

Wednesday April 17th 1805 -

My most dear dear & best beloved daughter, this day
has I received your most dear & affection letter, how truly
do I want words to express what my little heart feels in
return for all the kindnesses & proofs of affection, but if you
know me as I hope you do my heart is filled with
my gratitude & believe the sincerity of these few words - that
you have done all the more a witness to my heart - I have
indeed been very ill since I came here, with one of the
happiest attacks of Rheumatism I have yet had, & which very
did for some days, but since Sunday I have again
continued not to consider the weakness & lameness, which
must be the consequence of such attacks I really am getting
well; this & this only accounts for my long silence, as you
could not see this has been heard from me, indeed I
must be made of very different materials, for what
I really am could I not very much forget you & my
dearest father & a mother, did I think of you that
I felt you would ever become here as I am your dear
kind heart, I have been sorry for my sufferings -
since that I have suffered much from the ill
you so often have me complain of, but they will have
that in the present situation it is owing to weakness
merely - As soon as I shall give down I'll be the
telling you what my dear said of me in her letter
- I am glad this once I have convinced her of my
good will, for indeed I always feel it towards her, if
only I have some little opportunity of proving my love
to her, & that I trust has succeeded - as to your coming

Now for the Constitution I did venture to say that it was worth
what it cost. and I tell you how happy it will make me
to see you again my very dear dear soul, & remember nothing
can afford me greater satisfaction than the being of the smallest
use to you, therefore have rejoiced I feel if I heard any thing
in the Pope about your coming home - but Providence seems
to be in sad sad mood. I shew no matter of them, but I cannot
but fear this this being attended with bad consequences,
for surely it is a great shame to Government - The thought
that is always with me, & never leaves me - I say to wit
only think of his coming there this - Day to wit with
me when I was so - but bless you my dear dear soul
say what is most kind & affect to my dear soul
& let me hear from you & tell me how you will
be in matters were with where I left them -

Believe me ever & affectionately

Your Affectionate attached & devoted

Steph

Do you not think that the grandeur of the Constitution is
just not not for me - Pray! how I wish it were
Dear Augusta is far from well she has had a very bad
Bil which has been opened & indeed her sufferings are very
great she has not the smallest chance of being out in June