

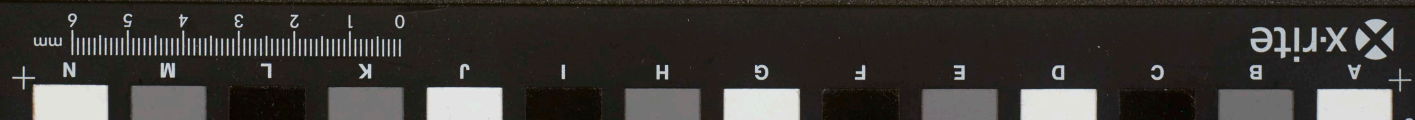
NAM 11/15/113

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1786 72

with what pleasure do I sit down to answer your charming, kind and comforting letter now lying before me! few things could have afforded me more satisfaction, than I experienced from the receipt of it - The interest you express for me, my dear Friend and the anxiety, about that dejection of spirits, which was but too apparent when Mr Dickerson was here, are truly grateful to me - I can now relieve your mind from any uneasiness on my account by assuring you that there are no traces left of the bad spirits I had during the winter - I am light as air, cheerful, nay gay, particularly since I have brought the Day that is to unite me to all I love most in the world, within a fortnight - Had you been here, with me, my dear Friend, you would have followed me thro' the progress of my depression, you would have known, as well, may perhaps better than myself, what were the causes of it, at least those that related to myself - indeed I know not well what they were - ~~saturnine~~, ~~trifling~~ perhaps, but finding a heart & mind very well disposed to receive & nourish them, they united & grew to form an ensemble that affected my peace and disposition - many disagreeable circumstances happened to my Friends - I had meetings on their account, I found myself ~~two~~ <sup>to</sup> or three times in a situation, in which in the absence of my Father I did not know exactly how to conduct, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>and</sup> which it was not easy to extricate myself - I <sup>felt</sup> was certainly desolate & alone in the absence of my Family particularly my Sister - All these circumstances united and contributed to that dejection which you can <sup>plainly</sup>

of - and yet they were not such as separately could constitute  
a source of misery - they were not such as could have  
satisfied you, enumerated in a letter, nor would it have  
admitted of an explanation that would have justified me -  
How often have I wished for you! How many comfortable  
hours might we have spent together! But fate has  
decreed it otherwise - we are to be separated and those  
long separations check & stop that mutual confidence  
which in the absence of ones Friends seeks another  
channel - The want of this Friend always at hand &  
to whom I could always open myself, has been the primary  
cause of my dejection - for as to writing, it is impossible  
to commit to paper, to chance, & perhaps to other eyes  
a million of trifles, which one cannot even bear oneself  
to immortalize (to a certain degree by writing them) &  
which are yet of consequence at the minute they occur.  
You are now going to leave by Wake and Northamptonshire  
for a long time I fear - we shall soon be there - in little  
more than a month, I hope to be enjoying that free  
air & direct disposition of my Flower Garden -  
chatter arm in arm with my dear Bell - & telling her  
all that has passed since she has been gone - are there  
no hopes of you or your return from Warwick Castle  
or as you come up to Town? which by the by I hope  
enters into your considerations of future plans -  
London is just now in the height of gaiety - Balls  
without end - I go to two this week - one at Lady Mubbers  
to night and on Friday at Mrs Tollemastres - The

Ops of Devonshire is to give three - by Spencer two - the  
Prince - by Faulconberg 2 or 4 - This is all very well  
but it's a hope it's hope - I am almost tired of it & long for  
June and Boston - this has been the longest winter I  
ever remember, tho' (excepting the absence of my Family)  
not a disagreeable one - I have not been much in public  
and have lived as much as I wished with Lady Carlisle  
whom I admire, look up to & love more and more  
every day - Indeed I think myself particularly fortunate  
in having met with her, & known to value her uncommon  
worth - there are very few such in this world - such  
feminine softness of manner, a temper so pleasant  
with so masculine an understanding, so much  
fortitude, & command of herself, united to such  
& such <sup>good</sup> principles, forms a character one seldom  
meets with - I am vastly well thank God which will  
delight you to hear - I expect my Father & Co on the  
21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> - what pleasure! what happiness! I am  
reading German a force & have some delightful books  
Madame Bevenelore has lent me - she is the Danish  
Minister's wife, was my play fellow in Denmark &  
is a very amiable & accomplished woman - by the by  
I had a long conversation the other with General Grenville  
Whom of honest good sense & truth, about Mad<sup>m</sup> Bevenelore  
& he tells me that he believes are the reports concerning  
& P. H. to be false, at least as to what related to her bad  
conduct, for that certainly the Prince admired & followed  
her - but she betrayed as well as possible about it, & he  
thinks her a truly good & amiable woman & whose  
character has been very much injured



may remember me to Lady Wake and very kindly  
to Mrs Dickens on —

Mrs Digby is pretty well & desires her  
best compl<sup>ts</sup> to you & Mrs D —

send me your next directions

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1786

Rev. Mr. Pitt's family  
9 May 1786

St. Mark's

Convent hall  
Mrs Dickenson



adieu my dear Friend! I heard of your being well  
from Sir Dartery - may you long long, ever, possess  
the blessing of Health, with every other you enjoy  
and deserve - God bless you!