

Dear Son Philip

I Received your Letter of the 7 instant with the Several Inclosed Letters which I Sent of this Morning with Simae who is to bring up the Brindle or which I propose to keep in the Stall, for Some time and make him Very fat. Pierre Came up from Coston Yesterday Says the Sloop Joanna Went of Saturday Last with a full Load of Flour and other produce from Isaac Odell Landing after Cutting out of the Ice about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile the Seem Ice has been Very Troublesome In Coston It Caused back Water at the Mills nearly to the floor of the Underhills Mill the Mill, now can do nothing I was told Jesse Field Is making the Elevators so as to have ^{all} Ready when wanted have heard Nothing further from Coston but that all was Well I think I wrote you that Tambling had Rode out all the dung some on the meadow where the Wheat Came off, and the Remainder on the meadow Island: without doubt there will be a great Crop of Grass if a good Season Your ^{mother} approves that Theodoros stay, with wintering this winter as it may be of further Service to him and oblige Mr Stirling a fair month, Longer.

I dont See how I Can avoid Soling a bill ag^t the Old Lady however disagreeable to me, therefore Let it take its Course, I shall Expect to hear from ^{you} after you have Consulted with Mr Cochran and if you think it best to hint it to Mr Livingston you Can if you approve of it. Last Saturday the Old ^{Lady} ~~Mr~~ Thuyler and Mrs Patron passed by this In a Coach when they Came with a stay as far as Poughkeepsie for their way to New York Pierre assisted them Safe a Cross the Ice they Told Pierre that Mr Kempster and Nancy were a Coming down to see us as soon as they heard that there was staying as far as this Your mother hopes and Expects soon soon as we shall be glad to see them.

People now Talk freely That the Cancellor is the man Your Mother and my self Thank God are at present Well and Join In Wishing you Health and Happiness, and say Theodoros wrote to all the family and so on. Am with regard your affectionate

Father Pierre van Cortlandt

Peekskill
Monday morning
Dec-11-1797

P.H.C. - 8/12

Dec. 11-1797

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ice bucking
up the water to
the floor of
Cumberland
Mill