

Harriet Lee (1757-1851) daughter of John Lee (d 1781), actor and theatrical manager. She was born in London, as was her sister Sophia. From the proceeds of a play written by Sophia the sisters established a school at Bath. They both wrote. Harriet's principal work was the one mentioned in the letter, Canterbury Tales, to which Sophia contributed. They came out between 1797 and 1805, a series of twelve stories which became very popular. Lord Byron dramatized one of the tales, "Kruitzner", as Werner, or the Inheritance. Both sisters died at Clifton. Harriet is supposed to have been much admired by William Godwin, but she rejected his offer of marriage.

Sir

I will immediately correct one of the  
copies of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vol. of Antientary Tales &  
send it you within a week; after which I  
do not think it will be necessary to send  
the proof sheets down to Bath, as Mr. Hamilton  
prints so accurately that I doubt not the  
work will be well done. I particularly  
request however that it may not be <sup>begin</sup> done  
till I do send the corrected copy as the  
2<sup>d</sup> edition for want of this precaution was  
very faulty - I was at Weymouth when  
it was printed & in addition to my own  
original blunders there were of consequence  
several typographical ones: - You shall  
certainly however have the copy within  
a week, & I am very glad to find that

Yours

BATH  
109

Thos. Robinson  
Paternoster row  
London

a third edition is wanted.

I am just returned from the country  
& have not had opportunity to make out  
a list of the Persons to whom Copies of the  
2<sup>th</sup> Vol ought to be given, but I will send  
one when I return the last proof sheets  
which I hope I shall receive tomorrow.

I address them to either Mr. Robinson  
whose hand it may happen first to reach  
& with requests to both remain their

Respect Servant

Samuel Johnson

Robertson House

28<sup>th</sup> June 1784