

Secretary's Office

Albany Decr 17. 1832.

Sir,

In compliance with the request contained in Genl. Van Cortlandt's letter of the 12th inst. which you handed to me last Saturday, I carefully Examined the titles of all the Original acts of the late Colony of New York from November 1748 to the end of the year 1753, but I found no act to abolish entails on the Manor of Cortlandt or any part thereof during that period. I also looked through the acts as far as 1755 but without success. Surely if such a provision was made by law, it would be contained in a separate and distinct act and not added to a bill with another title. I should suppose that the Genl. would be able to find some reference to such an act if it had passed among his fathers papers.

I am very respectfully

Sir, your Ob. Servant

Arch. Campbell
Dep. Secretary

The Hon.

Ambrose Spencer

(Turn over)

my dear Sir.

You will perceive by W Campbell's letter that I have complied with your request in your letter of the 12th instant.

I am highly gratified with the President's proclamation. Had he undertaken Georgia three years ago, as he has S. Carolina now, he would have met with no opposition from me. The doctrines of the message are the only means of saving the Union, & rendering the government of the U. States useful or even desirable. The absurd & preposterous idea that a single State may by virtue of its sovereignty nullify practically an act of the 24 States in Congress assembled, is too ridiculous to be indulged by a reasoning being.

last night stopped I believe our navigation.

very respectfully

Yours

Wm. Sprague

Genl. Van Cortlandt.

12¢
Genl. Pierre van Cortlandt



Pecks Kill

N.Y.

Embroidered by Mrs. Wm. W. W.