

Transcription of MS. Eng. lett. c. 706, fols. 16-18

MS. Eng. lett. c. 706, fol. 16r

Dec[embe]r [18]19

To Fanny

Dark & Joy

Enter Pakenham ^one corner of^ handkerchief at eye
– & in great rage – those impertinent
Sheep! – What do you think Maria – Just
now I went to drive them away from
Honora's plot & bed & the moment I
had driven 'em off when I turned my back
one came up & set his great head against
My – behind & knocked me down
I never saw such a sheep in
my life – and he ran after
me to the steps – almost

fol. 16v

to do anything without you

So now good b'ye that you may not
be afraid I am writing too much & hurting
my eyes – I have never passed my
2 hours
at Rosamond & take such regular exercise
– and am in short a miracle, an epitome
of virtue – Come & say for me

Yours Affec^{te}

Maria E

Do not detain the Roof a {port} because
you see I have detained it a day
by sending it to you
I forgot to say that D^r. H concludes
with a side line of I saw the Carrs

{written on the side}

yesterday & admired much
Miss C's Irish sketches
which however make me

rather angry with myself
for having been twice in
Ireland without seeing
Killarney.

MS. Eng. lett. c. 706, fol. 17r

Dec: 22^d. 1819

My dearest Fan – dearer to
me than sandalwood
tortoises shell or ivory
thank you for your
most kind words which
express all I have felt
– for there was such a
blank in my room &
such a silence when I went
to bed the first night after
you went away that I was
quite melancholy and
I wanted you every hour
of the day – I am rather
angry with Foster for daring
to lie as he does with his
head on your pillow – ~~<The>~~
I stretch the old carpet
over your end of the bed
& there he lies & that is
the mourning for you till
you come back when
it shall go under the bed
again in a trice –

fol. 17v

– My dear I felt inexpressi
ble pleasure – (and there
for I try to express it)
on reading Crampton's
opinion of you – and
of Sophy – I shall end
by adoring that man.
In Brande's last num
ber fifteen
there are two or three cu

rious facts which I am
sure Crampton could
not have /had\ time to read
mention them to him
– They say that M Zamboni
has made a new voltaic
pile¹ – see page 177.
– – page 100 – Human electri
city – a D^r. Hartman (probably
a german fabulist-avers
that he can at pleasure draw
sparks from his little finger
or any part of his body –
I wish he had seen my
mothers exhibition of the
electrical petticoat
Page 102 look at effects of

fol. 18r

Cinchona² – a man cured –
of fever by sleeping in a
room with a great quan
tity of ~~bark~~ fresh bark ~~in~~
– simply by the effluvia –

See also – page 104} –
note averring that of 300
persons who had the
plague & took oil inter
nally but 12 died –

And pray look at the
sham bout page 100
with the white man &
Indian shaking hands
on her flag & the calumet³
& sword joining —

Inquire from les experts
what is meant by
“Her machinery is fixed
“to avoid the snape &

¹ The **voltaic pile** was the first electrical battery that could continuously provide an electric current to a circuit.

² **Cinchona** is a genus of flowering plants in the family Rubiaceae containing at least 23 species of trees and shrubs. All are native to the tropical Andean forests of western South America.

³ Calumet is a highly ornamented ceremonial pipe of the American Indians

“sawyers of the river

fol. 18v

are snape & sawyers
fish – or men & {??}
cables – as the lady asked
of the Eneid & Odyssey
So of a shell or a fish

My dear when I write
I feel as if I were talking
to you & can not stop

fol. 18r

– I have written only
two hours each day as
I promised – & have
done my 5 pages by
½ past one – am an
idle drone the rest of
the day – and have
walked out – 3 – 4 times
round – What a piece
of perfection I am!

I am glad you read
little dear Frances's
letter.
I asked Lovells leave to
send you the old
newspapers – better
old than none — that
smell of a newspaper
I know will do you
good – Don't be in a
hurry to come home

– I can live without you
Your affectionate
Maria E