



My Dear Milly

The termination of the war has cheered Hearts of thousands but its bitter consequences will long be severely felt. I cannot express to you the distress it has occasioned at the Battle of Bladensburg we heard every fire (that place being not more than 5 or 6 miles from us). Our House was shook repeatedly by the firing upon forts & Bridges, & illuminated by the fires in our Capital. It was indeed a Day & Night of horrors, the fleet debarkment [sic] from Admiral Cockburn's fleet lay directly before our House. The Capitulation of Alexandria & the result you must have seen in the Public Papers. We left home for Loudoun while the British vessels were in our River, passing in the ferry Boat close to them without being molested; you know not how it hurt me to think I was so near my Country men, & must look upon them as Enemy, whom I should have rejoiced to have shown every attention to; we found three Rockets on our Hill evidently pointed at our House but fortunately did not reach it

Fr yr ever affectioate  
M.D.B.

This is an excerpt taken from a letter written by Mrs. Debutts from Mount Welby to her cousin, Millicent Welby, Lincolnshire, Eng-March 1815.



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