

Bursley Heath, Heals

August 3<sup>d</sup> 57



My dear Lilley

Your letter from Clifton, though not like what one is too much accustomed to in the world, has not surprised me, for I never had but one opinion of your worth, the warmth of your friendship, & your sincere disposition to serve me if in your power. It is thirteen years ago, when you were as falsely & cruelly used as I have been, that with well founded (I rejoice to find happily realized) hopes you spoke of "the time not far distant when you sh<sup>d</sup> be able to show your sense of the goodness of your real friends in more than mere words" I did me the grateful favour to rank me among the foremost of the few! That I truly was so in heart & soul, is the only pleas<sup>r</sup> I can put

forward for saying now that your aid can be of the utmost importance to me in making some arrangements for my family, which press heavily upon my advanced years & the absolute comfort of a numerous group utterly dependant upon what I may be able to accomplish for them & the eldest boys.

I will not enter into the circumstances either of these positions, which are good if I <sup>can only</sup> ~~can~~ support <sup>them</sup> ~~it~~ for a short season, or of my own, with contingencies of uncertain dates & prospects. The keel of the enemy, Time, is on my head, & if you can help me to remove it, the blessing will be great. I say no more about myself, but that I was engaged to go to Manchester this week I have given up the

journey - pleasant & advantageous tho' it promised to be - that I might not run the risk of missing you in Town. Any letter to Bushey Heath, reaches me in the morning, I shall hold myself ready to run up at an hour's notice. If we could have an afternoon I have much to explain & indeed I am exceedingly anxious to hear much from & of yourself.

I shall be almost miserable till I see your welcome hand

Very good attend you

My dear Lily

Most faithfully yours

W. Jerdan

J. Lilly

Immediate

John Lilley Esq

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