

Thursday Morn^g 19th August 1779

It is with infinite delight my dearest, dearest,
 dearest friend I presume my Pen since I can not at least at present
 converse with ^{in person} my ever amiable, ever delightful ever angelick Sister.
 I think not ^{because} you hear me at times speak in a trifling ^{way} ~~and~~
 and conduct myself in a manner unbecoming me, and pay too
 much attention to minutiae that that is always the case, no, my
 dearest friend can not have conceived I am sure such opinion
 of me as to suppose me capable of ^{always doing} such a conduct, I
 perceive you really feel for me when I show myself in a
 trifling light, I know it is greatly beneath my character,
 and I am sensible of it at night when I consider over
 what has passed during the day, yet when I perceive it
 affects you, it then cuts me much deeper than it did before
 and I see myself in such a despicable light, that I know
 not how to look up to you. Continue to give me your
 friendly advice, instill into me your excellent principles,
 and inspire me with your exalted ideas, by this means you
 will counteract that nonsense which is the constant
 companion of ye. fire of youth, and prevent ye. misfortune

and accidents which a young man such as I am, is likely to fall for
into, who from the honesty of his own intentions is not too much
to trust to a deceitful, designing and artful world. You know quite
not with what avidity I attend, imbibe, and adore every word
that drops from y^r. lips. Every ^{thing} ~~article~~ I can find out which
you wish to be rectified about me shall be so, I will now
give you my honor in as serious a manner as it ought to be
given. That as to those two trifling articles of dress which you
mentioned to me when we last met, ~~you~~ ^{you} never more shall
see them. I wish ~~you~~ to please you, to do every thing that is
agreeable to you, it is my sole and principal object for my life
I am not offended if I again desire you to continue y^r. good advice
to me, shew me where you think I have of late been faulty, inconstant
or negligent in my behaviour, dwell upon each particular &
endeavour to model me into such perfection as you have yourself.
I hope I do not flatter myself when I tell you that I believe
the foundations you have to build upon are sound and good, and
I will follow, I will be conducted, I will be guided by you
throughout my whole ~~tenor~~ ^{tenor} maze, or labyrinth of this world,
where I suppose I must meet with constant misfortunes &
impediments. When last we parted I could not help shedding
a tear, & I feel at such little separations, must sometimes
you, what my situation w^d. have been had we now been separated to

forever, avast detested expression, and unless you had had ye generous
to bind yourself by a promise ^{to me} not to quit this family until I also
quitted it. After yr. departure from Mr. I went the next
morning into yr. Apartment to see if by chance any little
trifling thing had been left behind you, and which I could ^{convey} to
you, I searched but could find nothing but ye. remains
of yr. bouquet, which had been presented to you by yr.
Palemon, and which you had wore ye. night you was taken
ill, I seized it and kissed it with a fervour beyond expression
and that as you had worn it in yr. bosom, in which is con-
cealed a heart worthy of a Saint, I placed it in mine, hoping
that it w^d. confer some particular virtue into me, and by
that means render me more worthy of yr. favour. But now to speak
seriously, my angelick friend & Sister, you know not what I suffer
I am more captivated than ever, you tell me you are dreadfully
afraid for me if I should attach myself to every woman with
ye. same impetuosity I have to you, call not that impetuosity
call it constancy, my attachment is ^{for you} not hastily formed, ~~for you~~
will confess the first thing that attracted me was yr. person, which
in my eyes is superior in many points to ye. greatest beauties
in England, but when I became acquainted with ye. pure
sentiments, ye exalted ideas, and divine ^{principles} ~~sentiments~~ of yr.
heart, I felt as it were a secret pride at having attached myself
to a person, so superior to myself in every quality, that ought to

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conduct, give me all ^{your} advice, which I will follow with ^{your} greatest exactness. I am now going to ask of you an additional favor, which is to send me those Books which I have not, and which you have which you think will be agreeable, entertaining, and useful to me, or recommend me to read such

repaired list of books, which I have. Let me know when you hear anything more concerning
in ^{my name?} Helen, Alice, Adieu my friends & sister, and ~~_____~~
Wt. Palemon.