

To Give way to
We have the
Consider my dear
To be But short,

means of passing through some late

Meeting will make us ample for
our parting, and a number of happy
separation, forgive me Sally for the

Writing my mind is not enough at all

The pains of parting are yet fresh - I will
from Boston, and do not disappoint me in

and then a memorandum from you, a
unspeakable pleasure to him who
my Dear Sally yours only

Hartford Wednesday
22 May 1792

at Leam
To Moore

a fine separation
by Turnpike

in some late

ample for

happy

at all

in

in

to him who

only

no

26

From Hartford

May 22, 1771

From Sam B

To

Sally -

My D^r Sally - Just as I was Sealing the inclosed Letter I Received your fav^r.
for which I may accept my best Thanks - I must own my D^r Sally I
do not see the Least impropriety in your coming to New Haven on y^r.
Return from New York, and the Journey I should think would be rather
Pleasant than tedious, - Indeed my D^r Sally I would not solicit any
favour of you that should lessen you in my esteem, the coming to New
Haven is no more than I would willingly let my own sister do in the same
situation - however my D^r Girl if you or your friends think it improper
I have done - and shall defer the hopes of seeing you till August
when I shall be at Salisbury - I wish you my Dear Sally a pleas^{ant}.
Journey and may your Guardian Angel attend your steps - and Return
you to your Affectionate

Sam Bladen

New Haven
June 26th 1772.

(23)

From New Haven

Sept 1772

Open this post

From Sam Bladen

Mrs. Sally Stoddard

(24) is missing

Verily say you a pretty holding letter indeed & to
Run from a humble slave why let the poor shivering bagging
^{down} ~~and~~ Raw as he pleases, my chains are too strongly forged for him
to break, I'll make him know the power I have over him, and Exercise
him in obedience that he may bear The Yoke of Matrimony with
Patience —————

47
 From Saml. W. Roddard
 1878

Remember my Dear Sally this one thing to gain a heart and another to
keep it then let me study to be to insure what we have gained and
cherish and improve every tender affection and in case if possible in
your own and your dear's. I should be proud of my dear Sally's
youngness, however if you will not write you must state what
my Father's Brain furnishes — ~~But~~ my dear Sally be assured
that nothing but unkindness can alienate my affections nor
anything make me so miserable. You are not gone to York
before this arrives. Remember the miniature picture of me
you about and take care to have it done in the best manner
I expect a thousand good wishes from the dear Sally yours

New Haven

Affectionate Friend
Sam Blackden

June 24th 1772 —

Dear Sister

We are just come to Mr Davies after a very tedious Passage of four days
this being a Saturday Capt Smith is much undetermined when he shall
be down again, he says he will write me word so that I shall be in Poughkeepsie
nigh as soon you will, I shall if possible send you down four or five Dollars
for Capt Smith. I have spoke to Mr Leonard Van Cleeck for Lodgings for you
whether you must go as soon as you come to Poughkeepsie & hire one of the
Men to bring along your trunk, but first see that your Bed & three
Sheets are conveyed to Mr Davies's house Pay the Capt. for your Passage
~~down~~ up - Give my Compliments to Mr Herson his Lady & each of Family
in turn, to Miss Sally in Particular - to all acquaintances in general

James is come from Salisbury with my Horse
& our friends are all well - from Yours affectionately

Poughkeepsie July 10.

Josiah Stodard

Stoddard
A. Hering, in it
y
New York

28 (28)

From Josiah Stoddard
July 18 - 1772
From Plymouth

My Dearest Sally

New Haven Oct 30. 1772

Mr. Baggage & you as well, it gave me great pleasure, but
why didn't you write. For the foolish thing in nature to let any insignificant trifling
inventions come into consideration between us - after what is past you have no cause -

This is the very first Opportunity I have had since I came from Salisbury of
writing, or you would have heard from me before, for by Heaven nothing can give me
greater satisfaction, but your Company, why will you be behind hand with
me - you surely are sensible must think so, then why this Reserve -

Mr. Whiting is gone to York and will not be with me any more as he has
sworn upon a pious to settle in. So that I am now alone confined - I shall not be able
I am very much afraid to come to Salisbury before the Appointed Time but shall
write you more particularly when I return will admit - I have partly repaid
for the house where Mr. Botolph lived - this is properly repaid and I shall
endeavour to get things as well as the completion of my business in that time of
my Dearest Girl - There has been no Opportunity of sending your things but
D^r Baker will send a ham to me next Week by which I shall find them if none offered
before - from my D^r Sally yours forever I Love Blackaden

29 (29)

From New Haven
Oct. 30 - 1772

From Sam Blackden
To Serry —

Castleton April 10th 1773

Dear Sister,

This Day I dined with Mr. East. had
a dish of good Tea ^{which was very agreeable after}
^{abstinence} ~~long confinement~~ from everything palat-
-ble. I think this a most excellent Country -
to get an easy livelihood in. the inhabitants
are few, but all friendly & kind, we have nothing here similar to our
own envious malicious folks except the
Misheters - which are so plenty, that the Inhab-
itants think themselves able to supply a foreign
Market - tomorrow we set for Tionderoga Mr
Everett helps us along & keeps our horses till our
return - The terror of going to Luebeck is much
lessened by being informed that no one ever
pretends to go down the falls on the Rafts -
I had a very ill turn this morning by drinking
too much Water, at present am perfectly well -
Day before yesterday I cut my Name in a
green Beach & whose else You may guess
turn over

From
Castleton April 10th 1773
Mrs. Mary Robinson

there let them grow under the influence of cupid
& Venus; but Mum. I should have wrote to
Luther but cannot afford Paper I have sent him
two. & one letter to you is as good as a letter
one each — adieu give my best wishes
to all Friends,

Your L^v Jos^h Mottard

James is in good spirits & sends Res^{ts}
to all friends,

Adinburg June 3^d 1773

Dear Sister

I am at length permitted to revisit my own Country
I think I was never more sincerely gratified. I
I heard some time ago that you was gone to New Haven
- was really disappointed in not seeing you at home
- am sure you have not changed situations for the
worse. I suppose now I might often find you
adjusting a Curtain or Side Board than prepar-
ing to make a Visit. I need not recommend to you
not to keep your self too much confined for women
will find an excuse to call upon ^{Miss} such a one. -

I have seen many new & strange things in
my Travels which would swell a Letter beyond rea-
sonable Bounds. never was so healthy in my life
as since my going on the Lake.

I expect to come to New Haven for Polly in about
a month. am much grieved at her illness - we are
all anxious to know how fast she mends. I beg
you would divert her thoughts from home if it is
serviceable for her to stay. James Jos^{ph} is perfectly
well & cares much less about his Mamma than
any of his Acquaintances nigher hand.

Pray dont fail writing to me immediately & let
me know all the news you can. You must call
it weakness if you please; but I am very impatient
till I see Miss. . . . You can at least let me know
where she is. I should have wrote for this Opportunity
but thought the conveyance too uncertain. I am in
a Dilemma till I hear from you. which way I shall
go, whether to come directly to N. Haven or go another
way, be it either way I shall be very happy to see you once
more. - from your affec^t Brother

Joseph Hatfield

Dear Sister. I am much obliged to you for your letter & for a short time of the pleasure of
but in some will

Compliments to all friends, but above
all my warmest good wishes to my worthy
sister Polly. Let her make shortly to see
her in the stream of justice

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From Salisbury
June 8 1773
From Josiah Stoddard

Mr Blackden

New Haven

Stoddard

9.

From
Scampitz
Nov. 27 1776

From S. Blackden

Mr. Blackden

Hazelbrook

Salisbury

by the most authentic Account between 15 and 16 Hundred
men which is a pretty good Price for what they got

There is not any kind of goods to be had here
but on my way home I will try to get you silks for a block
tho I do not think it is to be had anywhere but at Grove
Bend, flow at Wapams Creek below Poughkeepsie.—
I saw you about of Ribbon which I let of and tho
pretty for you and I suppose got it —

about ~~at~~ tomorrow we are expect-
ing at home at least for a season. I have
asked out to catch a few Crabs for you which I shall
send by Mail — With Patience my Charms for
fulfilling of the Promises and they shall not fail
on the Part of — I remain &c. &c. always Yours
Affectionately — Wm Blackden

My Dear Sally —

Sacramento Novm^r 27. 1776 —

your Very Respectable letter of the 24th
came to hand the day and is the first and only one
I have had from home since I left you, Except one
of the 17th — Letter which I got last Night —

you dear little slut how you Vally me for
my sending so you think I am ashamed of it
no indeed you are mistaken, for I am far from
giving anything to have you always be hard on
but when I cannot The Reflection of Past
moments some consolation —

Observe what you say with Respect
To King — I beg and intreat you to make
yourself perfectly easy on that Account, I have
determined Rather to give up everything than you
should be angry, indeed you know my absence is
merely accidental or I should have finish'd the
matter before — you desire me to consult my

my own Happiness and interest, but why mine, sure I have not
a pleasure nor a wish but what centers in the Happiness of my
dear Sally, and if any spark of ambition is in me ^{it is} ~~surely~~ ^{to}
to make myself worthy of her. ~~When I return~~ the worthiness
of her's - I am surpris'd you have not told what Busi-
ness you want for Present Use, and I am sure you will get Mr.

Genl. Smith or somebody else to kill the Tartar Cow
there is on the Farm, and put her up against I come to
see you - You mention your fr Coat - Tho I should
be as proud as anybody to see my little Charmer in it, yet
it is yours, and if you have a mind to try your fortune
(and at present it is not in my Power to give you a share
any other way) you have my full consent and I hope
your Success will ^{be} equal to your merit and I am sure you
in a chariot and four - With Respect to Fort Washington
The Enemy had not heard of our arrival or they would
not have attacked it, Or Had ~~they~~ ^{had} our Formidable
Brigade of Militia been there the Rebels would have had
a worse fate. - However Thanks to Heaven they last be

From Philadelphia

Sept 2. 1777

(13)

From S.B.

Paid L. 16

Mrs Sally Bladen

at Salisbury -

To the care of Capt. W. H. H. -

Post paid -

Hartford

Connecticut

SEPT 9.

WMMMM
 WMMMM
 the M J J
 Samuel Sam
 WMMMM WMMMM

Samuel Black the 18th
 the

Philadelphia
 Sept 21 from Philadelphia

From Camp White Marsh
 18 miles from Philadelphia

Nov. 22 1777

Mrs Sally Blackden
 (From Sam Blackden)

Salisbury

My Dear Sally

Camp White Marsh 15 miles from Philadelphia
 November 22. 1777

your agreeable letter of 6th of October came to hand, and should have been answered before this, but I have been waiting for the determination of a matter, which I wished to inform you of, the indeed no good opportunity has ^{offered} before the present

General Count Polaski (a Polish Nobleman) who commands all the Light Horse, proposed to me to accept of the appointment of Quarter Master General, which was very agreeable to my inclinations, and I had determin'd to accept of it, but upon making the proper inquiry into the Rank &c. I found it could not be accepted, without sacrificing a better prospect, wherefore I declined it.

I congratulate your my charming girls on the success of the American Arms to the Northward, and wish to God I could relate something equally agreeable to you from this Quarter, but I am ever unfortunate in that particular - Our Post on the Island in the River which commands the Navigation, was a few days ago evacuated, after a very brave resistance for several weeks, since which we are at a loss to conjecture what our movements will be, for they seem intirely to depend upon those of the Enemy.

This Morning three Brigades of Troops from the Northward Arrived in Camp, which is a considerable Reinforce to our Army, which receives no Assistance from the inhabitants of the Country, who are ^{out of} every hundred, Tories - they have in this State 70 Thousand militia and we never get more than 2 or 3 Hundred to join the Army. Indeed had Mr. Howe Venter'd as much in New England as he has here, I believe he would have finish'd his business before now, however thank God they are sick and as they won't fight, they must be made to pay those that do.

A few days we intend to send a man home to you. I shall write you fully concerning business, in the mean time I

wish you could find some careful Steady Man, who would hire for
the Winter, I want all the Horses that will do for Sale, to be Stabled
and put in the best order, and as Jacob cannot alone take the
proper care, I would have you get Help at any Rate — they
are now worth a great sum of Money, and will in the Spring
be worth much more, I intend then to sell all Jean's Horses —

Our pay Rolls are not so that I ^{made out} ^{have} not draw any Money
but by the man whom we shall find, you will receive Money
to finish with old Baw, and buy soon after with buy one to
whom a bill is due — There is not a single Article in the Goods
way in all this Country, not a skin of Ham or yard of tapestry.
Hair has been tied in a strip of El skin this two months
Therefore for Gowns and ~~Robes~~ ^{Robes} &c you must get them else
where if possible, nor do I know a single Article Jean bring my Sweet
Girl from home unless a Receipt to make buckwheat cakes may
be called so — they are a banditti of Rascals and Detestables, I have
paid three shillings for washing a shirt — Rum is 16 dollars
a gallon ^{brown} sugar 2 dollars a pound butter 1 dollar a pound and
Everything else in proportion, yet we think nothing of all these
things while we can anyway contribute to the Establishment of
Freedom, and the Protection of all that is Dear to us, with
pleasure I look forward to those happy days when these Troubles are
over, and I shall sit with thee the pride of my heart in my lap
and recount the many Adventures that occur in the life of a
Soldier, when whatever our propensities may be we shall be joined
in the enjoyment of them — That Heaven may bless my Charmer with
perfect health and every Enjoyment is the constant Wish of her Ever

Affectionate Saml Blackden

My Dear Sally

(13) From Salem Oct 14. 1778
From S. M. K. 1778

(13)
At last I have been so happy as to procure the
Negro from Delaware who he has made me pay a pretty high
price for them, but as I know you wanted the woman, and
as ⁱⁿ doing anything to promote your happiness, I am amply
paid in the pleasure it gives me I never value the
Expense, fifteen hundred dollars I have given for the two
Upon the most strict enquiry among people
who know them I have the best Character of the woman
Every one speaks well of her, the man has a fault, he
is apt to be saucy and impertinent, and is not over
fond of working, the first I think I can correct the
last I will put up with - but that you may have
no trouble with him, I shall keep him for the present
with me, I have no doubt but they will ^{be} contented &
Happy in their situation ~

I have sent John Camp up and desire you
to send Jacob with the horn cart to Salem to bring up the
woman, she has so much clothing bedding and so forth
that she cant come on horseback and it will be
saving a great Expense to send Jacob - I beg my dear Sally
you will pay the greatest Attention to the direction I now give
Let the horn cart be well loaded, the Hackling be properly
mixed, and the brown horse tried in it before he sets out -
Let him pull in as much hay as will serve on the Road
he must not froth the horse by any means but come ready

and Nowly In — I shall Meet him at Salem and his
Honor is concerned in the good looks of the horse, I would
have him about Early next Tuesday morning but not travel
harder than to be at Salem Thursday afternoon Twenty five
miles a day will do, the Reason of my being thus particular
is that I suppose Jacob not much acquainted with Journeys &
I want the Bredon horse to be kept in good Order for
work in the winter — Your own good sense and Judgment
my lovely partner will dictate to you to keep a strict eye and
a very steady hand with this Woman until you become
perfectly acquainted with her — indeed my dear friend say no more
than to beg you to be attentive and you will soon discover
her merit and her faults — I flatter myself continually
with the hopes of being soon with you but at all times
am determined to be at home next winter in Consequence
you will have some attention ^{paid} to the favorite house —

I am my Charmer just mounting my horse for
a short Ride on duty and will conclude my letter when I
stop — Adieu Heavens bless you —

Salem Oct 6th 29. 1778 —

My Charmer. I have come here and finished the matter
about the Negro. Frank will stay with me and Jerry
will remain here until Carol arrives — By all means
get Wilson to collect the sheep If he Rides now let it be
soon — beg Letter to procure two Barrels of Pork for you
and I will make him Amends — Yours in haste my Dear
Sam^l Blackman —

My Dear Sally

London August 17. 1792

I have received yours of the 4th, the reason why you have not more frequently heard from me is, that I flattered myself from day to day that a final settlement would take place between me and Claiborne, which all my endeavours have been able to effect —

I have made him the most advantageous offer and have given up much more than I ought to do, to bring the whole matter to a conclusion but I find to day that he is not capable of conducting his own business, and that after all my endeavours to obtain a settlement I am just where I was before —

Our worthy friend B. — has been indefatigable in the business, and has exerted himself as much for me as I should in like circumstances have done for him, tomorrow I hope and expect that all things will be settled, and it is possible I may come to Paris. Post haste, in the interim you are able to judge what you should do for your personal safety, and nobody can direct you better than our friends at N^o 63. — say to Col. S. — that I have not ^{answered} his two letters for reasons that I shall give him, and which will be satisfactory, but that I will pursue his

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Copy London August 17. 1792
A. Madame

Madame Blavie

N^o 44. Rue de la Harpe

Place Louis XV

N^o 1. Paris

visions as soon as my affairs with Eliza — are finished which
have taken up all my time

Your Patriotic letter to Mr. Barlow of the 4th has
been read to us this day you are the first daughter of
Liberty and we have drank your health in
a full Harvard of Porter —

Do not my dear Sally, we shall do every
with B. — W. and Leaven — we are attached to me by the
strongest ties of friendship and will bring my business to
a happy conclusion — Keep up your spirits as you ought
to do, and believe me Unalterably yours

J. B. —

London August 30th 1792

My Dear Sally

I have your favor of the 26th and supposing you have gone to Havre I address my letter there.

The terms of Settlement between me and Clara were agreed upon more than three weeks ago but the attorney, have made such bad work of it that the writings are not finished, we have changed them several times, but they are all alike, notwithstanding I hope we shall now finish in a day or two and then I shall set out for Havre.

It would not give you any entertainment if I was to relate to you all the embarrassments that have impeded us in the business, Mr. Barlow has been indefatigable, and Mr. Leavenworth exceedingly kind in giving me advice and assistance.

Clairborne is married, and is so great an idiot that he is obliged to put his Affairs into the hands of Mr. Ramsay, with whom we are making the Settlement, and happy shall I be when tis done.

I should not have wrote you to day but to assure you that I am well, as an Evidence of which I have eat half a pound at least of corn'd beef a large plate of wicannon & half a pudding, I have drank a pint of port.

A. Madam

Madame Blackwell

Au sein de Monfr. Muller

Negotiant

A. Havre de Grace

and shall drink another before I go to bed, but I
have not tasted a glass of wine these three weeks
I have pursued the use of a medicine which I
found in London and begin to have the complexion of
an Adams, and can hardly trust myself. Among the
Ladies, they pay me so many compliments, indeed I believe
there are several secretly in love with me, however
don't be afraid you have the entire possession of the
Heart and Affections of — J. B.

My Dear Sally

Lisbon 27th May 1794 —

I wrote you from Havre by Capt. Wilson but as he did not sail till the day we did you may perhaps receive this as soon as that by him.

I am onboard a Danish Ship so that there is no fear of the Algerines, we arrived (after a passage of twelve days) the day before yesterday, but I have not yet got permission to go on shore tho' I expect it to day.

We shall stay here a fortnight during which I shall write you more fully, at present I have nothing to communicate but as the ship which will take this sail this tide I would not omit giving you a line —

Remember me kindly to all friends and accept my sincere love and Affection from yours
Forever —

J. Blackden

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From Lisbon

May 27 1794

From S. Blackden

Mrs Blackden

To the care of Mess^{rs}. Sam Broom
& Co. Merchants

New York

My Dear Sally—

Philadelphia Septem^r 8.th 1794.

Joanin's Hotel 4th Street

It was my intention to set out tomorrow for New York but I cannot before next week, as the Captain whom I came with ~~and to~~ whom I am under the greatest obligation is gone to Baltimore and being a stranger I must wait upon him to New York—besides I have some business with the President which must be done first, therefore should you arrive before we have patience for a few days and write me and particularly write me where your brother Luther is—I am still upon crutches but am getting better, to which I've much contributed—Give my love to our Dear friend Mr. Platt whom I hope to find well & happy

Adieu ever yours—

J. B.

(22)

(22) From Philadelphia

Sept. 8. 1774

(ES
13)

From S. B.

11

Mr. Blackden

Care of Messrs. Broome & Platt—

Merchants

New York

My Dear Sally —

Philadelphia Octob^r. 17. 1794 —

Your Man is safe, so set your heart at rest on that head — your brother will set off at 3 o'clock to bring you here, where I wish you to be placed during my Absence, as he will tell you everything, I need not write further upon the subject — I dined yesterday with M^r. Trazier, his wife is a charming woman and will make much of you, I count upon eight or ten agreeable people to form your society, to wit Miss Anthony, M^r. Trazier, M^r. Knot, M^r. Holcot, M^r. Montgomery & Daughter, M^r. Teller, and if you cant find that enough among them, you will soon find others —

The Reason why I have not given an Answer to M^r. Brown, is because it has not been determined till last evening where Cap^t. Sturck would go, He now desires me to inform M^r. Brown that the ship goes to Boston to take in a cargo and from thence to Lisbon, that M^r. Browns company will be very agreeable to him and to avoid the appearance of Obligation he may lay in his own store —

I hope as you will receive this some time sooner by the post, than your brothers arrival you will be ready to set off, as my journey is deferred to embrace you
Adm^y. S.B.

⑦

From Philadelphia
Oct. 17. 1794

From J. B.

SD

⑦
17
94

Mrs Blackden

N^o 46 Wall Street

New York

Robert Smith
Shops Lane

My Dear Sally

Boston Septm^r 18th 1799-

Though I have been here a fortnight it was not till yesterday I could see Mr. Bradford, he being in the Country - he has not a penny of Swans money, and notwithstanding he is his Agent and holds his sole power of attorney he has used him as bad as he has me, - I have seen Col. H - m. he speaks severely of him, but of this when we meet - he says a bond of the person in question (Sw m) for any amount would not bring a dollar, but has advised me to a Mode for Recovery -

I must stay here untill I obtain money for our support ~~and~~ till the bond can be procured and recorded, which can only be done by his person, as he has conveyed away all his property - This I hope to effect in a few days, and will fly on the wings of Affection to my Dear Sally -

J. Blackden

18 18 From Boston Sept. 18-1799
From S. Blandin 17

Mr. Blandin

at Mr. Powell's N^o 34

BOSTON

Day Street

New York

From New York
July 8. 1840
From S. C.

Wm. L. Blackden

Valerburg

Connecticut

My Dear Sally - New York July 8th 1840

This morning I received your kind letter of the first instant. I have wrote you ^{before} this, which was considered to the care of Mr. Cotton in conveying it to your name. I ~~was~~ ^{then} informed you of everything that could be said at the time, but as I did not keep copies I don't know the dates, in future they shall be put down in my Memoranda.

Mr and Mrs. Cotton have called to see me once, and Mr. Cotton by himself once more within three weeks. My clothes were sent home on Saturday ^{as} ~~which~~ arranged with her to be washed, I asked the girl to call on Monday for my things, but three weeks has slipped by, and I have neither seen nor heard from them. The person that washed for them took them last Monday ^{told me}.

Mr. Fortune Mansfield was in town, and he would bring him to see me, which he never did and whether he is gone or not I can't tell.

Mr. Ryckman call'd on me, I believe she is gone into the country.

I have neither seen nor heard of Mr. Palmer, Rogers was here about a fortnight ago he said he was going for a few days to the ~~country~~.

Mr. Sanders call'd also, he is gone to Mrs. Brunswick. I never had
Mr. Tammell with us, he desires his kindest respects to any connection with him but none, and his conduct
you. Some of the former letters mentioned in did not display either honor or honesty.
I found you that I had written to Mr. Hall upon
the receipt of the letter and parcel which was not gratified feelings for her friendly attention to you,
and the letter was given to Mr. Quary.

From the appearance of European News it is
generally believed that our Commissioners have be-
lieved and we may hardly expect them from there.

By the English papers it appears that Chidding
had had hired a drunken, crazy journeyman to
to fire a charge of powder at him in the Blackhouse
in order to make a noise and produce another
Lord of address to the throne while he was there.

10th July - In hopes of a private conveyance the journey
has been kept out now if I don't find one it will go by
post. It is not possible for me to make the money
sum for your return, and if it was, at this moment
when the whole city are travelling under the influence
of a visit of the epidemic, it would be imprudent, it
more probable if I don't go to see Mr. L. - if means
can be found I shall come up the North River.

Rogers has returned and called yesterday, he desired
a thousand good things to you, from himself and family.
Take no notice of it. He the same I mean, come I shall

To Mr. Hall I beg you to express my
grateful feelings for her friendly attention to you,
nothing in the world could lay me under so
much obligation, and it is with a pleasing hope
I anticipate the hour, when I shall have it within the
compass of my abilities to show her how sensible
I am of her kindness, to the rest of our friends, I say
all the kind things that are due - give my
thanks to your Mother & Mr. Holmes, and
of the affection of your. (S.B.)

My Dear Sally

Norfolk June 12th 1801—

We sailed at half past four o'clock on Friday from New York and we arrived here Tuesday at the same hour consequently we were just four days and though we had, wind, and fair, and calm, it may be accounted a good passage, it was as to company agreeable enough—

It has rained ever since I arrived and so hard there is no looking out of doors, as soon as the weather clears up I shall proceed to Washington—

The family are in good health, Betty is a very fine girl, and in a few years will be tall enough, she is slender, very straight, has beautiful eyes, and the finest eye lashes I ever saw, her education has been as much as possible attended to— Olive is a fine healthy child and young Ben is a forward ^{boy} ~~and~~ talks very plain and means like a Virginian—

I beg you to remember me kindly to all our friends, and depend upon hearing from me as soon as possible after my arrival at Washington, by which opportunity I shall inform you of what may occur and of my future plans. I am, my dear Sally, of the sincerest good wishes for your health
Yours Affly

(J.P.)

From Norwalk

June 12. 1841.

From S. Dime to Dear Lady

25

Mr. Sully Blackden

Care of Mr. J. Platt

New Haven

Connecticut

New York Aug 29 - 1802
From New York
(8) Aug. 29. 1802
S. Blackston

On Sir

By the arrival of Mr. Tuck-
er's note happy in hearing of your
health and fortitude and most
sincerely do I wish for its continuance

Having nothing worth
commencing I hope you will
excuse me of expressing like I talk
about myself - I have for these seven
years past been toying about from
place to place without any settled
habitations - Mr. Tuck-
er's owes him a great deal of money
has left the country - having carried
away all his property, and I am
convinced he does not intend to return

Our claim of Congress the
particulars of which you can know
from the Public Papers have been
rejected - but from an intervention
Mr. Blackston has lately had with the
president we are flattered with
the hope of yet obtaining some-
thing the next session of Congress
Mr. Blackston is yet capable
of doing business but without a
capital it is impossible here

to do anything to any purpose - but
could be usefully employed he
would willingly come to France
as if you are of an opinion that
something might be recovered from
Dalland can I see the object would
be worth pursuing - in short
my friend ^{you} already see my situation
is peculiarly unpleasant - and beg
you on that account to pardon the
extremely I like in writing to you
thus freely and of asking advice
from you by the first possible
conveyance - pretend me in the
kindest manner to Mrs Levenworth
and believe me your sincere
Friend J. B. Buckden

I My dear Aunt

Geneva 15th May 1803

The length of time that has elapsed since we have interchanged letters has deprived me almost of a subject on which to write you. I shall only make one apology for this seeming neglect, which is that I have been frequently told that you was going to France and from the reports believed you was there until my brother John told me he saw you in N. York this Spring. I am certain there is not one of your friends that holds you in higher estimation than I do and hope we may be in future more liberal with our pen ink and paper. I was at Richd's house last week where I found Father and Richard wife very unwell, the latter so much so that I think it doubtful whether she ever recovers her health again. Richard contemplates sending her to N. York and Long Island for the benefit of the Sea air. I shall probably accompany him and shall make it my business to find you immediately on my arrival in the City. If it should so happen that I should not accompany my sister I hope you will do me the honour to write

Geneva May 16th

John 20

Mrs. Sarah Blackden

My dear Aunt

me. I am ashamed of my neglect in this instance, but I do think you are also a little dilatory in these matters too.

Some of your friends and acquaintance in this County are in general in very good health and often speak of you. Myron Holly is in Canada and and proposes settling in that town in the profession of Law, he appears to be a very good young man and I think will do business to advantage.

There is now in this town a young Lady from Mendham N. Jersey by the name of Lucy Riggs who will return in a few days to New Jersey by the way of N. York she is a very fine worthy young lady and is much respected by our friends and acquaintance in this County. I shall not hesitate to tell so good a friend as you are to me, that I esteem him very much and if accident should through him in your way I hope you will take particular notice of him. His parents are wealthy and respectable people and live about 25 miles from N. York she is a very fine girl tho not very handsome, possesses

a good mind and is very friendly she will be proud of an acquaintance with you and I ^{am} certain she will derive much benefit from an acquaintance with a person that has seen as much of the world and mixed with the polite circles as you have, I do not ~~know~~ ^{think} that you will ever see her but if you should do remember her on my account. I shall do all in my power to persuade sister Patty to go to New York where if I accompany her I hope to see you -

Accept my best wishes for your future happiness -

Yours sincerely

M. H. H. H.

[Signature]

January 8th 1808 - Greenwich Street N 266

My dear Sister

I have within a few days written
to Sister Bennett and enclosed my letter in
one to Mrs. Stanton two days after I received
one from Mrs. Stanton and as she mentions her
intention of going soon to Connecticut I
fear she will not get my letter till her
return to Vermont - it is therefore that I
think for Betty to write her and let
her know the contents of my letter in
case she is to be absent for a long time
This however I consider of no great
consequence and in lay no means the
cause of my writing to you I write
because I have long contemplated the
propriety of addressing you once more
before the opportunity is past of saying

Mrs. Lydia Child Wedge

Burlington

Vermont



to you that I am well informed the very
alarming state of your health and that it is
my most earnest desire to see you once more
whether I do or not depends on the progress
of your disease and getting the means
to accomplish the journey but all is
uncertain and while I am meditating upon
it. Ever that may take place and which
to me would be sorrow indescribable I may
be laid upon "Sick bed and go to my Grave
long before you would to God it might
be so - and that you may be yet spared to
your friends spared to your family "that God
would lead you that he would make these sick
as he would have us all to be, gives us daily
increase of Charity Strengthens our faith
Confirms our hope, may he see Thy Children
and those that would come to him even if they
be afar off and bring us all to the full
fruition of the glory and perfection of God and

the Father the Son and the Holy Ghost to whom
Be praise honor and adoration given by all angels
and all men and ^{all} Creatures now and for ever
more - Give ^{my} most affectionate regards
to Sister Bennett and tell her the little
I know how ^{much} I rejoice at any good that may
happen to her and her Children and that
I hope her present prospects may be
improved. But we hear from you all
and that without delay - Love to Charles
and Lydia and Polly Mr & Mrs Smith
to their Children and I salute my friends
to your good and much respected
husband and be peace one with the
most earnest solicitude for your health
and life your very affectionate Sister
Sarah Blackden

There will no man - tell the girls
to write immediately

Saturday July 2d 1809

This letter My Dear Sister is Equally
addressed to you Both I write because it is
my duty to write and let you know what
~~you~~ I am sure you both wish to know
and can learn from no one so well as my
self, I give you no information with
respect to our Mother with any idea of
making you uneasy because more is not
done for her, she knows and we all
know that you do all for her that
is in your power, were you both nearer
to her you now might be of great
assistance to her, that assistance and that
aid and help that she sent to us when
we were unable to think or ask for
our selves - I have now been with her better
than two months and in all that time I
think she has been rapidly declining
her voice is extremely feeble her
memory has failed her very much and
at times is quite unable to get to the
Bed or Back to the fire without
help she has indeed fallen down
several

Saturday July 2d 1809

Mrs. Liza Childs

Burlington

Vermont

know and then believe to me that she
shall never walk any more that she
you are in open for her and that she shall
soon go and be visited to her children
and thus is extremely grieved that she
cannot see Lydia and Oliver once
more and then gets your stockings
and will have them on and the Cape
you sent her - and takes down my
Jewell and hangs up yours so that
we see that I must not think so
much of what I do for her. Sometimes
she puts her finger in the dunn in
the stockings you sent - ^{say} that it looks
just like yours and that she means to
keep them - but she has worn them
almost out, after all this she falls a
sleep and then wakes up full of
gratitude for what I have done
she says she must have died if I
had not come to her relief it is
true I have done a great deal for
her and never have I known any
pleasure in satisfaction equal to that
of preparing a little viands and
sometimes

feeding her in you would feed us
instantly she frequently makes me need
to her and often gives me the 12 part
of the 119 psalm (Watts) to read saying that
is her Cape and will God pardon will
he forgive will God have mercy on
her this is what she says and is ~~repeated~~
futile of her approaching end I don't
however think she will die so soon as
many apprehend. Some are of opinion that
she will not live till September whether
she does or not I must leave her the minister
thinks of my own health and other
obliges me to quit for the present
we are now trying to get some one
to take care of her and if I get better
and she should live will endeavor to
come again as soon as I can
present my kindest regards

to your husband and children to
father Amos Eldredge & her children
and believe me your
Affectionate Father

Mrs. Jones & Miss
Amos Eldredge

W. Blackburn

Dear Sally - White Plains July 14. 1770

Col Blackellen, the moment Mr Prime
arrived at our Camp was Obliged to go
head Quarters desired me to say
how I ye for him - I am going on
Command Myself hear only say we
are quite well & happy. Gen. Washington
Crosses Hudsons River to day & tomorrow
Something will soon be done -

I am in the utmost haste - My
Love to all - Yours

Jos. Stoddard



10 10

From Jas. Stedland

July 14-1770

From 74 1/2 1/2

M^{rs} Sally Blackden
Salisbury

~~Dr~~

Camp May 25th

By last Post I acknowledged
the receipt of your paper, and gave
you a description of our situation.
No attention has as yet taken place,
and God knows how long I shall be
kept in this disagreeable state of
suspense - Doctor Townsend, whom
I beg leave to introduce to you,
can acquaint you particularly
with every thing relative to the
Camp. The only inducement I
have for continuing a moment
longer in the prospect of receiving
a sum of money on our part.

(5) From Camp -

May 25 -

Encl. Signed Wm. Jackson

Wm. Jackson

Wm. Jackson

Wm. Jackson

diminished, for I am most heartily
disgusted with my situation—

I mean to remember me
affectionately to my Aunt & the
rest of the Family, and believe
me to be with perfect Esteem

Yrs. &c. &c. &c.
L. B.

Willingly would I devote my time to
 her if I could Love to your family
 and am affectionately yours
 Love Lydia in Pally 183-

To write me to New York is usual in writing
 prevent one letter will do Postage is expensive

Mr. Lydia C. Edwards
 Burlington
 Vermont
 Bell

I have to give flowers and tell her
 I have nothing but worth counting
 without

June 23^d New York

My dear Sister

Since putting your letter into
 the Post office I have a letter from Mr and
 Mrs Barlow requesting me to set off
 immediately for Washington that is to
 make them a visit for two or three or
 six months provided the embargo should
 not be taken off which for the present
 prevents my going to Cumaco - my
 extreme dependant situation leaves me
 no alternative I am obliged to go shall
 set off on Monday next and shall
 return when I can do better perhaps in
 two months - I regret very much that I
 cannot see you before I go and that I
 shall be at such a distance from our
 mother she is becoming very weak and
 feeble and requires constant care and

attentions I had a severe injury in my
last visit to her I took my bed with
me and staid in the house with her
for near four weeks - I washed and
scoured and made and mended for her
till I got her quite comfortable
Richard Stetson gave her some money
which she had provided enough to pay out
in wheat and tea sugar and such things
as she wanted I added something in staid
I have done all I can do for the present
she has striped me - they have now some
grains of various sorts coming on they have
butter and cheap Indian meal and some
flour and I cannot help thinking they
may get thro another winter tolerably
comfortable - if you can and I am sure you
will if possible send her two pairs of
soft coarse woollen stockings and another
pair of old one is just as good as
a new one I asked mother how

Capit Holmes believed she told me her
Beloved is well in any body that was
born in the old country that he was
a natural fool - your letter is to be
understood and highly to your satisfaction
they want to see you and since very much
together told me since would put up with
anything and live any way - she seemed
pleased however at first that I took all the work
upon my self and Cook for Holmes which
by the way I had rather provide for her
but on the whole we did pretty well
and mother was very much to be
told to Holmes and tell him that she
must do no more work I know she
always hated work and that she now
felt unable to do anything - indeed I
saw in my mother my own helpless
situation when a child and what she had
done for me when unable to do for my
self was now due to her and must

I must confess that the dear
write you particularly of my Uncle, was
make you any way uneasy with the
you had so long neglected - Was as
Apparatus let me and my dear
Imagine

of writing and you neglecting them
However no kidding; let us
strive to render our lives agreeable by always
everything that may add to each others happiness
you and Rain our smile on that lovely face
more delight than the applause of thousands
by Dr. Whaler who will be here in a few days
I may that a moment to come to Salisbury -

With what pleasure do I sit down to perform my promise to my
Lovely Sally; to repeat to her my sincere wishes for her
Happiness and contentment. during my absence, which shall
not be longer than necessity absolutely requires, when I will
with the blessing of Heaven, return to my chamber with
a heart running over with transport and rapture, and
crown our mutual wishes with glowing ardor

And now let me remind you, Sally, of her promise
to be constant and attentive to me

31

31

To the Honorable the Senate and House
of Representatives of the United States, in Congress
Assembled

The Memorial of Samuel Blackden
late a Lieutenant Colonel of Light Dragoons in the
Army of the United States in the Revolutionary War

Respectfully Sheweth

That on the first of May 1775 your memorialist
with a few friends, set out from Salisbury in the State
of Connecticut Upon an expedition planned by the
late General Wooster, and countermanded by the
General Assembly of that State, against Lyndonroga,
Crown Point, and Munciborough

That at Bennington Colonel Ethan Allen joined
him, and raised about two hundred men, with
he proceeded to Castleton, where Colonel Allen was
chosen to command this band of Volunteers

That they succeeded in the capture of those places
and of the Enemy who were there, which furnished
a very considerable stock of Artillery, Arms and Am-
munition to the public, for which as far as his knowledge
extends, they never received the smallest compensation

That on the death of his much lamented friend
General Montgomery, your Memorialist went as a
Volunteer with the first Reinforcement to Quebec, carrying
in his Flight the Captain of a company of one hundred
men, the first also passed the lakes in Flight and the
River S^t Lawrence on the ice, this was the first Party
that arrived from the three Colonies.

Upon your Memorialists coming to Quebec, he
was appointed to do the Duty of Colonel ~~in the~~
Adjutant General for the Northern Army who had
returned sick to New York, for this Service he received
no pay.

That some time after he received a Commission
signed John Hancock, dated April 4th 1776. Appoint-
ing him Major of Brigade.

That your Memorialist did the Duty of Major
of Brigade, and Adjutant General, during the Remain-
der of the Siege and on the Retreat, and continued to
serve until he was appointed by his Excellency Gen^l
Washington without any solicitation on his part
and much against his personal interest, Major of
Second Regiment of Light Dragoons, which Company
he accepted, and undertook the Part of procuring Arms,
Accoutrements, Clothing and horse Furniture, which
he performed, so that five complete Troops were with
the Commander in Chief long before the Battle of

Brandywine, and the Sixth troop to the Northward
with General Gates, ~

That after the Battles of Brandywine and Germantown
when the Army wintered at Valley Forge, the General was
pleased to give your Memorialist a commission as Lieutenant
Colonel of Cavalry to take Rank from the 7th of April pre-
ceding, which was then considered as equal to a Colonel
of Infantry, And by this Commission to take Rank from
the Twelfth of April preceding, this though of no personal
advantage to your Memorialist he considers as a Mark
of kind attention and of the Approbation of his General
which he is proud to possess and to cherish ~

That in the Summer of 1779. the affairs of the Second
Regiment to which your Memorialist was attached
were in such a situation that he wished to Retire, and
after a conference and correspondence with the Commander
in Chief he Received a discharge which Accompanies this ~

That Soon After the Board of War employed your
Memorialist in the clothing Department, in which
continued during the War ~

So that if your Memorialist was not in the fight-
ing Department of the Army at the exact time when
depreciation of Pay, Commutation of half Pay, and
donations of land were granted, yet he was more early
engaged in the cause of Liberty and independence than
many of his comrades, and as labouriously as any
to the conclusion of the War, which makes a term of eight

Eight years and four months, to wit from the taking of
Tyconderoga in May 1775 to August 1779. Four years and
And four months in Arms, and four years in the Staff
Department —

At the conclusion of the War having expended
more than half his property in the course of his Service
your Memorialist went to Europe and was out of the
way at the time of making Application for Compen-
sation for Service rendered the United States — He
never intended to trouble your Honourable Body on the
subject — But an accidental Fall has put him upon
crutches for more than six years past whilst the endea-
vours for effecting a cure, have been attended with
much expense without any success —

That in his present crippled Situation your
Memorialist does not conceive any mode of Application
so proper as a direct one to the justice of the Govern-
ment of his Country, who have so liberally Voted compensation
to Messrs La Fayette and Kosciusko —

When your Memorialist retired from the
Regiment, he settled all public Accounts, as well as
with the Paymaster from whom he received 1173 1/2
dollar balance of pay which upon faith in the promise
of the public he has procured, and will be found with
the Papers accompanying this Memorial —

My Dear Sally —

Love's Lower End of Sharon
Monday Afternoon —

The one detained here by the storm, I am
very unhappy to think it should happen just at this distance
if it had been at home it would have been well, but
on our Road.
Now twenty miles, rather ~~it~~ would have suited our
interests the the better — however we must submit
to it. I am always in such a hurry that I
forget many things. Intended to say something of business
but hope you will be able to prepare things for
Winter Comfortably —

From down is to get out the Manure
and spread it on the Meadow for ten pounds —

If you can get any man to help Jacob
have some wood got home before bad weather comes
on — be very careful in saving your stock. Don't
spare salt — I don't see not but for
the Hides let Green have them, Capt. Burdall will
weigh them and give you the Weight —

You shall hear from me in a few days!
In the mean time Adieu, my dear you —
O S Blackden

Levers, lower end of
are
or state —
in S. Blagden

10

You have frequently observed to me my Dear Mrs Blackden that you thought me unhappy - I felt a delicacy in telling you ^{the cause} but you should consider it less a grievance than I do - I should still continue to conceal it if there was not some probability of redress if I knew who to apply to - My friends with whom I have been living about four years have been extremely kind to me - & have forbore urging me to connect myself tho I have had one or two eligible opportunities - one has lately presented which they consider too advantageous to be neglected - he is a man of sense Education & property - but so very unlike the persons with whom I have lived - that it appears to me impossible to reconcile my feelings to such a connection - & were my pecuniary circumstances such as I could wish - I would never do it - but you know my anxiety for my dear little William - I can sacrifice my own happiness for his benefit & will do it if it is necessary

I have property Mrs Blackden which would enable me to live independant of my friends if it was differently situated - I have land in Ontario County worth fifteen hundred or two thousand dollars - and which is daily growing more valuable - but which if sold now would not perhaps fetch half its value - if I could put that in pledge, or sell it to some person who has the property to spare & who would not take advantage of my necessity - I could get me a small place in some agreeable neighbourhood - where with economizing & the interest of one thousand dollars I have in the funds I could support myself & child with decency.

I have been thinking that was I personally acquainted with
Mr. Burr. I would make known my situation to him - not
merely on account of his having "A tear for pity & A hand
for melting charity" but he was A particular friend of
my husband - I think I have heard you say Mr. Melukden
that you had some acquaintance with him - if you have
enough to justify you in making an application for me
& think there is no impropriety in doing it. I am too well
convinced of your friendship to suppose you need urging -

If you should think proper my Dear Mr. B -
to interest your self in this business - I must beg of you
not to let him know my name unless he is sure he
can befriend me - I find that my misfortunes have
not yet subdued My Pride

I would just hint to you, that this business must be
done soon if ever - as I have staid in town only to try
to adopt some plan - & have engaged to give A decisive
Answer by the twentieth of May

I am willing that you should let your husband see
this, & that you conduct it as you & he may think proper

with confidence & Esteem yours

Mrs. Sally Melukden

No. 260. Pearl Street.