

Wilmington March 25th 1809

Mr Duncan Mc Lamin }
 Merchant. Fayetteville }

Dear Sir,

My addressing you at the present is in consequence of an engagement, I made since you left this place, or else I would probably have mentioned to you. The purport of this letter, is to inform you of my intention at the present. Mr Kellar & Mr Kay have made an arrangement with Mr Hanson Kelly, of this place, to wit, as follows, We have chartered the Brig Joshua Potts of Wilmington, to load at this port with lumber, staves, tobacco, pork, flour, land, shingles and bacon, to go from this to the Island of Amelia or Amelia Island, in which cargo Mr Kellar and Mr Kay is one third interested, and I go out in the Brig to dispose of the cargo, and return with the proceeds, and impressed in my mind of the uncertainty of voyages at sea and more particularly on this coast, I thought it proper to make some arrangements, so that in case of misfortune, that I should not return, that I should give some directions to some person or other, to settle my small affairs here, and see that my creditors were all paid; and wishing the person to take charge and settle, to be you, or in case of your death, I wish Mr John Eccles to see it settled. I have wrote several memorandums in a small book, left by me in the possession of Mr Joshua Potts, which shall be your guide to go by. In fact, the business under the firm of Mr Kellar & Mr Kay commenced on the 13th day of May last past, and from that day to this it has been doing well; It owes in New York, nearly as follows not due yet \$1520 Custom House, \$213. B. L. H. \$314 Fayetteville and other debts \$150, making nearly a total amount of \$2000, at most. See memorandum in Potts possession.

Property on hand of said firm and nearly as follows—

Lumber, on Hatidages Wharf	30 B	@ \$10	\$ 300
Stow on Ditts	"	under shade	200
Turpentine on Ditts	"	"	200
Pork, and bottom surely	"	"	225
Sugar	"	"	200
Salt at least	"	"	100
Bacon	"	"	150
Brandy in barrels	"	"	100
Loaf Sugar, Flour, &c	"	"	100
Debts			\$1575
William Campbell			150
James Mosley of Sampson's A/c	\$150	we have 300 Bells Port stored for him	150
A. H. Washburn & Co, Dudley, Hazell and sundries			150
			\$2175

besides the stock of good sound land, and a great many small debts; one half the adventure on board Brig Helianth Steele Darrell master, to Charleston, cargo about \$2300, one third of the Brig Joshua Potts cargo which is \$2927 dollars. This and a number of other debts, which to my satisfaction and pleasure is correct; besides all these articles are less in number than they really are.

Now Mr MacLanin after giving you a correct statement of my affairs in life, I hope you, to do me the justice to keep the contents of this letter to yourself and never mention one word of it to one man in life, unless you hear of my death; and then my dear sir, do for god sake see that my debts are paid justly. If anything should be left after my creditors are paid, my parents are to enjoy it, after them should my brother, Dugald be in life, he and he only are to have it. My land in Cumberland County may be worth something to him, let him have them; and in case of my death, I appoint you Executor, and to manage my business the same as if was your own. I have nothing more to say but yours,

John M. Kellar,

New Hanover County } County Court. August Term 1809
 The foregoing Will and Testament of John M. Kellar, was exhibited in Court and proved by the oaths of John McGill, Robert Brown and Hanson Kelly, who swore that the signature thereto of John M. Kellar, was in the proper hand writing of said Testator, at the same time Duncan M. Lamm renounced his right of executorship, and administration cum testamento annexo, was granted to John Potts.

Witness

Thos. F. Davis. Clk.