

Londonerry August the 5th 1825

Dear Brother Received your letter of the 30th of May on the 18th of June and agreeable to your request delayed writing untill I received your letter of July 3rd which came to hand on the 30th of July. The delay suited me very well as we had pretty throng times in June, spring having commenced so early together with an excessive drought that it brought hay-making and harvest on us early and almost at once. We commenced mowing on the 11th of June and harvesting on the 23rd earlier to ^{the} best of my recollection than ever we did of this however you are a competent judge. Our grass was nothing light and short owing to the drought and fell far behind our calculations, the field next Camp-bellstown was scarce worth mowing, the weather for hay-making was just the reverse of last year very fine. The grain however made ample and ameds, for we have the greatest crop of Wheat and Rye taken together that ever was raised on the place the wheat at any rate is the greatest. We have 993 dozens of wheat and 561 of Rye. The oats was not good we will have but about 200 bushels. Hounds was 50 cts. per day hay-making and harvest cost 52.62 1/2 etc. harvest lasted just 2 weeks. The drought this season has exceeded any heretofore known in this country, I was obliged to quit ploughing in the latter end of May for about 8 days, the wether was so very hot and the ground of such an adamantine hardness that it was almost impossible to plough. We received a rain in the beginning of June that enabled me to plough and benefited the grain very much I have still about 12 acres to break up of tough ground that I think would take your mighty plough and 8 oxen to tare up without rain. The Corn is almost entirely wither up we want have as much as will fatten our hogs. I am very well pleased with your plan of operations in Michigan and was very glad to hear that Robert had no difficulty in getting his money as well as his being so well pleased with the new country as his great purchases seem to indicate. The distance between your location and that of Robert's is not very convenient for a partnership your manner of house keeping is no doubt disagreeable to you as not being used to it but you ought both to be satisfied with it at least for a few years, for the marriage of either of you will likely be a dissolution of ^{the} Partnership which at present I think is advantageous to both. What I am to do about my money or when I shall steer for that far famed country of Michigan I am wholly undetermined I have not asked for my money yet because I cannot see how or when Sawyer can pay it. you must be perfectly aware that for me to sue him for it before Isabel is of age would be the greatest folly imaginable of course it is perfectly optional with him whether he pays me or not he is as compleatly fortified as if he were insolvent

What father is going to do since his action about the settlement of his executorship has been decided against him he has not informed me this much I know he will be involved in considerable difficulties He will be obliged to continue in the administration of grandfathers estate, because the decision of the supreme court will oblige the persons articulated to pay the costs out of their own pockets and consequently it will be the only method to save himself S. McFadden's action is the 21st on the list. August term I think there is no chance of a trial there. All I have heard of cousin John more than you have is very little. William the Printer was with us on the 26th of June and had heard nothing more of him since he left Pittsburgh. When William stoped with us he was on his road from Philadelphia having been there bargaining with the Publisher of a Religious newspaper entitled the Philadelphian, he has entered into a kind of Partnership with the Proprietor and is to manage the printing part of the establishment and is to receive 3^dcts for every one of his subscribers to the Carlisle advised that adheres to him and so much of the Profits. — I dont know William is now what he ought to be nothing but a Printer he was in high spirits about his bargain when I mentioned Michigan he said he would not exchange situations. Cousin James was in Carlisle the last I heard of him. Mr Weakly was down seeing us shortly after you left this who informed us of the marriage of John T. Geddes to a Miss Catherine S McElroy of Hannettsburgh it to place the day following She is something older than John and is reckoned a beauty. The doctor has built an addition to his house for John to live in. of John McAllen I have heard nothing Alexander Graydon and family are well but not doing very much speculating a little here there. John Allen's family have removed to the State of Ohio two of the girls came to see us ^{sometime} before they left this country and father gave them 50 dollars Robert Snodgrass has better health at present than formerly and still unmarried is well the talked of marriage betwixt him and Rachel I hear no more of Samuel the College boy returned home in the spring and is now going to school in Oaxton to Mr. Cummings and I think will not return to college, you would like to know the effects of his college campaign this I can scarcely tell you but I think his conduct will shortly it he has had one spree at Middletown with doctor Henderson and about a dozen others where the brandy fly. of the Leaving of a college to go to a private school you may draw your own conclusions The Union Canal is carried on rapidly and bids fair to be compleate in 2 or 3 years the engineers have laid it out from the summit level to Middletown and it is taken by contractors for its excavation as far as James Wilson a great nuber of hands ^{are} out it but not a sufficiency

B. B. was on his tip toes making great calculations of what money there was to be made
talked at first of taking a half a mile to dig through his place but laziness prevented
him and I think proved a benefit to him for once then went into the boarding
line and boarded the hands on one section for about two months at 1.50 per week
but they proved troublesome and lowsey had frequent scuffles with them at present
he has none they havin erected a cabin. Mr B manages much as he used to do
has purchased a dearborn at 60 ~~and~~ had a hand hired for sometime at 8 per month
and rides about in style sick and lazy at home and a gentleman abroad

B. B. relations from Union County flocked down sometime after old Samuel
death and your departure from this, one and all as if the old man left a chest
of gold to be distributed amongst them. Conduct perfectly characteristic. Their
several fortunes as far as I know is B. B. is to get the place lock stock and
barrel except some household furniture that the old woman is to get and Reed is to be
sold the widow is to get 200 [£] beside her living Kelly Wilson is to 50 pounds at the end
of 10 years Martha. Ann. and Matilda are each to receive 8 dollars Eliza 500
in yearly payments paid first Sarah. 400 [£] paid also in 100 dollar payment after
Eliza is paid Polly 100 pounds. Simonton has to refund 100 pound Samuel and Isabel
McClure each 80 at the end of 11 years fathers children ^{26 each} 9 as the severally come
of age. The Cothcarts and McCormicks girls are all living in single blessedness
and Isabel McClure and are all well Samuel McClure helped us through some very
horve^t is well and is at present waiting in this letter so you must excuse blunders,
you neglected to inform us of the trades that are most likely to be profitable
in Michigan. Andrew ^{and} McClure is got to the state of Ohio as he writes and is
at Cincinnati at present, says he is well pleased with the country. As to my
modesty about knowing further particulars of Michigan you must excuse
for I am in haste. You will please however to inform me about the missionaries
that are in your country you did not inform me how much you got for your
horse which I think something too reserved but if it is under 65 dollars you
need not I want a complete exposition of the word Michigan for this
reason that I was always puzzled to pronounce it the French Inhabitants
manner of pronouncing it let me have it. are all well at present
I remain
Yours
John Geddes
William Geddes
completely

John Geddes

Wm. W. W.

Hummelstown 25
August 5th

1825
Mr John Geddes
Washtenaw County
Michigan Territory

Wm
W. W.
W. W.