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*Sewall's
Letter Book
Vol I*

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ERLAIN.
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MEMORANDUM.

July 14th, 1707. As a Thankfull Remembrance that I have passd and repassd through Ipswich these fourty years; and have had free Egress and Regress, and have not been stop'd; and out of Respect to Mr. Jaffrey's Memory; I made the following Distichs awhile ago: and gave them this day to Mr. Campbell, to send them to his Son, or Widow.

Deo Servatori.

*Ipsvici tumulos Hospes Jaffraeus¹ adauget:
Portus-magne, tibi detrahatur tumulus,
Quisquis progredieris, reverens adverte, viator;
Florescat lachrymis tumba rigata tuis.*

SAMUEL SEWALL TO SAMUEL SHEPARD.

To Mr. Saml. Shepard.

July 21, 1707.

SIR, — The above is a Copy of my order formerly sent you;² which I now again Refresh. I find also that in mine of May 26, I expressly directed you to send me the Money by Remitting it by good Bills of Exchange; for which reason I had some expectation of receiving them by this Post, and am concernd that I do not. I was surprisd at one word in yours of June 20th viz: "But (Sir) "when I have it, I know not how to remit it to Boston, "unless this Contrivance will take." And then you mention your desire that Capt. Wilson should sell your Land at Dorchester call'd Chapmans Island &c. I have now put you in a fair way to Remit it, and order you so to do. I stand in great need of it to discharge my just Debts;

¹ George Jaffrey, a man of distinction living at Newcastle, N. H. (the Portus-magnus of the distich), died at the house of Colonel Appleton, in Ipswich, Feb. 13, 1707. — EDS.

² Letter of July 7.

and therefore consented to the [Stripping] of it to so small a Substance; because of my urgent Necessity. I have put great Trust in you; do not deceive me; but speedily and well finish what you have well begun, in which you will oblige your friend and Serv^t S. S.

MEMORANDA OF LETTERS.

July 21, 1707. Writt to Capt. John Wilson to excite him to sell Mr. S. Shepard's Land at Dorchester call'd Chapman's Island: and that he would let me speak with him about it at his next coming to Town.

Aug^t 19. Shipped on the Briganteen Lark, Capt. Samuel Long, a Small Box marked S. S. Q. with Ink qt 14. pounds of Sugar in a linen Bagg; six pounds of Rice and Two pounds Chockalett in another linen Bagg; a little Cinnamon; a Duz. of Bisket; Duz. of Ginger Bread; Tin pot; Knife, Old shirt, wooden Dish: To be delivered to the Rever^d Mr. Samuel Moodey Chaplain to Her Maj^y Forces Eastward, and to Cousin Samuel Sewall. In my Letter I inclosed a News-Letter, two Copies of Mr. Bayly's Verses, Babylon is fallen. Referd him to the comon Stock for Mr. Williams's Sermon; a Hundred of them being sent to the Army at my Motion.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO REV. JOHN WILLIAMS.

To Mr. John Williams of Deerfield, in Answer to his of August 18th

Aug^t 23, 1707.

SIR, — I have yours of the 18th of this Moneth. I hope, before now you have the Sermons sent you p Mr. Frary of Hatfield.

I heartily pray to God for his Blessing upon and with you in the resettlement of your family. But I cant pray

in faith for God's Blessing upon your Marriage of your Cousin-German, because to me it is at least doubtful, whether it be lawfull or no.¹ Your Canada Neighbours will be shooting at you; and I would fain have you be invulnerable; and not give them any occasion to blasphem.² The Law of Marriage was in the Papists hands; and without question, they went too far in their Prohibitions; viz. to the fourth and fourth degree. As I understand it, they forbad the Marriage of First, Second, and Third Cousins. But then I fear the English Nation went beyond the Golden Mean, towards the other extrem, when by the Statute of the 32. of H. 8. Cap. 38. they expressly made the Marriage of Cousin Germans lawfull. Cousin Germans are near of kin. Either his Uncle or his Unkles Son may redeem him, or any that is nigh of kin unto him. Levit. 25. 49. Dr. Owen in his Exposition upon Heb. 13. 1. hath this passage; — "Brotherhood with respect to a near Stock, as the Children of the same Parents; which in the Scripture is constantly extended unto Grandfathers also." p. 203. If Cousin Germans (or Brothers and Sisters in the forementioned sense) may lawfully marry, By the same rule, a man may marry his great Aunt: and a man has done so; and being call'd in question by the Spiritual Court; he was rescued and defended by the forementioned Statute. Tell it not in Gath.

To say that the Marriage of Cousin Germans is not Incest, is to beg the Question;³ there are degrees of Incest. If the Gentlewoman you mention had children, they would be Second Cousins to your children; which,

¹ See Feb. 23, 1703.

² Williams and his wife had been carried into captivity by the Indians from Deerfield, Feb. 29, 1705, and his wife murdered by them. He returned in October, 1706, and married a daughter of Captain Allen, of Windsor, Conn. — Eds.

³ See the Answer of Aug^t 29.

I think, shews the reasonableness of that Rule; viz. that Consanguinity and Affinity equally hinder Marriage. *Causa recens melior.* Mrs. Stoddard, that has been a long time your Mother, will now become your Aunt. I will not give you any further trouble.¹ Accept of the inclosed verses to distribute in your County, as you see meet. I pray God to order all for the best for you: and earnestly desire your Prayers for me, my wife and Children, Son-in-Law, Daughter-in-Law; that the Sun of Righteousness may arise with Healing under his wings upon every one of us. We are in pain for Mr. Shelden; and for the Expedition to Port-Royal.²

I am, Sir, your friend and Serv^t

S. S.

Enclosed 8 Copies of Mr. Noyes's Verses on Mr. Bayly.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO SAMUEL SHEPARD.

To Mr. Sam^l Shepard of Woodbridge.

Aug^t 25, 1707.

SIR, — I have yours of the 9th Inst. advising that Mrs. Loveridge has at last paid you; and that Capt. Fanevill has no occasion for Bills of Exchange; I therefore desire and Order you to pay Col. du Peister, or Mr. Phillips, Ninety pounds; and take a Receipt for the use of the Reverd. Mr. John Lydius of Albany, in Consideration of his Endeavours in Gospellizing the Indians in those parts. Take two Receipts, or 3. of the same Tenor and Date, and send me one of them. I thank you for your effectual Care in my Business. Advise me of your progress, and then you may expect further order. Let me know what rests in your hand for me, after payment of the £90-0-0. I am, Sir, your friend and Serv^t

S. S.

¹ See Sewall's Diary, II. 306, n. — Eds.

² The expedition against Port Royal had failed. See Sewall's Diary, II. 184, 185, 189. — Eds.

MEMORANDUM.

Extract of Mr. Williams's Answer to mine of Aug^t 23. I find it no where forbidden; and find it expressly commanded to, or commended in the daughters of Zelophehad. If God spare our Lives, I doubt not but I shall give your Hon^r full satisfaction that I am in this Matter directed of God.

JOHN WILLIAMS.

DEERF^d Aug^t 29, 1707.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO THOMAS BUCKINGHAM.

To Mr. Thomas Buckingham, at Saybrook.

8^r 7, 1707.

SIR, — I have sent the five volumns of Pole's Synopsis Criticorum, p Mr. Simon Smith, for the use of your Collegiat School.¹ They have been Transported from Boston to Woodbury; and back again. If it please God they get well to Saybrook; I would have them rest there, and move no more. My Service to you, and the Gent^l Trustees, desiring your Acceptance of this Token of my being a Well-wisher to the Prosperity of your College; though possibly, it may import the less increase of our own. I hope the Interest of Christ's Kingdom in general, will be promoted; which is that we should aim at. I am, Sir, your humble Serv^t

S. S.

MEMORANDA OF LETTERS.

To Samuel Partridge, Esq^r, Decem^r 26, 1707, to enclose Mary Storer's Letter to be forwarded to Albany. Several have desired Copies of the Reasons for my withdrawing my Vote;² So that to prevent Untrue ones, I have printed them, and sent you three.

¹ Yale College, which was originally established at Saybrook, and was removed to New Haven in 1717. — Eds.

² On a charge against Governor Dudley of participation in illegal trade with the French in Canada. More may be learned about the matter from Sewall's Diary, II. 200-202. — Eds.

To Mr. Edward Taylor of Westfield, Dec^r 26, 1707, inclosing the News-Letter of Dec^r 1, and two Copies of my Reasons of my withdrawing my Vote; with some brief Account.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO SAMUEL SHEPARD.

To Mr. Sam^l Shepard at Woodbridge.

Dec^r 29, 1707.

SIR, — I writt to you formerly about the Thirty pounds of mine remaining in your hands, desiring and ordering you to send it by the Post to Capt. B. Fanevil Merchant at New-york. Yours of the 30th of October is the last I have received from you. But this morning, Mr. Andrew Fanevill's Servant comes to me, and tells me from his Master, that you decline delivering the Money to the post, except I will run the venture of it and pay the Post for carrying it: Both which were fully comprehended in my former order. However, if it seem not so to you, I do expressly agree to those Conditions; The Post's Receipt shall be your Discharge, and I will pay the Postage of it to Capt. Fanevil. If you think you can send more safely by some honest neighbor of yours, you may take that course. Upon my receiving Advice of the Money being paid to Capt. Fanevil, I will pay five pounds to your Order here in this Town. And if you think not that a suitable Acknowledgment of your Service, I will add to it. Only let the Matter be speedily accomplished, because I want the Money. I have long since left a Funeral Sermon with Mrs. Perry for you; Mr. Colman's Verses are annexed. Here is no News, but what the News-Letter will prevent my telling you. Mr. Chiever is yet alive,¹ and teaches School. His Granddaughter Chiever of Marblehead came to him lately upon a visit, died suddenly, and was buried from his House; was about

¹ He died the following year, namely, Aug. 21, 1708. — Eds.