

Mss 10

PAUL CUFFE PAPERS

SERIES A

SUB-SERIES 1

FOLDER 4

Philadelphia 6th mo. 3rd 1815

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed Friend

I wrote thee under date of the 26th of the 4th mo. since which I have not received any letters from thee — Samuel R Fisher showed me a letter he had received from thee dated the 17th of last month and we noticed the contents we are still disappointed in obtaining a purchaser for the Ship notwithstanding we have offered to take ten thousand dollars for her which I think with thee that it is much less than her value — The vessels that went out from here to Liverpool this Spring will make a great deal of money on their voyage — freights in Liverpool for returned cargo is 6th sterling per ton — but thou and myself through the storms that have been prevailing some years, have been cast ashore and have been prevented from partaking of the benefits and when we shall get afloat again I know not — our friend James Norton informs me thou has a prospect of going out again to Sierra Leone this fall — I have thought and feel free to mention it to thee for thy consideration, that if thou could get some of thy wealthy friends to assist and for thee to take the Ship and fit her out for a whaling voyage and on her way out thou could leave those passengers

Amos

Thou wants to take with thee at Sicre Leone
and there take in the people of Colours of that place
to complete the number wanted for the voyage
and no doubt but on her return thou will have
the privilege of sending the Oil to England
which must turn out to great advantage if you
were successful in the voyage —
Thy undertaking in this way has been considered so
laudable that no doubt thou will find many
helpers in the undertaking when thou can see thy
way clear to move forward in it, and I wish it was
in my power to lend my assistance — but it is not
and I feel much resigned to my situation and
my conclusion is to do the best I can and leave
the rest — I have just received a letter from
our friends Rathbone & Hodgson & Co of Liverpool
dated the 17th of ~~last~~ ^{the 17th} month and they say
they have furnished thee with the Travellers ac-
count which leaves a balance in our favour
but dont say how much, and I thought it
would be right to inform thee that bills of
Exchange on England sell for 6 or 7 per cent
above par and a prospect of their being higher
if you cannot get so favourable exchange with
you would it not be better to send it on here
and if thou should send them to Samuel R Fisher
or myself the proceeds can be held to thy
direction — The favourable exchange will add

a little to the voyage — John Martin called
on me yesterday and informs me he had an
opportunity to go out in a Ship to Amsterdam
at 40 dollars a month — he says he went off
unexpected to himself. Those good wages will help
him to get clear of some of his embarrassments
I pity him. — he says the charges made against
him by Samuel Bowers is not true and I put
him upon getting such documents as to clear it up.
I do believe he is an honest man, been unsuccessful
like many others. he looks well and I hope his
wife will not cast him off. —
we are favoured with pretty good health, and
shall be glad to see thee here —
with love to thee and thine, I remain thy
old and sincere friend,

John James

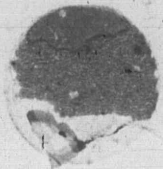
C.B. it feels very unpleasant that the Ship
has to lay so long in the Dock on expences and
must of course suffer



30 ~~18~~

Paul Cuffe
Westport

care of William Notch jun.
New Bedford
Massachusetts



P. C. Estlin Friend Wilmington Jan 24. 1815

I am here on a visit to my friends & found the
Relations in the Ship & have had a good opportunity of conversing
Particularly about John Masden who I have desired to
be going to sea again at Present but have got him to
take care of the Ship besides which he can get his dollar per
Day & I hope his wife & Connections ~~will~~ make large Allowance
in favour of Poor Johns Mistakes & I am much Pleased that
has Concluded to come on to Phila. & they will want him to
assist to put the Ship in order & if thou could bring two or
three Trusty hands with thee, when we get together I have no doubt
but we shall find what will be best to do with the Ship if
we cannot sell her I think we can get a freight for her if
if thou wilt take charge of ^{her} ~~passage~~ voyage & this might be
more to thy Interest than to go to Sirection at Present, so
if thou could leave home so as to Proceed this way thou may
approve best, I have a prospect of having to go to wrap myself &
afraid of mine Purposed to Ship in her flour for Lady if I
went myself, where we have heavy Claims & it might be the
means of procuring it, but I don't wish to move any way without
~~that~~ ^{it} appears clear & it is right, & hope we shall be favoured to see
the Right Road when we come together which hope will be the case
before long I am favoured with better health than for many
over

years & my way is like to open in business again

& hope I shall Receive a good deal of my Property

which is Cause of much Thankfulness & with kindest Love

to thee & thine My Affectionate friend —

J. S. James

Theol. Sem. Andover. April 12. 1815.

Capt. Paul Coffee,

Sir,

The voyage which you sometimes since contemplated to Sierra Leone, and of which repeated mention has been made in the public newspapers, has excited much interest among the friends of religion and humanity. All such, I believe, were grieved at the failure of your application to our general government, and hope that those facilities for your proposed undertaking of which you were then disappointed, will now be realised by the return of peace.

I have been desirous to make some enquiries of you relative to this subject. To many members of our Institution it has become peculiarly interesting, and as you have been kind enough to give to one of our number, Mr. Mills, much valuable information respecting it, we trust you will not be displeased if we ask for more. Our apology for troubling you is, that we wish to be put in the way of rendering some little service to the cause in which you are engaged. We are desirous that it should be encouraged and promoted, and are ready to lend it our influence, our exertions, and our prayers.

We should be happy, dear Sir, to be informed whether you intend to prosecute the designs you had formed in regard to the Africans. Also to learn as much of the nature of those designs, the time, and manner of carrying them into effect, as you may think proper to communicate.

Several pieces relative to your contemplated voyage have appeared in the Messenger, a paper printed in Boston. They were written by a gentleman of our Institution, and are an evidence of the solicitude we feel for the success of your undertaking. If you have not seen them we shall be happy to forward them to you at a convenient time. Probably they will be continued, with a reference not only to the state of the Africans abroad, but also of those in our ^{own} country.

The condition of those who are held in slavery by our countrymen calls loudly for the exercise of christian benevolence. It is to be hoped that some measures will be taken for their relief, their moral and religious improvement. Doubtless the subject has occupied your thoughts. We should be exceedingly happy to be made acquainted with any plans you may have devised for their benefit, and to co-operate with you in carrying them into effect. As we shall probably make some appeal to the public in their behalf, your suggestions would be of essential service to us.

Sir, your benevolent exertions demand the acknowledgment of our gratitude. We trust you will be successful in every attempt to promote the welfare of the Africans. The expectations of the friends of humanity, and the cause of Christ, have been much excited by your zeal to benefit these injured children of our common Parent. They continue to regard your labours with deep solicitude, and we sincerely hope that you will be enabled to prosecute and accomplish all your charitable designs.

We shall be happy to hear from you as soon as it may be convenient for you to write. A vacation takes place in three weeks, when we ^{are} separated for a length of time. If you will be pleased to forward a letter within that period, we shall feel ourselves much obliged.

With respect & esteem

I am, dear Sir,

Your humble servt.

Nathan Lord.

Andover Apr. 11

Paid - - 15

Capt. Paul Cuffe

Westport.

Mass.

Assured

Capt Paul Cuffe

Boston Decem^r 2^d 1815 -

Westport -

Sir.

I just took from the Post Office, your letter of 30th ult. - when I made the agreement with Capt Davis for the passages of Wm Guinn & his associates from Boston to Westport - Mr Guinn was present - Capt Davis was to receive sixty dollars & no more, for carrying the persons & their baggage which we presumed would be very small. Cart wheels & articles of that sort, I should not consider as included in the agreement which I made; & from Capt Davis's conversation, I should think him a fair man & willing to do what is equitable. - I regret that so inconsiderable a sum has been raised in this Town to assist your Adventurers & am persuaded, had I been less occupied, that sum might have been very much increased. - Wishing you & your fellow-voyagers every blessing I am

Sir your friend

Joshua Macey

181

Charlestown Apr. 14. 1813

Dear friend,
Your friends in Boston have shown me your letter to them, of the 13.th of last month, in which you state that you cannot make your voyage to Africa, till next fall, after the rainy season in that country is past, & till you shall have heard from England. I think you judge well in making this delay, for these reasons—

You request to have the names of those who wish to go with you from Boston, & their certificates of character— I have before me the names of 12 men, — two of them single, the others heads of families — each has a wife, & together they have 36 children — I have good certificates, in my possession, of the character of all but two or three, which will soon be furnished. — Most of them have repeatedly visited me, & so far as I can judge, they will make wholesome colonists, where they are going — & I hope will prepare the way for many others to follow them in due time.

I have written to Mr Wilberforce on the subject of this emigration, & expect an answer in three months —

I write in haste, I am your friend &

Wellwisher — Jos^{ph} Morse



Little Compton ^{in the} 11th 1/11 1815

Respected Friend

Knowing that she is about
to leave this and though has holding securities
against me I am very Dissirous to adjust all
my Just Debts and my fortune has ben hard
I think I shall sell my property if I cant
a little something more than I have for this
year past I do wish for the to leave my
note in some ones hand so that I can take it
up if I please I Remain thy Friend

John Peckham to P. Cuffee

Paul Cuffee

Westport

New Haven April 19th 1815

Capt. Paul Cuffe
Sir -

The Bearer Augustus Thomas goes to you with the view of obtaining employment. He is twenty one years of age, & has lived in my family, and been under my care & direction from Childhood - How far I have done my duty towards him, and how he has profited by instruction you will be able to judge on acquaintance with him -

His reputation is good, and unless I am deceived you may place full reliance on his integrity, sobriety & faithfulness - As I am wholly unknown to you, myself, I would refer you to Mr Israel Munson of Boston Merchant, to Mr. Abner Daggett Providence, or to S. Silliman Esq Newport to learn what reliance you ought to place on my recommendations -

Should you be in either of those places you can make the necessary inquiries - I feel much interest in the welfare of Augustus, and hope & trust that he

will so conduct himself as to merit esteem —

I think he is duly impressed with the Idea
that if a young man would have friends, he must
make himself worthy of their friendship —

I am with esteem

your Friend

Nathaniel Pepsley

Esteemed friend
Wm Paul Wolfe

New Bedford Apr^o 15. 1815

Thy letter of 4 inclosing one from
S R F. came to hand when I was much engaged
in getting away our ship - She is now under
weigh and I have again looked over thy letters -

I think 10,000 would now be a good Sale for the Alpha. The Andes 380 tons been only two voy ages called an excellent ship we are advised, was sold in New York for \$14,000, and we are well pleased she is sold - were I in thy situation I think I should prefer selling rather than buying, altho if a freight of 9% ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{for} flour could be obtained to Liverpool she might have something - our ship Frances has taken that at Norfolk for Liverpool, the Wm & Eliza loads at Alexandria Tobacco at 80¢ for Amsterdam & we have been obliged to give \$25 per cwt for 5 of our men more than \$20 for prime Pork & 15 for Beef - every thing is now expensive
I am thy assured friend

Wm. Rotch Jr.

Paul Cuffe

Westport

Paul Cuffe

Returned friend

New Bedford 11th moth 17. 1815

Last night I received a letter from a friend of mine in Boston, who informs me he has money deposited with him for the "purpose of preventing the horrible traffick in human beings, or for any purpose that has a tendency to do away the evils of that traffick" and says, "I have been applied to for assistance towards an expedition to Sierra Leone. I am informed Cap^t Cuffe is to take charge of it, & supposing that you would be well acquainted with the merits of the applicants I take the liberty of applying to you for information. If you think the object very deserving & that it will tend in any degree towards ameliorating the condition of those who have been intended as Slaves, or will tend even in a remote degree to prevent that detestable trade or will have other tendencies as beneficial, I will thank you to pay for the object One hundred Dollars for me."

From the manner in which I have always heard thee treat this subject, I conclude this application has been made without thy knowledge, but I concluded the object thou hast in view cannot fail if it is successful to counteract the principle of the traffick in Slaves, I shall feel clear to pay it.

and if thou feels any hesitation in thy own
mind as to receiving it for thyself, thou may
hold it until some opportunity may offer while
in Africa to dispose of it in such way as thou
may think may best conform to the views of
the givers — I hope I shall see thee again
before thou goes, as our last interview was so
short & my attention necessarily taken up
with other things — I am thy sincere

friend Wm. Rotch Jr