[1786] Sept. 8

SIDE ONE

They always inquire after my Brother & you & are perfectly well acquainted with you — they are in all respects truly valuable people — My boy back thanks you for remembering him, & desires to return the Compliment — he is a very good & clever fellow & now allmost as tall as myself — like the girls he is remark'd for his attention to the Ladies I am sure that will recommend him to them as good graces — he says, how I should like to take them to a play, I shant write to my Brother now, as I did by the last opportunity — but assure him of the tender regards of my Dear Mrs Cheston Yours & Their Affectionate Friend & Sister M A Bensley

London Sept.r 8. 14 years this day since I resigned my liberty — in many respects gained it —

Mrs Cheston

Septr 8th 1786

My Dear Sister/

by the first ship that has offered I have sent the things you last ordered — The Washing = ton Capt Chapman belonging to Mr Bonnet who is still on your side of the Water — She does go to the only excepted place — but Mr Brooks persuaded me to sieze the opportunity as it might be long before another would offer, & that as she has many things for Annapolis they would reach you safe without additional expence — I hope they will escape the Algierens & Equinoctial gales, & in all respects be exactly what you wish — I was persuaded to insure, but has my Brother had never given any orders of that kind I have not done it — for it adds much to the cost of small articles, unless the risk is very great indeed — If Todd shoes fit you well, & wear as well as Brack = ens, I shall in future employ him as he is cheaper & has made for me some time — do by the first opportunity send me a shoe you have worn, & a glove — for then no accident can prevent your having them right — instead of a cap I have sent you a half dress hat, as a full one with the addition of feathers — & so new a stile as not to be common yet even here — therefore hope it will be first of the sort with you — if it is too large for you, draw the gauge up at the Crown which will bring it nearer the wire at the edge — take with you that it is a very moderate size — Caps are so little worn I have not had one to my head, (but Muslin Morn.g ones) thin Wheelmouth part — & those that are, so very simple I can discribe them — cut a straight head piece half a finger broad, & long enough to come allmost round the head plait to the edge a strait border a finger broad, in fish large plaits — a large cauls & strait ribbon on the head piece which must be wired, & large bow behind — & put on quite behind the hair — No cap is worn to come over it at all, but quite Undress ones — all are very large — Indeed quantity is the great mark — every part of