

Lady Berkeley

April 6. 1811.

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Cranford House

Tuesday night
April 6th

Sir,

Your Royal Highness
has ever shown too much indulgence
to me, for me to doubt of your
great goodness on the present occasion,
I presume to address your Royal
Highness upon the conversation your
Brother the Duke of Clarence had with
you on Thursday last - need I tell your
Royal Highness that I am fully sensible
of his great kindness towards me in
the request he made to your Royal
Highness of making me his wife -
a request so complimentary to me
that I want words to express my feelings

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of gratitude towards him, and the high
sense I must ever entertain that such
an honor was offered to me will ever
remain engraven on my heart. But Sir,
while I feel sensible of your Brother's
great regard for me, and the too
flattering prospects he holds out, I
must not forget the Duty and affection
I owe to your illustrious Family —

I conceive Sir, your Brother in pressing
me to the situation of becoming his wife
would lower himself, for if I feel
his exalted station right, in this Country
he belongs to the Public, and to intermarry
with a Subject would be degrading to the
Royal Family —

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An act is past to prevent such Marriage,
And can your Royal Highness as Regent
or King give your sanction to it?

Will do I know the feelings of the heart
are respected by you, and that you
would do a great deal for a Brother you
so dearly love, But that love will never
lead you beyond what you owe to your
Country; And therefore I look upon
the request made by your Brother as
impossible for you to grant. —

Under these cruel circumstances I am most
anxious for the happiness of your Brother
the proof of whose affection given to me
will never be forgotten. If therefore I am
correct in thinking it is impossible such
Marriage could take place legally, Will

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you allow me Sir, to call your attention
to my situation, My past, my early
life clouded with undeserved misfortunes
my mind lacerated, at present ^{agitated} between
hope and fear for the best friend
of a beloved Son, Myself from such
misfortunes a Public Character, the
eye of the World full upon me —
My poor Husband leaving me sole
Guardian to his Children — those Children
nobly born, and well provided for
Myself having nothing to offer to the
great Family I belong to but an
irreparable Character — For that
Character I am most anxious and therefore
I call upon your Royal Majesty
by the love you bore to my Husband