Nov^r 9^th 1841

Sanghton Grove
N^r Edinburgh

Most injured and amiable Man!

It is useless to begin at the detail of all the circumstances that have intervened to prevent by writing, all I can say is that it has neither been from indifference & forgetfulness - such a number of harrassing events have come one after the other to plague me that I am in a wretched state of disquiet with the whole world & shut in a sort of stupid stoical dullness & affect to despise. I shall explain thus far - my eldest brother to whom the rest of his family look up with a sort of respect - & in some measure as a protector to the weaker members, has acted in a most foolish manner - to make short - finding he has been hashed in extensive speculations which have turned as usual like a bubble - All the rest of his family

although ignorant till the last moment of what was going to occur was recalled in this Country Cousin of ours - My brother is utterly ruined - my sisters lose least a good deal of money & so have we all - the miseries consequent upon these events can only be understood by those who have endured them - You can easily see that I am too busy in least to write - Your brother Henry behaved most kindly to my unfortunate brother. I had a letter from Frank the other day he is apparently happy with his wife - They, as you Ware by know are living at the Grenvilles Lodge in the Lowlands. Do you recollect my miss Grenville? Poor thing she is dead - I can hardly help smiling when I think of a little circumstance that occurred at Miss Bowes's - Ware by you remember it - Did you know James Mackenzie? He is going to be married to the Church - John Mackenzie is in bad health - & Sir George and I are rather thick - I dine in Lifts of this house - I was there yesterday - He has a fine lady for his present wife she is a handsome woman & I was what nonsense she "led him in order" - I wonder if you are married and able to sympathise with Sir George - tell me when you write all particulars - What is your income? How you pass your time - and any little thing you are occupied in - As for me I go on mending & trying to mend profits - gains tho I sometimes think my own are not in a sound condition. However there is much that is exceeding interesting - I have the entire charge of the house both inside and out and making last improvements - I have a little too that is I own 11 acres of ground - and have 2 Cows - 1 Horse, 6 pigs a dozen hens including the cock, and 8 guinea fowls!! What do you little farmers say to a stock like that! Ha! Ha! Ha!

Pray let not let our correspondence drop. Though I admit I have not laboured more of late. I will endeavour to be more regular. Ever dear Bess

your sincerely attached friend

W. B. Bodvell Esq

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