

March 147

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REF. 15-B-3

Miss Mercer,
11 Armiton place
Newington



Tuesday eve

Dear Margaret,

This evening I had intended to tell you the result of my interview with your father, we going to Miss Smith's. Not having had an opportunity however of doing so, and thinking that it may be of consequence to you to know, in case of having any conversation with your mother on the subject, I now write a short statement of its amount.

I told him that I believed our minds were made up to proceed, under existing circumstances, and that I wished

to ascertain from him how
far he could go or how
much he would be dis-
posed to do towards enabling
us to go on without any un-
necessary discomfort or con-
vexance, such as might ar-
ise from our having to act in
apparent opposition to his will
I also asked him if he could
not take upon himself the
trouble of enquiring into all
matters important to your
comfort, and of suggesting to
me or negotiating with me,
anything that he might think

necessary to your security in
~~the~~ point of maintenance and
independence.

He said he was disposed to
place no obstacle in our way,
but feared that it would be im-
possible to reconcile your mother
to it so far as to permit any ap-
pearance of consent on her part.
That he thought our best plan
would be to manage the affair for
ourselves altogether, and not to ask
to be married in your mother's house at
all; and he explained to me what
he thought would be the best mode
of proceeding. I have not room to state it
here.

He said he was well enough
satisfied that you would not want
for anything necessary with me.

but said he was willing to see my fathers letters when they arrived; though he believed that no fears of any pecuniary destitution entered into his objections or Mrs Mercers.

He mentioned that he did not think your mother would give you anything in the way of outfit; but he thought you were pretty well provided. That he did not know whether or not he would give you anything himself; and that he would recommend us not to waste our money in any thing unnecessary; these were subjects however on which I was not disposed to ask questions. I tried to impress on him

That I would be very grateful
for any kindness or interference
that could make parting from
them less painful to you,
or could prevent us from
being evil spoken of. He
seemed however to think
that your mother's feelings
on the subject, would make
this very difficult.

I think I have stated as
correctly as I can the amount
of our conversation on this
subject, and I must say
that I found him speak
more kindly on it than
I had expected.

If I cannot see you to-
morrow, I will endeavor
to dispatch as many other
matters as possible, so
that my time for the
remainder of the week
may be my own.

On Thursday I hope
to speak more fully to
you of the further steps
we may have to take
before getting through present
difficulties. May God
grant you strength and

decision for it, and, bless
all that we do so that
we may afterwards have
occasion to rejoice in looking
back. It is a very long
time to wait till Thursday
without seeing you. If
I can safely do so, I must
try to call to-morrow. I hope
you and your mother may
arrive at a satisfactory
understanding. Earnestly
wishing to be able to call
you mine, I am your
William

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[Faint handwritten text on the right edge of the page, including fragments like "The", "or", "led", "re", "The", "an", "The", "Co", "Co", "of", "ne", "The", "re", "g"]