

62

Drypshut
21 May 1824

52

My dear Sir

A month has elapsed, since I had the pleasure of hearing from you; & I must apologise for allowing so long a time to elapse: but I have been very busy & still am so. I have had the satisfaction of hearing from my son near time; & Mr Laper on his return gave me very good accounts of him. I am glad to find that he is sensible of the necessity of diligent attention to mathematics; and I hope he will make as good progress as you anticipate. It is one of the greatest defects of our public schools, that so very important a branch of study is entirely neglected at the age best calculated for entering upon it. I am much obliged to you for your kindness in enquiring for him that his

135