Mr Hand
Amenia
By the Kind care of Miss Apkins
Miss Wilson

Needwood Parsonage
January 27. 1848

Dear Mr Hand

I have just been told by your worthy daughter Wilson of an opportunity of sending to you. The enclosed will speak for itself; & I fear that I have ~~at~~ no time to add much more to it. I am towards you just as I was. We are friends. Poor England is not quite what it was. It is worse. Our mighty newspaper "The Times" tells me today that "the wealth of England is the wealth of the world, & the poverty of England is the poverty of the world." Words; words; yet not wholly so. Let us hope that England may yet recover herself & prove a greater blessing to the world than she has been. But it will not be by the instrumentality of the Rich.

It should almost seem in a worldly sense that "the Lord will save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David &c do not magnify itself &c." It is plain, the Poor must best'r themselves. O! that it may be in the fear of God, & the determination to do right, & no more, & no less!

I assure you our working people are miserably off, — worse perhaps than you can conceive from what you knew when amongst us; those of my native town are yearning after America; only want of means keeps them from you. I had an half hour's chat lately with a gentleman high in favour at Court & very much with the Royal family, & he said, "we have seen the mischief of teaching a nation to live upon potatoes." I said I was glad; but, added I, are the great people aware of the danger to themselves? "Yes indeed," said he "they are." There was no time left to ask why they did not take suitable measures to avert the danger? But I may have opportunity for that & other questions by & by. Our Rich and Great are alarmed; & not without cause but their alarm, I suspect, will rather direct them to Police & Bayonets than to simple Equity & Justice. I scarcely dare touch on your loss & on mine. Mr Gisborne was very dear to me; I have reason to believe that to the last I was not otherwise than dear to him. He had been for some time expressing his wishes that I should visit him as formerly; but it so happened that I did not, tho' his brother came to me again & again about it. Shall you & I ever meet again in this World?

H Price.