

New York August 14.th 1776.

Honoured Father and Mother

I Send to inform you that I am well and Quite herty as I hope this will find you and all the Family our Maryland Battalion Li[e]s Encamp'd on a hill about one Mile out of Newyork where we Lay in a Very Secure Place. Thare is about 200 Sail of the King's Ships Lay Close By us 2 of [illegible] one Forty Gun Ship one 36 Gun [illegible] North River but got a Good deal damaged we have Sunk Shiverdepiede[?] in the Channel to Keep them from coming down a Gain which by the help of our Regallies and Floating Batteries we Expect to have them for our own Use in a little Time. Yesterday the Enemy had A Reinforcement of that Damn'd Rascal Dunmore's Fleet as we Expect. thare was About 40 Sail we are Ordered to hold our Selves in Readyness we Expect an Attack hourly, we have Lost a Great many of our Troops they have deserted from us at Philladelphia and Elizabeth Town. and a Great Many Sick in the Ospitals thare is Rations Given out at New York for 6000 Men dayley. John Anderson is in a Company of RifleMen Stationed Close by us. I Should be Glad if You will Rite to me the first Opportunity and Let me Know the News If thare is Any in that Part of the Country. we Expect Please God to Winter in Annapolis [,] those that Live of us

William Sands