



Case #3: Pickering Household

Letter #1: Thomas Pickering to Dr. Benjamin Rush, "Sunday evening" (No Date), Page 1

Sunday evening Dear Sir Mr. Boxe has probably told you of the low condition of our fewerest maid. The has all along been fich at her flownach, and generally prehis in whatever the somber to guench ther infatiable thirty. A little while ago fhe vehimently desired cold water- raying that her infides were burning up. Bleken refere y directed a little to be given her by tea - proonfuls; but she refused to receive it in that manner, and drawh up at once a fmall tea cup full, which has flaged on her flomach. - Her pulse was so low m. lose order wine whey, spied wine, and every hour or two five drops of landamens, in a little Jugar and water. The wine whey she three up. Then some wine whey with a little nutures grated in it was given by tea proonfuls, and it stayed. But she was so imputions for drink that camonile tea was given her. This she has drank fruly during his illness of the likes to drink it - but the generally throws it up , with vident reaching, and pillous growns . - Som after five drong of landamum had been given her the puted. The dose has not been repeated. The appears to me in great danger. The Whites of her eyes of the flin of her face no other hart has been noticed are a little yellow. Some buf tea was given her in the forenoon: but the did not like it, and ejethe what /a very little had

Text:

[Beginning at First Arrow]

Sunday evening.

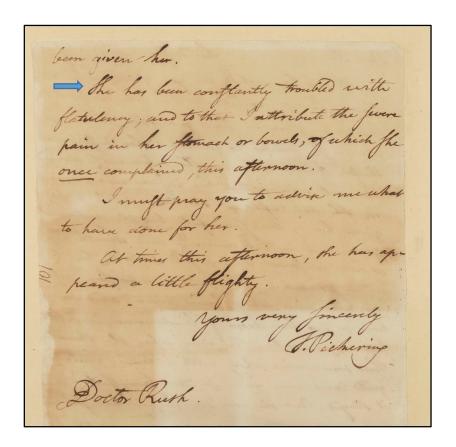
Dear Sir,

Mr. Coxe has probably told you of the low condition of our servant maid. She has all along been sick at her stomach, and generally pukes up whatever she drinks to quench her insatiable thirst. A little while ago she vehemently desired cold water – saying that her insides were burning up. I directed a little to be given her by tea-spoonfuls; but she refused to receive it in that manner, and drank up at once a small tea cup full, which has stayed on her stomach.....

[Beginning at Second Arrow]

She appears to me in great danger. The whites of her eyes & the skin of her face (no other part has been noticed) are a little yellow....

Letter #1: Thomas Pickering to Dr. Benjamin Rush, "Sunday evening" (No Date), Page 2



Text:

[Beginning at Arrow]

She has been constantly troubled with flatulency; and to that I attribute the severe pain in her stomach or bowls, of which she <u>once</u> complained, this afternoon.

I must pray you to advise me what to have done for her.

At times this afternoon, she has appeared a little flighty.

Yours very sincerely

T. Pickering

Doctor Rush

Letter #2: Thomas Pickering to Dr. Benjamin Rush, October 4, 1793, Page 1

Friday Evening Bet. 4th Our maid fervout whom you saw yesterday appeared to pass the last night wary suncom fortably - from a distressing flatulency. But the is so apt to grown loudly, we make Jone allowance for her disposition. My wing says the Riel has heretofore been troubled with hysterics!) The complained loth night I to Day of great fichness at the Homach. Just how the womited, and brought up matter ftrongly coloured with bile, and offensive to the finell. Duri the last 24 hours she has appeared we dry & drawn plentifully of balon tea I camomile tea. This morning the der Jone bohea tea - and drawn two finall cup When the vorriled just now the grown dismally - but with great frongth of him

Text:

[Beginning at Arrow]

Friday Evening Oct. 4th

Dear Sir,

Our maid servant whom you saw yesterday appeared to pass the last night very uncomfortably – from a distressing flatulency. But she is so apt to groan loudly, we make some allowance for her disposition. (My wife says the Girl has heretofore been troubled with hysteria.) She complained last night & to-day of great sickness at the stomach. Just now she vomited, and brought up matter strongly coloured with bile, and offensive to the smell. During the last 24 hours she has appeared very dry, & drank plentifully of balm tea & camomile tea....

Letter #2: Thomas Pickering to Dr. Benjamin Rush, October 4, 1793, Page 2

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Text:

[Beginning at Arrow]

She took salts (after being bled yesterday) as you directed; and she says she has been severely purged. Notwithstanding which I thought you would order further purging, seeing her sickness at stomach continues, and especially since she has brought up bile: but I have done nothing, and wait your direction. If the flatulency continues, please to direct what shall done to remove it....

Letter #3: Thomas Pickering to Dr. Benjamin Rush, October 8, 1793

hurday Morning Oct. 8th Dear hi, Glysters were administered last night to my fon Edward - the third before he had a ftool Just at funrise the former having procured two discharges with dawh brown finall lumps & grains mixed with the glyster | I administered a fourth, which was followed by faveral fmall evacua-tions. This minute he has justed a little durk matter - I't was followed by another dash wolound finall flool. as from as the alyster operated, he was fewfibly relianed, and Jeened better and better after every sicharge the matter pulmed just now has exceedingly before, save twice, in the act of bleeding I cannot judge in this case - having had no experience. I consider this as the critical moment - Spray you will have the good.

ness to hasten again wifit this morning. My
fervant will go for your carriage, if this

will expedite your wifit.

You anxious of fineer Friend.

Porto R. S. Dottor Rust

Text [Entire Page]:

Tuesday Morning Oct. 8th

Dear Sir,

Glysters were administered last night to my son Edward – the third before he had a stool. Just at sunrise (the former having procured to discharges with dark brown small bumps & grans mixed with the glyster) I administered a fourth, which was followed by several small evacuations. This minute he has puked a little dark matter - & it was followed by another dark coloured small stool. As soon as the glyster operated, he was sensibly relieved, and seemed better and better after every discharge. The matter puked just now has exceedingly alarmed my wife. He has not puked before, save twice, each time in the act of bleeding. I cannot judge in this case – having had no experience. I consider this as the critical moment – I pray you will have the good-ness to hasten your visit this morning. My servant will go to call your carriage, if this will expedite your visit.

Your anxious & sincere friend
T Pickering

Doctor Rush

Letter #4: Thomas Pickering to Dr. Benjamin Rush (No Date)

Jun Doctor I am afraid all is over with Edward Whilst Iwas you to see you this morning he refused to take any thing - and in answer his mother's importancy, said his throat was Hopen. I attempted just now to give him a tea prompul of flarred tea, but he fait it out. Com any thing be done before you call? thing by holding his nose, or in any other way, and what shall Tatlemps to give him? - His tumples have been the rubbed with camphorated frinits - also his hands & harift - will friction of those himbs be anseful? His legs and feet are agreeably warm. He is very refless with at. Will fiction of his ligs spect be of any ferrice? - Exerce to you (which was this morning) would a appeter be useful? - of what the it con-

Text [Entire Page]:

Dear Doctor,

I am afraid all is over with Edward. Whilst I was gone to see you this morning, he refused to take <u>any thing</u> – and in answer to his mother's importunity, said <u>his throat was stopped</u>. I attempted just now to give him a tea spoonful of flaxseed tea, but he spit it out. Can any thing be done before you call? Shall I try to force down any thing by holding his nose or in any other way, and what shall I attempt to give him? – His temples have been rubbed with camphorated spirits – also his hands & wrists – will friction of those kinds be useful? His legs and feet are agreeably warm. He is very restless withal. Will friction of his legs & feet be of any service? - Excuse my questions if trifling – Adieu!

T. Pickering

Doctor Rush

As he has had only the one stool I mentioned to you (which was this morning) wou'd a glyster be useful? - of what w[oul]d it consist?