

San Philip.

Saturday May. 23-1799

Mr Gabriel has wrote to Abraham Pelts that
^{he had} he hear me say I wonderd that he had Not Come
for the Lease as the Season was favorable now
to go to work and advised him to Come down
Soon, as I proposed going from home for a Time
therefore the Sooner he Came the better as he
Mr Gabriel was on Unnecessary Expences here
this was with the last Stage So that Expect
them here Every day Gabriel has Seen the
Lease and say it will be Joyfull new to
them, that they will or Can Expect it No Stronger
now I woud Advise you to go to our ^{Country} and
do the best with them you Can for I am determin-
ed as soon as I have given the Lease to go
to work on the ^{Philip and} part of William Cortlands if no
further. and will take away as much of the
Oar as I Can with my own strength. You Can
think of this and let me know your Opinion Am
Yours^{gr} Pierre Van Cortlandt

Grist is Come and says the Company
are coming in a Carge so that I must
stay for them,

Grist has made an Essay of the Oar
in the presents of two Gentlemen from
New York. Lately at Poughkeepsie

It will now Run like wild fire
as a Number want to be Concerned
There, dont neglect One moment to get
it One Way or the Other secured by the
Cortlandt Family Write a Similar Lease

Ready if not for 7 years then 5. or 3
So that a fair Tryal may be made
if the family dont Come into it than it
must Lay as it is And the Oar will
be daily more proved which will make
it more difficult Delay is dangerous

Since I wrote what goes before Abram Pelt
has been with me and he Mr Gabriel & Grist
have Executed the Leases and Deposited them in to Doct:
Coopers hand Untill The other Persons Concerned Come
down with a promise that Lafferts who is Coming
down next Saturday shall bring the Paper I sign'd at
Albany with him or they are not to proceed ~~and~~
I Expect they will bring Every thing wanting
with them they were exceedingly well pleased
with the Lease and Confessed Every thing was done
to bargain Pelt was sorry that Lafferts was not here
to give me up the paper it was but in his hand that
Van Dyke should have no Claim, told them that I
would not stand to the Lease unless that paper was here
however I hope all for the best. Now it Only Re-
mains with you to secure me And As I wrote
to you before must urge it again to do it And if
the Court dont Agree the work must stop which will
be great damage to those that are Concerned And
will be hurting my Interest As I did it to get a discovery
for the benefit of the family this mine was knowing in
the Year 1750 give a lease for it if One for 3 years Only
Am yours &c Burr Van Cortlandt

R.P.P.V.

mm

1789

General Cortlandt

Croton