

Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

<http://archives.dickinson.edu/>

Documents Online

Title: Letter from John Armstrong to William Bingham and William Irvine

Date: January 16, 1788

Location: I-SpahrB-1961-5

Contact:

Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

Gentlemen

10000
10000
6

Carlisle 16th January 1788.

The Purchase of the whole or a Part of the Public Buildings near this Town for the Benefit of the College has always appeared an Object of great Importance to every Member of the Board, & therefore upon the Intimation of the Opportunity of making this Acquisition they have at this difficult Season of the Year met in a Board. The Minutes of the Board relative to this Matter will herewith be delivered to you. The Effecting of any Contract about them with the Board of Treasury by making a particular ^{& direct} offer on our Part appeared difficult & delicate. We have mentioned the Sum of 20,000 Dollars in public Securities, but expect you may be able to procure them for much less - perhaps for the one Half, considering their Condition & the good Disposition of Congress towards the Institution. If the whole will not be disposed of you can negotiate for such Parts as Congress may chuse at this Time to part with the Buildings most suitable for us as the Barracks & all the Buildings except the Southern or Brick Range & the Stone Magazine,

The State of the Works is well known to Genl. Irvine, as standing on Ground of which it is in your Measure uncertain who is the Proprietor & which after the Acquisition of the Buildings must also be purchased by the Board; that they are in a ruinous Condition & going fast into Decay that great Expences will be required in repairing them & in draining the adjacent low Grounds to secure the Healthfulness of the Place - If you cannot be able to procure them at the 20,000 Dollars - We must leave it to your

Discression to go some what further. We must submit this
Matter to you - you know well the Situation of the
Buildings & our Circumstances. We trust you will excuse the ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~
of this negotiation of -
I am Gentlemen on Behalf of the Board of
Trustees with Sentiments of the greatest Respect &
Esteem - Yours Humble & most obedt Servt

Yours in Rev John Armstrong
Pres-pro tempore

Papers
Respecting the
Public Buildings
at Carlisle -

Honble. William Sabine & William Singleton Esquiere

In Congress

New York



Gentlemen

The Purchase of the whole or a Part of the public Buildings near the Town for the Benefit of the College has always appeared an object of great Importance to every Member of the Board, & therefore upon the Intimation of the opportunity of making this acquisition they have here at this difficult Season of the year met & formed a Board. The Minutes of the Board relative to this Matter will herewith be delivered to you. The Effecting of any Contract about them with the Board of Treasury by making a particular & direct offer on our part appeared difficult & delicate. We have mentioned the Sum of 20,000 Dollars in public Securities, but expect you may be able to procure them for much less - perhaps for the one Half, considering their Condition & the good Disposition of Congress towards the Institution. If the whole will not be disposed of you can negotiate for such Parts as Congress may chuse at this Time to part with the Buildings most suitable for us are the Barracks & all the Buildings except the Southernmost Brick Range & the Stone Magazine.

The State of the Works is well known to Genl. Irvine, as standing on Ground of which it is in some Measure uncertain who is the Proprietor & which after the acquisition of the Buildings must also be purchased by the Board; that they are in a ruinous Condition & going fast into Decay that great Expencc will be required in repairing them & in draining the adjacent Low Grounds to secure the Healthfulness of the Place. If you cannot be able to procure them at the 20,000 Dollars - we must leave it to your Discretion to go some what further. We must submit this Matter to you - you know well the situation of the Buildings & our Circumstances. We trust you will excuse the Trouble of this negociation.

I am Gentlemen on Behalf of the Board of Trustees
with Sentiments of the greatest Respect & Esteem -
Your Humble & most obt Servt

John Armstrong

Pres-protempore