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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from Stephen Johnes to Lydia Johnes

**Date:** October 21, 1794

**Location:** I-BellW-1964-1

### Contact:

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Camp Bedford October 28<sup>th</sup> 1794

Dear Lydia I Received your Letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> by  
Lieutenant Hun yesterday which gave me the greatest  
Pleasure as I had not heard from you since I left  
Jersey with what Pleasure have I Read it over and over  
To see the account that you were well and in good  
Spirits may they be continued is the ardent wishes of  
your Dear Friend who knows not when he shall have  
the Pleasure of seeing with you - I have had my health  
Very well since I left Jersey and am at Present in  
good Health Praying that yours may be Continued - You Blame  
me my Dear that I had not Wrote to you before which  
hurts my Feelings to think that you have not Received  
none from me - This makes the Seventh Letter that  
I have Written it must be the Fault of the bearer  
of them - The army left Carlisle the 11<sup>th</sup> and arrived here  
the 18<sup>th</sup> which is about 90 Miles our Marches are Very  
Slow & tedious we expect to march to morrow or next  
Day in Detachments for Fort Pitt which is About  
130 Miles from this the Alleghany is about one Days  
march from this which we expect for it is 2 Miles  
over which will be a fatiguing march for is the  
Provision  
Supply  
me

Cloaths But it is said that there is Coathing  
Coming on for them there is a fine Army here  
and at fort Cumberland which is about 30  
from this is the Virginians & Marylanders of Both  
their armies tis said to Compose about 14000 Men  
Completely Supplyd with all kinds of warlike Stores  
- We have since we have been here taken about twenty  
of those whiskey Boys four of Very Noted ones  
there is no opposition from any of them they are  
all frightened out of their wits and know not what  
to do Report says this morning that these out laws  
Beyond the mountain all have given up and mean  
to throw themselves on the mercy of that Govern<sup>ment</sup>  
that they have abused - we shall have nothing to  
do but to march forward with them up where ever we  
find them it is reported that they have all agreed to  
Come in to the President and have any punishment  
that he will inflict upon them - But it is said  
he will hear nothing they have to say - General  
Lee is here and reviewed all the troops here yesterday  
who has the Command of all the troops - I think if  
we are to march to fort Pitt we must some of us suffer with  
the Severe Storms that we must expect  
Shor<sup>ts</sup> & Lancesall  
Plenty of Straw is  
to be had without  
that

untill wee get Beyond the mountain which  
about 3 days march we have Crost some of the highest  
that I ever saw it appears Impossible to ascend them  
When got to the top & going down them is Very  
Diffiult some places the horse ready to pitch headlong  
Down without Care — ~~But~~ my Dear Lydia What shall  
I say — I am still going further from all my Comps  
When Oh when will the happy Day Come that  
Brings us in each others arms — Cruel fate was  
so hard to separate such Near friends — Oh if I had  
But wings how soon would I see my all — You  
know how anxious I was to hear from you at this  
time you would pity your absent & Near friend  
But time that moves so slow will I hope thro  
the Interposition of a kind Providence Bring us

Safe to each other — What more can I ask  
a Safe Return to my Dear Wife —

Tell Daddy Williamson I thank him for his letter  
which gave me much Pleasure tell Daddy and  
I long to see them & give my Love to them & Bob  
our Sisters and their Families Daddy & Mary

Johnes

Wrote you by your might forward letters to  
By a former <sup>Letter</sup> which I think must  
hand as I think it went by a  
at Paris

I know  
Name

Mr. L. G.

is apper  
be my  
Johnes

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*Handwritten initials or scribbles in blue ink.*

*Handwritten initials or scribbles in blue ink.*

*Handwritten notes in blue ink, possibly including a date like '20/3/17'.*

*Handwritten numbers in blue ink, possibly '18' and '28'.*

*Mrs Lydia Johns*

*Road Hall*

*Major L. Gordon  
Will please to forward  
this and oblige  
Stephen Johns*

*Near Cranbury*

*appt J. Christy*

*New Jersey*

Camp Bedford October 21<sup>st</sup> 1794

Dear Lydia,

I received your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> by lieutenant Hun yesterday which gave me the greatest pleasure as I had not heard from you since I left Jersey with what pleasure have I read it oe'r and oe'r to see the account that you were well and in good spirits may they be continued is the ardent wishes of your dear friend who knows not when he shall have the pleasure of being with you. I have had my health very well since I left Jersey and am at present in good health praying that yours may be continued. You blame me my dear that I had not wrote to you before which hurt my feelings to think that you have not received none from me. This makes the seventh letter that I have written it must [be?] the fault of the bearer of them. The army left Carlisle the 11<sup>th</sup> and arrived here the 18<sup>th</sup> which is about 90 miles our marches are very slow and tedious we expect to march tomorrow or the next day in detachments for fort Pitt which is about 130 miles from this the Alleghany is about one day's march from this which we dread for it is 12 miles over which will be a fatiguing march for the – [paper torn off]

[page break]

– Clothes But it is said that there is clothing coming on for them. There is a fine army here and at fort Cumberland which is about 30 miles from this is the Virginians and Marylanders of both their armies 'tis said to compose about 14,000 men completely supply'd with all kinds of warlike items. We have since we have been here taken about twenty of those whisky boys four of very noted ones there is no opposition from any of them they are all frightened out of their wits and know not what to do report says this morning that these outlaws beyond the mountain all have given up and mean to throw themselves on the mercy of that government that they have abused. We shall have nothing to do but to march forward pick them up where ever we find them it is reported that they have all agreed to come in to the president and have any punishment that he will inflict upon them. But it is said he will hear nothing they have to say. General Lee is here and reviewed all the troops here yesterday who took the command of all the troops. I think if we [all march to fort Pitt?] we must some of us suffer with lots [paper torn off] severe storms that we must expect shortly – [paper torn off]

[page break]

– until we get beyond the mountains which about 3 days' march we have [crossed] some of the highest that I ever saw it appears impossible to ascend them when got to the top and going down them is very difficult some places the horse ready to pitch head long down without care. My dear Lydia what shall I say. I am still going further from all my comforts when oh when will the happy day come that brings us in each other's arms. Cruel fate was so hard to separate such near friends. Oh – if I had but wings how soon would I see my all. If you knew how anxious I was to hear from you at this time you would pity your absent and near friend. But time that moves so slow will I hope through the interposition of a kind providence bring safe to each other. What more can I ask a safe return to my dear wife. Tell daddy Williamson I thank him for his letters

which gave me much pleasure tell daddy and mommy I long to see them and give my love to them and both our sisters and their families daddy and mommy Johnes.

I wrote how you might forward letters to Carlisle by a former letter which I think must have come to hand as I think it went by a – [page torn off] and is Lost [page torn off]

[page break]

Mrs. Lydia Johnes  
Road Hall  
Near Cranberry  
New Jersey

Major Gordon will please forward this and oblige.  
Stephen Johnes