

might even have gone less among you than I did late, w^h.
however I will take care & correct for ye. future, not only
because you wish it, but because I know it is for my own
interest, and because it is much beneath me. I had very
little communication with ye. little Sir, especially
none of ye. familiar kind, however I d^d. not prevent
something happening w^h. I had no sort of idea of,
but w^h. I will honestly relate to you as it happened
be not too severe in yr. criticisms my Miranda upon
this occasion as I shall freely own it to you, consider
only my astonishment at ye. moment, & my hesitation
at ye. ^{instant} ~~instance~~ what to do, what was ye. best answer
to make, whether I sh^d. copy yr. behaviour upon
an occasion something similar, or whether I sh^d.
be silent about it, I took ye. latter part thinking
that if I followed yr. example, he w^d. suppose you
had informed me of yr. conduct in yr. instance.
If I am wrong my Sister, correct me & shew me.

where I am wrong as my tenderest & best friend as you really are.
The fact then plainly is this, going to send for some Lavender
Water I gave my orders to yr. little Liar, after I had received
yr. he asked my permission to say something to me at yr
other end of yr. Passage, I asked him what it was or what
it c^d. be he had to say to me, he only reiterated his requests
upon which after having once more repeated my question
I went with him, he then said he had yr. greatest favor
in yr. Will to ask of me, upon which I asked what it was
thinking it was some request or other he had to make to
~~me~~ which he wished me to interest myself in,
he only answered me by putting a seal into my hand,
& vanishing before I c^d. answer him desired me to
keep it for his sake, I have behaved him to since this
with more coolness than I did before. This my
Miranda is yr. whole & sole of yr. case perform me
rather than correct me. As to mentioning yr. name
to him my Sister I call Heaven to witness y^t. I do not
to yr. best of my recollection believe, y^t. even in my mind

unguarded moments, since you gave me my last caution I
have ever mentioned yr. name to him, but most certain
am I & I wd. not say it unless I was perfectly cer-
wt. since you have been at the — I am sure I never
have; & so far from mentioning you to him, I have
purposely avoided making mention of any thing
yt. might bring yr. dear name in question. Be-
sides, I beseech you, be not for yr. future too credulous,
be not too hasty in lending an ear to every ye. yr.
little deceitful Rascal, or yr. designing women
invent. Remember oh remember, My tenderest,
my dearest friend, you caught ~~you~~ once before
in a falsehood formed about me. Pardon me, if I am
very warm upon this subject, as you can not but know
how much interested I am in it. I give you my word
& honor, wh. I hope you ever will find very sacred
never to disclose yr. name by mentioning it to yr. or

any other such babbler. Never oh never doubt ye. Brother
 in any instance, for ye future, you ever shall find him
 act up to ye Character. As to ye reports you have heard
 heard concerning M. C. & me, my conduct may give
 some foundation ^{for ye} in ye eyes of ye. Attentive, vulgar, but
 nothing w^{ch} w^d have struck well bred people as any
 thing particular one way or other, I never extended my
 Civilities to her beyond what becomes any Man to any
 Gentlewoman. As for M. H. I know nothing of her ^{but} ~~but~~
 affected with her in company with her ^{when I know no one there} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~at~~
 at her Father's, you see how ye. would set Reports
 about, one cannot speak with ye. for all that she is
 a young woman, but one is immediately supposed
 to be in love with her, nay even to have an intrigue
 with her. Now my dearest, dearest, dearest Friend
 I hope I have cleared myself from every imputation
 in yr. eyes for I am sure it is ye principal object
 of my life, to appear in ye. most amiable light to

in yr. eyes, & to appear in every instance be it ever
so trifling worthy of yr. name of Miranda's
letter. I admire yr. manner of feeling beyond what
can express as to marking beautiful passages, it
is out of my power for there is not one that has
escaped yr. delicate pencil, what I mark with
crosses as thus X is merely to call yr. attention either
to Persons or things we are acquainted with.
Give brother brother still more insight into
my Character, & tell him I esteem him for his
honesty, & yr. I have as honest a heart as my
Miranda can wish. The first Part of this letter was
written before I received yr. & I am to suppose yr. it was for it will
now & more convince here throughly we coincide in all our ideas, &
certain sympathy reigns thro' out all our actions. Tell me my dearest
Sister, if you are content with my ingenuity in relating these facts to
you in yr. great, but how else P. I have fulfilled my promise. One
self approving moment whole hours suffice of empty stances & floundering.
Send you with a good heart with give it to yr. maid as a token of yr. esteem for
her assistance & something upon earth with it, only if you have any love for me & her.

you never to let me see it again for I will
have nothing belonging to me that
can put me in mind of y^e little
God. God bless you & preserve
you my Miranda, & may you ever
be happy only recollect y^t I shall
be unto my last Breath

Yr. affectionate Brother

Richard Cromwell

P.S.

My Love have another Letter
at an return. I Pray your ~~Love~~
pardon my abominable scrawl & blots
to my fear of being interrupted. I am
Ad. Sto. Your Obedient servant

7 Nov^{br} 1779 2c 2

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