

My dear Nancy,

Warminster July 16. 1821.

Your very kind & affectionate Letters of the 3<sup>d</sup> of May, & the 2<sup>d</sup> of July, have both been received; the former, a day or two before we left Mr. Coalter's; the latter yesterday. I was too unwell to answer the first, till within a few days past, and I now avail myself with pleasure of the Ability to thank you most cordially for both. I sincerely lament all your Troubles and difficulties, and most cordially sympathize with you under their weight; and most sincerely pray for your relief from them. I pity your little Governour for the struggles through early life which he is likely to encounter; but hope you will be able by a good & sound Education to prepare him to encounter and surmount them all. Do not spoil him, my dear Nancy, I beseech you - fond Mothers, when left Widows, like yourself, with a single Child, & that a Child of natural good promises, are too apt to magnify in the Eyes of their Darlings, their Qualities, their pretensions, and their prospects; - especially if descended from ancestors of high respectability and Talents; and under expectations of inheriting large fortunes. Avoid this Course, my beloved Nancy, for your own sake, and still more for your Child's. Let him not think himself born superior to those around him, but let him be taught to follow the Examples of the most eminent & respectable Characters around him, as well as those of his most respectable Ancestors: and teach him to believe that this depends upon his own exertions, and in a steady moral course of conduct throughout life. My anxiety for your happiness, and for his future welfare, must be my apology to you for this voluntary advice - its Springs from my heart.

I am happy to inform you that my beloved Lelia's health has mended considerably lately; & that my own is less distressing for ten days past, than it was for weeks before; but I still suffer much - particularly from an affection of my left foot, which has almost rendered me a cripple; in consequence of which I can not take exercise by walking, as formerly; and believe my health has been injured in consequence. I have for five days past rode out on horseback, about a mile, with a view to make up for my former  
practice

practice of walking twice or thrice as far, daily. I flatter myself that I  
may experience in time some benefit from it. — Our dear Polly's health  
is rather delicate, and Mr. Cabells has not been very good for some days past.  
I have had no late letters from Henry or Beverly. Frances Coalter's health  
continues extremely delicate. She is, I hope, by this time at Staunton on  
her way to the warm-springs. Elizabeth & her Father & Brother are  
all very well — My dear wife & our beloved Polly join me in most  
affectionate love & regards to you, and your little Gouverneur. Teach  
the dear Boy to know he has such friends, in so remote a place; and  
give him half a dozen kisses for me. Farewell, my dear Nancy;  
May Health & Happiness once more be yours, & attend you unimpair'd  
through life. God bless you!

Your most sincerely & tenderly affectionate Friend

P. T. Tucker

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