

N.Y. Historical Society

To M<sup>rs</sup> Katharine Hand  
At the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Blairs  
Princeton New Jersey

Narrows

Long Island

12 August, 1776

My dearest Kitty,

I yesterday Rec<sup>d</sup> your welcome favour by M<sup>r</sup> Blair and am happy to hear that you are all hearty. as I dont know your motive for sending M<sup>rs</sup> Ewing before you to Philad<sup>a</sup> cant pretend to condemn the measure, tho it does not seem to me at all advisable. but had you calculated £8:10 for a Carriage to your self was as cheap as your family could possibly travel any other way, you may recollect it cost £5:0:0 from Lancaster to Philadelphia for Horses and Driver only. –and why trouble a friend to come for you but as Mr. Blair is now away there is no other way left. –do not mistake what I have said for a Disapprobation of your conduct, your reasons no doubt are Good, and I can never think of hurrying you away –

I can't conceive how you could hear a report of the Fleets removal, nothing can be more Absurd than such Conjecture.—Indeed I heartily wish they may not, we are well prepared to receive them here, and I don't want to be sent express to receive them elsewhere.

I am very sorry you have not received the paper I intended you. Jessy told me he had sent it. I gave him money to buy it at York, he Also told me he had written by the same Oppertunity. I mean Susan he still persists in the same story, yet that need not hinder his writing a second time – will send some paper by M<sup>r</sup> Blair –you Acted prudently in sending Rob<sup>t</sup> and the Trunks to Lancaster –how does Susan behave –three Days since rec.<sup>d</sup> the letter you imagined you had sent by M<sup>r</sup> Hubley. I also re<sup>d</sup> your latest by Post. hope the next post will bring me an other, I had a letter from Jacky Ewing at the same time –60 sail of Vessels have this morn<sup>g</sup> Appeared off this harbour –Kiss my dear little Daughter for me. Give my duty to M<sup>rs</sup> Ewing -& compl<sup>ts</sup> to M<sup>rs</sup> Blair & her little ones –adieu!

God bless & Preserve you is the fervent Prayer of my Dearest Kitty

your very Affectionate

Edw<sup>d</sup> Hand