

City Road Feb 13 1811

My dearest Love,

I have, as yet, gained very little information respecting your interview with my Father, on which account you must suppose I am very anxious. my Brother called to day, and was made acquainted with the whole business. my dear Isabella was permitted to be present, she informs me, that tho' he spoke well of your character, yet he disapproves of our union. my Father has hitherto been very kind to me, but seems very desirous of my giving it up, however, he intends at the present to refer it to Mr. L. I have every reason to believe he will strongly oppose it, so that there remains very little if any ground to hope for success. my dearest friend, the more I consider, the more fully am I convinced

Ann Benson to Robert Mather,  
13 Feb. 1811.

I never can be happy without the consent of my  
own dear and honoured Father. Yet my dearest  
I do not, I never did, never shall dispute, that  
Love for me would induce you to use every means  
in order to my comfort and welfare. I pray, that  
the God of Heaven & Earth may reward you for  
the many coincident proofs you have already given  
of your sincere affection and regard. My Father  
is certainly actuated by a desire for my temporal  
and spiritual advantage, and will, if he can with  
propriety coincide with our wishes. if this should  
not be the case, we must endeavour to give up  
our own will, and be resigned to the will of  
God without whose blessing, we can never be  
happy, or profitable to each other. It will be to  
me the privation of all that is most dear to  
me in this world, but we have every day proofs  
of the uncertainty and vanity of all earthly  
things, and we too shall soon have done with  
men and things; nothing is worth a thought

but how we may escape eternal Death, & gain  
immortal bliss. you have no doubt heard of  
the sudden illness and death of George Pearson  
how many loud calls we have to prepare to meet  
our God. Since I saw you, sorrow hath filled my  
heart on account of my own troubles, and those  
of my friends, many of whom are under great  
affliction. may they be favored with divine sup-  
port. Let me intreat you my dearest Robert  
to pray much for me and for yourself.  
I need direction, heavenly wisdom, and grace  
I know not when I shall see you perhaps never  
more in this world. Oh that it would please  
the Almighty to remove the hindrances, and  
make our way plain, that we might strive to-  
gether for the hope of the Gospel. 'Call upon me  
in the Day of trouble,' saith the Almighty. Obey  
I except my dearest Love, and continue to be  
I am so agitated, I can hardly  
write at all but  
me your truly sincere  
Faithful & affectionate friend