not desire to persuase you to sell the approba tion of you friends for the deference between this sum, & that which your encepeles as the require but the mention of your prends has suggested a plan to my min which people Sir you may he all to execut. you have unsorterly dome with wisher who altho the would refuse to give you so large a sum as 1200 wont might not reprie to lend of you on security which they might consider unexaptionally. I think you conto far bother Long with frem such a statement of your case as, that of he could where to lend 1200 on my security his desir of tene fitting you must be the ceed my shight. There is every putatility in furm of the anangement with my father being completed within the year. I can gur sortence of the existence of the negotialion between us. If this propert should fail, I still remain heir to propert of b. or your a I can . Why not ask Gratten or Mackin tothe what is called a receivery, the other a counter or Low Holand, whom I have heard named as you hart of the deed of conveyance.

Kishop gate Sang. 1815.

I will emearon to give you as chas as popilh an hostry of the proceedings between mysolf & my father.

a small portion of the estates to which I am Sutitled in reversion, the comprehended in the will of Mr. John Skelley my great unch, & devise to the same uses as the larger portion which boar rettled on my fathers maniage fountly by my grandfather o father. This portion was valued at 10000, which my father funchasion of me with an equivalent of 11000. I signed on this occasion two decire the on was to empower my alterny to suffer

before these transactions however, V at the very My futher dis not sign his part of the agreement Commencement of our pegotiotions, I sig new a deed which was the preliminary of the basis the new entail, which says, that who ever in of the whole brownip. - My grand father had what own manner in ecome to break the left on the obtained a secretary of the testator that and min the left me the sprin of receiving a life estate in Some very large sum (I think \$140,000) on comity that my father worth buy the reversion on the that I would prolong the intrail so as to proof Terms aheady vether. These condition I never interes to accept all Long dill considered them very promisable to me o organ my by all means to grash at the les It was a my father interest & wish that I I home upon the com thons, because my younger buther, which inherit, in default of my compliaine the negotiation. Whether with Walton & don his with them, this life estate. Long MM & Whitten Theufon, made an agreement that I should elsigh my rights to this property, & that my father in A change for the concepion shows I we men the the terms of this agreement Is igned a deed importing that I disclaimed by gran forthers herpith

Le cause he conti ord do se without propeting What own manner no ecomes to break the the intention of the testator shall not migo; the fortune: but M. Whiten engage tacity to Long I'M

Now, Whiten professes my father willing nely I proceed, but urges every com derange calculate to day the propely of the affair. Longthe tots me that he was whiten wisher to procure as much rely as possible, but that he still thought It was their in tention not entirely to give up on not quietty making the Brantage from the inexperience of cred white of myself to my futters is a doubt that has cropes my mand. you Jay that you will receive no mon then

1250 for the det hay ment of thon incumbra specially bound to where you. I would

10,578

SHELLEY, PERCY BYSSHE (1792-1822). Poet. Bishopsgate.

A.L.S. to William Godwin. 7 Jan. 1815[i.e.1816] up. (double sheet, quarto). Incomplete.

He writes out an account of his affairs, including details of his grandfather's will and his relations with his own father, Sir Timothy Shelley.

Printed in Ingpen's edition of Shelley's letters as No. 213 (I, 448ff.) The balance of the letter has not been recovered, nor did Ingpen know its location. Shelley and Mary Godwin had eloped in August, 1814, and were finally married in December, 1816. This is one of a long series of letters to Godwin, who was philosopher enough to accept loans (as they were called) from the man who was living with his daughter.

Sir

I will endeavour to give you as clear as possible ["an" cancelled] a history of the proceedings between myself & my father.

A small portion of the estates to which I am entitled in reversion, were comprehended in the will of Mr. John Shelley my great uncle, & devised to the same uses as the larger portion which was settled on my fathers marriage jointly by my grandfather & father. This portion was valued at £18000, which any father purchased of me with an equivalent of £11000. I signed on this occasion two deeds, the one was to empower my attorney to suffer what's called a recovery, the other a counterpart of the deed of conveyance.

Before these transactions however, & at the very commencement of our negotiations, I signed a deed which was the preliminary & the basis of the whole business. My grandfather had left me the option of receiving a life estate in some very large sum (I think £140,000) on condition that I would prolong the entail so as to possess only a life estate in my original patrimony. These conditions I never intended to accept. although Longhill considered them very favourable to me & urged me by all means to grasp at the offer. It was ["to" cancelled] my father's interest & wish that I should refuse the conditions, because my younger brother, ["would" cancelled] inherit [instead of "inherits"], in default of my compliance withthem, the life estate. Longdill & Whitton thereupon, made an agreement that I should Sir

resign my rights to this property, & that my father in exchange for this concession should give me the full price for any reversion. In compliance with the terms of this agreement I signed a deed in parting (?) that I disclaimed my grandfathers property. My father did not sign his part of the agreement because he could not do so without forfeiting the new entail, which says, that whoever in whatsoever manner endeavours to break thro the intentions of the testator shall not enjoy the fortune: but Mr. Whitton engaged tacitly to Longhill that my father would buy the reversion on the terms already settled.

Now, Whitton professes my fathers willingness to proceed, but urges every consideration ealculated to delay the progressof the affair Longdill told me that he saw Whitton wished to procure as much delay as possible, but that he still thought it was their intention not entirely to give up the negotiation. Whether both Whitton & Longdill are not quietly making their advantage ["from" cancelled] out of the inexperience & credulity of myself & my father is a doubt that has crossed my mind.

You say that you will receive no more than £1250 for the [one word cancelled] payment of those incumbrances which you think I may be considered as specially bound to relieve you. I would not desire to persuade you to sell the approbation of your friends for the difference between this sum, & that which your necessities actually require. but the mention of your friends has suggested a plan to my mind which possibly you may be able to execute. You have undoubtedly some well wishers who altho they would refuse to give you so large a sum as £1200 ["would" cancelled] might not refuse to lend it you on security which they might consider unexceptionable. I think you could lay before any rich friend such a statement of your case, as, that if he could refuse to leand 1200 on my security Sir

his desire of benefiting you must be exceedingly slight. There is every probability in favour of the arrangement with my father being completed within the year. I can give evidence of the existence of the negotiation between us. If this prospect should fail, I still remain heir to property of 6. or 7000 a year. Why not ask Graltan or Mackintosh or Lord Holland, whom I have heard named as your

[the rest of this letter is wanting]