

Boston, Dec. 16th, 1856.

Hon. Washington Irving:



Sir— I take the liberty of addressing this note, to inform you that I have in my possession a small volume, printed in 1730, entitled, "The Almost Christian Discovered, or the False Professor Tried and Cast," &c. This little book has the autograph and was undoubtedly the property of Dr. Benjamin Church, the traitor in the American Revolution alluded to in Vol. II. of your valuable Life of Washington, as having been supposed to have perished at sea. It was taken from the abandoned wreck of a vessel^{at sea} by Mr Robert Oliver of Boston, (my maternal grandfather,) on the

route to the West Indies, as my
deceased mother has informed
me, about the time of the doctor's
banishment. Thinking this relic
of the past might interest you, as
tending to throw some light on the
fate of this traitor, I would, though
with some hesitation in taking this liberty,
offer to send it to your address.

Will you have the kindness to
send me a line directed to the care
of James Folsom, Esq., 236 Shawmut
Avenue, Boston, saying in what
way I can transmit the above to
you.

Most respectfully yours,



Danl. S. Curtin.

Dear J. Canton
Dec 10th 1857

with offer of book
of Dr Church

Yours? Dec 23rd

Dear J. Canton