

Messrs Morris, Nicholson & Greenleaf,
Gentlemen,

Baltimore, November the 28th 1795

I take the liberty to inform you, that I glory in the Honour, to have been the Wife of, that once happy Man, Mr Joseph Clark, who is ruined, in Mind, Body and Property by You.

After tedious solicitation, I prevailed on my poor Husband to forward to you, by Post, which he complied with on the third Instant, a Statement of his demand on you, say Thirty Three Thousand one hundred eighty nine dollars and 43 Cents; which Balance, I am informed, by Messrs Vidler and Jackson who, jointly, for a long time have, and now do manage my poor Husbonds Business and concerns in the City of Washington, is justly, nay Honestly due to him: from some passion which you, I presume Proudly possess, and which, in my Opinion, is in no respect Commendable in any person pretending to Honour, Honesty or Fame, you have deign'd to pass my poor Husbonds Statement, unnoticed; And therefore to try Your Philanthropy, I take the Liberty to state my Account to you,

Know then, that for many Years previous to my Husbonds connections with you, I lived with him, my Children, my Neighbours, and Friends, in Love, Peace, Independance and Reputation; We possessed a House well furnished and much valuable moveable Property, many Slaves to wait on us of my own raising - a Carriage and Horse to recreate us; A Store of Goods which kept us in amusing employment; Money always in our Coffers, TWELVE thousand Dollars at Interest and many other resources, that enabled us to keep a Handsome and a Plentiful Board, which ever echo'd the most Hospitable Welcome to all who were acquainted therewith.

I am sorry to say it now that our Board had too many acquaintances by all - for as you have bereft us of all our Health, Peace, Ability, Character, Credit, Money, Property and Livelihood in ten Months - I have found, that such is the depravity of Human Nature, that those Wretches that were once proud to be enrolled as our Friends, and others as our acquaintances are gone with the Property you have divested us off.

In June 1794 we sold our House, our Store of Merchandize, Three Female Slaves, also about one half of our Household Furniture; not to pay our Debts for we owed none of consequence; No; But to carry the money to Greenleafs Point - we had in addition ^{upwards} of four thousand Dollars in paper Money and I had sixty one half Dols long hoarded up; All is gone since the 6th of June 1794; with a multiplicity of others valuables, and to my Knowledge, on Your Account; Why gone! Gracious God only Knows - Hundreds, beside myself, can verify that my Husband Laboured, during the intire progress of his operations for you, with Body and Mind with uncommon industry, and so did all his Servants, and Workmen, with an Exception of that Apostate of all vices Apostates, who you seduced to treachery.

My poor Husbonds losses of his property, his ability, time, and labour were trifling, compared to the Insult that was offered to him and myself - My Husband was decoy'd into an imprisonment, and was there beset, insulted and threatened with his life by a hired Banditti.

You sent an hired french fellow; a french Mutilated Aristocrat, a french outcast, a french Miscreant Ruffian, for sure none but such a one would have undertook, to assault, Insult and abuse me, when intirely alone and in my own House, as he did.

I address you in the language of an Injured, Insulted, distressed Woman whom you have brought to extreme misery