

Miraguess – Porto-Rico-, W.I. Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 1844

My Dear Wife

We arrived here the last day of Jany,  
last Tuesday, after a passage of twenty one days from  
New York. We took a very severe gale on the South  
Side of the gulf Stream which lasted us about  
four or five days. The wind was a head so that  
we had to lay-to, as we call it, which is putting  
the vessil in such position as to keep her from  
being driven away by the wind. We are all well, --  
It is very healthy here. It is warm enough too, we go here  
without jacket shoes or stockings, indeed I were nothing  
but shirt and trowsers, and warm enough at that  
Evrything here is quite new to me. – The people are  
are Spanish – their language, manners and customs  
are all quite forreign to me. I have not as yet been  
much on shore, so I am not able to give anything of  
a description of the people or the place – The climate  
is beautiful, the appearence of the country is also  
very fine, their plants and trees are all green and growing  
once can have no ide of winter here. You I suppose  
are freezing with cold, well I would be willing to  
freeze some too if I could be with you.  
How comes on my Da-dy, I suppose that he is a fine  
little fellow. I can almost see him trotting about the  
house helping his ma-ma take care of her things  
and asking when pa, pa will come home

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society  
(Coll. 88, Box 1/1)

Date: Feb. 1, 1844

Description: Letter from John Davison to Eliza Ann Davison, his wife, written  
in Puerto Rico.

tell him that his pa, pa wants to see him very  
much and wants to play with his da-dy, tell him  
that his pa, pa wants him to be a good boy and  
that he will bring him home something pretty when he  
comes home, Olive I suppose is with you by this time  
I want to see her very much and think that I shall  
when I return, unless she goes to New Hampshire, tell her  
that I will take her to the West Indies when I get to be  
Master of a vessel, We shall leave here about  
the last of this month and be in New York about  
the middle of March. You may write me so  
that I may get your letter about that time at N-York  
There is a ship to sail from here tomorrow bound  
to Boston by which I forward this.  
I have written this as well as I could, my light  
is bad and the vessel is rolling about, and  
I am quite tired, With the hope that I shall see  
you soon I remain very affectionately your husband

John Davison

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[postmark] [?] Feb 17 SHIP

Mrs. Eliza Ann Davison

Augusta

State of Maine

pr Panchild

[sideways on right side]  
Porto Rico W.I.  
Feb. 2. 1844