

Dear Sir

I have been favoured with yours which my illness
at the time prevented my acknowledging - as the information
respecting Aunt Beckman's Memoirs in this City is only true in
part, permit me in justification to acquaint you with the whole
of that transaction as it in some measure affects my feelings -
when I was first driven from my home for refusing to
renounce my Allegiance in which I was born & educated - I came
to N York & found the houses in question taken up by the Bar-
trachs Maj. Genl. all going to ruin - as the nearest relation I made
application I founded my claim on that I not being furnished with
Quarters for my numerous family as every other Officer had - these
considerations had weight and I received an order from the

The Commandant to take possession of Aunt Beckman's house
I receive the rents, which I did & paid the one equal half of
the house at Beckman's Men to my Brother every quarter
until May last — He at the same time he was & is indebted
to me upwards of £600 — on our private Acc. for Money lent
this is a true state of this affair —

I have written to Aunt De puyster to request her coming to
a settlement as my stay here is but very short & if ever assistance
was necessary to me —

Mrs Cortland & family join in love to Aunt & family,
& sincere wishes for every earthly felicity to attend you
Jam Dr Uncle John Affectionate Nephew

J. Cortland

N York 11th Sept. 83

Pierre Van Cortlandt,
Letter,
Relative House Rent
Rec'd In New York

P. Van Cortlandt Esq
Peck's P.O.
Manor of Cortlandt,

Sept 11 1783
Letter
Mr Van Cortlandt
Son of Stephen