my personal misfortunes, but I am willing to pledge my personal promise, (in which my Sons will join) me, That the Books, shall be ~~sacrificed~~ disposed, with the same care, that they have hitherto been, and such as prudent & honest factors & agents, take, in respect to the property of others, entrusted to their management & such as Banks usually take, in respect to the Property of their Stockholders.

I ought to add, That I consider the Case in which the Books & manuscripts are placed as Pictures, which cannot be removed, or separated, from what are unquestionably private Papers, without great danger of rupture & damage, and without depriving me of the means of ~~maintaining~~ sustaining my labours, while my health & reason, are continued.

The Copying Press is in good order, and I have now & then occasion to use it, except that the drawers & Shelves, are daily wanted, to deposit Letters & drafts, in my limited Correspondence. I submit the question whether it ought to be taken, to any fair arbitrament.