

# Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

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

## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from John Erskine to Charles Nisbet

**Date:** May 23, 1787

**Location:** I-SpahrB-1969-11

### Contact:

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

717-245-1399

[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)

Dear Sir

On 2 April I answered your letter of June a poor 1786, & sent you a parcel by Capt'n Ritchie of the Alexander directed as you desired to the care of Mr No. 10. Aiken bookseller. I have had no letters from you since but Mr Creech had a letter in which Dr Nash writes him to acquaint me that your College was prospering & you & they happy in each other. I think by the well disposed members of the present General Assembly, it is better complexioned than some former ones. But there is no concert. Some are too old, others too indifferent or political, & others too young & of too little influence to set such a matter a going.

I think I met you in April of Dr McGill's week but yet dangerous both on the death of Christ. Dr Walruple has a book in the press on the life of Christ. Dr Wodrow of Glasgow is said to be composing a life of Dr Leachman. Miss Gilles was lately married to Capt'n David Laslie. The Assembly this day in a committee of the whole house have unanimously voted the deposition of Mr McIntosh of Mid. A previous vote yesterday not to remit the cause to the synod but this day to pro- ceed to judgment carried by 16. This is the 5th year of the year of the year 1786. I have not the time to send for your College library. Gebbers Portugische geschichte 5 vol. Orne de Kirchen geschichte 6 vol. Nieme Nederschen schied- boek 1786 2 vol. Milner's Patria Græmmer Veltuyser uber Kehlaid & his ametheye. mores programma Hegelmorist's Anrede

What

What numbers I have got since April of  
Seilers Gemeinwtrige & Theologisch kritische  
Betrachtungen Delle sur 2 Timothee, sur  
1 Cor. 10., sur 1 Cor 11 - Melange de sermons  
2 times in one Matthie Lexicon Latino  
Germanicum, the lost part of which may  
be useful for Latin Scholars at Colls  
who wish to learn German. Trésor de la  
decadence des empires.

With these I have put up Joni's Verzoehung  
Werk Christi & 3 small practical treatises  
German, which you may present to any who  
understand that language. Joni is a useful  
book, but mostly abridged from Seiler.  
I am Dear Sir Yr aff. Brother & Servt  
John Esquire

Leoviston 23 May 1787

Veltuyzen thinks the Song, not a composi-  
tion of Solomon, but a composition of that  
age, to expose his arts to corrupt a virtuous  
Shepherdess then a Bridee

Rev  
President Nisbet

che

Revd President [Charles] Nisbet

Dear Sir

On 2 April I answered your letters of June & Novr 1786, & sent you a parcel by Captn. Ritchie of the Alexander directed as you desired to the care of Mr Ro. Aiken Bookseller. I have had no letters from you since, but Mr. Creech had a letter dated in March in which Dr. Rush writes him to acquaint me that your Colledge was prospering & you & they happy in each other.

I think by the well disposed members of the present General Assembly, it is better complexioned than some former ones. But there is no concert. Some are too old, others too indifferent or political, & others too young and of too little influence to set such a matter a going.

I think I wrot you in April of Dr. [William] McGill's weak but yet dangerous book on the death of Christ [*A practical essay on the death of Christ*, 1786]. Dr. Dalrymple has a book in the press on the life of Christ, & Dr [James] Wodrow of [Stevenston?] is said to be composing a life of Dr [William] Leechman [*Sermons: to which is prefixed some account of the author's life and of his lectures*, 1789]. Miss Gillies was lately married to Captn. David Leslie. The Assembly this day in a Committee of the whole house have unanimously voted the deposition of Mr. Mcintosh of [Mory?]. A previous vote yesternight not to remit the cause to the synod, but this day to proceed to judgment, carried by 16. This is the 6th year of the cause. It has cost the parish 600 pound sterl.

I herewith send for your Colledge library [George Ohuston] Gebauers Portugisiche geschichte. [Johann Jakob] Simlers Urkunden kirchen geschichte [*Sammlung alter und neuer Urkunden zur Beleuchtung der Kirchen-Gesichte*], 6 vol. Nieuwe Nederlansche Bibliothek 1786 [*Nieuwe Nederlansche Bibliothek*] 2 vol. [John] Milner's Latin Grammer [*A practical grammar of the Latin tongue*] [Johann Kaspar] Velthuysen uber Hohelied [*Das Hohelied*, 1786] & his amethyst. Monses Proggommo [Tobias Gottfried] Hegelmaiers Anrede [*Anrede an seine Zuhorer al ser seine dogmatische Vorlesungen wiederum anfang*, 1784] What

What numbers I have got since April of [Georg Friedrich] Seilers Gemeinnutzige [*Gemeinnutzig Betrachtung der neuesten Schriften, welche Religion, Sitten und Besserung des menschlichen Geschlechts betreffen*] & Theologisch Kritische Betrachtungen [*Theologisch-kritische Betrachtungen neuer Schriften*, 1780-1786] Dotlle sur 2 Timothee, sur 1 Cor. 10., sur 1 Cor 11 - Melonge de sermons 2 tomes in one. [Georg Matthiae] Matthio Lexicon Latino Germanicum [*Novum locupletissimum manuale lexicon Latino-Germanicum et Germanico-Latinum*], the last part of which may be useful for Latin Scholars at Carlisle who wish to learn German. Presage de la decadence des empires [*Des moeurs, et de leur influence sur la prosperite ou la decadence des empires; discours pour la ceremonie de l'ouverture des etats-generaux de Languedoc*, 1784].

With these I have put up Joni's [Versohavngs?] work Christi, & 3 small practical tracts in German, which you may present to any who understand that language. Joni is a useful book but mostly abridged from Seiler. I am Dear Sir

Yr affect. Brother & Servant  
John Erskine

Lovrison 23 May 1787

Velthuysen thinks the Song, not a composition of Solomon, but a composition of that age, to expose his [outs?] to corrupt a virtuous Shepherdess then a Bride.