I believe I must rest in the enjoyment of it only in idea, or perhaps sometimes in a dream as Paddy Doyle went to the Moon to buy Potatoes — You have asked me to give you a tolerable particular account of our general prospects here, and you have very fairly anticipated my answer, for what from want of ability & also the teasing business in which it has been my lot to be engaged, I am rendered altogether unfit to write on the subject of Politicks, and also as I know that you correspond with some persons here who I know are able and am sure will give you a much better & more minute account of our situation in this Country, and also of the Town than I could possibly do, and therefore I have not hitherto attempted it, but this much I may say in general, that our Taxes have been since increasing. The Budget for this year isn't opened yet, but from the debates that have taken place in Parliament, we have little reason to expect much Reduction to take place this Session. The Catholicks have not yet got nearly what they wanted, but are still petitioning, but I really think they have greatly injured their own cause by their being too violent in their speeching &c. As to the Orange party I can say little only that I think they are rather losing ground, or at least I think that they are not in so high puff as you call it as you & I have seen them.

Your concern on the Decay has certainly turned out rather unfortunate, and very troublesome; but to think of getting it disposed of now is entirely out of question, and I am very sorry to say that I cannot get write what might be satisfactory for you to know about the Store held by Phelps, but this I hope to be able to do this in my next to you, but in the meantime I would only mention that Dennis Caulfield of Newry was appointed Assignee to the Estate of Phelps, and afterwards it appeared that he had appointed a Mr Wallace, and the said Wallace became in some time a Bankrupt himself, and a Family in Downpatrick of the name of Wallace who appear to be all attorneys even the Agents, and strange as it may appear to you yet still it is that matters have been so managed amongst them, that without that I could do with assistance of your worthy friend John Bennett, I neither could get possession of the Store nor any rent, notwithstanding every exertion that could be made. However I have lately had several Interviews with Mr Caulfield, and also with the Mess.rs Wallace, (but never could get two of them together in any one place) and I think we