



London 30th July 45

My very dear friend

I received your very kind letter and it affords me no small gratification to perceive that you still think me worthy of your esteem and confidence. I trust my dear Miss M that I may ever prove worthy of it and that you will never have cause to regret it. But sincerely hope that our friendship begun upon earth may continue and be enjoyed in that happy state of which we both hope to participate and which we believe will endure ~~with~~ ^{through} a never ending eternity.

I feel pleased to know that you have fallen into such agreeable society at Harpenden. It will indeed refresh your mind after so much excitement. For I know that even at your best you are only delicate and susceptible to melancholy depression. But hope you will be benefited strengthned and comforted by the Christian and salutary advice of your dear friend Mrs K.

You wish my dear friend to know of my
present prospects I cannot write anything very
favourable I daresay you could not fail to
discover while I was in Coimbra that I wanted
much of that self confidence and perseverance
which are so essentially necessary to improve
worldly circumstances This I feel to be a
constitutional defect which I cannot overcome
and which must always obstruct my worldly
prosperity I do regret it For if I always realize
my wishes shall consider myself blessed and
still more so if I enjoy the favour of God
this will be far more advantageous than worldly
honour wealth or fame I feel at present
far from being settled very little persuasion
would induce me to leave London. Aunt's
health is rapidly ~~on~~ the declining and I think
the Autumn season will tell all about her
This event may change my present resolves
For I must tell you that I shall in a great
measure yield to one whose happiness is as
dear to me as my own I know she is
inclined for Scotland and should she pay
a visit to it that would decide the point
in its favour

I shall my dear friend think it a great favour and it will be kind of you to write her this she wishes very much, if it be but half a dozen lines I am sure they will be esteemed and will not fail to obtain an answer. I do think that she would have written to you but she is so dreadfully harrassed with her Aunt's illness which leaves her very little time for writing. So let me beg of you to dismiss all feelings of delicacy about the matter. And try if you cannot think of her as a sister who is bound to you by a stronger tie than natural affection and who is desirous of sharing your esteem and sympathy in her present afflicted circumstances.

And now my dear Miss M. I must refer to a subject which of all others lies nearest your heart. But am afraid you will feel disappointed that I cannot in this letter give you my full and Christian advice. you are aware my dear friend that it is an intricate matter and requires a little calm consideration. and I would not by no means if I knew it advise you wrong altho I feel more and more convinced that my offhand opinion is tolerably correct which I need scarcely repeat, as you will not have forgot it.

However I will my dear friend, write you
another letter in which I will endeavour
to discuss the matter at all points so that we
may be able to form a clearer judgement, for
I can assure you that I feel considerable interest
in it and often think about you. And if I had
heard from you sooner I would have endeavoured
to let you know before this, but I was not sure
whether I had attained the honour of being acknow-
-ledged as one of your correspondents. However I
now feel more at liberty, and can assure you
with sincerity that next to my dear Betty, &
family relatives there is no one I know whom
I feel more desirous to correspond with than
yourself for during my short stay at your
parents the impression I received from your
kind and disinterested friendship will not be
forgotten. You must, do you hear, my dear Miss, so
remember what I told you that I am a very
rough correspondent. So your good nature must
excuse the many imperfections which I ^{you will} see in
this miserable scrawl. I have a many things
to say but find I have not room, so must
defer them untill the next, my kind regards to
Miss Matthee & my kindest love to your dear Parents
and all the branches of your family and believe
me my dear friend to be your sincere & affectionate
Brother Robert Blyth