

Lady Berkeley to Duke of Clarence

50952-3

London  
Sunday -

Dear Sir  
Your Royal Highness will believe I  
would not write to you if I was not  
thoroughly urged by the Distressing Situation  
I am placed in - that I was the Impure  
Wife of Lord Berkeley in 1785 I am sure  
your Royal Highness believes - But on his  
Death he made his confession to me -  
which was that he wanted me to get  
repeined my person never intending to  
have the Marriage proved, at the same  
time he added ~~that~~ that His Honor had  
Opportunity in his power to make the  
Register appear a forgery, in case I should  
against his consent endeavour to establish  
my Marriage - at the same time he said  
Dear Madam you have never done wrong

and God will bless you, therefore I  
instruct you previous to proceed let  
nothing deter you for I shall never  
find peace beyond the grave till my  
Child's rights is secured to him —  
your Royal Highness will pause here —

And think what a duty was imposed  
on me — and that hard as it has been,  
I have never shrank from my duty —  
The rights of my Marriage is involved  
in mystery — and when Mr Clark who  
was Clark of the Parish gave his evidence  
my counsel and agents mistook the  
mode of conclusion and wished to  
throw up the cause, It was three days  
before I could set them right — Clark's  
evidence was for the existence of the

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I regret ~~most~~ I thought - but before  
 I could set them right such a  
 prejudice had fallen upon me that  
 I have no chance of Justice ~~unless~~  
 unless I could obtain time I have  
 written to Mr. Mordaunt if your Royal Highness  
 would suffer Miss Popkin to write a line  
 in your name to him it might be  
 most expedient to me - and likewise  
 to any other person likely to attend  
 as a friend - God preserve you Sir,  
 I am still I can hardly write -  
 and am ashamed of the great trouble  
 I have so long and so repeatedly  
 given to you I have the honor of  
 remaining Sir Royal Highness, most Obedient  
 your most M. Berkeley

20888

Lady Berkeley  
1 — 1812