

Though my professions were perfectly  
innocent - I cannot resist the impulse of  
a melancholy apprehension w<sup>ch</sup> has seiz'd my  
spirits - w<sup>ch</sup> whispers me that I have done  
wrong - forget then, I conjure you the impropriety  
I have been guilty of in accepting your  
friendship; forgive me too, if I beseech  
you to withdraw your friendly attentions -

I have a certain presentiment that y<sup>e</sup> contin-  
uance of our friendship will only render me  
wretched - for to you, from the difference of our  
situation, it will be of little consequence now -  
& none hereafter - yet do not imagine me of  
so capricious a temper that I am already chang'd  
- that I no longer feel that friendship I  
profess'd - no - I shall cherish it to the end  
of my existence.

~~Dear the most~~ - ~~Amazons~~  
now I have not fortitude enough to bear a  
gust of malevolence, & should it ever pass over  
my head - I sh<sup>d</sup> bow down & be crush'd -  
never to rise again. - Adieu - yet before I  
bid you farewell let me add, that it w<sup>d</sup> be  
a painful reflection if I thought you w<sup>d</sup> soon  
utterly forget me - I say soon, because I am  
very sensible y<sup>e</sup> world & <sup>the</sup> allurements w<sup>th</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> you  
will be surrounded, will hereafter claim all  
your attention - not to mention y<sup>e</sup> instability  
of human nature; - I bear w<sup>th</sup> me yet again  
if I repeat my wishes - for they proceed from y<sup>e</sup>  
heart - May you enjoy every felicity this world  
is capable of bestowing - May fools never lead  
you astray - May the flattery of knaves never  
betray you - \* in short, I wish you to be

\* For well I know how rare the human race  
I know ought of truth or friendship left y<sup>e</sup> face  
That wit but lends to perfidy perfidy a dart  
And speaks scarce useful but to veil the heart.

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