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It is neither owing to idleness, nor forgetfulness, my dear Brother and
 friend, that neither from Mr. Johnson nor Halifax I did not write; but
 from that I had want of subject on which to write all the day. You
 may well say at this present time that I need not have left to converse
 upon as I am in the open sea above two hundred leagues from
 England. I will allow it: however, man is a man: by which I mean
 he has his sociable, and unsociable hours: my humour is at present
 reasonable, & makes me write: this I guess must appear inaptly
 able, who enjoy all the pleasures & business of life: but those,
 that are obliged in certain situations to find their own amusement,
 or so that account more inclined to think than their neighbours,
 who find every thing out and dryed.

Since I have left England I have been in Newfoundland, a country of
no amusement, but there I was happy, at Halifax a very gay and
lively place full of women and then of the most obliging kind I
visited myself back to the inhospitable shores, foggy atmosphere
rugged barren cliffs of Newfoundland and yet I found in the season
-balls and balls in America: but the reason was that at Plymouth
I was fond of a most lovely girl, with whom I constantly danced,
& ever since every woman appears to me inferior. I was married
-by inclination at Plymouth, but at Plymouth I enjoyed a higher
qualification: don't imagine that I debauched the girl: such
a thought did not once enter my head: the slightest crime under heaven
next to murder is that of debauching innocent women, and is a crime I
can, with a safe conscience, never commit.

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The newspapers have informed me that you have found it necessary to contract
 your expenses, in which I commend you very much, as do the British
 Nation: here, I do not think my head above water, is beyond my com-
 prehension for provisions are so excessively dear abroad in America and
 the West Indies that it is almost impossible to purchase them if you
 will. I suppose still live in London in the winter by the manage-
 ment and a frugal economy you will I suppose soon be very
 thirg in it proper way again.

I may write often and let you know what footing we both are on
 with a translation of our: the longer I remain abroad the more
 likely in my opinion we are to agree with him: if I have my health
 in the West Indies, I shall wish to remain out for my time is really spent

in the most agreeable manner.

Remember me to all my friends in England and America

Your most affectionate Brother,

Dominique

Paris 1st Dec. 1786.

H. R. M. M. Du
off
Dec. 1st 1786