

We have to lament the death of
Another great Man and a Revolutionary Patriot
~~John~~ - the Honorable Gideon Cortlandt who died
on the morning of the first of May, ^{Instant} at his Seat at
Croton River in the Town of Cortlandt - in the 94th
year of his Age - He early took mark against the oppression
of England ^{upon} ~~against~~ ^{the} Colonies ~~in North America~~ ^{at the time of the memorable}
~~action~~ He then was a member of Assembly from
the Manor of Cortlandt, ^{and continued} ~~in~~ until
union ~~which was~~ ^{where he} and continued in ~~that Assembly~~ ^{the first Con-}
until the formation of the Constitution of this State when
he was chosen Lieutenant Governor and was successively
elected to that Office 10 Years He was the friend &
Confidant of that great Patriot George Clinton -
He during the Revolution he ^{was obliged to leave} ~~was~~ ^{from} his Estate
in the Manor of Cortlandt and take refuge in the
Interior of the Country, He was ^{not} ~~depressed~~ ^{disheartened} by the adversity
of our Arms but rather stimulated him to Vigor
nor was he too much elevated when the Country
was successful ~~but~~ but kept a uniform steady
course having in view the Independence of the United States
and the safety of his Country - As President of the Senate
(being precluded by the Constitution in the Debates) he ~~presided~~
presided with great dignity and propriety, nor was suffered
his opinion to be known until constitutionally called upon to
decide, which he always did with great promptness and sound
judgment, He declined a reelection as Lieut Governor in 1795

My dear Cousin

I have the mournful and distressing task to announce to you the death of my beloved ~~Grandfather~~ Father who left us ~~at~~ a short time after six O'clock this morning after an illness of 13 days - He had his senses to the last and was resigned and happy. ^{Before and particularly} during his illness he has manifested his love of god in so striking a manner that we have the consolation to know that our loss is his gain and that he is now leaving the burdens of a virtuous and well spent life where he repeatedly called upon his Redeemer to take him saying "Come Lord Jesus come quickly take me to Salem City". The loss we have met is great he was a kind affectionate and good Parent, But he has left us a consolation in the manner he lived and in the manner he died - He was all love patience and resignation exhorting us to seek the Lord while he may be found and that if we rely upon him he will not forsake us - Several times during his illness he sang with 23^d Psalm "The Lord my Shepherd is" - I may our last end be like his - My sister Van Wyck is dangerously ill and we despair of her recovery - She goes from time to eternity with a shining lamp, rejoicing in the salvation of her blessed Redeemer. These are two instances and strong proofs of our blessed Christian Religion.

Dear Nephew

I wrote you on Monday Wednesday & Friday how extremely ill our dear Father ^{was} - my last I was fearful before it reached you he would be no more. as I then thought I have now the mournful & distressing task to announce to you and my dear sister, that our beloved Parent ^{died} ~~departed~~ at 20 minutes after six O'clock this morning. He had his senses to the last and was resigned and happy. - During his illness he has ~~shown~~ manifested his love of god, in so striking a manner that we have the consolation to know that our loss is his gain & that he is now, where he repeatedly called upon his Redeemer to take him - "Come Lord Jesus come quickly, take me to Salem City" - we have lost a kind affectionate and good Father, and ^{truly} although distressing ^{it is to} lose him, we ~~ought to be reconciled~~ have a great consolation left us in the manner he departed - He was all love patience and resignation, exhorting us to ^{or to seek} ~~find~~ God while he may be found and if we rely upon him he will ^{not} ~~not~~ forsake us - several times during his illness he sang ^{with} the 23^d Psalm "The Lord my Shepherd is" - May our last end be like his - Sister Van Wyck is dangerously ill, and we despair of her recovery; her loss would be affliction on affliction. The rest of the family are in usual health except Mary, Two Babes

and retired to private life: He was cheerful and ~~hospitable~~ ^{friendly} to his friends, ~~the~~ ^a Catholic of the first Order ~~and~~ ^{and} the zealous friend for the Liberties of his Country, He was a ^{friend} ~~father~~ to the Poor, He was a kind and good neighbour ^{and} affectionate fond and indulgent Parent ~~and~~ an honest ^{and a good Christian} Man. —
He died resigned to the Will of God with full assurance of Salvation in the redeeming Love of Jesus Christ —
He retained his recollection to the last calling upon his Saviour to take him to himself —

Copies of letters
written to Boston
Livingston and
C. P. Mansfield in
narrating the death
of my beloved Father