

To The Rev^d. J. W. Warton.

8
Kilwick. 16 Feby. 1801.

My dear Warton

I wrote to you from Crediton, in the first hour of leisure that fell to my lot. John Jones's volume ought to have reached you before that letter; & you have probably by this time seen in the Review the first parts of my journey to London. - My journey from Devonshire was performed prosperously, except that I was unlucky as to weather at Crick meads. Your father was so good as to meet me at Strewsbury; but the day was so wet that I did not see the rest of the house, & on the morrow, it was a white world all over. But I was so glad to see you, & had nearly forgotten the matter of doubt whether the stream shall cross the road about half a mile from your house was so palpable, & I think almost I should have prevailed upon your father & mother to make a visit here, if they had not formed a previous intention of going this year to London. This intention I wish you could induce them to change.

I came home in good time, a little before one of the
greatest snow falls that I remember in the country, &
by far the greatest flood. One night the thermometer was
at 30, then I rose in the morning it was 48, & in the
course of the day rose as high as 54. It was well that
there had been no rain or snow for many weeks: so that
the lake was very low when the water commenced. But the
great burst of water made a new channel for itself
across the road near Monk-hall, & left the flood
betwixt the meadows ~~and~~ ^{marked} the force of water.

A great comfort it is to be at home & at work
& to have time for reading. About 350 volumes have
been added to my stock this January, & a great plea-
sure it was to dispose of them. I have set upon them
with the appetite of one who has had in other parts the
newspaper & pamphlets for three months.

The new ministry will not easily recover the credit
which they have lost by the Budget. I believe in France
one ever contained such convincing proof of incapacity as
those who formed it. The opinion is the only one that
they were out of any one chose to step into their
places! But the Conservative party will not be so
unwise as to let slip out what they have broken

as they must do with the Radicals upon the details of
their promised reform: nor I trust, will they move by
the course of events to enter into a war, & of course
to receive our pound notes.

You will be glad to hear that a bill is preparing
for facilitating emigration: & that there is no other
for committing the matter upon the same plan that has
answered so well in Ireland.

On the whole I look forward hopefully. The revolu-
tion in France & Belgium has succeeded so well, that
it is wholly to their own credit, that some credit has been
given in the way of the revolutionaries spent at home.
- If it frightens the Government sufficiently, all will be well
- but I am afraid they will underestimate the danger that they
have excited it, & delay, as usual - their measures
be strict along the measure can be prevented. - Today
I have corrected two sheets of my old Essays, - they
are melancholy proof of fore-sight.

God bless you

Yrs affectionately

Robert B. Hay.