

relative to my mothers death

NAM 11/10/11/29.

Phygen Steele

Nov 11. 1779.

9 O'clock

My Dear L Miranda

Do not think you have
been out of my thoughts altho it
is an age since I have told you you were
in them; but you have been worth help
as the last is generally the strongest
impression I have not thought of you
lately without pain - I hope your
spirits are better than when you
wrote to me last - your spirits I say
for your spirits only are affected, but
for God's sake my dearest don't give way
to melancholy ideas - if any one has

~~can~~ upon introspection of their conduct
in the most trying situations can with
the most perfect appearance applaud them-
selves, without flattery it is yourself.
You have affected me I know what you
must have felt, I do feel for you &
particularly at this time & I have
wished we were not so much divided
I have thought of you with pain ever
since I received it, & it is the only letter
of yours that I never opened after the
day it came to my hands - I have
been going to write to you frequently
then I was at a loss how to write
to you - & then I decided it in hopes of
coming to you soon - we have been down