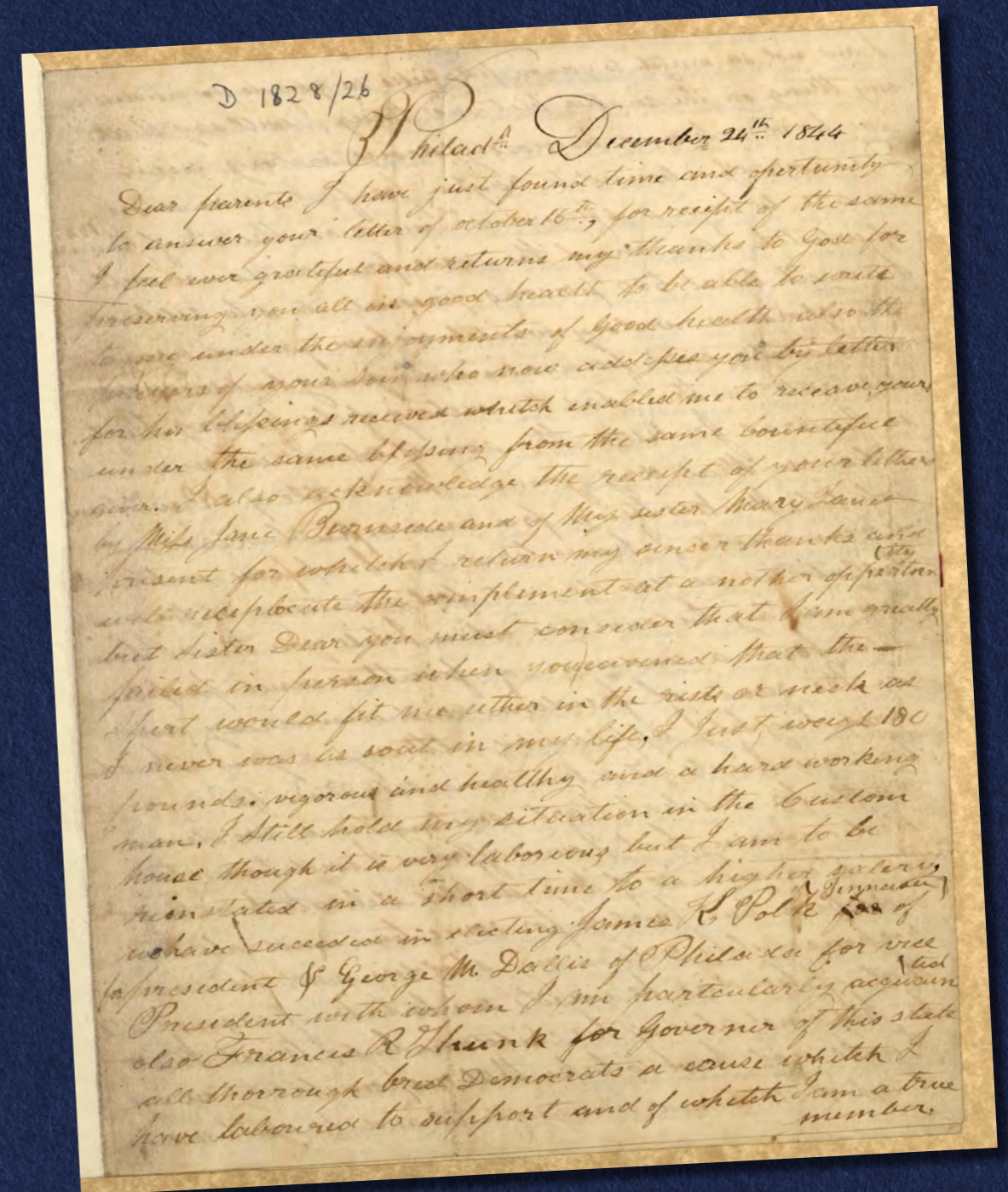
Document Ref: D1828/26

14 December 1844

Party Politics

Letter from Robert Smith, Philadelphia to his parents Mr and Mrs James Smith, Moycraig, Co. Antrim, dated 24 December 1844, noting the recent election of President James Knox Polk (whose family were originally from East Donegal) from Tennessee and Vice President George Mifflin, Dallas (Dallas) of Philadelphia who Smith knows personally. Smith declares himself a "true member" of the Democrat Party and describes how he addressed an audience of 5,000 people on the cause of

freedom and democracy for which he was applauded. He celebrates "the glorious victory which we have gained against monarchy and federalism as young hickories we celebrate on that day the victory of old hickory that is General (Andrew) Jackson the son of An Irishman who on that day gained the battle of New Orleans". Jackson whose father migrated from Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim was the seventh President of the US and the first Democrat to hold the post.



Document Ref: D2892/1/1

1847-9

Passenger book of J. & J. Cooke

Passenger book of J. & J. Cooke (1847-49), Londonderry shipping agents listing passengers booked on sailings from Londonderry to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Quebec, St. John's, New Brunswick, Canada. This particular page is for a voyage on the ship Helen Thompson which sailed to Quebec between 18 February 1847-19 April 1847 at the height of the Great Famine of 1845-9. The ship weighed 544 tons, was commanded by Captain Gray and carried "souls 371 equal to statute adults 277". The net sum received was

£765 5s. 3d and it also lists the names of those who cancelled their bookings. The ship arrived at Grosse Ile in Quebec and was quarantined following a report of a significant number of passengers suffering from Typhoid Fever. Several passengers died before reaching their destination including Mary Jane Green (second bottom) as documented on the Irish National Memorial at Grosse Ile. Mary Jane was recorded as the two-year old daughter of David Green, a labourer from Maguirebridge in Co. Fermanagh and Margaret (Porter) Green.

24
List of Passengers per Ship Helen Thompson for Quebec

No.	Date	NAME	RESIDENCE	Age	Passage	EARNST.	When Paid out.	REMARKS.	Nett Sum Received.
16		John Collins	Wm Stewart						
		Jane D.	"						
		Mary D.	"						
		Jane D.	"						
		John D.	"						
		Jane McQuill	"						
		William D.	"						
		Arthur D.	"						
		William D.	"						
		Patrick D.	"						
		Michael D.	"	13	22 0 0	1 0 0	to 182		22 0 0
		Jane D.	"	11		2 0 0	5		
		John D.	"	10					
		Walter D.	"	8					
		Mary D.	"	7					
		Henry D.	"	4					
		John Blake	Coltrane		3 0 0	1 0 0	to 182		3 0 0
17		John Keenan	Keel		2 15 0	1 5 0	to 182		2 15 0
		William Graham	Derry		2 17 6	2 7 6	to 182		2 17 6
18		Joseph Gray	Wm Stewart		2 10 0	2 5 0	to 182		2 10 0
		John Lane	"						
		Mary D.	"		5 10 0	5 10 0	to 20		5 10 0
		Jane Reilly	Wm Stewart						
		Charles D.	"						
		Jane D.	"						
		William D.	"						
		Mary D.	"						
		George D.	"	13	7 17 6	5 0 0	to 182		7 17 6
		Jane D.	"	11					
		Jane D.	"	9					
		David Green	Maguirebridge						
		Mary D.	"						
		John D.	"						
		Mary Jane D.	"	2	5 5 0	1 0 0	to 182		5 5 0
		Jane D.	"			7 5 0			
		Jane D.	"	0 5					

£765 5s 3d

Document Ref: D1828/26

15 January 1849

Yearning for Ireland

Letter from Thomas Patterson in Ashton Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, to Hugh Donnan, residing in Cahard, near Saintfield, Co. Down, on 15 January 1849. He bemoans that the majority of Americans are infidels who profane the Sabbath including "whistling, singing, blaspheming, playing Shiney, skating on ice, sledging to taverns for amusement". He hopes to "visit Ireland again, which forsooth I have promised to do, it will be chiefly in order to enjoy a few copious drinks from the orthodoxical wells of

the Presbyterian fountain". Patterson recalls the "Irish folly" he was guilty of practicing in Ireland and his dalliances with women who he felt regarded him as "a simpleton among them, a thorough-bred trifler, or what you might call a downright-ladies-man. But they wronged me; because I was far too conscientious for their frolicsome taste". Since leaving Ireland, he has not yielded to the "Yankey girls" although he finds it difficult when drinking alcohol.

11
Ashton Township, January 15th 1849.
D2795/5/1/17
Mr Hugh Donnan.

Dear Sir, from the perpetual intimacy of friendships existing between us, I have used the freedom of intruding a few lines upon your hours, & anxiously hoping that they may find you and all under your jurisdiction in the enjoyment of health and prosperity; a blessing which I have been taught to prize more highly since I came here than I had ever done in Ireland. In coming to heart after a little of the good things of this country it pleased our St. Vincent to arrest our in the pursuit, so as to obstruct the progress of my designs; but as disappointments of this kind are generally the school of wisdom, it will be my duty to await the call of Providence etc. I need expect to float on the spring-tide of success, hence I have seen in some measure, the folly of making haste to be rich. This is a most flourishing and beautiful country, and if we were to judge of it from its external appearance, we would naturally conclude that it must be a religious one; but this is not the case, for the majority of its inhabitants are either infidels, or something very little better; all kinds of Sabbath profanation is carried on here, whistling, singing, blaspheming, playing-shiney, skating on ice, sledging to taverns for amusement &c. Indeed Sir, it is a question to me if Ireland were more wicked than the section of the country in which I reside, and if you I visit Ireland again, which for sooth I have promised to do, it will be chiefly in order to enjoy a few copious drinks from the orthodoxical wells of the Presbyterian fountain; for here, in my opinion, the sweets of life is made bitter by the drug of human merit which the Quacks of divinity put out to make it palatable to the people for which they draw it; I mean the self-sufficient friends of Mr. Wesley, Mr. Episcopius, Mr. Armin, Mr. Socinus, and others, not forgetting that great mass of Beasts, the Pope who made his repentment not long ago from some qualm of conscience rather than affected the Beast. However there is one Presbyterian congregation in Middlestown Township about 2¹/₂ or 3 miles distant which we sometimes attend; the Clergyman's name is Mr. John Dale, the service generally commences at 3 O'clock P.M. I was present at the administration of their communion held on the last Sabbath of October. The service commenced about 11 O'clock A.M. and was executed

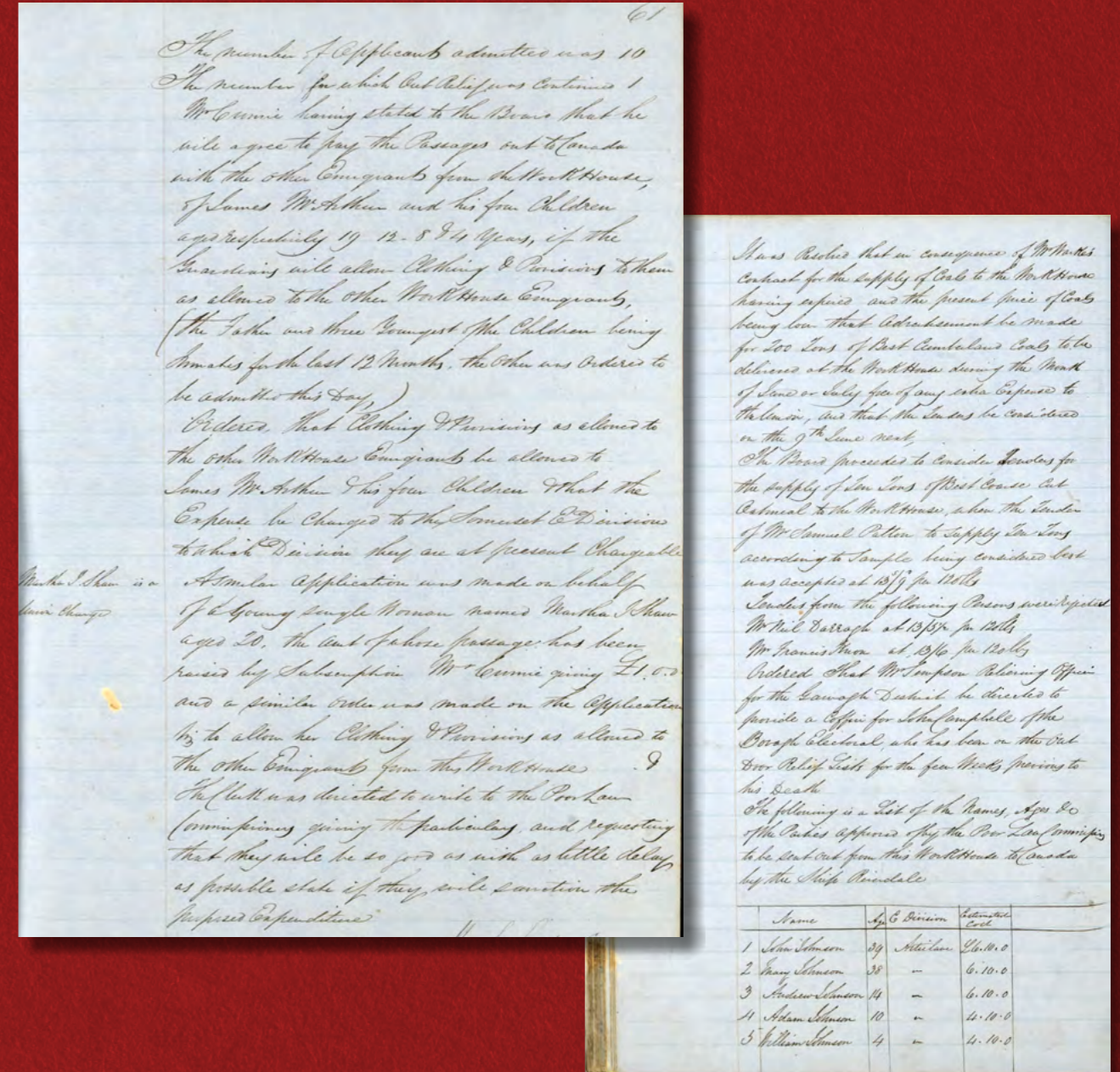
Document Ref: BG/10/A/7

24 March 1849-28 December 1850

Board of Guardians Minute Book

Minute Book of the Coleraine Board of Guardians, (BG/10/A/7), dated 24 March 1849-28 December 1850. The Board of Guardians administered the Poor Law in Ireland through a network of workhouses, infirmaries and fever hospitals. The original aim of the poor law system was to provide relief to the destitute poor only, but due to the demand for workhouse accommodation as a result of the ravages of the Great Famine (1845-52), outdoor relief was also introduced. This was granted to the able-bodied poor in the form

of money or goods. The minute books record many examples of migrants to America requiring assistance to procure clothing in order to emigrate. In this volume, the Guardians resolve along with several other electoral divisions that 'persons approved of by Mr Senior be sent out to Canada', including two children aged respectively nine and seven years. The numerical peak in outward migration across the Atlantic was reached during the Great Famine.



Document Ref: D1748/G/600/4

7 April - 14 April 1851

Californian Gold Rush

Letter from William Shaw in San Francisco, California to Robert Tennent in London. Shaw is the son of Tennent's cousin, Colonel Robert Tennent Shaw who died in 1822 and grandson of Isabella Tennent and John Shaw who were banished from Ireland in 1799 following the United Irishmen Rebellion of 1798. The Tennent family were an influential Ulster-Scots Presbyterian dynasty who played a pivotal role in politics, commerce, religion and education in 18th century Belfast. The California Gold Rush (1848-1855) had led to an influx of c. 300,000 people to the newly

created state (admitted to the Union in 1850). Shaw attempts to persuade Tennent to invest in his mining operation in California which "was destined to become one of the richest, most populous and most desirable states in our country". He declares "It has been already predicted by me here (by some who have got wind of my movements) that before many years I will be the richest man in California - I am perfectly confident that should this be my good fortune, I could rest assured of being the richest man in the world".

page 7
D1748/G/600/4
1851
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(ten) per centum per annum on all your advances, from the day they are paid in London to the day they are received back, or returned there and deposited to your order; or to receive four per centum per annum with the same allowance or mode of computing the time, and one half of all the profits of the house. And with the further agreement that neither you nor I shall be allowed to withdraw any money, property or capital from the house (except for personal expenses if needed) until the expiration of the said period of five years; and you likewise agreeing that the house may have the privilege of paying back your advances, after the expiration of two years from the date of the articles of partnership, by paying the additional sum of ten per centum per annum with the same mode of computation of time, as above mentioned.

Thus having more other than the most honorable intentions in offering you this partnership, I know of no better way of convincing you of the truth than my willingness to leave the whole thing in joint property for at least the time proposed, as a full guarantee against your suffering any loss. If this house is established as I propose, it is likewise my intention to offer you one half of the property which I am here, nearly at its cost, making every thing the same as though we had been partners from the beginning. Indeed, to confess the truth, I am actuated by pride as much as anything else, in desiring to be one of the founders of a fortune here, which in ten years shall approach even if it does not surpass the any other fortune on the face of the earth. This may seem presumption, but I assure you without a particle of excitement or distrust, that if you will furnish me with the means of investment to the amount of five hundred thousand dollars (or one hundred thousand pounds) if that much be required, I will so invest it that in five years it shall be worth 200,000 pounds sterling, over & above allowing an interest of ten per centum per annum on the original advances! Now if you are here I could show you the way of making these investments, and the mode of computing the profits, and how exaggerated the statement may now appear to you, you would say it makes needless allowances for the contingencies, accidents, and losses which might arise.

April 14th 1851

On reading over the above, many things occur to me concerning which, I would like to mention further facts. But I have already written at such length, that I forbear to extend the subject further than to reassert, positively, that the calculations above made are neither exaggerated nor at all improbable. It has been already predicted of me here (by some who have got wind of my movements) that before many years I will be the richest man in California. I am perfectly confident that should this be my good fortune, I could rest assured of being the richest man in the world. The largest and most certain fortune in London and Europe (I those lands are right in a minimal district) now in California is the one to which, I have above alluded, & which is worth two trips even by yourself in person, from Belfast here & back, to secure it at the price mentioned (\$200,000) which is not two thirds of what the cattle alone are worth on the ground and of all countries on the globe it has long been well known that cattle or stock of any kind thrive no where better than in California. Owing to the state of the country and the rapid increase of stock, you can rely positively on clearing all this estate & all the cattle upon it over & above every possible expense, in two years, indeed much more, for I may state that

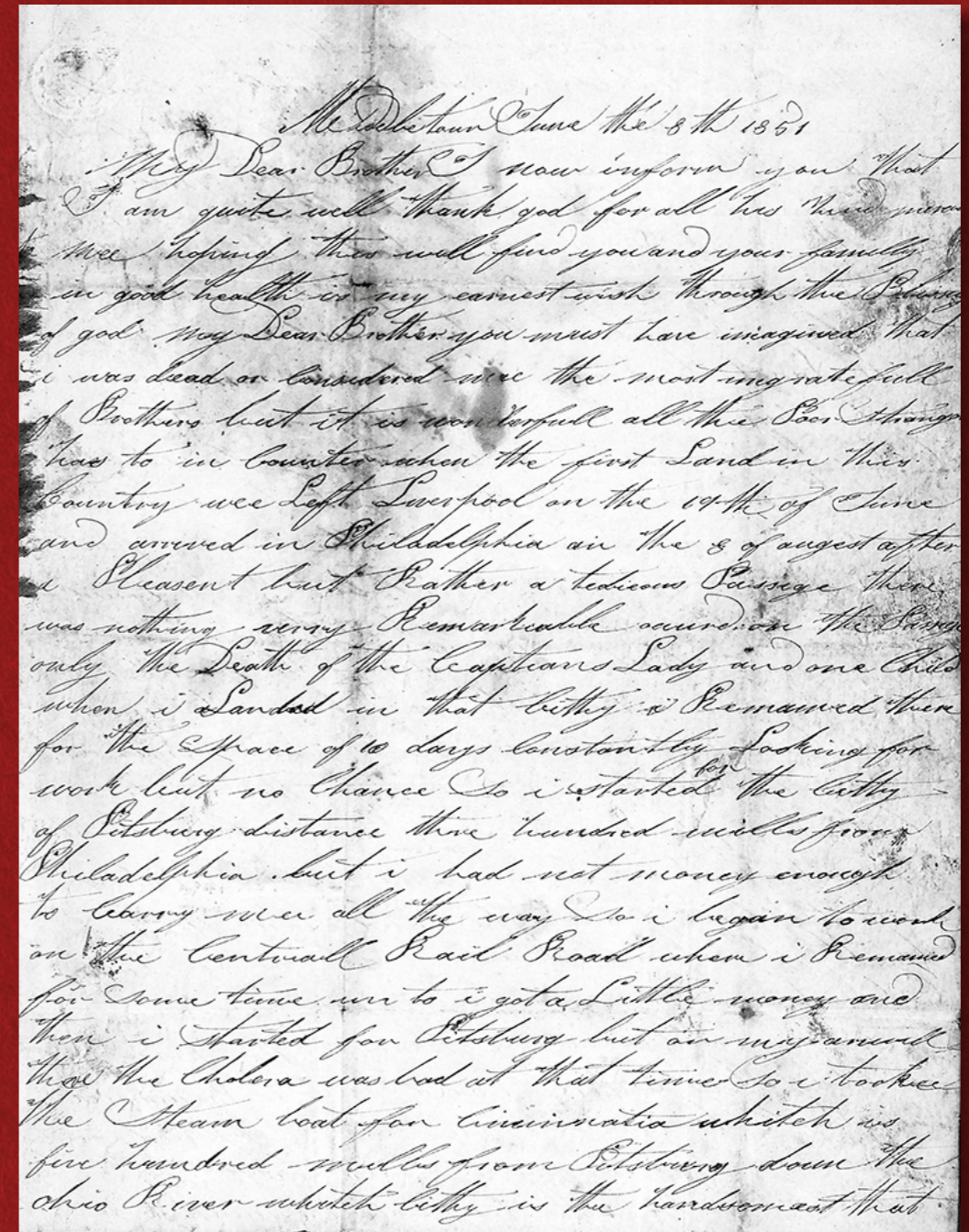
Document Ref: T1448/1

8 June 1851

Challenges of Immigrant Experience

Migrant letter, Edward McNally, Middletown, (Pennsylvania) to his brother, Captain William McNally, Portaferry, County Down, dated 8 June 1851. Edward recounts the challenges of the migrant experience, including the long voyage from Liverpool to Philadelphia. He experienced problems gaining employment so decides to relocate and works on the Central Railroad to earn money whilst journeying to Pittsburg. On arrival "the Cholera was bad at that time so I took the Steam Boat for Cincinnati". The only work he is able

to obtain is on the railroad until "I Came into this Little town about a month ago and here i chanced on a shop for the first since Landed this is a nice Little Place But it is rather sickly. The ague is verry Prevelent heere as this town is situated on the Banks of the Susequhana River but thank god since i Landed i never had better health". Ague is now commonly known as malaria and the shop he mentions is a machine shop with a foundry attached. Edward's predicament was a common experience for many Irish migrants.



Wages in America

Copy of 'Wages in America', a poster advertising Vere Foster's pamphlet of the same title, c. 1852. Vere Louis Henry Foster (1819-1900) was a philanthropist, educationalist and humanist. Born into an Anglo-Irish family, he was appalled by the effects of the potato famine on his family's estate in Glyde Court, Co. Louth. Following the death of his father, he dedicated himself to using his share of his father's fortune to relieve the distress of the Irish peasantry

and ensuring accurate information about opportunities in America was disseminated as far as possible. Foster was concerned by the plight of fleeing migrants who fell victim to unscrupulous fraudsters, particularly when they arrived in England. To mitigate this exploitation, Foster produces free publications which provide guidance to migrants on wages, costs of board and lodgings (in England), expenses of voyage and outfit, and associated costs in America.

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Emigrant's Guide to America, GRATIS.

WAGES IN AMERICA!

Four Pages of information, *good measure*, about

WAGES OF MEN AND WOMEN, COST OF BOARD AND LODGING, EXPENSES OF VOYAGE AND OUTFIT, AND OF TRAVELLING IN AMERICA, PRICE OF LAND, &c.

May be had, *Gratis*, at the undermentioned addresses of persons who have kindly allowed references to be made to them:—

<p>ABERDEEN—<i>General Public Office</i></p> <p>BATH—<i>A Page from the Book of the Emigrant</i></p> <p>BELFAST—A. S. MAYNE, Bookseller. WILLIAM RICE, Bookseller, 14, Ann-street.</p> <p>BLACKBURN—H. BAKER, Bookseller, Fleming-square.</p> <p>BOLTON, LANCASHIRE—W. HULTON, 41, Howell's Croft.</p> <p>BOSTON—W. MASSINGHAM, Bookseller, Market-place.</p> <p>BRADFORD—W. COOK, Bookseller, Vicar-lane.</p> <p>BRISTOL—M. FAULDER, Bookseller. W. H. COOK, News Agent, 5, Sim's-alley, Broadmead.</p> <p>BURNLEY—G. EDWARDS, Bookseller, 35, St. James-street.</p> <p>BURSLAM—T. WHITEHALL, Bookseller, Waterloo-road.</p> <p>BURY, LANCASHIRE—B. GLOVER, Bookseller, Agar-street.</p> <p>COLNE—H. L. SMITH, Temperance Hotel.</p> <p>COEK—BRADFORD & Co., Booksellers.</p> <p>COVENTRY—E. C. LEWIS, Coventry Herald Office.</p> <p>DERBY—H. CLARK, Agent, 15, Friar Gate.</p> <p>DEVONPORT—</p> <p>DUBLIN—M'GLASHAN & Co., Booksellers, Sackville-street. J. H. WEBB, Draper, 10, Corn Market. W. FISHER, Shoemaker, 35, Upper Sackville-street. MR. LEARSON, Bookseller, 17, Capel-street.</p> <p>DUDLEY—S. COOK, Dispenser, High-street.</p> <p>DUNDEE—D. GARDNER, Bookseller, 106, Sea Gate.</p> <p>EDINBURGH—J. M. ... Bookseller, 61, Princes-street.</p> <p>EXETER—T. SPARKES, Bookseller.</p> <p>GLASGOW—G. GALLIE & Sons, Booksellers. G. THOMSON, News Agent, Athenaeum, 26, Glasgow-street. J. H. Mc GUIRE, Booksellers, 9, Brunswick-street.</p> <p>GREENOCK—Mechanics' Institution, Sir Michael-street. Working Men's Refreshment Rooms.</p> <p>GALIFAX—J. C. NICHOLSON, Bookseller, 63, King Cross-street.</p> <p>HUDDERSFIELD—B. BROWN, Bookseller, 1, New-street.</p> <p>HULL—</p> <p>HYDE—W. KNOWLES, Bookseller, Market-street.</p> <p>IPSWICH—RIDLEY & GAINWADE, Druggists, St. Clement's.</p>	<p>LEEDS—J. JOWITT, Bookseller, Camp Lane Court. D. GREEN, Bookseller, 38, Boar-lane.</p> <p>MANCHESTER—W. HOLYOAK, Bookseller, Belgrave Gate.</p> <p>NUMERICK—J. HURST, Bookseller, Office, Lower Harstonge-st.</p> <p>PERMOUTH—DUNN & HARRISON, Booksellers. J. SHEPHERD, Bookseller, 99, Scotland-road. H. BOYD, Ship Agent, 7, Dublin-street.</p> <p>LONDON—W. & F. G. CASH, Booksellers, 5, Bishopsgate Without. W. DREWETT & Co., Booksellers, 4, 265, High-st., Boro'.</p> <p>LONDON—W. CYPLES, Bookseller, Market-street.</p> <p>MANCHESTER—DINHAM & Co., Booksellers, Corporation-st. JAS. R. COOPER, Bookseller, 1, Bridge-street.</p> <p>LEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE—T. P. BARRAS, Bookseller, Grainger-street.</p> <p>NORWICH—FLITCHER & Co., Booksellers, The Walk. J. DARRIN, Bookseller, Little London-street.</p> <p>NORTHAMPTON—J. BATES, News Agent, Bridge-street.</p> <p>NOTTINGHAM—W. HOWITT, Bookseller, Clumber-street. J. RADFORD, Drury Hill Coffee House.</p> <p>OLDHAM—</p> <p>PAISLEY—J. MOTHERWELL, Bookseller, The Cross.</p> <p>PERTH—J. WILSON, Bookseller, Low-street.</p> <p>PRESTON—C. WILSON, 5, Cheapside.</p> <p>ROCHDALE—R. ASPDEN, Bookseller, 43, Yorkshire-street.</p> <p>SHEFFIELD—I. IRONSIDE, Esq., Bank-buildings.</p> <p>STAFFORD—</p> <p>STYBRIDGE—E. HARRISON, N.</p> <p>STOCKPORT—J. HINDLE, Bookseller, 9, Bridge-street Brow.</p> <p>STOKE-ON-TRENT—J. B. BERRINGTONS, 23, Liverpool-road.</p> <p>SUNDERLAND—G. GANBY, Bookseller, 15, Lambton-street. Bishop Wearmouth.</p> <p>TODMORDEN—T. BARKER, Bookseller, Brook-street.</p> <p>WAKEFIELD—D. HEALD, Bookseller, 175, Kirkgate.</p> <p>WIGAN—R. CAUSEY, Teacher, School-street.</p> <p>WOLVERHAMPTON—T. WHITTALL, Amalgamated Trades' Committee Room, Royal George Inn, Salop-street.</p> <p>WORCESTER—W. WEAVER, Bookseller, 18, Foregate.</p> <p>YORK—J. BROWN, Bookseller, 4, Collier Gate.</p>
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All written applications, enclosing One Stamp for Postage, to be addressed to

VERE FOSTER, Wimbledon, Surrey.

James Donnelly fundraising efforts

Letter from James Donnelly, (later bishop of Clogher), 15 Barclay Street, New York, to Dr McNally, Clogher, reporting on subscriptions he had received for the erection of St Macartan's Cathedral in Monaghan. Donnelly, born in Scotstown, Co. Monaghan, had been appointed by the Irish Bishops to collect money in the United States. He makes meticulous notes during his visits, 1851-55, recording sums raised, which reflects the interdependencies that bind Ireland and America. "This day's boat conveys homeward to Dr Cullen, (Archbishop of Dublin, later Cardinal), a remittance of \$1,500, somewhat

more than £300. Above \$1,000 of this sum were collected in Brooklyn and Williamsburgh, which along with Jersey city, form the suburbs of New York city proper. We will operate in Jersey city on Sunday next. ... The Rev. John Donnelly, formerly of the diocese of Clogher - usually called "Big Donnelly" - is now I understand in the state of Missouri with a brother of his. I think he is doing no missionary duty. Mr McCabe, (formerly of Aghavea) is doing duty in the diocese of Hartford and highly thought of by Dr O'Reilly, the bishop there.'

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Dio (RC) 1/10²/48

15 Barclay-street New-York
March 24/52

My Lord
Fest of St. Macartan

As soon as I recovered strength enough to hold the pen in my hand I scratched a line to your Lordships satisfying my conscience. This I hope you received. I am long since perfectly restored to health - indeed to better health than I had enjoyed for years, I think, before my illness.

My poor dear friend Francis - is no longer, it seems, amongst the living. Peace to your soul my dear - beloved Francis. Ah my Lord, your loss is great. The loss of the diocese of Clogher is great indeed - great, I fear, beyond reparation. I fear that among all your clergy there is not one to be compared to him that is gone, in point of zeal, humility, charity & disinterestedness. And for myself I fear I have lost my best friend - if I except Dr. Isaac Mahon whom, with his epistolary shortcomings set with standing, I still regard as the first amongst my friends. Poor Francis had been very good to you - He took you off a perilous mission and settled you in holy retirement for some months before being summoned to his dread tribunal. Yes my Lord this I look upon as a great grace from God that my dear friend had such a glorious opportunity of preparing himself and that he had by the side of his death-bed that friend & priest whose hand I know he would, above all others, wish to see extended over him in his

Document Ref: D3618/D/8/5

04 June 1852

Horace Greeley newspaper owner

Letter from Horace Greeley, New York, (founder and editor of The New York Tribune and future member of the House of Representatives for the Republican Party) on 4 June 1852, providing information to assist Vere Foster in improving his guide for emigrants. Greeley's maternal ancestors, the Woodburns, had emigrated from the Garvagh area in Co. Londonderry, and settled in Londonderry, New Hampshire. He suggests Virginia is the best area for emigrants in terms of agreeable climate, availability of work and cheap land. Concern

for high wages had hampered many Irish emigrants in the past from securing work as often they are, initially, less efficient than the indigenous labour force and consequently are offered less wages. Greeley urges emigrants to work for a farmer for one year to learn the ways of farming in the area. He concludes with a warning on the dangers of remaining in the cities. The Encyclopaedia Britannica would later describe Greeley as "the outstanding newspaper editor of his time".

D3618/D/8/5
New York
June 4, 1852. (268)

Dear Sir: I did receive your former letter, but on the eve of one of my present flying trips into the country on business, and when I could only it had postponed my life is a very hurried one; I have not known what leisure is for years, and though I write many letters, I nevertheless leave many unexpressed. It shall not be so with yours just received.

Your attention is required in the main. I will indicate a few improvements.

1. The State of Virginia, though first colonized of any,

Document Ref: D1078/M/7A

10 April 1859

John Mitchel: Young Ireland

Letter dated 10 April 1859, from John Mitchel in Tucaleechee Cove, Washington DC, to his sister Matilda in Co. Down. Mitchel from Camnish, Co. Londonderry, was an Irish nationalist, attorney, writer and Young Irelander, renowned for his criticism of the British response to the Famine and for supporting the reintroduction of the African Slave Trade. Although the US Congress had passed legislation ending the international slave trade in 1807, slavery as an institution

in the USA would continue until 1866. Having escaped captivity in Van Diemen's Land (modern day Tasmania), he came to America in 1853. "I am 'saving the South' with all my might - indeed so violently that a great part of the south (besides the whole North) think me mad". He discusses the visit of Young Irelander, William Smith O'Brien's to the USA - "he seems well content with the institution of slavery but hesitates about "our great measure, the revival of the African Slave Trade".

Washington D.C.
Apr 10th 1859

My dear Sister Matilda -

Some time ago - I forgot the exact time - I sent the Board of Attorney Adm. Straits & Orledge by the British Consul at Baltimore - I hope no inconvenient delay has occurred. It was addressed with care to you, at Dulycaine - Has it arrived, & is it all right?

We have but little to tell here in the way of news. - Except that the youngsters are all growing up, or growing. John is going out with Gen. Hemmings to begin a settlement in Arizona, a Territory immediately north of Mexico. James keeps the books & does the business of the Southern Colon. Worcester is taller than his mother - plays pretty well but is lazy. As for me - I am "saving the South" with all my might - indeed so violently that a great part of the South (besides the whole North) think me mad. We had a highly agreeable visit from Mr. Smith O'Brien. He did not stay in our house while in Washington, but in one of the hotels. How long he spent most of his time with us.

But was a little surpris'd to find me on such friendly & familiar terms with the Northern Chamber of Congress. It is not only a free count, but a free & free country. He is now in New Orleans, having made a tour through the South, & observing your institutions - from thence he goes up the Mississippi to St Louis, Chicago & the Lakes, Canada, Boston & is back to New York some time in May.

But I feel as if I were telling you things that you are soon to see in some paper - And indeed there is but little of interest here which is not in newspapers - the trials of Dan Shields for murder is now going on here & animating Washington, & enough in the recess of Congress. I am one of the friends of the accused murderer, & am to dine this present dinner with the lawyer of his Counsel, some ten or twelve of the most able American lawyers - the head man of them being one of the Bradys, not Irish by birth however, but very Irish & strong. We are rapidly accumulating here to the revival of the African Slave Trade. Mr.

O'Brien though he seems well content with the institution of slavery, hesitates as yet about the actual importation. He will in properly indeterminate however. At present he is on a visit with a large sugar planter in Louisiana (an Irishman from Lifford) who works about 150 negroes, & wants plenty more from Antigua.

We have some small acquaintances here - the most intimate of them being Dr. Hutcheson who has a very nice wife and family. Also Gen. Shields, who is largely known as on Capitol Hill, & whom we see very often. He is a very singular & quite able & accomplished man, but suffers a good deal from the effect of his wounds when he happens to take cold. Which is a great deal in degree, & the town was crowded with the families of Congressmen we saw a little of the excitement of Washington life. But independent of the Congressional people there is a large permanent population in the city, & they seem to me very good looking people. I have not seen my mother, or any of them for 18 months, nor Mary from since she went to Ireland. She seems to have enjoyed

the Irish trip very much. It is a pleasure in which I cannot but enjoy myself, but I find there are still representations and intrusions made with a view of having the law upon us removed.

Occasionally we hear of your doings over there, and of the services, & your respective crowds of children. As much you too these things are fairly started in life by this time. I wish them all sorts of luck, and

Always your affectionate
John Mitchel

Mr. Meagher is now in Washington, being engaged on the Shields trials

D1078/M/7A.

Document Ref: T1585/1

14 February 1861

Battle of Fort Sumter

Typed letter from Private John Thompson, 1st US Artillery, Fort Sumter Southern Carolina to his father, Robert Thompson in Articlave, Co. Londonderry, dated 14 February 1861. He describes the secession of South Carolina from the Union and outlines how he and other Union soldiers occupied and fortified Fort Sumter whilst waiting bombardment by the enemy. He notes that they were opposed by at least 10-12,000 Carolinians, that their

Commissariat was 'scarcely in a condition to stand a long siege, cut off by the batteries of the enemy from reinforcement or supplies, depending on them for mail facilities etc and yet we are confident and contended because we all see the strength of our position". The Battle of Fort Sumter is further described in future correspondence and would result in the surrender of the United States Army and the beginning of the American Civil War.

Fort Sumter So. Carolina
February 14th 1861

My Dear Father

Your letter dated January 11th has been duly received, and I am exceedingly glad to hear of your welfare. You are anxious you say in your letter to know all the war, or properly speaking the rebellion of South Carolina. I shall endeavor to describe what has come under my notice. Ever since the election of President in November last great dissatisfaction has prevailed in the Slave States, and during December this State formally seceded from the Union, and openly threatened to take forcible possession of the Forts Arsenals and other public property in this harbor. This they were certain could be easily accomplished, as two of the three Forts in this harbor were without any Garrison, and the third, Fort Moultrie being garrisoned by only seventy five United States Artillerymen. Certain of success they vigorously set about warlike preparations, all the time keeping a very strict watch on the helpless little Garrison of which I formed a member. Steamboats were nightly set to watch us to prevent our moving to Sumter, a far more formidable, nay I say almost impregnable work situated directly opposite us, and distant about a mile. Our Commander set about fortifying himself in Moultrie, with such unparalleled vigor that our opponents soon became thoroughly convinced that he intended to make a desperate stand in the position he then held, and the duty of watching us was performed with a laxity corresponding to the strength of their conviction. So completely did our Commander keep his own counsel, that none in the garrison officer or soldier ever dreamed that he contemplated a move, until the movement had actually been made. On the night of the 26th Dec, shortly after sun down, we were forced in heavy marching order, and quietly marched out of Moultrie leaving only a few men behind on guard, and embarking on board a number of small boats that were in readiness were safely landed in Sumter. The consternation of the Carolinians may be imagined next morning when they observed Fort Moultrie enveloped in flames and smoke, and at noon saw the Stars and Stripes proudly waving from the battlements of Fort Sumter. What they feared, and endeavored to prevent, had taken place, and they had the pleasure of witnessing Uncle Sam's troops in a position scarcely assailable in any other way than by the slow process of starvation. During the night of the 26th the men left behind spiked all the guns, and then set fire to the gun-carriages etc. at the abandoned Fort and then left it to quietly be taken possession of by the troops of South Carolina. This they were not long in doing, then can scale the walls of an unoccupied Fort with a gallantry highly commendable. In fact their martial order seemed to have taken a turn in this direction for the same day they assaulted the remaining empty Fort in the harbor and amid shouts, exultantly raised their Palmetto flag, to announce their bloodless victory. Of course they were boiling over to attack Sumter, and tear down the cursed Stars and Stripes, but of course they haven't done it yet, and if they do and live it will only be to repent their rash folly and mourn their loss. Fort Sumter which we now occupy is a five sided brick work walls from 12 to 5 1/2 feet thick mounting

/three

three tier of guns of the heaviest calibre, and completely surrounded by water. It is situated on the very edge of the ship channel, so that every vessel passing in or out of the harbor passes directly under our guns. In fact, it is the key of the harbor and completely commands all the other fortifications. Sumter was far from being in a defensible condition, very few guns were mounted and everything was in admirable confusion. However we went to work assisted by 50 or 60 laborers, and now we can say We are ready. The Carolinians have been by no means idle all this time however. At the nearest point of land on Morris Island about 1400 yds. distant they have constructed very formidable batteries, and are now I may say just as ready as we are. We are in daily expectation of a commencement, which must come from them as our orders are to set strictly on the defensive. That they intend to bombard us is evident, and that they will attempt to breach this work at its weakest point is equally sure, but we are sure their attempt will prove a failure. They may starve us out and harass us meantime by shelling our position, but we all feel confident that assault if attempted will prove a signal failure. Inside here we are all thank God in excellent health and spirits, in fact a more contented lot of men would be hard to score up. We are only seventy five in number and have now only about twenty laborers, the rest having taken their leave of us, no doubt thinking discretion was the better part of valor, and we are opposed to stand a long siege, cut off by the Commissariat scarcely in a condition to stand a long siege, depending on them for mail facilities etc and yet we are confident and contented because we all see the strength of our position and know that the chivalry of South Carolina are effectually scared to attack the frowning fortress the possession of which they so much desire. So matters stand at present, but how long they may continue so is a mystery.

You need not be in any unnecessary anxiety on my account, for to tell the truth in spite of all their bluster I am almost sure they never will fire a shot at us, indeed I think they are only too glad to be let alone. I am in excellent health, and hope you all are enjoying that same blessing. At the expiration of my time I shall doubtless return to see you all and give you an account of America verbatim. Keep up this correspondence a letter from home is very refreshing in a place like this. I will endeavor to keep you posted when opportunity offers regarding events on this side Jordan. Give my respects to all my friends and acquaintances, and believe me

Your affectionate son
John Thompson

Document Ref: D1364/1/20

14 Dec 1863

American Civil War account

Letter from Rowland Redmond, New York to 'Dear Willie' (William Young, Ballymena, Co. Antrim) on 14 Dec 1863, discussing the American Civil War. Rowland was a member of the prominent Redmond family in New York during the mid-19th century. Born in 1845, he was the son of William Redmond, an Irish-born merchant originally from Ballymena, County Antrim, who had migrated to the United States and established a

successful business in New York. He writes "The backbone of the Rebellion is no beyond all doubt broken. Six of at most twelve months must see its armies marching in triumph over the Rebellion states". The losses of Chattanooga and Knoxville were critical. He believes that 7/8 in the Free States would vote against the abolition of slavery and feels that freed slaves would perish within ten years.

No. 9 Haverty Place D1364 I/20
New York 14 Dec 1863.

Dear Willie

If Jane were to see my hand just now, she would have somebody else to ridicule than her "Lord & Master", for it has just bugged out from the depths of my capacious side pocket of a "mortal" bunch of folded & ragged forlorn looking letters and amongst them is your philosophic note of the 24th of July last, why I have not acknowledged its receipt on this, I don't attempt to explain - but you apply that small French phrase which often comes with a twinkle in your eye you "trotted me out" upon - however I promise that most of that "but-d" shall be committed to the flames before Nature tonight -

The photographs are excellent, as usual they have been seized & ornament Mrs Redmond's book, it seems odd - bachelors have no rights at all -

Eliza who is still with Mrs Redmond gaze me quite graphic accounts of you all at Fenway especially of Miss Young of whom, don't turn up your nose, I was making rather tender enquiries, "oh in it is a fine fat great big little fine wee thing" all of the description sounds very satisfactory - I should like to judge for myself dear miss - James dined with you - sharing your Infirmary pudding and James's bribe -

of the credit you advise me, thro J. Abrahamson for collections

15 - Sold 150 - in my trunk for the 2nd - for a year I have sent them to a friend at N Orleans - Remember me to my kind & to the children - what an awful while the winter has been - of which I am sure - 89 miles - D.R.

Vere Foster meets Abraham Lincoln

Letter from Vere Foster to the Editor of the Irish Times (Dr George Ferdinand Shaw), dated 26 April 1865. He decries the 'foul murder' of President Abraham Lincoln (15 April 1865) and recounts meeting Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois in 1857/58, whilst endeavouring to obtain temporary houses in the Western States for young Irish women evicted from

work in New York. The Lincolns had agreed to look after any girls that Foster directed to them and indeed fulfilled that promise by fostering one of the girls for three weeks and then finding her 'a situation'. This incident was an exception as most of the girls refused to continue westward and ended in houses of ill repute or destitute.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE IRISH TIMES.
SIR,—Your readers will, I am sure, be pleased to know the following amiable trait of Abraham Lincoln, whose foul murder, announced this day, is a great public misfortune to the people of both the Northern and Southern States :—
When I was engaged in the winter of 1857-8, in connection with a society, in endeavouring to obtain situations or temporary houses in the Western States for young women thrown out of work in New York, in consequence of the commercial crisis, among about sixty families whom I called on at Springfield, in the State of Illinois, a thousand miles from New York, was that of Abraham Lincoln. I find this memorandum in my note-book in relation to him and his family—"One of the first families in the city—would be a comfortable home. Mr and Mrs Lincoln promise to treat any girl we direct to them as one of the family, and to give her a home certain for a month, so as to give her time to settle in a place."
A few weeks afterwards I returned to New York, and started again for Springfield and other places, in joint charge with our secretary, Mrs Eliza Farnham, of a party of about 70 young women. One of these we escorted to Mr Lincoln's hospitable mansion. About ten days afterwards I called again on Mr Lincoln to see himself and his *protege*. He kindly invited me to stay a few days; a bed was made up for me on the floor of the drawing-room, and I remained till next morning. Mr and Mrs Lincoln fulfilled their promise in the kindest manner to the young woman alluded to, who remained in his house for about three weeks, and then obtained a situation.—I am,
your obedient servant,
VERE FOSTER.
108 Marlborough-street, Dublin, April 26th, 1865.

homes

Document Ref: D1195/3/24

08 June 1865

Jane White letter from Ontario

Letter from Jane White in Goderich, Ontario, British North America (Canada), to Eleanor Wallace of Newtownards, Co. Down, on 8 June 1865. She notes the American Civil war being over and the impact it had left on the 'shipping interest'. The end of the Civil War was transformative and put an immediate end to blockade running (British ships that delivered arms and supplies to the South and smuggled cotton out) and led to the reorientation of global maritime trade. There is no evidence whether she was a Confederate supporter however she expresses little

sympathy for the recently murdered US President: "I suppose you were surprised at the assassination of President Lincoln ... he should not have entered a theatre on Good Friday ... There was no public sympathy for the assassination of the President, but a few towns sympathized greatly. The Fenians are causing a fuss and the Canadians are afraid of them". The 'Fenians' is a reference to the Fenian Brotherhood, a militant Irish nationalist group who undertook raids against British North America to further their aims for Irish independence.

very much, but it is over now,
so I suppose as we may look for
good prospects now, Goderich was
so much devoted, there was no
letting property for anything like
value, this town has troubled greatly
the shipping interest is so knocked
up, but still the town will recover, we
in the midst of difficulties we do not
owe one penny, so that is fortunate.
I suppose you were surprised at the
assassination of President Lincoln, the
news arrived here next day, he should
not have entered a theatre on the
night of Good Friday, but he
was a person greatly respected and
regretted, Booth was surely a very
outlandish brutal character.
We had a steady cold winter, but

Yearning for Ulster

Letter from Alex Aitken, Rapid Creek near Iowa City, Iowa, USA to William Patterson, Fivemiletown, Co. Tyrone, dated 14 January 1866. Aitken is an example of a migrant who initially arrives in Canada and then decides to move to the USA where he manages to buy 80 acres of land for \$9 per acre, noting the land's high quality and potential for profit. He views it as an investment opportunity due to an excess of timber which he believes is

worth more than the cost of the entire farm. He was impressed by the fertility of the land, claiming it could grow crops like potatoes, sugar cane, Indian corn, and wheat without manure. He described cabbage growing easily and abundantly. Despite the economic opportunities in Iowa, he expresses a preference for returning home and writes that if he is offered a job back in Ireland, he would sell the land for double what he paid.

D-9627/213B
Iowa City 14 January 1866
Dear Sir,
I should have wrote to you before this time but as I had not got into a better way I just waited till now I did not stop long in Canada only one day. I did not like the appearance of the country besides land is dear, Improved farms could not be got for less than \$8 to \$15 per acre so I came on here where the country looks more promising, the only fault this country has timber is scarce and firing is dear, but the land is of the best quality, I could a got a good situation the next day after I came here, but I understand the gentleman was not easy pleased

My address is
Alex^r. Aitken
Rapid Creek
near Iowa City
Iowa
U. S.
I warranted Aitken to remain in the country for you to see him but he is a man of such a active mind he would not wait a few months, he proposed to return if we required him then if I ever saw I would decline becoming steward, I wish you had Aitken, he is judge of cattle & a first rate hand, I know he knows how to work & make others do it & I would not have to complain of his being too often in the house & labouring in the fields he is best of this wife & I agree to all words & conditions

PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE (NI)
D. U. D.
627
213B

PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

so, I did not take it, I kept hunting about for a farm I viewed and priced and offered for several but it is not easy getting a fiting one, however I managed at last to buy 80 acres four miles from this city & gave nine dollars per acre for it I have plenty of timber on it, I could sell the timber any day for more than the whole farm cost me in fact when I bought, it was with the view of selling again as I saw plainly I could do more than double my money in it, but I have made up my mind not to sell till I hear from you for if Mr. Montgomery gives me a situation worth coming for I will sell out and return to Fivemiletown although I like the country very well for it is a money making place, yet and

withal I would rather live in Ireland, if I could live as well but I would not return to live in Drumnamale if Mr. Graham would make me a present of it, the land here requires no manure or drainage it will grow potatoes of the best quality with no manure, I am informed manure would spoil them it grows Sugar Cane Indian corn and wheat of the best quality in succession for twenty years with one bit of manure every thing grows here without much trouble Cabbage requires no transplanting they sow them in Spring and turn them out like turnips and they are like pots for size in September

I am Sir
Your obt Servt
Alex^r. Aitken

1860s Emigrant report

Report, dated 15 August 1868, contained in the Duke of Abercorn's papers of Baronscourt, Co. Tyrone, addressed to Sir Thomas Larcom from William Donnelly, Registrar General, listing the number of emigrants from Ireland during each quarter from 1 January 1860 to 30 June 1868. The second table shows the increases and decreases of persons permanently leaving Ireland in each year. The tables reveal that in this period migration was greatest in 1863 when 117,229 migrated, after which the number declined every year. A caveat at

the end explains that the financial crisis in England and America has impacted on the "railways and new works and the lower kinds of employment in which the Irish were chiefly engaged; and in Liverpool and the east of London there was a great depression in the amount of employment for the lower class of labourers... The Emigration Statistics only indicate that Ireland has suffered less in this class of employment than London, Liverpool and New York".

D623/A/312/8 N2
VR 223

State of Ireland in 1868.

Part VI. VII. - Emigration.

The Returns of Emigration for the year ended the 30th June, 1868, as compared with preceding year, is as follows:-

Number of Persons permanently leaving Ireland in each year.

Year ended	Number of Persons	Increases	Decreases
30 th June, 1861	76,894		
30 th June, 1862	61,979		14,915
30 th June, 1863	163,810	41,031	
30 th June, 1864	121,863	15,853	
30 th June, 1865	91,178		30,685
30 th June, 1866	114,994	23,816	
30 th June, 1867	81,456		33,538
30 th June, 1868	69,682		11,774

The diminution of Emigration will be generally looked on as a satisfactory result, following as it does a still more marked diminution in the number permanently leaving Ireland in the year 1866-67 below the two previous years. Only two years since the famine years, a lower number of Emigrants.

111

But it is to be borne in mind that the financial crisis, which has existed for a considerable time both in England and America has especially pressed on the condition of Railways and New Works, and the lower kinds of employment in which the Irish were chiefly engaged; and in Liverpool and the east of London there was a great depression in the amount of employment for the lower class of labourers, and I remind in account of a similar depression last winter in New York. The Emigration Statistics only indicate that Ireland has suffered less in this class of employment than London, Liverpool, and New York.

Wm. Donnelly

Statistic Office
Ten Court, Dublin
17th August, 1868

D623/A/312/8 N1
VR 223

Return of the Number of Emigrants from the Ports of Ireland during each Quarter of the following Years:-

Years.	Quarter ending				Total for the Year.
	March 31 st	June 30 th	September 30 th	December 31 st	
1860	15,525	32,415	26,298	15,383	89,621
1861	14,235	26,978	13,353	9,726	64,292
1862	11,495	27,005	17,584	13,633	70,117
1863	24,792	47,001	25,652	19,784	117,229
1864	27,625	48,802	22,138	15,604	114,169
1865	15,848	27,588	27,661	20,400	101,497
1866	25,809	41,124	19,600	12,894	99,427
1867	14,033	36,229	18,475	13,227	80,624
1868	12,527	25,453	-	-	37,980*

* For the 3 first Quarters of the Year only.

Wm. Donnelly
Registrar General.

General Register Office
Dublin 15th August 1868

Ireland.

Return of the Number of Emigrants from the Ports of Ireland during each of the Quarters of the Years 1860, to 1868 inclusive:-

Wm. Donnelly
Registrar General.

Document Ref: D2778/1

1869-1901

Travel Diary of Thomas Workman

Travel diary of Thomas Workman (1843-1900), entomologist (person who studies insects) and arachnologist (person who studies spiders and other arachnids) documenting his voyage on the SS Nestorian from Derry-Londonderry to Canada, and his travels in Canada and through the US states of Michigan, Virginia, the Carolinas and Louisiana. Workman was from a prosperous linen and merchant family which included brother Frank Workman, who founded the Belfast shipyard, Workman & Clark.

The journal (1869-1900), features hand-painted watercolours and photographs illustrating his trip, including portraits of native American individuals and communities. Workman made major contributions to science and was credited with describing several new species of spider including the *Phidippus Workmani*, found in southeastern United States. He died in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA in 1900, having caught a chill en route from Vancouver following a trip to the Rocky Mountains.



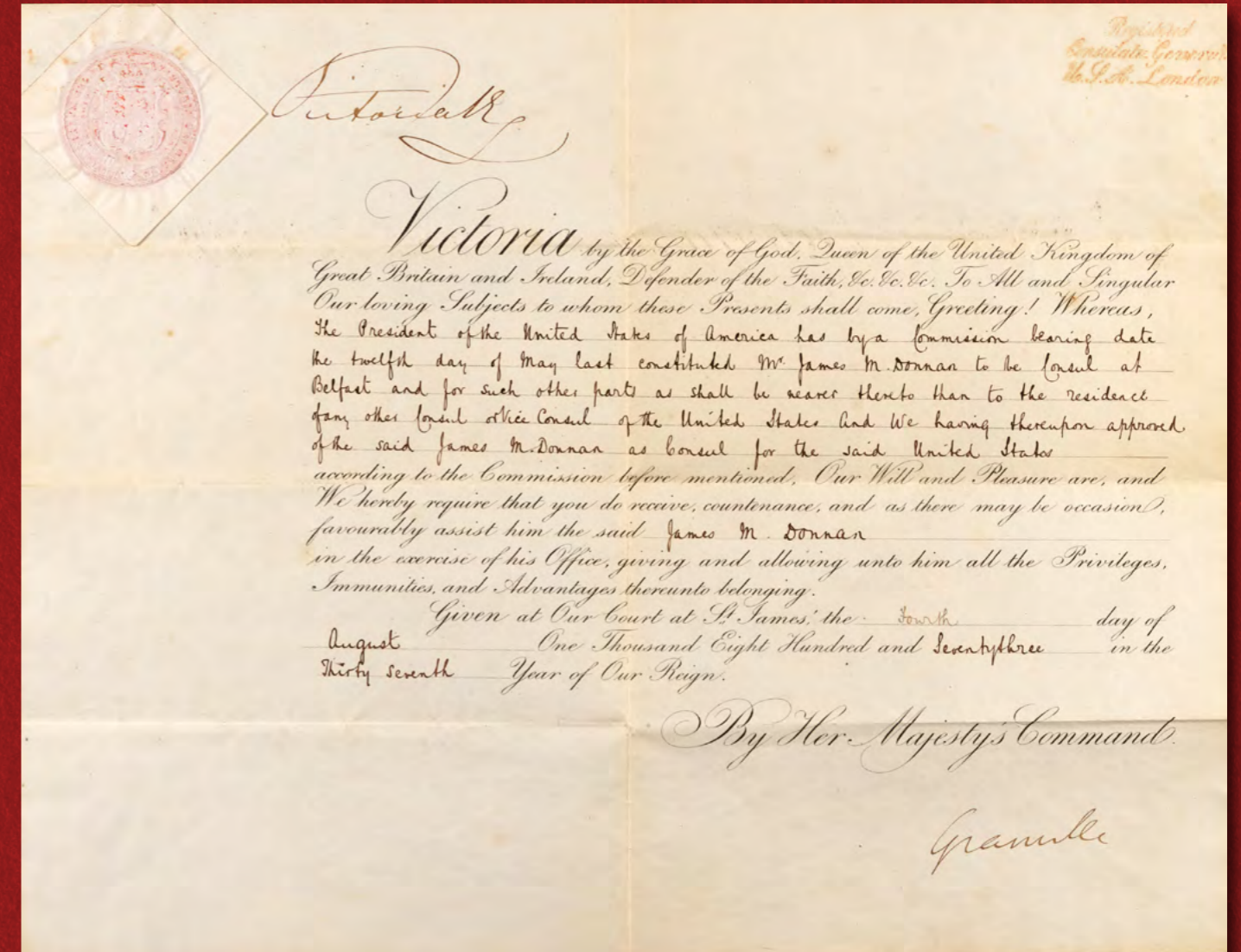
Document Ref: D490/1

04 August 1873

Royal approval from Queen Victoria of US Consul

Royal approval from Queen Victoria appointing James Monroe Donnan (1824-1893) as US Consul of Belfast, dated 4 August 1873. It notes the President of the USA had by a commission dated 12 May constituted Mr James M Donnan to be Consul at Belfast. The role of the US Consul General in Belfast had been established by the first American President, George Washington on 27 May 1796 and is the second oldest continuously operating US Consulate in the world. Royal approval is a ceremonial and legal formality

and a formal recognition that the Consul is technically serving in the UK territory, as reflected in the text: "Whereas the President of the United States of America has by a Commission ... constituted Mr James M Donnan to be Consul of Belfast ... and we having thereupon approved of the said James M Donnan as Consul for the said United States". Donnan would serve from 1873-1880, a period of significant and political change when Belfast was in the throes of economic transformation and would achieve city status in 1888.



Document Ref: D791/81

August 1876

Panorama of New York City

Panorama of New York City, August 1876. Though photography had become enormously fashionable by the 1850s and 1860s in Britain and America the more traditional wood-block engraved panoramic drawings of urban scenery continued to hold immense appeal. They may indeed have flourished more than ever before in the mid-Victorian period. This piece gives a dramatic view of the dynamic city so many Ulster and Irish migrant arrivals

would have observed during the 1860s and 1870s. New York had overtaken Boston as the main entry point for Irish immigrants during the Famine Years of the 1840s. The birds-eye view was made for the British market by Thomas Sulman of London (1834-1900) (& engraved by Robert Loudan), probably working from a balloon above Bergen Hill, New Jersey.



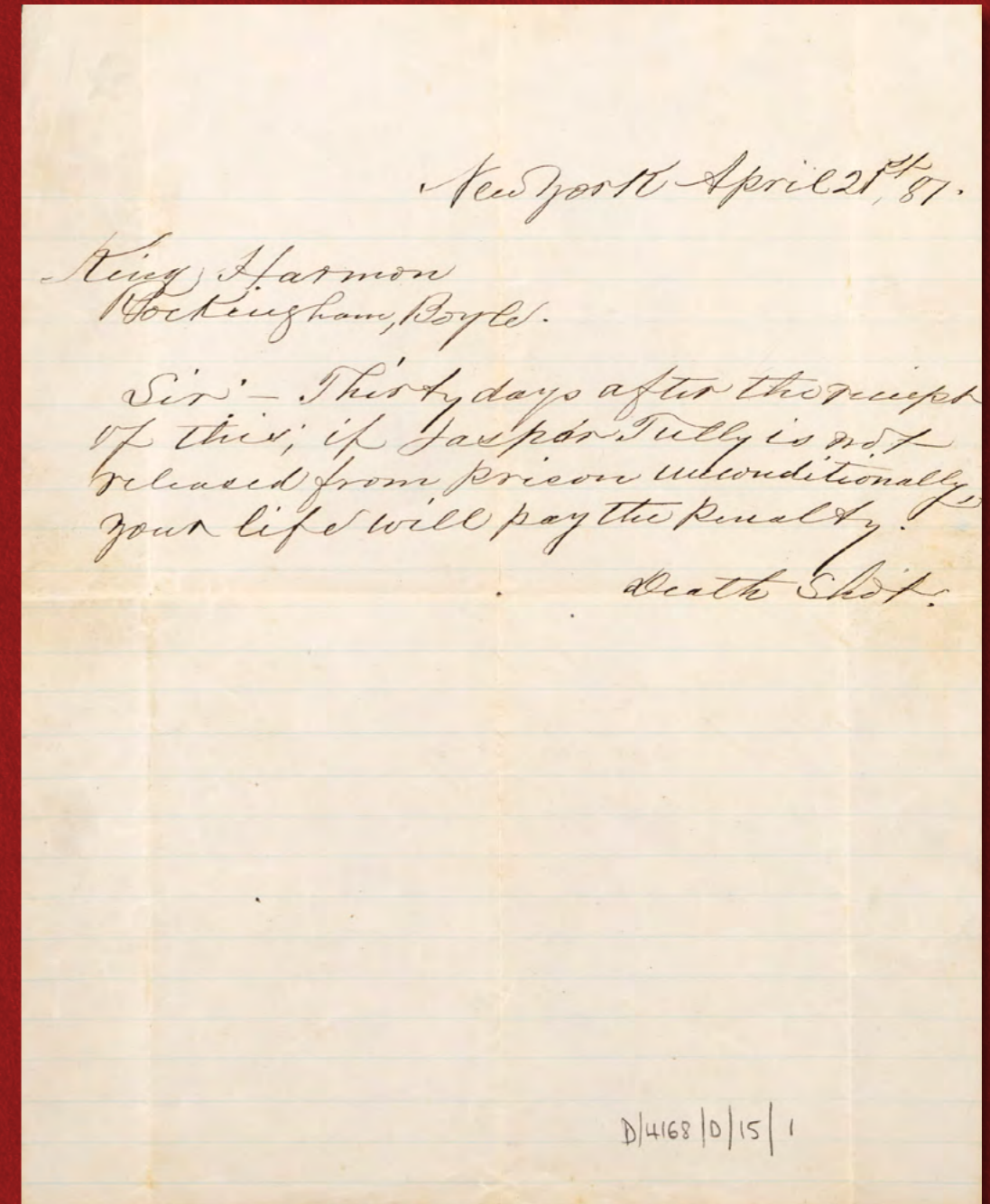
Document Ref: D1497/4/5

20 July 1880

Threatening letter from Death-Shot

Threatening letter to Col King-Harman, 21 April 1887 from 'Death-Shot' (probably 'Captain Death-Shot', to use a favoured pseudonym in this category of letter). He writes from New York in April 1887 to warn Colonel Edward King-Harman (1838-1888) of Rockingham House, Boyle (Lough Key, Roscommon) to ensure that Jasper Tully (1858-1938), the firebrand editor of the Roscommon Herald (later Home Rule MP) be released from prison, perhaps while he was in detention that year in Roscommon Town, under indictment to assizes for intimidation. Tully had been imprisoned with Charles Stewart Parnell in Kilmainham Jail in 1882 and was jailed again in 1890 for

publication of an inflammatory newspaper article. King-Harman had begun his political career in the mid-1870s as an associate of Isaac Butt in the Protestant Home Rule League but by the 1880s had become decidedly Unionist in sympathies. It is likely that 'Death Shot' expected King-Harman to exert his influence as Lord Lieutenant of County Roscommon to allow Tully bail. The letter plays on the menace of a massive Fenian organisation built up in Irish-America by the late 19th century. It is shorter than many such letters but may well have served its purpose. King-Harman died of heart disease at Lough Key in June 1888.



Document Ref: D1497/4/5

20 July 1880

Memories of Tullibrick turf

Migrant letter, dated 20 July 1880 from John S. Sinclair, Healdsburg, Sonoma, California, to Margaret (Graham) at Tullybrick, Co. Londonderry. This letter is one of a number from Sinclair and is a good example of the mindset of an Irish exile in America, still intimately connected to his former home in Ireland. Sinclair laments about the hot weather and an absence of rain since 10

May. He writes: "if Tullibrick turf was here 2 days they would be dry". Turf in Ireland is also known as peat and is a traditional fuel source made from partially decayed plants harvested from bogs. The practice of turf cutting is deeply rooted in Irish rural life. Sinclair is particularly invested in news from Ireland and in a later letter asks Margaret to "write and let me know all about the country".

D1497/4/5 July the 20 1880
Cal
Healdsburg Sonoma County
Dear Margaret you will think
it strange I did not answer
sooner I send you a
small present brooch
and earrings I hope you will
live long to enjoy them you
and Mary Sinclair was my
favorites I not saying this before
your faces it is far behind
your backs Mary did not write
yet to me it is verry hot
hear now from sun rise to
sun set and cold at night
we had no rain since the 10
of may expects no rain to
winter I want to hear
what kind of weather you
have if Tullibrick turf was
here 2 days the would be dry

Document Ref: D618/152

30 May 1901

Joseph Bonaparte's Dalliance with Annette Savage

Crossed letter from Edmund Savage, Parkville, King's Co., New York, USA to Professor George F. Savage-Armstrong, Bray, Co. Wicklow, dated 30 May 1901, giving details of the Savage family in the USA, descendants of James Savage of Co. Londonderry who emigrated to USA in 1817. He recalled how the exiled former King of Naples and Spain, Joseph Bonaparte, entered America (in 1815) under an alias (Count de Surveilliers) and fathered two children with his mistress, Annette Savage.

"I remember the time when Annette's daughter was received by Napoleon III, and the Empress, and the publication of the decree of legitimacy. It is quite a romantic story which I thought would interest you, and one that had possibly escaped your knowledge or notice. I do not know what branch of the family Annette belonged to. All residents of Philadelphia (styled the Quaker City) are dubbed "Quakers".



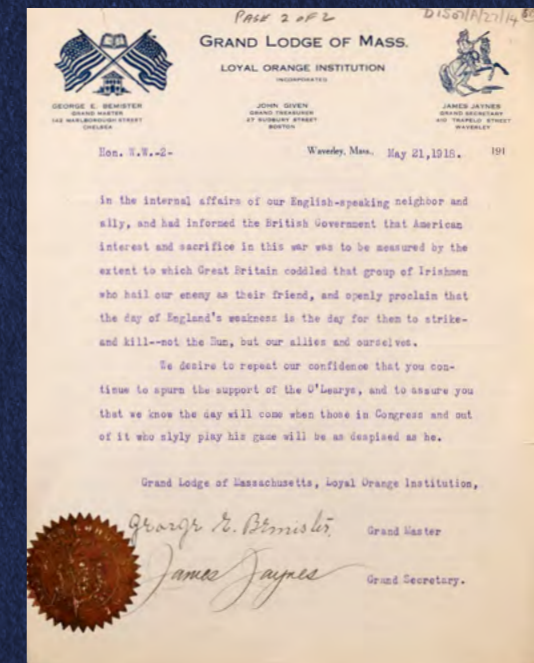
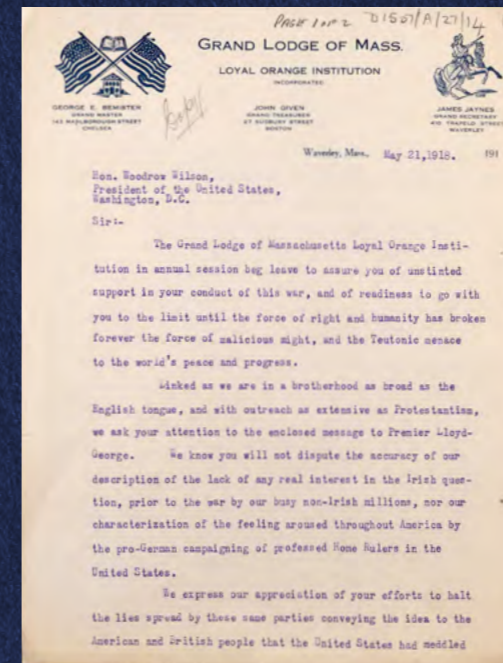
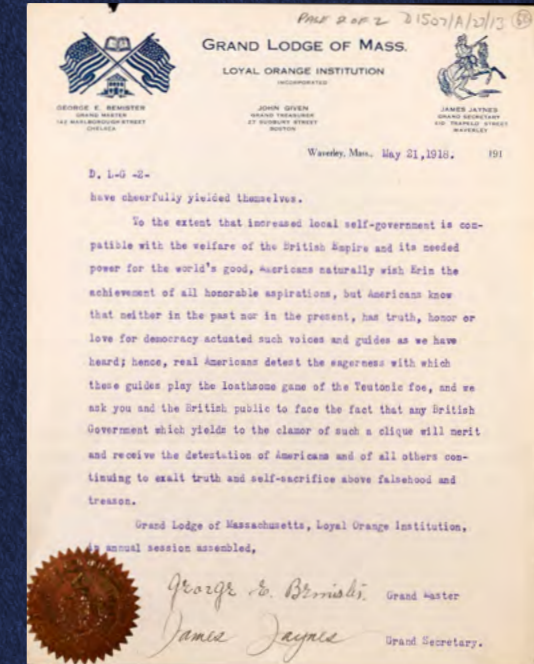
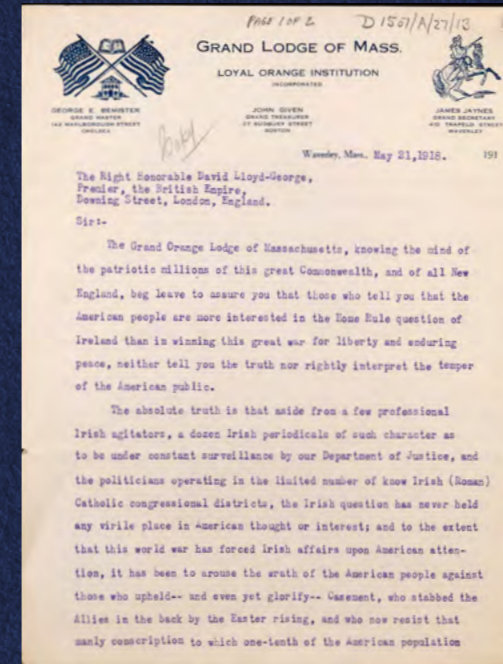
Document Ref: D1507/A/27/13-14

21 May 1918

Orange Order letters from America

Copies of messages sent to President Woodrow Wilson and Prime Minister Lloyd George, dated 21 May 1918, which were forwarded to Edward Carson, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party in Ireland. The letters were written by George E. Bemister and James Jaynes on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Loyal Orange Institution, expressing 'continued confidence, sympathy and support'. The Loyal Orange Order is an international Protestant fraternal order, originating in Co. Armagh in 1795, primarily

associated with Ulster Protestants and the memory of the British King, William III (also known as William of Orange). They assert to Lloyd George that "the American people are more interested in the Home Rule question of Ireland than in winning this great war" (First World War). They ask President Wilson "to spurn the support of the O'Learys (a reference to the US born Sinn Feiner, Jeremiah O'Leary) ... and that we know the day will come when those in Congress and out of it who slyly play his game will be as despised as he".



Document Ref: D2886/A/2/12/5/14

03 July 1943

The First G.I. Bride

Wedding photograph, dated 3 July 1943, of soldier Private Artie Mudge and Maureen Donnelly. Donnelly of Railway Street became the first G.I. bride in Armagh. The term G.I. refers to US soldiers and is the abbreviated form of Government Issue and sometimes General Issue. Maureen met Private Artie Mudge in the Hibernian Hall at a Sunday night dance and he proposed two months later. Artie had joined the United States army when he was 18 years old and was posted to

Northern Ireland in 1943. The honeymoon (two nights) was spent in the Beresford Arms Hotel before Artie returned to Chester in preparation for the D-Day landings. He was given ten days leave while serving in France and posted back to the USA in June 1945. Maureen was not able to join him until May 1946. They then went on to live in New Jersey. The bridesmaid was Emma Loughran and the best man was Peter Collins from Armagh.



Eisenhower receives the Freedom of City of Belfast

Government file created by the Cabinet Office of the Northern Ireland Parliament, dated 1945. The file is entitled entertainment expenditure: visit of Gen. Eisenhower to receive Freedom of City of Belfast. It includes telegrams from Eisenhower expressing to the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, Basil Brooke, and his Government where he writes "I truly enjoyed my visit to Northern Ireland and was delighted to have had the opportunity of meeting you. The many courtesies you extended to me will always be remembered with gratitude and

appreciation". Eisenhower enjoyed a close relationship with Northern Ireland, having visited as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces and inspected the United States Army troops in May 1944. He addresses the fleet at Bangor in Belfast Lough on 19 May, prior to it sailing to England to join up with the rest of the allied forces in advance of the D-Day landings. In 2005, the General's granddaughter, Mary Jean Eisenhower, would visit Bangor for a ceremony to rename the North Pier in honour of her grandfather.

with compliments from the Government Press
Office, Stormont Castle, Belfast.

GENERAL EISENHOWER'S LETTER TO ULSTER
PRIME MINISTER

General Eisenhower has sent the following letter to the Prime Minister
(the Rt. Hon. Sir Basil Brooke):-

Dear Sir Basil,

I truly enjoyed my visit to Northern Ireland and was delighted to have had the opportunity of meeting you. The many courtesies you extended to me will always be remembered with gratitude and appreciation.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

3rd September, 1945.
-/C

*Forwarded to N.I. papers, nationals, P.A.
Beattie (BBC) & Northwood. Jna.*

HOME OFFICE FROM STORMONT
IMMEDIATE

TO NORTHWOOD, N.I., GOVT OFFICE, 21 COCKSPUR ST. LONDON S W 1
FROM WMS, STORMONT, CASTLE, BELFAST.

FOLLOWING IS FOR RELEASE BY YOU AT YOUR DISCRETION AT OR AFTER
1.30 P.M. TODAY:

GENERAL EISENHOWER HAD TREMENDOUS RECEPTION FROM PEOPLE OF BELFAST TODAY. ADDRESSING DISTINGUISHED GATHERING AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY WHERE HE RECEIVED HONORARY DEGREE, O.B.E., LL.D., HE SAID: "IN THIS AWARD THERE IS THE IMPLICATION OF YOUR CONVICTION THAT THERE WAS WORKED OUT, IN WAR, A METHOD OF COMBINED LEADERSHIP AND OF CO-OPERATION THAT ENABLED MILLIONS OF FIGHTING MEN OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES TO PURSUE EFFECTIVELY AND SURELY A COMMON OBJECTIVE. I TRUST THAT THIS AWARD SYMBOLISES ALSO YOUR FAITH THAT IT SHOULD ALWAYS BE POSSIBLE FOR FREE NATIONS TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO A COMMON PROBLEM."

LATER IN SPEECH EISENHOWER SAID: "THROUGHOUT THIS LONG WAR THERE HAVE BEEN MEN AND NATIONS— AND HEREIN THE BRITISH PEOPLE HAVE PARTICULAR REASON FOR PRIDE—WHO NEVER, IN THE DARKEST HOURS, LOST FAITH IN THEIR CAUSE OR DESPAIRED OF FINAL VICTORY. AND YET IT WAS TOO NEAR A THING. IT WAS A RISK WE DARE NOT RUN AGAIN. THE MECHANICAL POWER OF DESTRUCTION HAS NOW BECOME SO FEARFULLY DEVASTATING THAT WE MUST SEE THAT A SIMILAR MENACE DOES NOT RESE AGAIN. WE MUST NOW ENLIST THE SAME ENERGY AND SINGLENESS OF PURPOSE IN DEVELOPING THE INSTITUTIONS OF PEACE WHICH IN THE TIME OF OUR NECESSITY WE DEVOTED TO THE PROSECUTION OF WAR. ... TO THIS GREAT TASK EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE THEIR OWN PECULIAR CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE. THE WORLD'S UNIVERSITIES HAVE AN UNEQUALLED RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD FUTURE HUMAN WELFARE AND UNEQUALLED OPPORTUNITY TO ENRICH IT."

ON RECEIVING FREEDOM OF BELFAST AT THE CITY HALL GENERAL EISENHOWER THANKED PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND FOR THE HOSPITALITY SHOWN TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS WHO WERE STATIONED THERE SO LONG. "IT WASN'T HERE IN NORTHERN IRELAND" HE SAID "THAT WE FIRST BEGAN TO CONCENTRATE FOR OUR SHARE IN THE ATTACK UPON THE CITADEL OF CONTINENTAL EUROPE. IT HAS BEEN A MIGHTY BROTHERHOOD OF COURAGE AND COURAGE, CONSECRATED TO THE PURSUIT OF A RIGHTEOUS CAUSE. THANKS TO THIS COMMON PURPOSE AND THESE UNITED EFFORTS WE NOW SHARE VICTORY ON ALL FRONTS. THESE LESSONS, THESE FRIENDSHIPS, SHOULD SERVE US WELL IN PEACE."

THE GENERAL SPOKE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT COMMON TO THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN NATIONS AND PROCEEDED: "A TREMENDOUS STEP TOWARD WORLD PEACE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED IF A SENSE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE ACQUIRED BY THE GERMAN PEOPLE. OUR MILITARY GOVERNMENT OVER THEM CANNOT BE A PURELY NEGATIVE CONTROL. GRADUALLY THEY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO BUILD FREE INSTITUTIONS SUITABLE TO THEIR NEEDS. WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL ACCEPT AND FOSTER THAT CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THINK AND ACT AND VOTE WHICH IS THE VERY ANTI-THESIS OF THE NAZI THEORY OF REGIMENTATION. THEY MUST ABSORB THE IDEAL OF THE MORAL DUTY OF EVERY CITIZEN TO PARTICIPATE IN DEMOCRATIC THINKING FOR THE SALVATION OF HIS COMMUNITY AND HIS NATION, WITHIN AN ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL WORLD."

(NOTE TO MR. NORTHWOOD. FOLLOWING CONTINUATION OF EISENHOWER STORY CAN BE RELEASED BY YOU AT 4-30 TODAY ON RECEIVING CONFIRMATION BY PHONE.)

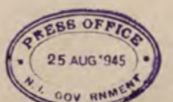
THIS AFTERNOON GENERAL EISENHOWER DROVE THROUGH CHEERING CROWDS ALONG A FOUR-MILE ROUTE FROM BELFAST CITY HALL TO THE GROUNDS OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS AT STORMONT. THERE HE ATTENDED A GARDEN PARTY TO WHICH THE N.I. GOVERNMENT HAD INVITED 3,000 GUESTS. THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET WERE PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SIR BASIL BROOKE. FOR AN HOUR GENERAL EISENHOWER MOVED FREELY AMONG THE GUESTS WHO INCLUDED LARGE NUMBER OF CITIZENS WHO HAD BEEN PROMINENT IN ORGANISING HOSPITALITY FOR AMERICAN TROOPS IN ALL PARTS OF N.I. DURING WAR.

EISENHOWER ADDRESSED THE VAST CONCOURSE OF GUESTS FROM THE BALCONY OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS BEFORE LEAVING BY AIR FOR ENGLAND IN THE DAKOTA IN WHICH HE HAD FLOWN FROM FRANKFURT YESTERDAY.

(NOTE FOR MR. NORTHWOOD: EISENHOWER IS DUE TO LEAVE BY AIR AT 4.50 P.M.)

TOO 1015 24/8/45 ENW
THI 1030J

BE 1040 BE
RD HO ZLF





J. Rocque. Map of Ulster: 1794 D754/6A



Ulster American Treasures: The Migration Story marks 250 years of stories of people from Ulster in North America since the landmark Declaration of Independence and the formation of the United States.

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