

5<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> My friend - I am not going to torment you  
with any usual remonstrances on the impropriety of our  
correspondence ~~to~~ - my heart & mind are satisfied as to the  
perfect rectitude of my intentions both now & hereafter.  
Our coinciding minds & similarity of sentiments pro-  
mise the continuance of a friendship beyond which I  
wish not to see - there is only one circumstance w<sup>ch</sup> preys  
upon my mind, & w<sup>ch</sup> I own the idea of ~~it~~ renders me at  
times very unhappy - it is the unfortunate necessity of acting  
in a clandestine manner - it hurts at once <sup>my</sup> delicacy &  
ones pride, & if by any unforeseen chance it should hereafter  
be discovered - the two persons most dear to you, would  
naturally judge me with great severity - This event were  
it to happen would absolutely break my heart - yet I  
never could have courage or resolution to make my own  
defence - indeed how could I excuse my conduct, being  
so conscious of its being apparently wrong - Your father  
would detect me as being a most designing artful  
character - not a humor

creature - I am well persuaded - not even <sup>but</sup> my friends  
would do me strict justice - though they might judge  
differently on y<sup>e</sup>. affairs - How would those who are  
divid<sup>d</sup> of sentiment decide the declaration of a dis-  
interested & pure friendship subsisting between  
persons of such different situations in life

I will leave you no longer on this subject

Typed