

1688-02-06

## Phineas Pemberton, Governor of Pennsylvania, Governor William Penn, and William Markham, February 6, 1688

Phineas Pemberton

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The 27<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month 1667

Dear  
gouldst thou bring fresh upon my mind w<sup>th</sup> A  
reverend blessing of here by appears before the and  
make good to add this to my former dated the 19<sup>th</sup> mo last  
it not going away according to expectation and I con-  
sidering of my over ~~business~~ in being so tedious every  
way do intend if I can get the same into my hand w<sup>th</sup>  
it now out to open it and take out the answer to  
fig: Certificate it not being worth thy while to give it  
neither had I mentioned it only on the occasion of thy  
writing to <sup>him</sup> concerning but A neutral one  
it was at also my letter to Joseph Burdon about  
R.L. because gift: had write & it since he to Barbados  
A copy of the most material of these of sent to me  
& I question not but friends here will vindicate him  
only this observed that he stayed here but one week  
after his Certificate was given him and thou wilt find  
his Certificate large and full and signed by some of those  
that are his accusers to gift: and what more I know  
not and after his Certificate signed I do not find by  
his journal that he was in any meeting of public  
business upon the Island in six weeks stay & then to give  
the hint to us here after traveling as by R. Stords  
letter to father in law looks very plain

The Commission do go on w<sup>th</sup> growing wariness that I am in-  
formed for 10 or 12 years it can't possibly be granted & unpaid  
I can assure thee I do not expect to see any more of this  
Commission but all it appears to me it will be very plain  
born by people in general & I further think it will  
be about to take on Gary and w<sup>th</sup> the same  
first answer but Gary who are the most dangerous  
the most dangerous who will do any thing  
and to take away the first w<sup>th</sup> the same  
granted (who have entered the same  
or more power and ability to oppose the country) to  
break for sure A people will be w<sup>th</sup> the same  
if thou think me not over bold to take so much upon me  
as thus to inform thee I can assure thee I only give



I only give it <sup>on the whole</sup> of my sense of it, for what I am con-  
-sidered if they or those should require any or all my  
ungrateful land I could readily give it if I could appear  
no way pleasing to save it for I know my self to be  
more double to this than I can answer for those  
hadst A & I put to me not only in words but thy  
actions declared it afore thou wilt know me for  
wif I say I am greatly doct'or and desire my behavior  
may <sup>be</sup> sure as thou may have no cause to repent thee  
of thy kind ness;

The land I have in Wrights Town is 1200 acres and  
only one settlement upon it I lately offered to have  
given one 100 acres of land if he would have sealed  
there and he has since bought 100 at a very great  
price. Before then he went so far into the woods there is  
about 500 acres yet to take up in the town the people  
there about are much discontent w<sup>th</sup> P Wright and his  
Chalmers tricks he played here they think much to call  
it after sure A runagadoes name he has not been  
in these parts these several years therefore desire thee  
to give it a name I have some times call'd it Con-  
-loner because it lies near the middle of the County  
it may be supposed & the town is laid out w<sup>th</sup> A  
Center in the middle of 600 acres or there about.

The original writing beneath this  
was crossed by Phumbe Perubutus  
it is to be perfectly illegible.  
The ink penetrated through the  
paper - partly destroying it & writing  
much of the text in the opposite direction  
if not impossible to read

H. S.  
Oct 12 1875.

The pavior <sup>was</sup> gone it <sup>was</sup> lately dead out of the family  
Blackfan is a very close man to the and the unknown  
by public and private and I never heard nothing of it.

he has arrived very well since his coming and gained  
a good report except amongst the disaffected who say of  
wife of him in private but those I regard not he is  
mightily careful in his business here and fit for the place  
but he is restless, his mind being in England he is  
much for having his proclamation followed for ungrate-  
lands I told him I rather believe thou used it at a great  
to put on people to seize those lands then selling or  
sell it at reasonable terms then to take it away from  
them but he is very earnest to perform thy mind in all  
matters so far as I understand or find the rest of thy  
family be indifferent with my wife I leave her to  
thee and thine she is very weak still my  
mothers dear love is also to the she is lately  
come from penbury to be house wif James and  
acts at fast at time will print for A. Knison was  
here that week to make up his acts for what he  
had delivered to for the rest he will make up w<sup>th</sup>  
the good things.

I forgot to tell thee that upon the 4<sup>th</sup> mo. last  
A Cook & Dam Jennings Robt Dinsdale & I were chosen  
Arbitrators to decide the difference between J. Grady &  
Gordon but it was the most railing & violent business  
of our day I saw I never since I came into this province  
saw such a manly & unmannerly fight between  
the worst in the province at 11: day past between  
them we only sat to see them before them selves  
and returned home that night I went to A.C. Comins  
some weeks next day I saw a storm arise when  
short of the house I father & mother were in  
the front parlor next the kitchen & a clap of  
thunder came & pitch'd upon the peak of chimney  
next the kitchen & sent one half of them down  
the floor came w<sup>th</sup> sure force into the room we  
were in some of them ran to the hall door & were  
in the house a little longer w<sup>th</sup> its power but get out  
it again quickly but we in the room fell nothing  
but small things what we saw a summer of bread  
full thunders it has been one man killed in Chester County  
A abundance of trees torn to pieces in the woods



my letter not I have will weary the  
some how to my power  
I understand and am truly thy in the last word to

upon the 19<sup>th</sup> of the 10<sup>th</sup> mo a mighty whale came by  
my house down the river he gave one great snort  
above the house one over agt the house one be-  
low the house my mt being a river told me of  
being walked out of doors but I was so feeble I  
did not get soon enough to the river to see him  
but he says one of the biggest sort by those cy:  
have knowledge in such treasures of Nature has  
went up a little before. & met w<sup>th</sup> the fish  
above my house & told get no further & there for  
returned down river out after him but he caught  
them all

Ralph Smith when he dyed made a will (and left father in law &  
Ja: Atkinson Executors but Ja: Atkinson refused I wish father in law  
had done so too) A copy whereof I have sent thee at all of  
the Inventory and of the Debt as they stand in his book  
that if thou think fit thou may give them as to the will  
it was not well willed of course cy: Ralph was so  
much afraid of Jon having the land cy: if privilla  
should have had it but she told not how given it to  
her child because says he to be relations afore marriage  
and Jon thought it the house is framed & like to be  
destroyed by fire for want of effort none of his  
debtors cy: he knew of will own any of his debt  
his sisters give by letters very much for their legacies  
some of them craving some flattering & some  
threatning and in all manner as thou seems to be  
acts between thee and him in hopes of thy coming  
father has still delayed answering them the most of his  
willing spent in thy house upon cy: servants his  
goods are at thy house unrecovered the land the others  
was sold by father (and put on thy act to Jayner) for  
12<sup>th</sup> towards a debt due to him for work done since  
thou went who has suffered it & lives upon it) Ralph  
charges the debt 60 or pounds as thou will find by  
the abstract of Debt besides wage if there was anything  
due to him but I think not much on cy: act he did so little  
I desire thee tell me know what thou wilt have done about  
it and if thou canst charge him debt to thee let me know  
cy: I may the better know how to answer his sister



The land I have in Wrights Town is 1200 acres and only one settlement upon it. I totally offered to him given one, 100 acres of land if he would here seated there, and he hath since bought 100 at a very great price, rather than go so far into the woods. There is about 500 acres yet to take up in the town. The people here — about one much disaffected with (G<sup>2</sup>) Wright and his cheating tricks he played here. They think much to call it after such a renegade's name; he has out him in those parts these several years, therefore (I) desire them to give it a name. I have sometimes called it Center town because it lies near the middle of the County as it may be supposed, and the town is laid out with a centre in the middle, as thereabouts.

The ~~man~~ <sup>man</sup> is totally dead out of thy family. Dr. Blackfan<sup>van</sup> (?) is a very close man to them and thy concerns, both public & private, and I never heard nothing but that he has carried very well, since his coming, and gained a good report except amongst the disaffected who say otherwise of him in private, but these I regard not. He is amply capable in thy business, and fit for the place, but he is restless, his mind being in England. He is much for having thy proclamation followed for unsettled lands. I told him I rather believed them used it as a spear to put in



people to sell their lands (to) them sealed  
on sale at reasonable terms. them to take it  
any from them, but he is very earnest to perform  
they mind so far as I understand on field.

The rest of the family be indifferent well.  
My wife's dear love is to them and them.  
She is very much still. My Mother's dear  
love is also to them, she is lately come from  
Pennsburg to our house here. I am about  
accounts as far as time will permit. Ja Addinson  
was here this week to make up his acct for  
what he had delivered to Father. The rest  
he will make up with the Governor (2.)

I forgot to tell thee that upon the 5<sup>th</sup> of 4<sup>th</sup>  
Month last. A. Cook & Sam Jennings, Rob<sup>t</sup> Dingeld  
& I. were chosen arbitrators to decide the  
difference <sup>between J. G. & F. G. G. G. G.</sup> between J. G. & F. G. G. G., but it was the  
most sailing, sailing business that ever I  
saw. I never since I come into this Province  
saw such unmannerliness & unmannerliness  
between the worst in the province as that  
day passed between them. He only set their  
things before themselves, and return home.

That night I went to A.C. <sup>(At the Cooks)</sup> Coming home  
- words next day I saw a storm on ice where  
short of thy house. I. Father & Mother were  
set in the front parlour next the kitchen,  
about 2 in the afternoon & a clap of thunder  
came & pitched upon the stack of chimneys  
next the kitchen & sent one half of them down.  
The storm came with such force into this  
room we were in (tho) some of them ran to the



roll down. Landing in the woods a little  
terrified (?) with its power, but got over it  
again quickly. But on in the room  
felt nothing but small (?) besides what can  
see. A summer of dreadful thunder  
it has been. One man killed in Chester  
County, Abandonment of trees torn to pieces  
in the woods.

Upon the 19<sup>th</sup> of the 8<sup>th</sup> Month, a mighty  
whirl came by my house down the  
river. He gave me great sport above  
the house, one on against the house,  
one below the house. My maid being  
at the river, told me, I being walked  
out of doors. But I was so far off I could  
not get to the river soon enough to see him  
but it is said (to be) one of the biggest sort  
by those that know knowledge in such matters  
I believe he came up a little before & went  
with the flats above my house & could get  
no further over than my return. I was  
over cut after him, but he escaped them  
all. Ralph Spivey when he did make a will  
and left father in law & Ja; Robinson executors but  
Ja; & Robinson refused, I wish father in law had done so too  
to copy what I have said there as also of the inven-  
tory and of the debts as they stand in his book that if thou  
think fit thou may purchase them, as to the will  
it was not well worded I conceive that Ralph  
was somewhat afraid of John having the land, that  
if Pussilla should have had a child she <sup>could</sup> well not  
have given it to the child because says he to her rela-  
tions afore marriage and John slighted it. The house  
is framed & like to be destroyed by fire for want of  
effects more of his debts that I hope of will own and  
his debts, his sisters pursue very much by letters.



9  
P. 89

for their legacies some of them crasing some flattering  
& some threatening and in as much as there seemed to  
be accounts between these & him in hopes of thy coming  
father has still delayed answering them the most  
of thy wrolding spent in thy house upon the  
servants his goods out of thy house & unrecovered  
the land 110<sup>0</sup> acres was sold by father (and  
paid on thy account to Joyner) for 112 (towards  
a debt due to him for work done since those went  
who has settled it & lives upon it.) Ralph charges  
the debtor 60 od pounds as thou wilt find by  
the abstract of debts besides wages if there will find  
was anything due to him but I think not  
much on thy account - he did so (?) little

I desire thou tell me know what <sup>thou</sup> wouldst  
have done about it - and if thou const - charge  
him debts to thee let me know that I may the  
better know how to answer his sister.

My tediousness I fear will weary thee therefore  
conclude and own truly thine in the truth ready  
to serve thee to my power.

P. Pemberton.