10-12-1785

Benjamin Harrison to Alexander Donald, October 12, 1785

Benjamin Harrison

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My dear Towns

However strange it may appear to you, it is not less true that this is the only opportunity I have had of acknowledging the receipt of your favour of the 26th Ult. of the present month. One continued round of feasting and drinking ever since my arrival in these parts, I in such a concourse of acquaintances, or strangers as scarcely permitted one to turn round, much less to come to write on. I am now I thank my stars that out of the bottle and confusion, for the few Men are more fond of society than myself, yet those large and mini companies are truly disgusting, and between friends I question much (their Member of the Jacob's Club) whether my attendance in our agons be given at a future meeting. Happening I same to this place I am as retiring as I wish, but this only for a couple of hours, after which in company with my sister Mrs. Baylton I shall depart for Hanover Town. Would you go (with convenience) say Richmond? If you cannot soon let us see you at Brandon I will try hard to visit you at Turpin Hall. — Mrs. Harrison's indisposition was slight, & I think it more than probable she might have had the same attack if at Stirling, but had our friend Mr. Manson been out of the question she would have found some difficulty in getting thereto. On that score then you may rest satisfied, I neither feel or express yourself hurt at what gives me pleasure,
to reflect on. I do not mean poor Mansons long grateful illness, but the pleasure I felt in his company. I remember thinking that our attentions have in the least contributed to his recovery.

You may now be as forgiving as you have been angry at my omission in not opening the letter from Col. O. for myself, only that I did not think to have opened it, but was prevented by some cause which all persons do not understand. I believe it was Pappen observed for two or three days when down in attendance on a sick Child of his. Be this as it may you will please to retract the following expression, if you will find me all you wish, "it occurred to me that I have been wrong in opening a letter for you, which promise you a liberty I will never take again," take this back again, let us start fair—never will have any complaints of a similar nature in future so well founded as this hath been.

I am happy to know that you are on good terms again with his late Excellency. I had written three letters were I was incidenly the coming son of one of my gospelem Neighbours.

Ranos. Town of Cashel 1793

I took an opportunity of asking Mr. Titchmarsh whether you had visited him at Shalain. He knew not why you would not visit. I said he had given you an invitation, and conceiving he might have intended it, but amidst such a crowd he may have eaten it. He is dissatisfied with all his European connections yet my solicitations in your favour from unsuccessful—till present Re will trust you, not withstanding this declaration. I think you may succeed, provided you visit him. My private opinion you will never suffer...
any great degree of credit from his engagements for
judge his Jefl's are not of prime quality, I know his
expectations to be rather sanguine. I met with more
success in an application to my old and dear friend
Mr. M'Farty, who resides near Leeds Town. He also is
displeased with his last abs. Sales, and tells me
your House shall have a small Trial. I have promised
to give you a letter to him. Should you go into those
parts. This is a valuable Cre, when you see him lose
him on my act when well acquainted you will do so on
your own.
Mr. Carter of this city will deliver to you
Mr. Mitchell's Ball - half a French crown excepted,
you will please apply it to the same purposes with
the last - in the trouble I give you. Partly on your
recommendation of something from my own knowledge
of this Gent. I have been induced to accept his offers
of supplying my Tangier Estates with necessaries.
He is well knowing of the character you give him, his
Partner I am little acquainted with. I know not any
values my smile are of, but this I know that Mr. M. and
we have them, because he is our friend. I also been
I have a personal esteem for him, he desires me to
present his respects to you. Most sincerely do
I rejoice with you on the arrival of your lost sheep, the
Mr. M's not naturally timid I began to think with you
that the late storm would prove too powerful for her.
I believe me I felt more on your account than any loss of
property I might sustain. Yet amidst the pleasures I
feel on this occasion, the arrival of this same Mr. Brown
causes very different emotions. I consider it as a prelude to your departure from home. When that time arrives I shall almost wish you had not come over at all. We can generally much better support the absence of a friend than the presence of his company with him. This last nearly resembles the separation of soul and body.

Mr.'s account of sales must be pleasing to all parties. They are highly so to me. I have an order from Mr. [illegible] for my fourth part of the proceeds at 10s. 6d. I thought it unnecessary to take a bill as you were in the country.

Had I [illegible] your letter two days sooner, I would have made application for your demand against his late father. He was gone before it came to hand, yet I hear from some late conversations with my friends above that you stand little chance for speedy justice from that quarter, but try him yourself. He does not live over 20 miles from [illegible] Board House. I would recommend it to you to take his bond pay at a long day.

The Bonds for Pantaloons are enclosed. It is now quite dark. I have got to the bottom of my paper. Besides I am so puzzled by the People's inquiries after the health of our little family below, that I scarce know what I am writing, you will have difficulty in reading it. Adieu my dearest Friend. Secure yourself that I am moderately Yours. - G.Harrison