

AA 528 [1815]

20th. Feb. 49931-2

Franklin Ditch

My dear Mr. Patten

I am sure you will pardon  
my addressing you so soon after I have  
seen, but the importance of the subject  
will I trust plead with you in your own

I have all concurred with you, but the subject  
is still more with you, but I had fully  
intended to have spoken more fully  
to you on it, I had not courage when  
it came to the point. Happily

for we are now upon the most  
comfortable & confidential terms possible  
we leave no doubt through the awkward-  
ness of talking upon one subject which  
a very delicate & painful one, & should  
give, if there was anything left  
to make us left open with each other.  
I have understood from



my family, it is still your wish  
to renew my marriage with the  
Prince of Orange. Pardon me if  
I say that information greatly pains  
me. To know there was anything you  
had at heart for me to do to think  
I could not instantly obey, be this objection  
of duty would at once dictate to me in  
fully a brief - I trust my dear Mother  
you cannot suppose I wish to thwart  
you in anything, nor that I love  
you less for rejecting a matter you think  
objectionable. There is no act of obedience,  
no sacrifice you could wish me to make  
that I am not ready for, if it is necessary  
to prove my sense of duty - But where  
the future (as I may add) the whole  
happiness of my life is concerned may  
I move my King with claims so in-  
-himself connected, I think I cannot  
be too plain in humbly stating

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my strong, & fixed aversion to a  
man who with as many virtues as I  
can never feel those sentiments of  
regard, which are so necessary  
in a matrimonial connexion —

I am fully aware that in our  
situation we cannot marry for the  
rest of the world do, but still I feel  
that as far as regard has a total  
requisite of without which any con-  
nexion must lead to the worst con-  
sequences — It is feeling this that  
makes me thus return the subject  
which I hope may now be for  
ever dropped, as I am aware it has  
already done too much a source  
of misery to us both — I hope

you will not love me less for  
thus laying open the sentiments of  
my heart, as you told me you  
would never urge any union that  
would make me miserable —



Having thus thrown myself into  
your affections, I am sensible I can  
never, I can say no more, & what an  
account it makes, that you will not  
be offended at the plainness & earnestness  
with which I have addressed you

Believe me to be

My dearest Mother

Ever

Your very affec<sup>t</sup>ed

Daughter Miss