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August 15<sup>th</sup> 1811

Oh my Dear Mr<sup>s</sup> Williams when last I saw you which was nine months ago  
 great as my affliction was there it was nothing to be compared with what we  
 now are suffering - I assure you that had I foreseen what a dread full scene of Misery  
 we were to have undergone the best supposition would have killed me. I have often  
 thought of you my Dear kind Mr<sup>s</sup> Williams - Dear to me for your own sake, and  
 dear still for your more than Parental Affection for my beloved Amelia. Dear & long  
 and long! thank God! She is spared this trial. Her tender heart would have been torn  
 severely by it. You will have heard from Sophia how great our distress has been, and how much  
 greater was from there not being the smallest apparent chance of the Mind getting any better.  
 All that nourishment and sleep can do, is to strengthen the body - but nothing of use can have  
 any effect on the Mind. It is the greatest example ever known, of what wear and tear an im-  
 paired Constitution can go through. I have all along had a very bad opinion of my beloved  
 Father's case - because his Affections could never be worked upon. In all his other illnesses,  
 he was rejoiced to see us - and we were beyond measure when we left him, even to such a degree  
 at times, as to occasion quite a scene of fasting in the forenoon, though he knew we were  
 to see him again in the evening - but this time, he had just the satisfaction of perusing and  
 his complaints, or telling his schemes to us, or to any body else, without casting in the least  
 the individual to whom he was speaking and wished us good by without the smallest  
 concern. You who know him, and what an Excellent and Affectionate Father he was, can  
 guess what a change this was - for though our reason told us too evidently that it was complaint  
 still our feelings were grieved, to see him so altered - since the 28<sup>th</sup> of May I have never seen  
 him but at a distance - and now probably I shall never see him again. For under his  
 melancholy state I would not see him for words, as I cannot see him. I could do him no  
 good, and he would not know me. As it is so very strong that he may last for a long time  
 though he is grown exceedingly thin. I know how much you have felt and do feel for  
 us.

often and I often talk of you as love you dearly. I think few things in your way  
thin and look conspicuously ill - but we keep up as well as we can and get on every day on  
convenient terms which has us glad to be for our minds and bodies. I am much concerned  
to hear of all the anxiety you have suffered on account of Mrs. Helmer. I trust this fine  
then and change of air may do her good.

I would tell you my dear that about a month ago Mrs. Robert Williams of Mill Hill was  
very good to send me a most beautiful umbrella. I begged Madame Aublet to thank  
her for me. I wish also you would be so good as to express my respects to her, and that you  
would add that I should value it very much in soon return the kindness in writing to her  
knowing how deeply I should be obliged to her whom I was so much attached. I hope you have  
good accounts of Henry - & that dear Charlotte and Jimmy are well. I say give my love to  
them both. I beg your little Mamma I have not the pleasure of seeing acquainted with  
but I am truly interested about all that is dear to you -  
God bless you my dear Mrs. Williams, when you  
Your very sincerely affectionate friend

Augusta