

21
My Dear Miss Hamilton

As I have the truest opinion of
y^r. goodness to me, & of Your upright judgement I sub-
mit this flower to your sentence; whether it is
to receive y^r. highest of Honors or be condemn'd to y^r.
station it has a better claim to: assured y^e. will not
permit me to take an improper liberty, where, so much
distance & respect are due & where you well know I feel
that mixture of awe & admiration w^h only can be felt
but not express'd. y^r. Duchess Dow^r. of Portland came on
Sunday Eve^g. just after you went away, always sorry
to miss you, I hope that kind tho' short visit did you
as much good as it did y^r. Affec^t. I much obliged
St. James Place Mary Delany

Copy of M^{rs}. D^{chess} Letter to me pay to y^r.
Queen wrote under y^r. above.
Through Miss Hamilton

With y^r. utmost fearfulness of being too presumptuous
M^{rs}. Delany most earnestly wishes to offer this lowly
tribute of her most humble duty & warmest grati-
tude to y^r. Queen. the apprehension y^t. it may be y^r. last
effort sh^d. shall be able to exert of this work w^h has been

much honored by her Majesty's approbation,
urges & emboldens her to lay this at her M^y feet,
& if in y^e smallest degree it should prove acceptable
& rec^d. as a testimony of her profound respect, her
highest ambition will be gratified.