Bath of Lucca, 22nd July 1839

My dear Beckford,

I received only yesterday your letter of the 17th written from Forest Hall, where you found your self on account of the melancholy ceremony of interment of my poor Sister in Law. May this last blow be the conclusion of the sad bereavements to which fortune has of late been so nearly deprives one of all my dearest. I feel that I am growing rapidly old by am peculiarly preparatory for the inevitable consequences.

The refusal of the Directors of the Pantheionic to deliver my goods to you, appears to me inexplicable, as they were not deposited by me, but by my son, whose Executor you are, and are not under equal to give them a discharge on removing the deposit.

To prevent however all objection on their part, therefore authorize you to claim all my property now in their keeping, to settle all your house charges, y to give full discharge in my name. If this is not sufficient, send me out a power of Attorney, and I will sign it, and return it to you forthwith.

As soon as you are in possession, you may remove the whole to a good dry place in the City, to be at hand for the present, at least, of such Articles as Indicated in my former letters.
The Shipping boy at 3s. 6d. per ton is too low, but I accept the offer; I bought it at the work of Payet, a celebrated French Sculptor. I do not wish to part with the broken Roman Bronzes, nor with my other Bronzes, they are more scarce & valuable here than in London. I wish to have these shipped with the article I beg of you to buy for me, which I shall want in the fall.

The Claudian female portrait by Roman workmen, has been removed from its niche, & is at present, the only thing I wish to have sent to London, to my stove with paints. I pray you, to inform me, whether William must be changed, or not, & whether the price of the Jourdain, they must have been exchanged for other paintings.

The details you give one of the Will of the Countess, are in general satisfactory, unless she had done something more for Emma. With regard to Sarah She has barely left here, & much as I would have prorayed to have her present, without any judgment I should not have asked it; I wrote from Baltimore, that she would know she promised me to care for Sarah largely. Why she has not done so, I cannot say. I beg you not to mention this to any one living.

My will (executor) signed before witnesses, 2 of them respectable gentlemen, the third, their clerk. It had been placed in receipt taken, in the hands of the Notary, Bombacci at the Florentine law court. The receipt is among my books & with it the original document may be obtained at any time from the archives.

You mention the approaching sale of a farm of 14 acres of very good land joining Belmont. If you think so, it must belong to me. I think I can make an agreement with you, that it ought to be purchased by the future owner of my property. Sarah is already named as died by my Testament. After her demise Willy C. H. for a legacy of 2000; a bond of £300 would cover the purchase money, which could be considered as property invested, in consequence of my declaration. They ought not to think to lose a good an opportunity to apprise the future Estate, of which they may be said to have the real property, the note speaks - Can you be of use to account with this desire, with the purchaser? I know your kindness, for one or money, I will be prepared on any assistance. For my part, I can do nothing, my Palazzo absorbing my ready
When the new law to enfranchise Copy holders is passed, I will apply to you to make St. Leonard's freehold. So, you must let me know when the Bill is passed. I intend writing to Sarah on how to make a well, her anxiety is very natural. If I can make her mind easy on the subject.

I feel fully that a trip to England might be of service to my interests at the present moment. But the thing is impossible. Situated as I am, next spring I may be more free to deal. By the notes I have sent you, which must have come to hand, you are made acquainted in detail of my wants for furn. in future year. In the beginning of October, I expect to be quite ready for the upholsterers; you may therefore judge of my anxiety to receive in good time all I expect that you that I may be ready in good time to open my winter campaign in proper style.

Hauler of Delamere's debts, will I am afraid be difficult of recovery. With regard to Huber's $300, I think I may assert he never intended to claim it. We gave him between us $10,000, which we considered placed a fonds payable.

W. gores.
P.S. I wonder that no amateurs have come forward for the two large Albums, authentic fine works of the master, coming from the Mosca Gallery. I considered them cheap at £700.00 to keep them up in the day of sale. Reconsidered to offer that price, this I did not want to augment my purchases already too numerous. I think they had better be kept for Helena, than be sacrificed to cunning Dealers. In case you determine otherwise, you may adjudge them finally to me for £200. each or £400. in all. I repeat that I have no wish to own them, as I have here a beautiful specimen of the same Artist. Let me hear soon from you.

W. G. O.
Willm Beckford Esqr.
Mps. Beckford & Bankin
Finsbury Circus

Angleterre. London

17
My dear Bedford,

I intended to have sent you sooner an answer to your last letter, but was in the meantime apprised that Forbes my lawyer was on the point of starting from Naples on his return to England with his family, and that he intended making a short stay here. I therefore postponed writing until I could consult him on the validity of my will, newly made with alteration of importance, such as I shall not think of modifying any more. He has now seen it, and finds it at all points legal and fairly expressed so as to leave no quibble on my intentions. This being his opinion, I can now inform you that the original Testament properly witnessed and legalized is in the hands of my Daughter to take to England, where she gets home, you will consult together whether it had better remain in her possession or you until its bequests are to be put in force after me.

My mind is now at ease on that most important document, with regard to my property out of Italy, as copies exactly similar will be deposited in the archives here by Dr. W. Bombieri my lawyer, to serve for the disposal...
of my Tuscan property intended for my Wife on certain conditions expressed therein. This clause may require some small modification according to Italy, but at Tuscan Executors are removed for this sole purpose to save trouble to my English Executors, they must be under no obligation to this share of it if I make a will it will not interfere in the slightest degree my remaining Estate entrusted to their care. I believe I have now said all you can wish on this matter; if however you want any more information, you shall have it by writing questions to me, which I shall make it my duty to answer freely but confidentially.

I now come to the subject of my undated picture, to give you the latest point I can take for them without throwing them away, price which must leave to the purchasers certain profits in after times.

Salvator Rosa large, Thomas Angel ... £300

Claude Lorrain Bible, Gallery Albera ... 500

Sra. Bartolomea. Virgin of Saint ... 300

Parmigiano, dito, Virgin child's Angels ... 150

Tintori, large, Virgin with graces of landscape ... 500

Sra. Anna, Mother of the Immaculate ... 350

Mantle, large, Virgin (Angels &c.) ... 350

Leonardo da Vinci. Small 250. Raphael. St. Lucia, widow ... 150

Mrs. Wynn ... £500

April 1st. 1761, Thursday, 7th of December, 1760

This evaluation appeared to me so reasonable, that I can hardly doubt of your success in obtaining it, unless the bad taste for English pictures, has totally degenerated the better taste for the Italian art.

I have not heard anything from R. Sackej, but believe have informed me that he had a purchase of land in Portugal. I can therefore say nothing of his new regulations, can think of becoming his guarantors. As well intend the given during my long life I have left £4,000. i.e. 2,000 pounds, without the assurance of gratitude. These I sought, been too sure to be forgotten. To undertake the heavy charge of a new settlement, without knowing on what to depend, it in my opinion an act bordering on folly. If however the motives given to me in what Sackej are not too strenuous, his propositions are flattering, as the land is good quality, a free labour there is easily obtained. My means, I suppose, are cramped by the horrid American war as well as the Banks, overdue to late to be remedied. If science
W. G. Creswell
May 17, 1841

This letter-piece of his pictures
T. R. Booth

T. S.

Raffe Beckford Esquire
at Maj. Beckford & Rankin
Finsbury Circus

London

Angletown