

Edward Smeeth

Apr. 25 1778

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25 April 1778

The Cottagers, Sir, have had too many proofs of Your gracious condescension ever to despair of the continuance of it towards them - They have every reason to be most grateful for the repeated instances they receive of it even amidst the most ardent Engagements - That You, Sir, should be pleased to honour them with the first moment of leisure at New is an act of the most gracious benevolence, and not only this, but to be pleased, Sir, to interest Your self in behalf of their Uncle, and to add to the happiness of the few remaining moments of that virtuous old Man, is an instance of Your goodness for which they can never be enough grateful - His latest prayers will I am certain be for the happiness and prosperity of His Sovereign and all His Family, for there is not living a more loyal or more faithful Subject, and I shall eagerly make use of the indulgence You are pleased, Sir, to grant me of communicating the most gracious favours which hath been confid in him and me. —

The noble plan, Sir which You have lay'd down
for

heard

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for the ensuing Year can not but be attended with the happiest consequences and must make those repent the want of good faith who might every day have strengthened the growing union between us - The humble but most ardent prayers of the Cottagers will attend you, Sir, and if they can produce one additional moment of comfort, happiness, or glory to you, Sir, and your Family, their utmost ambition will be gratified

The Inhabitants of Lancashire will establish forever their Character of loyalty and patriotism and I hope their loyal Volunteers will on every occasion support the character their Country hath acquired - May the whole British Empire know & feel the happiness they may possess in their Sovereign and their Country and may there be but one mind and one object -

I am happy to think that Mr. de la Roche hath at length thought of leaving duplicates of himself - The Lady who favours him with her hand shows too discerning a judgment not to promise every happiness to him - Would, Sir, that I could think with equal pleasure on the subject of my much respected Lord Holderness; I had flattered my self from the account I had heard that he was better and that we might entertain hopes of seeing him towards the Autumn in Yorkshire and

that he
Dinner in
bear him
Lords, it
most respect
to entertain
remember

Hutton
25th Apr

he heard Smelt

Apr. 25 1778

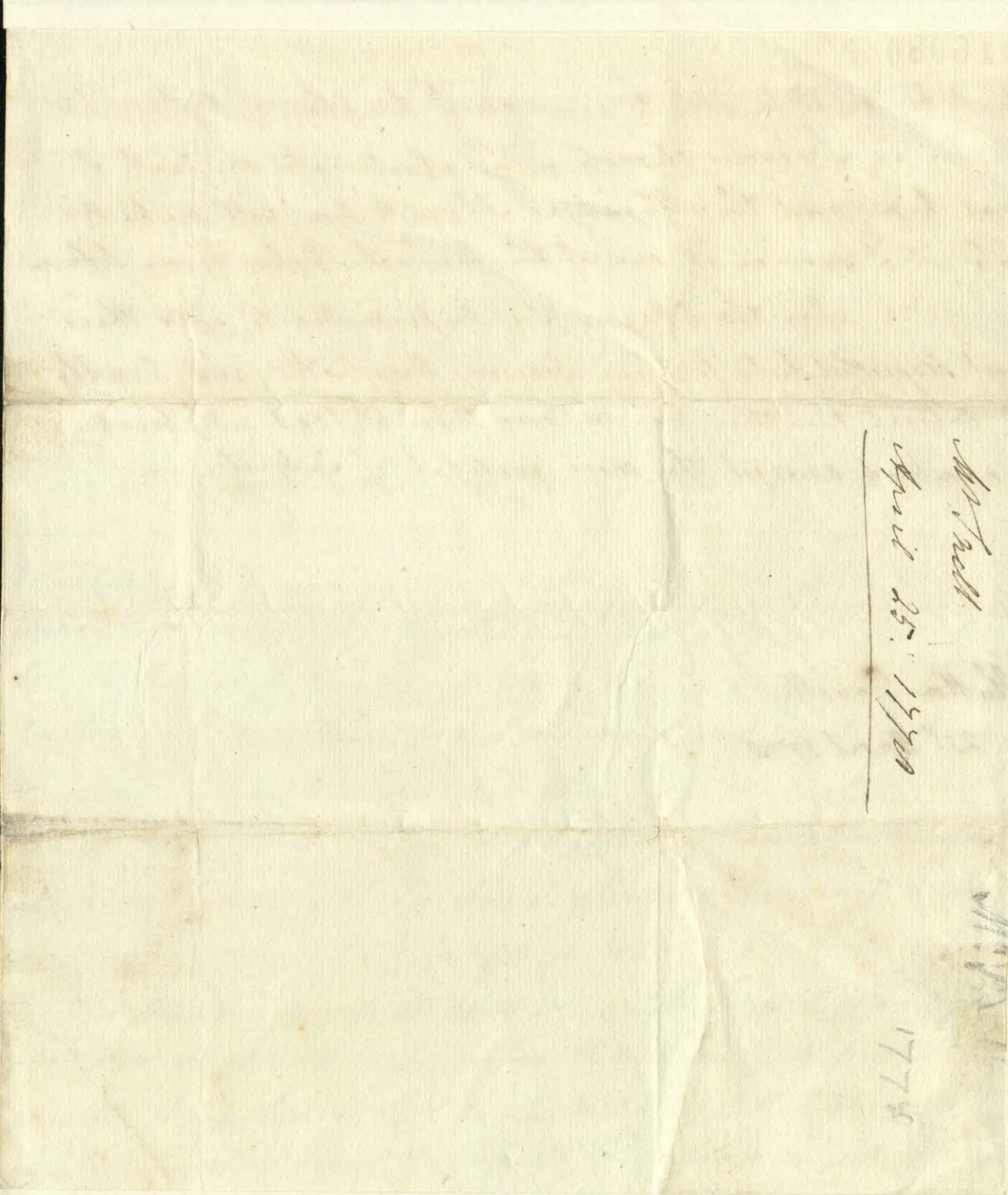
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that he might be able to accomplish his plan of removing his
winter in a warmer climate - The affectionate respect I
bear him and the obligations I have to him, will make this
of the loss, if I survive it, one of the heaviest strokes of my life -

May the Cottagers, Sir, be permitted to offer their
most respectful duty to their Gracious Benefactor, and humbly
to entreat that they may continue to be blessed with being
remembered amongst the most grateful of Subjects. -

Hutton Bonville

25th April 1778



Mr. Tall
April 25: 1774

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