

**George Mason to George Washington, January 4, 1758,  
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.  
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**FROM GEORGE MASON, ESQ.**

DOGUES NECK 4th Jany. 1758

DEAR SIR

The Bearer (my Cousin French Mason) waits on You with an Acct. I recd. from Capt. Trent, amounting to £165.. 12.. 2¾ as I have an imediate call for a pretty large Sum will particularly oblige Me in Sending the Cash per this Bearer; who will give a Rect. for what he receives—if you happen not to have the Cash at Home, I must beg the favour of You to order it for Me by the first safe Hand from Winchester. I intended to have waited on You myself this Day or To-morrow, with this Acct. but am prevented by an Express this Morning from Chappanamsic, to acquaint Me that my Sister Selden (who has been ill a long time) is now given over by her physician, & not expected to live Many Hours, & I am just setting off upon the Melancholly Errand of taking my last Leave of her! —

I hope You will comply with the Opinion & Advice of all Your Friends, & not risque a Journey to Winchester till a more favourable Season of the Year, or a better State of Health, will permit You to do it with Safety; & give Me Leave Sir to mention another Consideration, which I am sure will have Weight with You—in attempting to attend the Duty of Your Post at a Season of the Year when there is no Room to expect an Alarm; or anything extraordinary to require Your Presence, You will, in all probability, bring on a Relapse, & render Yourself incapable of Serving the public at a time when there may

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be the utmost Occasion; & there is nothing more certain than that a Gentleman in Your Station owes the Care of his Health & Life not only to Himself & his Friends, but to his Country—If You continue any time at Mount Vernon, I will do myself the pleasure of spending a Day or two with You very soon

I am wth. Mrs. Mason's Comps. & my own to Yr. Brother, his Lady, & Yr.self

Dr. Sir Yr. affecte. hble Sert. G. MASON

P. S. You will be pleased to return the Acct. per the Bearer; for I have not any Copy of it; & if it's necessary for you [to] take it in, I will enter it in our Books & send it [to] you again —