

time of the year. You cannot well imagine what a solitary place it is here. The sight of a human being is as great a rarity as we can have. We should not suppose there would be the least temptation to vice in such a place as this but the fact that there is convinces us that the principle is inherent in the human mind. I suspect you do not hold to total depravity, but I do. How - ever you and I will not quarrel about that. "It does really seem to appear to me" that there is an enormous degree of sin committed in controversy upon religious subjects. I think, reading, of a controversial <sup>character</sup> is very unprofitable as a general thing. I have read but very little this spring and winter still less. At recurrence of my old complaint prohibits me from doing almost every thing of a sedentary nature. If I did not know by experience, I should not believe that want of exercise would so immediately affect the lungs. I have been rationally convinced, for a long time, that I must change my habits or lose my life, but this spring I have felt that it is so and governed myself accordingly. I have had a cough but am getting better of it now. You must excuse me if I don't write more because I cannot <sup>write</sup> but little at a time. I wrote three or four short letters as I had an opportunity to send home not long since but did it too quick and have not been so well since. I should be encouraged if exercise fatigued me as much, but I am benefitted by it if taken moderately. I learned by Mr. Pease that you were quite sick not long since. I was very sorry to hear it, the more so as I was afraid you felt the want of a mother's care. If ever we need the kind attentions of our friends it is in sickness, for it is then that we are least capable of excluding the cold civility of strangers. I know by painful experience that it is to be sick among strangers and if ever my feelings were wrought up to agony it was then. I felt very anxious to hear from you and should have written to you before this time if I could. Tell me about your sickness when you write. — If I recollect right I believe you express something in one of your letters to Mary, rather unfavourable to Mr. Pease. I was not surprised in the least, for from my first acquaintance with him, I knew what your opinion would be. It is needless for me to express mine. He has been extremely kind to me since I have been here, and for that reason I should feel guilty of ingratitude were I to say ought against