My dear Peter,

If I were never to write to you unless it was by way of answering your letters; pray when do you think you would hear from me? never- however I suppose the multiplicity of business will be your excuse for not writing; an excuse which all you Surinam Gents fully avail yourselves of - We have not heard from Surinam the Lord knows how long - I fear Mr. Bendeker is dead - the last time I wrote to you I wrote also to him & thought I expressed myself sufficiently strong to point out the necessity of his sending a remittance as soon as he could - I wish you would call on him now & then & jog his memory a little - Blagdon Court can't flourish with out assistance from Surinam - I called on Payton of the Pilot & brought him out here last Saturday & sent him in again on Monday moring. - of course it gave much pleasure to Maddy to see anyone who had seen her Mother, & from the accounts he gives, you must have found her very well; as also the Captain - I was in London about a fortnight before the Coronation, trying very hard to get promotion. Lord Melville made use of the old story, assured my Father I should have it the first opportunity that came, but I believe it will be a damned long time coming - I am to hold myself in readiness for an appointment which at all events won't take place I hope before your return; for should I be appointed Maddy declares she will not remain here by herself - We went to Bath the day before the races & stopped the first day - Johnson Beak was of age so we had a blowout - Joachim - George & Henry Garlick did not come - they had their hay about - I made mine well - having mowed the home mead & the field behind Wyats house - have broke up the field across the road on the top of the mead, have got it half to teasel plants & half to a famous crop of oats, which I shall cut this week & then draw plants & make out that part with teasels where the oats come from - the other two little fields I have to wheat & potatoes, now Mr. Bailiff you have an acct. of the grounds - met with a terrible loss the other day, my famous young sow died, leaving behind her nine small children, all of which I've contrived to rear. We shall have a famous sporting season, there being lots of birds & hares - Father Beak comes here the 1st day - Saturday moring. 5 o'clock 19th Aug - I was interrupted last Monday before I finished this letter by the arrival of Joachim, he stayed 3 days, all are very well in Gloseshire; tell the noble Capt'n. that Isaac & John are getting on very well; they are both going to a new school at Nailsworth where their cousin John goes; they spend their winter holidays here & shall then write to their Mother - Maddy & myself walked over to Mr. Bakers last eveng. & drank tea with Sam - on my return I found a letter from Payton saying he was going to sea tomorrow, I am therefore sending him in a cart load of vegetables for his attention to you - He mentions in his letter that you told him to apply to me for payment of some few articles you had from him at Surinam to the amount of £18 18 - not having heard a word of it from you and being taken at a moments notice, I have not the money by me & of course cant do it - if it is correct which I have no doubt of, will pay him on his return. Your flame Isabella Whitfield is staying at the Waits looking prettier than ever. I suppose the Waits have been telling her some nonsense about you, for every time your name is mentioned she colours to the eyes. I was to give her compliments the next time I wrote - I send you now a mere lot of papers (indeed all I have) having opened the lot that was going by way of Holland as I think this is the best opportunity I shall have for some time - You will see by the last paper the death of the queen & her request to be buried at B----. The night before last news came that there had been a serious row in London, but not entering into more