

#103 April 20, 1758

Letter to Job Lane from his brother-in-law, Benjamin Ruggles

New Braintree April: 20:1758

Brother Lane New-Braintree April: 20: 1758:

Sir After due respects to you & sister & your family;  
 These may signify to you, that we are in Health; tho' we have  
 been exercised with very bad colds etc  
 I sundry months ago wrote a letter & left it with  
 Capt Abbot of Brookfield; with some money for  
 your self; But he failed at going down; at length  
 he sent it by a man that was intended to go by  
 the way of Bedford; But the snow was so high  
 that it prevented the man from going that way so  
 that the money was brought back to me againe;  
 & I now purpose to send to you Eighteen pound; old  
 tenor in one gold piece; & must pray you to enter  
 it upon my Bill that you have agan on me for money; &  
 I purpose to send it by one Mr Barker that belongs to  
 Andover;

I would say a word to you concerning the peice of land lying  
 in Woodstock that I told you [*paper ripped*] was some [*paper  
 ripped - 2 words m...y ....ing*] to you on that account etc: Lately  
 the man that I sold the land too, came down to my house & informs me  
 & shoves me the deed; by which the same peice of land  
 was conveyed by Father Ruggles Heirs to another [*man -  
 paper ripped*] many years ago; which I was wholly ignorant off  
 notwithstanding all the paines I had taken with Deacon John  
 May of Woodstock to find out what did yet belong to us etc  
 So that I have all the money to pay back that I had  
 received on that account & how much more I yet do not know  
 We have had a very hard winter with us; & there is now  
 a great scarcity for Hay etc  
 There has a very considerable number of soldiers  
 left in our Town & also in Hardwick; we suppose  
 our full proportion; To sever thousand in the Province:  
 I am in expectation that none of my sons or sons in Law  
 will be called upon to go the Army; Be pleas'd to let  
 us hear from you the first opportunity & show people do;  
 & whether any of your children are going into the warr:  
 From your affectionate Brother: Benjamin Ruggles:

Brother Lane

Sir After due respects to you & sister & your family; These may signify to you, that we are in Health; tho' we have been exercised with very bad colds etc

I sundry months ago wrote a letter & left it with Capt Abbot of Brookfield; with some money for your self; But he failed at going down; at length he sent it by a man that was intended to go by the way of Bedford; but the snow was so high that it prevented the man from going all the way so that the money was brought back to me againe: & I now purpose to send to you eighteen pounds; old tenor in one gold piece; & must pray you to enter it upon my bill that you have agan on me for money; & I purpose to send it by one Mr Barker that belongs to Andover;

I would say a word to you concerning the piece of land lying in Woodstock that I told you [*paper ripped*] that was some [*paper ripped - 2 words m...y ....ing*] to you on that account etc: Lately the man that I sold the land too, came down to my house & informs me & shoves me the deed; by which the same peice of land was conveyed by Father Ruggles Heirs to another [*man - paper ripped*] many years ago; which I was wholly ignorant off (*paper ripped away*) notwithstanding all the paines I had taken with Deacon John May of Woodstock to find out what did yet belong to us etc So that I have all the money to pay back that I had received on that account & how much more I yet do not know- We have had a very hard winter with us; & there is now a great

scarcecity for hay etc-----

There has a very considerable number of soldiers listed in our town 7 also in Hardwick; we suppose out full proportion; to seven thousand in the province; I am in expectation that none of my sons or sons in law will be called upon to go this turn; Be pleased to let us hear from you the first opportunity & how people do; & whether any of your children are going into the warr:

From your affectionate Brother: Benjamin Ruggles