

Dec. 16, 1814

Copy of a letter to Nancy Morris, in Newyork.

My dear Nancy

Wormsburg, Dec<sup>r</sup>. 16. 1814.

The last post brought me your disturbing letter enclosing the shocking anonymous letter, which had been transmitted to you from Newyork, & which I now return, having read it with horror & indignation. This evidently the fabrication of some wretch bent upon destroying your happiness, & that of your husband and Child; should he live to become acquainted with such diabolical charges against the Author of his Being. I can with truth assure you, that to the best of my recollection and belief, I never before heard of the vile slanders which it contains against you. Nor do I for a moment believe that the person referred to in that letter, as the Author of the Infamation pretended to be received, ever uttered a syllable like it. I consider it as a vile slander upon him, as well as upon you, though the malignity of the slander was intended, I suppose, exclusively against you. I need not assure you that I read it not only with those emotions which I have before expressed, but with the tenderest sympathy for yourself, & not less sincere for Mr. Morris, whose feelings can not but be excited to grief, by such a base attempt to destroy your mutual happiness, & the future happiness of your innocent Child. May Heaven avert the poison from all your sorrows, although you cannot but feel the wound which has been inflicted! Conscious Innocence, my dear Nancy, will I trust be your support: a well placed Confidence in you, Mr. Morris's; and your amiable conduct through life to your Child, that of his maturer years. And may the Father of Mercies soothe & comfort you under such heavy afflictions as you are again exposed to.

Concerning it possible that Mr. Morris may never have seen a short publication of mine in the Newspapers in May 1793. Some copies of which I circulated by letter among my friends, & yours, and among others, one to Mr. Robert Morris, I enclose you the only remaining copy I can find, for his perusal. I sent you three or four copies to Rhode Island, but never heard whether they got to your hands. If they did, & you have one left, send me back that which I now enclose. There are some lines upon the back, which were written to me by Mr. Page of Roxwell, soon after the publication, which may convey to you some Idea of the sympathy which your cause excited in the breasts of the virtuous & charitable of your own sex; and they will no doubt be perused with pleasure by Mr. Morris.

I am particularly gratified by that part of your letter which mentions that your Sister wrote you a most affectionate letter from Philadelphia. It confirms the Opinions I had formed

I had formed from the Conversations I had with her in Richmond, that all that had been related to you respecting herself, & Fisher's conduct towards you in New York, was, like the contents of the infamous anonymous letter, a vile falsehood; and I trust you will one day or other be convinced that my Opinions on this subject are just.

My dear wife desires me to present her sincere love & regards to you. She feels that sympathy for you now, that you witnessed on a former occasion. For myself, my dear Nancy, my conduct to you through life is the best proof I can give of my entire confidence in your innocence, not only of the present, but of every malignant charge which slander invented for your destruction, almost at the first moment that you had entered the threshold of life. present my best wishes to Mr. Morris — keep your child for me, & believe me most truly & affectionately your friend.

J. Tucker

Mrs. Ann C. Morris.  
Morrisania, New York.

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