

When I asked you, if you wished my advice you probably misunderstood me. I shall explain myself in the sequel. You said you receive my advice as "incense". I don't mean over to ^{permit however to say} incense, that we think of offering incense to God. For of course God receives incense. Or in a more general manner we often speak of offering incense to any object of worship; of course the being worshipped receives incense. By saying then that you receive what comes from me as incense is saying that I worship you as a being worthy of religious homage; which I suppose is not what you meant. Now though I love ^{you} dearly I should not like to be caught offering incense to you very much. You see I must get a little grow and then, thus much for criticism.

Permit me now dear S. to say something to you respecting your present situation and in doing this I explain what I mean by asking you if you wished for my advice, and I may communicate to you now I trust you will keep it secret. When I was in '73 - you had some one who could give you every report that happened to be in circulation. The case is somewhat different - Mrs. Weeks may tell you some general things - but he will not come to you, nor can you expect it, and tell you those ^{reports} which immediately & personally concern you. When I was there he could tell me and I, you. Now he can tell me by letter and may I not also tell you by letter. And in this way make up in some manner my absence. How can he know that I told you I fear that he would choose to communicate it to me. Borwick you know is a noisy place and the various events that have happened in your family the past summer have been such as to keep the news mongers constantly at work - I intend to say nothing that will widen the breach between you and Edmund - write to God that I could heal it. Nor do I wish you to pay too much regard to public opinion - Let public opinion ^{set} ^{its} ^{way} which it will if I am conscious of the correctness and purity of my conduct and if I had it not nor would I wish you to heed it. But if there are reports abroad which in any degree affect you I trust you will feel that I am acting the part of a real friend in letting you of them and in knowing that if every action of yours from some means or other

Remember me to Mrs. Roberts & the friends of our correspondence. If she does not wish after your return to the next letter where I may be able to see you I will write to her.

I cannot avoid you as I could wish to do. I have been very fatigued lately and then my business is so much pressing that I can give you no more time. I expect not to see you again.

made known publicly you ought to know it that you may be on your guard. The world have faults and when late bearers surround them they have need of no small degree of vigilance. Mr. You are by this time well as I hope - Mr. Wicks says that when he first published your report he was repeatedly obliged to hear of the difficulty between Edmund and you about the chambers - and also of your admission to Mr. Ferguson when he called to see your father in some business. Wicks did not tell me what the report concerning your admission to Mr. Ferguson was & I suppose the reason was he did not believe it true and therefore thought it useless to waste time and in consequence along it to me. Please on your next to tell me if there was cause for any report of any kind. Now I do not mention these things to you because I care a straw for them one way or the other but simply that you may be on your guard in one thing I am certain these reports did not come from you nor from your wife. How from whom then did they come? who is it that trumpet these things abroad? who is it that spreads on the streets the expressions of a family & the petty differences of the members of that family to public view? There is some Achan in the camp who is it? Wicks says these things are mentioned and attributed as the cause of that those who mention them as you have a malicious temper & that you have been the cause of all the disturbance in the family. I need not here tell you that those who know you best know this to be false. But since such reports are in circulation and running that bear the nearest resemblance to you I feel bound to tell you of them. It seems then somebody tells these tales out of spite and gives them a false coloring colouring - I suspect it will not take you long to determine who it is. One thing more - Mr. T. in one of his party gets says I suppose ~~some of the~~ are some of the ~~hystories~~ I would not have a wife that has the ~~hystories~~ hystories. You and I know the reason why he would not. Mr. W. has also another object in view besides simply telling you these reports. It is this in the settlement of your father's estate there will undoubtedly be many things requiring that will be very unpleasant to you. There must necessarily be many things to try you severely. You have some interest at stake - Edmund has some - Mr. W. has some - Mr. Palmer some - there will then situated as you are or select to each other be some things extremely unpleasant, such the same to you that has already stander you will continue to do it. Now if you remain in the same share of the property will be no better secured than if you were absent I advise you then by all means to go to Dover and remain until the estate is settled unless Mr. Edmund will consent to live with you as a brother should do. When you go to Dover you will be away from the sight and the tongue of those busy bodies in other men's matters of which Rowland has its share.

Sept 27th 1827 -
A. A. P. to W. A. H.



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