

**Myles Cooper to George Washington, July 2, 1773,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM THE REV. DR. COOPER. ¹

KINGS COLLEGE, NEW YORK, 2d. July 1773.

DEAR SIR,

I recd. Your's the Day before Yesterday Unfortunately, Mr. Custis himself, having taken it from ye. Man employ'd by ye. Post Master to carry Letters about, brought it to me: so that I gave the inclosed to him immediately, little suspecting the mournful Contents.² The Shock, You may suppose, was severe: however, he is grown much more composed; & I hope his good sense and Christian Fortitude, in a reasonable Time will perfect ye. Cure.

He lives now altogether in the College, and dines with the Professors and myself in the College-hall. He has fitted up a Room in a neat plain Taste, attends his Instructors punctually, and, I doubt not, will make a proficiency equal to ye. Warmest Wishes and Expectations of his best Friends. At present, indeed, as must be expected, his Mind is not in a State to admit of any Intentness of Application; but I am persuaded, as his Grief wears off he will do every Thing that is reasonably to be expected from a young Gentleman in his Situation. He has already gained much upon ye. Affections of his Instructors; which is a Circumstance that cannot fail of producing very beneficial Effects, with Regard both to his Learning and Happiness, during his Residence in this Place.

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I fancy he will not chuse to write to you himself for a few Days; but he has desired me to inform you that his Situation among us is perfectly agreeable.

I have ye Honour to be, good Sir, yr. Most obedt. and obliged Servt &c. M COOPER

¹ Born in England, 1735; died in Edinburgh, Scotland, May 1, 1785. Thomas Jones in his History of New York referring to Dr. Myles Cooper, says: "I knew him well. He was honest, just, learned, and liberal; judicious, sensible, friendly, and convivial; he loved good company, and good company loved him; he was by no means dissipated. He loved God, honoured his King, esteemed his friends, and hated rebellion." On account of his tenets and publications, Dr. Cooper was obliged to flee from America.

² The announcement of the sudden death, on the 19th of June, of Patsy Custis.