

Cambridge ⁱⁿ March 1798

Dear Nephew

Feb. 25th April -

with pleasure & a most agreeable
surprise did I receive your letter of y^e 29th Dec^r many
circumstances have occur^d which has prevented me from
answering it at y^e time intended; & I am in fears least
your Ship shou^d have left y^e port - you find I am like
all the world apt to flatter myself in thinking a letter
may be agreeable. but how natural it is to judge from
ones own feelings - your apologies are, [&] ought to be excepted
as I know your time must be much taken up in professional
Duties: I will candidly own that I imputed your silence, at
being weary of a Correspondence with your aunt - & tho^t I
Had no right to blame you yet I severely felt its loss.
With your twin of mind y^e company on board a Ship
cannot be pleasant whose Ideas in general extend chiefly
to Coniviality - but you have comforts which to them are
denied they if alone find time heavy & irksome & know
not what to do to amuse them - whereas you can always
find resources within yourself - if providence sends to some
more Trials & likewise Sensibility to feel them yet surely
The pleasures above mention^d are in some degree adequate
if so - the distributions of the almighty are more equal than