

Septth - permit me after this little preface to point out to you
that your expressions in return were much warmer than the
subject required deserved, & made me feel for a few moments
that I had done wrong - as y^e first wish of my heart at present
is, that you should labour under no mistakes respecting me,
know I never will encourage you to express any other term
than friend - nay more if any friendship is any satisfaction to you,
know that by so doing you hazard the discontinuance of the
appearance in every shape of it from me - I never,
never, never will have any thing to reproach my
self with on your account - you are young, a few years
hence you will upon a retrospection acknowledge
that

that I asked out only a just but friendly part - I shall ever
preserve your friendship - I never will accept or listen to
more - The friendship I profess is not a more Swiss friendship
- flattery & compliment on your side will ever be displeasing
because I am so perfectly well acquainted wth myself - I boast
not of this merit - because I owe to Parents who early taught
me to feel & know of defects both of my person & mind
The for ever, between real friends is of no consequence & can have
little or influence - but I own it hurts me when any one
attempts to improve upon me by unmeaning & un-

just compliment on either
I have endeavored to excuse your little commiseration what
ever faults there are excuse them it is of first I have done
I do not promise of. Please soon - as I have a great deal of
work on my hands for y^r. service