

## Charles Dickens Museum

### Audio Transcript: Letter from Catherine Dickens

My Dear Mrs. Felton,

I fear by this time you think me most neglectful and unkind in being so long in acknowledging your welcome letter and the two likenesses you were so good as to send me for which let me know thank you heartily.

I do not think however that it is at all a flattering likeness of your dear husband or that the Artist has done him justice.

I trust sincerely my dear friend that your health is improving and that the next packet will bring us good accounts of you and your dear little girls whom I should so much like to see. It seems so strange we should never have met and I feel as if I knew you perfectly. We so often speak of you and dear Mr. Felton whom we love so much.

I know you will be glad to hear good accounts of us all.

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Charles has written to your husband and speaks for himself. My children are all well and enjoying themselves very much as at present we are staying here for sea bathing, and they are out nearly all day on the beach and riding on donkeys and all sorts of seaside amusements. They had the measles before they left town but have perfectly recovered.

I will not make this a long letter as I fear it is a very stupid one as we are living here so quietly at present, I have no news that will amuse you.

I regret to say that we had left London before the Howes and did not see them before they went on the Continent, where I suppose they have now gone. I hope they are enjoying their visit.

We were glad to hear of the Longfellows marriage. Will you remember me most kindly to both of them.

Give my affectionate love to your husband and accept

## **Charles Dickens Museum**

the same dear Mrs Felton from your attached friend

Catherine Dickens

I hope this has not fatigued you and that if you are well enough you will soon write to me.