

NAM 1/15/217

Eastbourne 30th June 1780

Did my Mother know how my fully my time is
employ'd she would not be so unreasonable, I have
at this time ten letters unanswered upon my table,
- I was however very sorry the post should go away
yesterday without a letter for you - Phebe was the
occasion of it, for she had written me a very long &
friendly letter, & it would have been highly improper
for me not to have answer'd it immediately.

I have been a good deal indisposed - a pain in my back,
& violent cold in my Head - this has prevented my
Bathing w^{ch} I had intended doing before now - I
have not been confin'd to y^e house - my cold is better,
& y^e pain in my back is gone.

Perfecta is much pleased wth your remembrance &
both she & Mr. Bryneres desired me to present their
best Compl^{ts} - y^e latter said a great many fine things
but you have so many fine things said to you
daily, that I won't tire you with repetitions.

How comes it, y^t y^e Dr. of Amster is at Tunbridge
- poor Woman! my Heart bleeds for her, - pray

continue to
send me all y^e intelligence you can about her & her y^e useful or elegant. Mr. Ashill, reads to us in
Daughters. — is Lord Althorpe better?

The more I am acquainted with our society y^e
more I approve, & like them — Mr. Ashill is
about 27 — handsome, modest, ^{amiable} & well bred, I
believe he was, ~~but~~ ^{before} he was appointed preceptor
to R.E., pursuing y^e study of y^e law — he appears
to have profited by a liberal education, reads,
& recites remarkably well — writes poetry in an
easy, elegant manner, — at least if I can judge
from a translation of a Latin Epitaph he gave
Perfecta the other morning. — Mr. Fisher is in
the Church, he is some years older than Mr. A.,
about 35 — he has not y^e same advantage of person,
yet there ^{is} nothing disagreeable — his countenance
is an index of his mind — w^h I really believe is
perfectly amiable — he has ~~great~~ talents, taste, &
genius — he draws finely, & is continually taking
advantage of this delightful accomplishment
by taking views of every prospect worthy his
pencil — he has travell'd ~~around~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~country~~ ^{the}, & nothing
seems to have escap'd his observation, either of

English — Mr. Brymner in French — & Mr. Fisher
is giving ^{P.R.P.} me instructions in drawing — he has
given me a task for Landscapes — the gentle
men take it by turns to explore y^e country
for us — & then are our guides to the most
picturesque points of view &c &c &c.

Yesterday we went to Devensay — the Noble
Ruin of a Castle of that name is worthy
observation — I wish you could have seen me
clambering up the ruins & seated in what
they call'd y^e Baron's chair — perch'd like a
Magpie — King William y^e Conqueror landed
here — & Oliver Cromwell destroy'd this vast
& noble Building — I want much to know
more about it — but I could get no further
intelligence — I suppose in some of y^e descriptions
of y^e Antiquities of England one may meet
wth some account of it — ask Sir Robert.

I have yet said nothing of the advantage we
experience by the vicinity of Eastbourne Place

Lady Betty Compton to whom it belongs, has politely
given their R^{ts} of privilege of going thither
whenever they chuse - we daily walk in the
Gardens & grounds - ~~the~~ children can there
enjoy y^e. benefit of shade - & we have the
liberty of going into y^e. House whenever we
please - we often spend an hour in the
library - the House is not Modern - but it
is ^{pretty} large, convenient, & well calculated for comfort
& society. it is in perfect repair - & has the
elegance of neatness beyond what I ever saw.

You tell me Bell is unwell - I hope she
has no return of y^e. complaint that alarm'd you so
much at Bath - my love to her, & tell how very
sorry I am to know she is not well - & y^t she
has ~~my~~ best wishes for a speedy recovery -
indeed my Dear I cannot begin a correspondence
wth Miss T - had I once done so I should
not have been so impolite as to have drop'd
it - but as it is, she cannot expect a letter
- My best Compl^{ts} to her - but pray do not yet
me a new correspondent - besides, I never write