

Letter from Marguerite Brooke

The post has arrived since I wrote the former part of my letter, but no news from John, or Ennis – I cannot think the meaning of it – I wrote the rest of this yesterday morning; I dined abroad in a company of six & twenty; I retired afterward (as is my custom) to visit my little charge, where I found a letter from Mr. Winder, which does not mention if any of you be dead or alive, this with my disappointment (of not hearing from my beloved John, made me return to the company with very dejected spirits – am I always to be as miserable about you all as I have been since I left your if I am, & my Doom is fixt (sic) to be long absent from you – God help me – however one piece of news Mr. Winder told me gave me unspeakable pleasure that was – My Dear Nancy Neville being safe over the small pox – what a happiness to her family; - Postage is so expensive I cannot write as often as I wish to some of my friends Mrs. Jebb is one of those I feel (?) regret for, as I am sure she has a sincere love for me, therefore I shall take it as a favour if you will now & then send her some of my nonsense to entertain her – Pray make my best compliments acceptable to Mrs. Lyons tell her she cannot wish for an acquaintance more than I do - as to the gentleman her brother assure him when he comes to St. Petersburg he may depend on a welcome reception – Pray excuse the many blunders in this epistle, but when I am hurried I cannot write correct which is the case at present – My duty to my Dearest Mother, love to William, & my Dear little Joe – Sam joins me also- Mr Baker desires his company – Uncle Jeffrey pops in his head this minute; who are you writing to? What's that to you pray – give my love to them says he – not hinded (?) not my time is too precious to spend it on trifles- I will forgive you this, if you will come, & dine with us today? I do not want your forgiveness however I will go – so I shall go, - he is worthy (?) man as ever was born (end of page 1)

I long for an answer to my letter on the 4th of Sept- adieu my Dear Matty & rest assured of the unalterable regard of your affectionate sister

Marguerite Brook

Kelly is (?) uneasy about her friends, they do not write to her – pray make (?) let them know this-