Herbert Town
14th of 3rd Feb. 1859

To R.H. Willis

Esteemed Friend,

Accept my heartfelt thanks for your kind letter of Christian interest and sympathy. These will several times brought before my mind during the time I was watching my loved one with a feeling that we had the sympathy and prayers of those of many others. And I did believe that prayer would have
have prevailed and that the dear sufferer would have been raised up as from the dead. But such was not our Heavenly Father's will, and we must believe His will is best. "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!"

It is not always easy to realize how it can be best to be deprived of such a friend as I have lost. A friend, in possessing whom, I seemed to need no other and ten helpless children to be deprived of a father's care, when such care seemed more than ever needed. However His ways are not as our ways — and He can make a way where no way appears.

It is true we are left to mourn, but not as those who have no hope; whose situation under such circumstances must be almost insupportable — but we not only hope but are sure that he is forever with His Lord. He that had led him and fed him must now lead him all his life long. He did not forsake him in His last extremity, but made His best in His
sickness; and hath received him into that.