Peter Kean to Susan Ursin Niemcewicz, March 19, 1809

Peter Philip James Kean

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My dear Mother

I have delayed writing to you from day to day in hopes that I might be able to say something satisfactory on the subject of old Mr. Birkett's claim. In pursuance of Judge Grimke's advice, I have had a statement of the account made out which leaves a balance in favour of £313. 6s. 6d. to this balance if you add the interest from £2. the period at which interest on British accounts commences it makes a balance of £313. 6s. 6d. against me this balance arises from interest accruing since 172. When there is a balance in favour of £12. if credit is given to agree for a bill remitted by him to 5£ 20s. amounting to £10. the whole claim would be extinguished and that there should be annulled and a credit given is preeminent from many circumstances of which is that in 172. I gave dues a bill on Mr. B. for £10. in favour of Messrs. Butler, the bill was for £20. 0s. however only paid the one half the exact sum for which 2£ should have received credit admitting however that there is a balance to the amount above mentioned in my opinion Mrs. must have his suit. for in the 1st place I have no property of the goods in my hands, all the property which is anyway
belonged to Groves which is now in my hands my father purchased bona fide from Mr. Gascnair.

Dly. The letter which Mr. L. wrote my father previous to giving the release now have together with Judge

Wrinkle's opinion that when he treated with Mr. This opinion was included will tend to prove sound on the part of the said

judge G. is now on the circuit when he returns to town he is to present this statement to our J. who if

he is satisfied will be glad to give a discharge as it is much to his interest to do so at any rate I think the decree must go in my favor I should the cause be brought into a court of Equity.

I am quite tired of the gaiety which has been prevailing in this place the Charlestonians may be said to understand the art of amusing themselves but I must confess the I cannot please me near as well as nor Northern people and as for doing business I never saw any people so industrious and to know I have been detained longer in getting a copy of a few papers in this town than any Northern attorney would have taken to draw out the proceedings of The most arduous law suit. Thank fortune I shall be off for Beaufort tomorrow where I shall enjoy a little quiet and after I have settled my business there I will proceed to Savannah and then for home with all speed where I trust I shall enjoy the pleasure of sweet converse with those I love.

The Masons are all well I am going over to dine with them to say it is impossible for any one to treat me
with more kindness than I have experience at the
Major hands. He is universally beloved and admired
in Charleston.

I did not go to the canal as intended, may
perhaps visit it when on my way home.

It is now a long, long while since I heard of you
or from you at Beaufort Street. Shall meet some
of your kind and affectionate letters.

adieu yours.

Charleston, March 19th

Peter McCon

1809