

Dear friend Wether 3rd mo 5th 1814

John Masters

in Looking over our accounts I find a
Balance due me to the amount of \$108-^{cts} 64
With \$10 that I paid thy wife since I came
home I hope thou wilt take good care to get
that \$10 of Edward Cook - I left \$10 with
John James for thee when I set off for home I rather
expect thou wilt leave the ship before this reaches thee
"Alvern Phelps saith he will come on and take care of
the ship and the brigg for the \$23 per month and find
himself and have the charge of looking out for
other goods - I have given a full power to
Samuel B. Fisher to take charge of my part
of the ship and have given John Barnes notice of
the same - I wish thee to see John James and
Samuel B. Fisher about sending on another
man and let them know the terms - and
give me an answer as soon as convenient

I am thy assured friend Paul Cuffe

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Esteemed friend Wether 3rd mo 5th 1814

Eliza Tyson

I hope these may meet with thee in health - I reached
my habitation on the evening of the 17th ultimo
and found my family as well as usual -
as I passed through Providence I staid with Moses
Brown the night obediak being there also I had
an opportunity of mentioning to him the subject
of his letter to thee and Endeavour to state thy intentions
to him least he might mistake thy meaning but all to no
purpose he seemed to be fixed not to receive any one at
all through which any information would be given he
said thy had the like application from Philadelphia
Lately - Thomas Arnold the man that I told thee
of speaking to was not at home he had gone
Companion on a Religious Visit Should any proper
opening offer for an application I shall not be
unmindful to give thee an early information &
I have not had no further account of thee Memoire
at since it was rejected by the Standing Committee
In the house of Representatives and therefore to
to a committee of the whole house but trust
that all that has its rights Beggining will go
grow out of it So at present I know of no
further labor for to do in the aid of civiliz-
ion of Africa

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Dear friend

Westport 3rd mo 7 1814

Nathl G M Senter

Three of the 13th ult^{mo}, hath just arrived Ever-
vallen & I think will be verry benneficias
to the Emulcrating the unhumannity of the
african - & Carried to africa from England &
missionarys - but I could not discover that the
minds of the africans was prepared to understand
their intention - & further observed the Land that
the Land of africa must be cultivated before it
would be proper to Recieve such to advantage
I also conceive that the people must be moralized
before they are Christianized I saw a man who
had and continued to keep a school amonge the
natives he told me he had 80 Children of the
Chiefs, and they were so well satisfied with
his care over them that he considered himself
and property as safe as tho he was in the Island
my plan is to take to africa some sober steady
people ^{of colour} in order to encourage sobriety and industry
and to introduce cultivation and commerce so that
the africans may become their own carriers and
employ their citizens as mariners and that
she may represent her nation with the Represent-
atives of her own nation by thus opening a new channel
of intercourse with the inter of africa as a fair
and friendly intercourse we should be able to obtain
such information of the contents of africa as we
could not get by an individual interprise thus
they would have put within their reach a method of get-
ting supplies as they had been prevented from by
having the Slave trade abolished - the memorial pass
the Senate but was rejected in the Lower House should
the way open for the Enterprise to be undertaken I
shall endeavor to give timely notice to all parties I have
just received a letter from friend Morse and should
be happy to have been earlier acquainted with him.

as we are strangers to each other this may suffice at [51]
present a letter of inquiry when further information
is needed will be attended to - by thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Dear friend Westport 3rd mo 9th 1814

Nathl G M Senter

Three of the 13th ult^{mo} I have just received
thou wilt observe the memorial makes request for
Removal of colour - from the completion of
the times - how fane the privilege would
extend I cannot say as to my part I
should feel to encourage every valient
yet I at these critical times shall not
be willing to do any thing to intoud on the
Contending Powers

I hope my plans are out of
matrices that are pure in rendering aid tow-
ards civilizing africa and not on a Speculative
Plan - I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Estimable friend Westport 3rd mo 10th 1814

Isiah Bradley

I learn from thine of a recent date that
that the Leather that I sent to thy care
for a Sampell, was not Sailabel - I wish
thue to sell or let some Leather maker
have it to sell for the most it will
bring and remit me the proceeds

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Contents of a Letter to Henry Eddy 3rd mo 14 1814
After reading the Letter it states thus

On B 2 select thy aid in answering whether
the wall where it was begun at the river was
at where the bounds was made by Jacob Chase
which I have no doubt but it was but Kirby
saith the wall was not put where the bounds
was - I also wish to know whether the lot that
they bought was to be the same as thy fathers
was - Also whether Jacob run round those lots
in the Swamp - if thou would have the goodness
to answer me to the above - it would much oblige

thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Estimable friend Westport 3rd mo 14 1814

Gardner and Rhoda wayners
I hope they may meet you in health as they leave
me in Except my wife she has not had her health
this winter but so as to be about house
I learn that you have bought a farm with Cost
1050 dollars and that you have paid 525 dollars
and now have no more fun to pay it looks to me
out of 81200 in 18 months you having your health
and are not able to raise but 8525 you must
your Extensions or all of your property are at stake
Remember the Letter that stated that a man
with 8500 in 5 years could pay both principle
and interest

Of B be so obliging as to make a correct
statement to me and let me know how much
you owe and the means you have to pay with
and thereby I may be able to give you good
advice all with you may help yourself yet
thy Brother Thomas saith that he has not
bought your school house and has no call for
it therefore he owes you 44 dollars for your
oxen and 22 dollars for the hay that prized
to him by prince and Joseph wings - and
he has paid thy farther 850 for the mare
and it appears according to that statement
there is 816 more due you
I am your assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 3rd mo 1814

Samuel J. Mills

Three of the 5 february are at hand i had not
Returned at the arrival of thy favor the petition
passed the senate but was rejected by the Committee
for commerce and manufactures and then was referred
to a committee of the whole house I have not even
learnt as they have taken the subject up in the
last mentioned committee - It is a consolation to
my poor weak mind, when I am permitted to review
such evidences, of excursions from individuals in differ-
ent parts of the globe who have no interest in view, of
self motives but purely for the Emancipating the
Cause of my nation the African race all which ought
to call all our faculties into Excursions &c - all that I
can say is this my mind for many years hath been
turned towards the Improvements of the Africans
race but i am not able to see far forward but have
a real desire that the beginning may be upon the princ-
iples of truth that god will bless the endeavor that good
may growe out of it my mind seems mostly looking
beyond sea, but I have no wish to discourage thy
premeditated plan as it is but a small number that will
be taken to africa at present If the way should open
at this time the last numbering of the inhabitants in
the City of Philadelphia the people of color amounts to
12000 from this statement it appears that some may be
willing to go to africa and to furnish inhabitants for a
Colony in the sw - also - should the way open for con-
voyance although the water I think I then shall visit
Boston and should be glad to see thee & I shall be pretty
much about home & Westport at present so thee can at
any time communicate with me by letters or pay
me a personally visit that as may best suite to thy
own convenience & satisfaction I am thy assured friend
friend

Paul Cuffe

PS my property are by no means flattering either
have i ever made it a point of travelling for pleasure
but may say from the good cause of africans. when the
thinks it to be beneficial I shall not be backward in
coming to the in and over &c -

Westport 3rd mo 1814

Esteemed friend

John Cuy

The enclosed, thou wilt observe is a Request
made by our kirby - for my own part
I have made many proposals to him, but he
has refused to comply with them, and has
proceeded as thou may observe, I always consid-
ered it to be the fence viewers Duty to divide
fences and regulate the same - I wish thee
to state to me in writing how far thou
are authorized by Law to remove fences I am
willing to have our fences divided and recon-
ded according to Law - but these walls that
hath been standing more than 30 years I
Question whether we can better it the man
that first brought the Land and built
the walls is now in the Country so if it
was in my power to abrogate it, I am not
prepared at this time for want of his Evid-
ence I wish thee to state to me how I may
proceed to secure myself according to Law
and justice

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

PS I will endeavor to see
that thou art satisfied

Esteemed friend

Westport 3 month 18 1814

thine of the 2^d system are at hand - making enquiries about Sierra Leone - there are great commotion in the world: and large fields opening and I believe they who enter in valenterly as labours into the field will receive wages a passage to Africa is a bout 2 months and they may calculate the expences to be about as much as those to Europe if the petition is granted from the government for me to proceed to Africa & I shall endeavor to make passages as favorable as may be to those who can be well recommended also suitable provisions made from their recitations - there is a Society formed in Philadelphia and I expect a matter in New York from among the people of color to receive applications examine characters and give certificates the applications being then provided they will be received = if the way appears I should open to go to Africa & I shall endeavor to give time by notice general notice

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 3rd mo 20 1814

Samuel R Fisher
Since I wrote thee I have received a letter from James Orrin of Wilmington Delaware. saying that he had talked with John James and John said the award would be much lessened after the disbursement since the ship has been in port - ~~by that he was~~ taken out, ^{as that he} will be willing that my part of the expence shall be taken out of \$2189 = 50 cents the sum awarded - If he should continue of this mind I hope thee may be able to get through ^{with} him without any difficulty
I am thy assured

friend Paul Cuffe

I have received a letter from L wheater saying he had not been able to get the committee of the whole house to take up my business as yet but was in hops to effects it soon

Dear friend

Westport 3rd mo 20th 1814

James O'Brien

Thine of the 19th ultimo I have duly received

and was pleased to hear of thy safe return home to thy family
as to our friend John James expresses himself to be hurt
I am sorry to hurt his feelings, unless it is for his good for
I have nothing else in view, but my sincere desire for his welfare
both here and hereafter - as to the meaning of my expressions I
fear that John James has had to witness the scene that rest on my mind
before this day, yet I hope all things may work together for good -

I have given Samuel R. Fisher a power to manage my part
of the ship and sent it unto him before the arrival of thy letter and
notified John accordingly - and since have said to Samuel R. Fisher
that John James had concluded to take the ship present ad-
-ments out of the award, which would be pleasant to me

I hope my friend may not change his mind on receiving
that I have put the ship into another mans care

I was glad to think thou was able to exchange thy tobacco into
other articles that better suited thy purpose

I received a letter from L. Wheaton few days ago
saying that he had moved number of times, but had not
been able to get them to take up my business, but was in
hopes to be able to effect it in a few days

the following names
are those who were
the advocates for the
the petition that
was handed to the house
of Representatives in
Congress, for permission
to depart to Africa in
time of war registered

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuff

L. Wheaton

Grosvener

J. Pickering

J. J. Gant

Baylies

Webster

Farrow

Dunal

or Shepherd

Dear friend

Westport 4th mo 20th 1814

[67]

Laban Wheaton esq^r

Thine of the 19th ult came, safe to hand
thy care and attention, to give aid to
my application, I sincerely acknowledge
and feel myself under great obligation
to thee, and likewise to those amiable
Characters who rendered their aid in sup-
-porting the cause of Africa

I hope ^{that} your reward will be in that
Durable riches which cannot be purchased
with money - I received all my pap-
-ers, and am much obliged by thy sup-
-plying me with the journal of the day
which gave a full explanation of the
transactions of the business

I am thy Senior and ever well wishing
friend
Paul Cuff

Westport 4th mo 30 1814

Esteemed friend

Samuel J. Mills

I take the Liberty of troubling thee with few lines of my unprofitable writings. by way of inquiry Concerning The education of 2 boys of Color 10 & 11 years of age from Information they are Mollato Children of fortune they are at Annapolis Maryland the gentleman that wrote me states that from prejudice of Color he could wish to have them removed into the Northern State, where ~~there~~ they could be placed under some Pious Character and educated suitable to enjoy the improvements of their fortunes I asked the advice of my Friend Wm Rotch Jr he proposed to me that of having them placed in some Country Place in a family and under the Care & tutor of some pious minister

The Gentleman that wrote me inquires to ~~how~~ know wheather or eligible situation could be procured in a public Seminary where they could be properly attended to and what would be the Expence of boarding teaching Clothing &c An Early answer to the above would be kindly received by the assured friend Paul Cuffe.

P.S. Should the Gentleman that this letter is addressed to be absent I should be much obliged in receiving few Lines from any intrusted person

Estimated friend Westport 5 month 2 1814

Jacob O. Smith

The Liberty I take of makeing the following inquires is in that hope which I flatter my self that thou may Be usefull. all which I am led to be leave thou will feel much interested in (Viz) Enquiring 2 boys of Color from 10 to 11 years of age from information they are Mollato Children of fortune the Gentleman that wrote me wrote from Annapolis Maryland and states from prejudice of ~~oppression~~ oppression he wished to have them the 2 boys removed into the northern States and Placed in the Care of pious Character to be educated suitable to enjoy the improvements of their fortunes I asked the Advice of my friend Wm Rotch Jr and he proposed to have them Placed in some Country Place in a family and under the Care of some pious person. The Gentleman that wrote me inquires to be informed wheather any eligible situation could be procured in a public Seminary where they could be properly attended to Also the expence of boarding teaching Clothing & the whole Cost of their education - now my friend if thou wilt do me the Favour to make the necessary inquiry and give me an Early information of thy doings Such advice will be kindly received and gratefully acknowledged by thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Thou wilt observe the ~~petition~~ petition of P.C. to depart from America to Africa has finally failed, but I hope the object in view may not diminish Considering the National advantage that may arise from the object in Contemplation I should I recieve proper documents from the British Government new Courage I think would present it self for further application in such case it would enable me to make the application could be provided with the Certificate ~~and~~ ^{and} those who are desirous to embark on this important ~~and~~ ^{and}

Westport 5th month 2 1814

Esteemed friend

Frederick Morse

from the impression of thy extensive knowledge leads me
To take the liberty of making the following inquiry (viz) Concerning
The Education of 2 boys of ~~Col~~ Colour 10 & 11 years of age from
Information they are mulatto Children of fortunes The Gentleman
that wrote me wrote from Annapolis Maryland and States from
prejudice of Colour he wishes to have them the 2 Boy removed
into the northern States and Placed in the Care of some pious
Character to be educated suitable to enjoy the improvements of their
fortune I asked the advice of my friend William Rotch ^{jr} and he
Proposed to have them placed in some Country Place in a
family under the Care of some pious person the Gentleman
that wrote me inquires to be informed wheather any eligible situation
could be procured in a publick Seminary where they could
be properly attended to. Also The expence of boarding Teaching
Clothing &c the whole cost of their education an early answer
to the above would be kindly received and gratefully ~~acknowledged~~
acknowledged by thy friend Paul Cuffe

P.S The will observe by ~~thy~~ the papers that the petition
of P^b to depart from America to Africa has ~~finerly~~ failed
But I hope the object in ~~Contemplation~~ View may not diminish
Considering the ~~Anta~~ national advantage that may arise
from the object in Contemplation — Should I received
proper dock ment from the British Government new
Courage I think would enable me to make the application
could I be provided with the Certificates of all those
whome are disposed to embark on & in that important
undertaking

Dear friend

Westport 5th mo 2 1814

Joseph Clark

from the long acquaintance with the and being fully
Convinced of thy ^{integrity} ~~integrity~~ leads me to take the liberty
of ~~writing~~ making the following inquiry viz Concerning
the a education of 2 boys of Colour 10 & 11 year of age
from information they are mulatto Children of fortune
the a ~~man~~ man that wrote me ^{from} from Annapolis Maryland
and States from prejudice of oppression he wishes to have
them ~~removed~~ the 2 boys removed into the northern
States, and placed in the care of some pious character
to be educated suitable to enjoy the improve ments of
~~their~~ their fortune I asked the advice of my friend
William Rotch ^{jr} and he proposes to have them
placed in some Country place in a family and under
the care of some pious person the man that wrote me
inquires to be informed wheather any eligible situation
could be procured in a publick Seminary where they
could be properly attended to. also the Expence of boarding
teaching Clothing &c he further states his object
is to have them brought up in a manner suitable to
their future expectation to ~~adorn~~ so far to enlighten & moralize
them that they may hereafter demonstrate to the world that
it is not the Complexion of the face but of the heart ~~as~~
that distinguishes the men I thought I should state to the
man thy name and place of abode and the School under
thy Care and what prospect their was of having them educated
in Massachusetts &c an early answer to the above
Statement would be kindly received and gratefully
acknowledged by thy assured friend Paul Cuffe

after my love to the. thy formerly pleas to remember
me to my friend John James and his family and to all
inquiring friends also tell Enoch Johnson that the
petition that I presented to Government to depart
from America to Africa finally failed

But I hope the object in view may not diminish
Considering the national advantage that may arise
from the object in Contemplation

Tell John James I intend writing to him
soon as I can get fully through with Capt Soule

Esteemed friend Westport 5th mo 9th 1814

John James

Having a convenient opportunity of thought
wrote to forward to thee by this conveyance the
attested att of William Soule - the other
matter concerning the aff is not yet settled

I have not as yet seen Capt Soule but
shall endeavour to see him soon and then
shall endeavour to let thee know the result

I myself am in health, but my wife hath
had a last attack of sickness but is getting
a little comforted - I hope these may meet
thee and thine in health

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Respected friend

Westport 5th mo 1814

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John Mercey Esq^r

it is not in my power at present to give thee a
full and decided answer to thy kind letter of the date of the 3^d
of April but have taken the advice of my friend William Roth
for he acknowledge the entreaty he feels in rendering his
aid to forward the views of so worthy and enlightened mind
as appears in thee &c - his opinion is that the boys should be
placed in some country places - in a family and under the care of
some pious character - for which purpose I have written in different
directions in ^{his} information & ^{when} received I shall endeavor to inform thee
fully on the subject among the other inquirers I have wrote
to my friend Joseph Clark in Philadelphia who has a
school under his inspection solely for the children of color

if thou should feel easy to have them educated in the City of
Philadelphia I know of no one more suitable than my friend
Joseph Clark he lives in north fifth Street about #16

I can mention further that at Camden and Little Duck
Creek in Delaware State are African schools kept for the
sole purpose of the education of African children &
taught by Africans - as to my being qualified for

receiving and instructing those children I do not think
it advisable however I shall give it every aid that I am
capable of - as to the good and wholesome laws for guarding
the property of people of color I know of none better
adopted for that purpose than the laws of Massachusetts
and could peace be effected between the two contending
powers ^{I have no doubt but that property could be used to good advantage}
in the mercantile pursuits in New Bedford
rest assured I shall give my aid freely in order to
forward every laudable view that might attend to the
national advancement of Africa &c

I am with esteem thy assured friend Paul Cuffe
I think \$6 per week would pay the board
washing mending and tuition of the 2 boys

Respected friend Westport 5th mo. 8th 1814

Samuel R. Fisher

Having a convenient conveyance I thought
proper to write these few lines -
and wish thee to do what appears to thee
to be best for my interest - which I
dare say thou wilt conduct to my satisfac-
tion - John James mentioned to me
in his letter, that Rowers was much put out
that I did not call and leave him some
money - any sum that appears to thee,
to be necessary for my interest, I wish
thee to advance, and draw on me for the
amount - I have entertained a hope that
John James would meet or would pay those
expenses

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Beloved friend Westport 5th mo. 20th 1814 [75]

John Menden Esq.

I have received answers to my Enquiries so far as to
enable me to make further propositions to thee viz it
is the opinion of my friends that the boys may be
got in to the academy at plain field Connecticut 30
miles west from Providence R. g. stand & think that
Ct. Spence per week Ct. Spence of their Cloathing
would be about 89 per week. There is another place mention-
ed at midway about 30 miles from Boston under care of Rev
Mr. Wright this place is mentioned to me & recommended
Another at South Farms in Connecticut is likewise named
it is mentioned to me that the probal Expence at those last
Places may be between 3 & 4 dollars per week Exclusive of their
Cloathing I have not received answers from Philadelphia &c
to my Application - but think I may venture to
state to thee that it may appear that the boys may be
accommodated - the Expenses of their Cloathing will
be according to the Cloath in which they are clothed &c

I can further state to thee that I have a Common
Country School House in my neighbour hood where the
Lads could be taught their Letters by a common School-
-master if they have not passed that education which
might be servisable to the boys for the first year
However if thou art amind to place the boys under my
Care I shall endeavour to do agreeable to thy directions
if the boys was placed ~~under~~ at some academy
they would be more under the eye of their tutor - if the
boys are sent for ward it would be necessary that the
boys should open a credit with some Correspondence
where the expenses could be called for Quarterly

I have ~~with~~ written to the Rev^d Mr Benedict at Plain
field if it should be concluded for the boys to stop there
it will save the distance of 60 miles to my house when the
boys are sent it would be necessary they should be in
the care of some one to pay attention to their being well
attended too from place to place on their passage ~~their being~~
~~with~~ Elisha Tyson of Baltimore - James Brins ^{Wilmington}
Delaware Samuel R Fisher Philadelphia Abraham Barker
at New York and Moses Brown at Providence the above
names thou might take the liberty of calling on freely
for any aid that may be needed in assisting in the boys
passage to the north in my behalf - I should like
to be informed the intention of the Subject soon
and am thy assured friend Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 5th mo 20th 1812 [7]

Rev^d Benedict

From the Representations of Reet Samuel G. Still
I take the liberty of addressing thee with these lines (viz)
I have had an application to get 2 boys Educated
they are mulattoes Children of porters (of Annapolis)
Maryland 10 & 11 years of age - he wished the 2 boys
Placed under the care of some pious person in order
to be educated suitable to enjoy the improvements
of their porters - I wished to be informed whether
thou wilt agree to take these boys under thy care and
What would be the expenses per week for their
boarding tuition washing & mending all Expenses
Clothing Excepted an answer to the above will be
kindly received by thy assured friend

Paul
Cuffe

18/4/11 6^{mo} 29th a letter to John James in which was rendered
a copy of a court current from Wm & R. Rathbone
merchants of Liverpool England an acct of orig trans-
ker haul cufe Super Cargo &c

By that account it appears a balance due the
Rathbones from the traveller - Amounting to £590-5
Sterling money

John James drew for the amount of £1052-7^s
Paul Cuffe Dito do ————— 776-8-4
£1828-15-4

Balance in Debt due the Rathbones is £590-5-0
1/2 £1298-10-4
£619-5-2

John James drew for £1052-7-0
his part to answer — 619-5-2
Due from John — 433-1-10
Paul Cuffe drew for — 3776-8-4
Paul Cuffe's party to answer — 619-5-2
due from Paul — 157-3-2
£590-5-00

*Copy sent to
will write there
fully on the subject
of the acctation you
I received three of the 12
under date 2d of 1814
at Cuffe*

I cannot find by the acct of Sales
that there has ever been any credit given
for the invoice shipped to London to John Lubbock & Co —
which amounted to £776-8-4 the half of which is £388-4-2
thy debt as it stands at present is — £433-1-10
hence it appears at present there owes £433-1-10
but if the invoice should be good then it would be £45-0-4
I am thy ashured friend
Paul Cuffe

Dear friend Westport 7th mo 5th 1814 [79]

Wm & R. Rathbone
your favour of the 5th of April are at hand - by which I
learn that the sale of the orig travellers cargo are closed,
and by your account current there remains a balance due
you the sum of £590-5-0 which is far different from
all my calculation - I always intended to keep a balance
in your hands, in my favour

and had not the 3 bills for £1052-7^s which was drawn
without any authority, been drawn, I should not have been
disseparated - I hope you have taken care to keep enough of John's
property for your hands to satisfy the 3 bills of £1052-7^s

I see no credit given for the invoice of articles shipped
to John Lubbock at London, which was to be remitted to you, I hope you will be able by the
next opportunity to inform me of the receipt of the amount
of that adventure, as well as the small drawback on
Richard gone for a short bill of hats

as soon as you are able to render a correct state-
ment after receiving all of the proceeds of my property
in England that are like to fall into your hands, then
any balance coming too or from you will be cheerfully
attended to, and I hope punctually performed the amount
of Invoice shipped to John Lubbock was £776-8-4
the proceeds you will place to my credit

I am your everwellwishing friend
Paul Cuffe

Dear friend

Westport 5th mo 5 1814

William Nathane

I Received thy kind favour of the 2^d of the 4th mo
in which I rejoiced to hear of your wellfare and I
desire to be truly thankful, to think that you should
feel to take the undervaluement on your selues so far as to
think on such a poor unworthy dust of the earth as I am
after my love and best wishes for the preservation of thee
and all of thy dear relatives and connection both here and
hereafter - I may state to thee that such friendly
salutation brings thee near to my best feelings
Altho the powers of the 2 Countries strene one against
the other I do feel that union and communion
established in the midst of all Christs children which
rights nor duties cannot separate - all prospect
visiting Africa at present seems to be at an end
the application that I made to the government of
the united States was received and favored by the
Senate in Congress but was rejected in the house
of Representatives - but I hope that god will arise
for and plead the cause of the deprived africans be
my wife thee and the children joins me in
love to thee and family

I am thy affectionate friend

Paul Cuffe

Notwithstanding John James had nothorly
to draw for any amount against the travellers cargo
yet I shall endeavor to take care as far as it is in my
power and not be too much ~~concerned~~ grieved a suffer
that you are kept from suffering as much as
possible

Esteemed friend

New Bedford 7th mo 12 1814 [31]

Samuel R. Fishers

Three of the 2th are at hand - thy brother Wm Hatch
and family arrived home all well fatigue excepted -
the alarm seems to pass by without any more interruption
then calling the attention of the people to that which I deem
unnecessary for them hear and more so hereafter - I hope thou
will be able to sit on with John in friendship - necessity
is the mother of inventions - 2 years ago I should have
thought John James would not have permitted that the
Ship should have been made a Sport Ship of - John well
knew that thou art in my stead as to the Ship Altho
and to move the Ship without consulting thee I should
have thought improper - I have being on the Sport
have a better opportunity to hit the right time of
Sale than I could have, I feel easy to leave the man-
agement of the Ship to thee -

William and I talked on the Subject and thought
it might be safe to make Sale of the Ship when her
Value would bring ten thousand Dollars \$10000
notwithstanding I feel easy to leave the whole of the
Business to thy better management

I am thy esteemed friend

Paul Cuffe

P S

as the Ship remains between I James and P Cuffe -
I hope John will not let any thing suffer on the
part of the former disbursements untill she is sold

Respected friend

Westport 8th mo 6th 18 14.

John James

Thine of 11th 3rd 12th we duly received and read with great attention my motive in writing to the free navy was out of love and good will.

I feel to sympathize with thee in thy trying season I hope thou may be preserved and cured then this ail of troubles my desires is that thy losses and losses here may eventually prove a Blessing to thee in the end be encouraged look to Christ inheritance who has said I have prepared a place for you a place of rest this place is pure for the reception of all sinners ever. Travellers the gate is not shut at day by day for there is no night there my dear friends those enclosed former can't exclude thee from a friarage in the heaven by man's power. I perceive John man stens left the ship some after I left Philadelphia I hope he is in better times but should he not be doing well for him self I think it advise ble for him to return home to westport I hope the new ship keeper may conduct to mutual satisfaction. When I called to see J. Drovers he was not at home & concluded as the ship lay in his hand, he must be safe and as there was a balance due me from thee I was in hopes the decision would be in season for thee to meet his demands — when the ship came he said & shall be willing, and relieve us from such daily expences — I am sorry to hurt thy feelings in placing my part of the ship in the care of another husband but felt ashamed, it was not without due consideration and in order to to relieve thee from more trouble than what would be best for thee to have, and I thought it best for thee and for me that the ship was placed as she was. I hope that thou hast long ago got the attested copy of the account on the Spanish Government from Captain Bowle when I called on Captain Bowle with thy account he assured me that it was agreed on between thee and him to let that stand against what primora he might be entitled to on the cargo but he was to write to thee about the subject and if he insisted on the payment he begged me not to prosecute but give him time to get it — so it will be postponed until further directions from thee. Many a promising morning of a clear day becomes in the afternoon over cast and lowering — my application to Congress at first appears flattering. But altho it was finally rejected I hope the labor may not be altogether fruitless — but I do not live to see the improvement carried into effect I hope there is the foundation laid which may not be fruitless I desire to be submissive and not to be over anxious

But trust if it is pursued in purity all things will work together for good I have receive no latter account from England than that I furnished thee with the account of I am now about to write to England by way of Boston &c — I hope our Government will be able to affect a general peace but at present I see no satisfactory evidence that there is any prospect of a speedy peace — so my employment must be in raising potatoes or for to satisfy hunger — I shall take it kind when convenient to favor me with a letter My wife has been very low since I left Philadelphia so that we had to lift her from bed to bed but through mercy she has got comfortable about again — on my son in law in New Bedford is accepted he died the 1st of the 11 month last my wife and family joins me in love to thee and family I am thy affectionate friend

Paul Cuff

Dear friend

Westport 8th mo 18 14.
Bregamin Tucker

I have just received a letter from John Sherer stating the satisfaction he received by thy aid and by the continuance of the information to him concerning the improvement of the Education of the 2 boys &c it was great satisfaction to me when I was informed by Mr. Hatch Jr that he had got a place for the boys little out of town I hope thou wilt watchful care towards the boys and let me hear at times the improvements they make — J. Sherer wrote me concerning the boys of getting them Educated in the States & Made inquiry and gave a notice accordingly — but I believe the boys could not be better placed at present I hope they may continue steady and make wise improvement of their time I was glad to be informed by James Foster that the Institution was completely formed — not withstanding my application to Congress finally failed yet I hope the labor that has been already bestowed may not be altogether lost but we like the bread cast upon many waters to be found after many days

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuff

My Dear friend

Westport 8th mo 1814

James Norton

I embrace this opportunity to inform thee of our health my wife Sina & I left you both been very low and sick but through mercy have been restored to her health so our family are in general way of speaking in health and hope they may meet thee and thine injoying the same or being & have nothing new to communicate but wish thee to see little to John Merston that if he is not doing well for himself by all means to advise him to return home ~~from~~ to Westport and by all that I hear he is not doing much for himself Give my love to Charlotte and the Children and Obeas to except it thy self & see no prospect of peace yet I hope we shall be favored with peace other wise heads of the Government will act like mad men my wife and family joins me in love to thee and family and I am thy assured

Friend Paul Cuffe

Westport 9th mo 1814

I have to inform you, that William Kirby has not put his fences and walls in the line between him & O Cuffe, in Aquane according to directions given him by the former Viewers, 3rd mo 28th last

These are from your wellwishing friend

To

Paul Cuffe

Bennymin Brownell & John Viewers.

Dear friend

Westport 8th mo 1814

Richard Allen

I am from thy long silence drawn to write to thy this good opportunity as Joseph Potech is going home to Philadelphia - I am informed by your Secretary James Norton that the institution for Africa in Philadelphia is completely organized. - I have had no late account from beyond Sea. when ever any thing turns up or any information is received I shall lose no time in giving you the earliest information Remember me to Doctor Olden and other inquiring friends Give my love to thy wife and family and Obeas to except it thy self tell my friend Prince that our African plan is computed at present so we must wait with patience until deliverance comes - my wife has been very sick since I left Philadelphia so that we were obliged to lift her from bed to bed and a sheet but through mercy she is restored to her alth ~~again~~ so far as to be about and we are as well as usual one of my sons in Law that lived in New Bedford Deceased 4th of last month

my wife and children unite with me in love to thee and family - and I am thy assured

Friend

Paul Cuffe

Dear Friend

Westport 4th mo 8 1814

J. Mercer

Thine of the 25th ult ar at hand - I was much pleased with that of thy having an interview with Mr. Proctor with & Darby was gratifying to thee as he is a very agreeable person - to be sure a line from thee to me was very gratifying to me, but from the multiplicity of business that must await thy care I could hardly expect thee would take the trouble of doing me that favor & rejoiced when Mr. Proctor ^{with thee} told me the gratification he had in meeting and also in seeing the children and then to have it confirmed from thy own hand and to see the unwearied steps thou must have taken for the promotion of the children and the advancement of my nation (Viz) the oppressed Africans & pray that thy reward will be in that which time only is able to make manifest - I was gladd that thou fell in with Benjamin Tucker he is one who I trust the very utmost confidence may be placed in & am truly gladd the little boys have been placed in thy care & believe they are as well placed at present as they can be & beg to be excused if I should take the liberty at times to enquire of Benjamin Tucker after the boys well far & am truly sorry to hear you are so harassed by the wickedness of the war & a winter which has swallowed many nations & am thy assured friend Paul Cuffe

I saw Mr. Proctor and the new Bedford friends few days since they were then in health with pleasure to remember my love to thy mother and family, not forgetting Cornelius my conductor when in London as also to all inquiring friends & am thy affectionate friend Paul Cuffe

Dear Friend

Westport 4th mo 8 1814

William Allen

I hope this may meet thee and thine in as good a state of health as they leave me and mine & after writing to thee in the 2 month last concerning the favorable prospect of my application to Congress the business was taken up in the house of representatives and rejected but I hope it will not be like the bread that was cast upon the water, was found many days ^{after} & hope it may not ^{give} without its use, ~~although~~ ^{will} ~~thru~~ it was expensive to me yet if good can come out of it it be comfort to me and I hope consolation to the well being of Africa - I have been made acquainted with many well wishers to the cause of Africa with I should have been stranger to had had not it been for the memorial being made publick, also through that journey the Africans in Philadelphia combined and organized themselves into a Society by the name of the Philadelphia African Institution so I hope if I as an individual, should I not live to see the abject carried into effect, it may not finally fail and come to naught & I shall endeavor at some future day to acquaint thee with the officers of the Society in Philadelphia, I think it was in the year of 1810 the people in Philadelphia was numbered the 60 of people ~~was~~ of Colored people at that day was about (12,000) and I think at this time it must be considerable more, I should the war continue and the British government feel disposed to favor such an application had thought of making further attempt but should it be firmly rejected by both governments it must be silent until the wars ends and I shall rest with that peace of mind believing the will will be taken for the deed in the mean time I hope the Society in Sierra Leone will take care ^{that} of Paul Cuffe property in Sierra Leone are not confiscated

Dear Friends Westport 8th mo 1814

Thomas and Frances Thompson

Your of the 22^d of the 3^d month came safe to hand after taking its tover to the Seat of government for Examination. I was rejoiced to be informed of your wellfare and may say I hope these may meet you in health as these leave ~~me~~ at this time its often been truly humbling to my mind when I call to Remembrance the friendly reception that the Strangers meet with in a fair Country & may acknowledge that your House and family often reviews in my mind like unto a home & hope your reward will be in that which time only is able to make manifest. It is very pleasant to be informed of the fruitfulness and prosperity of the increase of your family may you be blessed with the satisfaction of seeing them grow up in the love and fear of the Lord it is very pleasant to hear of Mr Spriggs being favored with a companions please to give my love to Mr Spriggs wife: sisters and other inquiring friends - I perceive Death has no respects of persons but is making its way in your part of the world as well as ours, which is a clear demonstration that we have no continuing place place here may all be wise to seek on to come - I have had a prospect of visiting Africa again and made application to the American government but it was rejected so at present the prospect has vanished & I hope our two Contending powers may be favored to conclude a peace which I presume would be very desirable to most of the inhabitants for I believe all wars and fightings are now and very inconsistent to all Christian Religion to be each other butchers rather to murder each other. A line from you would be always acceptable & am with sentiments of respect and regard Your Affectioned Friend

Paul Cuffe

Dear Friend Westport 8th mo 1814 [39]

Catharine White

Thy kind attention toward me when in England has often brought thee in my remembrance, and although two continents are separated far asunder by the great deep and more so by the present unhappy war but I believe in all true believers in and humble followers of Christ feel to be united in that Christian love, with lights and debts, principalities nor powers, will be able to separate from the love of God - I am informed by thy Cousin Frances Thompson, that thou hast undertaken an arduous task to be a guardian and mother to some orphan children all which I conceive places thee in a situation of trials but be of good cheer it is through trials and tribulations we are to enter the Kingdom of heaven for Gods people must be a tried people yet I humbly trust he will not require impossibilities of us Christ will not permit us to be tried beyond our strength & yet he will not require that of us which he will not enable us to perform Christ saith in me ye have peace in the world ye have tribulations, but be of good cheer & have overcome the world, remember that our watchful ears hear are but for a short time and that that are faithful ~~not~~ required of us are faithfulness and when our watchful ears are at an end hear, we shall be removed from over to beyond - my wife begins her love to thee and acknowledges the receipt of the shawl that thou had the goodness to present to her by the hands of her husband she further adds that she hopes that thy reward may be in that durable riches which time only will be able to make manifest - my wife has since the 3rd mo had a very trifling fit of sickness and was brought so low that she was lifted from bed to bed in a sheet, but through mercy she has recovered and been spared to sit about again - my wife unite with me in love to thee I am thy affectionate friend Paul Cuffe

44/ Esteemed friend New York 3rd mo 8th 1815

Samuel R. Fisher

Having a convenient opportunity & thought proper to forward a copy of the doings of the abductors in order that if there should be any move for settling any demands to enable thee to step forward in my behalf &c. I hope there may meet thee and thine in health as these leaves me and Mine at present. I am thy assured

Friend Paul Cuffe

The Subscribers having heard the parties examined in the annexed agreement; and examined their respective proofs allegations & accounts respecting the Ship Alpha and her Cargo - and do award and finally determine the sum of two thousand one hundred and Sixty Dollars to be due from the said John James to the said Paul Cuffe and we do further award order and finally determine that the Claim for Demurrage Expenses and any demand of the Spanish Government should ever be recovered the owners of the Ship Alpha her freight and her Cargo, are intitled to receive the same in proportion to their respective Shares

Philadelphia 2nd mo 15th
James Smith
Samuel Jones

The Above is a true Copy of the Doings of the abductors Concerning the Ship Alpha

attest

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend New York

Mary James

Thine of the 1st instant I have duly received and must acknowledge to thee, it is one of the most piercing Instruments, that ever met with, and what makes it more so, its coming from one of my ^{most} valuable friends and one whom I cannot think to mock at

I appears that in the view of thy mind that I have been very wrong, & therefore must ask for a place in thy mind - Desiring thee to pass by - over look and forgive me - rest assured it was never in my ~~mind~~ heart to injure thee, nor nor thy husband. If I have done wrong toward you its through Ignorance, - my prayer to God is that we may be preserved in love even seeking forgiveness of our Lord Jesus Christ Read 2 Corinthians Chapter 5 five days ago I wrote a letter to thy husband per Joseph Rotch, and sent it forward to Joseph Rotch new Bedford, but I learn that Joseph doth not set off until the latter part of this month it may be some time before it reaches him therefore I hasten to forward thine per mail. My wife has been very low and weak but through mercy has been restored, so we are as well as usual and these may meet thee and thine in health

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed Cousin

Westport 9th month 14th 1814

Gardner Wainer

Thine of the 4th 1814 came safe to hand my prospect of going to Africa was rejected in the house of

Representatives, and that put an end to the voyage at present but the application being made public I am in hopes that good may grow out of it there is an Institution of the People of Colour formed in Philadelphia by the name of the Philadelphia African Institution in order that the subject may become more general, and an individual relieved in a degree

I am very sorry to hear that the has made larger purchase than what thou were able to meet the payments it looks to me that unless the takes some wise steps the will be in great danger of losing the whole. I think the had better come to some conclusions with David Cuffe ^{3rd} before he leaves the country and either sell thy place for the most it will fetch and then buy such an one as the can pay for, or let David pay up the money so that good security can be obtained and then give David security of such a part of the Land for his money as the and he can agree on so that the has may be thine for a little of a mans own are better then agree a great name in others Peoples property. I feel to sympathy with the in thy tried situation in the loss of thy Companion a loss which no one can tell the weight of but they who have experienced it but in all things let us be refined that the Lords will ~~be done~~ may be done - and that the Lord gave and the Lord take away as blessed be his name and I think ought to be our Reconciliation when we have an evidence that that our loss are their gains that they are removed from works to reward

My brother Thomas tells me that he never bought thy share in the School house and now has no use for it - and further states that he was accountable for thy oxen which is \$44 and that Joseph and Prince were paid the hay for 22 which makes

he paid thy father for the mare \$50
which leaves a bout due to the farm of \$66
\$44
\$16

I am thy assured friend
Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 8th 17th = 1814

Stephen Gould

I hope these may meet thee and thine in health as they leave me & mine the enclosed bill given by Thomas Green of Oristat to David Cuffe for 12 1/2 cords of wood at \$6 per cord has been called for time after time but he has neglected and refused to pay. David Cuffe saith when the wood Captain that carried the wood, left the wood with Thomas Green, he was told the wood was selling at \$7 per cord, the Captain then took a due bill of I Green for the wood at \$6 = 75 per cord David Cuffe received the bill of the Captain, but it being taken in the Captains own name David Cuffe thought best to have the bill given to himself I Green then by his flattery agreed with David Cuffe to take up with \$6 per cord on account of the wood being lower then it had been, David Cuffe afterward was informed that his wood was then all sold at a very trifling - he considers that the balance \$49 = 75 together with more then 2 years interest, are justly due to him and would be glad to have it without any deduction - I wish thee to hand the due bill to some attorney that thou can confide in for collection and if I Green, still refuses to pay the balance that is mentioned, I wish it to be put in suite and I will guarantee the suite - any further information that may be wanting will be attended to when I am informed of the subject - please to excuse me for taking such liberty with thee.

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

friend Westport 9th mo 13: 1814

J D Hazard

Thine of the 27th ult, one at hand

The imported Merino Ram are to be
Sold for \$120 (one hundred and twenty
Dollars) he was imported 1810 about the
Season of the year, and was judged at
that time to be 3 years old, and has been
fine healthy, Ram and still is, and
has ever been ~~sure~~ full in his office
the certificate accompanying him, gave
the first recommendation to

I shall expect to hear from thee soon
and am thy ashamed friend

Paul Cuffe

Geo: P Hazard South Kingstown

Esteemed Friend W. J. Short 7th mo 23 1814 [55]

John James

Letters having been received from John Lubbock
by Thomas Wainer, at the Sales of an
Invoice of Camwood and Perm oil shipped
by Thomas Wainer on account and resque of
the owners of fitters at the Briggs Trade
Mers Sales are

£ 1552 = 18

Charges out - 333 = 7 = 11

£ 1219 = 10 = 1

Insurance and Interest on the Invoice 109 = 18 = 8

Leaves to be put to the Credit 1109 = 11 = 8

of the traveller when advice is received from
the Rathbone that it has been received in their
hand the above sum he comes due 28 of mo
the last half of £ 1109 = 11 = 8 is £ 554 = 15 = 10

£ 433 = 1 = 10 a balance that the ~~£ 433~~ ~~over~~ draw thus it appears a balance £ 121 = 14 = 00
in the favor

I we have not had cred it for it before
which i never have been able to discover
that it ever has been stated in any account
that i have received

I hope this may meet thee
an thine ind health as they leave me and
mine at this time

I am thy ashamed friend Paul Cuffe

Dear friend

Westport 9th mo 23 1814

James Forten

I received thy letter of the 12th of the 8^{mo} & with thee hope we may always keep in remembrance that we are to see sooner or later and my desire is that we may be prepared to meet thee final period - I am sorry John Chatters could not be prevailed upon to come home to his family for I am persuaded the longer a man is from his family the more a stranger he will become unto them, unless he is directed by the right spirit but I hope John will be prevailed on to return home this fall - the statement in thy letter concerning John, Samuel & Paul it appears from thy writings the blame lays on the part of Paul, I do not feel to vindicate but may say that I am truly sorry to hurt the feelings of an old friend I hope he will happily and forgive my past faults, and for the future I hope that may be more guarded - I much recommend thy pious writings and am always glad to find a faithful heart to take up for the injured part of mankind I and my family are in health hoping these may meet thee and thine enjoying the like blessing

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 9th mo 26 1814 [97]

Stephen Gould

thine of the 19th I have received - I was absent at the time of the arrival of thy letter, but hasten to furnish thee with an answer - I conceive if I Green brings any bill against I Cuffe it will be for wharfage of wood &c - any unjust bill that I Green brings against the wood or I Cuffe will be protested - and nothing short of the balance \$49.75 it will be taken up with short of a law sute - I did not understand that I Cuffe had any thing, of I Green but what is endorsed on the back of the bill - I think it will show plain by the endorsement, all the demands that I Green had against the bill but I shall make further inquiry

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

It is pleasant to hear of the wellfare of the church, hoping we may be preserved to keep our places and no doubt we shall be present in our places

P. C.

Dear cousin

Gardner weiner

amidst all of thy trouble, I feel to sympathize with and
for thy tried situation - bear with me for I think the
council may seem harsh, but rest assured, I would
not knowingly advise thee to any thing that was not
for the best - from the circumstances of thy family
as far as I have been able to learn, I think thee
cannot do any better for thy children than to bind them
out as apprentices, all that can be spared or all
that are big enough to put out I do not think it best
for thee nor thy children to keep more than one girl and
I believe if thee could make out for a house keeper thee
had better put all the girls out -

However thee belongs to a Society, that are willing
to give thee good advice, I think if thee was to call
on the monthly meeting for advice they would be willing
to choose a committee for that purpose which might
be beneficial to thee - both in thy family and
for the safe guards of thy possessions, all which
I think, thee stands in great need of -

I think thee had better try to arrange matters
for the best before David Cuffe your leaves that country

I am thy assured friend
and affectionate uncle
David Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 10th mo 30th 1814

[99]

Stephen Gould

Thine of the 14th instant are at hand - I have given
my brother due notice, he protests against the greens
bill - and shall endeavour to have such
evidence brought forward, as to render the business
more clear - he will endeavour to have them
there on the 8th of the month - I wish thee to
state to me per mail, whether I Cuffe or P Cuffe
or both of them, will be of any service to
be at the court, if so we will come - thee
states that greens a/c makes but \$5 due, but I
think, his own account makes \$28 due -

I am thy assured friend David Cuffe

Esteemed friend Westport 11th mo 8th 1814

Samuel N. Fisher

Thine of the 9th mo 16 came safe to hand
I am glad you did furnish me with a copy of
the Ship express, but as he charged a com-
mission as the Ship of art I necessarily
expected he would meet all the payments

I shall leave the management of the
Ship wholly to thy care as has been men-
tioned heretofore. She looks to me like (O) I can
say to thee in confidence that I received a
letter from my friend Mary James
very large and cutting like unto a two-
edged & sharp pointed sword, on account of
the letter thee should ^{wrote} them, and that of my
placing my part of the Ship in thy care

I hope thou has been favored to have
to have thy family's health restored to thee
and that these may meet thee and thine
in health as they leave me & mine

for which favour I desire ever to be
humbly thankful to the Father of Mercy
and am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Respected friend

Westport 12th mo 15 1814

[101]

Stephen Gould

I hope these may thee and thine in health as they me and mine
at this time - I handed thy letter in few days William
Roth Jr. said he should not dispose of any of the thing until
he had received advice from the heirs I desired him to answer
thy letter immediately lest his neglect should have been
like mine I thought to give the above information
when the watches are done and thou find some safe
hand passing to New Bedford thou may forward the
watches to be kept at Lemuel Milles inn keeper at
the head of Westport River or at New Bedford to be
kept with Alexander Howard my son in law
if it is not too much trouble please to prize man
each & watch what thou think the value of them to be
forward thy Bill and the settlement of it will be
attended to I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

esteemed friend

Westport 12th mo 14 1814

Samuel Jales

I request the favour of thee to write few lines to me and let know concerning the money that I spoke to thee, about the other day wheather you hire it or not

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe

Respected friend

Westport 12th mo 15th 1814 [103]

James Fortin

I hope these may meet thee and thine in health as they leave and mine at this time for which favour I desire ever to be thankful I have not receive a mark of a pen from John Mattins, all which makes me some what jealous of him wheather he is doing well for himself I am fearful his not writing nor sending any thing home looks dark on his part - my best advice to him is to return home with ^{out} loss of time - I wish thee to see John and tell him my advice and advise him ^{to} come immediately home should he feel not to come home tell him to write to me and to his wife so that we may know what he is doing and what his intention is - Thomas Warner is about to go into the country - all merchantable business seems to wear a gloom of death - I hope the Lord will worke a work of Reformation in the hearts of our ruling administration and remove that dark gloom and in like there of shine into their hearts the pure Light and grace of God is the sincere desire of one who wishes well to all man kind

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend

Westport 12th mo 15th 1814

James Brian

I hope they may meet thee and Thine in health as these leave me and mine, my wife excepted whose health is general affected by the cold weather

Mary James wrote me a letter most human and caring. I never received (to remembrance) but as we are fallible creatures and liable to get out of the way, I hope she will pass it by and overlook my faults - as I wrote her a letter which I hope was satisfactory to her - I have heard nothing from John how he is managing his business - if John's business was put in such a situation as to be practicable to aid him, I think I can say I feel much for John.

Remember me to all thy family also to John and Catharine - and to the People of Couler & tell Dublin I hope the road does not separate their Meetings. for I believe there is no satisfaction in the true Church &c Thomas Wainwright is about to set off into the Country. Fear still seems to be a dark gloom over all mercantile Business &c

I am thy assured friend Paul Cuffe

[105]
I want a treaty of permanent peace made Between Paul & William. for my own part I see no better way. then for their walls and fences of what nature soever to come under the particular notice of the present referees for them to see the premises and give written instructions in their verdict what further must be done and when without any favour to the men or their purport for peace sake

12th mo 29th 1814

Paul Cuffe

Phillip Dunham and Joseph Tripp

friend

Westport 2nd mo 21 1815

Benjamin Lindsey

The inclosed bill came to me in a letter from Cayuga dated in January (last)

Desiring my aid in getting it in the newspapers, therefore I take the liberty to forward it to thee to put in thy papers if it is legal - and I will call on the man, and see that thou art paid for the same

Paul Cuffe

Estimable friend Westport 1st mo 27 1815

James Forten

I fear something is the matter, that I have had no answer from thee to my last to thee the last year

I have now to wish thee a happy New Year - hoping it may not be forgotten, in which it was said the Slave Trade is established, and from a desire of one who feels an interest in the advancement and improvement of the Philadelphia African Institution that they may be favoured to establish something to perpetuate the memory of so worthy deed in the nation as that was

I suggest to the view of thy mind whether there could not be a number of people of colour who would be willing to lay down a sum of money in ££ so as to come into common stock and build a vessel of about 200 tons for an African trader, in order to keep up & open an intercourse between the United States Africa &c

which I conceive could be done with profit and mutual advantage, and have her placed under the agency as shall be thought best by the ££

I see no reason why there may not be owners in Philadelphia, New York, Boston &c - as to timber and labour could be got for less price at this time than when times are brisker; if it was not thought best to build immediately the timber could be got and dock seasoned until it should be thought proper time to build - These I merely suggest to thy consideration & some of my thoughts

I am thy assured friend Paul Cuffe

P.S. I have had no letter from England since I was at Philadelphia, when I got any information I shall endeavour to give thee the earliest information

Give my love to Charlotte and the family &c I and my family are in health my wife excepted whose health are apt to be ~~at~~ much impaired in the cold season of the year - Thomas Wainer into the country in order to labour for a removal &c - I have no remembrance that I ever have mentioned the death of my son in law Peter Howard of Newburyport he and his wife are both gone they have left 2 girls 8 and 6 years old both promising children - they are fatherless & motherless children

Dear friend

Westport 1st mo 29th 1815 [207]

James Forten

Thy letter of the 5th instant come to hand yesterday I had the day before dispatched one to thee the day before notwithstanding I happen to answer thy kind letter from John May - tens late conduct I was not much disappointed in thy information of him - I am sorry thee got taken in with him I hope the money thee lost by him was not any great amount

I was several times at Kingston but never had the opportunity of seeing Samuel Bowers as he was absent from home - I hope my friends in Philadelphia will not permit Samuel Bowers nor Paul Cuffe to suffer loss by each other so long as there is property enough in their hands to pay them &c. I shall write by this mail to Samuel R. Fisher particular on the subject

I hope I am not and have not been without feeling in near sympathy with John James and family

I desire John & family acceptance of \$50 which I forward an order to thee on Abraham Barker & Co for that amount - should thee think it any more advisable to hand this money to John or family without letting them know what hand it come from to so my wishes are to do no hurt - I and my family are in a good degree favoured with the blessing health hoping these may meet thee & thine in health Thomas Wainer is about removing to Onida among the native - my wife and children unite with me in love to thee and family - and am your ever wellwishing friend till death

Westport 1st mo 29 1815 Paul Cuffe

Please pay to James Forten or order fifty Dollars and place the same to account of Abraham Barker &c New York

Paul Cuffe

Esteemed friend Westport 1st mo 29th 1815.

Samuel R Fisher

I have been informed Creditors to the ship Alpha are very clamorous against Paul Buffe's part I hope that they will have the goodness not to let me be the sufferer neither in property nor charity when ever the ship will sell I am persuaded they will lose no opportunity any payment that they shall think well of paying I should take kind that they would pay. and ~~balance~~ be allowed interest there on until such time the ship should be sold or draw on me for the amount which will be punctually attended to by thy assured friend

Paul Buffe

P S

should they feel any delivery ~~difficulties~~ in stepping forward thyself in making payment and still should think well of such a demand being paid in that case I hope they will speak to some one who will do it &c

P C

Esteemed friend Westport 1st mo 29th 1815 [104]

Abraham Barker & Co

I have given an order on you in favour of James Forten of Philadelphia for (\$50) fifty Dollars when it appears I hope you will do me the favour to honor the bill - I hope they will meet you in health as they leave me &c.

Matthew Franklen I have been informed is no more - he has gone but a step before us the great wheel of time is on its way it will soon be our turn

I am your assured friend
Paul Buffe

Esteemed friend Westport 1st mo 20th 1815

Salomon Burr

I hope these may meet thee in health as they leave me

I take the liberty of inquiring whether matter can be obtained at Quoddy, and at what price and what articles will answer to bring to her Chas it with ye - thy answer to this will be kindly received and gratefully acknowledged by thy assured friend

Paul Buffe

esteemed friend Westport 2nd mo 12 1815

Samuel R. Fisher

I have received a very large letter from John James concerning my Settlement in reference with him and the Ship Alpha. Some of the copy of which I set down hereunder. Some as concerns the Ship Alpha (viz) my assigns are not with the judgment of the Refiners and have a mind to set it aside, not only on his account but the rest of the Creditors in as much as Samuel R. Fisher one of the Refiners who we depended chiefly upon for judgment differed in opinion from the other two and would not sign the award. I did not like it at the time but I felt a great sympathy for thee in thy situation and therefore acquiesced in the conclusion of the other two - but thy conduct since towards me has not merited such indulgence and if it should be set aside it will again throw thee largely in my debt. I wish most sincerely what is right should take place (much left out) Samuel Bowers has been distressed of late for want of money - and has put his accounts into the hands of attorney who has informed Samuel R. Fisher that they are determined to sell the Ship as S. R. F. could not be prevailed upon to satisfy him (much more left out) when I charge my Commission for the care of that Ship for near three years & half she will be considerably in my debt - and when she is sold I do not intend to sign a bill of sale until all the bills are discharged so as to prevent a dispute afterwards. (left out) if you do suffer her to be sold for thy delinquency at public sale at the coffee house by the Sheriff it will continue to expose thy reputation still further (left out) I thought it was my duty to be thus particular to warn thee of the danger of thy character suffering much more if the account are not discharged. I have put down only what concerns the Ship &c.

The letter continued

Samuel R. Fisher's letter continued

I thought it expedient for thee to be informed of John James ideas so far as immediately concerned the Ship Alpha - I received from John nearly what 2 sheets of paper would contain of much matter that did not immediately touch the Ship Alpha that I thought proper to omit such things that I conceived come under thy consideration I have put down therefore I wish thee to act for me that is best for me and not ingenuous to John James - I have mentioned to thee before whatever money thou should think best to be paid on my account that I should allow interest thereon and would refund when even required.

\$5000 Bond that John & Paul entered in

Saith they or either two of the Refiners signing the Award should be final and conclusive between the said parties - If John chooses to pay the \$5000 - rather than to abide judgment he can choose which altho he has acquiesced with the judgment.

The bonds makes no reserve for any Settlement of the Ship but what is brought before the Refiners. yet it was understood - that the bill of \$1688: 81 cents was to be otherwise settled (viz) such part as was unpaid when John's estate was made over, it looks to me such part of that John paid before he made his estate over should come under a different head from that that was paid after his estate was assigned over. I do but just mention this not wishing to make any difficulty at all or to mix Naria from the true intent and meaning of the agreement. I am thy assured friend.

Wm. R. Fisher
I have been informed the Ship is advertised for sale which I hope you will be able to effect. I was informed by Wm. Colbatch Jr. that Thomas Coffey is not more the author of the same. I will however

Esteemed friend Westport 3^d mo 2^d 1815

James A. Fisher
thine of the 1st mo 21, 2nd mo 9th & 10th all came
safe to me mine of the 1st mo 29th 2nd mo 12th
and one from thy brother William Rotch Junr.
the answers will nearly answer the contents &
the agreeable arrival of peace I think will so
far alter the completion of things as to effect
the sale of the ship for a good price that will
enable thee to pay all demands on the ship without
any money being sent to thee at Philadelphia
I made provision for the payment of the \$500
as directed in thy former letter but in thy letter of
2^d mo 9th there thy information seems to be
that I should advance thee money for the whole
of the unpaid bills - I shall leave thee at liberty
to act as thee think best for my interest, also
should ~~they~~ thy drafts be at 3 days sight they
would be punctually honoured, should the ship
not sell for more than the offer that thou mention-
ed of \$8000 I should be sorry, and do not know
but it would be better for me to buy than to sell
should she be sold I have no idea of paying ~~the~~
20 per cent to have the money remitted but thee
may bank it in Philadelphia and wait my dire-
ction - any instruction from thee will be
attended to - I was glad to be informed
of thy families health &c -

I am thy assured friend
Paul Cuffe

Dear friend

Westport 3^d mo 8th 1815 [13]

Jacob Oron

thine of the 27th ult I have duly received
the 2 boys are at school 7 miles out of Philadelphia
any information can be obtained concerning the boys
by inquiring of Benjamin Tucker school master Phila.

Such a man of Colour as thou mentions will
always meet with every encouragement in my im-
ploy, by obtaining letters of recommendation, as it appears
the African voyage may not be proceeded in until y^e to
he may come and go in my brig this summer at low wages
or employ himself otherways until that time the brig
will be ready to sail the last of this month in the coast-
ing business &c

thy company would be very agreeable

I had 30 guineas for passengers from England to Africa
and they found themselves stores - but I shall write
to the African Institution in London in order that we
may have provision made for receiving of us in Africa
and shall through their aid make the passage and
other expenses as reasonable as possible

Likewise for grants of Land &c to be made to
those who wish to become settlers in Africa

I shall endeavour to let the business be made
public to give an opportunity to all who may
wish to go to that country

I am thy assured friend

Paul Cuffe