

Cape Town, Jan 26. 1844

My dear Lewis,

With a broken heart sit
down to address you. I had already informed
you that I should be obliged to call a
Meeting of Creditors. I was obliged to do
so - my intention was to gain time, you
will aware of the large sum due to Phillips
& King - King coming out and annoyed
with what Serbinson had done daily
corrupting with the large sums due
to their House. I contracted debts in
order extricate myself from him, I
sent goods, also to you which I admit
was not ordered but being Puzed up
with hopes of you. Remtg from the
Contract induced me to do so. You
will on the Receipt of this Order the
face of my Account against you and
take care of yourself. Making the Gods
sent you what I nearly seized
and sure what you can I am totally
Ruined. Every thing taking out of my
hand your Uncle Brown trying all he can
to Solacken my affairs he says in order
to come to a Compromise. The Security
Lodged with Phillips & King are Considered
Valid and therefore they have taken
Possession of the Block Buildings for
God Allmighty take Right to South

Abouts

About the Bill of 350 I alluded to and
settled it for. He is the only thing I have
Balance Myself for dont delay if you have
to Ride to Somerset and arrange with
Joseph I have some Claim on his
Surrender the account of J. D. Jordan
will be Required read this letter to your
Brother Joshua in the affair of Phillips
Selling that Led to all this I had already
forwarned you the Bill Sale of Casils
of 3600 is Considered Valued Put
down against the Governour Claim but
Supposing they had all Been Valued
then Still a Balance due this firm independent
of Joshua Claim to a Good Amount
Their Rough Accounts Made out I am
fearful of Making all out you Can
Amongst yourselves Make What Claim
you please I am totaly Ruined and
Lost to Morrow their a better Meeting
to take Place I have not one penny in
the World take Care of yourself well
My Claim Reduced is in Every way
Claim for all your Shares and all
Produce dont send a Mother Peale of
Wool to any one King taking Poss
of the whole Block of Building to
one Look at Me I am dead with
Shame and Anxiety lets the firm Make
out What Claims they please I shall

have

have to Go in the Master hands. I
understand the Bill of Benjamin
place Claim 325 is in the hands of
Newcomb coming down near for God
Allmighty Lake Endorse to Reconcile
the Matter with Joseph Bill the Bills
of Lord are Endorsed to your Uncle
Wren Let him to send him other Bill
or to settle the same one due 8. Next
Month and 8. March Look to this
My dear Son we are all Ruined a
Complait Curse is on us all for this Last
Year Means what in the Name of God
will become of us all little Phillip domy
that Half the Sheep belong to Me
doe all you can in this Matter Consult
your Uncle Joshua And My pray more
yourself rather than Lead this
Miserable Life and Let us Begin
the World again the Claim of Joseph
you must settle directly this Claim
Angus Joseph sent me a Bill in
order to settle a Claim with Mornington
I immediately went to Mornington and
offered the Bill he Refused it being
very hard My I Got some one to Endorse
the same and Got it discounted to
Native other Bills thinking when they
became due to Native it this is the
History of the Bill. I have already
Made

Made this Statement to you you will find
Could on the frontiers be his a Large
Creditor of Mine dont tell him any
thing take Care of yourself you may
save a few Hundreds and afterwards
Wells Newburn Broker Hearteded sell
all the firm property direct by Sell
Phillis take Care of Himself Make out
a different Claim advise with your
Uncle Joshua send down some few
pounds if you can if you sense they
distress Month ago you would not
Believe me what to become of me
in Old age but I would rather loose
all than Lead this life I have for the
Last 3 years all Accounts will be
made up May loss have been
Considerable King Commission and
Interest Amount Alone 3900
independant of the Interest and
London Claim it would have been
Much better 3 year ago to Call
a Meeting of Creditors than have
Borrowed Money in the Way and
What become of it Where are the funds
I Cant Make out dont Give any
Explanation till you here the Result
of to Morrow Meeting I am to be
to write to your Uncle Joshua I

Subsee

Suppose your Uncle Ben as and Blackstone
are finally their \$3000 Commission Made him
it was lost by the Amount Paid Phillips
King but a Regular Balance Sheet will
be Made Out against and for Dunnet
and Prince they are first Rate Accountants
and Every thing will be Explained
The loss altogether with your loss on
Produce and Joshua Loss to the
Amounts 20,000 Claim the debt of Fuller
against My Claim lessen it dont let it
appear what the real Value is doe it
in the Best way Possible your in affluen

John Norton

Get what rent you can they have stopped
all Payment dont Pay me on My Account

Cape Town Feb 22. 1844

My dear Lewis

Your kind favour duly came
to hand and I thank God that in this
hour of distress you still continue kind
hearted and dont Reflect with regard to
the Books of John Norton. As it was
the first thing the Trustees acted for and
in fact Took Possession of them all. My
Creditors have not signed the Trust deed
Croll as yet and Perhaps after all I
shall be Obligated to go the Master

John

Office they have so Twisted My Estate that
they have made it insolvent Phillips
& King they have in their hands
dunnell one of the Trustees I am very
Much Annoyed that you gave Uncle
Ben had a Power of Attorney had you
Agent in this Matter and expressed
said it would be a second Niles Case
I am quite bewildered I do not know
how to act or what I am to do I am
Called upon for all papers all documents
Respecting the affairs of the Late firm
I have Consulted your Uncle Ben
I have no legal adviser in the Matter
they have given the Books of the late
firm over to Demore to make up he
being conversant with the same with
regard to Cornishon account you can
throw that over Board but said that
will make the profits so much larger
on the Frontier then there is a other
thing must caution you to have a
Large Balance made out by Ed. Jordan
& Co against your Brother Larkin
for he has given his Books over to his
Trustee and their hand some \$2000
against you I hope you have already
had the precaution of it being already
done for God almighty take care & prosper

this make out a very large claim against
him. Let this be done immediately and
destroy this letter your Brother has been
the ruin of all the Family he has no
Compassion or Remorse I am more like
a dead Man than any thing else. Could
you not contrive something that could
be saved from the wreck previous afterwards
I am afraid with regard to Phillips he
can claim what he thinks proper and
can allow such interest as he thinks
proper as their No partnership Transacted
the great Misfortune in this affair I
did not dream of calling a Meeting today
And I had already advised you some
time previous that Edward Heron would
make up our Accounts and he had
seen your Account Current and checked
the same and Kings Clerk was to have
assisted him in the Matter that all the
Country Bills was Regular Entered it
a combination of Misfortunes Alas
What in the World will become of Me in
old age I should have thought you
could have managed to send a few
hundred pounds to coming to a
Close however you know best I declare
to you I have not to hear with in the

World to Buy a Pair Shoes unless if a
Trefle you sent your Mother and she
afraid to Get it Changed. I have been
for weeks that I could not raise the
Mind to pay postage there for as far
those Matters Goes. I only thought
I had them as in Reality I got nothing
the Parents the Haven could Get. I think
never would Give me a farthing house
it No Use to Make any Reflections what
ford about or are they Accommodate
Pills how much better would it
Have Been to Called a Meeting of
Creditor 2 years Back than I crossed
from Phillips King what should we
not have said by produce. Consider
I am Me by Joshua however what
done cannot be Undone. I Trust in
God that you will take Care of Yourself
My dear Lewis dont Reflect on Me in
any way I have done every thing for
the Best but Combinations of Misfortunes
have Come over the whole Family it
not in me that I am Obliged to bear
Observations Made and say nothing
I had said Last Night now think to
your self but you did Wrong in Appointing
B. Jordan his your Agent that the
Creditor Expected there would be

Love

some Chicanery going on they are very
much concerned about it. I had made
him my Co-adjutor for some time previous
and was going to assist in making
the new late firm Books. Now I ask
you as a Reasonable Man what was I
to do or how am I to act should you
think it stated that I had acted the
rough or dishonorable I was told yesterday
that my Creditor had stated I had
acted dishonest I was obliged to hear
it and bear it. I wish I could manage
to see you and explain more full
particular on the affair than writing
you had the Management for 9 Months
and ought in that time to have made
yourself conversant with all the affair
do not bear but that Unfortunate Law
Suit which has in a Manner been the
foundation of my Ruin took up a great
deal of time but I am only suffer in
this matter I have lost May all I ever
ruined beyond Redemption. What
will become of Me in Old age I can
I declare solemnly I am at times quite
delirious. Mad and a sensible of time
with it now pray to my God to take
me from this Life I am so nervous that
a knock at the door alarms me I am
obliged to walk across the Street from
home I must go as soon prudent to some

the

Other Colony that is if I Live I shall Not Live
Set My Foot on the Frontier again I shall
be Returned to his Son I for your Guidance
Send you a List of Payments Spaid Phillip
King in order to Clear Accounts With
them 470 Recd Back from Still L 16 1/4
from Stokes Cash 220 Bills of Sauton
Taylor 1090 a Bill Letter Leds 207 ditto
1/4 Sold My Eastern Provin Shares 900
I tell you what you can Charge against
me in your Account 4 Shares in the True
Company Sold for 132 Which was to your
Name dont forget Out L 1100 ditto Out 200
2070 ditto Produce L 1850 you can charge
me for 10 Marine Shares Bought from
Horn 2 Shares from MacMaster for King
I have told all these Matters therefore
could not disguise any Joseph Bill
your Account can be Reduced to a Nil
I shall Charge me With all fuller Claim
make out account Sale the Goods are
Charged as Consignments Joshua says
the Tobacco of yours is in the Custom
by Paying duties you can Get it What ruin
and desolation Joshua Contains upon
Some one Conversation With him dont forget
for God sake the Account of Joshua
Reminds your Uncle Joshua of this
In particular Hope Trust in God
he wont be Annoyed With Me
Misfortune have Poured down
than fortune I swear solemnly to

God

God all My Anxiety is for you and Him in
this Affair. My Kind Regards to all Engage
Friends if I have any Left I am afraid
to say to Much. I have got the from this
Letter 20 times I am Travelling Whilst
Writing to you Pray for God sake have
Pity for I am the Sufferer I Loose all in
the World. My dear Lewis how My heart
Pleads for you how Pained Myself
that I should have be able to Leave you
Wish to do My heart Breaks When I
Reflect for a moment God Almighty
Preserve you all from further Calamities
Till Phillips be Can Charge us With
10 Shares in the Eastern Province Part
Which he had promising him to Refuse
the Money you Can Charge us With 3
Enquire if it was not in your hand
independant of your Purchase you Can
Charge me with Every thing you Can
think of With Payden out Money Paid
for the Favor. Make out such Account
as Cannot be disputed that Reflect on
dishonor on you would rather Perish
myself than you should be dragged in
any way I shall make no Statement
But that already been done I would
Give any thing for I know Conversation
With you and your Uncle Joshua too
What unfortunate affair the Columbian
Turned out the Sophia the Ferry in fact

Every

Every thing for the last 2 years My Love
to you all and Give me your Mother
send Her Love to you and that I believe
in Affliction your truly John Norton
Destroy this Letter I Reminded the Trustees
this Morning of Phillips Claim for
the wilding House on the farm 500 he
Can make out a Claim against Me
to a considerable Amount and tells
me that he Can make out that he
holds my Interest in the Note a
Security by them for it Present he had
not Allow any thing to be sold till
him he has paid he Can Consult Attorneys
upon the Subject Demond Made out Account
Current Shewing a Balance in My
favour £ 1472 I have not any Incurance
Affected Wool Bagg from London at Least
2000 More than his Giving full Credit for
all Bonds Nothing Else you Can Dispose
What you like but the sooner is best
So God take do it I expect the Bill
of Joseph you will see the advertisement
in the Gazette for all claims against
Me by 15 of March are to be sent in
May God do all you Can to save Me
Something dont fail in this My
dear Son if ever do small Pitters
did I ever dream of this I am dear
a Corrected Account for the one sent
Who can disprove the same Charge for

Copy

Every thing you can think of Pray
Remind Noel and Holliday of their
Bills Becoming due Next Month
desire this Letter with regard to
Produce that must be Charged or by
endorsed will put on their oath
you said I ought not to give the
Books they say they are I Boston
repress these Books they can demand
to see your Books. With regard to
Carlisle Bond of 3000 £ if you pay the
Government you can claim it as the
property of J D Gordon & Co. After
I give credit you can dispute that
Send the rent of Esther House