

45
Walsbourn Jan'y 10
1784.

Without meaning any
Disrespect to Mrs Astley, I cannot tell
how to be sorry, Madam, that Mr Delany
has followed his Majesties Example & chan-
ged her Secretary, however my Vanity may
suffer by it, as I purchase of Pleasure of receiving
of new Ministers Dispatches, at of Experience of
having my own looked into with a very pen-
etrating Eye; tho' if I were disposed to defend
a little Inconsistency just as it looks like a Remains
of Youth I am half unwilling to explain
away I should not think it a very difficult Task
to do it; May you long continue to consider a
Cold as a serious Distemper, & never be
taught by woful Experience that you are very well
off when you have Nothing worse to complain
of; I wish you no worse for your second Change
than that I could give you a Taste of of Harries
of a Warwickshire & mas, you would then be

convinced yet of Life I believe you lead, I am
sure yet with I lead in London is tranquillity to
them; As to your last Instance of Inconsistency
you will allow when you look at y^e Person to
whom you are reading y^e Letter, that y^e Mind
does not always grow old with y^e body, when
I am so old as to be insensible to y^e Beauties
of y^e Country & y^e Approach of Spring I shall
care very little what becomes of me. So much
for my own Inconsistencies, what will you say
if I presume to think you are not entirely free
from them, if you meant to alarm & keep me
at Home, you should criticize in a less agreeable
Manner, or I shall hardly be afraid of y^e
Criticisms or cease to wish meet y^e Critic.
As I am unwilling to forget you at your
first Entrance in your Office with a Load of
Business, & have to leave y^e Measure of seeing
Mrs Delany so soon, I will not trouble you
long on her Account at present, I will only
say how happy we all are that she continues
so well thro' so severe a Winter & how much
obliged to you for your kind Assurance of it,

that I expect my Wife on Wednesday, shall
set out on Thursday, & look forward wth y^r
greatest Pleasure in y^e Hope of dining in
M^r James's Place on Friday; y^t I will not
give her y^e Trouble of taking Lodgings for
me as I have engaged one at N^o 20 Cecil
Street within two Doors of my old one, w^{ch}
will be ready for me when I come to Town.

All our Circle are pretty well, y^e dreadful
Cold are almost gone, all join in best Love
& Duty to Mrs Delany, my Brother bro^r.
begs to offer his respects to yourself. It
on much rather you will say it is very
inconsistent I should complain of Harry & trize
you wth so long a Letter, In Fact I am very
apt to forget myself when I am conver-
sing wth you, but other C^{ir}cumstances will be heard
& allow me only Time to add y^t I am wth
great Truth

Madam

Your much obliged
& obedient humble Servant
Count Drury.

June 10. 84

Seneca Co.
Delany - 0

I send you my letter
praying let me hear of again
to night for I have heard
had time to read it.

Miss Hamilton.