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Title: Letter from Stephen Johnes to Lydia Johnes

Date: October 8, 1794

Location: I-BellW-1964-1

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Carlisle Cumberland County Octob. 8th 1794

Dear Lydia

I set down for the last time to Write you from Carlisle
As we expect to march for Bedford to morrow morning
Which is about Ninety miles from this there is the
General place of Rendezvous next - Whether we shall go any
farther or not it is uncertain - we have had an
Express Day before yesterday from the westward to the
President that they would come upon any terms required
By him - But it appears that by our marching since that
Express he will not accept of their requests as he intended
to march with us in Person to the Next Place of Rendezvous and
the Presence of so great a Friend to his Country as ~~his~~
~~his~~ Excellency animates the troops here in
service to such a Degree that they are one and all
Ready to obey any call to Bring those offenders to a
Sense of their Duty - I Sup^d and Breakfasted with
Doct^r Hurston of this Place father in Law to the Rev^d Nat^l
B. Snowden - who is much of a Gentleman ~~My~~ Snowden
heard that I was in Camp here came up and requested
me to go into town which was very agreeable to me
& Polite in him - Doct^r Hurston Inform^d me that the people
here and in the Country Round about who are generally
Composed of Germans are Ignorant Beyond Description
he told me that a few Days agoe that they had a meeting
about coming to order and Regulation of Government

When they were a number that Declared they never
Woud for the President had made Laws to tax their
Plows five Pounds for the first and so on he who
kept the most Plows had the most five Pounds
to pay and they look upon it as a fact and can
be convinced he told me of another that every Child that
was born the President had made Laws that they should
pay five Shillings for the first ten for the next and for
there was one farmer amongst them that Declared
that where he lived they had paid two Dollars a year
for spinning on the little Wheel and every other
part of industry in Proportion they are so Ignorant
that they think the President makes all the Laws him-
self without any other Power - yesterday his Excellency
with his Suit and Governour howell and his Suit reviewed
the Jersey Camp all Bung upon parade and in com-
pleat order which we are informid gave him great plea-
sure and Satisfaction to see so much good order and Discipline among
the Sons of New Jersey

Now my Dear comes on my Distress in informing
you that I shall not Return as soon as I expected
for this march will take us up five Days as we
march very slow and every day takes me further
from all my Comforts by my all - When Oh When

Will the Joyfull hour be that Brings me to my
Ever Dear Lydia time in all her swift Passage
Never appear to move so slow as at this time
When the night comes on I wish for Day and find
no Comfort in Neither - Absence from my Darling
Joy exceeds any Punishment I have ever yet met
With oh my Dear it is to much for me I
Cannot as yet hear one word from you what shall
I do did I once know her I did am I withheld from
the Greatest of Blessings to Behold one more the Dear
Comfort and Greatest of happiness I enjoy here
upon Earth - my Love If you knew my feelings
this morning you would pity your Stephen
But under the Protection of him who is able to bring
us again into each Others arms in safety let us
Join in petitioning for each Others safety and
a happy Return - I am well - and in as good spirits
as I can But cannot boast of them our Camp is very healthy
= My Plenty of beef and Bread and forage for our horses
If you could send your letters to me Directed to Mr Isaac Snowden
by the Stage from your house he will send them on to his son at Harrisburg
and he will forward them to Doctor Weston at Carlisle who will forward
all letters from you to me at Camp at Bedford or further on
if we go any further Direct them to the Care of Mrs Nathaniel
Snowden Harrisburg - Please my Dear give my love to our Dear
Father & Mother Williamson Sister Polly & Betty & their families
Daddy and onama Johns
Mrs Lydia Johns - and all friends
Your affectionate and Loving husband
Stephen Johns

Mrs Lydia Jones 15

Road Hall

Major Gordon
will please to
forward this
and oblige
Stephen Jones

Near Cranbury

New Jersey

Frederick

Post

Carlisle Cumberland County October 8th 1794

Dear Lydia,

I set down for the last time to write you from Carlisle as we expect to march for Bedford tomorrow morning which is about ninety miles from this where is the general place of rendezvous next. Whether we shall go any further or not it is uncertain. We have had an express day before yesterday from the westward to the President that they would come upon any terms required by him. But it appears that by our marching since that express he will not accept of their requests as he intends to march with us in person to the next place of rendezvous and the presence of so great a friend to his country as his excellency animates the troops here in serving to such a degree that they are one and all ready to obey any call to bring those offenders to a sense of their duty. I sup'd and breakfasted with Doc. Huston of this place father in law to the Rvd Nat FR Snowden, who is much of a gentleman. Snowden heard that I was in camp here came up and requested me to go into town which was very agreeable to me and polite in him. Doc Huston informed me that the people here and in the country round about who are generally composed of germans are ignorant beyond description he told me that a few days agone that they had a meeting about coming to order and regulation of government.

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When they were a number that declared they never would for the president had made laws to tax their plows five pounds for the first and so on he who kept the most plows had the most five pounds to pay and they look'd upon it as a [last?] and cannot be convinced he told me of another that every child that was born the president had made laws that they should pay five shillings for the first ten for the next and so on. There was one farmer amongst them that declared that where he lived they had paid two dollars a year for spinning on the little wheel and every other part of industry in proportion they are so ignorant that they think the president makes all the laws himself without any other power. Yesterday his excellency with his suit and governor Howell and his suit queried the Jersey camp all being upon parade and in [complete] order which we are informed gave him great pleasure and satisfaction to see so much good order and discipline among the sons of New Jersey

Now my dear comes on my distress in informing you that I shall not return as soon as I expected for this march will take us up five days as we march very slow and every day takes me further from all my comfort my joy my all. When oh when

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will the joyful hour that brings me to my ever Dear Lydia time in all his swift passage Never appeared to move so slow as at this time. When the night comes on I wish for day and find no comfort in neither. Absence from my darling joy exceeds any punishment I have ever yet met With oh my dear it is too much for me I cannot [paper torn] yet hear a [paper torn] word from you what shall I do did I once know her I did am I withheld from the greatest of blessings to behold once more the dear comfort and greatest of happiness I enjoy here upon earth. My love if you knew my feelings this morning you would pity your Stephen. But under the protection of

him who is able to bring us again into each other's arms in safety let us join in petitioning for each other's safety and a happy return. I am well and in as good spirits as I can But I cannot boast of them our camp is very healthy plenty of beef and bread and forage for our horses.

If you could send your letters to me directed to Mr. Isaac Snowden. By the stage from your house he will send them on to his son at Harrisburg and he will forward them to Doctor Huston at Carlisle who will forward all letters from you to me at camp at Bedford or further on if we go any further Direct them to the care of Mr. Nathaniel Snowden Harrisburg. Please my Dear give my love to our dear father and mother Williamson sister Polly and Nelly and their family's daddy and mama Johnes Mrs Lydia Johnes and all friends.

Your affectionate and loving husband

Stephen Johnes

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Mrs. Lydia Johnes
Road Hall
Near Cranberry
New Jersey

Major Gordon will please forward this and oblige.
Stephen Johnes