

Oliver Phelps, Granville, Mass. letter to Reverend Mr. Jonathan Huntington, Worthington
Dec. 13, 1779

TRANSCRIPTION

Kind sir

After Sincerely acknowledging your former Services –wou'd [sic] again beg leave to Trouble you to do a Trifle more business for me – as I have no other acquaintance in your place.

Mr. Whelor is with me and is desirous of having a Barn built on his Farm in the Spring – You are Sensible that I have agre'd with Porter for the Boards and Planks. I wou'd now be glad to make a Certain Contract with some Punctual Person to Sett [sic] up a good Frame 30 feet one way and 40 the other – These are to beg the favor of you to make a bargain (by the G???) with some person. I will pay the money Down when the bargain is made – you will draw on me for it on sight.

Compliance will Oblig. Yrs Very Serv. Oliver Phelps

Granville, Dec. 13, 1779

NOTES:

Jonathan Huntington (1733-1781) was Worthington's first minister. His construction skills were manifest in the home he built for his family on West Street. In addition to his ministry, he practiced as a physician. He died two years after receiving this letter and it is not known whether he was able to comply with Oliver Phelps's request. It is not clear whether the Mr. Porter mentioned in the letter was from Worthington, but the Porters were among Worthington's pioneers.

Oliver Phelps (1749-1809) was early in life a tavern keeper in Granville, Massachusetts. During the Revolution he was Deputy Commissary of the Continental Army and served until the end of the war. After the war ended, he was appointed a judge, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and became a land speculator in western New York state. A depressed real estate market forced him to sell most of his holdings. For more about his military, political and business history go to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliver_Phelps

The Wheeler family is chronicled in the Granville Vital Records.