

Commander to give him leave of absence for a few weeks to attend to his private affairs and see his friends, he returned at the appointed time, but as his time is not his own, if I had judged it expedient, he could not again ^{have} left the ship - altho he often expressed a wish that he could accompany her to utica

After Susan considered herself engaged she would not have thought herself at liberty, to have accompanied any other person, unless it had been a near relation - and the load stone was too attractive to quit it - Since that period Susan has written you all the disappointments which have assailed & pursued him, I hope all will terminate finally in good, and that they both ^{may be} enabled to say

11 In each event of Life, thy smiling hand I see 11

I cannot pass without noticing the severity of your observations upon Susan, when you attribute to her a want of feeling and affection. Towards you to sordid and sinister motives allowing that having lived with you fewer years than with me, does it follow that she should feel less attachment towards you. do children when married, and separated from their parents lose their attachment towards them? I can speak from my own experience, they never were dearer to me, than when separated from me, nor do I feel that my affection for ^{my} absent son, altho near 8 years since I saw him, in any way diminished, or have I any reason to think those ties, which bound him to his parents, loosened by absence -

we must allow for different natural dispositions, some are formed to buffet adverse waves - and have strength of mind, firmness and resolution to stem adversity - while others are possessed of the delicate and tender sympathies which glide smoothly through life give and receive equal delight -

Indeed my dear daughter you have in my letter censured Susan harshly - and attributed motives to her, foreign to her heart