Lindenwalde Villa Lewisham
St April 2nd 1876.

My dearest Mary,

I feel I have disgraceably neglected you since my return home, from exhaustion to reopen wounds which are still too fresh to bear writing. But you want to hear all about poor dear Fathers last illness & I will now give you an account of it from the time I went down to Cheadon. You must understand Papa did not ask me to go down but the tenor of him made me so anxious that before I left he promised he wd tell me exactly how he found himself if he thought him very ill, he said to say I was going on a visit to

Clifton & we like to pay him a visit too — Uncle Arthur wrote at once saying I ought to go to him as he thought him very ill instead so I went straight to Chordon, I thought him looking much worse than I expected & quite thought he wd not live many days — I went on the 7th Monday — that day week Uncle Arthur left for Devonshire on the Thursday & Friday he had several fainting attacks & we thought he was sinking fast, it was then we telegraphed for dear Lottie — I thought she wd not see him alive but though he was very, very weak when she came he was quite sensible & able to speak to her collectedly — When as you know he rallied & Dr Percy thought he was so much better that we might hope for his ultimate recovery, he was able to be wheeled out, the fainting soon ceased & feeling perfect he was getting a little better & Uncle Arthur on his return from Devonshire thought him wonderfully better the only thing I did not understand was his wandering so much, his brain seemed so confused at times, but Dr Percy said it was all from weakness & that as he got stronger that wd go off — As Uncle Arthur was with him I went for a few days change to Clifton, I had an attack of lumbago & I knew as long as I was in the sick room I would never get rid of it & as I did not think he needed me with Uncle Arthur I took advantage of his visit to get away — Arthur promised me faithfully he wd telegraph for me if there was the least change & I made Mrs Harrison & Mrs Brodie do the same, I heard every day

[illegible]

[illegible] Monday

on my return [illegible]

[illegible] Mrs. Bethune

[illegible] the night

before the change took place

I was [illegible] down [illegible]

him for he was now able to

hold long collected conversation

though he seemed [illegible] the

[illegible] always talk but

his fault to me. On Wednesday

he had a [illegible]

& for he thought he was dying.

Mrs. Bethune & Anna [illegible]

from where he [illegible]

[illegible] he

was too [illegible] to do so

but he [illegible]

the bed & [illegible] the [illegible]

one on the [illegible]

to his room. "Oh I'm [illegible]

I'm dying — I'm so cold —

it was [illegible] to have them

there in a few minutes [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Thornton Hall 18th March

My dearest Arthur

My heart aches so

pitifully for you in this

terrible trial. May God

comfort you & strengthen &

all that you will

need. [illegible] Not believing

[illegible] your [illegible]

Father but [illegible] may

your mind [illegible] young

[illegible] Don't take [illegible]

for the [illegible] by your

Uncles [illegible] your [illegible]

[illegible] No money could

and your Uncle [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] effect it
would not [illegible] [illegible] before
the [illegible] [illegible] he acted
upon & [illegible] got from
your Father's accident
& [illegible] [illegible] induced him
[illegible] [illegible] Augusta [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] has [illegible]
[illegible] no one [illegible] [illegible]
Mary [illegible] till [illegible] had
[illegible] [illegible] your [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] affected for
longer [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] and
love [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

propriety [illegible] & [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] any one
I [illegible] only tell you my
[illegible] [illegible] you have
[illegible] [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Mary & you
[illegible] [illegible] of your dear
Father [illegible] you last saw
him [illegible] [illegible] not have
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
I [illegible] written to him
[illegible] about getting
your [illegible] [illegible] while
you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] be
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] you
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] as now

Mrs Trendall

Goes back to the Bronte to be with Aunt Helen

She (the latter) is keeping pretty well.

With very much love darling I am your loving devoted Sister Edith Turnbull

DARNLEE,
MELROSE, N.B.

October 14th 1879.

My darling Lister,

I am so very very glad darling that you are so happy - nothing could have given me more pleasure than to have heard such news from you. I do hope that you will have a long happy life together. He must indeed be devoted to you darling. Shall I write to him & tell him that I welcome

Cousin Violet sends her best love.

him as my brother
-in-law? I am
sure he must be
very nice. Is it to
his uncle's house that
you are going to? at
Bressingham. "I suppose
Mr. Simonds lives there.
How long shall you
be there dear? I
suppose you will come
North to be married,
won't you? It would
be so nice to have it
in the Cathedral! and
have Dr. Smith to give
you away. You must
get his photograph &
send it to me as soon
as ever you can. I
have not a very distinct
remembrance of his
face. How old is
he? Do you both
want to be married
soon, or is it to be
a long engagement?
(I hope not)
Have you written to
Uncle Arthur at all
about your engagement?
Do you know if he
is at Shorncliffe? I
have not heard from
him for such a
time! What does

Uncle Charles think of it all? How I long to be with you darling to have a good long talk about your happy prospects. The Scotch friends will all be sorry to hear that you are to settle so far south — won't they? ~~How~~ Shall you live at Reading or near it, do you think? Has Mr Simonds a house of his own? Is he an american or a Frenchman (De Lux) or an Englishman & what is he? (!!!)

DARNLEE,
MELROSE, N.B.

2)

Dear old girl, I am so glad for you. It must be so wonderful - so grand to be so much loved by a man - such an opening out of one's life and interests - I am sure dear, you have chosen well, & I don't wonder he is glad to have got you all to himself. I suppose I must not grudge parting with my dear "Fishwife" —

How pleased dear
Papa would have
been to see you so
comfortably provided
for! I wish he had
lived to see you
married. Aunt Kate
is very pleased about
your prospects & ~~thinks~~ you are a very
Sensible girl!!!
(This is a matter of fact
side of the question, isn't
it? There is something
far beyond and above
the "sensibility" of it —
isn't there? How
happy you must
be.
Of-course I will
write to you on
your birthday darling
fancy your being 22.
and me only 18!
at present (but 19
soon of-course)
Do you think your
marriage will come
off this year?

Dr Smith and Mrs Campbell are staying here just now on their way from Burnmouth to Edinburgh. I expect we shall all go ~~up~~ to Edinburgh together about Friday next. They send their best love to you. You must write to them soon & tell them of your happiness, won't you? Mrs Campbell looks much the better for her stay in Wales. Lella Turnbull & I are to be left together in Edinburgh while Aunt Kate