

VAM/1/7/5/9

Lisbon. Saturday April 14. 1786.

It has pleased God that we should at last arrive here yesterday after a very stormy comfortless voyage of eleven days, and in health sufficient to bear a more trying scene than my utmost apprehensions had figured to me, though thank God not so dreadful a one as it might have been; for three weeks ago, there was not the smallest expectation of my dearest dearest Brother's life - his disorder at that time was they think at its crisis, for it has since turned to a violent and painful attack on his Bowels, strong enough to destroy any person in perfect health, but to him it seems to restore strength, I supposed by removing the obstructions that had oppressed him, - when I say it restores strength to him I must add that you cannot, (or they say we either) have an Idea of the weakness to which he has been reduced, he appeared lifeless for 24 hours in his last attack, and was for a long time unable to speak, hear or lift his hand to his head, and in this state he was, just about the time that we were at Exeter, so think my Dear ——— if the worst had happened, there would have been no opportunity of stopping us, and the conclusion of our voyage yesterday, during the whole of which my Brother was in a state of suffering and illness, must I think with such a blow, have made an end of her. I can hardly recover the horror which such an Idea gives me, though I am sure it ought to increase our thankfulness for finding him as we do, not only alive and in a recovering way, but really free from disorder except that attack on his bowels which they look on to be the saving of his Life. we anchored about 12 or 1. O'clock yesterday, and got on shore at two having apprized my Brother - of our arrival by Mr. Conger who went off

off with the first Boats. Mr. Graham was so good as to come into our Boat, and was the first person that gave us an idea of the dreadful state my Brother had been in, and of his present reduced one; — which he did in so gentle and gradual a manner as enabled my Mother and all of us to bear the shock better than we could have hoped, but no preparation c^d fit us for supporting the first sight of him — however thank God he does not seem the worse for it to day, and Dr. Hare & Dr. Payne both repeatedly assure us that they look on him as at present out of danger.

My Mother is as you will believe quite unable to write, indeed I have not told her I am doing so, for I meant to write only one Letter to Mr. Habbach to be shewn to all our friends; however my Dr^{ts} — I have since found time for this, and I know their — and your dear — are so gracious and good in their enquiries that I thought you might wish to have such an amount as you c^d keep by you, which could not have been the case with that which Mr. Habbach is to carry to every body — My Mother is I think better of the disorder she has had in her Stomach during our whole expedition, but not well — the sea sickness did her harm rather than good — H^c bore it better than I expected

Y^{rs} sincerely J. H

we are in the same Hotel with my Brother, which is a great
Comfort.