

DX 19/69/3

Belvedere 14/1/72

My dear Francis

I thought thou would perhaps expect a few lines from me next post, letting thee know that I am still in the land of the living but I cannot report much improvement in my health I am still very weak altho' the pain in my back ^{with} other ailments is less severe

There is nothing of interest to communicate that would be new to thee of course having so recently left home I expect by the time I am writing this (2 o'clock) thou will have nearly seen Hobart Town once more, which I shall never do again I hope thou had had fine weather with us it has been very cold particularly so this morning but I was not down stairs till nearly 11 o'clock

James and Edward we was to day
splitting shingles taking their dinner
with them, and I and Rachel are
gone to Swansea the former being in
a very unfit state to do so the inflammation
having returned in his head and
eyes he is a sad figure this time poor
Diana and I am truly sorry for him
fearing he will not lose the sight of the
other eye perhaps it will not be for long
none of our people went to the Lecture
last evening they did talk of doing so but
thought they could not spare the time
for it I hope they may yet enjoy
the fruit of their labors tho' I see it
not as I once hoped to do.

Sarah Cole told me yesterday that her
sister Mary did not intend to write
her any more, that her father told
her Mary had written to Lizzie to say
so Sarah thinks that the woman
Hooper has been writing to Mary

something to her disparagement
it is a dark affair altogether to my
mind I do wish more light might
dawn on the subject either Cole
must hold that woman in more
estimation than her sister or else
what? there is I think something
yet to be recalled if she believes
that sister to be the innocent girl she
once did she must be very cruel to
listen to that woman & her husband
& otherwise she must herself be
liberally guilty I can't write any more
now perhaps there will be something
to add in the evening

No letter for me this evening
only 16 attended the lecture last
night Alfred Smith said I am not
gave a very good lecture I think
James will do his writing & I will
say farewell and with kind love
to all not forgetting myself.
I am unaffectionately
yours