

suis si persuadé de votre affection pour vos enfans que je scait vos sentiments, et a present que je suis *mere* moimeme, il m'est facile de juger de ce que vous sentez pour eux, si nous jugions par nous meme ma tres chere Mere, nous ne pourrions pas nous imaginer quil y'avoit une Mere denaturé au monde mais je craint quil y a trop de ce vilaines femmes qui ne merite pas avoir d'enfans, puis quil ne se soucie guere de sacrifier leurs repos.

[Archange Meredith]

P. S. Madame Graham a eu un logment dans les environs d'ici pour longtems elle va au Detroit entre nous je ne l'ai jamais frequenté comme elle a toujours une suite de jeunes officiers qui ne s'accorde pas avec mes idees d'une jeune veuve vous m'entendez mais c'est entre nous.

Translation

Woolwich, March 27, 1794

Dearest and beloved Mother: Here is your Archange, busy with something that makes her very happy, that is, writing to her good mother by Mr. Leith who leaves this country for Detroit on the 20th. He kindly offered to take charge of my letters and should be here to spend a day with us before setting out. He will see the children and can give you a description of them, for it is absolutely impossible to trust parents who very often say more of them than they deserve.

I fancy that you are now anxious for the arrival of the express. If our letters have not been lost after leaving us you should receive a big packet, dated in November, for we miss no chance to give you evidence of our love. You will be glad, dear Mother, to learn that my little David is now in perfect health. Up to the age of six months, he was always ill and I never hoped that he would live, but since then, it is surprising how he has changed for the better. Nothing has been spared on his father's part, nor on mine, that he might grow strong, and now, thank God, he is a fine boy. Little Anne is well also. She begins to say some words in French,