4th April 1804

I have, my ever dearest Settia, taken advantage of the last two or three tolerable days to walk out & look after my business at the Royal Institution - you can hardly conceive how this place is attended by all the fashionable world. At the Chymical Lecture of last Thursday there were upwards of five hundred ladies & gentlemen, among whom there were a number of persons of the highest rank. There is in short at present a mania for science & every thing appertaining to it. I have got a Room at the Institution for my Exhibition of two very able assistants & excellent Puffers in Mr Davy's Chymical Lectures of an eminent Physician & old friend of mine who has made science his particular study.

I have also been able to obtain in London what I never could get before, all the various articles necessary to my Apparatus in such perfection that I can answer for the effect that will be produced - but the whole can not be ready till about the middle of next week - for what with the badness of the weather & the great increase of my cough, I was able to do little or nothing the first month after my arrival here - but as the weather has mended so thank God has my cough - if I am able now to attend without inconvenience to all the objects I had in view in coming to London - it is the fashion here for...
People of Bath to go out of town during the Easter week—accordingly The Prince has been out of town ever since I last wrote to you, and will not return for a few days to come. I have therefore nothing new to tell you of love from that quarter. I have just had a three hours conversation with Lord Hutchinson, the most confidential friend he is to eat at a Mansion house with me at my lodgings tomorrow. He is the pleasantest man in the world, & does not care what he gets which is so much the better for me. My object, but what is better still, he is my most sincere & cordial friend, he has more power with & stands higher outside in the opinion of the Prince than any man in England. The understands Prinseley well, about whom we confidentially communicate our respective opinions.

I can firmly rely upon Lord the doing me every kind office with the C. enlisting me to make good my ground there, which I am very persuaded and never have been done by the other. The C. receives me like a brother, Lord it’s Annual to me in that of a brother, it is only in him who is my brother that I have not found one, but no matter, thank God, I can do without him. Don’t mention to any one what I say about Master Prinseley it is a disreputable thing that bros should be deficient in regard for each other, if the fault may be wholly on one side, the world will in general imagine that there are faults on both—but enough for the present at least I fancy the other is his wife whom I have not seen since my arrival here & (being in the fashion to pursue) out of town for a few days—The King & Royal family were also to have rejoined the work in the country according to constant custom—but—but I shall add nothing more to this but you may guess at the cause which prevented the intention from being carried out execution at least at what is here supposed to be the cause by this post. I write to Tommy from whom I have but long my heard, I desire him to go from the house all the money (a little is the all) which I can now draw of which, he is to give you my dearest & life eighteen pounds & two stones that you will pay to whom on account of his wages, the remainder which is only if he is to remit to me, as I should wish to be able to
return to you my heart at a moment’s warning in case
Bonaparte’d be cursed to him, should make good a
landing of that he will attempt to do so. Government-
every hour expect. My paper is out, so my ever
dearest Lucinda I can only add my paternal love to the two
girls & kindest love to Miss Forthynge—C.T. I

Col. 1st Oct. 1824
Chas. Jennings Shorten to his niece
4th April 1804

I have, my ever dearest Letitia, taken advantage of the last two or three tolerable days to walk out & look after my business at the Royal Institution. - You can hardly conceive how this place is attended by all the fashionable world - At the chymical lecture of last Thursday there were upwards of five hundred Ladies & gentlemen, among whom there were a number of persons of the highest rank - there is in short at present a mania for science & every thing appertaining to it - I have got a Room at the Institution, for my Exhibition & two very able assistants & excellent Puffers, in Mr. Davy - the Chymical Lecturer & an eminent Physician & old friend of mine who has made vision his particular study.

I have also been able to obtain in London - what I never could get before, all the various articles necessary to my Apparatus, & in such perfection, that I can answer for the effect that will be produced - but the whole can not be ready till about the middle of next week - for what with the badness of the weather, & the great increase of my cough, I was able to do little or nothing the first month after my arrival here - but as the weather has mended so thank God has my cough - & I am able now to attend without inconvenience to all the objects I had in view in coming to London - It is the fashion here for people of Rank to go out of town during the easter week - accordingly the Prince has been out of town ever since I last wrote to you & will not return for a few days to come. - I have therefore nothing new to tell my dear Love, from that Quarter - I have just had a three hours conversation with Lord Hutchinson of the most confidential kind - he is to eat a mutton chop with me at my lodgings tomorrow - he is the plainest man in the world & does not care what he gets, which is so much the better for me & my chops - but what is better still he is my most sincere & cordial friend, he has more power with & stands higher in the opinion of the Prince than any man in England, he understands Brinsley well, about him we confidentially & reciprocally communicated our respective opinions - & I can firmly rely upon Lord H.'s doing me every kind office with the P. & enabling me to make good my ground there, which I am well persuaded would never have been done by the other - The P. received me like a brother - Lord H.'s kindness to me is that of a brother - it is only in him who is my brother that I have not found one - but no matter, thank God I can do without him - dont mention to any one what I say about Master Brinsley - it is a disreputable thing that brothers should be deficient in regard for each other, & tho' the fault may be wholly on one side, the world will in general imagine that there are faults on both - but enough for the present at least of Brinsley, he also & his wife whom I have not seen since my arrival here, are (to be in the fashion I suppose) out of town for a few days. The King & Royal family were also to have passed this week in the Country according to their constant custom - but - but - I shall add nothing more to this but, you may guess at the cause which prevented the intention from being carried into execution - at least at what is here supposed to be the cause.

by this post I write to Tommy from whom I have at length heard, &