

A2
Dear Uncle
Sir

Philadelphia March 12th 1795

This is the third letter I have wrote you and have receiv'd no answer whatever - I must suppose that the Vessels are taken or the letters have miscarried - I cannot but speak my gratitude for your kind concern express'd for me when you last wrote Mr. Allum - Thank Heaven I have not troubled him for the favour you desir'd him to give me respecting Cloathing Mr. Doughty as he has it very ill indeed - he has not paid one feathering to any one. And I can positively say he is between 5 and 6 thousand pounds in his hands - I would not wish you to lose so great a sum as is due you - But in my opinion if some more extraordinary means are not us'd you will not be able to get it for many a long day - I had abt. 100[£] worth of gold leaf in my hands which Doughty had not (fortunately for me) within his Grasp - Mr. Allum advis'd me to sell it as I was out of business and it has maintain'd me hitherto very comfortably which is near 12 months tho' I thought it best to retain abt. 50 doll for Doughty as he says he must have what was left. he talk'd of suing poor me for living on my fathers Property I can say

that he acts like a great Villain not that I am a good
judge but People find him in general to be a man of no
principal so much for him. I think it but right to acquaint
you with my situation. I am in Philadelphia. I found nothing
to do in New York for 9 months. I could not ^{be} worse of any
where else. I thought to try my fortune somewhere else, business
is brisker here - God knows if I shall be fortunate or No -
I must find some kind of work in a few weeks My fortune
is small - I came into this City a few days ago and all I am
worth is 12 doll and a small trunk of Cloaths - it is a pretty
sum for a lad that is in a strange Place - I know no business
except book keeping that I am acquainted ^{with} if I could get
employment in any office I could maintain myself comfortably
with my Pen - at hard labor I am afraid I should make
a poor hand. Tho' I can't tell what I might do, till I try -
If I do not get into employment soon - I shall be obliged
to go to some hard labor, if I can get that. If Jancy I shall
^{find} that pretty hard to get - I have advertised in the papers and
put papers in the coffee house. I am at a miserable Place now
at 2 dol. ^{pⁿ} week for boarding never did I experience such sad fare
but my pocket will not afford more, there is washing, mending &
a thousand little things to pay for out of my narrow fortune -

I suppose you know that Mr. Pabbot and Allum are
going to dissolve Partnership - I am sorry to say that
the American Government are getting very strong in
a - a aristocratic way. Jonathan Dayton speaker
took it upon ^{him} to say that he would not allow the Printers
to copy their debates ^{in short hand that} but ^{themelves} they should copy them from the
Clubs writings - a great Piece of Presumption. when he was
put in the Chair he was a good Republican but now
he is in authority he is a really Aristocrat one who
if he could would act with greater despotism than the
greatest tyrant in the World - The members of the house
of representatives behave very bad. Two of them had a
quarrel a little while. One spit in the others face the other
cuttill'd him for it while the house was sitting -
I'm doing for the leaders of America. a little while
ago they pass'd an act laying a Stamp act on all papers
promissary ^{notes} could not be lawful unless they bore the Stamp
The Stamp act was likely to breed disturbances so they
have defer'd the execution till sometime next summer
we have no particular news at present

M^r. Allum says that altho' you have desired him to help
me a little yet he says he cannot do it till here's further
from you. I have nobody to beg a little help from but my
friends in England and before I can receive any help
them I shall no doubt be reduced to the most abject misery
there is no help for it. Business is so poor that people will not
employ hands - I know of several people in N. York that
are absolutely starving for want of employment - Oh me -
The days when I live with a father and mother are glad -
I am now in a strange land and alone. In you my dear
Uncle I can put my only dependence I hope I shall hear
from you soon. You will please to direct ^{letters to be left} for me at P. 208
Market S^t. Philadelphia or to M^r. Allums N. York either
places your letters will find me - My respect to my Aunt
in Brighton - to M^r. S^r. Chatfield and to my relations
in general - to my little brothers and Sisters I am with the
greatest respect Your affectionate nephew

As if you have any transactions to do here
if I can be of any service. I hope you will
lay your commands on me

W^m. B. Motte

Philadelphia March 12th 1798

Dear Uncle

Sir

This is the third letter I have wrote you and have receiv'd no answer whatever--I must suppose that the Vessels are taken or the letters have miscarried. I cannot but speak my gratitude for your kind concern expressed for me when you last wrote Mr. Allum. Thank Heaven I have not troubled him for the favour you desir'd him to give me respecting Cloathing. Mr. Doughty (h)as behaved very ill indeed. he has not paid one farthing to any one. I can positively say he (h)as between 5 and 6 thousand Pounds in his hands. I would not wish you to lose so great a sum as is due to you. But in my opinion if some more extraordinary means are not us'd you will not be able to get it for many a long day. I had about £40 worth of gold leaf in my hands which Doughty had not (fortunately for me) within his Gripe (sic). Mr. Allum advis'd me to sell it as I was out of business and it has maintain'd me/very comfor-/hitherto tably, which is near 12 months. We though(t) it best to retain about 50 dollars for Doughty as he says he must have what was left. he talked of sueing poor me for living on my father's Property. I can say that he acts like a great Villain, not that I am a good judge but People find him in general to be a man of no principal so much for him. I am in Philadelphia. I found nothing to do in New York for months. I could not be worse of(f) any where else. I thought to try my fortune somewhere else--business is brisker here--God knows if I shall be fortunate or No--I must find some kind of work in a few weeks. My fortune is small--I came into this City a few days ago and all I am worth is 12 dollars and a small trunk of Clothes--it is a petty sum for a lad that is in a strange Place. I know no business except bookkeeping that I am acquainted with. If I could get employment in any office I could maintain myself comfortably with my Pen. At hard labor I am afraid I should make a Poor hand. Tho' I cant' tell what I might do till I try. If I do not get into employment soon I shall be oblig'd to go to some hard labor, if I can get that. I fancy I shall find that pretty hard to get. I have advertis'd in the papers and put papers in the coffee house. I am at a miserable place now at 2 dollars per week for boarding. Never did I experience such sad fare--but my pocket will not afford more, there is washing, mending & a thousand little things to Pay for out of my narrow fortune--

I suppose you know that Mr. (Messrs.?) Talbot and Allum are going to dissolve Partnership. I am sorry to say that the American Government are getting very strong in (a) d--d aristocratic way. Jonathan Dayton speaker took it upon him to say that he would not allow the Printers to copy their debates in short hand themselves but ^{that} they should copy them from the Clerk's writings--a great Piece of Pre-sumption. When he was put in the Chair he was a good Republican but now he ^(is) in authority, he is a rascally Aristocrat, one who if he could would act with greater despotism than the greatest tyrant in the World. The members of the house of representatives behave very bad. Two of them had a quarrel a little while (ago). One spit in the others face, the other cudgell'd him for it while the house was sitting. Fine doings for the leaders of America--a little while ago they pass'd an act laying a Stamp act on all paper. Pro-missary notes could not be lawful unless they bore the Stamp. The Stamp act was likely to breed disturbancies so they

deferred the execution till sometime next summer--we have no particular news at Present--

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Wm. B. Mott

NB. if you have any transactions to do here if I can be of any service. I hope you will lay your command on me.