

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith in New York from his brother, Nathan Smith, Stonington, 1828

Stonington, 16th May 1828

Brother Charles,

Yours of the 14th inst. enclosing the certificate for the S. Bank for \$3000 and the check in my favor for 800 both came to hand this day. I shall make the payments you desired me on Monday morn. We were pleased to hear your Buildings had met with so ready an acceptance. I mentioned to General Williams about your willingness to lend this Bank the sum you name, but he thinks they will not want it, But expressed a willingness to have it on his own account and says if you will deposit the [amount?] in the Bank in N. York he will allow you Interest from the time of the deposit. If you conclude to loan the money or any part of it to him you will forward him a certificate at New Haven where he will be for some time at the Assembly now sitting there. Father and Mother have both been anxiously expecting Giles after you were through at the Highlands, but I have to reconcile Mother by saying he is doing well. Mother and Mary speaks often of the piece of calico and other things you had a good mind to send. Ephraim Williams through he might wish to have money some time hence.

Money is a scarce article in our Vicinity and perhaps never was much harder attained than now.

Friends generally well.

Your Brother,

N.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington Borough, from "A Friend," 1831

Respected Friend,

Actuated by the purest motives of disinterested friendship, I feel impressed to address you at this interesting period upon the great importance of religion, which the spirit of God is pouring upon this place and many are anxiously enquiring what shall we do to be saved, and Christians are much engaged in prayer that the influence of the Holy Spirit may be continued and increased among this people – now appears to be the acceptable time and the day of Salvation to all those who will believe. Many think those that refuse the present gospel invitations will never have another so precious opportunity.

Excuse the liberty I have taken when I tell you I do (correctly?) and solemnly entreat you to think deeply upon this momentous subject and remember your immortal happiness depends upon the present decision. Let not business with the increase of riches cheat your immortal soul of those durable riches which will continue through eternity when this world with all its noble magnificence shall be consumed with one general conflagration.

You and I must stand before that Awful Judge and hear the solemn word come ye blessed or depart ye cursed.

Truly my dear friend tis of the utmost importance that we attend without procrastination which is the thief of time year after year it steals till all is gone and to the mercy of a moment leaves the vast concerns of our eternal state. Perhaps you may wonder why I should express more concern for your soul than your Brother. One reason is I do think he is already awakened to the necessity of religion. Another is we have been long acquainted from childhood and the many friendly interviews which we have had leave an indelible impression on the mind which time can never erase and now as my last request I do wish you to seek for an interest in Christ.

In all human probability our human intercourse in this world will be seldom, yet I pray that by Grace we may be prepared to meet all our friends in Heaven where there are joys forever more. Whatever social connection you form in this life you may ever be assured of sincere wish for your happiness. This is dictated by my own private feelings for the serious reflections of your own mind when in solitude. Wish you to receive it kindly, peruse it candidly and remember it with prayerful attention. A Friend,

Stonington, March 22, 1831

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington, from his soon to be brother-in-law, Giles Williams, Salina, New York, 1831. Also includes notes to his fiancé, Emma Ann Stanton from her brother-in-law Giles Williams, and sister, Abby Stanton Williams.

Salina, Aug 2nd 1831

Mr. Chas. Smith,

You may think strange to be addressed by one who you are so little acquainted with and I will now acknowledge any apology which you may think proper for me to make. You will not think it flattering when I say from the short acquaintance I have had that I am very much prepossessed in your favor and as it is communicated to me that you are soon to change a single life to that of double blessings I hope and trust you will find enjoyment should this change by the laws of our Country inherit any relation be [?]. Sir I shall rejoice to hail and acknowledge you as such. I am told by my better half that you anticipate taking a journey. Please direct your course to the West and make a visit to Salina where I hope and trust you will find Friends.

Sir, ere this you have discovered by my style of writing a want of education, but I fancy you will be ready to excuse my imperfections when you will recollect that my early years which should have been devoted to attain an Education was employed like a majority of the New England People in that if Husbandry, which has deprived me of that which Polishes and Embellishes every citizen. Mr. W. sends his respects to you an anticipates much pleasure in seeing you here.

Very Respectfully Your Obedient Servant,

Giles Williams

PS. I shall be happy to receive a letter from you and your intended.

To Miss Emma Ann Stanton or Mrs. Smith,

I received a line from a friend in CT a short time since informing me that you are about to be married to the Gentleman whom I direct this letter to. He is something of a stranger to me, but I presume not to you. Do you kiss him after and tell him you love him and feel it in your heart what you say? Abby says you must kiss him once for her. If you will come and see us we will give you as much salt as you can eat and (work?) packet full to carry home. Abby's conduct is very bad, don't know what to do with her unless I take her into some Wooden Country and let her take a school. Hope you will come and give her good counsel and show her how to make Johnny cakes and I will be your Humble Servant.

Giles

Dear Sister,

As Giles has finished his letter and has given you such a representation of my conduct I think have liberty to say something of his. He celebrated on the 4th of July in high life I assure you. I will tell you all about it when you come. I have attended the Presbyterian Church this afternoon and Giles the Universalist. You and Mr. Smith must answer this letter soon. I wrote you 2 days since. My love to all the family. Health pretty good it is getting very sickly here. This from Abby Jane.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington, from Giles Williams, Salina, New York, 1832

Salina April 2nd 1832

Capt. Smith,

Sir I promise to send you a pair of horses. I purchased a pair and agreed with the man to deliver them at Norwich, CT but the night previous to his contemplated start his was taken sick, is not able to be out yet. It will now be impossible to get a pair of horses there until May except they come by land and by that time I presume you will get through your (harvest?) work however I shall buy a pair and send them when I can. It looks to me as through the Oswego Canal would not be navigable until the 15th of May. This canal is a part of the Country where we get the most of our lumber from our low lands in this country and vicinity is under water and the Ice from the lake has broken and the wind has piled or deposited it on the Canal Banks and low lands from 5 to 20 feet deep which looks like putting a Veto on boating for a time at least. Please say to Woodbridge that I have purchased him a horse of the first [?] 6 years also this spring I think he will (hail?) him in every respect. Please bear me very affectionately to your wife and my sister Emma. Tell her I bought her a present that value of N. York. I give it not for beauty or for its value, but it is a production of one of our Female Natives. Yours Respectfully,

Giles Williams

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington, from Giles Stanton, 1834

Hawkinsville, January 28th 1834

Capt. Chas. H. Smith,

Dear Sir,

You will no doubt recollect that before I left Stonington I requested that as soon as the House was finished that I hired off you, that you would move my furniture into it. My object in writing at this time is to desire you to superintend its removal in person, as many articles are poorly packed and in the hands of a negligent or careless man would be easily injured. You will find the key of the Chamber that contains them either at Mother's or at B.F. Pendleton's. By attending to this you will confer a great favor. I shall expect the house will be finished by first of April and trust you will think best to put blinds to the windows and finish the house inside as out as well as you can afford for the rent. At all events, paint it inside and out and if the rent is not sufficient to warrant it I will pay more. I shall probably [?] here in April. Please give my respects to Mrs. & Mrs. Henry Smith and all friends. I wish you would write me in answer to this by return mail and oblige. Yours Respectfully,

Giles Stanton

(over)

PS. Put blinds to the house and I will pay as much in addition as you shall say it is worth. They will be wanted on it and it will be as cheap to put them on now as hereafter. The House you will bear in mind is on the corner next to Doct. Hides new House. I should like to have you move the furniture as soon as your House is finished as it will, then be out of the way of whoever may hire the House it is now in.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington, from Joseph E. Smith, Philadelphia, 1834

Philadelphia 29th March 1834

Capt. Charles H. Smith,

Sir I arrived here Tuesday evening after a moderate passage of 7 days and have had calms and head wins but at last have arrived at a good market and am in hopes to get 75 cents for potatoes and 8 ½ -9 cents for cheese \$6.00 for No. 2 (Machines?) also 33 cents for oil if it proves to be Light Color in Barrels 32 in Tierces and 31 in Hogsheads if not more. I have not yet called in at the Wharf for it Blows a Heavy gale wind and rains very hard and unsafe to lay at the Wharf but the weather looks rather more like clearing off. The oil that is in 120 Gal. Casks will sell for the same price of Hogsheads. As soon as we sell anything I will write you again.

So I Remain Yours Respectfully,

Joseph E. Smith

P.S. Potatoes is going to sell beyond my expectations and I am now sorry that I did not take more but expect there will soon be plenty here. Do not let Charles Williams have the price of potatoes or any other article.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington, Giles Williams, Salina, New York, 1835

Salina, April 22nd 1835

Capt. Smith,

I have shipped to the care of W. Williams & Co., No. 123 Broad St., N. York, 2 barrels plaster which will arrive in N.Y. in about 8 Days from this & have ordered W. Williams to send you by the first Stonington Vessel or that he would deliver it at your order: you will please put 2 bushels of plaster on an acre or 3 is better. Put it on is a dry time that is through best by the most experienced. I also wish you to put a little around your corn as you would ashes, only not quite as much & then miss a few rows and I think you will be able to see a great difference. That where you sow will be on your pasture & mowing land. I am strong in the faith the greatest expense in getting the plaster is in the transportation and barrels. The plaster cost 35 cents in each barrel. I shall leave for Buffalo next Monday. I will send you the Chicago paper when I get there.

My health is tolerable. Abby's health is not quite as good as I could wish.

Respectfully Your Obedient Servant,

Giles Williams

Letter addressed to Charles Smith, Hartford, from his brother, Nathan Smith, Stonington, 1835

Stonington, 29th May 1835

Brother Charles,

I seize a few leisure moments just to say that the *James Monroe* sailed on Monday morn with a fair wind, with her Captain Macumber, Green and this cook. I hope for something better than her usual luck. The *Defense* sailed the afternoon of the same day – Capt. David is still here with no crew and Owner Dr... but expects to sail in 2 or 3 days. I have (effected?) \$1000 dollars insurance on the *James Monroe* and outfits viz \$650. On the vessel valued at \$1300 - \$350. On her outfits valued at \$700 at ½ cent [?] warranting 4 months – Premium note with policy \$41. The *Acosta* will finish coppering on Saturday is fair weather. One side is complete and sheathing on the other partly on. George is helping Gilbert Wheeler overhaul your Gin Boat. I believe the boys are through planting. I yesterday settled with Capt. Noyes late of the *James Monroe*. Introduced the subject of his taking the *Mary Ann* on a lay – he [?] and said he should prefer to go on wages. I shall however see him again on the subject and if I can agree with him shall (set?) her down next week and overhaul her. I hope your course in the House will be dignified and mainly advocating the Whig cause whose delegate you are – and never cringe at an overwhelming majority and prove yourself worthy of the cause and constituents you represent. Giles has received a letter from Henry saying that he was not like to get much money but plenty of fair promises. Would probably be on his way home next week via Stockbridge.

Your Brother,

N.

PS. Thomas just is and says that they have got pretty much out of work. They work some on the road and [?] down some wood at Quinebaug. Corn is not yet fit to weed, but will be next week. They have carted to the shore about as much as the *Acosta* will want, say 8 cords wood.

Messages addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington from Fisher & Bird, 1835

Notes regarding cargo on the sloop *Caspian*.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington from Giles Williams, Salina, NY, 1838

Salina, Feb. 16th 1838

Brother Smith,

Sir you will see by this letter that we are at this place we have been here some three weeks and in good health. You have seen and heard of the excitement which has been produced at Buffalo in consequence of the rebellion in Canada. Buffalo was a (den?) of excitement but is now at that place subdued in consequence of our Government interfering to start neutrality but the [Patriots?] have not given up the Enterprise nor do they appear to be discouraged. You probably see by the Buffalo papers that Gen. Van Rensselaer, Commander in Chief of the Patriot Army, had gone west but this is not the fact. I have seen him here twice since that time and yesterday had a talk with him. He is a man about 6 feet high, light complexion, body very erect, but his head bowed forward [?] 37 years of age, talk but little but indefatigable in his movements. He left here this morning at 4 o'clock for Watertown or on our frontier when he [?] to cross the St. Lawrence on the on the Sec (?) and such battle, arms and ordinances are [?] to him from all Quarters he will probably cross into Kingston or Prescott. His object is to intercept the Prisoners that are now marching from the upper Province to Montreal to have a trial and probably to be Executed – Just for expressing liberal views. I shall expect to leave in 6 or 8 days of this crossing the morn (?) and I hope hi will be able to rescue the poor prisoners that have been suffering in Jail for weeks and reduced to skeletons and their wives and children suffering beggars. This in enough to arouse the feeling of every friend of Humanity, the Patriot Army that were under the command of Gen. Van R. on Navy Island are at the Upper end of Lake Erie under the command of a Canadian Scotchman by the name of McLeod who has about 2,000 men ready to organize when Van R. shall give orders that he will attack Kingston or Prescott. Also, a Frenchman by the name of Papineau will attack Montreal at the same time. I think the Patriots have a herd mentality for if they gain possession of the Canadian they will now be able to hold it as you know Great Britain is a powerful nation. There is also fears that there will be a war between the U. States and England. I would not say as much to everyone as regards Gen. Van R. plans as it is necessary to disguise (?) his plans from our Government Officers that they may not interfere. Sir we have not had a letter from you in a long time but we have heard of you losing a son. Although your bereavement may not be as great as though it had been years alas still I consider it a loss. We should like a letter from you. What is the feeling in your part – have you any Patriots in your place?

Respectfully Yours,

Giles Williams

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington from [Wm. Smith?], South Trenton, 1840

South Trenton, June 7th /40

By your request to forward you a few lines when we arrived at Trenton will now be [?] in short hand. Our passage to N. York was pleasant in consequence of a thick fog in the morning we did not arrive in time for the morning boat to Albany. We had our baggage removed onboard the steamboat Albany, one of the Troy line, and spent the day. I am as pleasant and perhaps as [?]. Left the city at 7 in the evening with a full load of passengers, arrived at Troy 5 in the morning, took breakfast at the Troy House, took the Railroad to Schenectady, went onboard the Packet Boat and was underway very soon and arrived in Utica at 5 the [?] morning. Stopped at the National Hotel [?] to passage in the Stage for Trenton at 7 and arrived at Elias Stanton Esq. at South Trenton at 10 in the morning all well excepting a little of the headache and that was soon over when we arrived at our destination.

Respectfully Yours,

Wm Smith (?)

PS. Brother John and his wife on our arrival at Utica stepped right onboard one of the Syracuse Packet Boats and proceeded directly on his journey to the [Springs?] before we left Utica as well as could be expected. As I have a chance to send this to Utica in few moments I must close by saying we found all well.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington from Giles Williams, New York, 1842

New York, Oct. 27th 42

Capt. Smith,

Dear Sir please do hand or send the enclosed as directed and obliged. Below I give an order on Chesebro for what flour you may want. I suppose the quality to be good you had better try [?] bbl. Sir if you like it then take what you wish.

I have nothing of importance to communicate. Abby Jane is here in good healthy and will be at Stonington I can't say when.

Respectfully Yours

Giles Williams

New York, Oct. 27th 42

Mssrs. Chesebro,

[?] please let Capt. Chas. H. Smith have what flour he may want out of the [Auburn?] Mills [?] you oblige.
Your Obedient Servant,

Giles Williams.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington from his friend, Isaac Pendleton, Oxford, 1843

Oxford 20 of third month AD 1843

Friend Charles H. Smith, I wish thee to call on Brother John Davis the first of next month for the Balances Due us which is two hundred and fifty dollars if there is no deduction on account of bad season. I want them to pay once to Rhoda Richardson our Daughter one hundred dollars after retaining enough to pay thee for thy trouble please to send the remainder to me in the same way as before. In so doing thou will do me a great favor. Thy Friend,

Isaac Pendleton

[NB?] my wife and family in in good health and wishes to be remembered to thee and thine. The 16 and 17 the snow fell here about 18 inches is about 3 feet in the woods is cold.

Letter addressed to Charles H. Smith, Stonington from Elias Stanton, South Trenton, 1849

Dear Children,

I now seat myself to write you through the blessing and mercy of God. We are well except William he is much as he was when you Maria was at our house. I feel that I have been called to mourn the loss of a Dear and Loving companion but I mourn not as one having no hope. It was so severe upon me that it caused a sickness at my stomach in passing in and out the door. When I turned myself I could see her very plain through the window now the window is dark and oh what a change. I feel that it could hardly be so. I feel very lonely yet I desire to be reconciled to the will of God. Your dear mother died rejoicing in the hope of everlasting life through Jesus Christ who died to redeem sinners. Your dear mother two or three days before she died was led to doubt her being reconciled to God. Oh how distressing to hear her mourn and despair under fears that she had been deceived but it did not last more than an hour before she was again rejoicing in the hope of everlasting life. It was very distressing to me to hear her doubt. I have thought if it since it has been the more convincing to me of the real work of grace upon the heart. She has no more dark hours but on the contrary as she grew weaker in body she grew stronger in hope frequently saying she longed to be with her Jesus and desired the time to come. The day she died she made a verbal prayer about 3 o'clock, she died at eight in the evening having her senses perfectly as long as she could speak. I have no doubt of the perfect work of grace upon the heart. I feel that our loss is her gain. She frequently said she wished she could sing repeating verses that she knew a hymn that she repeated a part of was sung at her funeral to sleep in Jesus' blessed sleep. I shall never forget the last kiss pressed upon my cheek by one now silent in death. At one time while I was standing by she perceived me occupied in thought, asked me what I was thinking of, I replied I was thinking of the time when we were married when all was life and now to see her in pain and almost in Death. Oh with what composure and thought did she answer me. She said we were joined together to be parted, but truly it is hard to part. The funeral was attended by a large assembly of people, all was perfect order. The text was 1st Corinthians 7th 29 & 30 vs. while I have been called to mourn still I feel that I have reason to rejoice. There has been a revival of Religion in South Trenton and neighbors 16 or 18 have manifested a hope in the savior. Jane and Mary are [?] in the number. It is some three or four weeks since the meetings commenced, there still is a punctual attendance. I could hope it is only a beginning. Elias has joined the Sons of Temperance at S. Trenton. I have delayed

writing on account of the Revival. I feel to thank God I can write so good news and you of so great Joy as that sinners are being born again.

We have had just enough snow to make good slipping till within 3 or 4 days, it is now rather in the way. Our friends are all well.

Elias Stanton

South Trenton, Feb. 13, 1849

Capt. Charles H. Smith

Maria Smith

NB I wish Capt. Smith would say to Mr. States if he would be postmaster at Stonington I wish he would have the goodness to send letters directed to South Trenton by Albany and not by N. York as I have to pay ten cents by N. York and 5 by Albany. I wish them to come the nearest mail route. I hope you will write on received this, we wish to hear from you.

E. Stanton