

#16 April 1, 1679

Letters to Job Lane from John Dickinson and John Dickinson Junior

Gildersome, ye 1st April, 1679

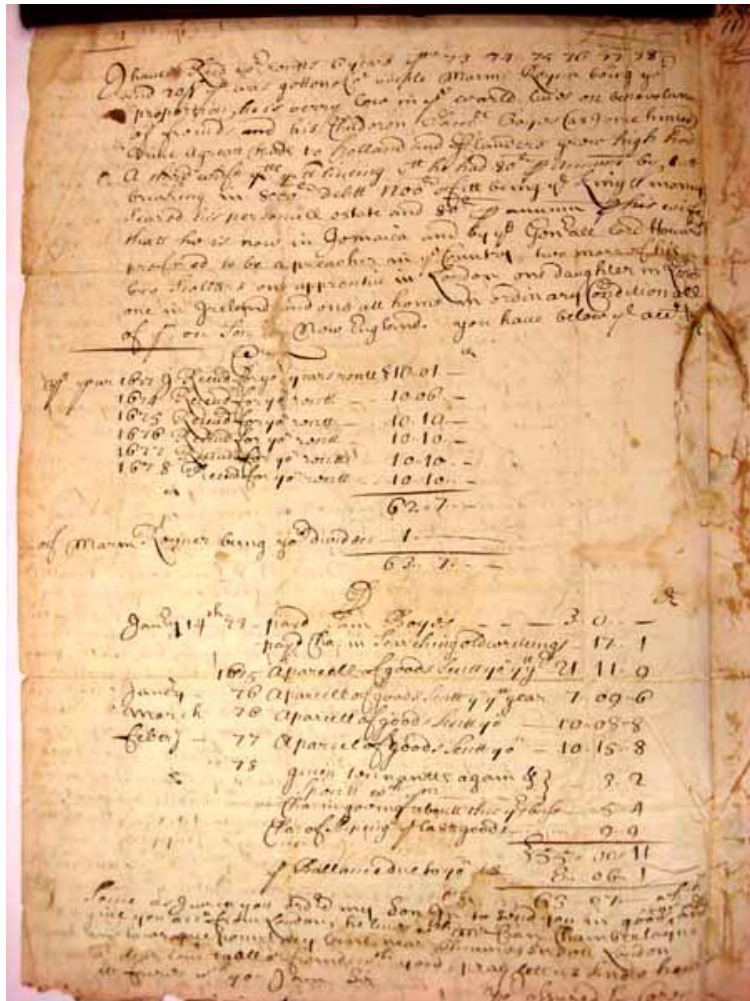


Coz. Job Layne,

Yours dated the 23rd Oct. 1678 came to my hands two months since. Math. [Matthew] Boyes and our uncle hath been for three months since. Our uncle Marmaduke can ride abroad; Math. so ill and weak in his knees, he goes on crutches-; hopes he may come to his strength again. I got our uncle to Leeds, he, Math, and I, was together to understand the payment of the £30 paid to Mr. Harwood. Mr. Boyes gave a bill for it to be paid to Mr. John Harwood, but does not know for whose account, farther than from Marmad. [Marmaduke] to Mr. Harwood. Marmad. Reyner, our uncle does affirm it was paid to Mr. Harwood on your account, and not on Mr. John Reyner's, and saith he hath writ so to you formerly; it is not usual in this country to take any cash in such cases. He affirmed before Mathew Boyes and myself. That is all I can say in it; I do believe what he saith is true.

Your uncle Boyes was slain in the war at a fight between the Lord Fairfax and the King's forces called Seacroft Fight, or Club Fight [*the Battle of Seacroft Moor on March 30, 1643 in the First English Civil War - editor*]. It was called so because many of the countrymen went with the Lord Fairfax with clubs, and no other weapons. [The] Parliament-party your uncle was in, and they was put to the run, and he slain, between Seacroft and Leeds, within 2 miles of Leeds, in April, 1643, now 36 years since. He sent that quarter part of the laud yearly to Mr. Reyner, till it was ordered to you. I cannot conceive any of the land could have fallen to your second wife, but all to her brother, that came by his mother, that your father could not dispose from him, without a fine confessed by his mother; but that is decided. I have no account how John Reyner's land at Gildersome is disposed on ; I presume by one hint of your letter he is dead; had no advice of his death but concluded he is, because have not had a line from him these eighteen months. Am heartily sorry for his death; pray let me know who is the right heir ; whether

his mother is also; if so I perceive it is her's [for] her life ; whether he left an heir of his own child or it be disposed on, I would know that I might know to pay rightly to. My hearty respects to all with you ; pray acquaint Mrs. Willett hers dated as yours I received ; shall observe her orders; it is a mistake, the tenants on her and your land, they would have abatement; taxes are great. I gave you account of goods you received, came to £10 15s. 8d.; there were charges in London in Customs and shipping, and given tenants again and spent with them £3 2s ; so am indebted to you £8 06s Old. I have given my son John, that lives in London order to bestow the said sum of £6 6d 1d in Dowlas and Canvass, and send it you, if he perceive ships may pass without danger of the French and Argeron (*Algerine*) men of war: If there be any danger apprehended that way to forbear till probability of a safe conveyance.



I have received your rents six years, that is '73-4-5-6-7-8, and £20 that was gotten of our uncle Marmaduke Reyner, being your proportion. He is very low in the world, lives on benevolence of friends, and his children. Samuel Boyes (as I once hinted) drive a great trade to Holland and Flanders, grew high, had a third wife that is yet living that he had £80 per annum by, but breaking in £8000 debt, £1200 of it being the King's money, seared (*seized* ?) his personal estate and £80 pr annum of his wife; that he is now in Jamaica, and by the General, Lord Howard, preferred to be a preacher in the country. Two more of his brothers, scholars; one, apprentice in London ; one daughter in London, one in Ireland, and one at home, in ordinary condition all of them; one son in New England.

You have below your accounts

*[statement of accounts here]*

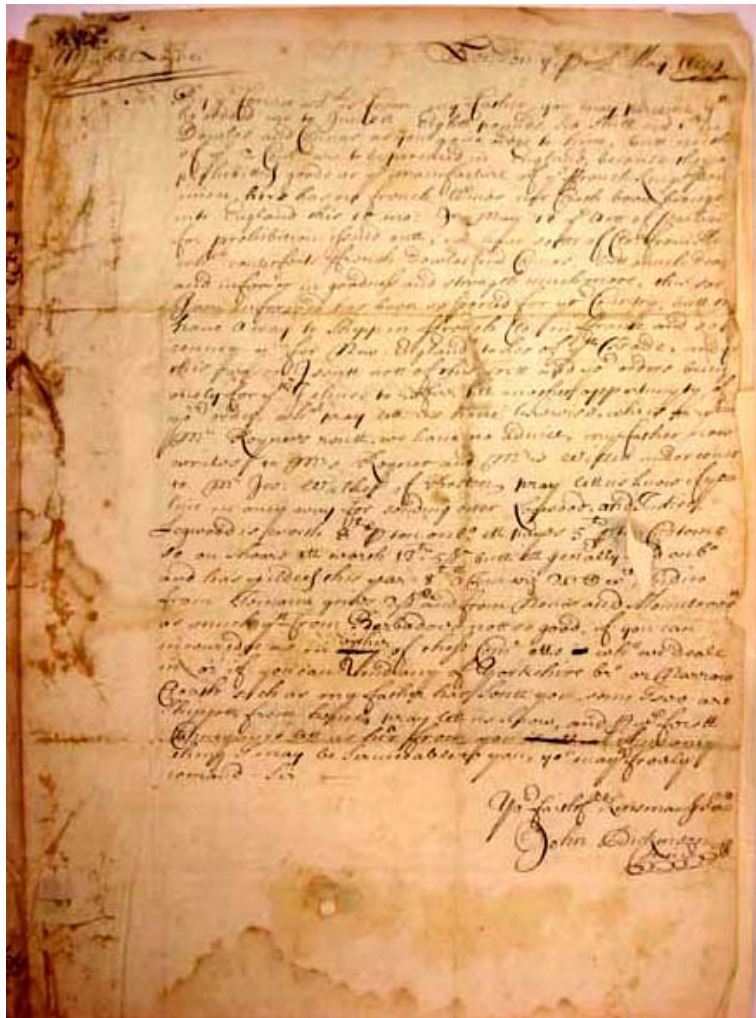
the balance due is £63 07s, which sum as I wrote you, ordered my son John to send you in goods as you order, and give you account from London.

He lives with Mr. Fran. Chamberlayne in Lawrence Pountney lane, near Thames street, London.

Our dear love to all our friends with you ; pray let us know how it fares with you.

I am, sir, your assured loving cousin

JOHN DICKINSON.



[need to transcribe this page]