

## Appendix A: Eliza Brock to Dolley Madison

forest Lake  
february the 21 1844

Mrs. Madison

Madam, its a long time ago in the Autumn of the memorable year of Seventeen hundred and Ninety Three I was at that time a poor Servant girl in the family of Moses Levy, a Lawyer nealy half way between third and forth streets in Chestnut Street, the House stood—Opposite lived Mr. Tench Francis and next door lived at that time a gentleman a Lawyer also, by the name of Todd, the House was a Small one and Stood a little more out.

I was left alone by the family, except the black Servants three in number one a little black girl, She ran every where, one day when I was at the Pump before the door of Mr Farancis, this little girl run out and told me a gentleman in that Small House wanted to see me, with my Pitcher of water in my hand as she Said he was verry Sick and alone I went in and did all I Could for the poor Man he asked me to fetch him some frute from the Store of a Coloured man kept at that time, I got it he was very gratefull I went over Several times and did all I Could, he offen repeted to me, my Wife will reward you for this poor Man he did not Suffer long, he was just dead, when my father found his way into the pestilential City and took myself and a Brother who was an aprentice to a trade in the Same street wee had thirty miles to walk and got out with great diffiulty I did not return to Phila for a number of years after I was married to my second Husband I I married well much above my expectations and have always lived well and free from want untill the last two years my poor husband was sick many

years he died last november, I had two Children a Son and a daughter my daughter died young my dear Son married and went to Phila—five years since he had an honorable Situation in one of the Banks of that City three years Since he died of the Small Pox he left a widow and two Small Children the widow lived one year after and she died, I have the two Children, my poor Husband once possessed a large fortune but alas he has left me in verry poor Circumstances, and Seeing your name lately mentioned the thought has struck me and never been out of my mind that if you knew there was such a person alive, and in want you would help them, I lived in Phila ten years and Twenty here where I live now, I am in my Sixty Sixth year—for my caracter and standing in Society I Can refer you to many respectable persons here and in the City of Phila.

Madam I hope you will not think little of me for reminding you of this long burried Sorrow if you doubt my word or think me unkind take no notice of this excuse my bad writing I could not trust any one to write fore me and I am not in the habit of writing for myself.

yours most respectfully  
Eliza Brock

Susequehanna County on  
Forest Lake Susequehanna Co  
Pennsylvania

Eliza Brock to Dolley Payne Todd Madison, 21 February 1844, in *The Dolley Madison Digital Edition*, Holly C. Shulman, ed. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press, Rotunda, 2004. <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/dmde/DPM2001> (accessed by M. Waters, 12-15-2016).