Case #6: Son of Mordecai Lewis
Sir,
As we have not had the pleasure of seeing you since yesterday morning, I take the liberty to trouble you respecting the appearance of our young man that he has a very little fever. He appears very weak but not so ill as able to set up today as he was yesterday but does not complain of any pain—on washing his mouth the water appeared colored with blood and in the corner of last night came color’d saliva came from his mouth probably whole blood. This your young man ate rice, to the Mercury. He took 20 grains Rhubarb to-day but as yet it had had no effect. He has taken nothing today.
Sir

As we have not had the Pleasure of seeing you since yesterday morning I take the liberty to trouble you respecting my Son – I believe it is the opinion of your young Man that he has very little fever. He appears very weak and is not to well able to sit up today as he was yesterday, but does not complain of any Pain – on working his mouth the water appeared color’d with Blood, and in the course of last night some color’d Saliva came from his Mouth probably while sleeping. This your young Man attributes to the Mercury. He took 20 Grains Rhubarb to day but as yet it has had no Effect. He has taken nothing today
but a little stewed apples with a little sherry and cold water.

His mother is much distressed at his low state. They say you will excuse this letter, if I inform you whether anything can be done to animating his wittles or if you think Nature is sufficient. If he should have a fancy for anything that has been hitherto forbid, say Custard, Tapioca, Brotch or White Bread. Whether he may be induced with it — the ice kept cold.

This man's hands are frequently washed with cold water which, gradually in the evening he has no insomniac.  

Late 16th of Sept.

Mordecai Lewis

24th 16. 1793
but a little stew & Apples & milk & Cold Water.

His mother is much disturbed at his low State & hopes you will excuse this address & inform us whether anything can be done to animate him a little or if you think Nature is sufficient – If he should have a fancy for anything that has been hitherto forbid, say Custard, Pudding, Broth on white bread whether he may be indulged with it – He is kept cool & his Head & Hands are frequently wet with cold water which probably is the Reason he has no perspiration

I am Y[our] Ob[edient] Ser[vant]

Mordecai Lewis

Sep. 16. 1793
The liquid colored with Blood still continues to run out of his mouth while sleeping –

6 oClock Evening
My Son's arm is set a bleeding pray send somebody to stop it

M Lewis

Sep 18 1793
I am sure it will give you Pleasure to be informed that my Son still lives & more so that his Attendants are of opinion he is better.

M. Lewis

Sep. 19 1793
The Glysters will not stay at all – the last had 7 Drops of laudanum added to no purpose – The White & Black Mixture seem to strangle him so that we are left without hope

M Lewis

Sep 19 1793
My Son has this Moment vomited up a large worm – 8 or 9 inches long & full as thick as a Quill.  

M Lewis  

Sep. 19 1793
Dear Doctor,

A large city with the streets empty except the French sailing vessels of St. Domingo of all colours with their heads tilted to the right Citizens whom you do not know peering along with interest at their vessels. The scene constantly changing with such a varied and picturesque that it never left Philadelphia with so much pleasure as yesterday we never found such pleasure in the country as I do today. I am perfectly well, the air sweet, the green fields, woods, waters, gardens, no more delightful than ever. How greatly has blessed the contrast! Of the Bye, where fom Bride and away so often. The experience which they have had. I can imagine their conduct is nothing else will rather than acknowledge period in driving me from the face of the sun. They fellow citizens I shall think that they ought least to be banished from a city which they have allowed to exist in saving. So he to tell me how you find Tuesday to see how the city is in general? Well tell be so good as to send me some back by the sea. Can you inform me how any my good friend C. Hamilton. So I heard many words in taking the Disorder again but visit him. If I do not I will go I be the pleasure of leave him while I can be so of any service to him. I will thank you for all.
[Beginning at Arrow]

Monday Morn’g

Dear Doctor,

A large City with the Houses shut up & the streets empty except the French Sailors, People of St. Domingo of all Colours with their Heads tied a few citizens whom you do not know walking along with sponges [soaked with vinegar, thought to prevent infection] at their noses & the herse constantly passing exhibits such a melancholy picture that I never left Philad[elphia] with so much pleasure as yesterday nor never found such Pleasure in the Country as I do to day – I am perfectly well the air sweet & the Trees, fields, waters Pastures & more beuteful than ever – How great – how pleasing the contrast! – If the Physchions [physicians] from Pride and envy (for after the experiences which they have had I can impute their conduct to nothing else) will rather than acknowledge, persist in decrying your merit, at the expence of the lives of their fellow citizens, I shall think that they ought at least to be banished from a City which they have refused to assist in saving....