

Dear Brother
Boston 4th May 1785

We were informed a few days ago by Cap^t. Martin that a Spanish Gentleman of great fortune was paying his respects to your daughter Keating, which you may imagine gave us great pleasure, but it was of but short duration I met Mr Fabre a little time afterwards who told me he had come from York (where he had seen some part of your family) in company with a Cap^t. Browne, who had engaged to purchase his place on Jamaica Plains, for the payment of which he was to proceed with said Browne to Philadelphia, but shortly after his arrival in this town he discovered him to be an impostor, and informed me that he believed Browne had made some proposals to my Niece, which were by her attended to, but that on his discovering the imposture he had immediately wrote to Mr Parker and desired he would inform you of his true Character, to prevent the Missfortune of an alliance, I compared what Mr Fabre told me with what I heard from Cap^t. Martin and found Browne & the Spaniard to be one and the same Person, I think that both you & Sally are much obliged to Mr Fabre for his friendly attention in writing to Mr Parker and

Dear Brother,

Boston 4th May 1785

We were informed a few days ago by Cap^t. Martin that a Spanish Gentleman of great fortune was paying his respects to your daughter Keating, which you may imagine gave us great pleasure, but it was of short duration I met M^r Fabre a little time afterwards who told me he had come from York (where he had seen some part of your family) in company with a Cap^t. Browne, who had engaged to purchase his place in Jamaica Plains, for the payment of which he was to proceed with said Browne to Philadelphia, but shortly after his arrival in this town he discovered him to be an impostor, and informed me that he believed Browne had made some proposals to my Niece, which by her were attended to, but that on his discovering the imposture he had immediately wrote to M^r. Parker and desired he would inform you of his true Character, to prevent the Missfortune of an alliance, I compared what M^r Fabre told me with what I had heard from Cap^t. Martin and found Browne & the Spaniard to be one and the same Person, I think that both you and Sally are much obliged to M^r. Fabre for his friendly attention in writing to M^r Parker

and

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
(Coll. 2129, Box 1/2))

Date: May 4, 1785

Description: Theodore Barrell of Boston wrote to his brother Nathaniel of York

hope it has been productive of a good Effect, Sally has been blessed with one good Husband, and I sincerely hope that if it should ever be her lot to enter into the Marriage State again she may be equally happy, and I cannot think otherwise than that both you and she should carefully Guard against Strangers let their pretensions be what they may, unless they are well recommended by Persons of Credit who are known amongst us, I heartily rejoice at the discovery being made before it would have been too late this is Sufficient to put you on your Guard and to prevent a Connection, should he appear again, (which I dont think probable) untill he can clear his Character

I am very sorry that the Hay which has been so long expected has not yet made its Appearance, it is on your Account I am concern'd, as the price is falling every day, had it Arrived at the time I had had reason to expect it from your letter I might have been able to obtain 5/4 or 5/ for it which was the price at that time, it is now from 4/ to 4/4 the best Hay, and I fear will be soon as low as 3/6 to 3/9 I doubt not you have done all in your Power to get it forward and still hope to see it soon,

a few days after you left town I saw Cap^t. Ingra=
=ham and spoke to him on your Matters, he told me you were in his debt, as would appear by an Account which he

hope it has been productive of a good Effect, Sally has been blessed with one good Husband, and I sincerely hope that if it should ever be her lot to enter in to the Marriage State again she may be equally happy, and I cannot think otherwise than that both you and she should carefully Guard against Strangers let their pretensions be what they may, unless they are well recommended by Persons of credit who are known amongst us, I heartily rejoice at the discovery being made before it would have been too late, this is Sufficient to put you on your Guard and to prevent a Connection, should he appear again, (which I dont think probable) untill he can clear his Character

I am very sorry that the Hay which has been so long expected has not yet made its appearance, it is on your Account I am concern'd, as the price is falling every day, had it arrived at the time I had had reason to expect it from your letter I might have been able to obtain 5/4 or 5/ for it which was the price at that time, it is now from 4/ to 4/4 the best Hay, and I fear will be soon as low as 3/6 to 3/9 I doubt not you have done all in your Power to get it forward and still hope to see it soon,

a few days after you left town I saw Cap^t. Ingra=
=ham and spoke to him on your Matters, he told me you were in his debt, as would appear by an Account which he

he would furnish me with, a few days ago he gave me the enclosed which I now send you, should you not be satisfied with it you must let me know soon what you would have done, it will be quite as early for August Court by bringing your action to July Court as tho you had brought it in April.

I hope you are all well and happy at Yorke pray my sincere and affectionate love to Sally your Rib I mean, with all your Brood, and to Sally Keating your Daughter, and Congratulate her on her fortunate Escape from an Age of Missing & Vexation, and believe me to be with the Greatest truth,

Your Sincerely Affectionate Brother
Theo. Barrell

Ruthy & her Brats are much as you left them Betsy is grown a fine Girl, and is blessed with a most amiable temper, Harry is as great a Rogue as ever, is at this time much afflicted with the tooth ach, and the Mama is quite an invalid, I cannot flatter you with a hope of seeing her this Summer, tho have heard nothing to the contrary; Poor Carente has been very ill since you saw him, but is now something better, tho I fear he will never be a well man again, ——— my Respects to the good Deacon and his good Lady with their family who I hope

he would furnish me with, a few days ago he gave me the enclosed which I now send you, should you not be satisfied with it you must let me know soon what you would have done, it will be quite as early for August Court by bringing your action to July Court as tho you had brought it in April ~—————

I hope you are all well and happy at Yorke pray my sincere and affectionate love to Sally your Rib I mean, with all your Brood, and to Sally Keating your Daughter, and Congratulate her on her fortunate Escape from an [?] of Missing & Vexation, and believe me to be with the Greatest truth,

Your Sincerely Affectionate Brother
Theo Barrell

Ruthy and her Brats are much as you left them Betsy is grown a fine Girl, and is blessed with a most amiable temper, Harry is as great a Rogue as ever, is at this time much afflicted with the tooth ach, and the Mama is quite an invalid, I cannot flatter you with a hope of seeing her this Summer, tho have heard nothing to the contrary; Poor Carente has been very ill since you saw him, but is now something better, tho I fear he will never be a well man again, ——— my Respects to the good Deacon and his good Lady with their family who

I hope

are all well ~—— Jo, Sally &^{ec} send their love to
you and yours — he often says I don't see Nats hay yet
do try and Hurry it as much as possible ~——

↘ Ruthy with her young ones & Becky send love
and Compliments & respects, to M^r Barrell & his family
You must excuse this scrawl, as I have just heard
that Cap^t Martin who I intend to send it by goes out
of town early tomorrow Morning and it is now ten
o'clock at Night, dont be alarmed at my Sealing with
Black, we have lost none of the family since Poor
July, but I have no other wax by me, good Night

Barrell May 85 Kent Street

are all well ~—— Jo, Sally &^{ec} send their love to
you and yours — he often says I don't see Nats hay yet
do try and Hurry it as much as possible

Ruthy with her young ones & Becky send love
and Compliments & respects, to M^r Barrell & his family
You must excuse this scrawl, as I have just heard
that Cap^t Martin who I intend to send it by goes out
of town early tomorrow Morning and it is now ten
o'clock at Night, dont be alarmed at my Sealing with
Black, we have lost none of the family since Poor
Darby, but I have no other wax by me, good Night