

My Dear Miss Hamilton

Ms. A. 1. 1. 4. 5. 11

Jan 5. 1779 10

on death of her Mother
Nov 23. 1778

I cannot omit taking the
very first opportunity of telling you how sincerely
I condole with you upon the melancholy
news I receiv'd last Post from Lady Darby,
I regret being at too great a distance to prove
more especially to you the very sincerely
tender Affection I feel for you - I most sincerely
regret poor Mrs Hamilton, I had a real esteem
& regard for her, & so (I believe) had every one who
had so great a knowledge of her good qua-
-lities as I had - but by Lady Darbys account
she had suffer'd so long that her departure
must have been a real release to herself,
& thank God she had the comfort of seeing
you in so happy a situation that it must
have taken a considerable weight off her
mind, & that I am sure must be a most
pleasing reflection, & a balm to your tender
Affectionate Heart - mine overflows with

with kindness to you, & I embrace you with
 the most cordial Affection. I have thank'd
 your amiable, respectable friend L^{dy} Darby
 for her kindness to you, but not half as
 much as I would do - her friendshipp I
 look upon to be one of the most essential
 Blessings you possess, for I fear there are
 not many hearts like hers. We have
 lately been witnesses to a sad scene, the
 Ladies were among the small number in
 the Country at the time of the Hereditary
 Prince of Naples Death, & had melancholy
 proofs that the Diadem cannot shield from
 strokes like these, nor from the grief w^{ch}
 must ensue the Poor Queen just ready to
 die in has severely felt the loss of her
 favourite child. I have been oblig'd to write
 several disagreeable letters of bus'ness by this
 Post which has quite worn me out, therefore

will not add more for the present than
 to tell you I will write you a longer letter
 in a Post or two, Mr. John is gone out shooting
 with The King, but he charg'd me before
 he went to assure you of his sincere regard
 & Affection, & that he join'd with me in
 condoling with you upon your loss. Adieu
 My Dear Miss Hamilton, be assur'd that
 neither distance of time or place can ever
 alter the true regard with w^{ch} I am

Y^r most affectionate Aunt
 & faithful friend
 Hamilton

Naples
 Jan. 5th 1779

[Faint handwritten scribbles]

To let
Shoboh
Scotland
Leath
Scotland
To let

To
Miss Hamilton