

H.M.S. Latona Portsmouth Harbor Feb^y 13th 1798

Honoured Mother

I take this Opportunity of informing you of my good state of Health as I hope this Will find you. I should have Wrote to you since We came in but I have been Very busey; & as I have wrote so many and never had an answer I am almost afraid that this Will never come to hand; but if it Should I shall be glad to have an answer as soon as possible As perhaps it may lay in my Power to send you a little money if you should be in Wants as I have had a Boatswains Warrant this Two years and am at present Boatswain of the Latona Frigate & has been this Nine Months but I cannot say how soon I may get a Larger ship; I have been to New foundland last Summer & I wrote to my brother John at Halifax but I never got an answer and I have not heard of my brother James since I heard from you last & if you have heard any thing of them please to send me word Where they are & if they Are Well as for my sisters I hope to hear from them & of their being Well settled in the World & I hope they Will Write to me as soon as possible as I shall be Uneasy untill I hear from you all

So please to remember me to all enquiring Friends
& Well Wishers

So I remain your ever Dutifull son till Death
Hugh Stevens

P.S. Direct to me on Board H.M.S. Latona
Portsmouth Harbor

As soon as I get an answer to this if you are in Want
I will send you some Money imidately

M^{TS}

Elizabeth Stevens Georges Stairs
nigh the Foot of Pilgrim Street
Newcastle upon Tyne