

New York 16 of Aug. 1781

M^r. Nathl. Bayles

Sir I Beg Leave to acquaint you that we arrived here on the 11th Inst. After a long tedious Passage of 3 months, the Ship's Company in General is all very Sckely and several is dead on the Passage, Now they are all got on Shore to take Landings, Numbers of our Troops was Sckely and the General's Complaint was the Scurvy

the only thing I have been short of is Coals and before we got ⁱⁿ was oblig'd to Cutt up Rooms and bars and at last got about 1 Chaldren ^{Coals} from 2 different Ships, the Coals in this Place is for Common at 3^d 5^d p^r. Chaldren the Fire wood at 2^d 8^d p^r. Batham, I Give my People one Day Fresh Provisions p^r. Week and that we pay 1^d p^r. Pound for - However the Ship is all in good Order and the Carpent^r is Begun to Caulk the upper Works. I Do not Need setk any thing more Particular at Present, But should be Glad to Hear from you the first opportunity I have sent M^r. Dixon a Certificate for the first six months Impress Sir I am of our much Oby^d. Humble Serv^t

Ship Providence

John Ritchey

New York 27th May 1782

M^r John Nixon

Sir I beg leave to acquaint you
that I drew on you for £100 Sterling on the 10th Inst^t
as also I have drawn on you this Instant for £72
Sterling more for the use of the Ship Providence, the
two said Bills I hope you'll honour, I am sorry
I should have drawn so much Cash at present, but
I hope you'll consider the small outfitt of Provisions
and other Stores for ten Months that is all expended,
and the wages to the Seamen is between two and three
hundred pounds, some of which are paid off. I have three
Months Provisions with other Stores and all Bills paid
off - As there is thirty Sail of us all ordered for Sea
on a minutes notice, thought it proper to carry a
little Money along with me in case of paying more
for it, I shall send my Account home every six Months
to the Owner.

Sir I am your much obliged humble Serv^t
Ship Providence John Ritchie