

Biscay May 29th 1798.

rendered this truly distressing; However, I espoused the
cause of my Sister. "She thought her interest endangered
by his uncommon attention to his own" When I was
convalescent last Summer, Judy mentioned a slight of
Tack's to me, in a manner, which furnished me with
an opportunity of rousing him to do her justice, by send-
ing a letter, written by him, to me, which was valued
too much to have been relinquished to accomplish
a less important event. My zeal in performing
what appeared an indispensable duty, produced not
only the revolution so anxiously desired, but alas!
at the same time, one most inimical to the little
 repose which was left me. Nevertheless, there are
periods, when I feel a sublime complacency which
elevates me far beyond all sublunary considerations
even amidst my unparalleled calamities. = Gladly,
at this moment would I receive the summons, in
general so much dreaded. Were our trials here to
arise solely from our own errors or vices, one should
imagine that we might submit with patience, to the
penalties thus voluntarily incurred. But when our heaviest

I have wished for a considerable time, to write
to my most beloved friends, and now avail myself of Ryland
Wandolph's going down, which is a certain mode of conveyance
Frequently my desire to say something in the epistolary way
to my very dear Mrth Tucker, has been nearly irresistible,
want of materials alone, ever restrained my pen; not a
single incident transpires in this seclusion, which is
worth relating; particularly to an inhabitant of the Beau-
ronde. = Now my more than Father, with a per-
fect recollection of having, would never again to impart
my distresses to you, I am absolutely, constrained to depart
from the resolution - reluctantly, indeed! - I am accused
of ingratitude to you, thro' the medium of your Daughter
a crime, at the mention of which, I shudder! This is done
by a person who says "I am too unamiable to do right, ever,
and have deserved all my misfortunes." - Some pious young
Angel enables me to support with composure, this completion
of my long accumulating anguish. I must however, entreat
Father's pardon, for any errors in my conduct to her. She has my

full assurance that they were entirely those of judgment =
What O Heaven! were my emotions, at being informed of
an agreement between Judge and Fanny, to this effect that
the latter should never visit here, except in my absence
I promise to keep my room constantly unless it be in my
power to leave Bizarre this Summer. When Fanny was
here, I remonstrated with her respecting the mortification
which her apparent dislike occasioned me. She remembers
no doubt the reasons which she then assigned for her re-
flect. They were unlike herself and induced me to withdraw
in part, the fond affections, I had always evinced, and must
ever feel for her. Friendships alone, prompted me to
adopt that painful method of convincing one whom I
so tenderly loved, that such sentiments were extremely
erroneous. = When Fanny and myself parted here, and in
Williamsburg. I earnestly conjured her to gratify me with
a letter sometimes - as she did not comply, I have never
since intruded one of mine on her. = The evening on
which you found me in tears I had been met by my Sister
with this salutation, "So you have begun to bleed." I shall
keep myself in future out of the way of your misrepresentations

My fault was this. I casually mentioned to Mrs. Tucker the
place chosen to tell secrets at here. I have had the sad satis-
faction of seeing the bark pointed at, the very circumstances
recapitulated by the person from whom I originally heard
them, and I silently lamented having another day to re-
main in such a region of calamity; = You know not
how wholly defenceless, and unprotected I am. Therefore
probably, condemned some intimation of mine on that
topic last winter. = May not the effusions of an almost
broken heart be excused? I have witnessed
the mutual animosities of the two members who com-
pose this family at present since they became friend-
ly to each other. They appear to contemn me, for endur-
ing odium so unjustly bestowed. Having been the
confidant of both, I concealed the ~~disapprobation~~ which had
been so incessantly expressed until now, that I am authorized
to mention it in my own defence, justice long ago demand-
ed what I hesitate now to disclose. I am charged with
having transgressed the bounds of decorum in my behavi-
our to Jack. You must know that he was represented
to me, as Judge's greatest opponent, my affection for both

Saint George Tucker

Williamburg.

Miss Nancy Knicker
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sufferings proceed from the indulgence of our most virtuous
affections, what could sustain us, but a certainty that the
time of retribution must arrive. William and
myself met some weeks ago, at Mr. Taylor's, on amicable
terms. I dined with him once, and promised to conti-
nue the intercourse, when he returns from Alexandria
Should you think me wrong, I am convinced your
imagination will suggest every possible extenuation.
He is my Brother! and you he never injured me we
shall both appear at that awful Tribunal, where an
infallible Judge presides from whose decisions an appeal
is utterly impossible. I am too well acquainted
with your heart to apologize for what this scrawl contains
My warm love awaits Mr. Tucker, Beverley, Polly & Charles
To Fanny and Henry, present as much as they will accept
Do not shew this to a human Being, nothing but com-
pulsion could lead me to such subjects. Adieu my
most dear friends. How often have you mitigated my
pangs with the soothing voice of affection, to make
any return is impracticable. I can only include you
and yours, when I implore protection from that Being

Who has never yet forsaken me.

Yours with the most sincerely
warm gratitude and affection.

Ann C. Randolph

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