

13 Dec 1800

D5/3/8

My dear Madam

I have no doubt but you accuse ^{me} of neglect, before this in not replying sooner to your obliging letter but I have been in expectation of seeing your Brother home for some time past and thought he might wish to add a few lines to my letter himself. They have been cruising off the coast of Spain these last seventeen weeks, on the whole they have been tolerably successful, but I assure you, I have found the time extremely dull, as Mr. Taylor has never been absent more than eight weeks before since our marriage I am in great hopes to see him in two or three weeks at furthest, tho' even that is not certain, he is anxious to ^{be} home, as I expect to be laid up in February and I shall feel less fortunate if he is away. I inclosed your last to him, and he desires

his best love to you and your little family, also
remembrance to Mr. Johnson, begs you will write
often. I do not think he has heard from his Brother
for some time, unless a letter has been forwarded
to him since he has been out, which is not probable,
for my own part, I wish he had an eligible situation
on shore; even if the profits were less, I should
be much more content, for it is a truly uncomfortable
life that of a sailor; independant, of the great risks
they run, exposed to so precarious an element as the
Sea; and Lord Muncie is so tyrannical in his
orders; that it is worse than ever it was. every person
complains; the Ships are kept out continually,
and on their return to Port, they are allowed
no more than six days to refit, indeed, I believe
it is the general opinion, that he will be the
cause of laying up numbers of the Men this
Winter, the poor fellows; being so long on salt
provisions, and having little time to refresh on
their return, even the Captains have commands

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not to sleep one night out of their ships. Tho' I fancy
this Command is not rigidly attended to, if I recollect
right, you knew Mr. Thompson, Purser of the Warwick
I am sorry to say by the loss of his Ship he sustained
great injury, he will not receive any profit from
the Ship for the last three years and half, which he
tells me will amount to upwards of six hundred
pounds, he is a very worthy young Man and I am much
concerned, he has often asked after you and family,
it would give me great pleasure were you resident
near Plymouth; Taylor, has often expressed
and said how happy he should be to think we were
near, in his absence especially, it would be a great
pleasure to me, Tho' I fear I am selfish in the wish,
as no doubt you are much ^{more} comfortable among your
friends in the North, than you possibly could be
in a strange country, I shall hope to hear from
you soon, let me beg my best wishes to Mr. Johnson
and the little ones believe me dear Madam,

Yours sincerely

Ann Taylor

Dec^r 13 1800

N^o 66 Cumberland Street
Plymouth Dock Devon

Ann Taylor to
Mrs Johnson

Mrs Johnson
North Carolina



Mrs Ann Taylor
Plymouth N.C.
Dec 22. 1800