

**A letter by Abram Hyatt, written while a commercial sailor  
during the period of the War of 1812**

Label on the outside of the letter:

*Sir please to give this letter to Miss ??? Hyatt and you will oblige me. Abram  
Hyatt*

Salem March 18<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1814

*Dear Sister*

*I cant go to sea again without writing to you for [when] I was at home last I expected to be home again in the Spring but it has happened so that I can't come so soon as I expected. The reason is because I could git no work to do. And so I went to sea. This you know if you have receivd the two letters which I have sent home. I am now so far from home that I cant think of coming so often as I use to even if I should stay on shore which I don't expect I shall for there is no work for to do in this country and therefore I must go to sea.*

*Perhaps this letter will not be verry pleasing to youor to mother but you must give yourselves no trouble about me whilst I am gone for I know that the snooner that I am going in is a verry good sea boat and I think I shall be as safe as if I was on the shore—it is verry true that it is dangerous at presant for to go to sea on account of the war but I have been once where cannon roard and where ball did fly thick around me but no one was hurt aboard of the vessel. And therefore I am not afraid to venture again.*

*I would ??? be at home than to be roving ??? now am but a discontent...? Is not long in one place... content with the ... which leads to my own misfortune... after don't let these words trouble... ...ing that all things are for... that what I do I do it not... ...master but... to a close with my ... you would ... to ... months from the date of the... I expect I shall then be ashore again in Salem in the state of Massachusetts Essex County if you write to me direct your letter to Abel Hoyt belonging to the ...sooner in Salem Essex County State of Massachusetts*

*Abram Hyatt*