

FORTSMOUTH

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*Mr. [unclear] [unclear]*  
*Dear Sir*  
*I have the pleasure*  
*to receive your letter*  
*of the 10th inst.*  
*and am glad to hear*  
*that you are well*  
*I am, Sir, your*  
*obedient servant*  
*[Signature]*

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*[Signature]*

Latona, Bithood January 23<sup>rd</sup> 1708

Dear Mother

I received your kind and affectionate  
Letter bearing date the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant but am very  
Unhappy to hear of your being unwell but hope  
God will restore you that blessing once more  
I am bless God in tolerable good health and shall  
Make it my first business to send you all that I  
In My power My situation in life being such  
I can now that if the Ship is belong tomorrow is paid  
Off it shall still be kept in the Service as the case  
Is with all warrant Officers belonging to His Ma-  
jesty's Navy but depends upon it if possible I will  
Obtain Leave to come home to see you the first  
Opportunity I am every one is surpris'd my  
Letters never came to hand the same as My  
Brothers for a long while the direction will be  
As possible I received a Letter from My Brother  
John about a Month ago and he was then in good  
Health at port Royal and commends the Sea service  
The Ship he belongs to had been very bad the Capt.  
Being dead first Lieutenant Boatwain Carpenter  
One Master Mate seven Midshipmen of fifty  
of the crew, you need not be surpris'd in that  
Hearing from My brother as it is very hard  
Getting Letters home but by Gods blessing expect  
I shall be home soon

To see him in England in 3 or 4 Months, is exact  
his Shipping will not be paid off the four Months  
as it will take some time yet. Therefore every thing  
is settled And believe Me dear Mother it gives  
Me Great Satisfaction to hear of My Sisters kind attend  
to you wherein I hope God will reward her you May  
Depend upon every thing in My power with sincere  
prayers for the happiness of seeing you once more  
Also Love and Affection to My Sister her husband  
And <sup>Said family</sup> Family also best wishes to all Enquiring friends  
I Remain your Dutiful & affectionate Son till

Hugh Stevens

W B The Money I shall Remit by Post paying  
It into the Post Office here and their order will  
Be Inclosed for you to Receive it at the Post Office  
Newcastle upon Tyne.