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It is not a great while since I wrote my dear Friend on my disappointment in not paying her a Visit. Now methinks I hear her wondering how it is with her Cambridge Friends, who are at this time delugd with British & Hessian, what shall I cell them? who are Prancing & Patrolling every Corner of the Town, ornamented with their glittering Side arms, Weapons of destruction. A short detail of our Situation may perhaps amuse you. you will be able to form a judgment of our unhappy Circumstances. Last thursday, which was a very Stormy day, a large number of British Troops Came Softly thro the Town Via Watertown to Prospect hill. on Friday we heard the Hessians werto make a Procession in the same rout, we thot we should have nothing to do with them, but View them as they Passt. To be sure the sight was truly Astonishing, I never had the least Idea, that the Creation produc such a Sordid Set of Creatures in human Figure— poor dirty emaciated men, great numbers of women, who seemd to be the beasts of burthen, having a bushel basket on their back, by which they were bent double, the contents seemd to be Pots & kettles, various sorts of Furniture, children peeping thro gridirons & other utensils. Some very young Infants who were born on the road, the women barefoot, cloathd in dirty raggs Such Effluvia filld the air while they were passing, had they not been smoaking all the time, I should have been apprehensive of being Contaminated by them. After a noble Looking advanced Guard Genl J-y B n. headed this terrible group on horseback, The other Gl also, cloathd in Blue Cloaks. Hessians Waldecker Auspachers Brunswickers &c. &c. &c. followd on. The Hessian Gl gave us a Polite Bow as they Passd. Not so the British

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their Baggage Waggons drawn by poor *[illegible]* half starved horses. But to bring up the rear, another fine Noble looking Guard of American Brawny Victorious Yeomanry, who assisted in bringing these Sons of Slavery to Terms, Some of our Waggons drawn by fat oxen, driven by joyous looking Yankees Closd the *[illegible]* cavalcade. The Generals & other Officers went to Bradishs, where they Quarter at present. The Privates trudgd thro thick & thin To the hills, where we thot they were to be Confind, but what was our Surprise when in the morning we beheld an inundation of those disagreeable objects filling our streets? How mortifying is it? they in a manner demanding our Houses & Colleges for their genteel accommodation. Did the brave G- Gates ever mean this? Did our Legislature Legislature ever intend the Military should prevail above the Civil? is there not a degree of unkindness in loading poor Cambridge, almost ruined before? ~~with~~ This great army seem to be let loose upon us. & what will be the Consequence time will discover. Some Polite ones say, we ought not to look in them as Prisoners they are persons of distinguishd rank. perhaps we too must not View them in the light of enemys. I fear this distinction will be soon lost. Surprising that our Gl, or any of our Cl ~~should~~ should insist on the first University in America being disbanded for their more genteel accommodation, & we poor oppressd people seek an Assylum in the woods against a piercing Winter. where is the stern Virtue of an As who opposd such an infraction

in former days? who is there to plead our Cause? Pity. Pity it is our Assembly had not settled these matters before their adjournment It will be vastly more difficult to abridg them after ~~after~~ Such an unbounded License. perhaps you may see some of them at Plimouth. for my part I think, insults Famine & a Train of evils present to

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View. Gl. B-n din'd a Saturday in Boston with Gl. Hh.

He rode thro the Town properly attended down Court Street & thro the main street, & on his return walkt on foot to Charlestown Ferry Followd by as great a Number of Spectators as ever attended a pope & generously observd to an officer with him the Decent & modest behavior of the inhabitants as he passd, Saying if he had been Conducting Prisoners thro the City of London, not all the Guards of Majesty Could have prevented Insults. He likewise acknowledges Lincoln & Arnold to be great Generals. It is said we shall have not Less than Seven thousand persons to feed in Cambridge & its environs, more than its inhabitants. Two hundred & fifty cord of wood will not serve them a week, think then how we must be distresst. wood is risen to £5.10 pr Cord. & little to be purchasd. I never thought I could lie down to sleep Surrounded by these enemies. but we strangely become enured to those things which appear difficult when distant.

While I am writing a Neighbor comes in with an enlivned Countenance to tell us, Gl How has Surrenderd to Gl Washington but can we suffer ourselves to believe Providence will so marvelously appear for us? ah the Events of Battles are so Precarious we dare not indulge the thought till it is confirmd by the best authority my Partner joyns me in the Sincerest regards to General Warren & Lady. & as you must be tird by this time of my chit chat.

allow me to Subscribe Ever Yours

Cambridge Novr 11th 1777

PS

Gl. Bn. has repeatedly said he was Convinced it was impossible Great Britain should ever Subdue America he therefore wishd a Union might take place that would never be broken, & that he might get home Soon to prevent any more attempts that way.

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