Home > Letter from John Adams to Abigail Adams, 3 July 1776 (page 1)

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First page of two-page letter from John Adams to Abigail Adams, July 3, 1776. The page reads:

Philadelphia, July 3. 1776

Your Favour of June 17 dated at Plymouth, was handed me, by Yesterdays Post. I was much pleased to find that you had taken a Journey to Plymouth, to see your Friends in the long Absence of one whom you may wish to see. The Excursion will be an Amusement, and will serve your Health. How happy would it have made me to have taken this Journey with you?

I was informed, a day or two before the Receipt of your Letter, that you was gone to Plymouth, by Mrs. Polly Palmer, who was obliging enough in your Absence, to inform me, of the Particulars of the Expedition to the lower Harbour against the Men of War. Her Narration is executed, with a Precision and Perspicuity, which would have become the Pen of an accomplished Historian.

I am very glad you had so good an opportunity of seeing one of our little American Men of War. Many Ideas, new to you, must have presented themselves in such a Scene; and you will in future, better understand the Relations of Sea Engagements.

I rejoice extreamly at Dr. Bulfinches Petition to open an Hospital. But I hope, the Business will be done upon a larger Scale. I hope, that one Hospital will be licensed in every County, if not in every Town. I am happy to find you resolved, to be with the Children, in the first Class. Mr. Whitney and Mrs. Katy Quincy are cleverly through Innoculation, in this City.

I have one favour to ask, and that is, that in your future Letters, you would acknowledge the Receipt of all those you may receive from me, and mention their Dates. By this Means I shall know if any of mine miscarry.

The Information you give me of our Friends refusing his Appointment, has given me much Pain, Grief and Anxiety. I believe I shall be obliged to follow his Example. I have not Fortune enough to support my Family, and what is of more Importance, to support the Dignity of that exalted Station.

This letter continues on a second page., and a subsequent letter is also available.

Philadelphia July 3. 1776 1272 XXVIII 43 IJA to AA] your Favour of hours 17. doted at Ry neuth, was handed me, by getter days Poff. I was much pleased to find that you had taken a Tourney to By month to fee your Frink in the long abfine of me when you may with the _ The Ecustion will be an anneument, and will Serve your Heath. How happy would it have made me to have taken this town very with you, ? I was informed, a day or two hefore the Receipt of your Little, that you wad gove to the month, by And Cally Poliner, who was obliging enough in your Alfree, to inform me, of the Particular of the Deputition to the lenser tharbour against the Mer of War .- Her Narration is security with a Precision and Per Spissing, which would have became the Ten of an accomplished Risting I are very glad you had to good an opportunity of heiry, me of our little Aminian Men of War. - Many I deas, new to you, must have presented there also in Such a Scene; and you will in futury letter under frand the Relations of her hyggements. I syrice streamly at It Prolimber Detition to open an Hospital. But I hope, the Buings will be dene upon a larger Scale. I hope, that our Hospital will be hieral in every County, if not in every Teron I am hoppy to find you usaked, to be will the Ghildren, in the first & laft - allo whitny and this that Luis is, are devery through Turow latin, in this Git. I have one prover to ask, and that is that is year fature detters, you would ask new lidge the Receipt of all thefe you may receive from me, and men tim their Dates . - by this Means I thalk henew if any of mine The Tuper matin you give me I our Friends upping his Appoint out hes quin me much Pain, quip and Ansiety. I believe I thall be obliged to follow his learnals .- I have not Facture enough to Support my hamily, and what is of more huppertance, to hopport the Dignity of that eachted Station From the Adams Family Papers, Massachusetts Historical Society. Not to be reproduced without permission.

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