Thos Hensley Esqr

Sir

Yours of this date is received. The delicacy observed in not writing to me at an earlier day would have been duly appreciated, had the style of yr letter correspond with the feeling which had induced your forbearance — I am not a little surprised that you who were the ~~first~~ most clamorous against the Exrs of our late venerated relative for having exposed to public sale his house hold in Phila should be the first and only one of his representatives, to find fault with me for pursuing a directly opposite course — Sincere respect for his memory determined me, as soon as I was entrusted with the sale of his property in the Forest, not to expose to sale any article immediately connected whith his person, and which I knew he highly valued. — This I could only do on my <u>own responsibility</u> as I had no authority for doing it, other than a sense of propriety and the sanction of such of the representatives, as I had an opportunity of mentioning it to, and I verily believe yourself amongst others. To guard however against cavilling from all quarters I determined to charge myself with the property at an advance of 10 p^r cent, and then to leave it with the representatives, if they thought proper equally to divide it between them by lot, so that none might have cause to complain, little supposing that any one of them, who was really desirous of having something as a relick, would begrudge a pittance of 10 p^ct on its appreciated value, which had been added merely to avoid dissatisfaction. I have made the foregoing remarks in justice to myself, and not I assume you to remove any objections that may have been taken to my conduct. My motives will be properly appreciated by all honourable minds; for the opinions of others I care not. — I have only to add that if you are dissatisfied with the course I have pursued, you can apply to the Orphan's Court to Order a public sale of the reserved property, where you can have an opportunity of purchasing such articles as you may want; otherwise you cannot have the right of selection to the exclusion of others, whose rights stand upon the same footing as your own. The Acct furnished by Mr Cummins to me, is <u>exclusively against the Executors of Mr Gilghman</u>, in which however