

Bath 20th March 1812

To Mr. Butler,

My dear Mr. B. I have delayed longer than I intended writing to you in order to be able to inclose as I now do a full statement of the repartition of the money in England in the most concencious manner that has appeared to me after having consulted on several dubious points Mr. Cologan of Canaries who came to Bath on a visit to his Mother in law, Mrs. Costello and who is very well informed as also a very upright man. I trust and hope it will meet your approbation as I sincerely wish it for mutual satisfaction; I hope you will clearly understand the whole as I have endeavoured to give every possible explanation where I thought it required. But should you require further detail, I will be ready and happy to give it to you in answer to any observation you may desire to make. I have only to beg that you would peruse it soon as it cannot take much time to look over in the way it is detailed following the pages as they are numbered, because I intend opening an acct. to each of the parties concerned transferring to it each of their credits and from the first of this year to carry all their accounts separate, besides as I mentioned to you before I wish to invest my property and some of my Mothers in landed interest; for every day the funds become more precarious: they are now at least the 5 p.cts. at 90 7/8 having lowered no less than 3½ p.cts. in the last month in consequence of the adition of the enormous sum of 12 millions sterling that Mr Percival has just funded in the Navy 5 p.cts. The expenditure of the country is every day encreasing and is actualy as stated by a member the other night in the house of comons no less than 100 millions sterling a year altho' the receipts scarcely give 25 millions.

According to your directions I have only made the repartition of the money in this country with the single adition of the \$6000 that my father left in cash, because I know you inverted the same sum immediately in the payment of the legacies contained in the private Note to the same amount, and it thus diminishes the further deductions from the Quinto. I have only mentioned in continuation the sketch of your acct. and the further credits of the testamentaria as a prospective proforma to recall to you the manner in which I understand it ought to be done, but it does not interfere in the least with the actual repartition. In aluding to your account I should observe that I have made no mention of the Rpta. 1593:12 or [...] 200 of 15 Rvon which my Mother desired you to give to Manuela because I expressed it should be in articles worth that money so I presume you did not disburse it in cash or if you did I suppose it was paid out of the produce of the furniture previous and extra of the Rvon. 96000 which both Papa's and my furniture were stated to have produced, but this amount should be held in consideration to be deducted from my Mothers legacy of half of the same furniture as also what may have been given to Juan Rodriguez for her account.

I must also observe to you that I have made no mention of the amount of Fany's expences here which I have sent you to be recovered from Brun, because I consider them as unconnected with the testamentaria and should belong to a separate personal acct. between my Mother and you, to be credited when received. Only the first that was sent for Papa's acct. of

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£24:17:8 or Rpta.1189:11 excepted as not concerning my Mother – the subsequent accts. sent are as follows.

1810 26 Sept	£9: 11: 0	Which at 90 Rvon per £ is	Rpte 456:9	I believe recovered
1811 23 Jany	£21: 16: 8	at id	Rpte 1043: 14	advised to be recovered
id 26 June	£69: 10: 8	at id	Rpte 3324: 9	not yet recovered
1812 10 Jany	£23: 8: 2	at id	Rpte 1118: 13	not yet recovered
	£124: 6: 6		Rpte 27193: 13	

By the inclosed statement the whole sum actually paid here to my Mother after deducting her debt to the testra. for money taken will be Rpta 298293:6 and £7058:18:4 and the whole amount of my acct. after the same deduction Rpta.280274:6 and \$6641:18:4 and as the intrt. from the funds is only 4 ½ neat per annum it gives her only \$315:-:- and still less to me which is about half the sum required to live in this country with mere necessary comforts altho' with the strictest economy possible, so that both our incomes together will just sufise to barely support ourselves untill I hope the next repartition can be effected, for which you will conceive we must be very anxious. Since my last to you of the 5th Ult. covering one for Desfontaines, we have been favoured with your much esteemed of the 31 Jany last by which I observe you expected that the audiencia would soon decide our affairs. I hope it may be so and that they will return you all the books and papers, indeed the abolition of the Represalias and confisco was a very pleasant intelligence to me and I hope will prove of good omen. As soon as I was apprised of the appointment of the Duke del Infantado to the new Regency I went to London to pay my respects to him and beg his intercession in our affairs. He received me very politely and when informed of our case, he told me we were used with great injustice and that the management of the tstamenta. should never have been taken from us, but the government should only have appointed a person to look into the accounts to secure my two sisters shares: he added that it was his duty to see justice done, and was very willing so serve us. Upon which I offered to draw up a memorial as well to state the case as to remind him of it. He then told me that I should do so but not to give it to him here because it would then be mixed with so many other papers that he must carry, that it might be long neglected, but that some friend of mine should deliver it to him on his arrival at Cadiz and that he would certainly attend to it. In consequence I have already drawn up one that I shall send you when the Duke takes his departure which I understand will not be quite so soon . No doubt he wishes to see what Ministers remain in place, from all appearances Mr. Perceval will still be Prime minister. The Marquis Wellesley has resigned and been succeeded by Lord Castlereagh the former War Minister the other changes are not yet fixed. I have seen Harper on his way to London and was happy to receive such good verbal accounts of your health and spirits. He also delivered to me the family papers, my father's certificate of demise and my Mothers Will which you entrusted to him for me.

I regret you did not also give him the family pictures, but you may send them properly packed up not to be injured by Lonerghan whom I understand is

shortly returning to England as also another legal extract of my Father's Will authenticated by the British consul as before called for, besides any other paper which you may have found in the same mahogany box as these others were kept as they must all be essential to me. I expected to find among them the baptismal certificate of my Father and that of my Grandfather which are two documents that I now require for judicial purposes and I beg you would endeavour to send to me. If not to be found among his papers by procuring that of my Father at least from the Cathedral church. Another essential point which I have formerly requested you to clear from Rubio is how he understands the following later part of the 9th article of my Fathers Will as he worded it. After bequeathing the tercio to the four children only he adds "con la precisa qualidad que si alguno de los susodichos falleciere sin sucesion, buelva al tronco do mi caudal la parte que le correcesponda y se divida en igual forma que dexo dispuerto entre los sobrevivientes y aseguro a mi Nieta que no he tenido otro motive para no igualarla con sus Tias que la consideracion de no necessitarlo tanto como estas por lo que deve recibir de su Padre, pues a todos amo tiernamento". Whether the remaining part of the tercio corresponding to one of his four children, should any of them dye without issue, is understood to be divided btween the other three? Or else wether his granddaughter is understood to come in for a share of it as one of the general heirs? on account of the words buelva al tronco de mi caudal.

We have just lately received a letter from poor Carmen of the 24th January last always from the same capital, she was well and all her children and her husband who is not paid his appointments and she can hardly support the expenses of her small house, she says everything is dear and bad there, that she regrets to have ever left me and that she suffers not to have one person of her way of thinking about her. No other of her step-daughters has married than the eldest: she does not mention to have heard from my sister Fany, but she says that she expected soon to see Kitty as the comunicacion was now free with her town and Kitty's husband was in the capital; by this I understand that poor Kitty was not hurt during the siege and now we cannot expect any more to hear from her than through Carmen every six months. It has been a very sad thing all together and a very severe loss to the Cause. God send things may go better now under the new government.

Here every body is disappointed by the Prince Regent's keeping his Fathers ministers and appearing to give up the Catholics of Ireland. War is always threatned in the North of Europe but not yet declared. I have heard not long ago from Edward Murphy indirectly he was well in Ireland. Please to mention it to my Aunt Pepa with our best respects. I left Mrs Barron well in London a Month back and Mrs. Costello is well here with her two handsome daughters. My Mother continues in tolerable health and Fany very well, both join in kindest affections to you in which I am equally earnest as your most sincerely attached and gratefull cousin. M.T.L.

My kind compliments to Brun Destfontaines, Nelly Kelly &c.

P.S. I long very much to hear from Vera Cruz and hope that if the money is safe that you will loose no time in geting it over to us here as the loss of

interest on such a large sum is very severe besides I shall not consider the principal safe until I receive it for that country is far from being quiet and there was even reports that Vera Cruz had been taken by the insurgents. I think proper to observe to you that should the Audiencia in their expected decision condemn the property of my two sisters I mean to appeal to the Regency in order to oppose the delivery of a single penny as long as it can be avoided. Besides I have told you that the Duke del Infantado was inclined to be favorable to us and indeed there is a great deal to say in favour of my unhappy sisters, however bad the case of their husbands may be, but in the mean time you will endeavour to get what books and papers you can back without losing any favourable opportunity.

[Note: Article 9 of the English version of the will, proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in 1810, reads as follows:

...on the express proviso that if any of the aforesaid should die without issue the share belonging to the same shall return to the bulk of my property to be equally divided among the survivors to whom I bequeathed that share & ... my Granddaughter Da Maria Frances de Paula & Langton that I... no other motive in my not equalling her with her aunts but the consideration that she does not stand so much in need as they do by reason of what she will receive from her Father but in reality I love them all most fondly...]

Bath April 1812

To Mr. Richard Strange in Dublin

Sir:

I regreted greatly not to have had the pleasure of meeting you in Dublin when I passed through that city in May 1810. I then took the liberty of calling upon you but was informed of your absence in the country, and my very short stay in Ireland deprived me of the satisfaction I should have felt in forming the acquaintance of a former friend of my Mother's whom she still esteems and values so much; it is by her direction and in her name (as the extreem debility of her sight does not allow her to write at all), that I now presume to trouble you relying on your former friendship and regard for her. She entreats you would be so obliging as to give her every possible information that you possess with regard to the state and dependencies of her father Mr. Thomas Dillon's affairs in that country to enable her to reclaim and recover what is due to her from that inheritance. Whilst her husband lived his easy circumstances made him neglect this concern and she expected never to want the help of this resource but having had the misfortune of losing him lately in Cadiz under many distressing events that have involved his fortune in great losses she now requires to collect every trifle she can claim in order to enable her to subsist independently tho' with the strictest economy in this country where she has refuged herself from the alarms that obliged her to abandon her home in Spain about three years ago.

She was informed many years back by Mr. Lattin that several sums due to her father could then be easily recovered if claimed, which money proceeded from former credits of her Father Mr. Thomas Dillons Banking establishment in Dublin, who when he had the misfortune to fail had then surrendered all his effects to the trustees of his failure but it seems that since that sufficient property has been realised by these trustees not only to pay the stipulated agreement with the creditors but also an overplus which certainly belongs to the heirs of the said Thomas Dillon, who by his Will to which I believe you are yourself one of the executors he left all his property to his eldest son Edward Dillon (since dead without leaving any children) with the injunction of paying diferent[?] stated sums to each of his brothers and sisters: the sum so allotted to my Mother was 28000 french livres tournois of which she has never received more than £15849:1:1, consequently there is still due to her the remnant of £12150:18:11 which is about £600 Sterling and the rest if more can be recovered would come to the heirs of her Brother Theobald and of her two sisters Mde Dromgold and Mde St Julien to compleat the full payment of the sum allotted to them by their father's Will. My uncle Theobald Dillon has left four natural sons whom he declared he owned in his Will. Mrs. Dromgold left my Mother her Universal heir and Mrs. St. Julian left a son and a daughter. the first still living in France. As you are the only person we know who is at all acquainted with these affairs and to whom we can apply for any information we join in entreating you would have the goodness to impart to us some light on the subject and to indicate to us what steps should be taken to recover this money if you think it possible to recover any part of it whithout incurring great expences which would not be worth your while, nor indeed are

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we able to afford it in our present very limited circumstances. The stress of these have induced us to give you that trouble and will plead our apology as I hope will also stimulate you to render this essential service.to your former friend Mrs. Langton ensuring no less the gratitude of your most Obt. fl. servt. M.T.L.

P.S. My Mother desires her kind rem[em]brance to Mrs. Strange whom she hopes has not forgotten her and also to Lady Bellew. Expecting the favour of an answer please to direct No.3 Henry Street, Bath

N.B. I beg to mention to your notice that by my father's notes I observe that a bond for Eight hundred pounds sterling on the estates of Mr. Dun of Brittis drawn either wholly in favour of Mr Mother or jointly in both hers and her sisters Mrs Dromgold favour was deposited in the hands of Mr John Ball Merchant in Dublin. You would greatly oblige us by inquiring into the existence of this Document.

Bath 15 April 1812

To Mr Butler

My Dear Mr Butler: Since writing my last to you on the 20th Ult. covering a squetch of the liquidation I propose effecting of the funds on this side, I have been favoured with your always much esteemed lines of the 9 March, confirming the envoice of my genealogical paper by Harper the receipt of which I noticed in my last, troubling you further for some other essential documents. I thank you for the information you give us about my poor sister Kitty who must have passed very disagreeable moments during the siege. We are very anxious to hear from her since that fatal event but cannot flatter ourselves to be gratified so soon, it is only through Carmen that we can hope to hear from her now and we have no later accounts from that quarter than those I mentioned to you in my last letter.

I also observe that you had received no answer to a memorial presented by yourself, Brun & Desfontaines to obtain an abrogation of all that was acted in our case by the former tribunal of Represalias. If you should not have obtained a full satisfactory grant of that petition before the return of the Duke del Infantado who is now preparing for his departure in the Bacante frigate under orders at Portsmouth to receive him, I must request and I beg you will allow me to insist upon the inclosed memorial being speedily presented to him either by you or by Brun, as coming from a foreign country they cannot object to dispense with the formality of it not being written on stamp paper, as I have drawn it up in compliance with his directions as he desired me to do when I spoke to him on the business. So I beg that the consideration of the other petition having been presented before or any other motive whatever should [not?] prevent you from presenting it as it formerly did with the one I drew up for Blake, because the Duke has promised me to attend it expressing his wish to serve me and I would loose the best opportunity if I neglected to avail myself of his favourable dispositions. I presume you must be desirous to see the conclusion of this unfortunate business which has certainly been very unpleasant to you. But I assure you that however anxious you may be I am still much more so to terminate it, as it affects me so much personally by preventing me to pursue any plan with my property: this state of total suspension will be partly obviated by the arrangement I have made of the property in England and which I have certainly resolved to adhere by and carry into immediate effect unless you should state to me some very convincing objections that I have not forseen, but I would then attend to with due consideration.

In explanation I should further observe to you that the point of the deductions from my Mother's property of the share of my sisters portions received when they married corresponding to her as expressed in my Fathers Will to have been advanced on account of both legitimus Paterna Materna without stating what part corresponded to each might fairly be construed to mean in the proportion that both my fathers and my Mothers property then stood with each other, which may be calculated as 3 to 8, and would consequently assign a very diferent corresponding proportion to the Mothers share of those anticipated portions than half and half as if their fortunes were equal, because

it cannot be reasonably expected that a parent who has less than half the fortune of another should make an equal advance to their children as the other parent who is worth more than double her property. Notwithstanding this reasonable conclusion My Mother has no objection to take upon herself the proportion of half of those payments provided she is not expected to pay them before she receives her full share of gananciales at least sufficient to cover that disbursement so as not to deprive herself of all she is now worth, rendering her dependent on her children. This I am sure you will allow to be very just and proper. And as for the sums I reserve to pay the deposits that were in my fathers hands no partition should be made before that money is received and no body is intitled to be the holder of it more than myself who am the only succesor to all the trusts vested in my father and should not nor will not dispossess myself of this charge, but shall fulfill it to the best of my endeavours.

With regard to the 317 pounds sterling disbursed in judicial proceedings in this country this sum might certainly be fairly charged to my two sisters, Fanny & Carmen who where the only occasion of this expence but as I wish to be as favorable to them as I justly can I have considered this sum as spent to prevent the seizure of the property in England and consequently deducted from the interest that money has produced which is the same as dividing the loss in due proportion between each person intitled to that property, so making each part share the expence incurred for the preservation of the whole. The same spirit of equity has guided me through out the whole transaction and as I cannot but presume that you are animated with the same principles of justice I flatter myself it will meet your approbation and that you will sanction it bona fide without the squibbling interference of meddling lawyers.

I have been surprised and disappointed at your absolute silence on the money at Vera Cruz in your last letter as full time has elapsed to procure you an answer from the person you have applied to on that business. Should I not receive a satisfactory account from you on that subject shortly I must conclude the person you have applied to is too negligent and I will then send powers from this country to obtain a right understanding because I will not endure to be baffled of near 40000 Dollars by Mr Miranda's tricks or through the inactivity of your agents if I can possibly help it. Believe me that active measures is the only means of preserving property so long unaccounted for.

We have received through the Count Fernan Nuñez a letter from Brun to his daughter by which he complains of the high price of provisions and dearness of everything, he mentions to have wrote several letters to us which we have never received and as we have never missed receiving any of yours, his must either not have been forwarded or never wrote. I am sorry to say that his daughter Fanny has been ill with a bilious complaint and a little fever for these three weeks back but she is now free from fever and I hope will soon recover altho' she still suffers strong headakes, restless sleep and want of appetite. Brun does not mention a word of our affairs in his letter altho' he might presume any information would be a very acceptable on such a subject. After you will have examined the statement of the repartition that I sent you I would

be obliged to you to show it to him, only for his perusal, as it will spare me the trouble and cost to send him a copy of the same to apprise him of the transaction, and call his attention to the mere trifle of £400 which is the only sum correspond to his daughter from the money now in England as he his owing to her the portion which he received at his marriage and the nonpayment of the considerable debt which he owes to the testamentaria diminish greatly our actual shares, and should we not henceforward receive the produce of his house in the Calle del Veedor the interest would be accumulating to a ruinous sum for him and a severe loss for us.

I hope you have not parted with the document of the hipoteca which he signed on that house for that is our only security to obtain some day or other the reimbursement of his debt.

Siguen algunas noticias politicas y particulares de los conocidos que no tengo cartas recientes de Irlanda. Expresiones de Ma., Fany y mias.

Bath 20th April 1812

To Thomas Barnabe Murphy

My dear friend

I plainly see that I must refresh your recollection of your friends on this side of the Channel if I wish to obtain any sign of life from you, for you still keep in pectore the answer to my last of the 28 Augst 1811. So before the year of silence is compleated I venture to intrude upon your quiet repose interupting perhaps your silent meditations to prove to you that you are not forgotten among us here and to remind you that we would be happy to hear from you. I profit of the opportunity afforded by the return to your shores of Mr. Blackney to forward this troubling you with a request to procure me as soon as you can from the clergy of Kilkenny a document that I require just at present and easy to obtain with the following information: it is a legal extract of my grand father's baptismal Register to prove that he was born in Ireland and consequently my right to claim the privileges of a british subject as being the grandson by the father's side of a british subject born in his Majesty's dominions in virtue of several statutes so enacting.

To facilitate the inquiry I have made the following extracts from our records. Viz. "Nicholas Langton son of Michl Langton of Kilkenny and of Eleonora Roth was born on the 20th of Novr. 1705 in his father's house near Kilkenny and christened the next day in the parish of St. Mary by doct. Edward Murphy and had for God Father his father's cousin Mathew Ward and for God Mother his Mother's sister Rose Roth". With this detailed statement I presume you can meet with no difficulty and I beg you would procure and forward it to me without delay, having the goodness to pay any expence attend it which you may charge to my separate acct. I wish to know if you are in disburse for me on our acct. in order if so to send you a little remittance by next opportunity. I inclosed you in my last letter a small sketch of that acct. as I conceived it would stand when carried to the 31 Decr. last showing a ballance in my favour of 18s. 1 ½ d. Since that I presume you have lately received £20 from my esteemed relation Mr. Langton for ½ year rent due the 29 Septr. last and paid in this month and I calculate that you have disbursed for the poor house £13, the Widows pensions on the 25 March and ½ year ground rent to Captn Halyard due idem, besides postages and repairs &c. which I cannot know untill you state it to me. I would be glad to know also if you have procured to be stamped the power of attorney which I sent you at first. I think proper to observe to you that among some of my father's papers lately received I find a receipt of the late Mr. Peter St. Leger of the 7 June 1794 when he took the direction of those concerns for the title deeds of our possessions in Kilkenny and Clonmell consisting of sixteen parchments and papers besides the counterparts of the leases granted to Mrs Jane[?] Langton and Col. O Neale.

It will be proper for you to reckon those you have received anterior to this date from the Widow to see wether the number corresponds and if any have been forgotten or misled through oversight and when you look them over I wish you to notice as I would be glad to know for how many years was granted the last lease of the Possessions in Clonmel to Col. O Neale and his heirs stating the

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date to ascertain when it expires? As for the possessions in Kilkenny I know it stands for nine hundred and ninety nine years so it is not very probable I shall have a chance of renewing it. I hope all the concerns of the Hospital go on well.

Follows some private news and remembrance to acquaintances &c.

Bath 23d April 1812

To Mr Richard Strange

Dear Sir: I have just received your very kind and affectionate letter of the 18th instt. My Mother desires me to express to you in strong terms her warm gratitude for your active exertions in her behalf, regreting to give you so much trouble. She is highly flattered of the recolection you preserve of the various incidents of her early life and assures you that she has never forgotten your kindness to her on all occasions. Altho' the distance of times and residence have long interrupted all correspondence between you yet she neglected no opportunity of inquiring with sincere interest about you whenever she met with any of your acquaintances and is very happy to know that you still enjoy good health and chearfull spirits.

I have found among my father's papers a copy of the release you mention to have been sent to you from all trust as executor of my grandfather Thomas Dillon and expressing the thanks of all his heirs for the very satisfactory manner in which you had managed that trust whilst in your hands. But I cannot trace any paper subsequent to that date nor any receipt of money received by Messrs. Byrne nor by my uncle Tib Dillon whose papers were all destroyed at the time of his melancoly death and the only paper I chanced to have is a copy of his last Will as I stated to you in my last. Unfortunately I cannot obtain at present any information from Mr. Lattin who is still detained in France. Perhaps he could state something more at least with regard to the correspondence he held on this subject with Lord Westmeath of which I was perfectly ignorant even that such a bond existed. All I know is that my Uncle Tib went to Ireland many years ago with powers of all his brothers and sisters to endeavour to settle those affairs and see what he could recover but his journey occasioned more expence than profit as my father disbursed on that occasion some money as his share of the expences of my Uncle. So if my Uncle recovered then anything at all which I cannot ascertain it must have been very little indeed.

I observe the Byrnes died bankrupts and that their sisters reside in Wexford. I shall write to my cousin Edward Murphy to make some inquiry from them but I presume those poor reduced ladies know very little about any business much less about our concerns that were never interesting to them; it is very unfortunat that all the papers and deeds delivered to the Byrnes should have been thus distroyed as it deprives us altogether of the means of obtaining information and of claiming our right. However if you can obtain some money from Lord Westmeath on account of interest as you mention to revive the claim it will be very clever and we shall consider ourselves greatly indebted to you as we already are for friendly interest you are so kind to show us on our first appeal, indeed we never considered it otherwise than a call on your goodness so well known to my Mother who cannot sufficiently acknowledge her gratitude for all your friendly exertions.

But on what she had grounded most hopes of recovering something was claiming from the trustees to her father's failure, whose names I dont know

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but that you might perhaps remember or ascertain in Dublin who they were, as I understand they had recovered sufficient property to cover the agreement made with the creditors and even more which might duly be claimed by my Mother as daughter and one of the heirs of Thomas Dillon. It was from this source that Mr. Lattin wrote to my Mother years ago that some money could be recovered. But I am so totally deficient of correct information on all these concerns that I am quite unable to state anything further,. Consequently I am impossibilitated to proceed in any measure by myself. So all our hope of ever recovering anything must rest intirely on your good offices, however unwilling we are to give you so much trouble. But should you recommend me to take any step in this business likely to answer I would immediatly follow your directions on this subject as well as in any other that may prove to you my sincere gratitude and true regard with which I remain

very truly your most obdt. &c.

P.S. My Mother sends her affectionate expressions to Mrs. Strange.

I am sorry we can trace nothing concerning the bond of 800 pounds of Mr. Dun of Britis that was ounce in the hands of Mr. Ball, but we are equaly obliged to you for your inquiries.

Bath the 14th May 1812

To Mr. Butler

My Dr. Mr. B. I avail myself of the first Mail to apprize you of the tragical event that so unexpectedly happened on the evening of the eleventh inst. I mean the assassination of the Prime Minister Mr. Percival in the Lobby of the House of commons by a shipbroker of Liverpool named Billingham to revenge as he stated the refusal of justice in the application of some demands on the Treasury for services done to Government in Russia; many say the man is insane and has been before confined for Lunacy. But the fact is that he watched the opportunity of approaching to Mr. Percival when stepping out of the House of Commons in conversation with Lord Francis Osbourn and fired a pistol close into his breast, which shot him through the heart and he dropped dead instantly exclaiming "Oh I am murdered" The assassin made no attempt to escape but went to sit down quietly by the fireplace and when some persons present cried out secure the murderer he said here I am it is me who had had the misfortune to kill Mr. Percival for a personal injury . He shortly after underwent an examination answering very coolly that he was driven to despair by the neglect of his applications to government for remuneration of services in Russia. He is comitted to Newgate and appears to have no complices nor to have had no instigators. Such an event must produce great consequences. The parliament will probably adjourn for a few days to give time to the Regent to form a new administration. It is conjectured that the Marquis of Wellesley will probably head it and that Mr. Canning will also enter the Cabinet as the Prince seems to have been offended with the refusal of Lords Grey and Grenville to join the last administration, however a few days will ascertain the truth, it is not very probable that the general sistem of politics lately pursued will be much altered at least with respect to the peninsula.

The Duke del Infantado was to embark for Cadiz this week in the Baccante waiting for him at Portsmouth. Bonaparte has not left Paris as yet to join his armies in the North tho' the appearances of a War with Russia are every day increasing. It is stated that the Emperor Alexander had already left St. Petersburg to head his armies. This moment is favourable for Spain but I am disappointed that Lord Wellington did not follow his success in Estremadura by advancing against Soult and raising the Siege of Cadiz.

By the Eliza packet lately arrived I have been favoured with your esteemed letter of the 21st Ultimo and observe you had received mine of the 25th February and 20th March with their inclosures. I thank you for delivering the first parcel to Desfontaines and hope you will soon find some leisure to examine the statement of the repartition of the money in England. As the compared sums prove one another to be right you need not trouble yourself with repassing the calculations for there can be no error of account so the only thing that requires your observation is the arrangement and distribution of the money for the causes expressed in the notes. You first mention that on a cursory view you thought I have omitted stating several charges that correspond to the Quinto as they certainly do. But my motive for not including them in this first repartition was that I could not do it accurately, not being

informed of their exact amount and so left them to be deducted from the Quinto of the next repartition as upon a closer inspection you will find it noted in some other part of the statement. It will answer the same purpose as if deducted at first. Besides you desired me to confine myself to what regarded what was in England to avoid alterations. I observe you intended to consult my inquiry on the 9th clause of my father's Will for altho' my Mother is the forcible heir of her children without issue and after her they can dispose of their property at their will and pleasure yet I understand this to be with regard to their indispensable legitima or portion that comes to them by right but not so with the Mejoras that as voluntary gifts can be restricted to the conditions imposed by the giver as in this case the mejoras of the tercio. So it is essential to clear this point in the event of my sister Kitty or myself dying without issue for if it was as you think that we have the free disposal of the whole of our inheritance the clause could never have been of any force and the Escrivano should have objected to write it, as using a power of unlawfull controul by pretending to dictate the future Wills of his children in what was their free property.

I thank you for the two inclosures from Miranda. I see you are very easy for the safety of that money and perfectly satisfied with all his motives. But you will allow me to differ greatly from you in that respect for the following reasons. What could just justify Miranda's silence for two years if he could not send the money because it was within the country he should have accounted for it at the time and not wait till he compells us by his silence to imploy a third person on the spot to call him to an account besides so early as the sailing of the Bulwark I am almost certain there was yet no apprehension at Vera Cruz from the Banditti. His letter is very submissive and plausibly worded but that does not satisfy me in the least as unfortunately my poor father experienced a severe loss in a similar case by Rubio of Guatimala's failure: for a long time previous he wrote very satisfactory letters always promising to send remittances that were always retarded by some casual circumstance untill he failed and we lost the whole. It is my positive opinion that the money should be withdrawn from Miranda by drawing upon him for the whole of the amount in favour of some solid house in Vera Cruz that should receive it there and forward it to us. If not we shall never see it for he will constantly promise to follow your directions and still withhold the remittances. As he refuses to follow my directions without your Sanction it rests with you either to enable me to act myself by writing to Miranda that you dont wish to counteract or oppose my directions in the disposition of a property that is not only my own in Part but should be wholly under my controul as holding the trust of all the other heirs. Or else draw it yourself from him without any further delay and that is the only way to secure it if it is not too late. I must here permit me to observe that the titles just mentioned besides those my Mother and myself have by my father's Will should be sufficient to allow me to decide in my own and my families concerns as they have all trusted in me to preserve and manage their property as I wish to do for their sake as well as for mine to the best of my judgment. Besides if the remittances are made strait to England it would spare the heavy dutys of entry at Cadiz and as for the responsibility I am willing to answer for all the consequences and you say yourself that you are under no apprehension from the present tribunal.

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I beg you would answer soon on this subject as I have friends in London who have correspondence with Vera Cruz and I propose drawing in their favour against Miranda without loss of time.

We are regretting Mrs Costello's departure from Bath to return to London to be near Mrs. Sheil. I have not heard lately from Mrs Barron but Fany has just received a letter from Fanny Murphy who expects to be brought to bed this month and [h]as requested of me to be godfather to her child which I have accepted with pleasure. Her Father in Law old Major Fitzgerald is just dead at Waterford so Tom Fitzgerald will now come into his fortune. This information I beg you to state to my Aunt Pepa with our best regards.

My Niece Fany is not well as yet as she suffers from obstructions but she rides a horseback with a Man every morning and I hope that will [do] her good.

I thank you for the inclosure from poor Carmen but it was older date than the last we had received before of the 24th January so it could give us no news.

My Mother is tolerably in health and desires her kind remembrance to you and all friends. So does Fanny and I remain very sincerely yours

P.S. As for Miranda's account current I cannot certify if it is correct without reference to his former invoice of accounts of sale copied in a small Book intitled Riesgos de mi Cuenta. The various remittances received from him should also be moted in the same book.

Bath 22th July 1810 [1812]

My dear Mr. Butler

I cannot refrain expressing my surprise at your protracted silence at a time that you had promised a speedy answer to my letter of the 20th March. Your last favour received was of the 21st April by which you acknowledged the receipt of my inclosed statement and promised to pay attention to it the very first leisure moment that you would be master off letting me know the result, such were your kind expressions on the subject, which warranted a more speedy answer than an absolute silence of more than two months since when five succesive packets have arrived, the Montague, the Elizabeth, the Nymph, the Speedy and the Eliza, bringing letters to the 1 instt. but not one line have I received by either of them, the cause I am at a loss to guess? if from illness I would sincerely regret it; but any other I cannot easily account for unless you wish to lay our affairs aside, as perhaps you find them too tedious and consequently you may wish to decline further interference with them. If so I beg you would candidly state it to me that I may comission some other person to take them up with the inducement of charging a regular comission, for you must allow that I cannot be indiferent at a protraction that may be so indefinite on a subject that is of such a vital importance to me and to my family.

I am persuaded and feel gratefull for your good wishes for our welfare but something more is required to bring our unhappy affairs to a conclusion. Two years are now elapsed since my poor father's death and interference of government as been a great obstacle to their conclusion, but for that very reason greater exertion is required than in an ordinary case to accomplish this desired end. Perhaps the multiplicity of affairs as well of your own, that should undoubtedly have the preference as of many others that claim your attention may prevent you I suppose from bestowing that time and exertion on ours that they certainly require to bring them to issue.

Yet it is my duty as well as interest to procure their forwardment as much as it is possible. I would be sorry to give you offence by any of these observations, as my sincere regard for you make me very reluctant to cause you any displeasure either by word or action, yet this consideration should not render me so inactive as to neglect the sacred obligation I am under of promoting to the utmost of my power the final fulfilment of my father's last Will and settlement of all my families property. This I am also bound to do to correspond with the confidence that all my sisters have reposed in me as the actual head of my family. Hitherto I have been very cautious to act in perfect conformity with your opinion as that of a person whose esteem I value but when I find a total stagnation to have taken place in our affairs and that you do not deem proper or convenient to answer me after 70 days consideration on a point unconnected with the interference of government I must naturally conclude that either you disapprove totaly of my proceedings and even if so you should tell it to me grounding the motives of your different opinion, or that you are otherwise too much engaged to give that necessary attention to our concerns in both of which cases I must take upon me all further measures, to conclude a liquidation in which I am not only a principal myself, but also the

confidential agent of all the other parties concerned. I hope your next letter will give me some further explanation but should it not I must beg you will condescend to answer me this point literally and candidly that I may accordingly lose no time in taking further measures. The Duke del Infantado's arrival will have afforded you an opportunity of presenting my memorial but as these men in office are apt to forget what they promise it is required to remind them of the subject by repeated applications or else it will remain totally

[continued on page 97]

Mr. Butlers letter continued from page 91

Bath 22d. July 1812

forgotten even tho' they are willing to oblige in order to neglect no step that can forward the conclusion of our affairs.

I availed myself of Mrs Costello's offer to send another memorial conceived in the same terms as that to the Duke to be presented by her son to the Conde del Abisbal because the more interest is made the greater success may be expected. I did not send you this other memorial for O Donnel because I thought it would not appear very consistant that two memorials for the same purpose should be presented by the same individual to two different Regents. Yet I would not neglect this new channel because it was supported by a letter of recomendation which my friend here Lieut. Colonel Stonor who served in the northern Campaign with O Donnel very good-naturedly offered me the support his good offices.

I have seen Mr.Thuillieres who left Cadiz a month back and who mentioned to have left you in good health as all our other friends there for whom we inquired with great interest. As Mr. Thuillieres was coming straight to Bath where his family resides I regret you should not have availed of such good opportunity to send me the family pictures and those papers I have lately desired you to procure me. There are frequent opportunities to send them to England and from any seaport they can be forwarded to Bath by the public coaches with my directions on the parcel and dropping me a line of advice. If you deliver them to Bartolo Costello with that information I am persuaded he will have the kindness to forward them to me.

As I hope you will shortly obtain my Poor Father's books to be returned to you I have to request when they are returned that you would be so good as to send me a copy of a short statement for a Reporto to the Creditors of Peter Cruises failure which Diego Blacader drew up in a loose sheet of Paper which remained under the cover of some of the large books, and is very essential to me to know the names of these Creditors as among the sums reserved in deposit by my Father there is some money belonging to the testamentaria of Peter Cruise, and I want this information for my government as also a copy of the list of the creditors to Carew Langton & Co. as they stood all together on one account folio 87 in my father's last Libro Mayor. I should also observe to you that having in the formation of the statement I sent you placed among the Debits of my Father the acct of Obrapia of L.C. as it stood En el balance de

31 Dicre 1809 de Rpta. 40328:3 previous to the charge of £69:2:1½ balance against Peter St Leger in acct. of 1st June 1810 which I sent to my Father and he just received at the time of his last illness. I have since made the due charge of that sum here placing it to the Credit of Possessiones en Irlanda and debit of Obrapia de L.C. deducting it from the money I have reserved here to pay the balance due to that establishment and I apprise you of it to prevent any charge being made yonder of those £69:2:1½ as it is already made here. We are still deprived of all accounts from my poor sisters altho' anxiously desirous of hearing from them. My Mother's health is tolerable but her spirits much depressed by the stagnation of our affairs. Fanny is not quite recovered as yet but rather better than she has been. Mrs. Costello has left us for London from whence we hear from her often and by her we know that Mrs Barron and her family are all well. Please to acquaint My Aunt Pepa that from the latter end of May she has another grand daughter called Francis Alisia of whom I have been the Godfather by Proxy. She wrote to us the first news of it on the 24th June and said the child was very stout and herself continued well tho weak. Edward has not wrote to me for six months. He was about the country in Ireland.

Buonaparte has at last entered Russia on the 25th of June and advanced to Wilna without opposition as the Russians have wisely adopted the sistem of retiring beyond the Drvina laying waste all the intermediate country. Two whole regiments of Prussians had already deserted from the french army to the Russians. Lord Cathcart is appointed Ambassador from England to St. Petersburg and will sail in a few days. Peace with Sweden and Russia is expected to be published very shortly, but the Americans have just declared War against England. However as the revocation of the orders in council was not known in America at the time it is expected they will retract their declaration on receiving this inteligence.

By an article of the treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey the later have engaged to aid the former with 50000 men in case Austria should join Frannce in her attack on Russia.

Our accts. from the North of Spain are very favourable. Mina is said to have intercepted a dispatch from Berthier to King Josef calling for 20 battalions from the armies in Spain to be sent to the North. Bonnet has again evacuated the Asturias to join Marmont and Astorga was soon expected to surrender to the army of Galicia, whilst Lrd. Wellington is pursuing Marmont to Valladolid. I hope all will prosper for the cause in the Peninsula whilst Bonaparte is engaged in the North. I have observed by the last Accts. from Cadiz that a vessel had just arrived from Vera Cruz with money. I hope Miranda has made you some remittance by it for it is realy shocking to be loosing for two years all the interest on 40000 dollars it is realy allowing ourselves to be imposed upon and defrauded of considerable sums if some speedy measure is not adopted as I hinted to you in my last of the 14th May since when I delayed writing expecting every mail to hear from you but being disappointed by five I thought it high time to inquire for an explanation of so protracted a silence when you had several subjects that required an answer. I await it anxiously

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and remain with unalterable sentiments of true regard and esteem your affectionate cousin.

M.T.L. with kind affection from my Mother.

Bath the 1st July 1812

To Thomas Barnaby Murphy

My dear Friend,

Your last esteemed letter of the 24th Ulto, was long announced to me by our Venerable Friend Dr. Moylan whom I am happy to inform you has greatly recovered his health during his stay here and has just left us for Cheltenham. On the subject of your past silence I shall only say that you can procure me no greater satisfaction than to let me hear from you frequently altho' I am sensible of the many occupations which the truly lamentable loss of my cousin Mrs. Archbold has devolved on you. Please to express to your amiable wife how much we share her affliction for so feeling a loss as that of a beloved sister. I trust your intended excursion will have all the desired effect on both your healths, and spirits, indeed nothing is so efficacious to divert the mind from the reflection of greif as a change of air and scenery. I am sorry to hear that you have been yourself a sufferer in the head which I think of all parts must be the most unpleasant to ail as it generally affects the whole frame, but am happy to observe that you were restored. I wish to hear the same of your delicate child whom you mention is still lingering.

I return you many thanks for the document you have had the kindness to procure me: I believe it will answer every purpose required. I hope you did not go to Kilkenny expressly for that motive as I beleive it might have been obtained by written application. I observe Father Quinlan's signature is certified by the protestant Minister Peter Roe, and besides by a Mr. James Wamph Magor, whose capacity is not mentioned. I would be glad to know what office this last witness holds? if you can conveniently tell me in your next? You have also forgot mentioning wether you had procured the stamp to be affixed on the power of attorney which I sent you at first, as it is a necessary requisite in case you should be required to act upon it. I thank you for your other answers and information: as also for your intention to press the Clonmell tenant to payment as he holds that lease on such easy terms. I would be hard upon him for I dare so it must be worth much more than the £4:13:11 a year for which the lease was granted, and if I could compel him to resign the lease for non-payment I could obtain much more advantageous terms as we hope to do with Dr. Ronayn's late house after it is properly repared which I beg you would order to be done immediately to profit of the long days and to loose the less time possible in procuring another tenant. I leave the extent of the repairs entirely to your discretion tho' I wish you to consult economy as much as possible. It must certainly be put in a proper tenantable repair and then you can grant such a lease as you will conceive most advantagious for the benefit of the institution biding the tenant to all repairs tho' I caution you that the poor house must not be mentioned in the lease for fear of endangering the validity of it, but I believe it must be stated as my property. I cannot refrain expressing my surprise and regret that Dr. Ronayne should have so long neglected to inform the late Mr. St. Leger and afterwards yourself of the repairs required to prevent their becoming so considerable, but now there is no help for it and the necesary expence should certainly be made as you advise, to avoid a dead

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loss As soon as you inform me of the balance against me in our account I shall send you a remittance adding one hundred pounds for these repairs leaving the remainder which you expect will not exceed fifty pounds more for when you advise me of the precise amount. I think the best way to remit you the money will be to inclose a Bank post bill endorsed by me to your order, but then I beg you will not delay advising the receipt that I might reclaim it in time at the bank if lost. I only wait for your promised letter to know more or less what you are in disburse of for me to send you immediately the money. Follows domestic news &c.

Transcript not yet available

Translation from French

Bath 16 July 1812

To Nicolas Maria Marchetti

Sir,

I hasten to reply to your kind letter of the 1st of this month to my Mother, whose sight is so weakened that she is denied the pleasure of writing to you herself as she would have wished, as much to recall to you the memory of your old acquaintance in Madrid when you were showed her so much kindness, which will never be lost from her memory, as to thank you for your kindnesses to my sister during her last residence in Paris, which she told us about at the time, for your last letter of the 1st July is the first and only one we have received directly from you, which increases our regret not to have received the four earlier ones which you mention having written to us.

In the month of August last year we received through Mde. de Liff[?] letters from my sister telling us of your generous intentions towards her, which inspired in us all feelings of lively gratitude for your kindness towards her, and I immediately undertook to give them every expression which depended on me in trying to recover what was due to you through Mr. Franchi, although I had not received the power of attorney which you had granted me and which she told me I should receive very soon but which nevertheless has never reached me; the only papers concerning your affairs which I have received in that time are five receipts from Mr. Franchi which total altogether £19070: pounds, but not 30000 as mentioned in your last letter, either in error or because the other receipts have not reached me, also a note of instructions regarding what I should do with this money if I recovered it, and an old letter from the year 1805 from Don Pedro, Mr. Franchi's brother, on the subject of Dr Gaspard's affairs; That is all I have received up to now.

However I spoke immediately about this to my friend Mr. Cologan, who told me that Dr. Gaspar was in the Canaries pursuing a considerable case with his brother, and all the rest of his family, that he was still hard pressed for money for the lack of a settlement, for he had quite a good asset in a vineyard, and he undertook to give him my letter of 5 September in which I told Mr. Franchi in very urgent terms of the commission you have given me to recover this money, and that I had his receipts in my possession: which Mr. Cologan assured him he had seen, and recognized his writing, by reason of which I begged him to remit this sum to Mr. Bernard Cologan the elder, then in the Canaries, who would pass it on to me here through his brother Mr. Jean Cologan, through whom I also begged him to send the reply to my letter, but up to now he has not even replied to me, although I know that my letter has reached him. I should also tell you that unfortunately, because of the present circumstances, even if I had received your Power of Attorney I would not be able to bring a case because if I did, the tribunals would confiscate the money

for the benefit of the tax authority, as belonging to a person who lives in France following the recent regulations. Thus the payment depends entirely on his good faith, and his good will, without our being able to force him, and I am very much afraid we shall never see a farthing of it. Mr Cologan should propose to him that he should pay in wine from his harvest, which we could sell, but we have not yet reached that point. My friend Mr. Jean Cologan has just recently left for the Canaries, and he has promised me that he will do all he can in your interest. If anything comes of it I shall be sure to tell you through Messrs. Reid & Bell & Co., and if I receive any money I will put it in the funds, keeping the principal to your account, and paying from the interest the College fees for my nephew D'Aranza, following your instructions to my sister, whose news we have been deprived of for six months, and as I suppose she is no more fortunate in receiving ours, I am taking the liberty of enclosing a little letter for her, which I beg you to forward to her.

Be sure, dear Sir, that at all times I should be delighted to fulfill your commissions, and that I will scrupulously obey your orders regarding any money which you wish to confide to my care. I do not know if Messrs Reed & Bell have anything to your credit in their hands. It would perhaps be appropriate to notify them of your future testamentary intentions in favour of my sister, and also the commission you have entrusted to me to recover Mr. Franchi's debt, for if you give them the same commission and they approach Mr. Franchi in their turn, he might think that we are not in agreement, nor in good faith in claiming from two sides the same debt, and use it as a pretext not to pay either. In the end you must do in every case what seems right to you, and in any case be assured that we preserve always sincere sentiments of esteem and gratitude, with which I have the honour, sir &c.

Bath 20th July 1812

To Mr. Richard Strange

Dear Sir,

I have this instant received your very kind and esteemed letter of the 17 instt. acquainting us with your having fortunately obtained £100 pounds Irish on acct. of the arrear of interest on a Bond of £700 due by Lord Westmeath to my Grand Father Th. Dillon. Mr Mother desires me to express in the warmest terms her gratitude to you, in which allow me to join very sincerely, for your very friendly and generous exertions in her behalf to which she gratefully acknowledges she is intirely indebted for the difficult recovery of this sum, so important to her interest as it renews the claim on the principal and particularly acceptable to her at a time that her very reduced income scarcely enables her to meet her barely indispensable expence. Yet what has afforded most satisfaction is the good nature and zeal which you have shewn in this instance and which reminds her so much of your kindness towards [her] on all former occasions and which she values extreeemly as a proof of your regard which she repays with great sincerity.

Any remittance or letter that you may please to direct to Mrs. L. or to me directed to M.T.Langton Esqr. 3 Henry Street will probably be very safely received as our residence is constantly fixed in this house, our actual limited circumstances not allowing us the recreation of summer excursions. I beleive that any remittance in Bank of England notes inclosed would come very safe as I receive any money from London simply inclosed without missing any. But if a Bill suits you best, my wish ever is that you only consult your own conveniency

I observe the cautious manner in which you have worded your receipt and think it very prudent and proper. It would certainly be unreasonable in us to expect that you should take any further considerable trouble in this business after so much kindness and we are even sorry to have given you so much already. But to spare you any unnecessary in futur[e] I would be much obliged to you to mention about what time hence you would advise me to make a further application? If you could recomend me any honest Agent or attorney that I might apply to for that purpose? And if you know the date of the Bond and what sum of interest due? As also the name and direction of Lord Westmeath's Agent to whom I should apply? Perhaps it would be important that you had the goodness to inform this Agent that Th. Dillon has a daughter who is Mrs. Langton now in England and this Lady a son M.T.L. who will claim in future in right of his grandfather, Thos. Dillon. But I am confused to make you so many questions when I would wish to spare you any trouble. Yet you will easily conceive that without some information I would be quite at a loss to proceed to obtain any futur[e] sum from this Debt. This will I hope induce you to excuse my being so troublesome.

I still venture to beg another favour from you Sir, but under the conception that you may send any upper servant to procure the document I want, which is a certificate of my Mother's Baptismal Register to prove her birth in that country

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which I conceive can be easily obtained by application to the sexton of the parish with the following information: that she was born on the 4th Novr. 1740 in Mary's Lane Parish Dublin, her Father was Thoms. Dillon and Mother Mary Hussey, her godfather John Hussey and her godmother Ann Ferral. This would be an essential document for me at present and any expence incurred you would have the goodness to deduct from the money actualy in your hands previous to remiting the same. Accepting my most sincere acknowledgments for all your favours as also most particularly my Mother's and with best regards to Mrs. Strange I remain...