



Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the Maine Historical Society
(Local Code: Coll. S-6908 Misc. Box 168 fl. 21)
Date: March 15, 1781
Description: Letter from General Peleg Wadsworth to his wife, Betsey, about his imprisonment by the British and his concerns about his family.

1781
Bagaduce Fort George 15th March

I am just now most agreeably surprised my dear Betsey, with the recei't of your Sweet Letter of the 13th Inst. by a Flagg, which is the only Intimation I have had from you since Major Burton's. I am glad that your Difficulties are not so great as to have involuntarily selves forced them^{elves} into your Letter, indeed my dear, You are a very fine girl to put [torn paper] with so many Troubles without Complaint & are doubly deserving of the Future Happiness that may be in Store for those who know how to bear adversity I am exceeding glad that you have good Ne[torn paper] from our friends, would they had the [torn] same from us -- but what could be [torn] News for me, which you hinted at I am intirely at a Loss to guess, as my private affairs have long since been past the rea[torn paper] of good News.

This day for the first time I have got on my Coat by ripping open the Seam[^]; my Wound is nearly well & my Arm well good except that it has an Elbow at present which I hope will help'd by Use.

My Situation as a Prisoner is very agreeable, & the Burthen of Confinement render'd very tolerable by the Civility & Com plasance of the Gentlemen of the Garrison.

And was You really in doubt whether I should have been glad to have seen You & Maria^t in the Flag? But will you not be beyond Doubt when I decline^{to the present} the sweet proffer'd Invitation you was pleas'd to make yourselves--- Shall I ask p[torn] or what shall I say--- You well know it is not for want of the ex[er]eumest Desire to see you & if I do not give you full Satisfaction on that head when next I see you I will abide the Severity & Frowns of the Fair Sex while I live.

I could wish that your situation could be made tolerable till the return of the Letters by Mr Burton from Boston which will probably be but 10 or 15 days when we shall know if there be any Exchange to be made & what to expect.

My greatest Anxiety is for my sweet Family left in a desolate Wilderness without a Friend to protect them; I hope however that if I am not exchanged, that at least I shall have the best chance of seeing them before

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Course of a Month -- Get if any Favou
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Falmouth where you can be better accom
modated, you have my Consent to embrace
it. Tho' I think this can scarcely happen

I wish my Brother may be able to carry
on my Salt Works -- & to dispose of the
proceeds as he pleases.

My best wishes attend each one of my
dear Family till I have the Happiness
of seeing them till then Adieu

P Wadsworth

If any one claims a Bargain of mine
pray fulfill it.

I expect Master Charle will be a very
fine boy & that he will be greatly
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when next I shall see him. PW.

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Thomaston