

## Outside the Box

### Transcript

<b>Document title:</b>	Letter	<b>CR number (if known):</b>	CR341/327/93
<b>Document description:</b>	Anna Eliza Jarrett to her brother Thomas Wathen Waller	<b>Date (if known):</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> February 1835
		<b>Page number (if known):</b>	

No. 7      I believe I forgot to  
                  number - Dec<sup>r</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>.  
                                  35 or 36

Camerton House  
Feb<sup>y</sup>. 26<sup>th</sup> 1835.

My beloved Wathen,

I have 3 letters to thank you for N<sup>os</sup>. 8 – 9 - & 10. They arrived in proper order that is N<sup>o</sup> 8 first, and 9 & 10 by the same post. Also dearest many many thanks for the pretty sketch of your house in Athens. I have placed it in my Album, <where> ~~where~~ it looks very well indeed. It is certainly more desolate looking than I had imagined. What do you see from your windows? However thou art well, cheerful & contented – and blessed be God for it. I dare wish for no more, lest it should seem as if I were ungrateful for the bounteous mercies already bestowed in those few words. Should I ever meet M<sup>r</sup> or Cap<sup>t</sup> Wilbraham I will certainly claim my right of thanking him for the trouble he has taken. The description of the sunset you tell me of, makes me envious. You know how enthusiastic I always was about Sunsets, and such a scene as you describe must be glorious indeed. There must be much to interest every body at Athens, and much more, an enquiring mind like yours. You cannot my brother wish more sincerely for a partner to share your feelings, than

I do to see one by your side, one whose

[page 2]

tenderness, gentleness and virtues, would endear her to your affectionate heart, while her firm moral & religious principles might ensure your esteem, and approve her to your excellent understanding. Without this you could not be happy. I know you could not. Therefore dearest no Roman Catholic! No (shall I say it) Sophie d'Aarmanspey! From your description, she may be pleasant as a Companion, but could not I am sure satisfy my Wathen's ideas of a wife. And why despair dearest! Should that blessed time ever arrive when we shall see thy dear face in Old England again, make the best of your time, look about you, there are many worth loving doubtless, and (even making due allowance for the doating fondness of a Sister) I think you would not love in vain. Once secure in the affections of an amiable and virtuous woman, I think you may know enough of the female heart to feel assured that she would follow you whithersoever you might go. Devotion to a dear & most beloved object, entire self denying devotion, is at once our Sex's pride and happiness. No obstacle appears too great, to overcome, no exertion or fatigue or peril, too great to be encountered, when a woman really loves, and above all, when that love is sanctioned be Heaven's blessing and at God's own Altar.

[page3]

Surely thou dear "Lord of the Creation" – you will allow us this. How much ~~more~~ <easier> then, when all that is required would be to follow you to other lands, where there is generally much to interest and amuse, and as I should <suppose> no very terrific perils for a woman to combat with[.] Some have done it at the call of pleasure alone and <that of> duty <added> surely would not make the task more difficult. But why not live in England dearest? The only part of your letter which pains me, is that, in which you talk of being unfit for it

and leave me to infer that it is your expectation and intention to reside abroad, & to be a stranger in your native land all the rest of your life. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> time you have hinted thus. And why? My Wathen? Circumstances of discomfort under your father's roof induced you to seek for employment and amusement in a profession you have never loved, and which was no farther necessary for you than for those purposes, and which (should those circumstances change, or any other motive arise) you are surely at liberty to resign at any moment. If you chose to marry and reside in England why should you not be very happy? You would have enough for happiness? If Ernest could afford to marry without im=  
=prudence, surely our dear Father will take care of your comforts in a similar situation.

[page 4]

With a wife, probably a family, and a small place of your own, I think you would find enough to occupy your mind & time, when you got used to it. But of course dearest you must know best what your feelings are on the subject, and perhaps I only feel as I wish. Now with regard to the Spaniel, John desires me to say that he will with pleasure take care of it, if you think it is better keeping here than at Twickenham. But with regard to breaking it, he fears he can do nothing. James Dean cannot break a dog. John always sends his own to school elsewhere, and there is so little shooting here, and he goes out with his gun so seldom now, that he fears it would not be doing justice by the animal. However say the word, and he shall be sent for here. Old Driver is as well as ever, and more ridiculous, and capricious than words can describe. He has not had much rheumatism lately, and seems to consider himself a most important personage. We are most anxious just now about political affairs. The Speakership has been carried by the Whigs, and a grand contest is expected upon the occasion of the King's speech. The debate was adjourned, so

that we shall not hear the issue until tomorrow  
but upon it, much seems to depend as to  
the stability of the Tory party. Think of me writing politics

[page 5]

I am happy to say that affairs in the West  
Indies look decid<sup>e</sup>dly better. The crops are pretty  
fair, and the Negroes quiet, and in most  
places willing to work for wages. This will <be> of  
course (the wages I mean) a heavy tax on the manu=  
facture of Sugar, but as we all but despaired  
of making any, it is a pleasing alternative.  
The Croakers even are more cheerful, and speak  
somewhat less gloomily of our prospects. Herbert  
Jarrett writes that he is going to be married,  
and is coming home in May for that purpose.  
The lady is not of color. She is we understand  
the ~~daughter~~ neice of the Cusdos or some  
such official name. I hope you will not  
be disappointed of your trip with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lyon.  
It will be a great pleasure to you. I suppose  
your duties now are not very laborious.  
Have you much writing to attend to? –  
I am so charmed to think that you have  
such valuable friends in Mr & Mrs Hill.  
They must be indeed a host in themselves.  
By the bye the papers inform us that Colonel  
Caradoc, is about to be married to your old  
acquaintance the Princess of Bragation. I hope  
the Waistcoat was received in time to appear  
at the Wedding. I hope your garden will prosper  
under your management, and the care of  
your German Groom!! Rather a strange Gardener  
methinks!

[page 6]

We talk of making a Flower garden close to  
the house, which I shall enjoy very much.  
We are now quite finished, and are as  
comfortable and as settled as if we had lived  
in the house for years. Excepting the underground  
part, we are also quite dry, but that must  
have time. It is much larger than Mareland [or Moreland]  
dearest. The rooms are as good as those at  
Hale, only fewer in number. I am sure you  
will like the inside, the outside is not

so well, for the long range of offices is very prominent and ugly. In summer the trees conceal a great part of them, but in winter or rather half the year they are <too> conspicuous. Do not worry yourself about your money my own Wathen. My last letter will have set your mind at ease about it I hope, and when the compensation money is paid (which they say will be in July), we shall do quite well. You know once paid, the expense will not recur again like rent, which is a yearly pull upon the purse. I have sent for the book you recommend, and am now reading Carne's letters from the East, which is very entertaining. You can have no idea what a relief it is to my mind, and body also. I might add, now the bustle is over. I have ~~now~~ time to breathe, and it is so long since I have had more than a few occasional moments

[page 7]

to call my own, that any present leisure is absolute luxury. I am quite well & saucy, though I fear growing somewhat old and ugly. I was 32 yesterday!!! My dearest Husband is continuing to do well thank God! and I cannot help hoping, that whatever mischief there may have been in the head, the means adopted for its cure, have by God's blessing been successful. He has now & then a little  
derangement of stomach,  
which produces irritation  
and depression, but when  
that is set to rights he is  
himself again, and more  
himself lately, than he has been since the commencement of his illness. The Billiard Table is put up, and he plays almost every evening by strong lamp light, but it does not appear to affect him at all, which I greatly rejoice at, as I was fearful it might prove hurtful. I do not think dearest you need fear about Ernest & his Wife. Their things appear very nice, but I have seen nothing out of the way as yet. For the next two months also, they will be at no expense whatever, for they are

to spend a month at Offchurch, and then the whole party adjourn to the Grove at Tachbrook, where Mrs Nutcombe receives them as her guests for another month at least. Afterwards

[page 8]

the new married pair are to be left to their own contrivances. Is Mad<sup>elle</sup>. d'Armansbery going to copy my picture, or only to look at it. How I love to read that it is on your desk, that you are as it were talking to it. Oh! how I wish I could sometimes be that picture - that I might

answer, when I am spoken to. My paper draws to a close, so I must conclude. GG & Sainsbury came to us for a week while Ernest & Louise were here. I never saw the former better, or enjoying herself so much. She & Louisa got on famously. They brought their eldest boy with them. He is such a fine clever little fellow! and he was so good & obedient[.] Now my beloved Brother. God bless you & preserve you – John's kind love. Adieu my darling Wathen. Your fond & affec<sup>te</sup>. Sister  
Anna Eliza Jarrett.

[address]

Wathen Waller Esq<sup>re</sup>.  
Secretary of Legation  
Athens

[Correct spelling of d'Aarmanspey (page 2) is actually d'Armansperg]