

My dear Child

We have just heard of the arrival of the Definitive Treaty of Peace in America! most sincerely do I congratulate you on that great and happy Event, with the utmost gratitude to Heaven I received the glad tidings, and with the most resign'd acquiescence in the Divine Will, I submit to the loss of fortune, when I see my dear children after being exposed to variety of suffering, danger, and Death, alive and well around me! and when I contemplate with what philosophick firmness and calmness they both of them supported pain sickness, and evils of various sorts, and withstood the utmost efforts of the enemies malice, and see with what greatness of mind they now generously conduct themselves to all; my heart overflows with gratitude to their great preserver, for continuing to me such children! for be assured my dear Daniel, no pleasure can equal that which a mother feels when she knows her children have acted their part well through life, and when she sees them happy in the consciousness of having done so May the Almighty in his infinite goodness <sup>&</sup> condescension attend to my prayer when I \_\_\_\_\_ly request that Your dear and greatly beloved Mother, may enjoy

enjoy the same comfort, in seeing you and your Sister answer her most sanguin hopes. for though I hope your Country will never want your aid in a Military capacity, you may be guided by the

of time honour and real virtue

same principles <sup>^</sup> that have always actuated them, and though not call'd exactly to the same exertions, your conduct in publick and private life may emulate the Example they have set you, and give your Mother a comfort, which nothing else can; Your great affection for her, will I know prompt you to the pursuit of every landable attainment, where you reflect how intimately Your happiness is connected with hers

When I take a retrospective view of our past sufferings, so recent too, and compare them with our present prospects, the change is so great and sudden! it appears like a dream, and I can hardly believe the pleasing reallity, that peace with all its train of blessings are return'd, and that every one may find Shelter under his own Vine, and his own Fig tree, and be happy. Blessed be god the Effussion of human blood is stop'd! Truth may now also appear in its full force and native Lustre, without dread of the oppressive hand of power as heretofore, when the injured were not heard, or heard only to be healed with contempt and insult, when in justice to themselves they would disprove those horrid falshoods and misrepresentations, which natural malevolence

malevolence or paity rage inspired. how much has this unhappy land felt the violence of power, and wanton cruelty there are but few here, but can feelingly talk a tale of woe. Were I to enumerate the distresses which have come to my own knowledge, and for which I have greatly felt, sigh'd, and wept, I should distress you and my self beyond measure for their sorrows were greater than mine, and I experienced a large share of the bitter potion dealt out in those evil times. About the time I parted with my dear Daniel, (both my Sons, their wives, and Infants were Exil'd; \_\_\_\_, sick, & ---, with a very pittance to support them in a strange land, they imbark'd, Their Estates had been long before sequester'd, and mine, though consisting in various kinds of property, and in different parts of the Country, was shatterd and ruin'd, which left me little power to assist them nor had I <sup>in</sup> Country or town a place to lay my head, all was taken out of my possession, my house I lived in, That in Colleton square, and at Belmont all was taken ~~out of my p~~ from me, nor was I able to hire a lodging. but let me forget as soon as I can these cruelties, I wish to forgive, though to particularize the many circumstances in my own family alone, for which my heart has bled, would far exceed the bounds of a long letter but I will say no more on this subject, and hope our joy and gratitude for our great deliverance, may equal our former anguish, and  
our

our contentment in mediocrity, and moderation in prosperity equal the fortitude with which the greatest number, even of our \_\_\_\_, sustain'd the great reverse of fortune they experienced

I now inclose you a letter of Gen<sup>l</sup> Washingtons to the Gov.<sup>r</sup> of Virginia, as I know you must be pleased with it.

Miss Fanny Motte was last week married to M.<sup>r</sup> John Middleton, brother to M.<sup>r</sup> Middleton of Crowfield in Suffolk.

Your Papa, Mama, Sister, Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins are all well; except your poor Cousin \_\_\_\_, who has lost another of her daughters, who died a few months since, and left six small children. I am

My greatly beloved Child

Your most affectionate Parent

Charles Town  
Aug<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1783

Eliza Pinckney

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