

Nov^r 1813.

Mrs.
(Eliza)
Fenkin
to
P. W.
Hickson

Sir / ^{all last year} from having the honor of
 marking the linen of Colonel
 M'ahan your Brother, I have presumed
 to address you in behalf of my self
 and Infant Child who thro the calamity
 of War am reduced to the utmost
 Penny and want — my late Husband
 was master of a vessel trading from
 the Port of London was captured last
 May 1807 and taken into France
 where he died last April leaving
 me totally unprovided for — being
 a native of Cork I have no friends
 whatever in this Place that can
 assist me — my Husband was a
 Mason and I am informed if I could
 have a friend the Grand Lodge will
 grant me a little money which if I
 could be so happy as to obtain will
 enable me to purchase a mangle with
 this if I could gain a few families
 marking thro your Honor's recommen-
 dation I may be able to gain bread for my
 self and child — I am at this time
 so badly off that I am not mistress of
 a shilling I humbly hope you will
 please to pardon the liberty I here
 take — The Rev^d Mr A'bdy of St John
 Southwark will testify the truth of the
 above I am Sir your most Obedt servt Eliza Fenkin

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]