Jacob Morris to John Rutherfurd, June 21, 1787

Jacob Morris

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Dear Rutherford,

The friendly solicitude
you discover for the success of my project
undertaking merits a letter from me to acquaint
you of my operations since I left you, how I am
now situated, and of my future intentions proper
expectations.

As far as Albany & Schenectady
I came in very handsomely, having had a fine
short voyage to the former place, and embarked
at New Jerusalem, and dispatched from Wagging
and the latter place in less than two hours
after my arrival and proceeded immediately
for that place where I came that night.

I was not aware quite so rapiditously in
getting my team up the Mohawk, by the
engage of the Batavian men, they now near
seven days getting from Schenectady to the
carrying place for Lake Otage 18 miles I was at
and additional supplies on all of my party with the
commission for naming the Country of the Indians in Canada
who were going the same route the occasion for 15 by 20
wagons and the inhabitants were not disposed in their
demands for twice three. It took us 3 days by reason of
the existing bad roads to get across the river.
I was much at a loss which way to proceed however
so I had written to a man went wonder to come
come and look at this part of the Country and
report to me respecting it. I concluded it was best
to leave all my things in Stone at least the
north end of the Lake Land in each with the corruptions
who were going down the Susquehannah at Batum
and go with them as far as this man was. I had not
heard from any one since about 20 miles lower.
Gotten on the above small river which I came
there I found he had run out and he gave me
a tolerable account of it and was so far there that
I then transport my stores by water to my winter
islet of residence. Though the storm speak with
certainty for the had blown wind this whole time.
much for me, as I knew full well the great difficulty of land transportation in the country at this time. I therefore immediately set about to procure a Botnan's hands. The person I came not hire, and therefore applied to a man who has a great respect for Tom. He bought that article with them, for one he was possessed of we soon struck the bargain for 8 gallons. Of that article which Tom conveniently shape having more along with me than I believed I shall consume before winter. Then I became master of a Botnan's own property. Obtain two good hands and sent them of for a week with orders to this: to stay at College and the question mark if they should return before me. Then set out one of the Carthus to look at this spot myself, it being about 30 miles, from this Place at the path now runs to the Buttham who across the Otgo creek. I lift Monsieur Devilleon a Frenchman who is making a very respectable settlement at the Buttham six miles from where I shall similar come down in the morning and did not hesitate long to determine on this spot as the place of my future residence. My situation is at the north.
north end of my Father's uncle Richard's Patent near the confluence of the great Mill or Butternut Creek two or handsome trains of water as ever were seen in the world, the farther I am informed to build a saw mill upon immediately within 100 yards of where I stand of Money, which will be the distance from that creek, having a fine stream running between the Hoosatuck Creek and a part of the Taconic in front as health a country as any in the world. Lay out in the woods he might return to Dr. Ball's house next day from Horse Up to the Taconic next near Lake Cohoes the next day the Old town of Lake Cohoes that was about 20 miles from hence as was made the same distance in any back country from hence I return to Cohoes the next day and found me on the mean Pond of Cohoes the lake mains had broken the River so much that it was not thought advisable to go down directly this induces me to go up to Senior to the superintend of the Ballman run and induce him to have befriended several thoughts I particularly requested him to bring among us
some some that were indispensably necessary for me to have directly
On my return we noticed the water had fallen sufficiently to be able to pass
The delay was entirely one of some difficulty
It was dangerous and the cargo too much consigned so I was not inclined to hazard out of my crew any longer
I thought proper to go on this expedition in person and go according to the Orders on Thursday the 17th of
Colbert that evening reached the mouth of the
Ward River 30 miles proceeded up the last point
near the next day about 8 miles it came up with a craft about 2 miles that evening long the point where
that was attempting its navigation after making with several obstructions from fallen trees that lay
are seen to be joined in small branches more before
marsh and often in their constant line due
abound in front of my Quarters that rock a full loaded Bateloun on Sunday
the 17th I was close about 12 miles up the Bathourn
crack from where it falls into the meadow. I am inclined to believe it is the hard, smooth
navigable creek on Fort George it is upon. I am now in new Tantallon I have a little
 lakewhich is yet to settle it as the stream was. I am not sure it was drawn by the hand of man or within
 few miles of me. I hope to have as yet only the old two hands.
 Fishing for me since Sunday in the one of them I was
 with. I have found some to please for I have the
 other in duty. I am getting along well for a small
 lode worked in a little of the lands of the
 accommodation of my wife our people.

 I find it will cost me a very small trifling
 now to build a frame house than a log one and
 the latter will last only a few years and be literally out
 of order in no time. But that other way stops me
 for reasons of cost. I mean to work for the
 frame one that will do. I do not care to
 convert to the use of a Kitchen 24 by 16 feet and
 next year with my saw mill build our addition.
 I wish you would come to see me this probably
find me either shopping, cooking or out of the house. There is no female within six miles of me. I hope this will find you in good health. I am your dearest friend, Brother Lewis. I have not had an opportunity to write him. My love to my dear sister. I am sure she will be pleased to hear settled. I trust she is well. I am your dear Father. I am sure she will be pleased to hear. I am your dear Father. I am sure she will be pleased to hear.
John Rutherford Esquire
Broadway
New York
1755