Mary Galloway Ringgold

SIDE ONE

you should lay aside the practising it when I shall
not be with you to remind you of your duty to God,
and of what consequence it will be to you when
the Hour of Death arrives, I pray you when you have
seen or heard of my having past through that awful
Scene, you will comfort yourselves with reflecting that I
leave this World with full Assurance that I resign my Soul
into the hands of my God and Saviour, and that I believe
I shall be happy through his Merits who died for the
Sins of Mankind; and I leave as the most Valuable Le-
gacy or Blessing I am capable of giving you my Sincerest
entreaties that you will all examine the above mentioned
Religion, and embrace it with Sincerity and let neither the
Fashion of this World or Multiplying of Business or Riches
or any thing prevent you allways dedicating such a
part of your time to looking into the State of your
minds and Worshipping God as he requires of every Soul
in this World to do; and I can assure you by experience
that I Surmounted every Difficulty I have met with in
this World by applying to him for relief; and when
your dear Father was no more, and all other Comfort was
gone, except the Reflection that as the Stroke came from
the hands of an al[illegible] Go[illegible] Relig[illegible] only could
[illegible] and Calm my [illegible] Rus[illegible] his Wil-
[illegible] you each act[illegible] in this [illegible] World
[illegible] to meet those [illegible] you [illegible] is the
[illegible] of your Af[illegible] Mother

Mary Ringgold

Chester Town
Feb.y 8th 1789

If any or all of my dear Children should
be living at my dissolution, I hope they will remember
that it is my last wish they should carefully look into the
following lines, as I am extremely anxious to imprint upon
their minds the thing of most consequence to them
in this World, and that is the great attention they should
pay in spending their lives in such a way that they
may resign their Mortal bodies and their Immortal
Souls, into the hands of a Merciful God and Saviour;
and I leave to them as my last and best advice that they
look well into their conduct, and serve God both in
a Religious and Moral Life: no age or Riches or power
can one moment suspend this Inevitable decree; lose
no time my dear Children but act now as you would
wish you had done when this awful Scene overtakes
you. and Oh Merciful Father may you of your Infi-
nite Mercy, preserve their Souls free from the Sins
of this evil World, enabling them to serve you in
Spirit and in truth; and convincing them that after
all they can do they are but unprofitable Servants.
and that th[illegible] will onl[illegible] the Kingdom of [illegible]
throu[illegible] merits [illegible] Son our Sa[illegible]
Jesus [illegible] pliar[illegible] Father to these [illegible]
into [illegible] comm[illegible] I have no [illegible]
to them [illegible] than [illegible] will decree [illegible]
be sp[illegible] to them.— I [illegible] deavoured earnestly some
their dear Fathers Death to instil such Principles
into their minds as I would make them happy for
ever; I [illegible] but a weak Instrument in thy hands,