John Kean to Susan Kean, March 26, 1787

John Kean

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Altho' Allibone sails on the same day with Pinker yet cannot I be satisfied that he should depart without a token of my love to my dear Susan, for is it not among the things possible that this may reach her hand before that by Pinker and will it not afford much satisfaction to receive the happy information that her love her friend mends daily—my heart answers yes, it will fill her heart with gladness & make her soul rejoice—then surely it is right I should do it for is it not my duty to make her happy who has done so much for me, who loves me with such truth & who would sacrifice every thing to make me easy & happy—how do I long to be within the reach of your voice that I might have the felicity of
answering my enquiries after the health of my love — How are you my dear Susan? How have you been? Happy I hope without a care or fear but for me — see how selfish I am. I would have you both care & fear for one — for I cannot wish you so much indifference as not to have some small apprehensions, but more such as to destroy your peace or health —

This place is taken up in conversing about a Ball made by a Mr. Turner on Thursday last — This Mr. Turner you must know is a dancing master & the season growing warm he concludes it with this ball — for which each scholar gives him a guinea & receives two tickets — its brilliancy is much spoken of — the dresses & appearance of the children much extolled — one young lady a girl of about ten or twelve years old had on a dress which cost full thirty guineas — what think you of the extravagance of my
country people— I am afraid luxury and dissipation are too deep rooted ever to be eradicated— but thank God it is confined to a few— The people of Charleston we country folks know no such extravagance we are content with cheap clothes and fare—

I yesterday dined with a gentle the name of Rusher who was passing through— he gives a terrible account passages— they were out twenty six were reduced to a quart of water and bad times—

Present my Love to your father and all the family— remember my petition— but write me particularly about your father I shall leave this on Wednesday or Thursday—

      Adieu

Take care of your self for your—

John Hran

Charleston March 26th 1787