

Burbage Dec: 12. 1815

Dear Lady It appears you have put a wrong construction upon the paper, at least to the principle part of it, which should have been taken in connection with the letter I sent, that; I intended to be guided by (and which is more to the point than all the rest) the Stock is personally, consequently personal, were you the longest lived, with children, a third would be yours, (in like manner would all increased personally be divided) without, a Half, the Land, and Mortgage, to be limited, in like manner with the Dorsett Estate, there is this difference in your favour, there is but one life, between you and possession, to my Son there is two, providing you each make an appointment, — With respect to the furniture I have surmised, if you were both frugal, ^{and attentive to business} that the greater part I should take, would be too antient for your purpose, it was the case in my time, there are very few old housekeepers, all I recollect at present, are a sett or two of pott hooks, an Iron fender, an Ash Tea table, the Beaurau, and the looking glasses, against the walls, which have undergone a Mahogany, and their present modernisations, ^{of furniture} these I mean, to always claim, as free property, being what I have inherited from my Father, as to the others which I may take, and your request being moderate I will freely grant. — With respect to the Land, I cannot so readily comply, for if I should Marry, a Lady under a certain Age, and have a young Family, I should consider it my duty to be doing

more than I am at present for their benefit, you know my Dear Lady
were it is said, he that provideth not for his own, is worse than
an infidel; The Place I have fix'd upon as my place of residence,
when I leave Barbage, and the Land belonging to it, as the scene of
action, - If I should Marry a person, of a different Age, I shall
not give myself much trouble about ^{much} business, I have enough ^{remaining} for
myself, and I think, I have enough, for ^{I have left} ~~three~~ children, if they will
make a proper use of it, which I sincerely hope will be the case,
I do not mean, by this, that they should be miserably, or needfully, or
what is much worse, covetous; neither do I by any means wish
them, to debar themselves, of the pleasures of Friendship or rational
society, or the innocent amusements of life, what I wish is, that
they should be industrious, according to their circumstances, and fami-
ly, that they should spend frugally, and creditably, and have their
Eyes open, at all times, to see, that no one imposes upon them, -
As an encouragement I will give them, at the end of 7 years (should
I live so long and if not, my Executors or administrators shall ^{or will} be
accountable) 1050 £ on condition, that they have saved that Sum, in the
course of that time, and will make myself debtor to them annually, by
any simple contract, for the amount they have gained untill it arise

to that Sum ^{if my life is continued} - And on condition of a rising family, I will be
answerable, for three times the Sum, in the same way; in case of ^{my} death
in the interim, this agreement will be void, for the remaining period;
you may very safely commit yourselves, about a sum, of business,
if the business you have in hand, is conducted properly; it is
a common saying, and I believe a true one, in generall, that God
helps those, that endeavour to help themselves, now Dear Lady,
I will subscribe myself, your sincere well wisher, and Friend,
M. Clarke, and hope ^{very} shortly, to have the privilege, and plea-
sure, of ~~subscribing~~ ^{myself}, by the Honourable appellation
of Affectionate Father

* I have been informed, by one of your own Sex, that a new Wife, or
a young Wife, is one of the most agreeable things upon this ^{Globe} ~~universe~~,
to our Sex, and with the transposition of a monosyllable, I perfectly
by accord with it; and I think you will allow, that it is possible,
even for and old Man, to select one, that will answer to that
description, and I trust, you would not wish, to deprive me, of
the possibility, of making this selection, by debarring me the
occupation of the Shade Land, for our accommodation.

N. B. I propose giving M. King instructions to write to M. Dashwood on Thursday next
when I believe I shall engage the money to be ready the first week in the new year
he may just hint at the condition of engagement probably you will give a better account of it

GB/106/M/JAN/1

9/31/04

Mrs. E. H. J. Lainto

Austrey