

NAM 1/4/3/13

London. March the 2nd 1790.

My dear Cousin,

It was my Intention to have written to you by
Mr. Dickenson but one Interruption or another ~~on~~ the
Day or two before his Departure, prevented me.
However perhaps a Letter may be more acceptable to
you now, than it won'd have been then - as Mr.
Dickenson won'd of Course, tell you any little Article
of News that might be to be met with during his stay
here. I need not tell you how very agreeably surprised
we were to see Mr. Dickenson in London, nor how happy
to hear such good Accounts of you and your charming
little Daughter. Our not being to see you and her this
Season is a great Disappointment to us - however,
your Reasons are so good, that we take Patience, and

comfort ourselves with the Idea that ce qui est diffère
n'est pas perdu, as the French say.

I dare say your Cottage (as you call it) will be made
very commodious and pretty, and will do credit to
Mr. Dickenson's Taste in Architecture, altho' his first
Essay. I suppose you have heard of my Father's
having exchanged his Living in Ireland for one in
Suffolk - He has lost considerably by the Exchange, and
yet is not discontented with it - that sounds rather
odd, but the fact is he was not very easy about
holding the Living in Ireland, and never residing
upon it - This one in Suffolk will serve us for a
Villa in the summer, and will be some Amusement
to his mind, so I think all is very well.

My Brother is with his Regiment at Nottingham -
We are in daily Expectation of a Letter from him at
present.

We have not yet had a Concert - only small musical
Parties en famille - You ask me about Miss Mathew -
she no longer assists me by singing - She had the good

Taste to despise Mr. Marchesi's style, and behaved with
so little politeness to me ~~on~~ the first Season of my learning
of him, that our intercourse ceased.

We have another great Singer here now - Sig.^{ro} Pacchierotti -
I dare say Mr. Dickenson has mention'd him to you - he
is besides, a most amiable, and very clever, Man.

The Opera - House is to be built in Leicester - Square -
Gallini is to have nothing to do with it - a Mr. O'Reilly is
to have the Management. Mr. Marchesi is expected in
London this Night, to my great Joy. Madame Mara is
to be the first Woman in the serious Opera. The little
Theatre in the Play - Market is made as commodious as
it can be - it is not spacious enough to be sure - but
certainly it is better to have the Opera there, than to have
none. I have been pretty often at the Play this Season,
though poor Mr. Siddons has not performed - We have been
very near losing her - but I am happy to say that she
is now certainly recovering. I saw her the other Morning
for the first Time - she is amazingly reduced, but
that is said to be a good Symptom, as Bulk after so
violent an Illness could not be natural - consequently,

would be unwholesome. She was in very tolerable spirits, and looked very handsome and interesting.

I heard good accounts of my Sister, a few Days ago, from a Gentleman just come from Dublin - I hear oftener of her than from her for she is a lazy Creature at writing.

I am sure nothing would make my Brother more happy than visiting you and Mr. Dickenson, were he in your Neighbourhood - and I dare say his Regiment will be sometimes quartered at Manchester.

You tell me that I am mistaken, for that your Daughter is not spoilt - You are mistaken yourself, for I never imagined she was - I am too well persuaded of your excellent judgement in the Management of your excellent Judgement in the Management of Youth, to fear your spoiling her. As to Grand Papa, I don't know what to say about him, for Mr. Dickenson says he is pretty much under the young Lady's Dominion. I long to see her - I hear much of her.

My Father and Mother join in best Wishes and Regards to you and Mr. Dickenson, and I remain affectionately yours.

Pray remember me to Mr. Dickenson.

Jane Hamilton