

Bizarre March 23rd 1804

Our darling Pains' head is perfectly well now altho' the wound occasioned a terrible scar however, thank God it has not injured his health at all - I expect to go down to Brighton very shortly - should my beloved friend meditate a visit to this place, I must conjure him to apprise me of it that I may return immediately to the neighborhood - Oh I do long to see you - my heart retains it's fond attachments, unimpaired - but you will scarcely recognise me - It distresses me extremely to be going away when dear Beverly has written to Judy that he would visit her - alas! she has finally dismissed me from this spot (to which I am immeasurably attached) I dare not resist her power - she says she will "make me know it is absolute" I have never been so for a single moment thrown off my guard - during the last six or seven years - indeed, I would not wish to recall a word which I have ever said to Judy for at least that length of time - one day when poor Pains' wound was at the worst - and he compelled to remain almost constantly on his back I gave him two profiles which he asked me for & God knows I only yielded to the native effusions of my heart - unconscious that the act could possibly be condemned) they were snatched away in such a manner that the child cried until the inflammation in his forehead was much increased - and I, abused in language which I never heard from any one except Judy -

Mrs D. G. Ransdell

March 23. 1804

Mail

Williamsburg

Saint George Tucker

I wou'd not undertake a detail of Judy's inhuman persecutions since she deprived me of Jack's regard. but I must apologize for some of my acts which she deems "officiously impertinent." I should never have complied with Aggy's request if Judy had not repeatedly wished to get rid of her. and said she was nothing but an addition to the number of expenses by which she had become quite insolvent. To prove how much Judy has endeavored to render me completely wretched I must adduce one evidence at least - Our poor Dick (who was the victim of her insinuations) made me several little presents - Since his death, Judy has reproached me more than a dozen times in the plainest terms about them - always mentioning the separate articles. the price of each - and uniformly adding "such things she never cou'd afford to have." There was a time when I engaged in almost every species of dodgery, without appearing to regard the hardships which it success incurred. I then applied closely to my needle. until my sight was nearly destroyed - Ex: perience assures me how impossible ^{it is} for any one to please Judy unless they have power to inspire her with awe - when she was first a widow, I had found the way to please her for a few weeks and she alledged the most dishonorable conduct against Jack. - I knew she called on my Brother for money, twice, she told me that, together with what she got by selling her clothes supported the house while Jack was dead, what he received from the estate - How cou'd

I avoid changing my opinion, and demeanor to him - This is a shockingly irreverent, incorrect scrawl - but I cou'd not set out without saying something to you - and I scribble almost in the dark, with a pen which will scarcely form a letter. My mind is agonized at being compelled to bear itself away - I expect to board in this neighbor: hood, in a very obscure and humble family - The law of necessity is inflexible - I will not receive from my Bro; other, more than enough barely to support me - Heaven bless you my tenderly beloved friend! Remember me to Dear Mr. Tucker with fond regard - also to Charles and Polly -

I have not a moment to look over this scrawl - it will give you some idea of my peculiar misfortunes - your generous sympathy has often been my only earthly consolation - write to me in pity - and burn this hurried affair - Oh my whole soul is devoted to Bizarre and I am driven away = God bless you for all your goodness

My dear friend

My dear friend