

J. William  
New York Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 1781.

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Sir,

The Europe will I hope, get safe home; for Mr. Child has been so good as to take charge of my letters. Yesterday we received word that the September Packet, was taken. I am very sorry to have lost my letters; for I understand that Alfred had been very ill. I hope he is recovered. The rest of the Family are well. I suppose Frederick is going on as well as he was before. I make no doubt he is very understanding of Your Majesty's goodness.

There has nothing public transpired: the Savage is retaken: the Perseverance has taken a very large French Letter; Two floating Batteries are building, one here, the other at Charles Town. Yesterday a Fleet consisting of 5 Ships went to Charles Town. The Troops are in winter quarters & very healthy.

I am at present in my Chamber at the A. S. House as to my conduct Mr. Majestic has written a very long Letter, which I hope will satisfy the Honour of God, my dear Father; the greatest

pleasure, I have, is to find that I meet with my Father's cordial approbation. The Dr. says he is very well pleased with mine as so far as I have been here. I have made acquaintance with a worthy Lawyer of the Providence, a very promising & well behaved young man, of my age exactly. Mr. M. approves of my conversation with him vastly.

I am worthy, happy & wish to continue in the way I go on at present, for I am sure You will be pleased with that son, who regards it his duty to share his parents that he loves & respects them, with that affection & fidelity, which will enable them to think that he is

Your affectionate & devoted Son,  
William  
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