

my dear Wife Baltimore 31st Decemb^r 1776

On Christmas day I wrote you a few lines & also to Cod Hartly, & sent them by Young Martin Jehelberger, by the way of Hanover, & hope they come to hand safe— there is no member of Congress here but Mr Wilson & my self from Pensylv^a— I met with a kind welcome from Congress, & every body here are extremely kind & obliging Mr Spear, Smith, Calhoun, Mr Ralf & Mr Neal & many others, are like ^{me} to worry ^{me} with kindness— this partly ^{has} me out of my gloomy situation, & the agreeable News from Genl Washingtons has given new life & spirits to every body here— I have enclosed a hand Bill with the Particulars of that affair which when you have Read, & Peggy & Betsy & George & Jim have read I send it to Cod Hartly, or Donalson— I want Nothing but some more Cloaths & private lodgings however my present lodging is tolerable, every body is surpris'd I did not bring Mrs Smith here— I have engaged [Jac Graybill?] to go up & bring my Portmanteau down with what more Cloaths & linen you think proper, if you cou'd send 2 plain shirts, a night shirt, & my red jacket & Uniform Coat, ~~or blue~~ ^{or blue}— Jac Graybill says he can go till to Morrow— I hear one of Genl Washington's Aid de Camps is arriv'd here ^{last night} with a Hessian Standard this place is much more sociable than Philad^a— I have sent up the lock & key of the Portmanteau— I have no more time to write & remain

my love & a bup to all
of little folks — J

your loving & affectionate
Husband
Ja^s Smith

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On Christmas Day I wrote you a few lines and also to Cod Hartly, and sent them by Young Martin Jehelberger, by the way of Hanover and hope they Came to hand safe— there is no member of Congress here, but Mr Wilson and my self from Pensylv^a—I met with a kind welcome from Congress, and every body here are extremely kind and obliging Mr Spear, Smith, Calhoun, Mr Ralf and Mr. Neal and many other, are like [^] to worry ^{^me} with kindness— this partly [forced] me out of any gloomy situation, and the agreeable News from Genl Washington, has given new life and spirits to everybody here— I have enclosed a hand Bill— with the particulars of that affair which when you have Read, and Pegsy and Betsy and George and Jim have read it send it to Cod Hartly, or Donalson— I want Noting but some more Cloaths and a private lodging however my present lodging is tolerable, every body is surprised I did not bring Mrs Smith here— I have engaged [Jac Graybill?] to go up and bring my Portmanteau down with what more Cloathes and linen you think proper, if you cou'd— send 2 plain shirts and a night shirt, and my red jacket and and ^{or blue} uniform Coat, and slippers ^{not wanted}— [Jac Graybill?] says he can't go 'till tomorrow— I hear one of Genl Washington's Aid de Camps is arrived here ^{^last night} with a Hessian Standard this place is much more social than Philad^a –

I have sent up the lock and key of the Portmanteau—

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 Date: December 31, 1776
 Description: James Smith on his feelings at the Second Continetnal Congress to his wife, Baltimore