

SH:7/ML/161

[Address Panel]

Rec[eive]d Sat[urday] 5th. Feb[ruar]y 1825
answered same day

Miss Lister
Shibden Hall Halifax

Yorkshire
Angleterre

[Page 1]

Paris. Quai Voltaire 15. Sun. eveng. 30 Jany. 1825

I rec[eive]d your letter my dear aunt, on Friday; and, tho, I cannot help fidgeting myself a little about all your trouble in getting a cook, it is still a nameless satisfaction to me to be assured you yourselves are all well – I tell Cordingley what concerns her friends, and not much more; for it only makes her uneasy – She inquired so particularly the other day, I was obliged to say, you had got a young person from Muirfield, whom you thought likely to suit you – Here ended my communication on this disagreeable subject – I really do feel for you, my d[ea]r a[un]t, exceedingly; and I am again in a hundred minds whether or not to send off Cordingley – I shall see my medical man on Tuesday or Wednesday – much will depend on what he says – with Mrs. Barlow, I can do without Cordingley quite well – However, do not trouble yourself to think of this – If you do not hear more of it by letter, in a day or two, conclude I have determined to keep her, in the hope that a few weeks will get over better than my fears have hitherto allowed me to anticipate – I do not mean to say one word more definitive about the time of my return, till I am absolutely ready to be off – for, surely, the next day fixed, shall not be fixed in vain – I know you think of me often; and one of the most agreeable reveries I can have, is of the welcome that will greet me

[Page 2]

home again – I really do hope, I shall return in perfect health – tho' rather paler than usual, they all think me looking better; and, so satisfied am I on this point, that nothing annoys me but this unlucky business about your serv[an]ts – But do not fancy, I let it do me any harm – Besides I feel stronger than when I wrote to you last, - not so much weakened by my baths – I begin to enjoy them exceedingly, take them just before dinner, and walk there and back – it is but a step from here to the other end of the Pont-royal; and it seems to me, that the Bains Vigier

are the best, and most comfortable in Paris – the weather is still good – a little frost now and then in a morning, but delightful walking in the gardens – we had 2 or 3 snow-showers on Tuesday, but they left scarce a momentary trace behind; and we have had no return of them since – I am glad, you have at last had a fine fortnight – But one of my great comforts is, that the people have given up the proposed road from Wainbridge to Pump – this will be one annoyance off my uncle's shoulders - The Brighthouse road by ~~from~~ Whitehall to Denham Gate, and the 2 parties about it, are new things to me - I am happy, however, to find that my uncle does not trouble himself at all about either one or the other - It was attentive in Isabella to send the game – Her not writing, was the mere effect of idleness; and I shall be glad if you write a short letter – She will me[sic] much pleased to hear from you; and, sh[oul]d your pages not be gone before your receipt of these, do give my love, and say I rec[eive]d her last on Saturday-week, made the best resolutions in the world to answer it immediately,

[Page 3]

and still renew them daily, in the hope of keeping them better in time to come – But, I know not how it is, I never in my life was so little in the humour for epistolizing – I feel rather languid and tired in a morning, & get up late; - and the day is gone, before I have had time to do anything – Do bear witness of this to Mariana – She has thought me very idle, and has not, perhaps, made all the allowances I deserve – I am glad, you are to have her for a few days – and only sorry I cannot be of the party – As I have never been sanguine about her father's recovery, my hopes are not very buoyant at present – I wish she may not be herself knocked up by the harass ^of mind^ and body, which must be attendant on such a journey – tell me particularly how you think her looking – I have a thousand fears of ^her^ being bilious, and unwell, and unstrung altogether – Surely the quiet of Shibden will do her good- my best love to her, and to you all - what ^message^ shall I send to Hotspur? Lance his gums by all means – this, if at all well done, can give him little pain; it is that barbarous, because unnecessary, operation of burning out the lampas, to which I so object – Lancing, - as we sh[oul]d lance our own gums, - is quite another thing – But the horse cannot be very bad, if he eats his hay & corn well, & is cheerful and in good condition – I am sorry Mr. Sunderland has been so much indisposed – my father seems to continue quite well – It is far the best that neither he nor Marian know the real motive of my protracted stay here – I am really quite as comfortable as my present circumstances can permit – I told Mrs. B- how much you all felt obliged to her for her so great

[First End]

kindness and attention to me – She thinks about my having this sort of pudding and the other, and takes as much care of me as even you could do –

I shall never forget my obligation to her – on first beginning this plan, ye [the] discipline &c. made me rather low; and she used to bring her work, and sit with, and amuse me, in the kindest manner possible – She is well-informed, ~~bu~~ and has seen enough of the world to make her know how to be agreeable when she chooses – Her daughter is a very pretty little girl – I begin to know all about Guernsey – There seems to be a

[Second End]

very good society there; and the island, tho' not so well wooded as Jersey, must yet have many beauties – I have never any Parisian news to tell you, you cannot learn from the English papers - after all, it is supposed the project of lowering the interest of the French funds, will be carried - ^The project is to come on in the Chambre des Députés, in a few days^ - I wonder what Isabella has done with her money - I must say, as I have always said, I had rather have mine at home - This is a very pleasant place to spend a little while in; but I w[oul]d neither live here, nor have my property here. I cannot fancy an Englishman happy in any country but his own - again my love to you all, and to Mariana; and believe me, my dear aunt, ever most affectionately yours

A.L -