

D^r Sir _____St Petersburg June 13th, 1768

When I reflect how little I was trifled to the favour of your last letter, I own I am quiet ashamed, & tho' I would wish to apologize for the small attention I paid the former one, I am so much at a loss to find (what would either appear to you or me) a sufficient excuse, that I think it better not to attempt it, but rather throw myself on your mercy, ask pardon, & promise never to do so again _____ all this I do, & I think I may without being **reckond** too presumptuous conclude my pardon sealed, as your last is a proof of your being possessed of a true Christian Spirit, which leads you to forgive rather than resent _____ I highly approve of your resolution to lease Dublin, as the only method to stop the impertinence of Tongues; it cant be a pleasing step either to you or my Sister, but we must not always follow the dictates of inclination _____ poor **Natty**! her time must pass very disagreeably; I am sure I sincerely pity her, but live in hopes of its not continuing long, as I also do of our being all happy together for as I am not of the opinion that happiness can only be purchased by ^{great} wealth, I am **persuaded** that **for time** (without being very profuse) may make us taste a large share of felicity, being possessed of a contented mind _____ without that necessary ingredient to happiness, no possessions however great, no situation however elevated can obtain it _____

I have no doubt but Lady Moiras Ball must have been very entertaining, the novelty of it must have made it such _____ Miss **Carrys** dress could not have been very expensive, for I think she only wanted a Birch Broom, & a high **crownd** hat, to make her **compleat** _____ it could not have been quite so brilliant as Masquerades I have seen here, where we have three thousand **assembled**, & the jewels valued at upwards of a million sterling _____ the masques too make a considerable difference, there being vast variety of them _____ pray in your next let me know where you are quartered _____ & what Reg you are off, for that I cannot recollect _____ your account of my D^a little Joe gives me **infinite** pleasure _____ what would I give to see him? _____ pray is Tom **Gledstones** married? his father is out of his way now _____ tell me as much as you can of everybody, as it afford me great entertainment at this distance _____ & I know a little of everybody (almost) I Dublin _____ I hope soon to hear from you _____ Mr Brooke joins me in best wishes, & regrets much his not having a personal knowledge of you, with **???**

Your very sincere

Friend & humble Sert

the

Marg Brooke