

39 242: 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 1799

Sir

With an aching Heart and a trembling Hand  
I take the Liberty of Approaching your  
Excellency in this way since My Unhappy Situa-  
-tion Does Not Permit me to show My self  
at your Feet Implore that Pity of which I stand  
in Almost Infinite Need Oh Sir I imagine  
you see at your feet an Unhappy Wife  
a Distress'd Mother Pleading for the Husband  
of Her Bosom & the Children of Her  
Love - Imploeing your Pity & Influence  
I am told it is in your Power to  
release My Husband if it be Oh! Sir  
Extend your Bounty be Greater Kind  
be More than just Perhaps the Market  
Laws will tear My Husband from Me  
if that be His Doom & it May Not be  
revok'd Suffer Me & My Infant to go  
with Him for after what I have  
Suffer'd

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged, stained paper. The text is mostly obscured by a vertical crease and various stains. Some faint words like "Dear" and "Yours" are visible.]*

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I cannot think of encountering the  
Distress which winters presents to  
My Disturb'd Inauguration with  
Six Helpless Children one at my  
Breast & Nothing to ~~help~~ me or them  
save one single Dollar which is now  
My whole stock ~~of~~ yours. I in May  
Imagine but I cannot Describe  
what I feel, at this <sup>time</sup> I have no friend  
No relation to apply to therefore I rely  
wholly on God & you - as soon as  
you can spare time from your other  
Avocations, Please Sir to let me know  
I can get by a line of the Sir Excuse  
I forgive the trouble from a  
Disturb'd Woman your Unhappy  
Servant<sup>t</sup> Elizabeth Goff

Howard  
4/3 1879

13 Feb. 1779

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