

Mrs. William A. Deane

1812

Petersburgh September 2. 1812

What a shabby gentleman you are to send me by John, such a miserable short epistle, you that live in the gay world ought to compensate my solitude and raise my spirits by news and scandal of every description. instead of which I receive a few scolding lines because I have not written to you when in fact I dispatched a letter some time since one that for length would make a down of yours now you see I am sold in my turn and my wrath is easily raised. however I must inform you that we are very gay here, I have had a famous large tea party (where did she put them all, I can hear you say) but no matter, so it was, also a small dinner party - two days in succession have I been invited out to dine, once at Mr. Vickers, once at Mr. Lewis's, but with my known inflexibility, I declined both, all this stir among us is for Mrs. Lynch and a Mr. y. Mr. Vickers from New York, it will now go through with the whole Livingston tribe, I shall put them all and be off to Brooklyn - the brautious Joanna cannot partake of the dissipation, she is suffering with your complaint has the fever every day - I must just take the liberty to inform you, that your Phil (as you call him) is no great thing, not one night has he "kissed with me", instead of coming under my protecting wing and taking

possession of his old room, he has staid altogether at Mr. Sande's. He left here
last Saturday to be back the next, but doubtless you are better acquainted
with his movements than I am — Yesterday we were favored with
Stroms and his wife, Mrs. Crawford-Jones and Poiré to dine with us.
after dinner we made a party to tea at Mrs. James Livingstone (who by
the way has a second daughter) and returned here to supper, they left
me after breakfast this morning — Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Montgomery
have within the last week returned from the Springs, where the latter
had a fall through a trap-door and half killed herself in her own
imagination, but I believe was not materially damaged — Jones has not
been to the Springs, in that I was mistaken, he threatens to write
to you and contradict all false reports that I have forwarded respecting
him — he is positively to return with your husband, but you know I
give no credit to what he says — till Miss Frasier I saw at Mr.
James Livingstone's. Mr. Swift (formerly Mr. Inman) who I think a
diff Bostonian — — —

Mammy called and delivered your mes-
sage most faithfully, she shed many tears when speaking of George
saying she has not had one good night's rest since she left him —

John drank tea with me this evening, he came like a good
fellow loaded with Peaches and Plums — — — I hope my dear friend
you do not forget that our correspondence is for ourselves alone, neither
my writing or my composition will do, but for such partial eyes as

your. I am so to you as I am indulged myself in talking to you
quite without thought — — — My best love to Miss Frasier and dear
Catherine, I shall write to the first by Mr. Hughes and you shall
Believe me my dear friend ever lamenting your departure.
M. H. D.

I hope, my dear Mr. Schuyler, will not be so unjust
as to impute my neglect of awaiting myself of the
opportunity of adding a postscript of Maria's last
letter to the want of inclination. Believe me
I estimate the privilege of thus occasionally ad-
dressing you at too high a value to suffer any oc-
casion of claiming it ever to escape me. But at
the time Maria wrote I was absent, & I thought you would
perhaps consider it presuming too far, upon your kindness
& your friendship had I ventured to intrude without the
sanction of her correspondence. The present, then
is the only opportunity which has been offered
since your departure of addressing you; and how
may can I profit by it than by assuring you that the
reluctantly said your absence had been a loss, was
never to be repaired! as some alleviation of my in-
dividual suffering I had proposed visiting Cambridge in
the autumn but I now find it impossible to execute my
purpose.

R. F. M.

M. H. Duer
Sept 2 1812