[1783] NOV. 9 A. B[ancroft] to [illegible] CURTIN

SIDE ONE

& he is too like yourself to say the thing he does
not mean - I never saw two people so much a-
-like in my life as you are, both in look & manner — how could so strange a report get about as Mr B being one of the Managers - I apprehend you as the state of the Theatre at present Panics is much more Advantageous to be a good performer only. than to have anything to do with the property. it is raised to such an Enormous Salar that it must be wonderful Success to pay the Interest of your money. had we any to spare it would not be in that way, at present Theatrical matters stand upon so high a shelf, a principal Performer is a Character look'd up to - & to you I may say Mr Ben has made such a progress within the last two years, as procures him very flattering marks of distinction, as well as Increasing emolument - our great actress Mrs Siddons who I dare say Panic has given you an account off, has raised the Theatrical Honor to a most Wonderful degree —
We have now a Lodging in Town, but spend all the time not Employ'd in business at our Comfortable retreat - to which we both are Indebted for Infinitely better Health than we have known many years - & that we think one of the first Blessings we can enjoy -
I had a great Inclination to spare the balance of yours in my hands in the Lottery but determined to wait for your leave to play such tricks another year, & have a joint concern — I shall give an account of matters on the other side - Mrs Dalany is still at Southampton - some say going to be Married but that a report I give no credit to —

I hope the stays shaes & gown will fit
well - as I have not meet with a chance to
my mind. I thought it better to let the balance
remain whole till I heard from you again
I feel a strong itch to dabble a little in the
Lottery for you - so if I should be tempt before
its over & prove Unlucky, you must forgive
it begins drawing next week - if I feel bold I
may venture - next year I should like a joint
concern. in one or two or what you may like
to throw away - God Bless you my Dear Brother
& may all Success [illegible] you & yours - A B