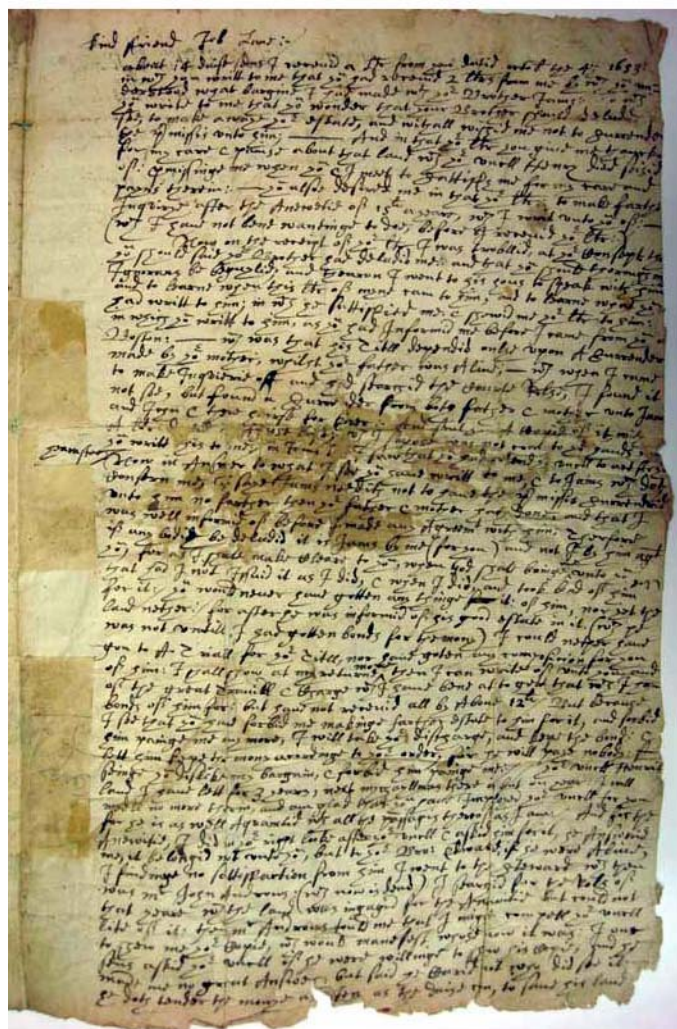


#2 June 6, 1654

Letter from Jeremiah Gould of England to Job Lane reporting on land matters



Kind Friend Job Lane

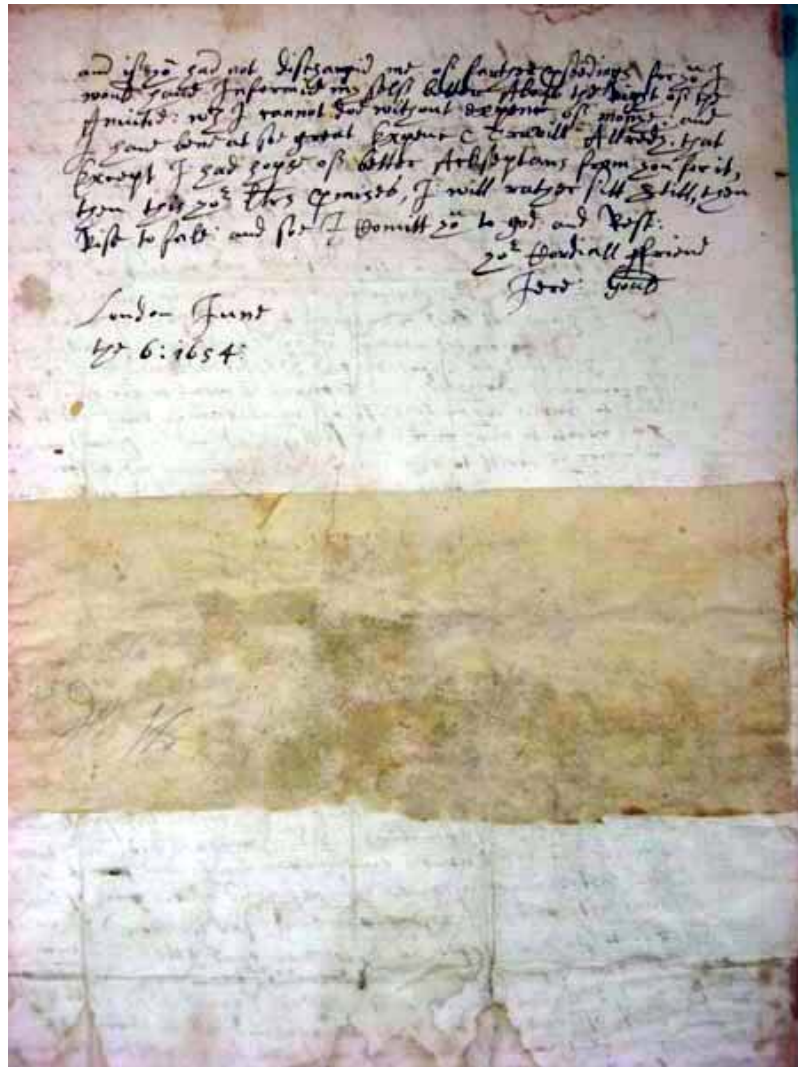
About 14 days since, I received a letter from you dated Oct 4th, 1653, in which you writ to me that you had received 2 letters from me, by which you understood that bargain I had made with your Brother James; to which you writ me that you wonder that your Brother should delude me so to make away your estate, and withal wished me not to surrender the premises to him. And in that your letter, you give me thanks for my care and pains about that land which your uncle Henry died possessed of; promising me when you and I meet to satisfy me for my care and pains therein. You also desired me in that your letter, to make farther inquiries after the annuity of .£15 a year which I writ unto you of: which I have not been wanting to do before I received your letter. Now on the receipt of your letter I was troubled at your conception that you should say that your brother had deluded me, and that you should through my ignorance be beguiled; and thereon I went to his house to speak with him, and to learn when this letter of niine came to him, and to learn what you had writ to him; in which he satisfied me, and showed me your letter to him; in which you writ to him, as you had informed me before I came from you at Boston. Which was, that his title depended upon a surrender made by your mother, whilst your father was alive; which when I came to make inquiry of, and had searched the Court Rolls, I found it not soe, but found a surrender from both father and mother, unto James and John, and their heirs forever. And sent you a copie of it with a letter _____ August last, which I suppose was not come to your hands, when you writ this to me in June, by which I saw you had chosen your uncle to act for you. Now in answer to what I see you have writ to me, and to James which doth concern me. I say James wished not to have the premises surrendered unto him, no farther than your father and mother have done, and that I was well informed of, before I made any agreement with him; therefore if any bodie be deluded it is James by me (for you), and not I by him against you; for as I

shall make clear to you when God shall bring me unto you, that had I not issued it as I did, and when I did, and took bond of him for it, you would never have gotten anything for it of him ; nor yet the land neither; for after he was informed of his good es-ate in it (which he was not until I had gotten bonds for the money), I could neither have you to a trial for your title, nor have gotten any composition for you of him. I shall show at my return more than I can write of unto you, and of the great travail and charges which I have been at, to hold that which I have bonds of him for: but have not received all by about £12.

But because I see that you forbid me making farther estate to him for it, and forbid him paying me any more, I will lake your discharge and keep the bond, and let him keep the money according to your order, for he will pay nobody, seeing you dislike my bargain and forbid him paying me. Your uncle Henry's land I have lett for three,years, next Michael-mass there is but one year. I will meddle no more therein, and am glad you have employed your uncle for you, for he is as well acquainted with all the passages thereof as I am. And for the annuity, I did in your right look after your uncle and asked him for it; he answered me it belonged not unto you, but to your brother Edward if he were alive. I rinding no satisfaction from him, I went to the steward, which then was Mr. John Andrews (who now is dead). Isearched for the rolls of that year when the land was engaged for the annuity, but could not light of it. Then Mr. Andrews told me that I might compel your uncle to show me your copy, which would" manifest whose now it was ; I have since asked your uncle if he were willing to show his copy, and he made me no great answer, but said he cared not who did see it; he doth tender the money as often as the days come to save his land,

The Lane Family Papers

Bedford Historical Society



and if you had not discharged me of farther proceedings for you, I would have informed myself better of the right of the annuity, which I cannot do without expense of money, and I have been at great expense and travail already, that except I had hopes of better acceptance from you than this your letter promises, I will rather sit still than rise to fall, and so I commit you to Cod, and rest

Your cordial friend
London, June ye 6th, 1654.

JERE. GOULD.