

176
A. MALL
E. J.

67
Piece

Mr. Griffin
Stockton
W. Southam
Warwickshire



Poll House, Alplington
N^o Exeter March 15th 1825

Dear Cousin

It was not aware of your being married when I wrote you last or I should have heartily congratulated you as I am sure you will now very soon extricate yourself from the many difficulties you have had to encounter, particularly with a partner like Mr Griffin who I am sure is possessed of every good quality both as respects a good house wife and an amiable partner you must already perceive a wonderful difference as ~~respects~~^{to} your housekeeping between that extravagant housekeeper Old Molly whose only study was her own comfort no matter at what expence, and the management of Mr Griffin who I am confident only seeks your welfare.

I always had a great wish to hear of your marriage as your good nature and good opinion of the world have often caused you to be imposed upon - besides I am sure real happiness is only to be found in an agreeable partner.

For my own part I never knew what comfort was when rambling about in a single state - had I have been made acquainted with your intention previous to that happy day I should have insisted on your spending a few weeks with us on such a joyous occasion but really those things are managed in such a slip may now a days that it is quite new to me three months after it has taken place, witness our friend Edm^d at Shoreditch and many others - I should be extremely desirous to avail myself of your kind offer by bringing Mr Brothers to Warwickshire this summer and she would I am sure be equally proud to find she had such an agreeable cousin as Mr Griffin and I will venture to say they would be most friendly together but being so much occupied in my farm I am afraid I must defer it for a short time altho' I am extremely anxious to see you and sincerely wish we were living near each other but of course it would be quite out of the question to leave Stockton as things turn out so favourably and to all appearance likely to remain so, and nothing could afford me more pleasure than to hear you are likely to recover the money Old Tom so carefully buried for you in the drains.

things are now got to a very fair price and the country in a very flourishing state and I hope we shall all live to see better days notwithstanding my brother Tom's ascription to the contrary but seeing his perdition did not come to pass he has taken himself off, no doubt disappointed, not however before he has set all parties at variance as far as lay in his power and it may perhaps be considered ungenerous since he is gone in accusing him of all the family disputes (at least since I returned from sea, he had a peculiar method of making his case good even in the most unjustifiable act and could easily set one person at variance with another when he pleased the active part he induced me to take in the affair with your family but I am sure nearly lost me your valuable friendship as I am sure you considered I had no right to have interfered which in point of fact was the ^{case} ~~fact~~, I was however guided by the purest motives knowing that his obstinacy might have involved your mother into difficulties and altho' it might at last have been decided in her favour still it was a most unpleasant affair and I felt a satisfaction in having assisted in bringing it to a conclusion. Soon after which he wanted the deeds vested in order to purchase the House but not having any one he could ask he prevailed on me to request Mr Jeffkins to do it. then the signature of my father was required and then I also procured him with a promise he should enjoy it during his life at a fixed rent of 24 ^{lb} per annum he then prevailed on me to sign an agreement to pay 8 ^{lb} a year at the same time promising he would only expect me to pay ^{to} the rest to be paid by my father, and lastly when he found I could not serve him any longer he put the agreement in full force and as I have before mentioned caused me to be ~~evicted~~ there is perhaps not another instance of a more unnatural or ungrateful proceeding since our recollection for all however I sincerely forgive him and hope he will be able to live comfortable in that land of freedom as it accords so well with his ideas. I feel extremely obliged by your interesting yourself on my father's account you could not bestow a greater favour on me than by occasionally letting me know how he gets on when you write to me which I hope will be more frequent and I have no doubt my father will pay the rent regularly when he gets the field in his own hands and he ought to consider it a generous action in your voluntarily becoming responsible for him

It may perhaps appear strange I had not done but you know my father would not feel himself so far round to pay it as I am answerable for the rent and really at this present time it is not convenient for me to pay 24 £ per annum respecting the 8 £ due at Lady Day next I will forward it in any way Mr Simpson may think proper to propose but having no agent I cannot remit it from London. when you hear my name called in question I know you will do me justice respecting my brother's behaviour to me and as I have such a great wish to have done with him I ~~would~~ ^{would} pay the money for me and take the proper receipt and when you favour me with another letter I will remit the money by return of Post either by an order on the Post Office or enclose it please to tell my father I do not wish to have the dog as he is now getting too old to run so far and the Gentleman I wanted the bitch for his desirous of having a bitch puppy to breed from. he may perhaps be able to procure me one no matter how young or blue or Black, if so I will enclose a note to pay the expense of carriage and shall very soon send him the five pounds as he is particularly anxious to turn it. I really think I should come into ^{Warwickshire?} if you could meet with a very little farm pretty near you. I should ^{not} have much objection to old father Buis's Dove house if he would ^{sell?} me some of his best land as I am so particularly partial to farming and with a little of your assistance with my present income I am pretty sure I could make it answer. when you write me next let me know if old Quiny has left his House and if it is to be sold or let. I always had a great wish for that place and now it is to be sold I would endeavour to buy it. pray send me an account of all the little places which are at present to be let or sold in your neighbourhood as I should prefer being near you ~~as I return to Warwickshire~~. you never told me who your brother Galt had married I wish him success and I think he will do well as he takes his next door neighbour. remember me to all your old friends in your neighbourhood and I regret my paper will not allow me to say much more. Mrs Brothers returns her best thanks to you & Mrs Griffin and we should be both extremely happy to see you and as things turn out so favourably you might treat Mrs Griffin with a journey to Devon and I am sure you will be highly delighted with this fine County. I do not ask you out of compliment but should really be extremely happy to see you, the expense in travelling but trifling and as you have

always promised me you would pay me a visit if I settled in England
I shall really expect you - when you see your brother John you will say
it is my most particular wish he would manage your business in your
absence and he will oblige me by pressing you to come. I hope he is
enjoying is health at present. I expect to hear of his being sought out
and rather wonder he allowed Job to take his turn - I hope you will
not mention any thing respecting my wish to return to W^{thin} not ever
to my father but now you to pay me a visit we could talk it over &
many other things - If you take in a Paper pray send it to me
and I will return you a Devonshire one -

I understand by a letter from my cousin E^{ast} that your good old aunt at Marlton was
dangerously ill, when you see her. remember me most kindly to her - when you go to
Stehington give our kind love to my father & Mother and in hopes this will find
you in good health. I remain Dr. Dear

With my mother little Amy is
well as from Bath.

ever truly yours
John Brothors