The Posse

to Lady Beaulieu
Combe Abbey 22 Sept 1849
Consent to be godfather to
her grandson

I Heard thanks my dearest Lady Bathurst for your very affectionate, & the same most flattering Letter, You never can, nor indeed any one even ever so remotely belonging to You, can make me so happy, as affording me any opportunity, by which either publicly or privately I can testify the real Love & affection I have felt for You & Yours for so long a series of Years, & I am sure that no instance could be so flattering or so gratifying to me, as that which your affectionate recollection of me has now favoured me with. Since You desire it, I shall be ~~but too much delighted to give my name to Your little~~ Grand Son. I only pray to God that it may be more

auspicious to Him than it has been to me, & that none of the ill & hard fate which has attended his God Father, may ever ~~fall to his lot~~. But I will not trespass upon You, my much loved Friend, with expatiating upon the numberless vicissitudes to which I have now through a long course of Years been continually exposed, as in great measure You know them all, & in some, have been an incessant participator yourself. I will therefore with your leave be silent upon this head. With respect to your not having as yet heard from me, I hope that dear Lady Melbourne, read You, or at least told You what I had written to Her, respecting Yourself & Ours, but particularly concerning Yourself & having to the best of my poor endeavours, thus expressed myself to Lady Melbourne, I did not think

it worth while to bore Jem with a long scrawl of mine, as to Cam, I really was quite angry with her, & if I write more so with Jem, for Jem ought to have known better, than to have suffered Her to write to me, or indeed to any one two days only after her confinement, nothing could be so bad for her poor dear eyes, & I would not add my mite to any further exertion of them by exposing Her to read one of my scribbles, for I had infinitely rather be accused of want of attention, than be a party concerned, in making Her run any risk of suffering hereafter. But that I have shift for the my ire, & given my scold, I will now desire Jem to say every thing that is most affectionate from me to dear William; most of this I need not say, as Jem have been too long, & are too well acquainted, with the high opinion I entertain both of his talents & of his abilities, as well as with

the affectionate Love I bear Him, & indeed all that one belonging to Him, to make that necessary. Let me know all that You & the Melbournes wish respecting the Christening, which I am very desirous of attending in person. I mean as to time & place &c. &c. &c. which I only wait to be informed of, to conform to in the manner that may be most convenient as well as agreeable to You all. As to any message to dear Lady Melbourne, after Death, I shall give You none, I shall therefore only desire You to give her a Kiss from me (for I well know how much You like to kiss all your friends, & therefore it will only be furnishing you with an excuse for an additional pleasure) & to say every thing that I can wish, though far short of what I feel to Melbourne, & to what I so sumptly hope, the whole of the Grande Jeune, which I am convinced that the whole of both your Families must be at the

present moment, at least they never can be more so than I wish them, or than they really deserve to be. I can have nothing in the way of news to offer You from hence that can be at all interesting or even entertaining, with regard to myself I continue much as I usualed, but ever,

Your very affectionate

Combe Abbey.
Septr. 22d.
1807.

George P.

P.S. I see by the Papers that Sir Wm. Gillam is just arrived from Russia, I hardly need add that I hope You have had good & clear accounts from Petersburg.