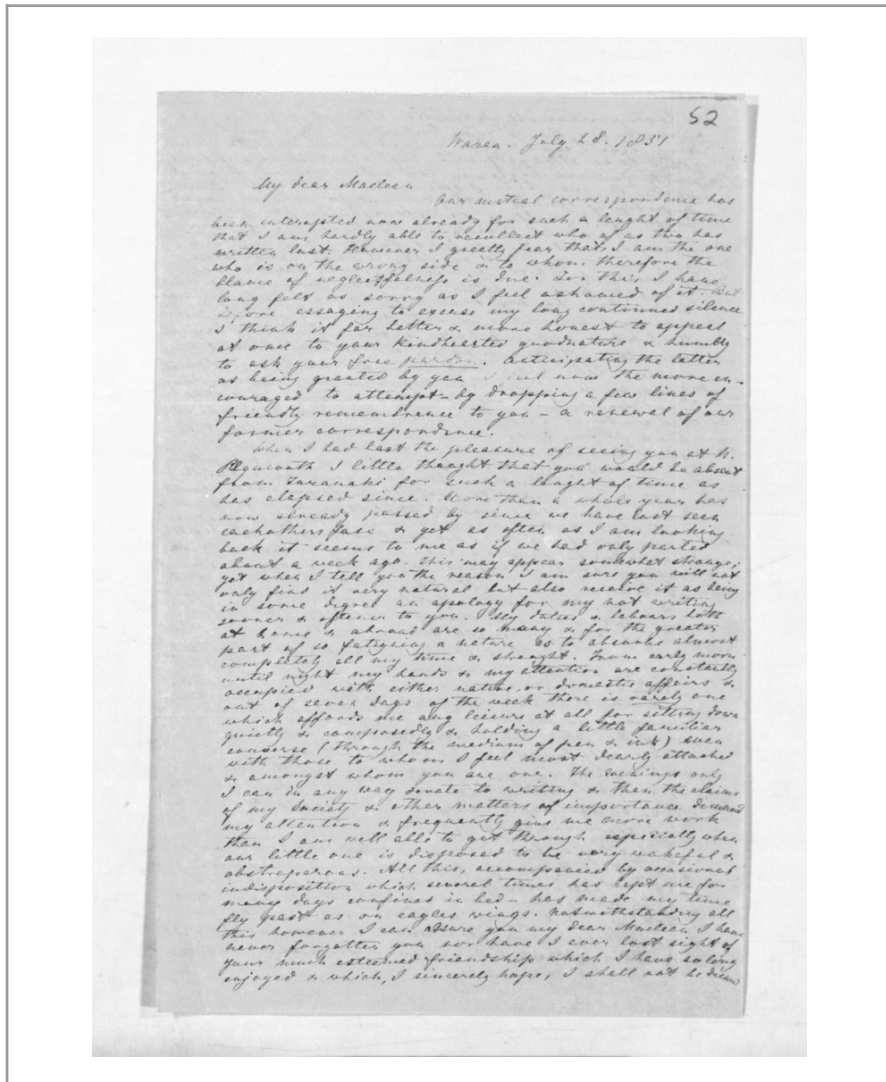
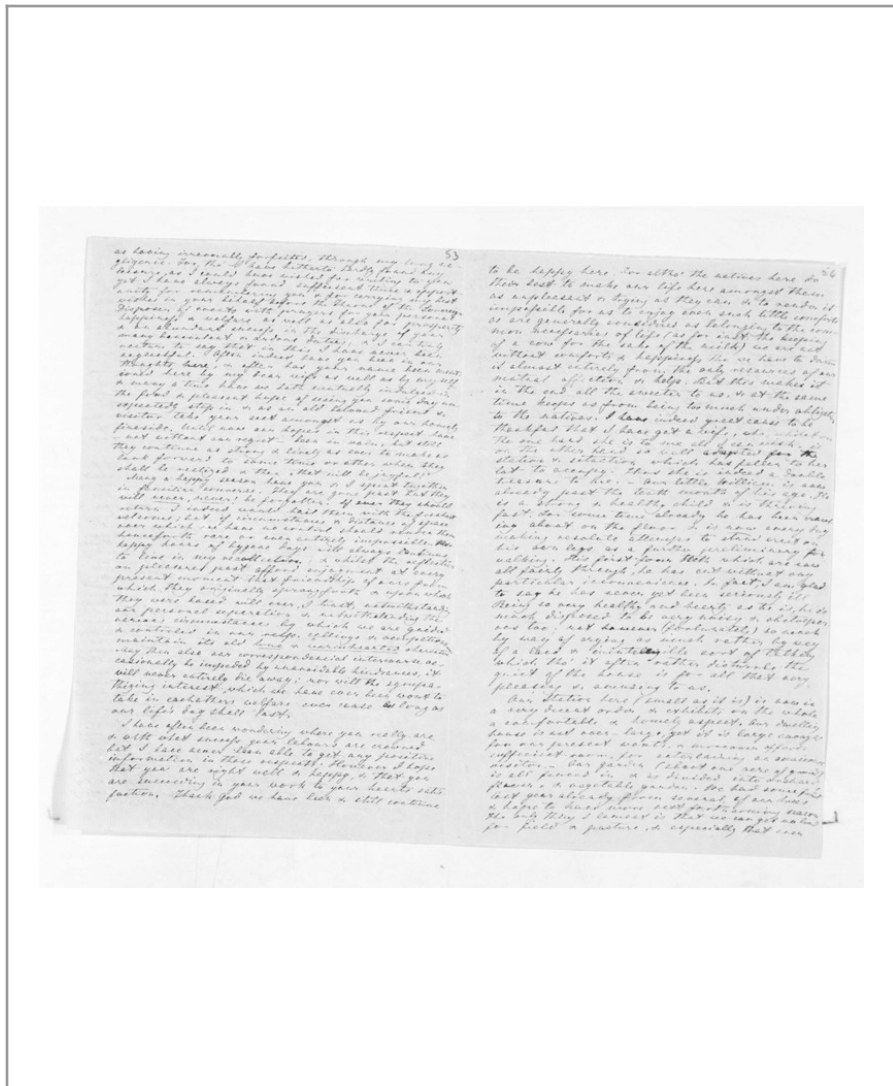


3 pages written 28 Jul 1851 by Johann Friedrich Riemenschneider to Sir Donald McLean in Warea



3 pages written 28 Jul 1851 by Johann Friedrich Riemenschneider to Sir Donald McLean in Warea



as having irrevocably forfeited through my long negligence. For, though I have hitherto hardly found any leisure, as I would have wished, for writing to you, yet I have always found sufficient time for remembering you, and for carrying my wishes on your behalf before the throne of Sovereign Disposer of events, with prayers for your personal happiness and welfare, as well as also for prosperity and an abundant success in the discharge of your many benevolent and arduous duties; and I can truly venture to say that in this I have never been neglectful. Often, indeed, have you been in our thoughts here, and often has your name been mentioned here by my dear wife, as well as by myself; and many a time have we both mutually indulged in the fond or pleasant hope of seeing you unexpectedly step in, and as an old beloved friend and visitor, take your seat amongst us by our homely fireside; until now our hopes in this respect, have, not without our regret, been in vain;

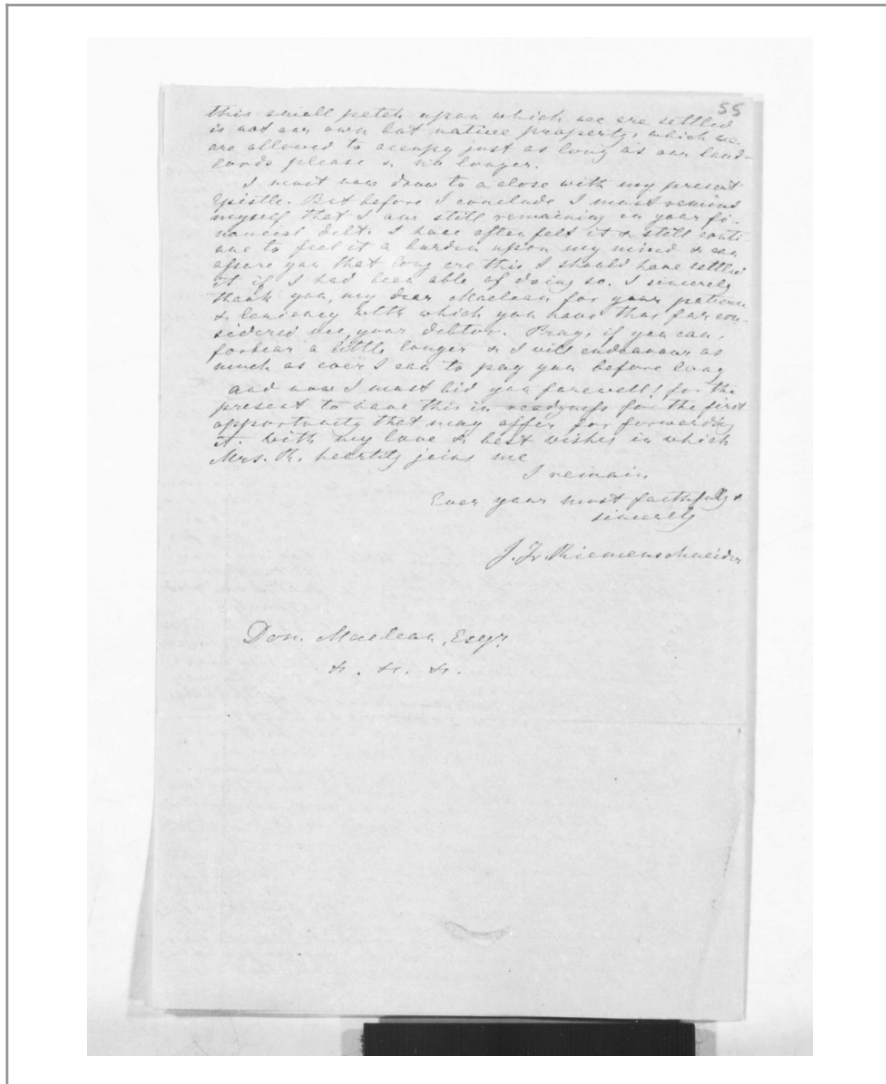
but still they continue as strong and lively as ever to make us look forward to some time or other when they shall be realised, and then that will be joyful!

Many a happy season have you and I spent together in familiar converse. They are gone past! but they will never, never be forgotten. If ever they should return, I indeed would hail them with the freshest welcome; but if circumstances, or distance of space, over which we have no control, should render them henceforth rare, or even entirely impossible, happy hours of bygone days will always continue to live in my recollection; and whilst the reflections of pleasures past afford enjoyment at every pleasant moment, that friendship of ours, from which they originally sprang forth, and upon which they are based, will ever, I trust, notwithstanding our personal separation, and notwithstanding the various circumstances by which we are guided or controlled, in our respective callings and occupations, maintain its old love and warm-hearted character. May then, also, our correspondential intercourse occasionally be impeded by unavoidable hindrances, it will never entirely die away; nor will the sympathetic interest, which we have ever been wont in each other's welfare, ever cease,

as long as our life's day shall last.

I have often been wondering where you really are, and with what success your labours are crowned. But I have never been able to get any positive information in these respects. However I hope you are right well and happy, and that you are succeeding in your work to your heart's satisfaction. Thank God, we have been, and still continue to be happy here. For although the natives here do their best to make our life here amongst them, as unpleasant and trying as they can, and to render it impossible for us to enjoy even such little comforts and happiness, though we have to derive it almost entirely from the only resources of our mutual affection and help. But this makes it in the end all the sweeter to us, and at the same time keeps us from being too much under obligations to the natives. I have indeed great cause to be thankful that I have got a wife, whilst on the one hand she is to me all I could wish, is, on the other hand, so well adapted for the station and situation which has fallen to her lot to occupy. Thus she is indeed a double treasure to me. Our little William is already past the tenth

3 pages written 28 Jul 1851 by Johann Friedrich Riemenschneider to Sir Donald McLean in Warea



this small patch upon which we are settled, is not our own, but native property; which we are allowed to occupy just as long as our land-lords please, and no longer.

I must not draw to a close without my present epistle. But before I conclude, I must remind myself that I am still remaining in your financial debt. I have often felt it, and still continue to feel it a burden upon my mind; and can assure you that long ere this I should have settled it, if I had been able of doing so. I sincerely thank you, my dear Maclean, for your patience, and leniency with which you have thus far considered me your debtor. Pray, if you can, forbear a little longer, and I will endeavour as much as ever I can, to pay you before long. And now I must bid you farewell for the present, to have this in readiness for the first opportunity that may offer for forwarding it. With my love and best wishes, in which Mrs. R. heartily joins me.

I remain

ever yours most faithfully and sincerely
(Signed)
J.F. Riemenschneider.

To:-
Don. Maclean Esq.