

14M11/10/2/15

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My dear Mrs. Johnson!

Many thanks for your kind, but
unpleasant letter, which has indeed dis-
turbed me very much, for tho' I was I believe
more aware of my poor Aunt's doubtful state
than you were (not having seen her so lately
as myself) ~~yet~~ I had not any idea she was
so bad as you represent her to be, I have
written three times ^{to her} since the 1st of November
I have had no answer to any of my letters
about a month ago I begged ^{her} to ask a friend of
mine or brother to write for her what she
did at the same time to me the thought
her letter. Knowing the misery this missing
of answering letters causes her I do not write

as frequently as I otherwise should which I find
the commission thinks unkind. I wish to find
it were in our power to do anything that would
better & relieve her miserable situation, but I
fear it is impossible, for as to our living ^{much}
with her, I plainly see all the objections you
say that I believe is what she much wishes &
which I doubt not would be of service to her could
we either of us live it, but I suppose of I only
stay with for a few days & the very spirits are
in general good I am perfectly wretched the
whole time I am with her. I am every day
saying she would pay her a visit at Kettle but they
think such a point of it that she was fearful
she might think her unknown of the way to
appear, under the present circumstances I
do not see a possibility of her doing it she cannot
therefore decline going in as delicate a manner
as she can, Fanny's visit to her having
been longer deferred than she expected owing to her

not being at liberty to receive her visit of course
I think her longer in town than she expected as her
I wish from both the ways perhaps go to Boston
now in the spring or that even Fanny will probably
go with her by that time I hope something
will be settled between us soon which will
enable her to think of settling herself in Northampton
for as that seems the place she preferred you are
as kind as to promise to do what you can towards
introducing her to some of your friends I should be
minutely sorry if any thing should occur to prevent
her going there. I am now going to ask the advice of
James & Mr. D upon a subject which has long dwelt
much upon my mind, you will know the kind of
the build & how long have ever shown and what I can
with health say concerning every day, I therefore I should
be sorry to do any thing to disturb them but do you think
I ought or ought not to leave them when Fanny
settles at Northampton, much as I esteem my
kind friends you will readily believe that my own

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instructions had come to work to him with my
 dear sister but believe me I would give up every
 idea of it if you & I would think I should be ~~thought~~
^{acting} ~~as~~ ⁱⁿ ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~unwise~~ ^{unwise} ~~by~~ ^{by} towards the best best. It may perhaps
 be said by some of my friends that I ought not to
 give up my sister for them, but in her ~~present~~
 present state of health I fear she would think me
 ungrateful in leaving her - I am sure you will
 be very sorry to hear she has been very alarming
 by times six weeks past & she still continues in a
 most precarious state, It is thought she never
 will recover this attack but I think she will for I
 have seen her as she before, you will I fear
 have some difficulty in digesting this news but
 I am sitting in her room to night that she may
 may get a good night's rest, it is now past 3 o'clock
 the wind has been very strong & the noise now
 rising above the room so, that I like a fool am frightened
 the not so much as I used to be at the Black Cots
 that are used of clearing Parlor at Brighton the first year
 I spent with you, I know it is very absurd I hope to

I have enclosed a letter for my Aunt but have
not taken any notice of having heard from
you, have been you are in wishing her to lengthen
her stay with you for I am your mother and
not in a state to have with her comfort and
inconvenience, what a comfort would it have been
to us had either of the very near relations
been in a situation that we might have enjoyed
each others society but I fear that is what we
may never dare look forward to, God grow any
longer Aunt Anne may not then be worse than
she now is, but I fear we must be prepared for
an event which will be far more dreadful
than ^{since} a release from her sufferings. ~~by~~ ^{and} seeing
her yet worse or far indeed I have a very sincere
affection for her and am fully sensible of all her afflictions
and the great regard she has for us poor

Brighton February Fourteenth 1868

Mr Dickenson

Leighton House

S. Asaph

Bedfordshire



Remember me with love to Mr & Mrs Downie &
tell them we give our greatest love to the children
Henry & Martha

