

before the rebel gent^m now called on — I wish to
see you — if this scheme will not do propose
something that will — I have the honour
to be most sincerely your friend &c &c

J. A. Phelps

Dec^r 8. 1780.

S. Winslow Esq^r

Am going this Morning with Capt^m Murray
to York — shall return tomorrow — if in-
convenient for you I call at my Quarters
pray let me know & I will call on you —

Dear Winslow

[Dec. 8, 1780]

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Be not surprised — read with your usual candor
& when you find, as you surely will, a friendly Intention,
certain I am you will pardon this Liberty taken, together
with the Innuendoes &c &c &c

I stand on the Point of Despair — as my Situation
&c is in many Respects similar to yours or very nearly
I shall suppose in describing my own Affairs, I am drawing
in some Sense a picture of yours.

I enjoy a Place with a small Allowance from Govern-
ment — giving neither Rank nor Permanency of Sup-
port — should the War terminate at this Moment &
as it ought, I shall find it uphill Work to extricate
myself & before overtaken by old age, to procure any
thing sufficient for the decent Education &c of my Children.

Here I seem fixed & by no Means in the Way either
of Promotion or Provision — our Friends on the other Side
the Water will catch at every thing in the civil Line
& Government will be ready to gratify in Order to be
rid of them. All Military Employments are disposing
of on this Side the Water to a few of our Friends & Tall
Rebels who will come in & receive them.

In God's Name where shall I find myself?
perhaps you may with some, tho' I hope not equal
Propriety, ask yourself the same Question — how are we
to extricate ourselves — & in what Season or at what Period,
are Questions I fear too difficult of Solution. Suppose
we jointly deliberate on this, to us, very important Business.

ONE ARCHIVE
Dec 8

Phelps, J. A.

(1780)