

Mss 10

PAUL CUFFE PAPERS

SERIES A

SUB-SERIES 1

FOLDER 7

Capt. Coffee

Andover July 23^d 1816-

Dear Sir,

I think my predecessors, Mills and Lord, had the pleasure of a correspondence with you, when they resided at this Institution. When they left this, they were desirous that this correspondence should still be continued. It has fallen to my lot to address you at this time, & I do it with a great deal of pleasure.

I am anxious to obtain all information possible respecting that part of our race, with whom the dealings of God have apparently been very mysterious. I mean the Africans. I have often heard of your labours of love to them, & the exertions you have made & are still making to lessen their sufferings in this life, & to prepare them for a better. I trust, Dear Sir, you have the prayers of all, who love the cause of truth and benevolence, and who long for that happy time to come when all mankind shall dwell together as brethren, & when there shall be none to oppress or to make afraid.

I have seen detached accounts of your late voyage to Sierra Leone, but feel the want of more particulars. — I rejoice to hear of your success, and the happy effects which will probably flow from such an undertaking. Do you contemplate going again?

It is certain that something must be done, & done soon for our African brethren in this country. They labour under a cruel & insupportable burden. They are rapidly multiplying without the means of instruction, & without those enjoyments & comforts of life, which they are deprived of, but which they legally inherited from the Common Father of us all.

By several letters lately received from the Southern States, I am happy to learn, that this subject has of late very much interested some influential good men in that part of our country. They are deeply engaged in devising means for the liberation of slaves in the United States. — Several planters in Tennessee & Virginia have voluntarily come forward to the state-government, and requested ~~permission~~ ^{leave} to set their slaves at liberty.

I have recently seen a report of the Manumission Society of N. York. It breathes a spirit of ardent benevolence, & this report, in connection with several events which have lately transpired, relative to this subject, incline me to hope that a happier day is about to dawn upon those of our fellow men, who have hitherto sat in great ~~darkness~~ ^{darkness} & bondage.

We have every reason to persevere in the cause of truth & humanity, because, we are assured

from the word of God that they must & will ultimately prevail. And in this day of such extended-Christian-benevolence, we cannot aspire after too great an object, provided our motives are pure in the sight of God.

That the happy result of all your undertakings, may be, the greater promotion of your own happiness, both spiritual & temporal — the good of your fellow men & the glory of Christ's Kingdom — is the sincere desire of your friend & servant

Capt. Paul Cuffe.

Samuel L. Aikin

P.S. I hope you will oblige me with a letter as soon as may be convenient, & all the news relating to the above subject which you may deem important. — Perhaps you can conveniently give me a little history of your voyage, prospects &c. — I should be very happy to see you at Andover when you could make it convenient to come.

[illegible]

1810

12 1/2

Capt. Paul Luffe

Westport
R.I.

1840

Andover July 27

Answered

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

London 1 of 1st month 1816

My dear Friend

Paul Cuffe /

I think I have availed myself of the very first vessel which has offered since I received thy little commission with a Bill for £200 and on the Olive Branch Capt Hayes. I have shipped as enclosed Invoice amounting to about £257. the difference thou canst pay to our association - I have consigned the Packages to thee, or James Wise in case thou shouldst not have arrived. I had been long waiting for an answer to my Letter written in the 5th month, which I hoped would enable us to ascertain the extent of the pecuniary help that might be required, & to frame our plans accordingly, and I was not a little surprised to hear that thou hadst taken all the measures I would probably suit from America before any Letter from me could reach thee. I trust however that things will turn out right & work together for good, but we wish that thy Letter had been much longer as we are deeply interested in the subject. we wanted to know more of the qualifications of the Persons thou art taking with thee, whether they are acquainted with the useful mechanical arts, & the treatment of tropical produce &c &c. on the receipt of thy Letters I applied to the Chancellor of the Exchequer & Viceroy of the

about a License, and I think I can say I lost no time; when the African Institution met I laid the business before them I have had repeated interviews with Vansittart & also with Earl Bathurst. They both express themselves in the most friendly terms, with regard to the License, the circumstance of Peace has so altered the case, that they cannot grant it without directly violating the Navigation Laws - & yet they told me they would grant one if I wished though they said it could not effectually secure thee - this was before thy last letters which mentioned thy intention of sailing. Mr Wilberforce was also so kind as to write to Earl Bathurst about the business - but we all thought that we could not encourage thee, to go with a cargo requiring a License when however I found that thou wast on the point of going I applied again to Ministers with this new information, & the Secy of the African Instⁿ Thos Harrison accompanied me to Earl Bathurst - who assured us that he would write to Gov^r Macarthy, to do all in his power to protect thee, which I have no doubt he has done. I wrote myself a long letter to Gov^r Macarthy before I knew of thy going so soon in which I intreated him, if ever thou shouldst visit Sierra Leone again, to take thee under his special protection. & the Chancellor of the Exchequer expressed himself very much pleased when he heard that I had done so. I can assure thee that I have spent several days & taken a great deal of pains in this business - Government appears quite disposed to do all in its power

to encourage cultivation, and particularly in the article of Cotton. They are quite convinced of the importance of making the Settlers fully satisfied of the security of their Grants, - Thorp & Gabbidon who I hope have been favoured to get home safe will be able to give thee farther information on this head - their conduct while with us has gained them many Friends and I feel a great regard for them.

I am sorry to say, that African produce as Ivory Camwood &c is very low, as thou wilt see by the Price Current herewith sent, there are several Tons of Camwood remitted to us by the Friendly Society, which on account of the low price remain still unsold we wish very much that thou wouldst come to London and I hope in that case thou wilt consider my House as thy home all my family will be glad to see thee - Thomas still lives with me and conducts himself much to my satisfaction - we want very much also to consult thee on the subject of a small Ship which should make 2 voyages in a year between England & Sierra Leone. There would be no difficulty in raising the money if we could lay a good plan for the management of the Ship, & the Chancellor of the Exchequer thought that thou might take part in the business. Perhaps thou couldst get Freight for thy Ship without bringing any thing on thy own account, - so as to secure thee from loss. - I should most of all like to have thy Ship employed in the business but the impossibility of getting

a British Register for it, is an insuperable bar, but suppose thou wast to sell thy Ship in England & join us in purchasing one with a British Register. thou mightest act then as Supercargo without giving up thy citizenship of the United States. It is quite practicable by a short act of Parliament to give thee the privileges of a British Subject. do give me thy ideas at length, upon this matter.

I am exceedingly grieved with the conduct of Danl Sutherland who at my instigation was sent out by the African Institution to form a School in the Colony for the Education of the Children on the British System. and who if he had been steady might by this time have provided for the education of every child who needed it. but we hear that he has done scarcely any thing in the business for which he was sent, but has turned Auctioneer &c. I had got him taught Navigations, with the Lunars &c. but I fear that it is all lost. the African Inst. has dismissed him from their service after having expended £600 or £700 upon the work. I hope the Governor will yet save something out of the wreck. from all that I hear of him he is just the Governor we wanted. a benevolent character. and one who I trust will be a blessing to the Colony. Earl Bathurst has promised to write to him on the subject of the Persons thou brought with thee we requested that beside grants of Land they might be furnished with Provisions for a year.

I hope the Friendly Society will not be discouraged at their loss on the Rice & other produce, if they remit in good Bills, it will answer their purpose best at present.

I wish thou wouldst make copious memorandums from time to time, upon the spot, of every thing which may tend to give us a clear idea of the state of the Colony and of what might be done ^{by us} to promote its best interests. In what way also we could assist & encourage the Native Chiefs in the neighbourhood and render them friendly to the Colony. I wish thee to inquire also respecting Henry Savage who has written me several Letters replies to which I have sent by the Minerva.

I wish thee also to inquire how many licensed Shops there are for selling Spiritous liquors. what quantity has been imported during the last year, by whom, and from whom. we should also be glad of a list of the Persons thou hast brought with thee, their ages, qualifications, circumstance &c with some hints of the manner in which our association could be useful to them. if thou wast to ask Thorp or Gabbidon, they could shew thee that number of the Philanthropist in which an account is given of ~~the~~ ^{our} association.

I am truly glad to hear that thou hast brought the parts of a Saw mill waggon &c. I am informed that if Buffaloes could be imported from India. they would be extremely useful at Sierra Leone. we wish for thy opinion on the subject of a Rice mill. a Person from America applied to us some time ago. stating that he would undertake to make a model or superintend the erection of one but his terms were quite exorbitant. he asked a thousand Guineas for a model.

with respect to the Saw mill, what dost ^{thou} think, of the
Friendly Society purchasing it, & repaying themselves
by what they might obtain from its work - might
it not be made a source of profit to them - or should
our association buy it for them in the first instance
and let them pay off the money by installments
On all these points we greatly need that information
which can only be obtained on the spot.

and now my dear Friend, as I believe that
thou hast embarked in this business from a
benevolent desire to benefit the natives of Africa
may thy mind be constantly directed to the
Universal Father of the great family of man
with prayers that he would prosper the work
in thy hands, and as thou art attentive to the
operations of the Spirit of Christ in thy own soul
thou wilt become a useful instrument in the
Lord's hand, and be steered safely through the
storms & cross occurrences of time to the Haven
of everlasting rest.

requesting to hear from thee as soon
as possible I remain

thy affectionate Friend
W^m Allen

P.S. Since writing the Letter I have seen the
Chancellor of the Exchequer, who seemed much interested
but said, that in consequence of the Peace their power
of granting licenses had ceased but he thought ~~thou~~
might sell thy vessel at Sierra Leone & purchase one
there with a British Register in which thou couldst
come over as supercargo - for want of full information
from thee of all circumstances I am at a loss what to
advise - if thou shouldst conclude upon sending the Traveller
back to America, couldst thou not come to this country
& concert measures with us for a ship to be employed
for the benefit of the Settlers - &c I understand that
thy vessel is going to Sierra Leone soon, by which I
hope to write again - and shall anxiously expect to
hear from thee - in the mean time I purpose to apply
again to ministers - and inform thee of the result

W. A.

17/4 5/

8/9

Capt Paul Cuffe
of the Traveller



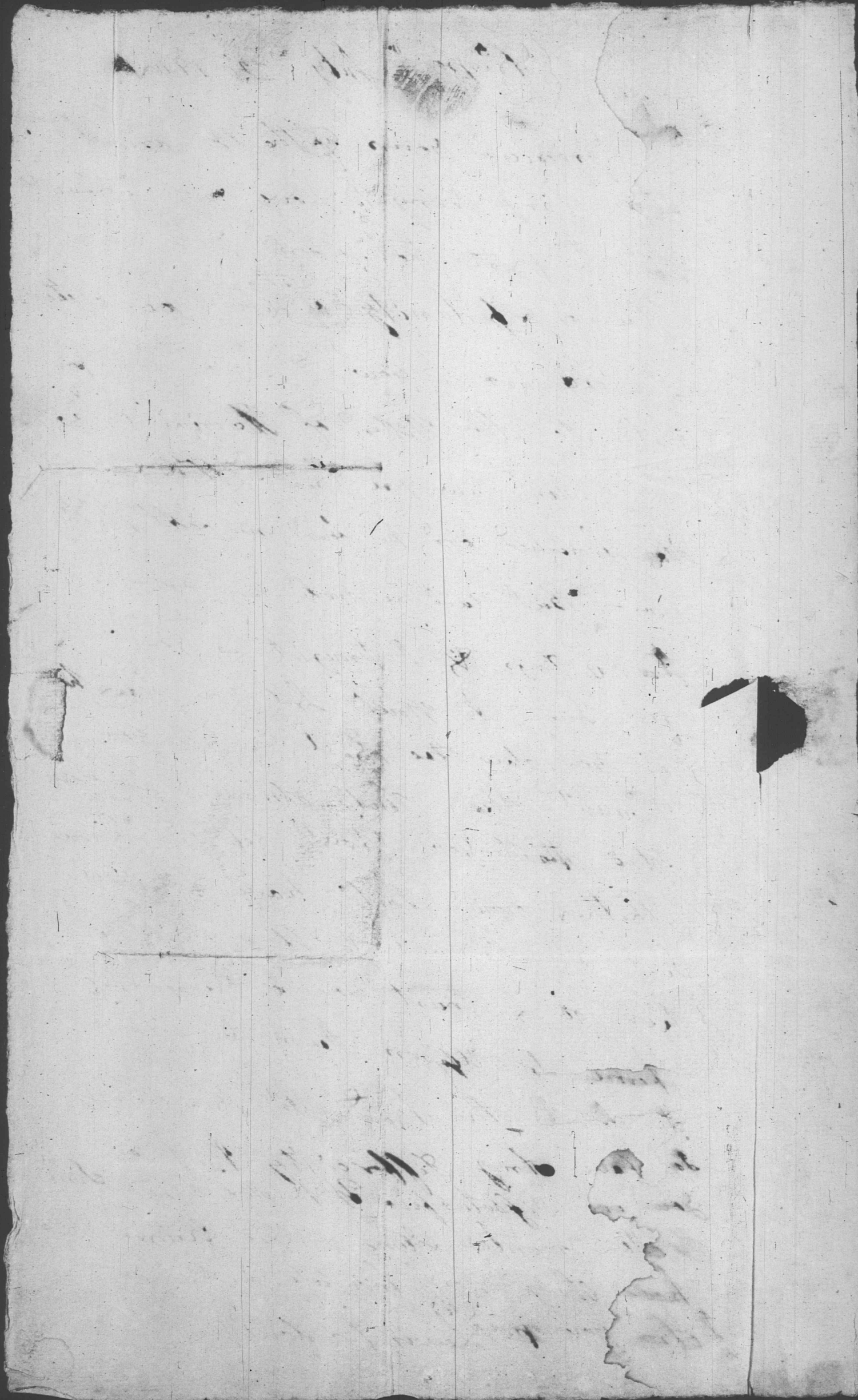
Sierra Leone

Police Branch
Capt Hayes

In his absence to the care
of Jas Wise & Thorpe
or J Gabbidon

Keegan July 20 1816

Sir
I received yours of the 14 - and I
am very sorry to have any difficulty
with the boat that I sold you to &
I had an opportunity of seeing her after
I sold her to you Besides she was
sold to Mr Willard of Warren for 30
Mr Willard saw the boat after she
was finished and he found no fault with
her but said he would send for her
in 2 days & I thought as you sent
for her I would let you have her
as you saw the boat & said you
thought she would answer for you
and that you would let me know
whether you would have her
sent a man to so & I would let
her go & trust you'd be reasonable
to upon them conditions
I sent the boat not thinking
to have any difficulty but as
you are dissatisfied with the boat send
me the inventory when I hear. Rather than
have any more trouble with her
I am yours friend
Lewis Barlow.



Sierra Leone, July 23rd A.D. 1816.

Honoured & aged friend I write to Inform
that I have been visited with a very
severe fit of Illness & am just
getting about thank God, I am in-
 hopes that this may find you & your
family well, I have not been able
to make you any remittance,
in consequence of my Illness I
was taken 25 May, I was crossing
from Bullam shore & was caught
in a tornado that occasioned my
Illness, Judith wife of Thomas
Jarvis Deceases the middle of May
& Child, Samuel Bews Sen. first of
June, all that came out with
has had an ill turn, there is 3 or
4 families come from England of
colour to settle, Capt Richards.

The Ministry Preacher.

Diaries. Moses was.
Entered yesterday for money. 20.

He gave his wife is about to send
their brig to London & to return
hence, if nothing happens here, I
think as it is a good voyage & chance
seamens wages 20\$. I shall go,
unless employed by the Society. The
establishment on the new road
at Port Loko does not look so
promising as could be wished at
present, in consequence of their not
getting through to Mr. Fuller &
Henry Savage & George Mackay was
on this expedition, to this field they
traveled 300 miles to a nation
next the Fullers called Limboes
at war with the Fullers that
would not allow any com-
munication with their En-
emies, from your Probationers
Capt Cuffey

Edw. L. P.

SHIP
Capt Paul Cuffe.



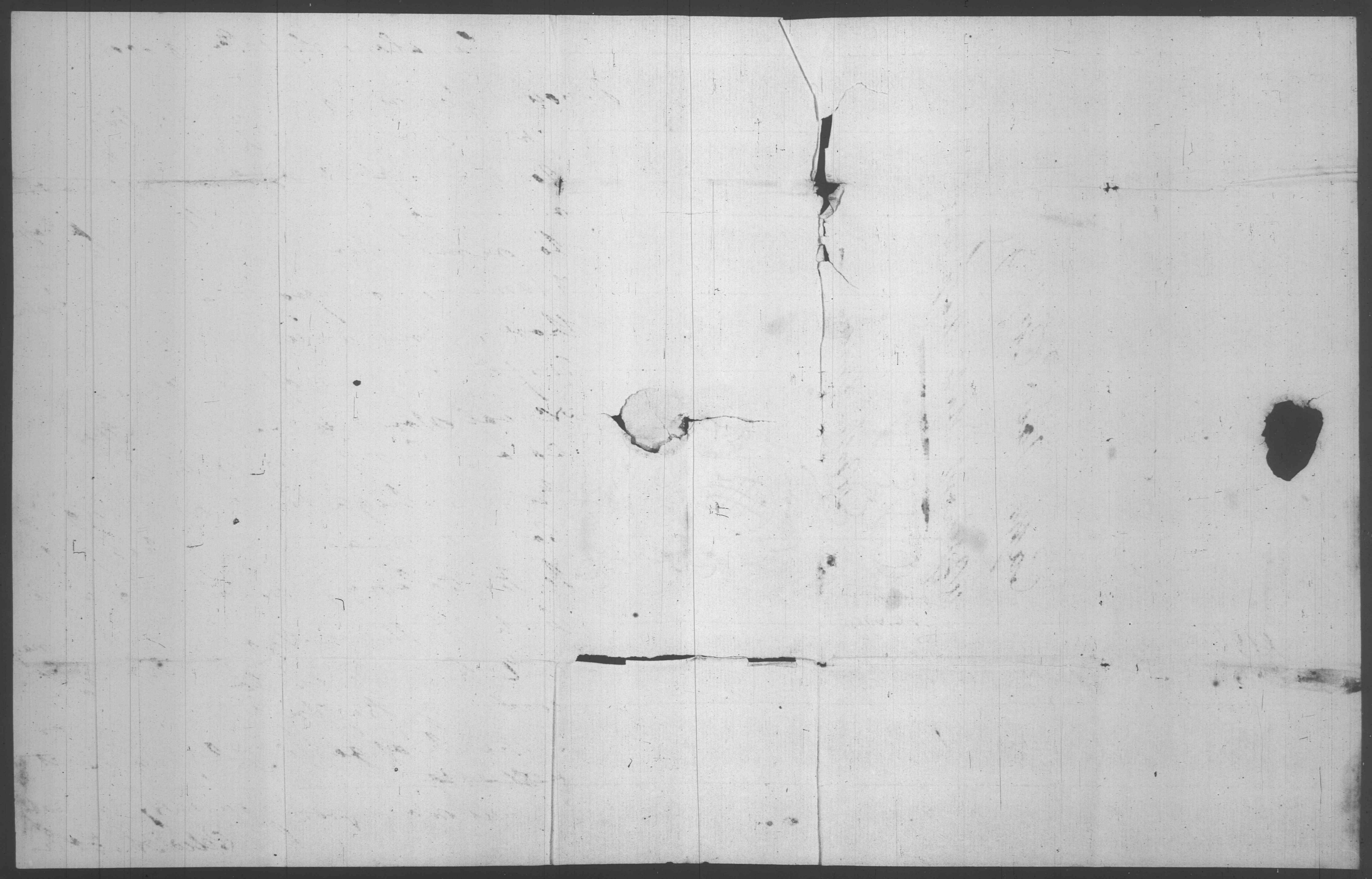
Merch. Westport
State Massachusetts.
Jared By Capt.
North America Davons. Sch. Hiram

2181

Sierravalle Sept 9th D. 1862.

Honoured friend I have been for this 4
month very sick & not able
to do any thing I am just now
recovering from an Ill turn please
to remember me to my Mother
& family. your property at the Bula
store remains unsold - Except a
couple of boxes of Candles, the
naval stores is wanted in the
colony but James Wiper holds
them so high that nothing
could be made for fetching it
to the colony, I think he will
keep it there. though obnoxious
till he give it for the stores
sustaining business is very slim
I think of getting a fifth boat
~~& 4 more~~

no more from yours Affectionately
Edw. H. B. H.



1818

Capt Paul Cuffe

Warrant State of Massachusetts

Charge
In Court

North River

Providence Aug. 1st 1816

Capt Cuffe

At the request of Phillis Hicks
the Mother of Samuel Hicks - from whom
you received sundry Articles of Seira Leone
to be delivered to his Mother I now write
you to desire you to deliver all these Articles
together with those that were left for her
use, when he left this country - and respecting
which I wrote last Year, at her request to
my connexion, Mr James Arnold - of New
Bedford, to whom I refer you - to deliver
all these to the Bearer, Jenny Roomer - the
Daughter of Phillis - who will see that
they are well & truly delivered to her
Mother - and this Letter shall be your
Discharge for & in behalf of Phillis Hicks

for
Norris S. Bowen

Received Westport ^{At} 8th mo 3 1846

of Paul &uffe

the following articles (viz)

two blys Two mats one counting cloth
one box with pen and ink bags &c.

Also one work bag covered with beads

I say received by me for my mother

Jenny ^{her} X Rooms
mark

Capt. Paul Cuse

New Bedford
By Penny Rooms

1881

of his Majesty's colony Sierra Leone

Mr Paul Suffee
Westport
Sir

Boston 15th Octo 1810

As you may think it strange
that we have not sent on the sales of Penn
would just state, that it was sold in small
parcels to many purchasers, all of whom have
not settled their bills, & we have not thought
it worth while to close the sales, untill all the
money is received. - our Truckmen bought the most
of it, & they do not pay promptly.

Yours to Servants
Josiah Bradlee Ho

10

10

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Mr Paul Cuffe

Westport

Mail

Mass.

N. D. The business is now under the firm of Staples & Thomas who sent the copy of me & am arranging my old business

Dear Friend, Wilmington Dec 15. 1816
Paul Cuffee

I wrote thee an Answer to Thine which thee wrote me from New York on thy Arrivall but have not received any other from thee since I should have ^{been} much liked to have heard a summary of thy late voyage how thee found & liked the State of affairs as regards that New Colony or Settlement intended for the civilization & Improvement of the People of Colour & in time to put a final end to Kidnapping & Slavery should thee incline to come on this way this fall the Particulars of thy voyage & any other Observation thee may have will ^{be} gratifying to a number of the friends of Humanity & of the Abolition of Slavery in these Parts it would be well should thee come to bring any such papers thee may have on the subject & if thee dont come thee might send me on a few copies of any interesting Circumstances that may have occurred during thy late voyage I have sent by Elvan Sollornon this note to thee & me received last fall for to if possible to collect he has Promised to pay it this season & have little Doubt if thee should incline to go down in the Spring this Trip that Rice would buy thee in Starter Lumber fish oil or Cash as he always said he would pay thee the first time thee came there it certainly is high time if he ever means to pay it to do so & if not we ought to put ^{it} into safe Hands for payment know leave the business to thee hoping to see thee on some next voyage or this fall we are all pretty well as is our old friend John James & family he is getting a little into business again ^{He expects to make a dividend soon} sincerely thy friend my love to thy family

James Brown

V. B. John James expects to able
this fall to make a dividend
of \$10,000 which will be truly
gratifying Should he be enabled
so to do ————— Joseph is still with him

Joseph H. Smith

By Joseph H. Smith

Westport

Paul Luffe

1818

London 7th Mo. 20th 1816.

Esteemed Friend
Paul Cuffe. —

William Allen being gone to
the Continent, and not likely to return
for more than two months, ^{yet to come} I am in his
absence desired by our mutual friend T.
Clarkson to inform thee of the safe ar-
rival of a Bill for Two hundred pounds,
drawn at Pierre Leone ~~drawn~~ by Josiah
Pryce dated April 1st 1816, — and also of
the copy of a Pierre Leone promissory note for Ninety-
nine pounds 19⁸/₄ — signed D. Campbell
dated April 1st 1816. — payable in Eight
months. — There is ^{copy of said} in this promissory
note of D. Campbell's, a deficiency; it
does not appoint any place, at which
to be presented for payment. — We must
therefore hope that D. Campbell will

send us sufficient Effects to meet it.

I am Thy sincere Friend

John F. Barry
Roughfount, Lombard Street.

P.S. Any business thy Letter may have requested
Wm. Allen to attend to, will I expect on his behalf
be done by Tho. Clarkson, or myself.

the
Tuesday September 28 1816

Dear unanle now I take this time to write the a few lines to let the
no that we are all in a moving state of health at present
hoping that these few lines will find the and them well
as for the Silke Cotton I have I spun it and knit it I have got
the gloves and stockings done and lay awaiting for the to come
I sent a word by winton but I did not so sentanley as he did the
around but I wanted the to no and the can come when the can make it
Convenient

Gyntha Caff

to Captain
Paul Caffé
in Westport

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