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Part 17, by J. Jay Smith**

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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND LITERARY
CURIOSITIES, PART 17 ***

**AMERICAN HISTORICAL
AND
LITERARY CURIOSITIES**

By John Jay Smith

Part 17.

Second Series

1860

AMERICAN
Historical and Literary Curiosities;

CONSISTING OF

Fac-Similes of some Plates, &c. Relating to

COLUMBUS,

AND

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS of the REVOLUTION,

&c. &c.

WITH A VARIETY OF RELIQUES, ANTIQUITIES, AND AUTOGRAPHS.

EDITED AND ARRANGED,

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF SEVERAL AUTOGRAPH COLLECTORS,

BY

JOHN JAY SMITH,

MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, ETC.

SECOND SERIES—COMPLETE IN ITSELF.

NEW YORK:

CHARLES B. RICHARDSON.

1860.

P R E F A C E.

THE First Series of "American Historical and Literary Curiosities," by John F. Watson, Esq. and myself, was commenced privately as a means of preserving many documents in the possession of our friends and ourselves; but they soon increased to such importance by contributions, that it was determined to publish them. Five editions were demanded by the public at home and abroad, and the work is now scarce and high-priced. The plates being worn out, no other edition of it is likely soon, if ever, to be issued.

This Second Series, complete in itself, owes its origin to the Commercial Panic, when it was desirable to employ several artists in want of work. It has been carried through by the assistance and contributions of various friends. I am particularly indebted to Ferdinand J. Dreer, Esq., Peter Force, Esq., Lewis J. Cist, Esq., Frank M. Etting, Esq., J. Wingate Thornton, Esq., Hon. George Folsom, Herman and Caleb Cope, Esqs., J. Francis Fisher, Esq., John Macalester, Esq., Charles J. Wister, Esq., Winthrop Sargent, Esq., Bushrod W. Adams, Esq. and others, and to the Philadelphia Library for the rare Broad-sides of the Revolution, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, whose valuable collections have been opened to my use in the handsomest and most liberal manner.

It may be proper to copy here a portion of the Preface to the fifth edition of the First Series, explanatory of the object of the work:—

"The past has a charm for Americans, as well as for the inhabitants of countries whose history extends far into the shadowy and unknown. *Our* early and romantic past has the merit of being known and truly related. Every thing which adds to these truths is sought for with avidity by the curious and intelligent inquirer. We have now many autograph-collectors, who may be viewed in the light of preservers of documents which would otherwise perish or be dispersed. To few, comparatively, are their treasures revealed. It was suggested, therefore, that some of the most rare 'Historical and Literary Curiosities' in the possession of individuals, should be grouped for the amusement and instruction of the present and of future generations, who may well know from printed accounts *what* things were done, but who can also thus learn *how* they were done."

As in the First Series, nearly all the articles in the present collection have been taken by competent artists from the originals of which they purport to be fac-similes. Considerable labor and trouble have been expended in collecting together and adapting the varied materials here presented, but I have been rewarded by the pleasure of the pursuit.

JOHN JAY SMITH.

* * Fully to understand the work, it is necessary, in turning over the pages, to have constant reference to the Tables of Contents, where will be found many explanations for which there was not space on the plates.

Original Volume 2, Part Six B

PLATE XLI.—Portraits of two Distinguished Americans; viz., Benjamin West and Lindley Murray, with their autographs. *In possession of J. Jay Smith.*

PLATE XLII.—Photograph of the last Model of a River Steam Engine, by John Fitch. *In possession of, and much valued by, the Mercantile Library of St. Louis.* Photographed by Mr. E. Long, of St. Louis. With a Letter from Fitch, *in possession of J. Jay Smith.*

PLATE XLIII.—Proclamation of King Charles regarding Pennsylvania, signed Conway. This rare sheet *in possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.*

PLATE XLIV.—1. The Old Meeting-House in which William Penn preached at Chester, Pennsylvania, as it appeared after more than a century had elapsed after its erection. *In possession of John McAllister, Jr.*

2. Fac-simile of the Original Letter of William Penn to the King or Kings of the Indians of Pennsylvania. *In possession of Charles Williams, as it descended from the Pemberton family.*

In type, the whole Letter; and another from the same to the Emperor of Canada, *in the Legislative Hall at Harrisburg.*

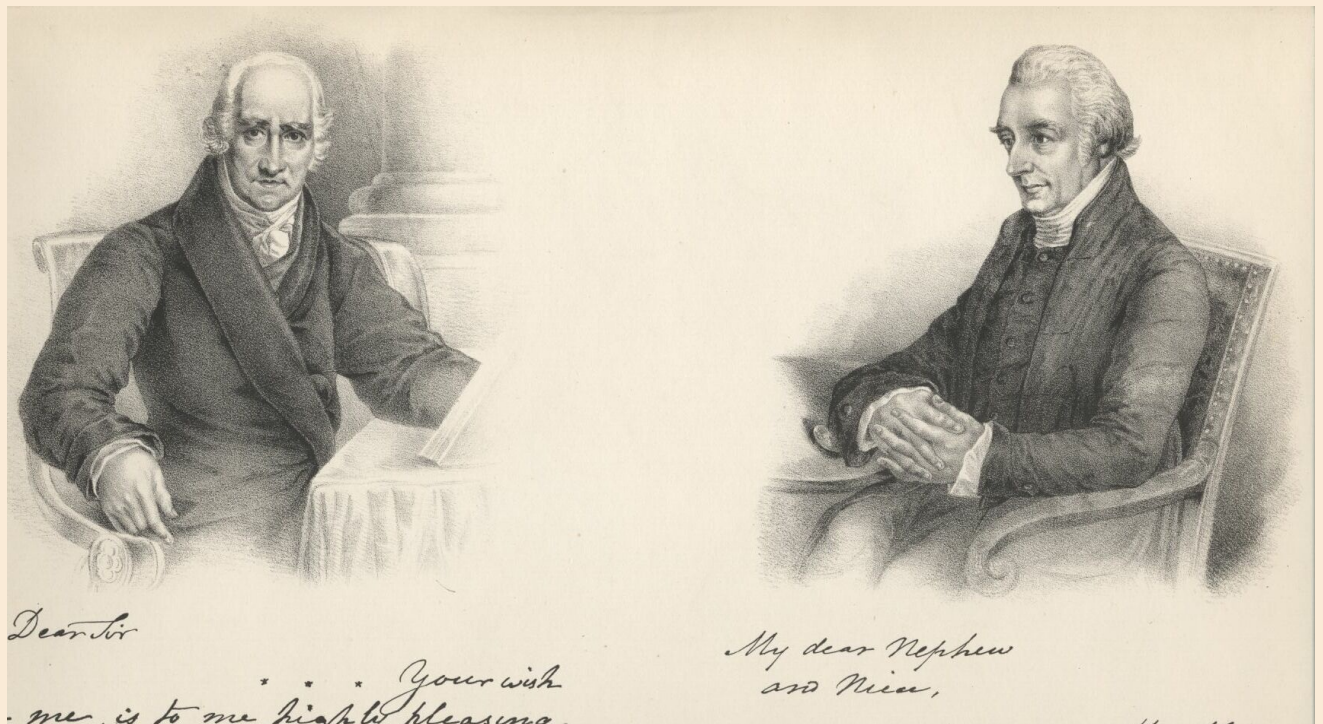
6 ††

[Plate 41.](#)

[Plate 42.](#)

[Plate 43.](#)

[Plate 44.](#)



Enlarge



My Dear Sir
 * * * Your wish
 to see me, is to me highly pleasing,
 and I will do myself the pleasure to
 wait on you at your lodging in
 the Poultry to morrow evening at
 7 o'clock.

I am My Dear Sir Yours
 W. George Dillwyn
 N^o 10 - in the Poultry

My dear Nephew
 and Niece,
 * * * My Hannah
 joins me in tender regards to you,
 and to them. - * * * and desires
 me to say, that your letters are very
 acceptable, and that she hopes you will
 continue them, if she does not equal
 them in number.

Farewell, dear Robert & Elizabeth,
 I remain your affectionate uncle.
 Robert & Lindley Murray.
 Elizabeth Pearsall
 NEW YORK.

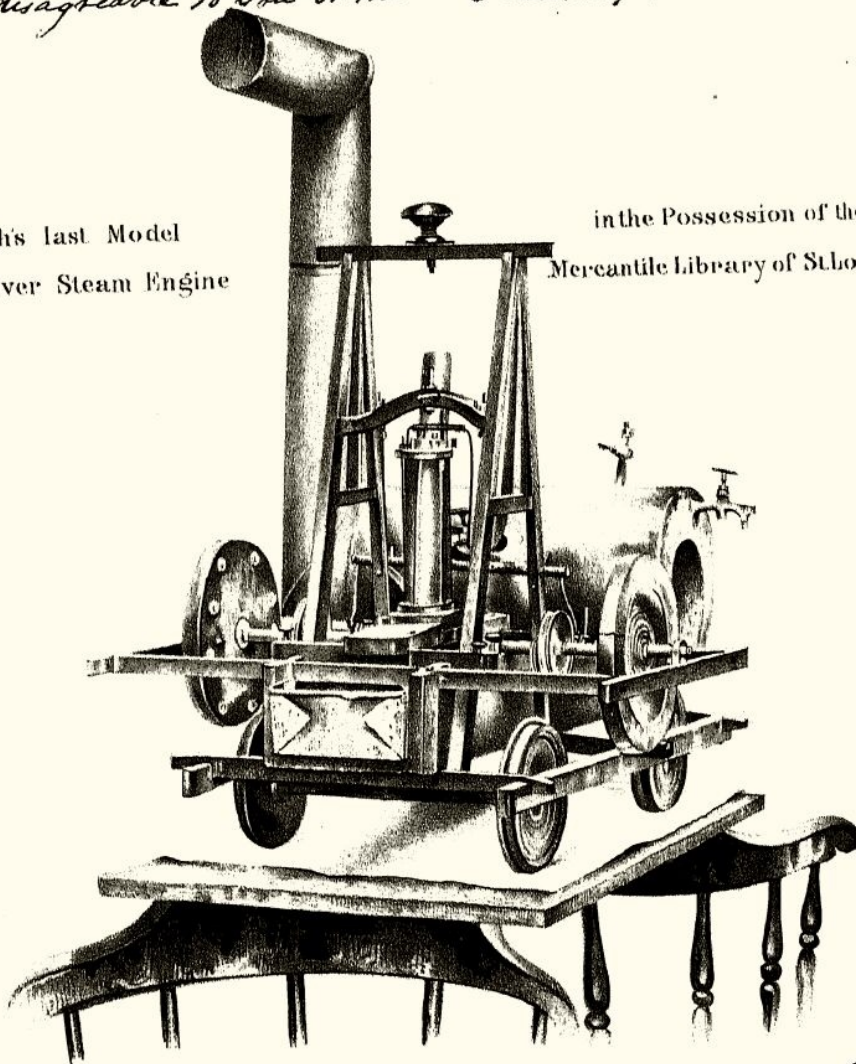
P. VII.

Enlarge

SW I have yours of this Day, and in Answer can only say, that it is not in the Power of all created beings to prevent my saving you harmless in regard to the Matter you allude to nor shall they do it so that you need not be under any Apprehensions of loss in the Affair, nor need you add Distress to the Affliction by adopting any Measures that may may be disagreeable To you or me - I cannot procure so much

Fitch's last Model
for a River Steam Engine

in the Possession of the
Mercantile Library of St. Louis.



money immediately were it to save my Life, but Publick Securities of almost any kind you may be sure of in a few Days if that will Answer. dont be in too much hurry and you may rest assured of a Safe Deliverance - I am your humble Servant.
Saturday 21 Feb'y 84 —

Fitch



CHARLES R.



Whereas his Majesty, in consideration of the great Merit and Faithful Services of Sir William Penn deceased, and for divers other good Causes him therein moving, hath ben Graciously pleased by Letters Patents bearing Date the fourth day of March last past, to Give and Grant unto William Penn Esquire, Son and heire of the said Sir William Penn, All that Tract of Land in America, called by the Name of Pennsylvania, as the same is Bounded on the East by Delaware River, from Twelve Miles distance Northwards of Newcastle Town, unto the Three and fourtieth Degree of Northern Latitude, if the said River doth extend so far Northwards, and if the said River shall not extend so far Northwards, then by the said River so far as it doth extend: And from the head of the said River, the Eastern Bounds to be determined by a Meridian Line to be

Drawn from the head of the said River, unto the said Three and fourtieth Degree, the said Province to extend Westward five Degrees in Longitude, to be Computed from the said Eastern Bounds, and to be Bounded on the North, by the Beginning of the Three and fourtieth Degree of Northern Latitude, and on the South by a Circle Drawn at Twelve Miles distance from Newcastle Northwards, and Westwards unto the Beginning of the fourtieth Degree of Northern Latitude, and then by a straight Line Westwards to the limit of Longitude above mentioned, together with all Holders, Preeminencies and Jurisdictions necessary for the Government of the said Province, as by the said Letters Patents Reference being thereunto had, doth more at large appear.

His Majesty doth therefore hereby Publish and Declare his Royal Will and Pleasure, That all persons Settled or Inhabiting within the Limits of the said Province, do yield all Due Obedience to the said William Penn, his Heirs and Assigns, as absolute Proprietaries and Governours thereof, as also to the Deputy or Deputies, Agents or Lieutenants, Lawfully Commissionated by him or them, according to the Powers and Authorities Granted by the said Letters Patents; Wherein with his Majesty Expects and Requires a ready Compliance from all persons whom it may concern, as they tender his Majesties Displeasure.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the Second day of April 1681. In the Thire and thirtieth year of Our Reign.

The Kings Declaration —
To the Inhabitants and Proprietors of the Province of Pennsylvania.

By His Majesties Command,

C O N W A Y.

L O N D O N,

Printed by the Assigns of *John Bill, Thomas Newcomb,*
and *Henry Hills,* Printers to the Kings most
Excellent Majesty. 1681.

Enlarge

LONDON, 18th 8th moth: 1681.

MY FRIENDS:

There is one great God and Power that hath made the World and all things therein, to whom you and I and all People owe their being and well being, and to whom you and I must one Day give an account for all that wee Doe in the world. This great God hath written his Law in our hearts, by which wee are taught and Comanded to Loue and help and Doe good to one another, and not to Doe Harme and Mischeif one vnto another.

Now, this great God hath been Pleased to make mee Concerned in your Parts of the world, and the King of the Country where I Live hath Given vnto mee a great Province therein. But I Desire to Enjoy it wth your Loue and Consent,—that wee may allwayes Liue together as Neighbours and friends. Else what would the Great God say to us, who hath made us not to Devour and Destroy one another, but Liue Soberly and Kindly together in the World? Now, I would haue you well obserue, that I am very senceable of the Vnkindness and Injustice that hath been too much Exercised towards you by the People of these Parts of the world, who haue Sought themselves, and to make great advantages by you, Rather than be Examples of Justice and Goodness vnto you, which I hear hath been matter of troble to you, and Caused Great Grudgings and Animosity, and Sometimes to the Shedding of Blood, which hath made the Great God Angry. But I am not such a man, as is well Knowne in my owne Country. I haue great Loue and Regard towards you, and I Desire to winn and gaine your Loue and friendship by a Kind, Just, and Peaceable Life; and the People I send are of the same mind, and shall in all things behave themselves accordingly; and if in any thing any shall offend you or your People, you shall haue a full and speedy Satisfaction for the same by an Equall number of Just men on both Sides, that by no meanes you may haue Just occasion of being offended against them.

I shall shortly Come to you myselve, at what time wee may more fireely and Largely Confer and Discourse of these matters. In the mean time, I shall send my Comissioners to treat wth you about Land and a firme League of Peace. Let mee Desire you to be Kind to them and the People, and Receiue these Presents and Tokens w^{ch} I haue sent to you as a testimony of my good will to you, and my Resolution to Liue Justly, Peaceably, and friendly wth you.

I Am your Loucing friend,

Ffor the King or Kings of
the Indians in Pensiluania.

WM. PENN.

The following Document, written in a very large, legible hand, on parchment, is framed and hung up in the Capitol, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania:—

TO THE EMPEROR OF CANADA.

The great God that made thee and mee and all the world, incline our hearts to love peace and justice, that wee may live friendly together, as becomes the workmanship of the Great God. The king of England, who is a great prince, hath for divers reasons granted to mee a great country in America, which, however, I am willing to enjoy upon friendly terms with thee. And this I will say: the people who come with mee are a plain, just, and honest people, that neither make war upon others nor fear war from others, because they are just. I have set up a society of traders in my province to trafic with thee and thy people, for your commodities, that you may be furnished with that that is good at a reasonable rate. And that society hath ordered their president to treat with thee about a future trade, and have joined with mee to send this messenger to thee with certain presents, to testify our willingness to correspond with thee: And what this agent shall do in our names wee will agree unto. I hope thou wilt kindly receive him and comply with his desires on our behalf, both with respect to land and trade. The great God be with thee. Amen.

LONDON, the 21st day of the fourth month, called June, 1682.

WM. PENN.



W^m Penn's, old Meeting House at Chester Pennsylvania.

My Friends

London: 18th 8th Mo: 1681

There is one great God & Power that hath made
the World & all things therein, to whom you & I and all
People owe their being and well being, and to whom
you & I must one Day give an account, for all that
wee Doe in the world. This great God hath written his
Law in our hearts by which wee are taught & Comanded
to Love & help & Doe Good to one another and not to Doe
Harme. & Mischief one unto another. * * *

I shall shortly come to you my self
at what time wee may more freely & Largely confer
& Discourse of these matters: in the mean time I shall send
my Comissionary to treat wth you about Trade and a firm &
League of Peace. Let mee Desire you to be kind to them
& the People, & Receive their Requests & when w^{ch} I have
sent to you, as a testimony of my good will to you & my
Resolution to Live Peaceably & friendly wth you

I Am your Loving friend
W^m Penn

Enlarge

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