

Mrs D. Britten Jun.
Grand Place,
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Essex.

to alter and soften the habits & manners. Would that poor Mrs. Lyne
had sufficient influence over her brute of a husband to humanize
him. Her own family as well as myself have been cruelly deceiv-
ed in flattering ourselves that he was amended in his temper &
conduct. She had long ceased to utter the least complaint of his
barbarity, & his speciousness before her friends led them all to hope
that they were more comfortable. But she has been & is still
poor soul dangerously ill; & the Fever running so alarmingly
high as to occasion delirium, she has when under its influence
unconsciously torn the mask from off the wretch, & betrayed
such conduct & circumstances, as are dreadful to hear of.
It is more than a fortnight that she has been
attended by a physician from Southampton, who at first had no
hope of her, but has now pronounced her out of immediate
danger, if there is no return of Fever, which has left her so
excessively weak from her frantic ravings that she seems ready
to sink from exhaustion - Judge if you can, what his feelings
must be, to be conscious, & to be told, & acknowledge, that he
is the sole cause of all her sufferings. I hear he looks perfectly
ghastly, & will he may. "A wounded spirit who can bear?" The
story is too long to relate here, if I were inclined to shock
you. I know no one out of my own family for whom
I am more truly concerned. - Oh Jane! the more I see & hear
of the married state, the more I become convinced that

BATH
SUPER

Dear Sir,
I have the pleasure to inform you that your letter of the 10th inst. has been received.
I am sorry to hear that you are unwell, and hope that you will soon be able to return home.
I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. [Signature]

The single in the bargain, will maintain my opinion as you did yours
against a host of opponents, and will enforce my argument by example -
that I am resolved. There was a time I even when I thought differently
and my change of sentiment will perhaps be thought to originate in
disagreements - and so it was, but it is in the cases of those around me,
not in my own individual person. Both the Misses Boutwell for instance,
were considered greatly fortunate in managing so well. - But the best turns
out very differently to what was anticipated, & to be tied to such a wretch
as one half as bad as the other. Good Heaven! I'd rather be in my grave
I tell you what Jane - a single woman may be happy if she will;
a married one will if she can - ^{ardon this digression.} By the time we return from
Hargrave the spring will be pretty far advanced, & we shall expect Sam &
Eliza to fulfil their engagement of paying us a visit, after which it
is possible we may all return together - but this is entirely conjecture.
The Doctor was again a prisoner all that week, with a slight return of gout
in his hand, but it is so much better as to admit of his driving me out yes-
terday in the gig & a delightful ride we had. Sister I regret to say has been
suffering with an attack of her old complaint & tho she seems to have pretty
well shaken it off again, yet it has robbed her of the flesh & good looks she

like mine, are quiet. The change and addition are very
pleasant and they are both very cheerful, we enjoy ourselves
much. The weather has been favourable to our health
about as much as it could be. When Mr. Clark came
to supply this place he remained from Monday till Saturday
day, & the hunting season having rather increased his task
advantage of the Concord meeting twice in the neighborhood
to visit them, & was allowed in the evening to play
backgammon with Miss Campbell. I am a little more
tired a size of half an hour from dear little Billy in
way, and the picture of nature on her appearance. The
my little girl daughter, a great favorite of his. Miss Brown
is not much bigger nor quite so agreeable but very well.
The beginning of next month I shall be visiting Miss
C's eldest brother to pass a few days before he takes his
home, and soon after they have all left my share I
shall go to Hargrave, the meeting pastor Mr. W. Parker, having
been here with a joyful invitation to that effect, with
the additional request of the Doctor's standing sponsor to
see him on his journey in fall go & christenize the young
man. Mr. Parker said a few days with his, & I was really
almost surprised to see how greatly matrimony had improved
him. - And was certainly not so much as I had anticipated.
I can scarcely describe the scope for his abilities.

had picked up. For myself I am happy to say I am quite well, and therefore
my being this far from home is no inconvenience whatever. I was aware of your having part-
ed with your little Jane - you had talked of requesting your mother to do, before it
left home, but as I was aware you had engaged Mr. Mackay till Christmas, we
agreed that it would be better to defer it till after that time. I understood
Mr. Holt & his interesting little family have been staying at Walden, so
that you would have a nice play fellow. Your description of the dinner party
at St. Andrew's was extremely interesting. Mr. Lyford is indeed an oddity & Mr. Henry
Francis is a remarkably gentlemanly, well informed young man -
I can scarcely comprehend which of the Gentles you met. The Lady answers
to Mr. Henry Barker, & the gentleman to Mr. Thorpe. I thought most probably
both parties would have been there - I received a letter a short time
ago from dear Charles - his spirits are excellent & he informs me
the time is very near approaching, when he hopes to become a
father, & though he shall be a very young one, he hopes to do his duty
by his child, & to bring it up as to what himself has been brought up -
And now my dear Jane let me beg you to present my kind regards
to your father & mother; have you heard from your Brother in Russia?
With my kindest love, and I must be come to your good