1803, Oct. 5

My Son

Amidst the anguish of body and distress of mind since I was taken sick, you have been often, very often on my thoughts; happy indeed should I feel, could I once more see you, but lest that should not happen; I have got your Uncle to write to you the last advice of a fond Parent —

Indulged as you have been by me in every wish of your heart, let me entreat you to turn your attention to your Mother, Sisters & younger Mother; continue with them, affording assistance advice & protection, by this, you may alleviate their Grief, and solace them in the new Cares & anxiety, which will necessarily devolve on them; Assist your Mother in the superintendance & adjustment of my estate, and your Uncle in the great weight of business & responsibility which will devolve on him; Consider him your friend, and you will find him strictly so — My private accounts & demands, I wish you particularly to attend to have immediately adjusted — When these are accomplished, and the business of my House in a fair train, you can be a Sharer in it, beyond what your portion will entitle you too, if you make the business of it, your object —

It is time my Son, that you give up travelling, that you fix yourself to business & lead a regular life observing the strictest economy; for the person who lives beyond his