

much flattered by the very friendly Interest you ever take in whatever belongs to me and Family. Thank God we are all well, but at this moment much distressed in consequence of Information this Morning received that the Frigate *Pearl* which we have hourly expected here for this last Fortnight is gone away to Halifax with the stores and Crew belonging to the unfortunate *Active* which you must have heard was wrecked on the Island of Anti Costi with Lord Dorchester and all his Family on Board

This unpleasant Circumstance throws me and mine into a very distressing and disagreeable Situation as Our Alternative is to sail tomorrow in a single ship (The *Progress*) or wait the Fall Fleet and encounter all the very bad Weather my little Babes must be exposed to at that late and boisterous Season, and if we sail in a Single ship, we are on the other Hand exposed to the merciless *Sans Cullottes*. You may easily Judge that at this moment I am much perplexed but wou'd not think of quitting the Country without again writing to you, or wou'd on no Other Account take up a Pen. You shall please God hear from me from the Other Side of the Great Lake, where perhaps I may have it in my power to say something more favorable of myself than I can at present. Report says that I was appointed Major General in May Last if so I don't apprehend that I shall remain long at home at least it shall not be my fault if I do. I heard with great pleasure from my Friend Leith to whom I beg you will mention with my Compliments that I shall write a few Lines Addressed to the Care of Mess^{rs} Forsyth and Richardson Say everything kind and affectionate for me to M^{rs} and Miss Askin and be sure [to] give my best wishes to M^r Robertson M^{rs} England propose[s] to write to Miss Askin before we sail. She had the pleasure of hearing from her at the time that your Letter reached me.

Write to me every Occurrence relative to Yourself and Family, and Address your Letter to the Care of Mess^{rs} Cox & Greenwood Craigs Court Charing Cross London. Call me Colonel till you again hear from me

Excuse my Hurry, as I am really not only in that Situation but exceedingly distressed and in real Misery. Adieu My Dear Sir Pray for the *Progress* and Your Friends in her.