1789 April

James Chester

Mrs B — Copy

The uncommon severity of the winter, which set in just before Christmas, and continued with intermission untill the 20th of March prevented Your Letter of Nov. 9th ~~accompanying the box of goods~~ from reaching us tile abt a Month ago — At the same time the box of goods came to hand likewise the contents of which I assure you gave us not a little pleasure — Mrs C & the Children in particularly are mightily pleased with the things their Aunt sent them * and so far was the ~~fact~~ from being averse to the itch you felt to dabble a little in the lottery with the ballance, that I believe could it have been possible to have conveyed you a letter time enough, she would joined with a like heart in the scheme & given up very readily the Chintz gown & any other little necessary for the chance of getting the £20000 prize altho' there was 50000 to 1 against it — For my part I have ceased to be quite so sanguine as Mrs C says am not venturesome enough ever to make a great fortune too much in the slow and sure way — I ~~believe~~ suspect if we and she ~~were~~ together, few lottery's would be drawn, but you would ~~have attend~~ endeavor to convince me I was wrong and if a lucky hit was made, I never should hear the last of it — At present Mrs C is from home at Chester Town on a visit to her sister, Kingsold the three Children with her — I left them 3 days ago there — All in good health except my youngest daughter your Name Sake ~~Lyne~~ has a violent cough, which makes me apprehensive her Lungs are not quite so strong as I could wish — they have been affected ever since she had the hooping cough & at times, as the present, rather too an alarming degree

* Mr Pitman's Bagfolds are the only, in Dover, we are acquainted with, & Mrs C feels so obliged to you for your kindness in selecting them for her.