

Hon[ou]r[e]d Sir

Grief poverty and distress which has been brought upon me by One that is under your care must plead my excuse for taking the liberty of addressing you a second time; but I do it with a view to exculpate myself from some of the gross and infamous accusations brought against me by Mr Forby; after giving his word to me dying Parents that justice and humanity as far as he could command should be offer'd to his wretched child; he too soon forgot the promise he made to a dying sufferer, and er'e the earth was closed upon his remains he began to exercise his unfeeling barbarity towards me, and to this hour my Mother and myself are still severely suffering from his vindictive cruelty; we came to Cambridge with a view if it pleased the Almighty to restore my health (which has been for the last two years and still is in a very declining state) to better our situation which we undoubtedly should have done had it not been reports he had circulated there as well as here render'd it any unpleasant to remain, I would certainly if it had been possible have lengthen'd my stay till Arthey had come up to have confronted before you respected Sir if you would have condescended to
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have heard me and at the same time explained to you before him part of his treacherous conduct towards me; I have no friend not a single one on earth I could apply to to speak in my behalf but had I been so fortunate as to have been honour'd with an interview with you; I could have told a plain unvainsided state without a single untruth accompanied with many scenes of woe and wretchedness that would raise sympathy and commiseration from the most hardened breast, and would make Arthey that cause of all the author of all my

sorrow shudder and tremble; would he dare to deny what I could there have asserted, let him remember that he would be in the presence of the same Almighty, Being then that he was when he so sacredly promised and called down his eternal vengeance upon his head if he would ever deject me or even be prevailed upon by his Parents to marry another woman; let him remember the oaths the promises he has made me the being that sees him now is the same unchanged Judge, they are all register'd above and he can't be so devoid of common sense but he must be aware he will be call'd upon to give an account of them; the ensuing Jan[uar]y was the time fixed for our wedding he inform'd me at that time the completion of his studies at Coll[ege] would terminate and that no earthly power should prevent our Union; his parents he said were

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aware what his intentions was and that if he acted dishonourable to me he wished he might never enter the Kingdom of his Redeemer and that eternal punishments might be his portion; to him I will apply to know how far he has acted towards me as we *was* bound to do; for tho' he is no stranger to the distress sickness and want which I have suffered he has neither written or seen me now more than two years since the time he so basely deserted me.

Through the kind interference of Mr Burleigh I had the honour of calling twice upon Mr Hustler, but owing to his indisposition he was unable to converse much with me; he gave me to understand that you respected Sir and another Gent had taken my wretched case up very warmly and said that Arthey certainly deserved punishment; but after that a letter had

been received which had quite changed the affair by laying the entire blame upon me and report'd such things of my character as were unfit to read; I wish'd very much to have been admitted to your presence as I could have confuted all the infamy contained in that letter; had I not been clear of those vile reports which Mr Forby has accused me of; I should never have dared to appear before Mr Hustler or any other Gent; I was inform'd by Mr Burleigh

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that your time was very much taken up by business and that it was not likely I could be honour'd with an interview; and we were obliged to return again fearing that if we stay'd we should incur debts we should have been unable to discharge; I most humbly beg your pardon in the passing so long upon your time; but I do it with a vein to render myself though unknown to your less infamous in the eyes of you and the other Gents

Till this unfortunate affair with myself our family were always respectable much more so then the Arthey's, in their living they are very disreputable Mr & Mrs A never being together but at table, and the son's living very adulterous lives; and till my acquaintance commenced with Arthey scarcely noticed and thought nothing at all of by Mr Forby.

I fear Respected Sire that you will think some blame must be attached to me, as Mr Forby's character standing so high as it does in the circle of his friends would cause a stranger to think there must be something; but in my case I assure you there is not, the Arthey family assisted by

him have done every thing and likewise said all that was abse and wicked in order to excuse their son and reainstate him again in Coll[ege], as he said
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himself when he came here last Summer that but for Mr Forby's writing, to the head of the Coll[ege] he could not have return'd, which Mr F now denies by saying he never wrote to any Gent there he had I have reason to believe spoken very disrespectful of my Mother whose character was ever unspotted but be her's on any one's even so fair if Mr Forby takes against a person even without giving offence which is certainly the case in this instance, his malice and tyranny show no bounds; he is certainly where he pleases a most warm and steady friend but the most bitter enemy a person can meet with; in our present deplorable situation we must submit to it, but had we either friends or propriety he certainly should be call'd upon to give an account of his unjust conduct to the Widow and Daughter of what he always styled him his most respected friend; every insult every degradation which it is possible to shew me *he* has done; at the time I was so very ill and confined to my bed for three months my recovery being pronounced very doubtful her refused prayers both public and private;

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but the unfeeling insults which I felt most was his peremptorily refusing to name my beloved and fatherless infant at the time it was very bad. there by denying it a christian burial; you Respected

Sir and any other Gent possessed of humanity will I am sure feel for my present past and helpless situation, after our return home we were for a Month without a house and our furniture standing in the Street as every where we apply'd Mr F desired the owners not to admit us; we have at last succeeded and are now placed in a small cottage with two rooms attended with every inconvenience and so unlike what I have been accustomed to during the life of my beloved Parent that I am ready to sink under my misfortune's; there must be a time when Arthey must have his reflection's severe and keen they must be, at the time he just knew me I lived in a most respectable manner with Parents that resided forty three years in one house with character's fair and unspotted; I was their youngest and beloved child; he knows full well how they idolized by them; and by attending to his deceitful villainy.

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I brought wretchedness upon them; and for myself know that will never have an end; at what I have and am doom'd to suffer I look upon as punishments inflicted by the Almighty for disobedience to the best of Parents; I fervently hope **in** have my punishment here; but Great God let the author of all my sorrows reflect er'e it is too late; what must his punishments be hereafter if he is call'd suddenly away without time for repentance. I know not how to apologize to you Hon[ou]r[e]d Sir for the liberty I have

taken in writing so long a letter but think
you will impute it to the right cause a
conviction of my innocence.

I beg leave to subscribe myself

Most Humbly Yours

Maria E. Parish

Finch[a]m

Dec[embe]r 15

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