I wd. have scribbled a letter to you sooner had any opportunity offered from this place, but I am so bad a writer in general that if it wanted in a case absolutely necessary I would be much ashamed to send a letter any circuitous route to find you notwithstanding I am were convinced it wd. be excused by you even were it worse, as you know that I am a good deal teased with a troublesome business & very little accustomed to corresponding but we all think & talk enough about you & the family here and generally speaking, we are extremely happy that you are all so well in every respect — as to the War which unhappily exists and renders the communication difficult between us I can give no opinion what may be the consequence, but my sincere wish is that it may soon terminate in peace, which surely wd. be happy for both Countries, we are getting plenty of additional Taxes here, with prospect of more, I am just at this instant making up a sum of near two hundred pounds being the addit. duty on my present Stock of Malt at 3 British Shillings P barrel added to ten British Shill.s paid on it as made — the addit.l duty on Rum is above two Shill.s P Gal. on Wine Tobacco &c. very heavy, and I believe on Windows & Hearths and almost on every other Tax there is 25 P C. additional so that we will have hard struggling here but thank God I enjoy pretty good health & my family are well & happy as yet, and I hope we will be enabled to make it out — I am thankful for your wishing us there I am doubtful it wouldnot do at any time of life & rather entertain the fond hope of seeing you yet in this Country before we close our eyes in death, but be that as it may, when you write let me know more of the nature of that Country I am very thankful for what you mention about what you call the old Tom between us, Send it as it stands but I doubt it will injure my balance or if you can do as you please, but I hope that whatever you do to me you may do the same to others Yr. W. Napier

This was to be a bad pen

My Dear Sir

Belfast 28th June 1813

I rec.d your letter of 13th Feby. about ten days ago & agreeable to your desire furnish you with an abstract of our acc.t current up to the first of May last, but havent made you any remittance for my part of it, as on making enquiry I find the Exchange to be very unfavourable at this unfortunate time, it being at the least 18 P C. against America, and Mr White who is the bearer of this also advised me against it & says they can do it for you at any time & make it payable in Belfast, so that I expect that may answer you better. And your Aff.s shall meet due respect here when it appears but I am quite Ignorant of the sum you wish me to remit as the Seal of your letter on that Spot rendered it impossible to form any idea of it, but in doing it in the manner I have mentioned it makes no matter, as you will have it in your own power to value on me for what you think right when you examine the acc.t which I hope you will find to be correct & to your satisfaction, only for those sums which have been paid to Con & the other little Vollan the loss of which I see nothing but you must submit to, as there is no hope of anything from the one here, and as for Con if you cannot make something of him there by fair means I can do nothing to assist you, as I have no kind of security on him here nor indeed any kind of document but what I forwarded to you by Jack, so that you must do the best you can with him there, or I fear you must sustain the loss.

I did take a security of two men that he would go forw.d to you but nothing more, and I was advised by Atty. that any Indenture here made wouldnot be binding there, so that I thought best before he left this to give him over to Jack as I depended a good deal on him, that he would take him forward