

To Sir William Knighson

I must private.

13 Dec 21

My dear very dear Friend,

You do, at least You should know, from the experience of a long & most intimate acquaintance with my character, & the nature of my mind, that my Heart God knows, is incapable of ^{ever} admitting, much more of ^{ever} entertaining or encouraging a sensation of ill-will, or of rancour, against any human Being, be it ever against my self, or my Government; why then ~~will~~ ^{do} You ² tell me, as You do, in the letter I have just received from You, & which is now open before me upon the ^{very} table from which I am writing this to You, "That You shall judge by" "the manner in which I shall receive this" "letter from You, of the real affection I bear

"towards You & whether You & Aunt's understanding
 "are in that sincere estimation with me, which
 "You have been led to believe". Little indeed
 did I expect, & still less I do feel, that by
 any right to merit from You, I hoped in
 particular, that the nature & extent of
 my feelings towards You should be put
 into such a scale as this, ^{unwisely} for enable You
 at this hour of the Day, to form a ^{judgment}
^{of the} ~~opinion~~, as our opinion of their value, ^{in quantity}
 of appreciation they may or might be
 entitled to from You. I know but ere you
 means of settling & of remedying this evil,
 when two friends should, ^{unfortunately} have any difference
 of opinion, it is by meeting, & a fair &
 candid explanation on both sides, for this
 never can be effected, by any unbarred way
 through the medium of other ~~parties~~. I therefore
 say, "come dear friend" & I shall be glad
 to receive You & to see you, & I shall add

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but one word more to this sentence, which is
"Now then, Judge Ye, as Ye would be judged".

It is not my dearest friend, that I
would not have answered many other parts
of your letter, but that I will not, because
it would open a field, to that, which would
be painful to both of us, & which I trust
it requires, only our meeting to blot out for
ever. The sooner I now repeat, that you
can come the better, & the more agreeable &
satisfactory it will be to me. Always
my dear friend,

most affly yrs

Brighton;
Dec. 13th
1821.