Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

http://archives.dickinson.edu/

Documents Online

Title: Letter from Charles Nisbet to Unknown Recipient

Date: August 10, 1791

Location: MC 2001.7, B1, F10

Contact:

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

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

P. S. a farmer in the Heighbourhood of Chambers burgh, about thereby Miles from this Mace, accidentally discovered a great Body of Iron on one his land, by indiavouring to cut down an old Irees when he lound the Shump of it to be impregnated with Iron. I have not heard of this Quality of Iron impregnal ing regelable Subplances, elfe me might be afraid to drink Mineral Waters, and an this is a Bulky lunsofily, I honed to have a Slice of il to land to your Las thin, but as I wald not ablain this loon, must delay it to another Opportunity, for lear of loting the fall ships, Dr. Barlow a young Phylical an of Philadelphia is writing an Account of the Monuments of antiquis by that are fait to be discovered in the Western Parts of this State. I would have enclosed it if it had been published, but as it is laid that he minted Sail of it in England, your Low thin may know more of the Matter than I 20, I hope that the Dodor will be to good natured as to puppole that the an Antediluvian Antiquities, as if he goes into the Soutiments of the lound de Button, & nuns up the Age of this wiched World to 25,000 years our Intidels & Alheith will run quite mad, as they will then propole their Syllim to be demanstrated by Experiments & Authoritie Monuments . They briumph not a tille abready on the human Shulle that have been land in the Rock of Gibrallar, which Mr. Joulmin has indeavoured to make the most of , but buch proof would earny no more Evidence of Age, than a live Tood lound in a Block of Marble, an hundred more Functionen

lave lately arrived at Alexandria, A Marquis & two Vilcounts are laid la of the Mumber, but our News Writers have not been able to Will their Hame The Mirfortunes of France leim not to be at an End, when the People are leaving the Country. Perhaps they may be indirectly of time service to the Country, if the People were with enough to probil either by their own Misto lunes, or those of others. A Treety is now concluded between the United States & the lock Indians, but Injuries are no less prequent on the Olivan & the Western brostier. The Treaty has will a great Deal of Money which may in able the Indians to do more Mitchief, the it is generally suspected that the While People are most commenty in the Wrong . But the innocent often hole inflead of the quitty. I can hear of nothing publishing in this lounting that is worth Molice. Dr. Ramfay's thert Willery of the Revolution give Wille Salistaction here, except to those that are land of every american Performance. The Hung of my Main & my Villance hom the loast, have not permitted me to be it. The Transactions of the Philopophical Society at Philadelphia & Boften, that I have been, are more Baubles, & learney contain any thing of Importance. l. N.

D. C. Misbet - aug: 10. 1791.

[Carlisle, Pennsylvania]

[Aug. 10, 1791]

P.S. A farmer in the Neighbourhood of Chambersburgh, about thirty Miles from this Place, accidentally discovered a great Body of Iron Ore on his lands by endeavouring to cut down an old Tree when he found the stump of it to be impregnated with Iron. I have not heard of this Quality of Iron impregnating vegetable substances, else one might be afraid to drink Mineral Waters. And as this is a Bulky Curiosity, I hoped to have a Slice of it to hand to your Lordship, but as I could not obtain this soon, must delay it to another Opportunity, for fear of taking the fall ships. Dr. Barton a young Physician of Philadelphia is writing an Account of the Monuments of Antiquity that are said to be discovered in the Western Parts of this State. I would have enclosed it if it had been published, but as it is said that he printed Part of it in England, your Lordship may know more of the Matter than I do. I hope the Doctor will be so good natured as to propose that these are Antediluvian Antiquities, as if he goes into the Sentiments of the Count de Bufton, & runs up the age of this wicked World to 25,000 Year our Infidels & Atheists will run quite mad, as they will then suppose their system to be demonstrated by Experiments & Authentic Monuments. They triumph not a little already on the human Skulls that have been found in the Rock of Gibraltar, which Mr. Toutmin has endeavoured to make the most of, but such proof would carry no more Evidence of Age, than a live Toad found in a Block of Marble. An hundred more Frenchmen

[Page Break]

have lately arrived at Alexandria. A Marquis & two Viscounts are said to of the number, but our News Writers have not been able to spell their Names. The misfortunes of France seem not to be at an End, when the people are leaving the Country. Perhaps they may be indirectly of some service to this Country, if the People were wise enough to profit either by their own Misfortunes, or those of others. A Treaty is now concluded between the United States & the Creek Indians, but Injuries are no less frequent on the Ohio & the Western frontier. The Treaty has cost a great Deal of Money which may enable the Indians to do more Mischief, tho' it is generally suspected that the White People are most commonly in the Wrong. But the innocent often fall instead of the guilty. I can hear nothing publishing in this Country that is worth Notice. Dr. Ramsay's short History of the Revolution gives little Satisfaction here, except to those that are told of every American Performance. The Hurry of my Affairs & my distance from the Coast, have not permitted me to see it. The Transactions of the Philosophical Society at Philadelphia & Boston, that I have seen, are mere Baubles, & scarcely contain any thing of Importance.

C.N.