

DX 19/69 (4)

My dear Francis am
I very sorry
Laurie should have been so
disappointed, but thou couldst
have told her that the afternoon
thou left was not at all suitable
for females to be out in, and I
have told her so, then sorrowed
also but it was quite my intention
to have followed the next morning
the weather permitting, but it came
heavily on third day night and
the most part of fourth day, and
has done so with very little intermis-
sion every day since - and I believe
it is all for the best that I did

remain at home for I do not
think it would have been at all
kind to have left poor Edward -
neither should I have been com-
fortable to do so, altho' in many respects
it might have been better for me
to have gone he is mending but
slowly he looks very pale and is
dreadfully thin I sometimes
fear the pale messenger has
not done with us yet - oh! that
there may be a readiness to meet
him when whomsoever his dark
may fall - I am sorry to hear
that it so struck at with the
breathing, it is not the thing at all

time of life, I have not been at all
well myself, the wet weather does
not agree with me I^r has been very
unwell too, with some complaint in
his stomach he could not have
gone out I think if the weather had
allowed him to do so, James is also
complaining of rheumatism. Paris
and poor little Joe has broken
one of his ribs so we are but a
lame party here, he has been
able to attend to his cattle
feeding but he complains of the
pain a good deal and it has
been miserably wet and dirty work
for him poor thing, I wonder if

Joseph is on the Steamer I
rather think he is, as he did
not write the two last parts -
if any thing should happen
to prevent my returning this
week please see that "Gucci"
is attended to, he is the only
survivor now that I have to depend
upon had as he is - when people
take me to go and see them they
do not know how splendidly
I am provided with the means
Poor old Fredy looks as though he
has missed Edward - with