

## **Benjamin Blyth, Sr. to John Nicholson, Near Shippensburg, 11 February 1788**

It has not been in My power as yet to discharge aney part of that Publick debt due by me to you, Som privet Contractes which I was under, & the defeet of payment to me of those indebted to me, has not put it in my power as I would wish to discharg it. I have a favourable prospect to pay one hundreed pounds by next fall, & you may be ashurd I anchously wish to pay it off. Aas I Never was on a Law Docket I wish to keep my Self So as Much as I Can: I thank you Sir for your lenaty: My Misfortan in the Chaing of Many So much in favour of the State, May plead in my favour in Som degree. Aand I hope I Shall make tolerable Speedy payment by the help of John Reynolds who Says he will help me—

Our Publick offers that Respect this Constatution Seems to make havock of our Peace. A zealous & Powerfull party of Citizens who wish to Goveren the Rest, ever restless for Power uncontrowled, has formed A Cistom, which if Affected will Suffisantly Ansure ther turn. Nothing has Surprised me more then to see so mainey of our People who it would Seam an affront to their understandings to think they realy Chose it from Judgment, are intoxicated with the prospect of its being Established. But those are fare from the Majoraty of the People. Last week I went thru the Town of Sheppensburg with a Pition to the Genral Assembly, not to Conferm the Sd. Cistom, in which I had More then ordonary Sucksess, having got Ninty nine Substanshall Subscribers, Maney of whome Declairs they will defend their Established Constitunal Liberty with the risk of their Lives—The affear at Carlisle may give you a Speciman of the temper that prevales hear, that matter may yet be attended with Serious Conseiquences: if those who are Sued Should be Proseicuted, I thinke Much Mischeaf will ensue.—I do not know how Judg McKain will hold Court in this County. Shuld Nine States Agree to the proposed plan of Government, I am of the opinion it will not lay the warmness of the Mealcontents, but they may agree with Such Stat or Stats as may have warmness enough to apose the Mishure. We have one Consolation that A Soverain Power directes all Human affears—

P.S. Mr Henderson of our town is a great Frend to the New Cistom

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