

My dearest Clara

Blany in letter by 1. 1776

NAM 11/8/7/21

I am quite penetrated with sorrow to hear that you are & have been so extremely ill - I quite hate M^{rs} C for her want of feeling - for she assured me she never saw you look better - that you was in good spirits - & that you had been perfectly well - I am not a little anxious to know what occasioned that agitation of spirits you hint at - for believe me my dear friend I never can be indifferent when your happiness is concerned -

- Surely, Surely my Clara you was not in earnest when you told me. You imagined my sentiments with respect to you w^d vary with my acquaintance - nor can I allow you to say "my superiors in every respect" was they equal to you Clara in sentiment we should have many shining characters in high life - of w^{ch} there is but too great a dearth -

I am quite astonished & vexed to find you have not rec^d more of my letters - I can account for it no other way - ~~that~~ (L. J. D.) has suffer'd in it. Some

~~However~~ - for many letters she wrote to her friends
the finds have never come to hand, than attributing it
to y^e dishonesty of a Vallet De Place (who was
detected in an unfair action) - & who was charged
wth our Letters to y^e Post Office - we imagine he
put y^e Money given wth y^e Letters in his Pocket &
then destroyed them - if you had directed to Dover
as I desired - y^e Letters would have been safely forwarded
by y^e People of y^e Office - I will now my dear for
your amusement transcribe ^{y^e chief part of} my Journal - no criticism
or remarks I pray burn it as fast as you read it
for it will not I know, bear a re-perusal
Tuesday 30 Left London - dined at Rochester where y^e
Mr. P. & Mr. T. joined our party - slept at Canterbury
we did not omit taking an observation of that
vast body wth almost obscured y^e light of the
Moon, & wth had a very singular & extraordinary
appearance - I leave y^e description to astronomers
& it would be presumption in me Clara to tell
you any thing about it.

Thursday Wed. Moras - I was y^e only person in
company who had not seen y^e Cathedral, L.P.L. &
D. who were all goodnature & attention to me would
not suffer me to leave Canterbury without
seeing it - we went after breakfast - I was
much pleas'd with this Noble & venerable
Structure - Vast in size - & the Architecture
~~plain & elegant~~ plain & elegant - no Pictures
or remains of Romish Ornaments or
decorations - under y^e body of the C. is a
large french Church. - About one o'clock
got to Dover - the corn fields was not y^e least

apprecable objects we pass'd - y^e stalks loaded
with grain of y^e most beautiful rich sort
of Gold - but yet no appearance of Harvest - the
Fields were quite luxuriant - the Hops too in
the most beautiful state - at our arrival at
Dover met Mr. Carter & Miss Cooper - they remained
at our Inn till y^e Evening - the carriages were
put on board y^e Ship - y^e wind & tide against us
for this day - In y^e Afternoon I walk'd up y^e steep
Hill to the Castle - a sight worthy of observation
- 30 Acres of Land are inclosed within its
walls - w^{ch} are now of no great use - y^e walls of
y^e Square Tower of Julius Caesar are still
remaining - its preservation is of consequence
to y^e Curate of the Church here for he has 30
P. An. whilst it remains standing - a Tower
Lower is close to y^e above & it is call'd y^e Belfry
- Admiral Brooke in y^e Reign of Queen Anne
After obtaining a Victory; - on his return
to England - desired permission to remove
~~these~~ the Bells in it (w^{ch} were put up in
y^e time of J. C.) to Portsmouth - were they
now are - there are 400 Men now in Garrison
at y^e Castle - they have comfortable & neat barracks
- a most remarkable Well 360 feet deep is in-
closed within a building - it was sunk in y^e time of
J. C. a large Wheel turn'd by 6 men draws y^e water up
to y^e top - there is always 20 feet water in it, &
what renders it still more remarkable is y^e echo -



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I heard a Pin w^h I threw in beat against y^e.
sides of y^e. well - & then heard it distinctly
fall into y^e. water - a small ~~stone~~ stone thrown
in - when it reaches y^e. water sounds like
y^e. report of a Pistol - y^e. noise increasing accord-
ing to y^e. size of whatever is cast in - it bris-
only a few feet - a fine Chalk Cliff forms y^e.
rest of this well - a Man has ventur'd to y^e.
Bottom without being annoy'd by y^e. damp. -
Queen Elizth Pocket Pistol is another of y^e.
Curiosities they show you; - an immense
~~gun~~ formidable looking Cannon - they
would have shew'd us y^e. Governor's apartments
- but we thought it too late - I was very
much fatigued wth walking down this Steep
Hill - spent the remainder of y^e. evening in
a sociable manner at our Inn -
Thursday Morn^g - Wind still contrary - the
Sailors & Capt^t tell us y^e. passage is safe -
& the wind make little difference at this time
of the Year - L^y. apprehensions alone
keeps us here - for she always suffers so
much from sickness &c. &c. - y^e. younger part
of us - are as patient as young people
can be - who have no fears - & are eager
to have their Idea's realiz'd - walk'd before
dinner upon y^e. Pier head - saw several ships
go out & come into y^e. Harbour - the Sailors to