

W. Uncle,

Dunneathry March 4. 20. 1783

As there is at last an End to this long, most unnatural, bloody and most Expensive war
It makes me very happy that there is once more Freedom of Commerce to take place between your united,
Sovereign, ~~and~~ Independent States, and these Islands, and Especially as it puts it in my power to again
hold a friendly Correspondence with you, and my friends in America. We had an Account by Mr.
Robt. White son to Mr. W. White of Larne who arrived here sometime ago from America, that you were
Reinstated in the full possession of your Place and all your Property as before the Commencement of the War,
which gave all your friends here the highest possible Pleasure. — You have, no Doubt, had an Account
of the spirited exertions of the People of Ireland, your Countrymen, In Raising a Volunteer Army of not
less than 60000 Men for the Protection and Defence of our Island, not inferior to our standing Army, in the
Knowledge of Arms & Military Discipline; they have not only been an Use to our Enemies In Deterring
them from Invoading us, but also of preserving Internal Peace and Quiet among ourselves. They have the
Countenance & Approbation of Government, and have been honoured with the Thanks of our two Houses of
Parliament. We have had Reviews regularly at Belfast these three Summers past, of no less
than 6000 Horse and foot, conducted with as much Regularity, and Military Skill, as any Army in
Europe; The Earl of Charlemont, a Nobleman of a truly patriotick Spirit, our Reviewing General.
I had almost forgot to Inform you another most Important Effect of our Military Associations, Our
Patriotick Members in the Irish House of Commons have boldly and spiritedly, insisted on, & Demand^d
the most full Restoration of our Original Exclusive Right of Legislature and Judicature both
Internal and External, and England's absolute Renunciation of the Principle an Claim of Making
Laws for Ireland; so that our King, and our Commons & Lords have the sole power of Legislation,
Nor can there be any Appeal from our Courts of Judicature to the Courts of Great Britain; These
most Valuable Rights, together with a Free Trade, The fear & Dread of our Volunteer Army brougth them
into Compliance of granting us. It is not in my power to give you a sufficiently full & adequate
Idea of the Manly, bold and spirited Resolutions of our Members of Parliament & Volunteer Associations
over the whole Kingdom, The Spirit spread like a contagious Disorder, and took possession of every
generous Breast. — I have enclosed a printed paper that will let you know this Affair in a
more ample Manner, than I can describe. — I will now give you an Account of the state of
my own Affairs. — As I had Renewed my Lease of Dunneathry before you left us, and I most
gratefully acknowledge it was owing to your friendly Interposition in my favour, I was soon after
under the disagreeable Necessity, of selling the little Farm I had in Filtlead, for 100; As I had
no other Resource to pay the fine; The Gentlemen of the Office treated me with as much Lenity
as I could expect, and still continue their friendly Behaviour; All this Kindness to me I am
persuaded, was owing to the Esteem and Regard they had for you. — I have always regularly
paid Doctor M. Cormick the Interest of the Money I owe him, But He has for this considerable
Time past been very Importunate in Demanding the Payment of the Principle; No Longer ago
than this very Day I received a Letter from Robert Young Post master of Antrim, whom he has
Empowered to transact Business for Him, in the most pressing, peremptory Terms, Informing
me if I did not immediately pay the Principle, that he would Foreclose the Mortgage, and put
it into the Hands of an Attorney; I hope to be so happy as to find a Friend whose Influence
with Doct. M. Cormick, will persuade Him to allow me some Time, at least till I can have an
Answer from you, Your Uncommon Kindness, and Regard for my Interest and Happiness, and
of my family, At Emboldens me Humbly to propose to you, —