

New June 13th 1779.

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Dear William, You are now launching into a Scene of Life, where You may either prove an Honour, or a Disgrace to Your Family; it would be very unbecoming of the love I have for my Children, if I did not at this serious moment give You a Advice, how to conduct Yourself; had I taken the common method of doing it in Conversation, it would soon have been forgot: therefore I prefer this mode, as I trust You will frequently pursue this, as it is dictated from no other motive, than the anxious feelings of a Parent, that his Child may be happy, and deserve the approbation, of Men of Worth and Integrity.

It is highly necessary for every Rational Being, never to lose sight of the certainty, that every thought as well as action, is known to the Allwise Disposer of the Universe; and that no solid comfort ever in this World can exist, without a firm reliance on His protection, and on His power to shield us from misfortunes: but these reflections are still more necessary to be foremost in the minds of those at Sea, who naturally are exposed to perils peculiar to that Element; therefore I strongly recommend the habitual reading of the Holy Scriptures, and Your more and more placing that reliance on the Divine Creator, which is the only real means of obtaining that peace of mind, that alone can fit

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a Man for arduous undertakings.

Remember You are now quitting home, where it has been the object of those who were placed about You to correct Your faults, yet keeps them out of the sight of the World; now You are entering into a Society of above seven hundred persons, who will watch every step You take, will freely make their remarks, and communicate them to the whole Fleet; thus what would I hope have been cured, must now be instantly avoided, or will be forever remembered, ^{to} Your disadvantage.

Though when at home a Prince, or board of the Prince George You are only a Boy learning the Naval Profession; but the Prince so far accompanies You, that what other Boys might do, You must not: It must never be out of Your thoughts that more Obedience is necessary from You to Your Superiors in the Navy, more Politeness to Your Equals, and more good nature to Your Inferiors, than from those who have not been told that these are essential for a Gentleman.

M^r. Majendie goes with You to continue the mode of Education thought proper; You must consequently take thorough pains, and by Your improvements encourage me to continue You in the Naval Profession.

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The Rear Admiral will direct what regards the Theoretical
as well as Practical parts of the Profession; I trust You will
take every kind of pains to advance in them.

I shall only add that after the pains Major General de
Bude' has taken with You, I trust You must feel how much
he has Your interest at heart, and therefore that You will
treasure up in Your mind the Advice he will give You
during the Journey, and that You will conduct Yourself
whilst from home that Your Parents may receive You
with pleasure on Your return, and that the General may
feel he can with credit continue his care of You whilst
on shore.

The Queen has desired me to add every expression of
tenderness for in Her names, ^{and} believe me ever

Dear William
Your very Affectionate Father
George J.

George the 3^d

June 13th 1779

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