

Sir

I must entreat your pardon as an entire stranger in addressing you; but when you are acquainted with my short though wretched history, as a gentleman I think you will forgive my presuming so far, and if possible give your advice and assistance to one of the most wretched women on earth; I have err'd tis true but the sufferings I have endured are past describing.

My family are very respectable residing in a small village about forty miles distant about two years since we became acquainted with a family of the name of Arthey, during which time Mr J H Arthey, now under your care was introduced to me, and in a short time he profess'd himself my lover; well knowing the mistaken pride of his family, I declined the honour of his affection; but he always assured me they were fully aware of his intentions, which were just and honourable, and that the time was not far distant when he would be my guide and protector through life; I pointed out to him what must be my fate should he deceive me, but his professions and vows were such as vainly thought would never be broken; he taught me

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daily to love him; and to look forward with fond delight for the time that was to make him my protector. Last October he again visited his family, his visits to us became more frequent and he always winced every kindness and sincerity towards me, he call'd upon the Almighty to be a witness to the truth of his affection; and wished he might never enter the Kingdom of his Redeemer if he ever forfeited his promises of his vows; as I have no writings to prove the truth of what I assert; Arthey will perhaps think within himself; they are of no avail, but let him remember they were made in the presence of that

Great Judge who hears and knows everything, and who rewards and punishes accordingly; he made himself master of my affections, he was fully aware I loved him, and in one fatal moment, I forfeited my honour and happiness, after bringing me to shame, sorrow and disgrace he left me, and from that time to the present, I have neither seen nor heard from the Author of my heavy affliction.

I have written to Mr Arthey several times but have received no answer; nor do I know at the present where to address him, his conduct to me for the last year has been unmanly and cruel in the extreme; I never wish'd him to act unworthy to his parents, the duty we all owe to them is great; but he

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ought to have considered likewise the duty of a father, and if after bringing me to the need? and scorns of an unfeeling world, his affection was turn'd to such implacable hatred, he might have new and loved his child; I could have forgiven him all had he done this but instead of which he left me and my helpless innocent to perish in misery and want. Since I saw Mr A – I have had the heartrending sorrow of losing a beloved parent, grief for the shame his wretched child brought upon herself, prey'd so heavy on his mind that he sunk under it, he could not bear to see the finger of scorn held up at one who was always the pride and delight of his life, sorrow for me at last bereft him of his reason; and he left me and my unborn infant to a merciless world; had it pleased the Almighty to have spared my venerated father, I might with his Kindness have been restored to comparative health and happiness, but losing him added a still greater burden to my breaking heart; if my health and spirits would have permitted, I should have beg'd an interview with you trusting you would not have turn'd away unpitied and unheard the sorrow of a wretched being, who has indeed drank deeply of the cup of affliction.

May I beg of your kindness in speaking to Mr Arthey for me, let him remember he has deprived me of a tender parent happiness and health, what can have induced him to act as he has done I am at a loss to imagine; surely **long we this** he must have **sett**

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the stings of a guilty conscience; his conduct is offensive to his Mother; will he dare to preach against those crimes which he have practised towards me and yet feel no remorse; he should call to mind in the midst of life we are in death, end will he still continue to act towards me in the unjust and unnatural way he has done, when he may in the course of a few moments be call'd with the presence of that Great Judge to give an account of his actions whether they be good or bad.

I must entreat your kindness and forgiveness but I am part sinking to the grave; my sorrows and trials have been great, they have so shatter'd my constitution, that death to me will be I think a blessing; I have done wrong but I am I hope, a penitent; I have call'd upon my maker fervently to forgive me my errors, and I pray most heartily pray he will hear me.

My last remaining Parent is nearly distracted at the thoughts of losing me, as she looks upon me as her only solace in her declining years; she is incapable of attending to any business on account of a fall she received about four years since which occasions her to need the use of crutches.

I must again beg you will pardon me for addressing you at such length.

If you will exact what power you have in pointing out to Mr A the cruelty of his conduct, and can prevail upon him to act as becomes him the prayers of a helpless widow a deserted and broken hearted woman shall ever attend you