

Mss 10

PAUL CUFFE PAPERS

SERIES A

SUB-SERIES 1

FOLDER 2

Paul Cuffe

New York March 20. 1815

Esteemed Friends

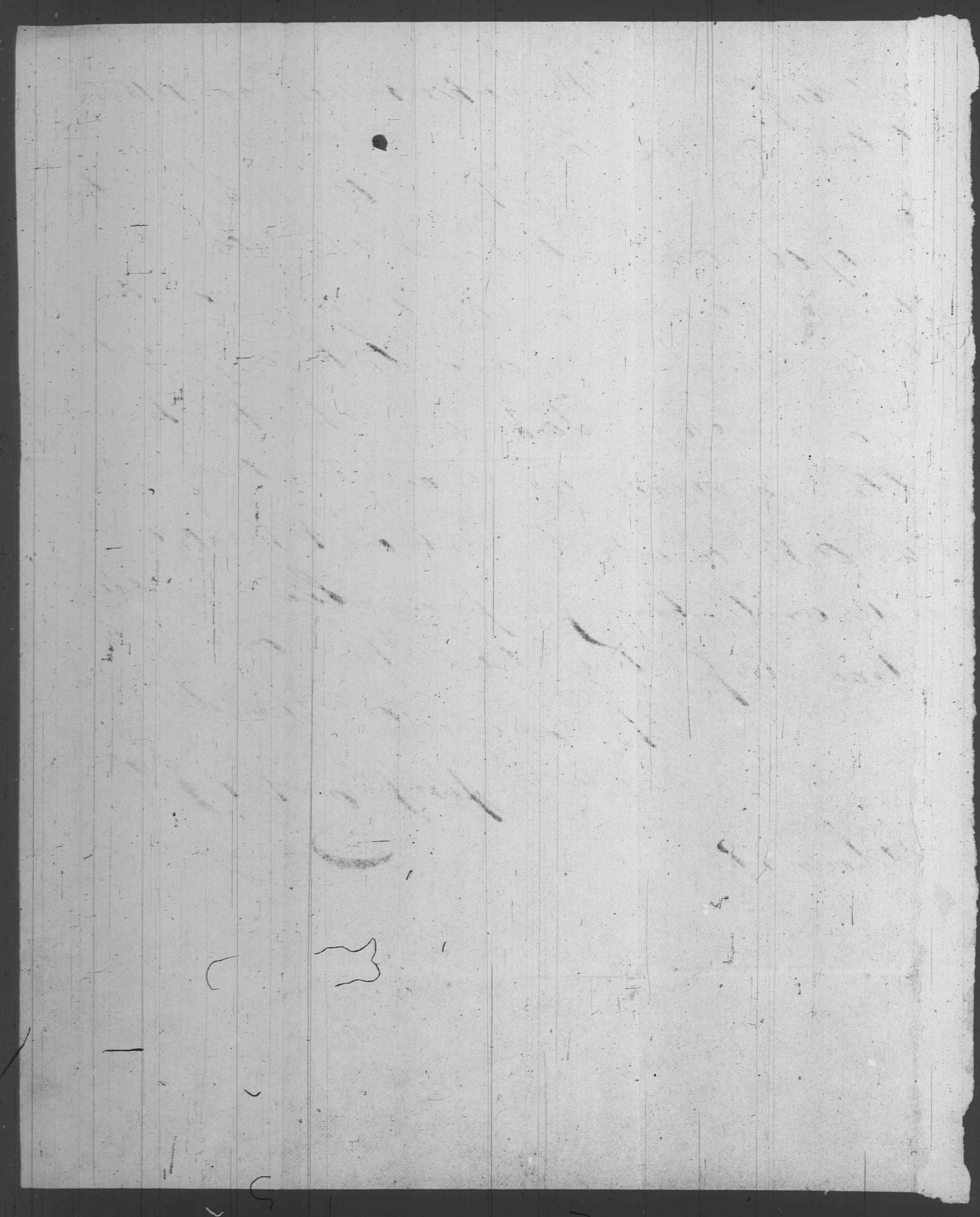
Thy Letter of 6th Portmouth
17th came to hand this Day. we
would recommend thy ship proceeding
to the Southward, and take a freight
for a northern Port. we think she might
obtain a very good one for New York
Our A.B. is at present in Phila. we
will write him to inform him of thy
ideas respecting the ship alpha.

Thy assured Friends

Henry Barker & Co.

Alour \$8





London 6th of 5th month 1845

Dear Friend

Paul Cuffe /

I have received thy Letter dated the 13th of the 3rd month, and am glad to find, that thou art still concerned to contribute to the welfare of the Colony of Sierra Leone as far as thou mayest be enabled - the proposals in thy Letter are very important, and when the Board of the African Institution meets on the 16th of this month I intend if favoured with health &c. to bring the matter before them, at least so much of it as is connected with the settling of a few Black families at or near Sierra Leone - but the rest of the business will devolve upon our new Society "for the encouragement of the Black Settlers at Sierra Leone & the natives of Africa generally in the cultivation of their Soil & by the Sale of their produce" this Society now consists of many highly respectable characters - and they all look to thee as, one likely to prove in the hands of Providence, an Instrument of great good to that People - and they request

that thou wilt act in concert with them, and not listen to any proposals from Zachary Macaulay. who however respectable his private character may be can form no part of this association for the benefit of the Black Settlers as we have passed a Resolution that no Person can be a member of it who trades to Africa for his own profit - we have repeatedly sent out Goods to the Friendly Society & have received remittances from them in produce &c to the amount of about £700 and at the end of last year we sent them Goods to the amount of more than £900 an account of the arrival of which we are expecting every day - The African Institution will have nothing to do with our operations except as far as concerns the transporting of a few families - I say a few because I know that they will not agree to more than 6 or 8. and these must be People of some little property, of excellent moral character & acquainted with the method of cleaning Rice raising & cleaning Cotton - Tobacco Indigo &c and who may be capable of instructing the Settlers in the treatment of Tropical produce - I wish to know particularly of thee what is the encouragement that thou thinkest

suitable. Shall we ask Government for 10 acres of Land for each family with a condition that if at the end of three years they should have cultivated three fourths of it in exportable produce they should be entitled to 10 acres more - please also to state what farther encouragement thou mayest think reasonable. I have this day been with H Vansittart the Chancellor of the Exchequer upon all these questions and have been received in the most kind & friendly manner - he promises to promote an act of Parliament to permit the produce of Sierra Leone to be imported under all the privileges of the British Colonies, and I think I can get some beneficial clauses introduced - I consulted him also as to thy voyage to Sierra Leone & thence to London and we endeavouring to prepare the way for a Licence for the Traveller. I am to have an interview with Lord Bathurst as to the cargo thou wilt be permitted to take to Sierra Leone - but it seems that some of the articles thou mentionest will be objected to on account of existing regulations but I hope to be able to write more clearly in two or three weeks - what dost thou think of this plan if it can be realised - viz. Provided we get the Licence

for the Traveller. and for thee to take & sell a Cargo at Sierra Leone. then to take a Freight from the Friendly Society who on notice from us would get a Cargo ready for London. then to sell the Traveller and join with us in buying a vessel with a British Register ~~where our new Society might employ under thy~~ direction for the benefit of Africa - at the same time taking care to secure thy interest - it seems almost impossible to get a British Register for the Traveller - In the case of thy taking a few Passengers in the Traveller how much wouldst thou charge the African Institution & head -

Governor Maxwell has been to this Country & has dined with me at Plough Court. I have had much conversation with him and expect that he will fully cooperate with us - extensive views of usefulness are opening - I can answer for our Government doing all that could reasonably be expected of them my dear love to our worthy Friend W. Ketch & all that belong to him do write me soon & frequently - my family are in usual health & we should all be glad to see thee once more as an inmate under our roof - I remain
thine affectionately
Wm Allen

New York 8th 1. 1815.

The firm of Ab^r Barker & Co being dissolved in consequence of AB^r's intended removal to Phil^a Richard Hopkins the former partner and W^r C Barker have entered into a Copartnership under the firm of Barker & Hopkins who will continue the business of the late firm. Permit us to make this a tender of our services, as our best exertions will be used to promote the Interest of our friends in any business they may intrust to our charge, Our respected friend AB^r will establish himself in Phila and will always keep us advised of the state of that market for Ships & Goods. He may frequently have it in his power to obtain Charters for Vessels under our Control. We request thy attention to our respective Signatures. We are thy aff^r friends,

We are thy aff. friends
Barber & Hopkins

Barker & Hopkins

Parker & Schofield

Signature of Wm C Parker

Signature of Rich^d Hopkins



Middletown October 24th 1813

Captain Paul Cuffe

Sir

Being a native of the Island
of St Domingo and being informed that you have a vessel
now fitting for that place I have taken the liberty to ask
if you would take some freight and allow me to take passage
with you out as I am extremely anxious to return home
and would be the terms and price of freight and how
soon would the vessel be ready for sea

I am Sir your Obedt Servt
Wm Boardman

1813

Captain Paul Cuffe

Wm Boardman

received

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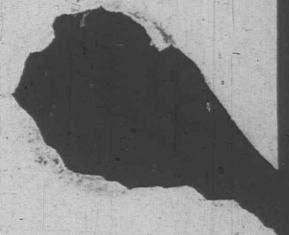
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Nantucket 4^{mo} 2 1815

Paul Cuffe

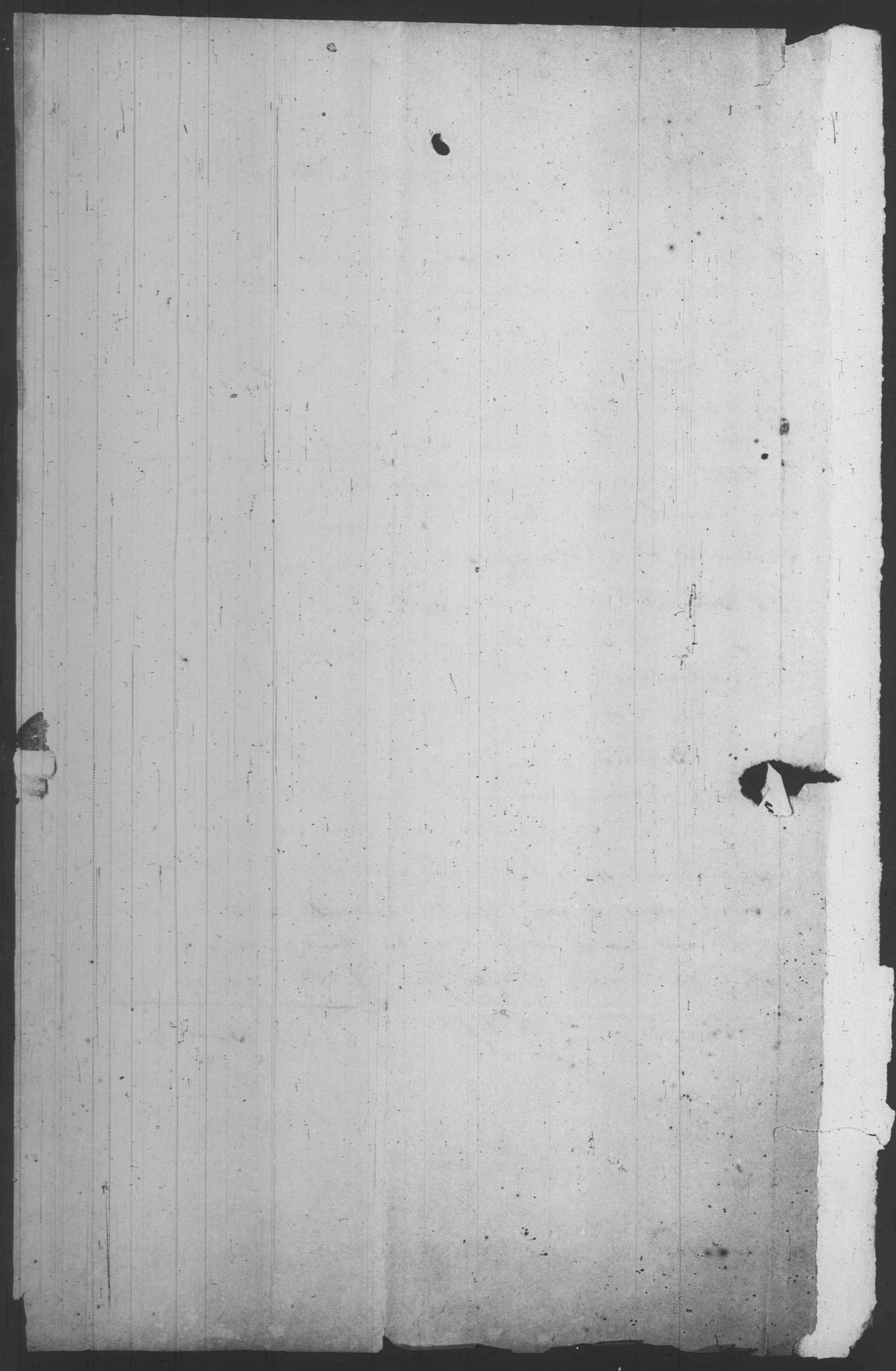
Esteemed friend

I received thy letter of the 24th ult.
Respecting the ^{Ship} Alpha and since which I have called on
several men who were about to purchase Vessels for
the Whaling business and described the ship and other
named the price and ^{as} yet have found no encouragement
I find that the general idea is, that ships will be low
and also find that a number have already purchased. but as
I have had only one day since I received thy letter perhaps
a little longer time may produce some thing different. if
so I will let thee know, I received by Gifford last fall
31 Bushels of Apples and after taking out thy donations left
26 Bushels which was sold for \$ 25-69

Cost Gifford's bill of freight @ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents	3 58 out
wharfage & cart	2 2 18
Cash paid thee in Bedford	\$ 15

Balance due thee - - - \$ -7 18

which I have forwarded by Joseph Austin to Bedford if
he should not see thee there to leave it with thy son-in-law
we are in usual health except my wife who has been for
several weeks past quite unwell which proceeded from
a cold and acted on her Lungs tho she is a boat house a
part of the time yet far from health. in love to thyself
& family remain thy friend Robert Brayton



New York the eleventh day of the eighth month 1815
Charles Collins to Paul Caffe

Respected friend

I have understood that thou hast a prospect of going to Africa this fall so as to get there after the rainy season is over. I have thought I should like to have some of the produce of the free people of that Country particularly Coffee, Cotton & Rice, say one or two Barrels of Coffee, a Bale of Cotton and two Tierces of Rice if to be had of good quality but not such Rice as thou brought a sample of. The Coffee I had of thee was of a kind that answered well. I wish the best of Cotton. It would

suit me very well to have a consignment of a Carg. from that Country provided the goods were clear of Slavery. I expect to allow thee the market price for such goods as thou ^{mayest} find or bring to me.

Should any friends of thy acquaintance be desirous of having goods in the grocery ^{line} clear of Slavery thou mayest inform them that I continue to keep such goods. I have now on hand some very nice India Sugar of a quality greatly superior to what generally comes to this City and think it likely I may soon have loaf or lump Sugar made chiefly if not wholly of India Sugar. I am in hopes ere long of getting some small parcels

of Rice through a channell pretty unobjectionable.

Thy not succeeding in having permission
sometime ago to go to Africa I think was
said in ~~the~~ ^a newspaper of this City to be owing
to thy being a Federalist; whether the
failure was on this ^{account} or not I cannot tell but
I am much of the mind it is better for us to
keep clear of parties and not be as much
as known what side we are if we do
belong to any, but we ought to belong to
Him whose Kingdom is not of this world.
It is I know pretty difficult to thwart the
preparing wishes of those we esteem, but there
is a strait path for us to tread.

I was lately introduced to a person
called Colonel Woodbine who was an Officer
with the British in the Mobile Country
in West Florida; he told me he had under
his charge about 800 blacks and intended
settling them on lands given to him by
the Indians and was desirous they should
be instructed in school learning. I went
with him to the African School but
there was a vacation. He appears
to be much interested on their behalf.
I expect he will act pretty much under
the directions of the Manumission Society
of England. The cause of the oppressed
Africans and their descendants seems to be
gaining ground, and perhaps the time is

*I suppose these blacks are considered free and that
the lands will be given to them gratis.*

not far distant when their condition will be much
improved. At our last Quarterly Meeting four
valuable friends spoke on the subject of friends making
use of the produce of the labour of the oppressed Africans
and their descendants. So tender was Paul
that he would not eat meat while the world
stood if in so doing he should offend a brother
and I suppose that alluded to meat that was
offered to Idob; be this as it may how much
more culpable must it be to contribute
to the sufferings of our fellow creatures by
making use of the fruits of their labour of
which shall we not say they are robbed. Are
not the receivers of stolen goods as bad as the
thieves? and can we have much doubt as to
the manner in which Sugar Coffee Molasses
Cotton &c are generally obtained.

I suppose the Merchants of the name
of Whitehorn of Newport have Molasses of
good quality from Hayti.

from thy friend
Charles Collins

I should be glad to hear from thee soon as
to thy prospect of going to Africa.

for Paul Cuffe

Merchant

Westport

J. Wm R. Thurston

Massachusetts

1845

Dr Sir

[1815] 7th
Trusting long Island March

I have been in form that you
was in York last winter I should of been
happy to of seeing you - from the conversation
we had last may in York in respect
of your correspondence with our brethren
in Sierra Leone & those of the United States
But from the many unfavorable circum-
stances that has taken place since I am
afraid that all your designs will be
frustrated (but I hope not) while at
Mr Greens I promise you I would call on
you last summer but did not this
you will look over - I am in hopes my
long Silence will not prevent you
from answering this letter as many
with my self wish to hear from thee
& of the progress thou hast made
turn over -

you will please to direct yours to the
care of George White No 33 Little George Street
New York or to Flushing where I at
present reside, Sir you will please
to pardon bad writing & Spelling H H
from yours

Respectfully
Jm. Dugan

John Quincy
C. Mr. Paul. Cuffe
To the care of William Roach
New Bedford
Massachusetts
changed to P. Cuffe

Respected Friend

Philadelphia 3 mo: 3. 1815

I wrote thee a long letter of 1 Inst. appropriate Consequence to which I refer, whether it may reach thee before or after this. The present may serve to advise thee that on 4 Inst. I recd of Mr. James \$453.³⁶/₁₀₀ being \$50 - Short of his portion of the Bills due from the Owners of the Alpha - which \$50 - he promised to send me in a few days - And also on 4 Inst. I received from Joseph Ketch by order of his Father \$600 - as believed to be very near thy portion John James having paid since his failure & since the Account rendered thee, the following Bills &c -

To James Fortune	\$53.65
J. Masten's Order to Cook	2.50
John Masten for wood &c	15.95
Thos Shipley for Nails	1.33
Advertising	1.87
ditto	1.87
	77.17
	503.30

paid to be paid me by J. James

\$580.47

And on 4 Instant I paid as follows to Samuel Bowers particulars of his Account viz:
1812. 10 mo: 9 Amount of Bill rendered \$519.48

Deduct Cash recd of James 200 - 419.48

Wharfage from 10 mo: 9. 1812 to 3 mo: 1. 1814

2 Years 4 months 22 days. at 50 cents per day . 445.00

Interest on \$419.48 from 10 mo: 9. 1812

to 3 mo: 1. 1814. 2 Years 4 mo: & 22 days . 60.22

Isaac W. Morris. Ship Chandler . 31.99

Saml Wetherill & Son. Paints Oil &c . 50.09

Jon^a Jenks. & Barnells Pitch . 27 -

\$1083.72

To which add the Bills paid by J. James his failure . 77.17

\$1160.95

Thy half of the whole, paid is . 580.48

Mr. James's half as above stated . 580.47

1160.95

I am informed that there is no other Bill against the Alpha but to the person, who has had charge of the Ship at \$10 per Month - To whom I advised a payment on Account to be made of about \$40 - & that J. James said he would attempt to, as possible however, that Job may demand full payment - And should be called upon for

any further payment. I shall call on Joseph Rotch for such sum as
may be wanting -

The Ship's Advertisement had been discontinued before the
news of peace - It is now renewed in two papers, each twice
a week - No application has been made, since I wrote thee
for purchase - my Ideas would be to ask no more than
\$10.000 - & that thou wouldst refresh give me thy Ideas & directions
as J. James, has much higher Ideas - So far being got on
after so long a time - It will be very satisfactory to me, if
a sale may shortly occur, without need of a trial at public
Sale, - on which subject also, please, advise - as I do
much desire that all my doings, as well as I know how
may come out in the end for the best, without any blame
resting on.

Thy Friend

Samuel R. Fish

Thy Character I believe has not at
all suffered, by the delay of payment.

3/8.1815 C
Saml^r Alpha bill
Paul Cuffe



Westport near
New Bedford
Massachusetts

Answered once

Respected Friend

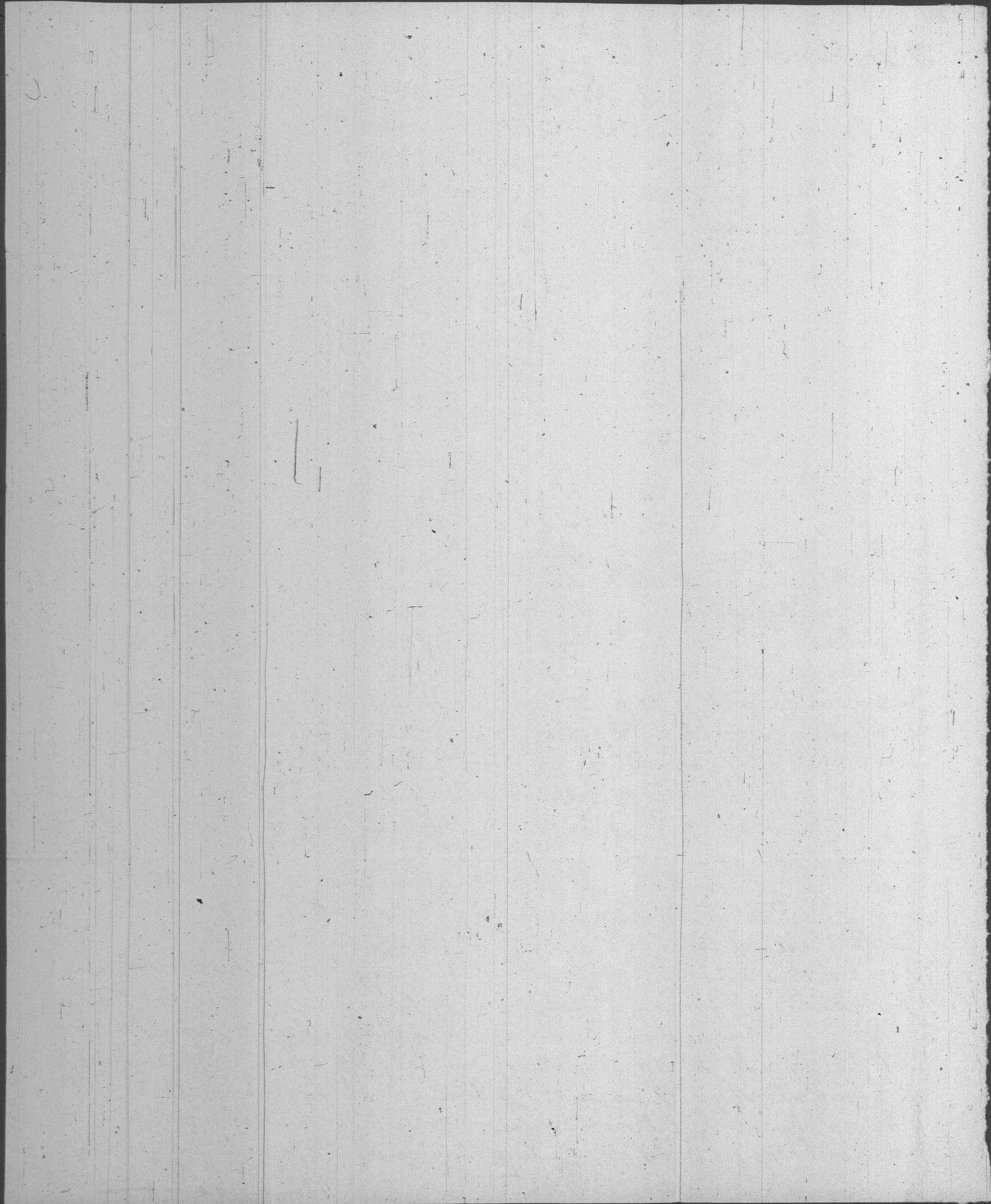
Philadelphia 3rd mo: 30th 1815

I wrote thee last of 8 Inst^l & shortly after received thine of 3rd Instant, to which I might have replied sooner, could I have fixed any thing like a satisfactory prospect of & concerning the Alpha, but as the postage is increased & no prospect as yet of how to dispose of that Ship, has made me more sparing in my communications, that may have nothing in them Chearing, or even worth the postage - While at same time I do not think there will be any use in being discouraged & letting the World, or even One's Neighbors, or what is rather Closer, One's friends see much of it.

For some time past, I have been thinking whether, it might suit thee to buy John James's half of the Alpha & might also find a way to employ her to thy satisfaction - This day thy friend J. James, who now seems mild towards me & reduced out of his high Ideas of the value of that Ship, called upon me, tho a very wet day & suggested the Idea himself of thy becoming Sole Owner of the Alpha, whereby to get rid of longer protracted delay - I told him that I would write thee thereon - Thou mayst consider what thou wouldst be willing to sell Out at & then if J. James & his Creditors could unite nearly in the price, let the Ship be tried at Auction to see if she will bring such price & if she be so sold, then the business will be finished - Or if not & thou incline's to say what thou would give for J. James half & the time & mode of payment, that would suit thee - Or lastly if none of these modes may fit thy prospects, the Ship can lay as she has done

Thou will please to observe that as I have almost no transactions of my own in Bk Notes, for a considerable time & if in my power, I hope to keep so in my transactions, this has been & is like to be the cause why it may most probably not fit me to make Advances in such Notes, now generally the currency here - & it was for this cause, that to pay thy half of the Old Bills against the Alpha - I desired to be furnished with the Bk Notes -

Thou will not be too anxious I hope, about my doing or not being able to do any thing touching the Alpha, but endeavor to reconcile thyself, as well as thou canest, to circumstances unavoidable, & if thou shouldst be satisfied with my doing, or my not being able to do, the business of the Ship will be lighter to
Thy Friend
Samuel A. Fishers



Esteemed Friend

Philadelphia 9 mo: 21. 1815 -

After Oliver Gault left thee, he got thy Bank Book settled & the balance struck \$637. $\frac{31}{100}$ in thy favor - thy Bank Book & thy Check Book, were wrapt in paper directed for thee & delivered to Cap: Warner -

Shortly after thou left me, I settled all matters with Anthony Survanee, & paid him the small balance in Silver 25 Dollars -

Every thing as far as I know is finished, except that for the proceeds of Anthony Survanee's house when sold, I want thy written & clear directions, as to what I am to do with it, when needed, whether sooner or later, which please to furnish me, that I may neither be at a loss how to act, nor Anthony be delayed the Receipt of his property, longer than may be necessary -

Thou hast my best wishes, if worthy of acceptance for thy good & prosperity every way - I should thy concerns admit leisure for thee to address me a few lines either from Sierra Leon, or from England - it will be pleasing to hear from thee, as I feel an Interest in thy prosperity & Success in thy arduous labors for the good of the African Race - in which

I remain

Thy Friend
Samuel R. Fisher

9 mo: 22. The above was written yesterday afternoon after thy departure, which being rather in haste & at a time when to get Anthony ready & all settled my time was fully occupied lest the Brig should go off without him, however he got on board - My family all wished to have the opportunity of bidding thee farewell as thou hast their good wishes for thy prosperity every way - Thou mention thy having a little money in New York - Should it be convenient to thee to pay to Hicks Jenkins & Co. to whom I am indebted in New York 150 Dollars, at my Credit there with them I will pay it here in American Gold, half Eagles, or in Spanish Dollars, to thy Order, by which probably my Bro: W. Reich, or my Bro: S. Rodman may give for thy draft or directions to pay ^{to me} for their use the specie without the trouble of carrying it, this was diverged from telling thee of by the way after my knowledge of thy having a little at New York -

