

HAM 11/2/18

27 July 1809 Bath

Dear Mr. Yellow

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I was very sorry to send you so short a letter, but I was resolved not to omit another post - my time is so much taken up, that in life I find a short space after dinner - before 7 in the morning or after eleven at night - the day slips away to my astonishment & you are left in the lurch. The never out of my mind - I have now exactly 20 minutes to spare, without a fraction for the most agreeable amusement I have, which is writing to you my dearly beloved Wife - And so Mr. Yellow face your natural curiosity, is all alive & restless to know who that agreeable, charming, pleasant woman is, who did me the honor to take compassion upon me in your absence - in this instance I shall not gratify you, as these kind of designations are always kept invisibly secret by Men of Honor - But to disappoint you by enlarging upon my felicity, I will, out of pure compassion, return to my Journal & shall raise another conjecture in your mind to inform yourself with whom I denied to day - an unmarried Lady, who professes herself an admirer of me - every thing was to be kept snug - the invitation was communicated in a secret manner - but too great pleasure she relished - I left my Memorata at 9 o'clock - & went to Mr. Herschell's to have my Gown which I could not have in the morning as he was obliged to attend a private concert to play Quartettes to which I was invited & went for an hour, but could stay no longer as my Drawing Master expected me - It was Mr. M. told that I denied with to day - Mr. S. & her daughter denied them also - Mr. S. spoke very handsomely of you - she said she never met with a person that she thought so amiable & so accomplished and could almost say that she was glad she had known so little of you - for she sh. have regretted your leaving Bath & Wiltshire so much the more - Mr. S. is very handsome & dapper as an old woman should be, suitable to her age - my manners seem to please this family - & I reckon upon being a favorite - Mr. M. said she never invited any person to her house that she did not think very agreeable - which I know my self not to be - but on appearance of good humour & little attentions, which flow from the heart, will often gain the proper admission into families, where the door is shut to a Man of Talents - which I sh. be happy to be

20/ I called upon Mrs. M. & spent the day as usual & after tea walked with Major Murray - this morning I called upon Mr. Foster - he seems very glad to see me & I call whenever I can - tho it be only for 5 minutes - for the last week I have endeavored to call on the Bonbreeches but unfortunately it has not been in my power - you would laugh to see me posting away from one Master to another - my mind is fully employed & it makes me happy - to day

I began to drink the waters at 7 1/2 before that time I had read
an hour in Mr. Poggio's travels, which I most admire - it is just
worth reading & that's all - I from 7 to half past ten was taken up
in exercise for two hours, walking & breakfast - at 1/2 past 10 I go
to my Italian Master - after that I had a lesson from Mazzoni
which is throwing money away - from him I went to Herschell
for an hour & then to my drawing Master for the same space of
time & returned home enough to scribble a few lines to you
& sleep for dinner - between 7 & 8 we all marched to the Villa
gardens to see Friewalds dr. but were disappointed, as something
had happened to make it necessary to postpone his coming - so
we had a pleasant walk however - 30/ I was this morning put
out of sorts by your letter of the 26 - You know my dear
Mary that nothing can make amends to me for the loss of your
Society - I know of generous heart - but I must confess that
I would not have you come here for several reasons - first of all
I am in the best possible state of health - Dr. F. Medicine
has entirely removed the Irritation - the waters now agree
with me, & you never saw me look so well in my life - in the
next place I think the same medicine, which may be made very
pleasant by deluging with water, will have the same effect upon
our lovely child - I also consider the expense which I wish
to be avoided for reasons which my love for you dictates &
if my Father whom I most sincerely love, will have the
goodness to contribute something towards a short voyage
here in the spring which Dr. F. wishes may take place -
then I should be infinitely obliged to him - I can have the
delight of my dear Mary's Society - however my return
shall be determined by my good friend Dr. F. who seems
to know my constitution more exactly than any person I
was consulted - he is now gone to Weymouth for a few days &
tomorrow I shall go to visit the Ladies & on Saturday to
Miss Morris - a little before 7 I called upon Mr. Wendell
who was going out, but I petitioned for a few lines in this
sheet & he granted the prayer - I have not mentioned to
him that I consulted Dr. Mergell - perhaps it would please
when Dr. F. meets again I shall consult him about Louisa
I will endeavor to get his prescription from the Apothecary

and send it to you - The Irritation on my skin is entirely re-
moved & I feel once more quite comfortable - my sleep is uncon-
rupted & I can sleep my self without a batch of scratching for
half an hour - I make no doubt but it will have the same
effect upon Louisa - it had an immediate one upon me -
Before I received your letter I had fixed in my own mind
not to leave this place till this day fortnight, which makes
the three weeks you serve - but if it is necessary to prolong
my stay I will do it - but I don't think it will for I can
not be better than I am - I left Mr. H. & C. to follow
their own pursuits & I went to Dr. Hastings who had invited
me to meet her in Dr. Hamilton's Gardens - there were several
Ladies there whose names I did not hear - we staid there an
hour & then separated - I returned to Major Murray &
went with them to the Villa Gardens to see the Friewalds
which were very pretty - 31/ after breakfast I shall
go to pick up the visit the Ladies -

(Now my dearest & best friend) I must
take my leave of you for a few days -
for tomorrow I shall take a little
tour to Cowslip Green - Dr. Monahan - Lady Hunt -
Adieu then my charming Mary - Embrace
our dear child for me very very often - and believe
that it is impossible for one person to love another
more than I love you -

Yr. Ever
Most Affly
P. D.

May mention me in the kindest
and best of manners to George
and Mr. Morrison is not forgot - he has always my good
wishes

R/ Tincture of Red Rovers - 4 oz
of this I took at first 1/2 of the salt - 1 Drachm
a little of each way 1/2 of Violets - 6 Drachms
5 hours - now I take a glass
the first & last thing I mean to say as soon as I get up - & just before
I go to bed - it is a very strong one, but you may continue to make it
palatable for Louisa, I really think it would be of service to her - I might
say it is in very small quantities - Dr. F. having's youngest child was
so cracked that she was as crazy about them as you are for Louisa &
by all sorts they were much worse - how no persons legs are cracked



My Dr MacLennan
(E. Mr Dickson has flattered me

with the pleasure of seeing you in the Spring, I hope
you will not disappoint me as I am very desirous of seeing
yourself & your Dr Lister I hope to write more very soon
I am Dr Keble's your very obliged
W. Keble

To
Mrs Johnson
Great North
Chapel Street
Wharfedale
York.

My d. - M. D.

Your Husband is wonderfully well, & is in excellent spirits, he is in full employ, which is the best specific against languor - He tells me that you are uneasy about him but I really think there is no occasion - I never saw him look so well. - Louisas Legs are crooked, if you suspect them to be occasioned by a tendency to rickets, I would advise you to bathe her legs up to her knees ~~and~~ over them, in a pail of warm water, rubbing them well with Reats foot oil, the former every other night, the latter every night - & give a little physick once a week, but if there are no other signs of rickets than the legs, then only use the oil & good rubbing, & the bow will go off as she gains strength. Adieu God bless you may all comfort attend you & prosper your affairs M. E. R.