

We have just begun our operations in the land way - the people who have arrived here are prodigiously pleased with the country - & I shall certainly soon be possess<sup>r</sup> of a good farm, and if we, & our half pay I will be more than comfortable. - I have left those sweet little ones in as comfortable a place, as is in this province made so by my own exertions - I found a house & hired it for £6 a year & I've taken a lease for two years - I added two rooms - & a chimney & have now a spare bed-room at your service 'tis just on the bank of a most beautiful river immediately opposite the town of Annapolis. - I have left Thomson's William now 2<sup>d</sup> M<sup>o</sup> of suppression & Mother's little George, we have plenty of poultry a good garden & such a variety of fish as you never saw. & I have built a tolerable boat.

So much for the family.

<sup>the day of Sunday</sup>

On this side, I am speculating pretty largely - I have taken three town lots on the West side the river in the most delightful situations <sup>I've seen</sup> for myself Major Coffin & Col Ludlow, on condition to build a tenable house on each within six months Coffins is already in some forwardness, & my own & Major Murray's will soon make a figure. Now our families in the general division <sup>at</sup> a distance from this - We cannot lose by the exertion - the Houses will cost but a very trifle of those who are oblig<sup>d</sup> to come without such coming prepared will be glad to pay the expence.

I am at present at Murray's Quarters in a township which we shall lay out for the provincials & we have already cut a road from his Camp to the river about 3 miles.

River St John's 7<sup>th</sup> July 1783. 2-104

U.N.D. ARCHIVES

My father is  
N.Y. at this time  
city now evacuated

My Boy is not dead. Thanks Heaven. & Paddock has gone to see him.

That's a good fellow Chip, a long letter from an old friend received in this desert is like a glimpse of glory. - I know Tom Coffin would write me if he could. - I am sorry you'd so much trouble in effecting the business I wrote you about by Byerson. I did not intend it.

You have gratify'd me much by the account given me of my father's situation & the state of the family - would to God the comfort they now enjoy could be continued to them. - Is there any chance my dear Chip - that recompense will be made to the Loyalists by Government? Will it be possible for my poor father to obtain only a sufficiency to support him in England for a little time? if so will it not be best for him to go there? - What can I do for them Chip? I should merit the curses of all of 'em was I to give the least encouragement for them to come here. The mortification which I experience & laugh at would be insupportable to them. - the whole country is crowded - the towns are expansive beyond relief - they can't live on rations - nor in sodded huts. - If it is fashionable or necessary to make representations of sufferings I am sure you will do it for him - Suppose he obtains any part of a single thousand pounds - it will be enough. - He can get nothing here. it will be half an eternity before any man will be worth a third of that money. Perhaps in a few years

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