

AA

24th Feb. 49942-3 [1815]
Cranborne Lodge

My dearest Father -

In compliance with Your wishes
repeated in Your letter, I have most deliberately
perused & considered again & again the kind
You spoke of the subject with cool &
repeated attention, & believe me I find
the answering it more painful even
than the proposal. - It is the greatest
possible comfort to me (under such very
painful existing circumstances) to see
the very best affection & resolution
with which You have placed the matter
before me which is peculiarly pleasing
to my mind in its present state.
If in the course of my last letter
or in this I should have said anything
that was displeasing, I intend to write
howsoever it & believe it does not
proceed from want of the most perfect
& affectionate regard to You, but that I
have been thus explicit with me
it becomes my duty also to be explicit
so with You, & indeed I am sure

it must be your wish - In favour
to my family I must state that my
former letter was not written in con-
-sequence of any dispute that we
were in, but of some business on
Sunday I remembered to ask them of the
subject where Mr. May knew I was
to thank a man had been allowed
-view by me, they could not object
it & therefore returned me the
affirmative which was the cause
of my writing instantly to you -
With regard to my being prejudiced
against the Prince of Orange, allow me
to state that I do not feel myself
guilty of that, for with numbers
in suspicion to you, I cannot consider
an opinion founded ^{to be} in prejudice which has
been formed from personal
acquaintance with
his character. Had I not known him
& still rejected him then would I
I had acted from prejudice - But
I found after repeated conflicts with
myself that I could not esteem regard
or look up to him, as I consider

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as wife ought to do to her husband
I therefore I broke off the marriage
These feelings still exist, but are
were strengthened by time & reflection
Of this then be the case I can not
I don't know rather say that I am
acting from caprice, or that I am
give my hand to one from whom
my heart is completely alienated —

I do not wish to insist if there
be any blame in my former conduct
that I may be allowed to bear the
whole of it myself, for indeed it was
by no ones advice that I broke off
my marriage with the Prince of Orange
on the contrary it was against the
advice of many — No one can feel
the obliquity of the peculiar authority
of their situation more keenly &
bitterly than I do at this moment
& I could by all means allow that a matrimonial
connection would not only be most
desirable but be the most likely
Expedient to secure me from the
compliments in circumstances in which

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From Beloeil - Just as you had said
this I found indeed comply with your
wishes for preserving the Prince of
Orange - Believe me my reputation
is as clear to me as any Honour can
be except to be but when I know the
state of what has passed is made known
to you & that I am now going to be
believed under your more immediate care
& protection I put no longer any anxiety
upon that score - Indeed were the
whole known to the whole of the
Blacks could attach to me, considering
the King's name I was - Just as you
think it is so hard as a secret to the
public & private that I should
be so the surest course of the undig-
-nifiable mistake might be found.

I have not as single doubt
but that you will wish the happiness
my comfort & the good of the country
you will be a favour if in the
affairs you had I had in your hand

placed both your situation mine
 & the country before me in the
 clearest manner possible - after
 thus stating my real feelings I trust
 you will not be offended at the
 openness & sincerity with which I have
 explained them & that they will have
 been with you long & true in reputation
 than as false ones - I can only thank
 myself in your goodness & affection
 for your only child who I trust you
 will never attempt to force into
 a union that would insure her
 misery - I think what you would
 put clearest & rather if in compliance
 with your importunities I sacrificed
 myself, & was too late to see how
 you had devoted me to misery &
 wretchedness - I cannot doubt
 that the friend you allude to &
 to whom you permit me to show
 your letter if I wish it, is Miss
 Brown, for yet I have she is

The only one who knows every thing.
The not being here is a sufficient
excuse. My I have written the commission
-to the same letter, or consulted her
but to have seen when I say that if
see the same writing, see your reply
-nearly could avail, was the cause of
surprise of that that I owe to you
no other persons could have influence.

I must conclude with speaking
and much. I have at heart that
you should not think me ungrateful
in that I wish to show you what
I could I have had my mind & my
affair to the Province with the
service of Orange I would have done
it, but that being quite impossible
I must conclude with that we all

Remain
Ever very affly
Dear Sir
I am
Yours
Obedt

27 Feb.

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