

Newport October 16th 1821

My Dear niece

I received yours dated June 20th with great pleasure; ^{as} cold water to a thirsted soul, so is a good news from far country. I rejoice to hear that there are two coloured churches there, and that one of these have two hundred commu-
-nicants; I hope they are not only professor, but possessor of true religion.

I ^{with} much grief, and heart feeling sorrow inform you the death of my wife after distressing sickness of two ~~week~~ weeks on the thirteenth of July in the after noon, she ^{was} to me a tried friend, affectionate partner, the compa-
-nion of my youth. And also the death of my grandson Solomon of the consumption on the fourteenth August at sea on board the United State Ship Constitution with M^r Thomas Breeze the purser.

O death what has thou done ^{to} snatch away both old and young from me! But art ^{thou} a faithful messenger of heaven from God: thou merciful Jesus; thou compassionate Saviour; I dare not to find fault ~~with~~ thy dealing with me; or dare to dispute thy will; thou knowest our weakness, be not angry ~~with~~ me if groan and weep at remembrance of my sincere
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M^{rs} Sarah Bunk

To the care of M^{rs} Garrison

Alexandria

friend, didst thou not weep at ^{the} grave of thy
friend Lazarus?

My ^{son} Jacob arrived here from New York with his
wife after eight years absent, and he is sick.
Your grandmother, brother, sisters, aunt Comfort,
and M^r Norvett's family, are all well at present,
they write with ^{and} my family in saluting you, and
all inquiring friends. I have not heard from M^r
Burk a great while.

I remain your friend
Newport Gardner.

MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION – Transcription

Call No.: Newport Historical Society 2012.3

Item: Letter Newport Gardner to Sarah Burk

Date: 16 October 1821

Neg. No.: _____

Medium: ink on paper

Transcriber: Dana Signe K. Munroe

Transcription Date: 2 Oct 2020

LINE BY LINE TRANSCRIPTION:

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Sarah Burk

to the care of M^{rs} Gardner Ladd

Alexandria

[right side of paper]

Newport October 16th 1821

My Dear niece

I rece^{iv}ed yours dated June 25 with great pleasure; for ^{as} cold water to a thirsted soul, so is a good news from far country: I rejoice to hear that there are two coloured churches there, and that one of these have two hundred communicants; I hope they are not only professor, but proffesor of true religion.

I would also ^{with} grief, and heart feeling sorrow inform you the Death of my wife after destressing sickness of two ~~wee~~ weeks on the thirteenth of July in the after noon; she ^{was} to me a tried friend, affectionate partner, the companion of my youth: And also the Death of my grandson Solomon of the consumption on the fourteenth August at sea, on board the United State Ship Constitution with Mr Thomas Breese the purser.

O Death what has thou done to snatch away both old and yong from me! But ^{thou} art a faithful messenger of heaven from God: thou merciful Jesus; thou compationate Saviour; I dare not to find fault ~~with~~ thy dealling with me; or dare to dispute thy will: thou knowest our weekness, be not angry with me if ^I groan and weep at rememberence of my sincere fri

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friends, didest thou not wept at ^{the} grave of thy friend Lazarus?

My ^{son} Jacob arrived here from New York with his wife after eight years absent; and he is sick.

Your grandmother; brother, sisters, aunt Comfort, and M^r Mowetts family, are all well at prese[nt] they unite with me ^{and} family in saluting you, and all inquiring friends: I have not heard from M^r

Burk a great while.
I remain your friend
Newport Gardner.

MODERN ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Sarah Burk
To the care of Mrs. Gardner Ladd
Alexandria

Newport October 16th 1821

My Dear niece,

I received yours dated June 25 with great pleasure; for as cold water to a thirsted soul, so is a good news from far country: I rejoice to hear that there are two colored churches there, and that one of these have two hundred communicants; I hope they are not only professor, but professor of true religion.

I would also with grief, and heart feeling sorry inform you the Death of my wife after distressing sickness of two weeks on the thirteenth of July in the afternoon; she was to me a tried friend, affectionate partner, the companion of my youth: And also the Death of my grandson Solomon of the consumption on the fourteenth August at sea, on board the United State Ship Constitution with Mr. Thomas Breeze the purser.

O Death what has thou done to snatch away both old and young from me! But thou art a faithful messenger of heaven from God: thou merciful Jesus; thou companionate Savior; I dare not to find fault thy dealing with me; or dare to dispute thy will: thou know our weakness, be not angry with me if I groan and weep at remembrance of my sincere friends, did thou not wept at the grave of thy friend Lazarus?

My ^{ason} Jacob arrived here from New York with his wife after eight years absent; and he is sick. Your grandmother; brother, sisters, aunt Comfort, and Mr. Mowett's family, are all well at present they unite with me and family in saluting you, and all inquiring friends: I have not heard from Mr. Burk a great while.

I remain your friend,
Newport Gardner.