

Fincham January 6th 1823

Sir,

I most humbly entreat your pardon
in addressing you; but hope you will forgive the
feelings of a wretched mother, who is plading for her
suffering child; Mr J H Arthy who has been the destruction
of my family is again returnd to his home after a
twelve months absence; you are I believe acquainted
with the sad history of my daughter; who a short time
since addressd a letter to you; without a signature,
being the first time our name ever as disgraced;
she has erred it is true but is the author of all her sorrows
to go unpunished; as he has totally abandond her and
his family have and still do cruelly persecute her,
our family have been brought up with credit and
respectability; and till this unfortunate affair the name
never had a stain cast upon it; we have resided in the
same house 42 years; the unhappy subject of this letter
in the youngest of 5 children and lookd upon by her
lamented father and myself as the last prop to our decli
ning years; her father end idolized her and the dis
grace she so angerdedly heap[e]d upon herself was too
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much for him he died of grief. The family
of Arthy three years since purchased an estate next
door to us; and being entire stragers in the Neighbour
hood; what information they needed my dear Husband
readily gave them; they expressd themselves much
oblidged and proressd to be agreeable neighbours, during
this time my unhappy child without the knowledge
of her father or myself; formd an attachment with

Mr J H Arthy my daughter has I believed caplaind to you part of this unfortunate affair; they have in order to halt the unjust conduct of themselves and son, circu lated the most wicked falsehoods; had Mr A returnd to college at the proper time in Nov[embe]r 22/ my family would have been spared this mortifying disgrace; when he found his time was expired he wrote to his Brother requesting him to write to the college to say he was confined by sickness, which was entirely by false; as during the time he was with his family not a day pass[e]d but he visited mine. never should I have solicited assistance from them for my dear Girl and her infant but from the sudden death of her beloved father; which left her nearly destitute

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as my eldest son claimed all and he thought a good man has had a numerous family his thoughts are naturally turnd to them.

The health of my daughter is in a very delicate and precarious state, in deed she is encapable of attending to any business; and is at present confined to her room by sickness brought on entirely by grief; the disgraceful manner Mr A has conducted himself to her, and the low infa mous reports; which his family daily circulate press heavily on her wounded mind.

They took him from college last march as he was likely to be calld upon soon after that time on account of the affair of my unhappy daughters; since which time till last Def' they report hear that he has been

in France and Wales; for the recovery of his health
but whether he really has or not is unknown to me
Will you Sir have the goodness to advise me how to act
I know no one so near to refer you to, as to our character
as Mr Burleigh of Barnwell; who knew us in our better
days; and when my daughter saw him he thought it
best for her to see you but her health and spirits would not
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permit. She can if required protest upon oath
anything that she has assented; although she has no
written promises of his she has several letters copies
of what she has written to him but he never had the
humanity to answer one of them; could they be read
they would prove his deceit to her .

since Arthy has been at College this last time his brother
from Bath has been to the Bishop of Norwich to get him
ordained as they fear he will not pass his examination
and the Bishop being advanced in years they think
he will not be so particular

Before I closed this I thought it right to call upon
the family, I did so where we had been in the habit
of visiting much their betters; the whole of them
retired from the parlour by a back door this
was the first time I attempted to see any of them;
after waiting some time Mr J Arthy appeared
who not only behaved in an unmanly Manner
but I must add also Brutal. your kindness in
attending to this will greatly oblige yours resp[ect]f[ully]
Mary Parish.