

Gold Selleck Silliman to his son, 1776

Transcript

My Dear Son

New York July 27th 1776.

Your Dear Mamma wrote me last Week, that you intended to write me last Saturday; I have been in constant Expectation of receiving it ever since but have not, but hope the Post will bring it to me this Evening; I am not very well but I have wrote your Mamma very particularly about it. The Next Morning after I got into Town, I went toward the Fort and there I saw his Majesty and his Horse, tumbled Headlong down on the Ground, and since that they are both run up into Bullets; for they were both made of Lead as you was told they ^{were}. You would be surpris'd if you was here to see what a Mighty Fleet of Ships our Enemies have got; they lie down against Staten Island, more than a Mile in Length from East to West, and so thick & close together for the greatest Part of the Way, that you cant see through where they ^{are} no more than if it was a thick Swamp; and the Regulars expect as many more soon and then we expect bloody Work of it; they all lie very quiet now and have done so ever since those Ships went up the River, and they are not yet got back nor have I heard any thing about them for some Days; I hope you and your Brother Billy will do every thing to make your Dear Mamma's Burthen light for it will be heavy, do the best you can; fear God my Dear and read his holy Word & pray to him & he will hear & bless you I am with my Love to you your loving & affectionate Father

Gold Selleck Silliman

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