

I am apprehensive that you grieve too much at the Apprehension of the ill Estate of my Affairs, wherein I can safely assure you that I have in a manner gone thro' all my difficulties, and am in a good prospect of making you in some measure sensible of it, as well as of the Affection that myselfe y<sup>r</sup> Mother and all of us beare you, therefore let nothing trouble you, but banish all anxious thoughts either about your Selfe or us, I believe you may in a short time haue the news of booth your sisters<sup>1</sup> changing their Condition unto what may be sutable & agreeable to themselves & us, I would haue you to use y<sup>r</sup> utmost persuasion w<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Loyd not only to lett you come but that he accompanie you himselfe, & soe to lett you remaine untill y<sup>r</sup> recouerie, and such further space of time as he shall see convenient. Give us the satisfaction of hearing from you as soone as possible, which I pray God may be w<sup>th</sup> some Comfort whereby to be deliuered from ye Consternation we are now in for you, I shall not faile to put up my earnest prayers for you, and that we may once more see you againe w<sup>th</sup> us with Joy. Give my true affection & respects to y<sup>r</sup> husband, and I pray God bless all your little ones, I am and shall alwaies be y<sup>r</sup> most affectionate father

J<sup>o</sup> NELSON

pray sister let no your being w<sup>th</sup> child if y<sup>e</sup> are hindred your coming, nor y<sup>e</sup> thoughts of y<sup>e</sup> expence for as to y<sup>e</sup> appearance hear we will contrive so that it shall be no charge to you. I remain your concern'd sister.

MEHE<sup>l</sup> NELSON<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Mehetable, Mrs. Temple; and Margaret, Mrs. Steele.

<sup>2</sup> Mehetable Nelson, later Mrs. Temple.