Kean University
Kean Digital Learning Commons

Liberty Hall Collection 1780s
Liberty Hall Collection

John Kean to Susan Kean, April 29- May 1, 1788

John Kean

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.kean.edu/lhc_1780s
Beaufort, Apr. 29th 1788.

I forgot to mention in my letter by Wilcox that I had directed Chisolm to remit my love two hundred dollars—this makes 700 dollars. I think that I have remitted in all & added to 900 dollars which Wilcox is to pay me in New York will make up 900 dollars—200 of which I mean to replace your Horses—500 for our family expenses—any balance that may remain added to our certificate old charet, what we may receive from A.C. & what I can take together before I come to purchase the carriage I mentioned—I hope we shall be equal to all this.

I have now sold off the greatest part of my useless cattle, horses & sheep which has brought one bond payable in 1812 years about £400 at which will serve as a set off against so much debt—I have kept
about 50 head horned cattle, 20 head horses, 20 head sheep & about 40 head hogs these added to poultry I hope will supply our table sufficiently with meats - the rivers abound with fish & oysters - the earth is abundantly prolific so that with care & industry we shall not want.

I have retained your old red carriage horses in case of accident - they now drag the plow but they are strong & able.

I will not sell my lands until the new constitution is determined upon & I am present to negotiate the bargains - the eye of the master makes work go on smoothly & properly - my presence for two years would change matters much to my advantage a few years peace & good government will raise the value of land exceedingly in this part of the country - people here have a mortal antipathy to going into the back country & there are a vast
number of children growing up, all of whom will have land if they can possibly get it - the quantity for sale is not very large within 20 miles round - perhaps 10,000 acres - 3000 of which I have - all this convinces me that it will rise in price.

May 1st

Sir: Tammany counts another anniversary and the jocund husbandmen rejoice in the genial spring - the flood gates of heaven are yet shut against us, no shower to glad the earth who pants beneath the scorching ray of days great luminary, but the omnipotent knows for what wise purpose the moistening drop is withheld.

One week more & I begin to progress towards my love to see her other son is
all that is wanting to my happiness.

I still continue with a small hacking cough which increases with the least inattention to myself—but all bleeding is stopped.

Not a letter yet since the 27th February—two months I not hear a word from my Susan is very hard—I want to know your sons name to hear how he does—whether he grows at all the little nothings that please a father—kiss him dross him—

My love to the family

Adieu

Heaven guard my Susan and her son—Prays your affectionate,

John Kran

May 3: 1788