

Mr. Uncle,

15/3/10

I rec<sup>d</sup>. Yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>. about a fortnight ago.  
I have but just got the Grants for Conveyance as well  
for the Ordnance as returns to bring up Letters for Quebec  
~~which~~ as to gaining any certain Intelligence of the Destination  
or Course of the Transports for Quebec, 'tis merely impossible  
'tis a matter that remains entirely in the Breast of the  
Admiralty at such times as these not even the Commanders  
themselves know what Course they take untill they are ready  
to sail. & then their Orders are to follow their Convoy.  
Therefore the only advice that can be given Mr. Hales,  
is to ~~be~~ himself in readiness, to Embark on the shortest  
notice if any come that way which probably may happen  
as is generally suppos'd. But as before there is no Certainty  
Cousin John would be happy if his sister would make  
certain of her passage by coming up to London &  
going in the same Ship along w<sup>th</sup> him which he Informa  
me ~~that~~ he has propos'd in his Letter which I have  
forwarded by Mr. Sands about Eight days ago —

I Return you & my Cousin thanks for your Intended  
present. But am fearfull I shall never arrive to that  
perfection in Musick as to merit a favour of that kind  
tho I am very fond that kind of Entertainment & amusement  
yet am afraid I cannot find Leisure sufficient to pay that  
attention which it requires —

I have had the misfortune of an Accident w<sup>th</sup> one of the  
Belts Intended for my Uncle James, which your favour one  
I very much in another of the same as neerly as you can  
recollect, the Dimensions are, in high Inch  $\frac{1}{8}$  &  $\frac{1}{2}$   
Diameter

Diameter from the outside or flat of the squares —

I have sent enclosed to my Mother two return thanks  
(if one is not sufficient) for conveyance of your severall  
Letters for Quebec, there are one or two Ships Expected  
to sail before the Grand fleet, but how soon I cannot  
say — No particular News, Lord G. Gordon is Honorably  
acquitted, Pray excuse haste, I conclude w<sup>th</sup> my  
Love to you, Aunt & Cousins & ever I am D<sup>r</sup> Uncle

London the 15<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup>

1781

Craftsman

Your affect. Nephew

Crafts Machay

Thomas

Mr. Joshua Johnson

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Craftsman 1781