

My dear Watson

Having month after
month and season after season expected
you with a Father's Longing, and at
length received you with a Father's Joy,
I should have ^{found} it grievous to ~~part~~ ^{have been} with you on any occasion. But
to part from you in your present
state of health when the suspensions
even for a few days of the tenderest Offices
of Friendship cannot but fill my mind

with anxieties very grievous. ^{On}
the restorative ^{virtues} ~~influence~~ of a Sea voyage,
and the tried influence of your native
air, ^{I ground} ~~ground~~ the right of looking
forward to your return. But in all
the thoughts and convictions, which God
produced the following week, I find my
strongest support: for they ^{teach me,} ~~give me~~
that our meeting again is certain,
and that the longer or shorter interval
will be determined by the Friend who
alone knows what is best for us, & who loves
us more than we can love ourselves.

