Sunday night — 23d Jan. 1865

My dear dear Sarah; just before eight o'clock when I came to my room the first thing that caught my eye was a dear parcel from Buccleuch that which I did not delay a moment in opening; I can never tell you half what I felt in perusing the contents; it first it was delightful for you are so kind in telling me your darling Lady was pleased with her Chair & that you approved of all I had done & said to Smith relative to it, — But I pass very fast over I turned over & read what followed; you say you want to know so much of me so I may like to tell you; all in a word there is nothing I could not or wd not tell you for however faulty I am, indeed I am honest; why then do you say you are out of humour with yourself for attending to much opinion & advice; that is hard to believe as not an hour has passed since we discussed the subject that I have not carefully thought over the fastness of your words — I do not feel certain that you are talking to the wind, & I am so much inclined to wish to tell you all I think — You cannot call confusion my conf.

: but as far as I candidly owned I was not
indifferent; you say that if you were
jealous by contrasting the two my thoughts
— Did I not as candidly say that although
he had more spoken downright, that by
the tone I thought he had a degree of prefe-
rence for me; it is by that alone that
I was first jealous, & certainly that evening
he did find me out & came off to him
: self, said he was delighted to see me &
lamented his misfortune at having to
go — as the very day I was taken ill; to
which I answered I was very much obliged
to him; he then spoke about indifference
subject & at last said, "pray take
care of yourself & do not be ill you know
you are of the most consequence to
give them pleasure to your friends &
office" — This is literally word for word
& I declare to you you I am not tender
but I do respect what I have told you
till my dear dear Sarah that I cannot
like possible at first sight — Now you
have it all & I hope I have not con-
: demned myself, but I do hope you
will not give me up, for indeed you
would be if you fancy me capable
of wishing to deceive you; if you make
any further remark pray tell it me
& whether it was from his manner
or voice that you found his humour

any thoughts — I do not feel bad hopes
for I have read your letter over and
over & from the tenor & doubt I think
see & that fact me, for now I expe-
: ble of hiding my thoughts from you
after such conduct as you have seen I must
be informed indeed — God bless you and
time will show what I am — The dear
blessed L. is pretty well; very happy in
having Brealmont here; she does not en-
: tertain in no but from them I have
that he spoke to her upon the subject
of the Countess & the same time begging
her / Brealmont / such striking & marked
attention is wonderful —
He has heard nothing from the C
& seems anxious for the answer —
Now my Adieu & believe a faithful
you will ever find me your faithful
& affectionate