1800 June 18

SIDE ONE

Childon 18th June – 1800 –

Yours my dear Sister of the 6th March was yesterday forwarded to me by our good friend Mrs Brooks – to hear you are all well is ever a great satisfaction to me – & judging you by myself in this particular I do assure you I have never withheld from your knowledge (had my letters all reached you) our state in all respects – I find by one or three of mine have failed – Nor have I for many months heard any tidings of you & yours, & have been very anxious to be so from your letters mentioning the delicate health of your dear Children – Sincerely do I congratulate you on their restoration –

~~Before~~ I trace back our history so much of ~~which~~ I find you are ignorant of I must tell you that till I know rejoice you all – & that has only this very day been officially confirmed, namely that Mr Ben again recieves from Mr Windham the appointment of Barrack Master & in the precise situation from his first quitting public life – that he had always wished to settle in, it is the life gaoler in Hyde Park – about half a mile from Hyde Park Corner – therefore completely within reach of everything & every body we have been accustomed to for the last 6 & Twenty years – there is no house attached to the Barracks – but he must live near – & if he ~~are~~ were free to pitch our tent any where we could wish a finer – more healthfull – or more cheerfull situation could no where be found – The pay is the same as at Croydon – except that the allowance for a house is 50. per annum instead of 30 – In short my dear Sister this appointment makes us completely happy & it is heightened not a little by past anxiety – which for some time I confess has been very great indeed

Mrs Charlotte
To the care of Mr Jeffe Hollingsworth
Baltimore
Maryland

Yours & Mr Ben's
affectionate Sister
M. Ann Bates