

Dear Sir

I find it difficult to begin my letter without apologising for my long silence. You know all the old objections - about the peculiar state of mind, & the circumstances that I have been so much at home engaged in reading, & that nothing new has occurred to me - this the same now, but I begin to fear you will be anxious about me, so will not longer postpone to tell you that I am well (I might have said that I have written to no one for a long time, not even to Mr. Owen De. But to see that letter most flatteringly repeated to me to write soon. I comply with request & contribute.) I have had a little sorrow & contrition, which I found very agreeable as exercise, for with sitting so much at home I was getting into too good flight.

I was greatly surprised yesterday by the appearance of Jimmy Ham, who just comes from Italy, & means to pass a few days here. He has been good deal alone lately (which does not suit him) & is very happy in meeting an old friend here, it is a cordial to him. I shall of course give up a good deal of my time to him both as a duty & as a pleasure. He is, as you know, a man of a most excellent heart.

Every thing is quite quiet at Paris - people  
are occasionally sent away - but nothing of that  
appears in the  $\&$  Newspapers. I should know  
nothing of it but from Smithell, who lives  
very much in the fashionable world, & hears  
of all these little matters.

Every body ~~the~~ almost has been ill here  
of a complaint called the Gripp - but it has  
extended over further than that & there has  
been a considerable mortality - I do not hear  
that it has attacked the English: for myself  
I have been very well.

I called on a friend ~~the~~ some days ago, who  
was very ill (an Englishman <sup>ill</sup> ~~ill~~ of the gripp)  
& who ~~at~~ should I discover in the Physician  
who attended him but the gentleman who  
once took gave me a lift on the Bury road  
& with whom I spent the evening at  
the 6 Bells at Mary - Dr Maclean,  
Physician to the Embassy - I recollect  
him by means of his name, & he immediately  
recognised me as the person who had been so  
polite as to accompany him to Mary so he  
expressed him self) & seemed very glad to see

me. He gave me his address and we have renewed our acquaintance — There is a singular pleasure in rencounters of this kind & especially when one is remembered to advantage. You'll excuse me — you know I seldom get thro' a letter without some piece of vanity. The English here are very much displeas'd with our Ambassador — They say he takes no notice of them — I speak of people of Distinction, w<sup>th</sup> he never takes notice of — you will very probably see something of it in the papers.

The death of the Marquis of V. has been a very great loss to me. it has prevented Madama de S. from coming to Paris for her Mother has chosen, in consequence of that death to go & take up her residence at S. & I am afraid will stay there all the winter, but indeed ought now to be fading away into spring, seeing that we have had a good allowance of sharp frost. When we complain of the cold here the French generally insinuate that coming from England we ought to be pretty well us'd to that. "I suppose Sir in England you have much colder weather." "Is not I assure you the climate of London & Paris are much alike" — "But Sir, the difference in Latitude is 2 degrees!" "Some say but for all that Sir." This dialogue I have heard & acted a part in many times. Pray let me hear from you very soon. 4. 2. 1773

Hotel de Paris Rue de la Loi. *Wednes Day*  
9th Feb 47.

I

been  
that is  
I do

The Rev Mr Manning

Sts Norfolk

England

~~MS~~

