

“hope the bar, which at present seems invincible, may be removed ; till then indulge me, my dear Lady Belmont, in the innocent pleasure of loving him, and trust to his honor for the safety of mine.”

The most candid and amiable of women, after a gentle remonstrance on the importance of reputation to happiness, left me so perfectly satisfied, that she intends to invite Bellville down. I send you this conversation as an introduction to a request I have to make you, which I must postpone to my next. Heavens ! how perverse ! interrupted by one of the veriest cats in nature, who will not leave us till ages after the post is gone. Adieu, for the present ! It is prettily enough contrived, and one of the great advantages of society, that one's time, the most precious of all possessions, is to be sacrificed, from a false politeness, to every idle creature who knows not what else to do. Every body complains of this, but nobody attempts to remedy it.

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