

49

Morn. 9⁴⁹ Dobb
Oct 1779

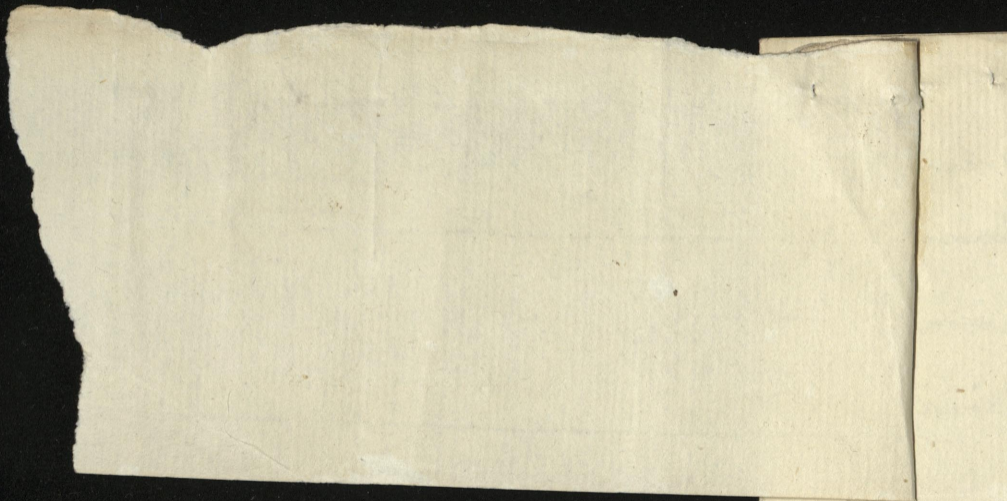
Thank you much for yr letters,
I like yr. much, I can not say
more to you at present but yr.
great dear to me now than
ever - to the st. dearest, dearest
sweet Miranda.

Part of 49

My dearest, dearest, dearest Sister Friend, my Miranda,

I flatter myself I shall be able to clear myself
now of yr. imputation which you accused me of y- y when
you asked me in yr. last dear Billet, why I w. force M.
to tell me what was said in my favor; to be sure
what passed before yr. eyes bore very much yr. appearance
but I do assure you by what really was yr. case, I think
I shall be able to clear myself totally in yr. opinion.

Before I can come to explain this I must
resume a little higher. Do not you remember my dearest
friend, in yr. last but one, you said to me you was sorry
for my sake y. I was going to make a short stay at let-
for y. I got into low company there, whether you mean



My dearest

Monday Morn. ⁴⁹ 9 o'clock
11th Oct. 1779

My dearest, dearest, dearest Sister & Friend, my Miranda,

I flatter myself I shall be able to clear myself
now of yr. imputation which you accused me of y^e when
you asked me in yr. last dear Billet, why I w^d. force M^r.
Sp— to tell me what was said in my favor; to be sure
what passed before yr. eyes bore very much y^e. appearance
but I do assure you b^y what really was yr. case, I think
I shall be able to clear myself totally in yr. opinions.

Before I can come to explain this I must
resume a little higher. Do not you remember my dearest
friend, in yr. last but one, you said to me you was sorry
for my sake y^e. I was going to make a short stay at let—
for y^e. I got into low company there, whether you mean,

by y^r. y^r. I made myself too free among ye. Servants, or y^r. I got into bad company by hunting; I know not but supposing, you meant either of these, or both, I hope I shall be able to answer y^r. all in a manner most to y^r. satisfaction.

As to y^e. first of y^es, ever dearest Miranda I cannot but confess I have lowered myself much by familiarizing myself to too great a degree with y^e. Servants, & especially with y^r. little Devil. Be- however since what you mentioned to me I have kept him more within bounds than I ever did before in y^e. whole course of my life, but for y^e. future I solemnly promise you here my dearest, dearest, dearest Sister y^r. I will in this, follow y^r. Precepts, as I hope I shall every other you give me to y^e. utmost of my power; & y^r. I will never again debase myself either to y^r. or to any other low Company.

As to y^e. affair of hunting, I ride always among

a set of Gentlemen, very worthy good sort of people, one
of whom my Father I believe wishes me to be particularly
acquainted with, his name is Nevil he is Son to a
Mr. Nevil who was ^{indeed} Secretary of State in ye late Kings
Reign & who now lives at Billingbear, this young man
is in ye. Berks: Militia, & is a very plain, honest
civil, well behaved, hotte young Man, & will be heir
to a very great fortune, ~~of~~ great part of which he will
in all probability receive from Sr. John & Lady Griffin
upon ye. whole he is a very good sort of young Man
& indeed I am very glad of having such an acquaintance
Another of these Gentlemen is a Mr. Side I do not
know how exactly he spells his name I a very civil
sort of a man also, he is brother in law to Sr.
Cholmondeley: this Gentleman I have conversed
very little with, & know very little of him,
except this Character which every body yet know
any thing of him give him.

Now then, let I have brought you acquainted

with this Gentleman, I shall be able to proceed with my
defence with regard to my joining W. R. or to tell me
what was said to my praise & in my favor.

W. R. is much acquainted with this
Gentleman, I told you he made him a present of
a Horse in ye. most genteel way imaginable. Well
then ye. first day of ye. Spent this M^r. Sible, followed
me very closely thro' out ye. whole of ye. day, without
my knowing either his name or his Person, he observed
I supposed however I was after ye. Spent, & how
shocked my Nature was at ye. death of ye. poor
Animal, & at ye. ^{different} emotions which appeared in
my Countenance upon y^t. occasion. A Day or
two after he sent W. R. a Letter to tell
him I believe y^t. he had sent him his horse.

You must know y^t. I generally go &
lay my whip & Hat before I go out riding in ye.
Servants breakfast Room, there, accordingly as I

was going out of ye. Room, after I had been to fetch
 up away - Mr R. entreated of me to stop a
 moment, for he said he had something to show me,
 upon which he pulled out a Letter, (by his manner
 he wanted to insinuate he had received it from you)
 in which he desired me to read a sentence upon
 which he laid his Finger, which was first great
 encomiours ^{on my Housemanship,}
~~compliments to~~ ~~me~~ & on ye. spirit
 I shew'd that ye. Day, as well as great Compliments
 on ye. goodness of heart I had shewn; after I had read
 this sentence he snatch'd ye. Letter out of my hands
 so yt. I could not see any other part of it, not
 even ye. signature. Upon going up stairs
 you heard one step Mr R. - but it was merely
 to know ye. Gentleman's name, which turn'd out
 to be this very Mr. Cole I have been speaking to
 you of, yt. is the whole & sole of the case; by which
 I fancy you will think me so much to blame as you did.

I did not feel myself flatter'd by these praises,
as my Miranda, when I receive y^m from you.
I then think myself exalted above any earthly
Potestate.

It is now so near 8 o'clock y^t. I
must bid you Adieu. Adieu then dearest
dearest, dearest Sister, friend, Miranda, May
you be under ye especial care of ye Almighty
& of his Angels, & may you ever find from y^t.
All benevolent Being ye. rewards which your
Virtues so much deserve. I am & ever shall
be yr. sincerely affectionate Brother, & Friend

Palmeron, toyours de mème

P.S.

Why w^d. my friend send me ye. Rose color if he
knew me. Brown but, I send you y^m. back again
looked at y^m. again, & chuse that wh^{ch} you y^rself
like best, for it will be most agreeable, ^{to me} be plain
with me my dearest Miranda, for I will not wear ye one
you like best, it - it - it - toyours chère.