Commandant's House
New York
September 27: 1781

Sir,

Last monday about four in the afternoon, we arrived without the Bar, the tide not being favourable to come up to New York. Next day the wind being not favourable, the Ship could not get up. Yesterday morning the Commander in chief Sr. Henry Clinton sent down his Cutter to fetch the Adt. & myself up to the City.

We arrived at the town about six in the afternoon. We were met on the Beach by the General & Admirals, & walked with them first round the parade, where is the pedestal of the statue of G. III—, & from thence thro' the greater part of the town to Commodore Affleck's house, where I was received by a Captain's Guard with colours, which was to have been made up of that fine & brave Company of Grenadiers of the 4th Regiment, had they been able to have turned out a sufficient number. But they had suffered too much in the expedition against New London, where Brave Arnold commanded. The Genl. did not salute me, because it was Sunset.

We dined & past the evening at the Commodore's, & from thence went to Genl. Burch's, the Commandant's house, who was so civil as to resign it to us.

When I came on shore I was received by an immense concourse of people, who appeared very loyal, continually crying out, "God Bless King George!". They appear in general very well affected to our Government, but particularly the dissenters of Quakers.

This morning I walked round to the town of about a mile out of the town with Sr. Henry Clinton, I went to see a Hessian Regiment encamped of the 3d. Jonathan March to South, & a fort, called Bunker's hill: As we were walking thro' the City, there was a Quaker came up to me & said: God Bless thy Brother; it is not for want of the respect that I do not take my hat off: But because my Religion requires it.

We dined to-day at Head Quarters, & had there very fine concerts, consisting principally of officers, & particularly of Hessians officers. There was at dinner all the English Genl. at New York, except Genl. Arnold, who have not yet arrived, but expected to-morrow, the Adl. of the Fleet, L. Howe, & Lord Cornwallis. The Mayor & Corporation intend to come to-morrow morning, with Sr. Henry's leave, to pay me with an address: I have the thoughts of Sr. Henry on the Adl. & Mr. Pringle are very much liked hitherto.

I am,

Sir,

with all submission,

Your Majesty's most Dutiful

and Affectionate Son,

William

P. William.

New York Sep.t 27.th 1781.