March 25, 1783

RAW TRANSCRIPT

17
Hutts Near New Winsor March 25 1783
Dear Brother this day I have the Happiness of improving any opportunity that comes to send to write to the Best of Brothers and as nothing would be so satisfactory to me as to receive a line from a tender Brother so I flatter this from James Davenport will meet with a favourable reception – as for news of a public nature I have none at Present but hope for a speedy end of this unhappy war so that I may have the happiness of spending some part of my Precious time with some clever Moll especially in the dark part of the day yesterday I had the Pleasure of receiving 4 Letters from Warwick one from Mr Josiah Davenport one from Mrs Sarah Davenport one from Mrs Pratt one from Mr & Mrs Bowman which gave me Great Pleasure to hear from such Clever folks but Josiah Wife was Brought to Bed with a Dead Born Child write to me Sam every opportunity if you please give my kind Love in the first Place to your Wife because she is nearest to you then to My Parents Brothers & Sisters and every one that enquires after a Gentlemen Soldier – I had a fine frolick last night & the Prefumes of the wine ant hardly out of my head yet because I Drinkd a Good Sling this morning – pray write to me by every soldier you see in the Market they all can find me I have not much to write
only it is a fine morning I am in haste so
I Conclude
I am Dear Brother with greatest
respect your Loving & Affectionate Brother
untill Death
James Davenport

MODERNIZED COPY

Huts near New Windsor, March 25, 1783

Dear Brother,

This day I have the happiness of improving an opportunity that comes to
write to the best of brothers, and as nothing would be so satisfactory to
me as to receive a line from a tender brother, so I flatter this from James
Davenport will meet with a favorable reception. As for news of a public
nature, I have none at present but hope for a speedy end of this unhappy
war, so that I may have the happiness of spending some part of my pre-
cious time with some clever Moll, especially in the dark part of the day.
Yesterday, I had the pleasure of receiving four letters from Warwick, one
from Mr. Josiah Davenport, one from Mrs. Sarah Davenport, one from Mrs.
Pratt, and one from Mr. And Mrs. Bowman, which gave me great pleasure
to hear from such clever folks. But Josiah’s wife was brought to bed with a
dead-born child. Write to me, Sam, every opportunity, if you please. Give
my kind love in the first place to your wife, because she is nearest to you,
then to my parents, brothers, and sisters, and to every one that inquires
after a gentleman soldier. I had a fine frolic last night and the perfumes of
the wine ain’t hardly out of my head yet, because I drank a good sling this
morning. Pray write to me by every soldier you see in the market. They
all can find me. I have not much to write, only it is a fine morning. I am in
haste, so I conclude.

I am, dear brother, with greatest respect, your loving and affectionate
brother until death,

James Davenport