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6-17-1799

### **Julian Niemcewicz to Susan Kean, June 17, 1799**

Julian Niemcewicz

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17 June 1799. in the country

After my return from the woods & swamps of lower Jersey I had the pleasure to receive your kind letter of 8<sup>th</sup> Jun: that pleasure however was very much damped by the melancholy account you give me of the loss you have sustained, believe me that I sympathize sincerely in all your feelings & regrets. I hope the Idea of her being in a better state in a better world will afford you a great share of consolation. I did not write to Mrs Dayton, for fear of giving her the trouble of answering me, & afterwards being equally intimate with Mr Elias Dayton, I would have either given her offence by not writing her, or multiplied my correspondence to a greater extent, than my leisure can support. You see how sincere I am, I am sure, my compliments delivered them to you will be more acceptable than any writing. I am extremely pleased to hear you spend your time so agreeably at Mr Doudinot's. Such an interesting society, & such a charming situation as you describe, must be equally beneficial to your mind & to your health. I hope you have returned there again, it will afford me great pleasure, to view those beautiful spots with you. I don't know whether I shall enjoy that satisfaction as soon as I desire. We are planning all other botanical jaunts to the Blue Mountains, our time is spent in alternate labor, & rest, either we climb the <sup>mountain</sup> rocks, ramble amongst swamps & woods, or stay <sup>home</sup> in the greatest silence & tranquility. Mr Smith a young Chemist stays with us, we make some experiments, read, write, sometimes converse sometimes are silent.

for hours, without perceiving however how they flew. I am without  
paine & uneasiness, endeavour to think the leap I can of the past  
& of the future, let glide the present moment as smooth as paper.  
that's all what I can do for my happiness. A frequent visit  
of my friend adds to it greatly, & in that respect, there is  
a constant noon light with me. The weather begins to be  
very warm, it is however less than in the City. I have a large  
dorming room, which seems to me to be an immense hall, when I com-  
pare it to the little diminutive room in Elizabeth, I don't know  
how I would sustain in it the the ardor of the sun. I have two  
promises of to fulfill, a visit to Mrs Law, an other which a couple  
this 18 months to go to Niagara. had I a companion I should like  
very much to go to Niagara. You see my friend how variable  
& unsteady is the mind of a forsaken Exile without his own  
face & place. I thank you for the trouble you took in procuring  
me a Linens, the works you speak of altho' it is an other  
than I want, I would be oblig'd to sell my self to purchase it.  
which I shall not do by any means. I wrote to Mr. Jahn to  
send it to me. I have seen Mrs Purwans the day of my parting  
by Philadelphia, she was to sail yesterday for the Havana  
with the Spanish Gentleman. she had her baby on her  
lap, more trouble'd than pleas'd with it. she spoke of you  
with gratitude & pleasure, she has as a good a heart, as she  
head a little foolish. She told me she wou'd give you a fortnight  
ago. You heard certainly of the scandalous bargain de Tilly  
made with his wifes Parents. he sold her, for 25<sup>m</sup> Dollars  
what a villain. Since his departure, the wife I am told

begins to appear in company. They are two miles from here  
but, in their present affliction I did not think proper, to visit  
them, they might take my attention my concern, for a great  
Curiosity. I shall send this letter by the first opportunity to town  
in a couple of days we shall probably set off for our journey  
I hope it will be the last. Pray remember me to Mr & Mrs  
Dayton, Mr & Mrs Rich: & all our friends who are so good as to  
not to forget me. I am very happy to hear Master Peter is  
well & behaves well, he must study hard by interest by a noble  
ambition for himself, by duty by gratitude by affection for  
You. I feel very much for poor Mr. Fard's loss, I would  
a few words of consolation. For you my amiable <sup>friend</sup> may  
never more, want any, may all your days be as he  
as you deserve it, & as I sincerely wish them to be  
W. N.

