

VAM 11/6/4/2 London Portsmouth 4th 1.

Dear madam

Dec: 17th 1707

A letter from M^{rs} Dickenson must always
increase the joy of a recent happy event, or revive that of
of a former one; & I find my felicity increased by the part
you have the goodness to take in it, & have therefore great
pleasure in assuring you M^{rs} Matthew Montagu's health
is not impaired by the present she has made us of a
jolly boy almost as big herself. The Parents, & the Babe, are
now at Southampton, M^{rs} Montagu was a good deal out of
health all the Summer, but having been advised by his Physicians
boldly late in y^e autumn, to try the effect of sea bathing,
they prudently fixed on Southampton as affording a comfortable
retreat in the Winter, if he found benefit enough from bathing

to induce him to continue it during that season, I had the comfort
of seeing him come to town at the meeting of the Parliament
much improved in health. They left ye Child at Southwester
under the care of a trusty servant, & on Wednesday last ^{returned} thither
with a resolution to stay till the H. of Commons meets
after the holy days.

I am much delighted to find, that Mr. Dickenson & you intend
to come to town in the spring. I know it is unfashionable to
come to London before *Amuse*, but for my own part, I confess,
I love it best in its demi Saison character, when it is
neither a solitude nor a crowd. I had indeed a great mortification
at my coming to town in finding my amiable friend Mrs
Besey in a most declining condition. Your friend Miss [&] Glesher
humane attentions are a great comfort to her, minds like hers,
like aromatick herbs, & sweet flowers, even when wither'd &
decay'd retain a sweet odour. She is still affectionate to her
friends, & benevolent to all, but her mental powers are sadly
impaired.

I long to be introduced to dear little Miss Dickenson from

every season I expect to find her amiable.

All reports, true or untrue, are so circulated by the news papers
that it is not possible to send ones correspondents any news.

It is said Miss Pulteney is to marry Lord Anmeram, if Cupid
advises it, I think even the Goddess of Prudence cannot
make any objection to the Union.

I beg leave to present my best compliments to Mr. Dickenson
& that you would give a kiss for me to the dear little
Lady in token of future friendship.

With perfect esteem I am dear Madam

Yours most affectionate & obliged

Humble servant

Eliza Montagu

1 livre

M^{rs} Dickenson

Faseat

Chapel le Brith

Derbyshire



Mrs Montague
Dec 17th 1787