1788 Nov. 4

SIDE ONE

A Valuable receipt

James Gordon Esq.

London Nov. 4th 1788 –

My Dear Brother /

The I must say you are a very Idle correspondent, I do not think you at all a precedent for me in that particular, & therefore write, if it be only for the pleasure of abusing you a little, you will say now I can have no other reason, as ~~you~~ I promise you will find very little entertainment or variety in this epistle, but what I flatter myself you will value above either, & be an apology for the rest, namely – the sincere good wishes for your Health happiness, & welfare of yourself & family / & A B –

with very little variety, & upon the whole pretty smoothly, & tho we do not rank ourselves among the first of fortunes favourites, when we look round with an impartial eye, we dare not think ourselves among the ~~last~~ – My Dear Mrs Pens health is certainly on the whole, much mended, insure him that, & there is little doubt but all will go well & tho his line of life is not what he is fond of there is at present much to reconcile it – Theatrical

these papers & Magazens will be directed to the care of Mr Scott, as they go on board the Sally Capt Chapman, with many packages of Mr Brooks to the same Gentleman, & will be included in his bill of lading – He thanks Mrs C & you for your kind remembrance of him, & returns best compts – He is such a handy man to me, I should not know what to do without him –