

Philadelphia October 31, 1810

Dear John,

Your long expected has at length arrived, and I must coincide in the old saying "better late than never".

I am just returned (half past 11 o'clock) from a party at Mrs. ?????? , at which were present a number of our friends; I took this opportunity of giving your respects to the ladies, to have requested me to return the complement which I do now.

After several ineffectual attempts to get an interview with Mrs. P.----- David and myself were under the necessity of settling the business(after much trouble) was her Ladies Life--in fact, not before we threatened to discontinue our visits to the house if it was refused---Thus ended the negotiation.

Your people were very uneasy at your long silence; your mother in particular, as she knew you were unwell before he left here. Mr. Ross had a number of papers in his pocket which he destroyed, and among the rest your letter, consequently he could not answer it, as he had forgotten your Number.

I attended a state meeting of the Journey men this evening. No business of importance, except the appointment of a committee to confer with a committee of the masters, should they think proper to appoint a committee of that nature. The address of our ?????? to the public, which was published in the "Star" of yesterday, I forwarded to you by this morning's mail--- could you by any means procure an insertion of it in one of your papers, it would aid to cause.

I regret that any discontent should exist on the part of the journey men of New York, and hope that will soon subside. They ought to remember that we are acting for the general good. You need not be apprehensive of any more journey men going on to you, as they have strong expectations that their business here will soon be settled; added to which, I read an extract from your letter to the meeting, which will have considerable weight in deterring those, if any, who wish to go on, knowing that you were not ????? by sordid motives.

The honorable body of Rats held a meeting this evening; of their proceedings nothing has yet transpired. If anything great has occurred with them, you should hear again from me shortly.

Remember me to Parke, Razor etc

Yours sincerely,

Nathaniel McLaughlin

PS I almost forgot to mention that friend Sable has got under weigh; his first ball will be given on Tuesday evening next, at Mr. Bedford's room.