

74 Upper Norton Street  
Fitzroy Square  
Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 1829

Dear Lady

Your wish is obeyed, and I hope my Billet to the gallant Captain may have the desired effect. but I am not very sanguine upon the subject. Sir John having such a multitude of friends, most of them people of more importance, consequently possessing more influence than myself. but if the breath of my good wishes help to fill the Sail, and your canvass prove successful, I shall be so proud as the "Fly upon the coach wheel."

I hope your sojourn at Cheltenham is agreeable in all respects. Miss Forbes and M<sup>rs</sup> James amusing themselves with Cattle building is quite delightful, particularly as they do not build them <sup>in</sup> air. but still we may have some chance of seeing them. Maria is quite satisfied with your account of their Idleness. for you know that the very idleness of talent is frequently like the employment of the Bee who appears to be only amusing himself in the garden, whereas in fact he is collecting sweets for his Hive to be enjoyed in due season.

You are very kind in taking any interest in our removal which promises to be very comfortable, and with "Cooperance" for our Motto, we may contrive to get on. The "Gods and Goddesses" have nearly found their places.

but

Flora on four legs is the only lady we can boast of that name  
and she is quite flourishing. Alas! we have no garden  
we must be extravagant and lay out a few pence with  
Mr. Mitchel in Bonaburg Street when the Pinks & Roses are  
in season and they will be almost as sweet and beautiful  
as if they grew in our own ground, and we shall be sure  
to cherish the "Forget me not" near our own stove in honor  
of those whose society and kindness we have delighted in.

Maria begs you will have the goodness to present  
her respects to Lady Forbes with mine, with our best  
wishes for her health and that of your circle.

I fear it is quite obsolete to offer particular compliments  
and good <sup>wishes</sup> for the coming season. but I hope you will  
nevertheless accept them, as they are sent in perfect  
sincerity. by your obliged and faithful servant  
M. A. Harman

Miss Ashburner.