

1  
2 Transcription of an 1842 letter to John McNeill from David Sproul  
3  
4 The original of this 3-page letter was in an envelope of papers and  
5 photographs  
6 inherited by Ted Turner from his mother, Theresa McNeill Turner.  
7 Ted made these materials available to Dave Tolle in May, 2023.  
8  
9 The letter consists of a single sheet of paper, folded into the shape of  
10 an envelope. It is addressed as follows:

11           Mr. John McNeel  
12           New Richmond  
13           Clermont County  
14           Ohio America  
15       By Ship  
16  
17

18 The letter was sent by ship, "Paid at Derry."  
19 It was postmarked at Derry on February 9, 1842. Also postmarked with  
20 an illegible date, possibly February 12, 1842, location not marked. Also  
21 postmarked Shipletter Liverpool, possibly February 13, 1842.  
22

23 Transcription of the body of the letter:  
24

25 -----  
26 [Page 1:]

27  
28 Mr John NcNeel [Presenty?] February 6th 1842  
29

30 Sir

31       I take the liberty of addressing to  
32 you a few lines [regarding?] a disagreeable  
33 transaction that has taken place between me  
34 and Mr. Atkinson of New Richmond --

35       On my leaving America that Gentleman  
36 handed me his draft on a Bank at Belfast  
37 for £60 and advised that would be the  
38 Safest manner of Conveying home to Ireland  
39 what little money I had earned in America  
40 but to my Utmost astonishment on my

41 arival in this Country and Sending forward  
42 his Bill to Belfast it was protested for  
43 Nonacceptance as there was no provision  
44 made for the payment of it. I sent forward  
45 the protest to Mr. Atkinson on the first of  
46 November last and am since without

47

48 [Page 2:]

49

50 hearing from that Gentleman which  
51 is extraordinary as I depended on him  
52 for punctuality in doing business and that  
53 I could trust no other with so much Safety  
54 however have been disapointed in him and  
55 wrote him a letter this day on this business  
56 and am to request you will make the  
57 necessary enquiry and give me your  
58 Oppinion on this Subject and what you  
59 would advise, from our former acquaintance  
60 I have taken the liberty of writing you  
61 and am convinced you will advise what  
62 is best to be done. I wrote Mr. Atkinson that  
63 I would return to America should not a  
64 favorable answer arive here Shortly to my  
65 letter which is much against my inclination  
66 if it can be avoided as I had made up  
67 my mind to remain in this Country for  
68 Long time but think it very unpleasant

69

70 [Page 3:]

71

72 to loose my little earning in America  
73 and will use all my endeavors to recover  
74 [A percent?] of what money I lodged with Mr  
75 Atkinson. You can See this Gentleman and  
76 Converse with him on the Subject and mention  
77 in your letter what he Says. And will be  
78 impatiently waiting an answer to this letter  
79 Remember me to all our old friends in America  
80 and am dear Sir your Obedient

81

Servant

82 David Sproul  
83 when you write please direct  
84 David Sproul  
85 [Presenty?] Londonderry  
86 Care of John A Smyth Esq  
87 Derry  
88 Ireland

89 -----

90

91

STAMPED MARKS  
Faint, illegible markings on the top flap of the envelope.

FERRY  
FEB 9  
1842

FEB  
1842

1842  
LIVERPOOL

SHIP LETTER

PAID  
FEB 13 1842

Mr. John McNeil  
New Richmond  
Clermont County  
Ohio America  
Per Ship

PAID  
FEB 13 1842

1842  
FEB 13  
NEW RICHMOND

FEB 13 1842

FEB 13 1842

Presently February 6<sup>th</sup> 1842  
Mr John McNeil

Sir

I take the liberty of addressing to you a few lines respecting a disagreeable transaction that was taken place between me and Mr. Atkinson of New Richmond -

On my leaving America that gentleman handed me his draft on a Bank at Belfast for £60 and advised that would be the safest manner of conveying home to Dublin what little money I had earned in America but to my utmost astonishment on my arrival in the Country and sending forward his Bill to Belfast it was protented for nonacceptance as there was no provision made for the payment of it. I sent forward the protot to Mr. Atkinson on the first of November last and am since without

travelling from that Gentleman which  
is extraordinary as I depended on him  
for punctually in doing business and that  
I could trust no other with so much safety  
however have been disappointed in him and  
wrote him a letter this day on this business  
and am to request you will make the  
necessary enquiry and give me your  
opinion on this Subject and what you  
would advise, from our former acquaintance  
I have taken the liberty of writing you  
and am convinced you will advise what  
is best to be done. I wrote Mr. McKensie that  
I would return to America should not a  
favourable answer arise here shortly to my  
letter which is much against my inclination  
if it can be avoided as I had made up  
my mind to remain in this County for  
some time but think it very unpleasant

to loose my title coming in America  
and will use all my endeavours to recover  
the amount of what money I lodged with Mr  
Atkinson. you can see this gentleman and  
converse with him on the subject and mention  
in your letter what he says. and will be  
impatiently waiting an answer to this letter  
Remember me to all our old friends in America  
we are dear Sir your Obedient

Servant  
David Sprout

when you write please direct

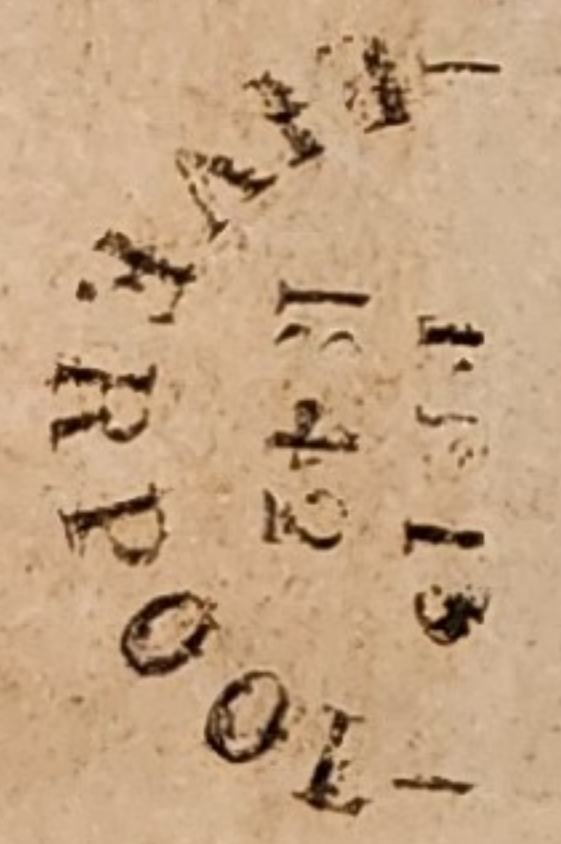
David Sprout Proprietor Sunderland  
Case of John & Smyth Esqrs

Derry  
Ireland

Proximity February 6<sup>th</sup> 1842  
Mr John McNeil

Sir  
I take the liberty of addressing to you a few lines respecting a disagreeable transaction that has taken place between me and Mr. Atkinson of New Richmond -  
On my leaving America that gentleman handed me his draft on a Bank at Belfast for £60 and advised that would be the safest manner of conveying home to Dublin what little money I had earned in America - but to my utmost astonishment on my arrival in the Country and sending forward by Bill to Belfast it was protented for nonacceptance as there was no provision made for the payment of it. I sent forward the protot to Mr. Atkinson on the first of November last and am since without

Mr John McNeil  
New Richmond  
County Down  
Ireland America



SHIPPERS

business from that Gentleman which  
is extraordinary as I depended on him  
for punctuality in doing business and that  
I could trust no other with so much safety  
however have been disappointed in him and  
wrote him a letter this day on this business  
and am to request you will make the  
necessary enquiry and give me your  
opinion on this Subject and what you  
would advise, from our former acquaintance  
I had taken the liberty of writing you  
and am convinced you will advise what  
is best to be done. I wrote Mr. McKean that  
I would return to America should not a  
favourable answer arise here shewly to my  
letter which is much against my inclination  
if it can be avoided as I had made up  
my mind to remain in this Country for  
some time but think it very unpleasant

to loose my little earnings in America  
and will use all my endeavours to recover  
the amount of what money I lodged with Mr.  
McKean. you can see this Gentleman and  
converse with him on the Subject and mention  
in your letter what he says. and will be  
impatiently waiting an answer to this letter  
Remember me to all our old friends in America  
and am dear Sir your Obedient

Servant  
Jacob Sproul  
when you write please direct  
Jacob Sproul Secretary General  
Care of John A. Smyth Esq  
Derry  
Ireland