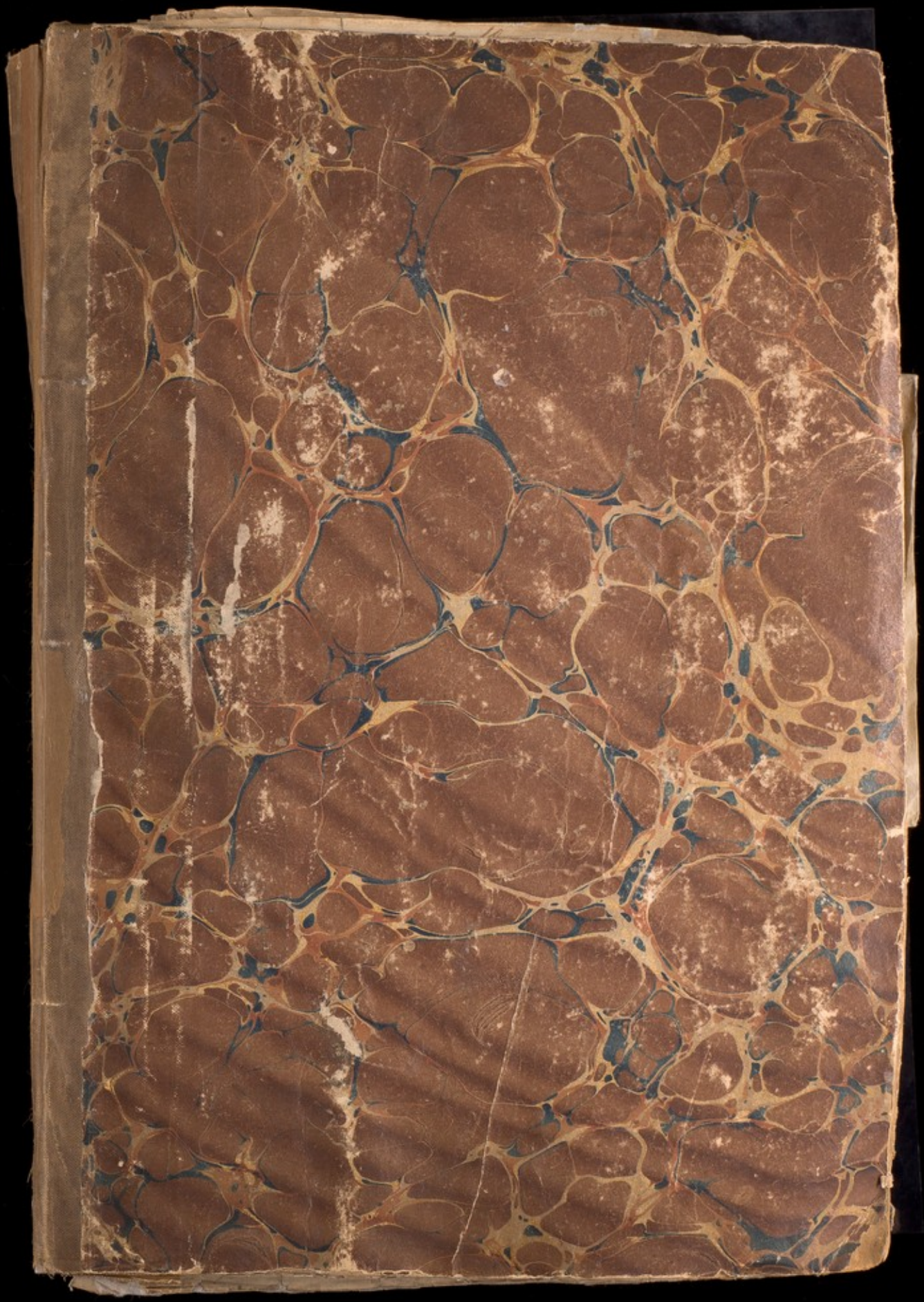


[illegible] or taking any repels they may find.

During the whole time of our Excursion I have enjoyed the most perfect health thank God and have experienced the great pleasure which I always feel on visiting parts where I have not been before. I have been much occupied all the Expedition in the line of my Profession amongst the wounded both of our own men and of the prisoners, but my duty was always most agreeable to me as the cases were of a very interesting and instructive kind and never so numerous as to overfatigue me or to prevent me from making my observations upon them with due deliberation. On every occasion in a large army, and particularly on actual service the Surgeons and Medical [illegible]

N. 20 Messina Aug.t 17th 1809

47

My dear Father

I am again released from the wars and now write you from old quarter Messina. The above is a bill of £72 upon London which you can get filled and disposed of as you think best. I believe I shall have an opportunity by a private hand at the same time as for my London and shall write to Blackhouse inclosing the second bill.

Since writing to you last from Dubrovnik in the beginning of July no operations of consequence have been executed by our Army in that quarter. The movements of our Expedition were determined on the Banks of the Danube when the bad success of the Austrians gave us no chance of being able to drive the French out of the Kingdom of Naples or at least of holding them out afterwards, of course we returned to Sicily to wait for a more favourable opportunity.

At the time of writing you last that part of our army which was destined to act on Sicilian ground has been obliged to retire with the loss of about 90 men of the 21st regiment taken prisoners, the French however

were frightened that the main army would attack them in the rear and cut them off, and retreated with precipitation leaving all their Cannon, stores, and ammunition behind them and blew up the Castle of Scylla very much to our satisfaction, as it was a place which had been several times contended for and annoyed our shipping in the Passage of the Faro. Our Generals had wished to destroy it before, when in our hands, but never put it in Execution on account of the town which stands close to it & which has been partly thrown in ruins in consequence, but in committing these acts of cruelty the French stand no little ceremony when it answers their purpose. On the retreat of the French the troops from Messina again went over, destroyed all the batteries along the Coast, and brought off all the stores which are considerable and of value. The Expedition returned to Sicily the first of this Month the troops are come back from Calabria and almost all are into quarters again emptying one Brigade of Regiments which is still on board ship to be in readiness for any thing that may occur to be done and about 500 men who are now employed on some part of the Enemys Coast, I believe for the purpose

of

of getting or taking any respite they may find.

During the whole time of our excursion I have enjoyed the most perfect health thank God and have experienced the usual pleasure which I always feel in visiting parts where I have not been before. I have been much occupied all the expedition in the line of my Profession amongst the wounded both of our own men and of the prisoners, but my duty was always most agreable to me as the cases were of a very interesting and instructive kind and never so numerous as to overfatigue me or to prevent me from making my observations upon them with due deliberation. On every occasion in a large army, but particularly on actual service the Surgeons and Medical men have the finest field for information open to them in the space of one single month they perhaps see more

get more experience if they pay attention, than a man in private practice may, during his whole life time. and I really think that after a young man has finished his first studies at the College, the best school for getting Experience is at the General Hospital of a large army, where disease is to be seen in every form, and where nothing is wanting that may be thought requisite for its cure.

Now that the Expedition has returned and that there appears little chance of any more fun here for some time, I have been endeavouring to get to my Regiment which I understand has gone for Spain but I have not been able to obtain leave as there is still much to do in the Hospitals and the sickly season for the troops is just commencing here. I should like above all things to go to Spain, and perhaps I may by & by succeed in my application. I shall then besides have the pleasure to think that I am many hundred miles nearer to you.

I was sorry at leaving the beautiful island

No. 31. Messina Sept. 24th 1807

48

My Dear Brother,

I embrace a private opportunity of writing to you, and if I can get time, shall write you a very long letter with the account of a tour which I have lately made to the Liparic Islands. Mr John Gordon who was at College with you and boarded also with Mr Leggie Summers, will be the bearer of your letter as far as London, he is going to the West Indies, and I have been glad to hear a good account of you from him.

I wrote to my Father and Mr the last month inclosing a Bill of £20. but I have not had a single letter from any one of you for a very long time.

I still remain in Sicily not having been able to obtain leave to go to Spain to join my Regiment, and at present I see little chance of my quitting it for at least several months more. I have however been so lucky as to have got leave to visit the Liparic Islands which most particularly merit the attention of Travellers and Naturalists, for the abundance, variety and beauty of Volcanic productions which they contain, and of which indeed I may say they are almost entirely composed. They are 7 in number but of them we visited only 4 which are the most deserving of Notice, viz Stromboli, Lipari, Salina & Volcano. Four of us embarked on the 24th Aug. in a large sized boat, and in a day and a half arrived at Stromboli, which is a single island, containing 11,000 inhabitants situated 65 miles to the North of Messina. We they seldom see strangers and particularly English officers, the people were curious to see us, shewed every inclination to be civil as far as lay in their power, and offered us the

of Liche so soon as we did, the country is charming, the more temperate than here, and the history and production of the place well deserving the attention of the Naturalist & Philosopher. The hot baths were a great luxury for us and we used to enjoy them after the manner and all the perfection of the Old Romans. At leaving it we had the satisfaction to think that I had travelled completely round it, & had seen every thing most worthy of notice in the place as well as in the

Mr Andrew Murray
Shop
in
Alnwick
Scotland

neighbouring little Island of Procida before coming away we embarked all the public stores that were of any value and blew up all the batteries. I understand the French have now got possession of Procida tho' not of Ischia, we have 3 or 4 corsairs off there. As I intend to write Brother Alex I shall not extend this letter much more. Many Packets have arrived without my receiving any letter from Scotland, need I again say how much I am disappointed on such occasions. I hope all my Friends are well, at Alnwick & in the vicinity, enjoy the best health, my best wishes ever attend you, & from a sincere & affectionate Son & Brother

Andrew Murray

accomodation they had in one of their sheds here, but it was so hot, as if a furnace had been burning it that we preferred to remain out of doors, to make our repast and prepare ourselves, before ascending the mountain. Having eat hearty and defied ourselves for the fatiguing task, and got a guide for conducting us we set off so as to reach the top before morning. The heat of day being so great that we could not possibly have accomplished it but at night, as the Eruptions of all Volcanoes have a much finer and more grand effect when seen during dark. This is one of the most fiery volcanoes in the Archipelago and is always burning furiously and throwing out lava tho' it has not been so famous for large eruptions as Etna and Vesuvius probably from its having a constant vent. We fortunately had a fine moonlight to guide our steps a little in our dreary way, and the intense fatigue which we had to ascend was a good deal lessened by the conversation which we had with the 2 Candiotes inhabitants who conducted us, & the stories which they related to us of the Devil, whom they, and all the rest of the people of the Island firmly believe to stay in the fiery mouth of the mountain, and for whom they are seriously alarmed. We loyed what effect it would have to call up the Devil and to pretend that he appeared to us in some frightful shape, and they were terrified in the utmost degree, they scampered off from us as hard as they could run afraid to look behind them crossing themselves all the time and calling on their Saints to protect them. Bill we cried out to them that he had disappeared; they trembled in every limb and begged us, for the love of the Holy Virgin not to call upon him again, that he would certainly do us some mischief and we were obliged to accede, otherwise they would not have gone with us. They said that he had appeared to many people in those parts and gave a laughable description of the shape which he put on — your fore side stories

of Robin Hilfper are nothing to them. I found the ascent was now fatiguing than at first, so we found it necessary to make very frequent application to the Wine bottle to refresh ourselves. We arrived at the top long before day light and saw to great advantage the burning gulphs throwing out great quantities of sulphurous smoke & burning stones; but as the wind was blowing directly from the opposite quarter of the mountain, the smoke came directly in our faces and was nearly suffocating us till we got round out of its way; every one had his pocket handkerchief stuffed into his mouth and was coughing at such a rate that not one could hardly speak for some time, and after that such a thick fog came on, on the top of the mountain that we lost our way, and were afraid of falling down some precipice every moment; and it was a little consolation to us to be able to hear our

voices and then by the awful, murmuring, hollow sounding noise of the mountain

At last day came on and we knew where we were, we then advanced as near to the brink of the gulph as we could with safety to satisfy our curiosity and in the situation we remained for a considerable time to contemplate the wonderful appearance of the burning Cauldrons. We picked up many pieces of stone which had been recently thrown up and were still hot to keep as a memorandum, and then returned the road we came down the mountain, and reached our boat, quite fleased that our task was over but at the same time satisfied that we were well repaid for it all. I dont think however that I should ever undertake to go up again. This was the most difficult task over, and perhaps we put it first in the order of our tour on that account that the others might seem so much more easy to us; I shall not have room here to say the most of them tho' they were to us equally interesting particularly Lipari and Vulcano. The former is the Capital of all the other Islands and lay 12, or 13,000 inhabitants

an uncouth habit they were holding a festival on Tuesday after
Protestant sand all the people were gay and they treated us
with the greatest possible attention and appeared to
be happy who would show us most civility. We visited
the interior of the island its antiquities, extinguished volcanoes
and natural productions, and after 2 days stay left it with
a good deal of regret to visit Stromboli & Volcano. The
Inhabitants of the former are very rustic indeed. They
wondered what we possibly could be coming so far
from our own islands they were very ignorant and
[illegible]

[illegible] some curious things that we could hardly understand
them or make ourselves understood. It is any thing but Stromboli
Volcano is not to be talked of at all tho' it is a large island
and may be contrasted it common to all the other islands
and they cut and [illegible] from it. It is equally well worth seeing
as any of the others, and for the variety and beauty of
its productions more curious than any of them we
descended to the bottom of its Gulph, which has
formerly thrown out famous eruptions, but is now
very much extinguished, and only smokes without
throwing out stones. We made each a fine collection
of crystals from the vaults of sulphur, alum, nitre
&c. besides from the vaults of which we intend to keep
in memory of our pleasant voyage of 6 days.

June 1st 1810. Messina

My Dear Brother 51

I really do not know what to think of you
[illegible] cannot be from laziness that you have not wrote
[illegible] think so

No 33

Messina October 25 1809

Dear Father,

A thousand thanks to you and Williams for your kind
letter which gave me the greatest pleasure after your very long silence.
I always am to hear from any of you and to know
you are all well! I am glad that you have got a new barn
and that my little dun came to hand so conveniently. I
since that time that you have received other five Bills of exchange
this is a duplicate for £18. I would sooner have given twenty out of
my own pocket than Sharp had gone to another person. I shall
have an affectionate regard for my native place as long as I live &
of course must be heightened by my dearest friends possessing it.
last letter was very short on account of the mail being about to
sed, and this will also be rather so as I have only one page remain
but I must make up for it when I write 33 which will be

My Dear Father 49

Have the goodness to repay the
as soon as possible for the above Draft in favor
Sharpe from whom I have rec^d the money & am under
obligations. Apologize to his Friends for the trouble
believe me Yours most affec^ly

John Gordon

Revd John Gordon

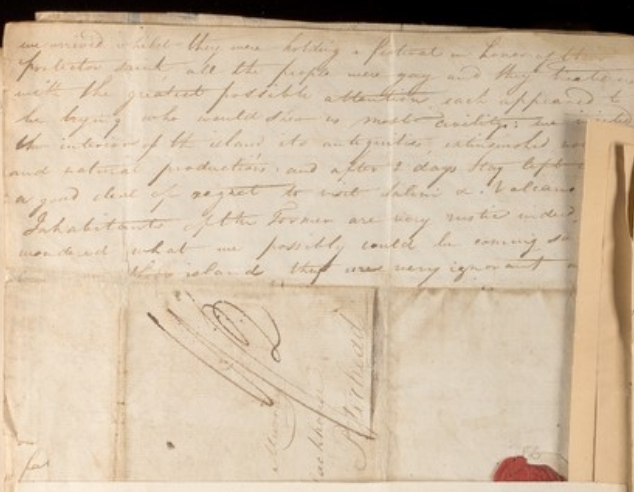
Dunfermline

Messina 27th Sept 1809

No 13.

The Packets from [illegible]
The last letter I wrote has by a private hand
to my Sister. I shall endeavour to send this under
cover

we arrived whilst they were holding a festival on Lower of the
Forbiton saint all the people were gay and they treated us
with the greatest possible attention each appeared to
be trying who would show us most civility. We visited
the interior of the island its antiquities, extensive mines
and natural productions, and after 2 days stay left them
a good deal of regret to visit Salina & Volcano
Inhabitants of the former are very rustic indeed
wondered what we possibly could be coming to
this island they were very ignorant



very much extinguished, and only smokes without
throwing out stones. We made each a fine collection
of crystals from the varieties of sulphur, alum, nitre
vitriolic acid, ammoniac &c which we intend to keep
in memory of our pleasant voyage of 6 days.

My Dear Brother 51 June 1st 1810 Messina

I really do not know what to think of you
not write

No 33 Messina October 25 1809

My Dear Father.

A thousand thanks to you and William for your kind
long letter which gave the greatest pleasure after your very long silence
I am happy I always am to hear from any of you and to know
that you are all well! I am glad that you have got a new Cow
of Hope and that my little Dove came to hand so conveniently, I
hope since that time that you have received other two Bills of mine
which this is a duplicate for £18. I would sooner have given the cost
of my own pocket than Hope had gone to another person, I shall
ever have an affectionate regard for my native place as long as I live &
that of course must be heightened by my distant friends possessing it.
My last letter was very short on account of the mail being about to
be closed, and this will also be rather so, as I have only one page to write
upon, but I must make up for it when I write No. 34. which will be soon
after. I wrote to William about a month ago, by a private hand which may
not arrive much sooner than this, as it goes by the Convoy which is much
longer than the Packet. I am afraid there is
little chances of this war's terminating soon, as you
express in your letter, at least there is not much
appearance of it at present. I have been trying
to get to England to join my regiment but have not yet succeeded, it
will not be any loss to me however, on the contrary it may be for my
advantage as I shall be repeating to the main surgeon of a regiment in
another year or two, if I stay abroad, which is a most respectable situation
and one of considerable change and importance. In a few days I am to
take charge of an hospital that is to be formed for old invalids and in
curable diseases, it is to be about 10 miles from Messina and I shall have
about 100 such cases. They are a pretty set of fellows, masses of disease from
head to foot, and if I cure them it is more than they themselves expect. I
am unfortunately not a good one to have the charm for the Cures with
which many of them are afflicted. I mentioned some people coming to your first
Our Expedition from this which I mentioned in Wm's letter as having sailed
with secret orders has taken 4 of the islands which the Russians ceded
to the Packets from Corfu regularly every 4 or 5 weeks
The last letter I wrote was to be forwarded to my Sister, I shall endeavour to send this under cover.

married while they were holding a festival in honor of the
Protector saint, all the people were gay and they treated
with the greatest possible attention each appeared to
be trying who would show us most civility: we visited
the interior of the island its antiquities, extinguished

to the shameful peace of Tilsit. They have taken also
upwards of 1000 prisoners with their magazines, stores & artillery. It
reported that another reinforcement or two will be sent to reinforce the
expedition that they may be able to take the rest they would be
of the greatest consequence to England especially Cadiz, which is
very strong, and has an excellent harbour and commands the
entrance of the Mediterranean. I hope your Cork hot house and
equal to expectation and that the weather has been favourable for

Mr. Mary Farrell
Ballinacurra
Ireland

that I cannot now and then an hour or two
with my friends. Then I thought that travelling
seeing only strange faces and hearing strange
musical sort of pleasure and gratifying only
the person himself. But in this life perfect happi
is not allotted to any one, every situation has its advantages
and disadvantages, its pleasures and crosses. I think however that
my own native Country is one of the best that is to be found
on this side Jerusalem. I hope they will not all be flown when I
return. I shall have some funny days amongst your Kind young
ladies yet.

very much extinguished, and only smoke without
blowing and stone. We made each a fine collection
of Sublimes from the vapours of Sulphur above the
Mouth of the Vesuvius, Ammoniac & which we intend to keep
in memory of our pleasant voyage of 6 days.

June 1st 1810. Messina

My Dear Brother 51

I really do not know what to think of you
all, it cannot be from laziness that you have not wrote
to me for so many months, I think not think so
but I know

Messina Flavia 6th 1810.

My Dear Mother 50

Many Packets have come and gone since I
have had the pleasure of hearing from any of you, but I hope
you are all in good health and happy. The last I received was by
letter of the year the Kingsday is long past I should be so
grateful in my duty did I not wish you all the Compliments
of the season with many happy and prosperous returns of it. me
What a length of time it seems I have spent a Christmas & I am
New year's time with you! I believe not since the first
session that I went to College at Abbeyson which at least
must be ten or twelve years ago now. They will not
let me home yet, but in Spring I expect either to go to
Malta or England. The second Battalion of my regiment
to which I belong is in Portugal, and I should be very
glad to join it to see that part of the world. 5 years
ago I was at Lisbon but I was very little on shore,
there was an order from the General that no Officer should
land but notwithstanding that on pretence of going to
bathe I stole on shore with two or three others and had
a short ramble in the Country which is delightful
at least in the vicinity of the Capital.

You see by this that I am still in Messina
I did not go on the detached duty that I expected
as the weather set in very rainy about the time that
the

without warning!
the Packets now come regularly every 4 or 5 weeks.
The last letter I wrote was to be put at home
to my Sister, I shall endeavour to send this under
cover

My Dear Brother — June 1st 1810 — Messina

I really do not know what to think of you, still it cannot be from laziness that you have not wrote to me for so many months, I should not think so were we last you were just about to begin — but I am

We are tolerably peaceable here at present — a week ago we bombarded one of the towns on the opposite coast occupied by the Enemy because they had fitted out a privateer and annoyed our coasting trade a little, we destroyed the Privateer, destroyed the Magazine which contained the goods of the foreigners, threw several shells and rockets over the town and frightened the rascals confoundedly, at the same time letting them know that the next time the whole town would be laid in ashes. — It is likely that in the Spring we may be kept more of the alert, as Bonaparte will have more troops to spare to send to cover Italy and he would be fain to get hold of Sicily. —

The season of the noisy Carnaval is just about to commence, and for about 6 weeks we shall see and hear of little hundred masks and Masquerade balls. I am tired of these foolish things now almost, although I sometimes perhaps may join a party to make a little fun, but I am getting too old for it.

There is a sad Revolt taking place amongst all my thirts and every thing now. There is hardly one that does not laugh at me in the face every time I put one on and it is no wonder, it is a long time since they were thro' your hands — we cut the wood pay so much attention to them without mending!

The Packets from Corfu regularly every 4 or 5 weeks. The last letter I wrote was by a private hand to my Sister, I shall endeavour to send this under cover.

My dear Brother,

I received your letter of the 5th of March, the contents of which I have read with the Pen Box. —

Since I have heard from any of you I have found home the two small Bills which I should like to know if you have received or not, they have left me as poor as a church rat as I was obliged to buy a horse afterwards. I have a strong old English horse at present a quiet hack and very useful. I thought this morning that he was stolen and that I should never see him again, I changed my house yesterday, and the stable of my present house had not yet the lock put on, which for one night I thought was of little consequence as it was inside of the Court. However in the morning before I was out of bed my servant came in to tell me that in the stable there was neither horse, manger nor halter and that the door was standing wide open. Other thinks I there is little chance my lad of ever seeing them again; but by good luck a country man brought me the horse while I was at breakfast, the thieves had taken the manger and halter away and left the stable door open for the gentleman to go out and take the air.

We have had as yet an extremely mild Winter and not any snow, but we expect to have some bad weather yet. I am anxious to know what sort of a Crop there has been in your part of the Country and if the season was favourable for the Harvest. Adieu Brother

Alex.

We sick are to have been moved. I am now busy immediately with the Pen Box. —

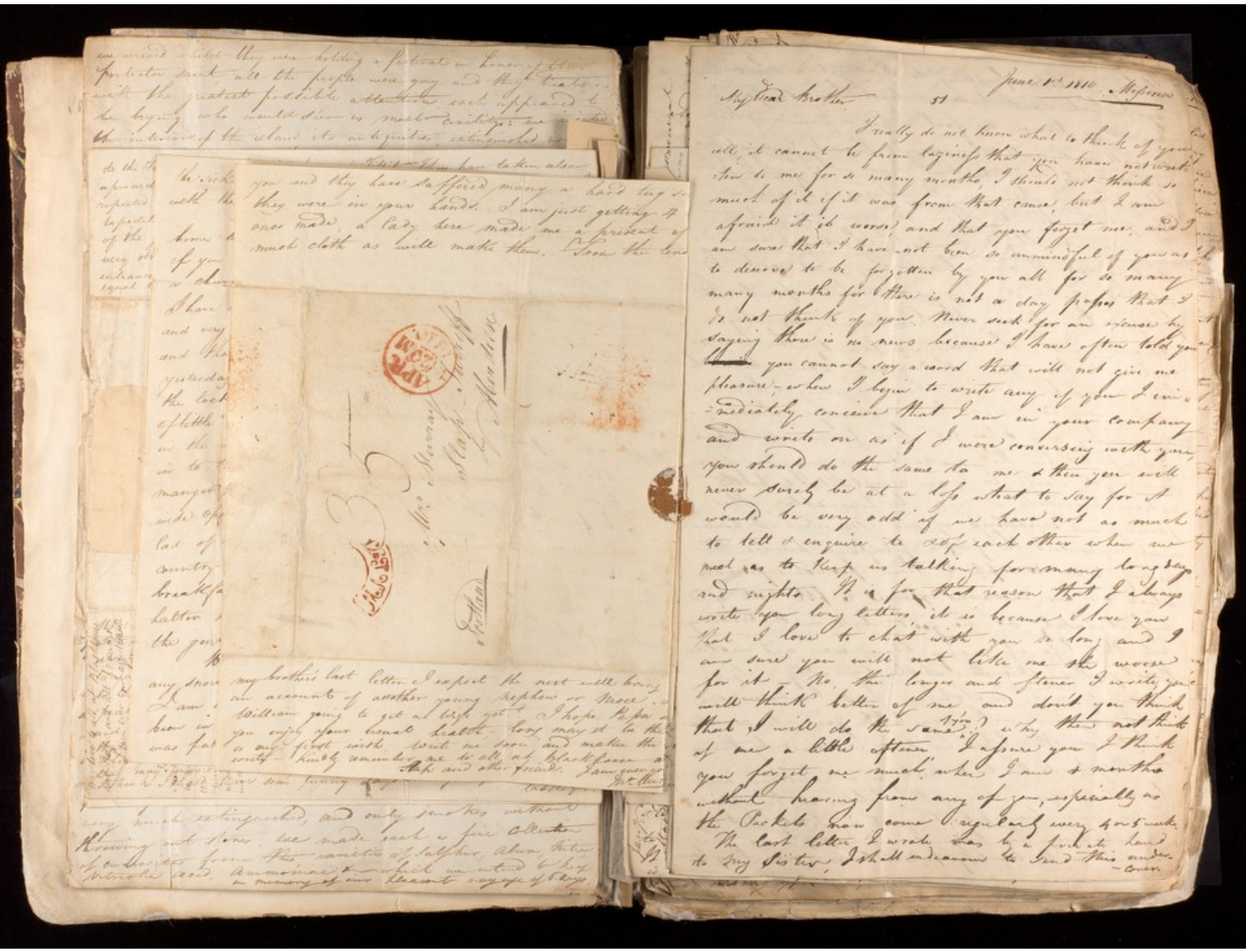
Since I have heard from any of you I have found home the two small Bills which I should like to know if you have received or not, they have left me as poor as a church rat as I was obliged to buy a horse afterwards. I have a strong old English horse at present a quiet hack and very useful. I thought this morning that he was stolen and that I should never see him again, I changed my house yesterday, and the stable of my present house had not yet the lock put on, which for one night I thought was of little consequence as it was inside of the Court. However in the morning before I was out of bed my servant came in to tell me that in the stable there was neither horse, manger nor halter and that the door was standing wide open. Other thinks I there is little chance my lad of ever seeing them again; but by good luck a country man brought me the horse while I was at breakfast, the thieves had taken the manger and halter away and left the stable door open for the gentleman to go out and take the air.

We have had as yet an extremely mild Winter and not any snow, but we expect to have some bad weather yet. I am anxious to know what sort of a Crop there has been in your part of the Country and if the season was favourable for the Harvest. Adieu Brother

Alex.

[illegible] some funny [illegible]

very much extinguished, and only smoke without throwing out sparks. We made each a fine collection of our handiwork from the varieties of sulphur, alum, tartar, nitric acid, ammonia &c — which we intend to keep in memory of our pleasant voyage of 6 days.



June 1st 1840. Mysore

My Dear Brother

I really do not know what to think of you all, it cannot be from laziness that you have not wrote to me for so many months, I think not think so much of it if it was from that cause, but I am afraid it is worse, and that you forget me, and I am sure that I have not been so unmindful of you as to deserve to be forgotten by you all for so many many months for there is not a day passes that I do not think of you. Never seek for an excuse by saying there is no news because I have often told you that you cannot say a word that will not give me pleasure, when I begin to write any of you I immediately conceive that I am in your company and write on as if I were conversing with you, you should do the same to me & then you will never surely be at a loss what to say for it would be very odd if we have not as much to tell & enquire of each other when we meet as to keep us talking for many long days and nights. It is for that reason that I always write you long letters, it is because I love you that I love to chat with you so long and I am sure you will not like me the worse for it. No, the longer and oftener I write you will think better of me and don't you think that I will do the same? why then not think of me a little oftener. I assure you I think you forget me much when I am 4 months without hearing from any of you, especially as the Packets now come regularly every 4 or 5 weeks. The last letter I wrote was by a friend to hand to my Sister, I shall endeavour to send this under cover.

my brother's last letter I expect the next will bring an account of another young nephew or Niece. William going to get a wife yet? I hope he may you enjoy your usual health, long may it be the is my first wish, write me soon and make the worst kindly remember me to all at Blackhouse and other friends. I am your affn

Pat. Ker

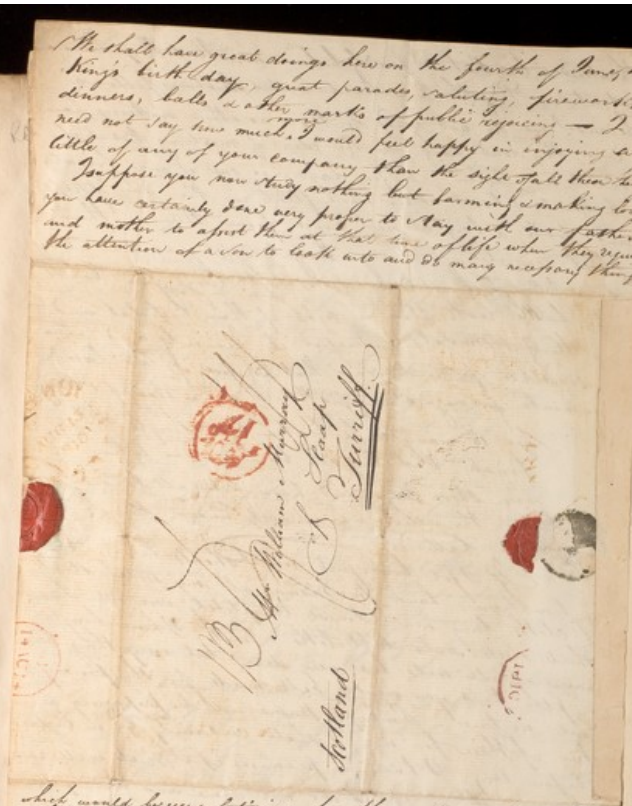
I had great hopes of getting to Portugal a short time ago, which would have at least been so far in my way home, in fact I had a promise of leave as well as several others, amongst the rest General the Earl of, but owing to some news which Sir John Stuart received we were all detained. I hope we may yet be able to obtain it again soon, if our army is not obliged to quit Portugal immediately, but I am afraid they will not be able to hold it long, since Bonaparte has fortified himself on the Continent by his alliance with the Austrian family. We have nothing to fear from that quarter where before we had so much. The vagabond is getting stronger and greater every campaign, he is certainly a most extraordinary man than yet clever fellow about him. It is reported here that negotiations are going on for a Peace, which would be very acceptable to both nations provided it could be honorable. The jarring and weakness of our Ministers at home must discontent the people of England besides the heavy taxes to support their foolish expeditions which are an enormous expense to fit out and unfortunately do no good, but on the contrary cost the life of many brave men and weaken thereby the strength of the Country. Spain, Portugal and Walcheren have been ruinous jobs for us & with very little good to counterbalance the lives we have sustained by them.

May I ask do the times treat you in Scotland and how stand your ideas of the Politics of Europe? We have been hitherto quiet in Sicily but we do not know how long we may be so, we are tired waiting for the cowardly fellows to come over. They have threatened so long that we hardly believe now that they have any intention. They think us hard headed stubborn fellows because we do not yield to them as other nations have done, they dont half like the idea of meeting British soldiers nor sailors. A few days ago one of our frigates (the Spartan) beat their whole fleet in the bay of Naples and took a brig of war, prize, from them. Their fleet consisted of a large frigate of 42 guns, a Corvette of 18 & tender of 12 & a brig of 8 & eight large gun boats. The battle took place in sight of their Capital and their King (Murat) witnessed it himself and was so sensible of his disgrace that he tore off his laced ornaments for rage & confessed that it was a shameful thing for so many to be beaten by a single frigate. Had they not been so near to their own shore they would have been all taken but the action was almost under their own batteries.

If I get home just now I shall be a very troublesome hand for mama, all my Scotch stockings of cloth long now almost completely worn out. I made shirts, stockings, petticoats & sheets. I have bought many of all sorts here very dear but every thing here is of the kind you would call made for the fancy & last no time. Perhaps Mama will be preparing a few of these for me, I shall certainly be in England before long. I have a promise of leave & it will run hard with me if I do not come and see you. What shall I commission you to say to the young Ladies for me. I cannot say much to them that a young man who is looking out for a wife himself. I shall certainly run off with some one of them if they refuse me as being an old fellow, but they will not I hope deny me a kiss for old acquaintance sake and auld lang syne. I have always praised them whenever I have been and have ever esteemed them. Some of your offspring have married Sicilians but I still believe they are happy – a bonnie scotch lassie for me.

In memory of our pleasant voyage of

We shall have great doings here on the fourth of June, the
King's birth day, great parades, saluting, fireworks,
dinners, balls & other marks of public rejoicing — I
need not say how much I would feel happy in enjoying a
little of any of your company than the sight of all these things
I suppose you now study nothing but farming & making love
you have certainly done very proper to stay with our father
and mother to assist them at that time of life when they require
the attention of a son to look into and do many necessary things



which would be very fatiguing for them alone. I am happy
that you have chosen and like the employment of farming
Brother Olaf is getting a fine young family and has little to
do having set his mind of his farm. Make my kindest love
to all the Blackhouse family. My tenderest regards are
always for the welfare and happiness of my dear father
and mother and with these I conclude yourself. Never
forget to remember me kindly to every one who may
enquire for me. It would be useless to enumerate every
body to whom I wished well in your part of the world
that is not me to whom I wish ill. I am ever your affn
Brother William

Mr Wm Pillsbury
Care of Mr Farrell
Kingston
Care
Portland

Mr Dear Father

53

Mopana September 9th

From the state of affairs being very unsettled
in this country, and particularly on account of my being
liable to be ordered to Tanta at a very short notice
you

Mr Dear Father

52

Mopana August 20th 1810

After many months of tedious expectation
I received at last a letter from you by the last packet
which gave me the greatest pleasure to hear that you
were all well. Nothing could give me so long in writing
to me, when you know that it makes me so happy
to receive news from you. By this packet I have
had the kindness to hear from my friends at Blackhouse
and now I am contented with you all again. I was
nearly beginning to fear that you were forgetting me
altogether. It will be a melancholy thing for me to
see many of the changes that have taken place during my
departure when I come amongst you, there is so seldom
kindly a letter comes from you that does not bring me tidings
the news of the death of some friend or acquaintance, nearly
the to be sure another young generation is rising to
supply their place. I hope it is not true that my friend
James Duff perishes in that India ship coming home.
By my last and by the Newspapers you will know that we
are threatened with invasion by the new king of Naples, Murat
at the head of 40 000 men and in fact we have
been in daily & nightly expectation of him these two months
past. The enemy's army is on the opposite side of the
Straits which at the narrowest part is hardly 3 miles a
and a day passes that something hostile does not happen
between us in which we had generally the advantage. The
Guns and mortars carry across from side to side &
sometimes
we see it a great distance we listened with
anxiety expecting to hear from what quarter would
come the report of the first firing in this state

We shall have great doings here on the fourth of June, the King's birthday, great parades, saluting, fireworks, dinners, balls & other marks of public rejoicing — I need not say how much I would feel happy in enjoying a little of any of your company [illegible]

[illegible] poor soldiers who have gone to bed hearty have found their death from the cholera that before morning. My regiment has come from Malta some time ago and was quartered in Modena for 5 or 6 weeks, during which time I was very happy as the officers are all like so many brothers and you know when we are in the same place we all dine together at the same table and have elegant punchy dinners every day. The Drum beats for us at the hour to the tune of the "roast beef of Old England" and after dinner the band often plays in an adjacent room — How I should like to have you to dine with me some day to see my new brothers. The married officers do not dine at the Mess, but we sometimes invite them with their Ladies and perhaps have a dance afterwards. They have been removed from Messina a few days ago to near the Faro where the balls come rolling about amongst them in their Camp, but I do not go with them as I have charge of another hospital in the Citadell, indeed I do not belong to this Battalion of the regiment, but to the 2nd which is in Portugal and therefore have not joined it to do duty with it.

Two days ago I was under orders to go to Zante one of the Ionian Islands about 300 miles farther off in the Adriatic sea, but the orders have been countermanded on account of some movements that have taken place amongst the enemy's boats shewing a disposition to come over. I am sorry at being stopt. I was going up with 300 men and to return in the course of a few weeks, it would have been a very pleasant trip to have seen another part of the world. I should have gone to Ithica the famous island of Ulysses and would perhaps have got into Greece. But as the troops are only detained for the present it is most likely that we shall go in a short time as we shall probably the French to draw in their boats again. They have about 500 boats and nearly 100 of them gun boats and they are under the protection of such heavy batteries and so many troops that we cannot destroy them.

Alex. tells me that he was about to make a tour thro some part of the Highlands, how happy shall I be to make one of this little party. I hope he takes William with him, a person who has it in his power should see as much of his own country at least as to give him a pretty good idea of the state of it from his own observation. I shall certainly have several trips over the mountains of Scotland thro the romantic Glens if ever I have it in my power. If Billy has not gone with Alex. he shall go with me.

The weather is exceedingly hot here at present, but I think upon the whole it has been a moderate summer to what I have seen — indeed I have not felt yet the heat to be the drawback I expected. I enjoy my health better in summer than in more temperate climates. I think I shall require the hottest corner of your fireside. I have not given up my hopes of seeing you before a long time passes over me.

[illegible] to a great distance we listened with [illegible] expectation to hear from what quarter would [illegible] the report of the first firing, in this state

[illegible] forget to remember me kindly to every one who may enquire for me. I would be [illegible] to address my enamorata very kindly to whom I wished well in your part of the world. [illegible] that is not me to whom I must [illegible] Brother William

[illegible] Mr. Ian Sutherland 53 Messina September 9th

[illegible] in memory of our pleasant voyage of 6 days.

We shall have great doings here on the fourth of June, the
King's birth day, great parades, saluting, fireworks,
dinners, balls & other marks of public rejoicing — I
need not say how much I would feel happy in enjoying a
little of any of your company there [illegible]

I have been here in time honoured disappointed. My friend
old favorite Donna is married (formerly) Miss Barclay
is the way they are all going off. so I cannot com
cannot you present one, come one to come and
It is not perhaps the fashion, but let me introduce
new one. I shall certainly not have a Italian wife
queen one of their princesses, tho' I suppose I might
one not very old nor ugly if I wished. A Bonnie

Lafie is the one for me. I wish I could go down with
the Mother to spend the Berry season at Blackhouse
should like to nurse my little nephew & namesake
Cot. I am rejoiced to hear they are such fine
children. I shall write to my friends at B. house
packet if I am not gone to Spain, I should
be able to give you some account of my
on my safe adieu, with sincere
forget to remember me kindly to every one who may
enquire for me, it would be ungrateful
bad to whom I mighty well
that is not me to whom I must
Your part of the world
Mother

Mr. Sam Sather

53

Mysena September 27th

From the state of affairs being very unsettled
to be ordered to Spain at a very short notice
going to adopt the plan of writing to you a
now than as any thing occurs or as I get home
you much more mindful I am of you than you
to be alone. I wrote to my Sister & Elizabeth
the Packet which sailed only a few days ago and
her an account of the Expedition which the
French sent over against Sicily on the 15th Inst.
had made about 1000 prisoners & the rest fled
about 3 o'clock yesterday morning we were roused
by the firing of alarm guns & rockets
of the enemy in great force in the
to minute the whole army was under arms
was at his post. Being in the
of the night it was a very awful scene & present
morning was terrifying to the minds of those who
active part in the business but only witnesses
the dreadful preparations for battle & in great anxiety
the result. Nothing for some time was to be
heard in any direction but the moving of
the din of arms & the consternation of the
inhabitants. The Cavalry galloping along the streets,
the Artillery with their Cannon & the numerous drums
marching all to repell the invaders foe
the gratitude of the inhabitants they went to
and called for their most fervent prayers
success. The Guns and other signals having
announced to us that the enemy was advancing every
anxious to know the place he would attempt
to make a landing. The night was dark & as we
could see to a great distance we listened with
expectation to hear from what quarter would
come. The reports of the first firing in this state

mained till day light when it was found that the enemy in place of coming to attack us had retreated between 12 & 15 miles with all his boats from the position he formerly occupied. The reason of this we do not yet know, ~~the only~~ we can only conjecture for his not attacking us, is that he saw our signals of alarm made all along the coast & therefore knew that we were ready prepared to receive him. As the circumstances stand we have now time to breathe a little, for in place of the enemy's great armament of about 400 boats of different descriptions being as usual only at a distance of 2 miles from us they are at least 12 & 15 miles off some of them 20. It is not unlikely that seeing how well we are prepared to receive him here at this part, Murat is to attempt to get round to a different part of the island, but if he goes a little farther he will have a long distance to come and our Navy will have sufficient room to manage about which they had not in the narrow strait of Messina & it is likely that he will get his whole expedition kidnapped before he gets within hail of Sicily.

October 7th

The enemy after having called the attention of Europe to their threatened attack upon Sicily, & boasted that they could drive the English out, after a stay of 6 months have at length abandoned the opposite shore & retired towards Naples. We did not certainly expect that a General of such a character as Murat would have degraded himself and his army so far as to make such a cowardly retreat as he has done. The immense preparations which they made with such activity & resolution then threat and the superiority of their numbers which was more than double that of ours, would very probably have frightened a great many armies but our English one which only felt prudent to think that the contention would be more glorious. The night before they went off altogether we had another alarm at 8 past 12 were up all night expecting them but they did not come. Now we are quite still in comparison to the amusement we used to have in firing away upon the rascals, but many are of opinion that this retreat is only a trick by which they expect to throw us off our guard & make us send away our ships, perhaps part of our troops to Spain or Corfu, which is not unlikely, but General Stuart is not to be trifled in that way he has a sharp look out upon them. Part of the Navy has gone & some changes will take place in the position of the troops, but I hope we shall still be a match for him if he comes. Had Murat been as well acquainted with the sea as we are I dare say he would have been over long ago, our soldiers in fact before they come to this country are all sailors & are much better at a landing business than those of any other nation.

October 12th

Yesterday I was to have embarked for Naples but was countermanded again to my great disappointment this is now the 2nd time I have been so tantalized and I am afraid that at last I shall not go at all. I have a great desire to see that part of the world, particularly the island of Ithaca famous in fabulous history as being the Island of Ulysses & Telemachus. The General has received particular dispatches from England in consequence of which a Regiment is ordered off we dont know for where, war with Spain is mentioned in which case probably part of the army from here will go to Spain or Portugal as there then will be little danger of any attack being made at present upon Sicily

October 10th

The packet has arrived to day and has made me as happy as any person in all Scotly as she has brought me letters from ~~you~~ and Blackhouse and 2 from London. How glad I am to hear that you are all well and so merry. Cannot express my joy believe me, nothing could raise it higher than to see you all in the same State. —

You are about to lose the head of the Medical Department in Scotly. Dr Franklin he has been appointed one of the directors of the Medical department of the army — a member of

the Medical Board in London which is composed of 3 and they have the appointing of all Medical officers to the Army and the regulation of their promotion. As in my situation I have been in, I have been fortunate enough to be my duty to his satisfaction this will be all in my favour perhaps some day. I believe I shall write to My brother at Blackhouse by a private opportunity which I have just heard of & shall answer at the same time an unknown young lady who writes me very friendly from that place. I shall write to Mama soon & also to William meantime my love to all and expect of my earnest affection while I remain Yours

Mr Murray

Nitrolie seed. Remember me in memory of our pleasant way of 8 days

Gibraltar Bay, January 3d 1811.

My Dear William

54

It was only yesterday that I concluded a letter for Blair to send by the private opportunity of an officer going to Scotland, and I shall begin to write to you from time to time what news or occurrences ~~that~~ I suppose can interest you, & before another opportunity occurs it is most likely that in this way I shall have a pretty long letter for you. Gibraltar, tho' a famous spot in the annals of History is the same miserable disagreeable place I have formerly represented it to you, but I have no little reverence for it, as it was here I first made the acquaintance of two of my intimate friends with whom I afterwards lived like Brothers for upwards of 2 years and although we are now separated and have been so these 8 years we always have held as regular a correspondence together as circumstances would admit. One of them I had the pleasure of meeting in Malta with whom I stood 4 or 5 days. The other is now in Portugal & expect soon to shake by the hand and talk over many old stories with. Had the wind not come directly contrary I should have sailed yesterday morning for Malta, but it may now remain in the same quarter for several days & keep us so much longer which I am very sorry at, having been heartily sick of Gibraltar many years ago. I should like to talk over the old Kinder Sir of Banff who was at the siege of it. It must have been a pretty hot one as all the whole rock is covered with pieces of shells and old Cannon, poor Rock

Jan. 16th — I am sitting totally comfortable in my Cabin at the side of a blazing coal fire which puts me somewhat in mind of England; the storm rattling over my head & the ship pumping up and down rather roughly to the high billows which are rolling below. These three last days have been very stormy, the wind high with frequent heavy showers so that the sea has been so rough we have been prisoners on board from not being able to get ashore in the boat. This bay is very much exposed and has very little shelter & consequently very dangerous for shipping when the wind blows from the westward. Well do I recollect the many dreary and disagreable weeks I spent here three years ago when I saw many ships wrecked around me & expected that it was perhaps our turn to go next. The Transport I was then on board of has since foundered at sea going home, the master of her was from near Old Deer named Perry & had made a great deal of money £40 or 50,000. — My companions on board are not of the most agreable kind but I have arranged so as to have very little to do with them, they are two & both french officers in our service, I don't know well what to make of them and indeed I have taken up the pen in this moment chiefly to have nothing to say to them. One of them is as drunk as a fiddler and abusing the other in French like a pickpocket, and referring to me for the honesty of his own character. The other suffers his language with a great deal of more patience than I would, aby aby I shall be told privately by him what sort of a character the other is, then both together they will begin to launch out in my praise which is more disgusting to me, this fulsome flattery than every thing else — you must therefore conceive what sort of a letter I can write to you. I dont dine

Breakfast or Sup with them, I eat with the Master of the ship who keeps a rough but wholesome table and is a good rough sailor. I hope I shall only be very short time on board with these lads, they only go to Cadiz if the wind would only come favorable for 24 hours we should be there. I could go from this directly to Lisbon as several ships of the convoy go for it, but I prefer to see Cadiz, the chief place of contention at present in Spain, a very pretty city & formerly the emporium of Spanish commerce. I believe the shots are flying pretty thick about, so that I must look to the chance of getting a dry shave from 1 of them, but I dont mind these things much now, tho' at first I did not relish them. I should have no objection to stay a month at Cadiz and if I find it pleasant perhaps I shall take so much for holydays. The Spanish ladies are very pretty and I must try to get some of them to learn me the language, and perhaps some of the Spanish dons will give me a good tocherred wife, many of these fellows have mines of money. The Town of Gibraltar besides the soldiers of the garrison contains about 12 or 15,000 inhabitants one third of whom ~~are~~ English, ⅓ is ~~Spaniards~~ and Moors and the other ⅓ Italians, Jews and other nations. It is a complete medley of people, nations & languages, and I am sure you would have a curious idea of the words to stay here for a week. At an Inn your breakfast would cost 5/. Dinner 10/ Tea 2/6 Supper 5/ & bed 4/ besides the waiter 1/ & washing in 5/ for dozen of articles shirts socks Sheets, sheets & Stocks all kept the same — 5/ each —

Oct

the communication with Spain by the Mediterranean provinces
open on account of the sickness that there has been
in Spain but all are healthy again, and when
communication is open things will be much cheaper
mean provisions. Unfortunately it has always
that so be I have been here and I have had an
curiosity of riding into the country on this occasion
I intended of it has got time enough to go to Sa
the Barbary sea, famous for our the Spanish

I shall send this off to you directly and write again from Cad
I can get a private opportunity and I don't like to
ship. I wish you all the joys of this season of
many returns of it, & I wish the same to all
many see. After my little fevers at Messina I am
quite strong and hearty. Don't be alarmed if
take it into my head to see all my
get home before many months. I'd like
all. Think sometimes of your ever affectionate Son
Nicholas Rose.

in memory of our pleasant voyage of 8 days

Almeida in Portugal
Feby 17th 1811.

My Dear Father

55

Just to my Mother and Alice from Talav
since which time I have had a march of about 10
miles up the country to join the Regiment at this
village where a Brigade of 3 regiments and some artillery
is stationed to watch the motions of the Enemy on
the opposite bank of the river. Our picquets are
so near to the French that they can talk across to
each other and officers of both sides come and con
verse together without being fired upon. It is
really shocking to see the miserable state to which
this fine country is reduced, and in my way up
I had an opportunity from a good deal of it. The
part which the French run over after the battle of
Busaco is completely ravaged, the ground remains
uncultivated, the villages are deserted, the houses
ransacked, pillaged or burnt, and the poor inha
bitants are wandering about the country in the
most wretched condition & perishing by thousands of
hunger or numbers. The enemy pillaging so much of
the country makes every thing scarce & dear, but which
I am, as yet there has been a tolerable supply of the
things needful. Not for a great many years will this
country be able to recover from what it has suffered from
being the seat of war already, and I am afraid it has
still to suffer much more. The result of this campaign
in my opinion is most doubtful & if the French are victo
rious, which Heaven forbid, the country is remained
almost for ever - at least for a century. I should hope
we will still be able to keep it. The idea in our
long has been that by merely keeping our position

the French would be obliged to retire from want of provisions, but from all I can learn by general report and from several prisoners who came in here yesterday & whom I questioned on this and other points, they appear to be tolerably well supplied and if we have to fight them out of the country inch by inch, it will certainly cost us the half of our army which is more than all Portugal and Spain is worth to us. The rainy season at present prevents the operations of the two armies but I think the Spring will give us to some bloody work, there are now often skirmishes between the picquets and posts in which our lads generally have the advantage. We can hardly carry anything with us except a couple of shirts & a pair of stockings and a little tea and sugar with a couple of blankets. I have brought up with me several more things which I shall find a great comfort as long as we remain here & till we have much marching, when I must throw them away. I am now a pretty old campaigner and shall be sorry as long as I can. The winter is the hardest time for an army if it has active service. I have already been one night in the field with not a tree or any sort of shelter and it rained almost during the whole of the night. If I had not fortunately had a bottle of cherry brandy with me I should certainly have been badly off. I am sure if I were near to Stafford would send me some bottles of your best Whisky for these occasions. I hope you will have a good bottle in the cupboard for me when I come home, I should like then drink with you and forget my former hardships. I find that the change from Spain to Portugal will not be for my comfort at all events but I don't mind that. The country, manners & climate is interesting. I hope the campaign will not be an hour too long.

Yours &c &c, in memory of our pleasant voyage &c &c

February 28th.

Since writing the former part of this letter we have had a march against the French and driven them from a little island which is formed by the branching of the Tagus. They came over in the night surprised and took a party of Portuguese who were there to defend it, and in the morning an order came for the 39th to march there. Afterwards the 71st & 36th also marched to the place. On getting to the three sides of the island stands, 6 miles from thence we saw the fellows in all directions on the island plundering the poor inhabitants & driving off their horses & cattle, but as they came over in the night time, it was long before we could discover properly their strength. The river also was not to be forded by the men being too deep so that after we arrived a considerable time was taken up in reconnoitering & in procuring means of crossing over. At last about 150 dragoons came down; the half of them were dismounted and our light infantry company took their place and with the rest of the cavalry swam across the river on the horses. The enemy seeing that they were likely to be hard pushed took to their boats again as fast as they could; several cannon shot were fired at us from a battery on the opposite bank where were drawn up 3 or 4 strong battalions, but we had not a man killed or hurt fortunately. We all expected to have met with an obstinate resistance. The cavalry marched for another company of our regiment & when they came over it was very affecting to see the inhabitants running to them & embracing the officers & calling them their deliverers. The French in generally the women cruelly took away all their husbands.

I had the pleasure on that occasion of seeing Lord Wellington and Marshall Beresford in whom all the officers seem to have the greatest confidence. I am now busy studying the Portuguese language it has some resemblance to the Italian but not half so pretty. I hope by learning it I shall not forget my Italian but think not. In Lisbon I met many who spoke it & in England particularly in London it is spoken by all fashionable people almost. I have met a Sicilian in this town whom I astonished one day by addressing him in his native tongue! I believe I can speak Italian better than Scotch. I like the Regiment pretty well there are some good gentlemanly officers in it, and I shall try to make myself as happy as the times will allow. I have bought a nice little Pony and there are some very pretty rides about. At present we have little to do and the chief amusements of the Officers are Racing hunting and shooting. In the midst of all my studies & amusements my thoughts often turn upon my dear friends at home & the first wish of my heart is that my dear Father, mother, brothers, sisters & all are well & happy [illegible]

[illegible] a memory of our pleasant [illegible]

MR 15 1811

1811

Elvas March [illegible]

My Dear [illegible]

[illegible] after living like a rather in the [illegible] and open fields for many days marching [illegible] with the [illegible] you may conceive that I have no small pleasure in being again under a roof. [illegible] entered this [illegible] very fortunately indeed for me as I [illegible] to feel the effects of sleeping in the field [illegible] the good bed I got last night has completely [illegible] off and this morning I am as well as ever. [illegible] many Packets have lately arrived but I have not yet heard from you since some time before I left Lisbon now about 6 or 7 long months. [illegible] you about a fortnight ago when I was there [illegible] but it would be a curious little history [illegible] relate what I have seen [illegible] and were I so well and in such good spirits that I shall [illegible] you some [illegible] idea such as the scenes come into my noddle. In the first place I was comfortable and [illegible] happy the 2 days I staid in Lisbon for there I [illegible] a very curious accidental way [illegible] half in love with a young lady of very respectable family [illegible] the house I was first billetted in and [illegible] acquaintance I made almost on my first [illegible] there at least the second day I was in Lisbon [illegible] her speaking French and then I could not make myself understood at all in the Portuguese language from her being so kind as to take the trouble [illegible] it was very [illegible] a sort of friendship commenced between us [illegible] generally [illegible]

between young people of different sexes borders closely on
a more tender passion, – but I am determined not
to throw away my heart altogether to a foreigner
although I may sometimes give a kind young lady
a bit of it. After Lisbon I my love I have nothing
almost but miseries & fighting to tell you of. The
first night after leaving the Metropolis & its luxuries
I slept in a little row-boat on the river, by
which I came up 40 miles, the next day I got to
where I left my horse, then I mounted him immediately
and rode 90 miles the same afternoon in expectation
of getting over the Tagus by a ferry boat to the
town where I left my servant & baggage but the
boat was not to be found that night having
been prepared for carrying stores to the army, I
was by that means benighted alone, far from
any town and besides I was in the part of the
country which the French had just left & completely
every house, every thing ravaged & destroyed, – I wandered
about in the dark & rain not knowing where
upwards of an hour & half till at last I espied at
a distance a light & made to it, where I found a
man wife & family going to bed in a little house
they had been to repair in the middle of a little
town quite in ruins. Fortunately I carried with me
in my saddle bags some bread, cold roast pork,
tea & sugar, or I should have had nothing to eat, for
they had only a few boiled herbs poor creatures
but were as kind as possible. when at first I
arrived they were frightened, but as I now
speak a good deal of the language I soon dispelled
their fears & made them happy by giving them
some

of my provisions, I was upon such terms of intimacy
very glad to get a little corner of their bedding amongst
the children where I slept soundly in my cloths till
day light amidst all the pretty collection of fleas
& other animals which in the morning I found had
been my bed fellows also – this is all in the way
of service – another night before I naked the regiment
I passed ~~the night~~ in an open stable along with my
horse & jackass & after joining, we have been generally
in the woods all night. – he who gets the best bed
to sleep under is the most fortunate man. On the
the 25th we got sight of the Enemy & drove him before
us for not less than 10 miles, they covered their retreat
chiefly with cavalry of which they had 2000, & in con-
sequence our cavalry were the only troops en-
gaged, they had generally
to fight all the day long with
three times their number but
on all occasions the 13th light
dragoons & two provisional regiments
of Cavalry, had the advantage but they lost a good many men.
the 13th behaved in the most brave & gallant manner, a
charged & cut thro' & thro' the French many times & also behaved
very bravely, & took killed & wounded great numbers.
Had the infantry been able to get up we would
have taken all his cannon & greater part of his
army, but although we marched as quick as
possible we could not get up with the nimble
footed gentlemen. They seemed to be terribly frightened
at our approach ~~that~~ for they left a fortified town
(Campo Mayor) on the way which had kept them
out 11 days, defended only by the inhabitants &
a few Militia & did not halt till they got into
Badajoz a very strong frontier town which fell
into their hands a fortnight ago from the treachery

of the Spaniards who defended. You have heard by this
of the battle fought by General Graham's little arm
where the Spaniards also ran away & deceived us. –
shall remain here about 2 days I think and
I believe we shall cross the Guadiana to att
Badajos where they have 8000 men and which w
cost us a good many lives both by balls & diseas
we must suffer from sickness at this season o
year lying in the field & we have no tents with th
army. – It is astonishing how well our little regiment

Mr [illegible] Smith

[illegible]

out through the fatiguing marches & they are all youn
boys & when they came first to this country 2 yea
they were so young that the Colonel used to call t
his children – and an old regiment in the same
used to be called our Great grandfathers. I was extr
pleased to see them the day of the 20th when it was ex
we would be engaged they were full of spirits & cayorting
get up it rained the whole day, & their great fear w
lest their locks should get wet – whenever it cleared up a
& when we halted you would have seen all the boys

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57 Salvaterra Portugal Spain
April 14th 1811

My Dear Brother

[illegible]

of another cast. The women are handsomer than the Portuguese but the men are suspicious, cut throat looking fellows. I have not seen a Spanish, I can read & understand a little but pronunciation is very guttural & rather difficult, but I think I shall soon be able to speak it. I was getting on very well with the Portuguese. The Enemy is flying before us on all directions, Lord Wellington has beat them to pieces on the other side & we have surrounded the two towns Olivenza & Badajos which contain about 20 of the fellows who cannot escape, but these towns are fortified and must undergo a regular siege before they are taken, if they do not surrender. The remainder of the French army which used to be this part of Spain, about 10 or 11,000 Cavalry & infantry has fled to the city of Seville which I suppose they will make their head quarters, and I don't think that we shall follow them, at least for some time till we have taken Olivenza & Badajos which will be made our head of stores. Since coming to the Country I have had more to do than I ever had before. The first thing after the march is to make our huts or wigwams if there is any wood in the neighbourhood, then we make our fires & get something to eat if we have or can get it and by that time after having settled our horse & packed up again our little baggage ready to move at the shortest notice by the next day, we are tired enough & glad to throw ourselves down to sleep, which we generally do soundly even tho' cold & wet. Yet I am in perfect health and all the troops are in general very well & this window constitute a daily change of scenery keep them alive and well I believe, it is however ~~but~~ very seldom that British troops have seen such campaigning. It is very different from our Sicilian Campaigning & more like the short business we had in Calabria & after Maida.

I am sorry to hear by your letters & the newspapers that the state of Commerce in Britain is so much as you all - by the accounts in the last papers it appears that the people in England are much dispirited in consequence of the many failures & the news of the extent of the trouble from Portugal must have had a good effect and has raised the stocks I suppose considerably. It was hinted out in some of the papers that a war between Russia & France was very likely to take place & if so we will be able to do a great deal in Spain having such a large army established on the continent ready to take advantage of the Enemy withdrawing any force or not being able to afford them supplies or reinforcements to his troops in this quarter. —

Los Santos April 17th 1811 —

Since writing the first part of this letter we have come 40 miles farther, and yesterday had a fight here with 2 regiments of French Cavalry of which we took 150, and had we not been all so tired, having marched 20 miles since 2 o'clock in the morning without sleep or breakfast, we should have had every one of them. On the 15th the town of Olivenza surrendered to us, in which we took 400 more prisoners and a division of our army is now detached to besiege Badajos in which are 2000 French which we shall certainly soon take also. From this you will see that all is well events, we are not idle particularly when you know that we have to deal with an active enterprising enemy. The Spaniards seem to be very well pleased to see us assaulting which we hear so much of the officers who were up here before say that they are more civil to us than they used to be, since they have had a trial of the French, who have a different mode of treating the people that they make them supply them with every thing and they then with nothing except kicks while we are in particular the people say that they think only of plundering & impressing. I have been sleeping two or three times out in the same clothes in which a night & two nights before slept very well. Kind Friends officers but it is not often in have the luxury of a bed. I do not like any of the Spanish wine I have met with, except my present landlord and I like

Rim because in his countenance he puts me in mind of my good old landlord the late Geo. Gray – I made him up by me last night at Suffers & had a long conversation with him. He told me he liked the British much & detested the French as treacherous rapacious race – but at the same time he had little faith in the fidelity & good intentions of the Junta or their generals. I asked him what the French said of the English & he said, that they acknowledged the English themselves good soldiers in the field but that they endeavoured to persuade the Spaniards every where that the English government had no good intentions towards Spain only in so far as suited its own views that was, by

keeping up the rebellion, tho' they saw that it was to the ultimate ruin of the country. They endeavoured also to persuade them to join cordially to support the French cause in Spain by letting them that the Dophin would never come out of Portugal to assist them, & that it would be to their greatest advantage to take up arms against us. – I have not heard from you if Annie & Maggie for a long time – I must forget any kindest compliments to Mrs Duff & family, I think I shall have an opportunity – I am speedingly hoping to hear of the welfare of Mr Duff's family, I think I shall

Almendralejo May 7th 1811

My Dear Mother,

You will hear oftener from me than when I was in Lisbon, yet I also will expect letters more frequently from you. What greater pleasure can we have than to receive each others news & to hear of each others welfare, since we cannot be together – Many a happy moment have I spent in reading your kind letters, and in writing to my nearest & dearest the happy times I have spent amongst my relations and friends. I wrote Brother William some time ago, to which, till to day, I have not had a moment to answer, for continual marching & attendance upon sick & wounded. We are a long way from the Enemy, but they seem off as if the Devil was after them and dare not come near us, and for the present it does not appear to be our intention to follow them up farther, as all wants till we take Badajos, for which purpose our Brigade marches tomorrow morning, ours I understand is to have the honour of being the leading brigade of the Division, which will give us opportunity of some of the officers and men of distinguishing themselves. I pity the poor inhabitants of this town who must suffer from our shot and shells as well as the French, for that we cannot altogether avoid. This amidst the miseries, is what the inhabitants of a country the seat of war are exposed to, – this is the effect of the ambition of that thirsty Tyrant Bonaparte upon whom the curse of many people – of many nations must lie. The ends and means of his government are alike cruel & terrible. Insatiable ambition guides the whole, regardless of the miseries, comforts, & of the principles of justice. The land neither freedom, comfort, nor morality – & at the Bonaparte uses them with the external show of triumph and glory, at their homes, they tremble and tarse with

them because
my good ol
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him. He t
French as
time he h
heirs of the
the French
the English
entertained
English gover
only in the

sorrow & the sweat of their brows the conscriptions and co
lections, that their neighbours may do the same. Bu
ickly suffers much from the long struggle but the
should even be more distressed I hope it will alway
able to keep the foes at a distance from its sho
however may they arrive to disturb the cheerful, independ
peasantry of my country, the neat rural cottages, the
stantial farm houses, & the peaceful industrious tow
this country we from two seperate armies, and we are
nearly 200 distant from each other. In the other arm
they have seen more of the inhuman ravages of th
enemy than we have. I had a letter yesterday fr
friend in it, and he says "the enormities committed b
French in setting off are really beyond description
as you could not suppose civilized beings capab
and in another part he says" I really did not think
before that they had been so barbarous I saw gen
men and women who from their old age could
harm, inhumanly murdered by them" — What a
scene, it is no wonder that after this the Portuguese
curse the race of the French & vow an eternal
to them. Were it not for the English, they would
take a single prisoner they say we are too
mercifull to the rascals, and if they had it in
power of the 12,000 prisoners we have here in Ton
they would butcher every man of them in cold

Your letter with Will's could not fail to give me
greatest pleasure, I was happy to hear you kept
your health so well — I enjoy the best health
thank God, and like Spain very much, the people
to think better of us, seeing the difference the
between us & the French, & I am very fond of the
Spanish language which is noble & majestic. Ma
officers & soldiers come in your way to be kill
[illegible]

kind to their poor fellows, they often have a hard
of it for your sakes. I had a billet a few days ago
on a house the Landlady of which was very kind
civil to me because she said she had a son
in my army and some person perhaps would be kind
him. I told her that I was sure my mother
and, if ever he came to her house — The old Lady
were very great friends in a short time & she said
marching in the morning that if ever I came
that way again I must come & stay at her house
my first arrival in Spain before I could speak hardly
of the language I found my station of ease, this
second time I have found it of ease to me in speaking
When I first went to inhabit the
Landlord of my house and I explained
ourselves to each other in Italian
the Italian & here I was obliged to
converse in it three or four times as
I could not speak Spanish & they did
understand English, French, or Italian nor
Portuguese. In a letter I wrote to you from Lisbon
I inclosed £10 or £12 which if you require you may take as
of or all you like, or if you do not need it Papa
keep it for me, but it is at all times at my
services whenever you need it & all I have
afraid Papa has not been able to get the
the bill I sent home to that amount as I am
willing to pay more for him — however I expect
accounts of all in your next letters to me.
are very hard for money at present it is more
2 months that this army has received any pay &
is hardly one of us worth a sixpence. Every
provisions being scarce make living very dear
had letters from my old quarters Sicily.

Elvas. May 14th 1811. I came here with a detachment of sick men a few days ago and they will not let me go to the Army again for the present. We have a great many men killed and wounded in besieging Badajos which has not yet surrendered, and I have got charge of a Division in the General Hospital of the wounded men. Being one of the oldest assistant Surgeons I have been appointed to operate & have cut off a great many limbs, I never before performed so many Operations, and all my cases are doing extremely well I have been quite fagged these two days past but I am happy in being able to be of use to our fine brave fellows. The French made a sortie to destroy our Batteries on the 10th but they were soon driven in again with great loss without being able to effect their purpose our loss however was also great nearly 100 killed & 400 wounded we expect a battle on the 20th. The French are coming down & are within 30 Miles of us — love & compliments to all.

Lisbon June 29th 1811.

My Dear Father

59

The most disagreable and unpleasant duty I ever had in my life has again brought me to this capital. I came down from Elvas with 170 badly wounded men on Bullock Carts, which is a distance of 100 miles & took us 9 days at the rate of 12, 15 & 20 miles a day. In almost all the cases were broken limbs & amputations the poor creatures were quite helpless and suffered dreadfully from the jolting, & what men were left severely wounded and able to move about were the greatest rascals I ever met with. I shall only just mention one instance to you where they entered a house on the way side, having stalled from the party, and actually stole a petticoat off a woman's body — as to robbing their helpless comrades instead of assisting them and getting drunk these were daily occurrences — It is hard to say which are to be most pitied the Doctors or the wounded but we must not complain, every department and every individual belonging to the army has his share of employment in this country, and the most pleasing thing of all is that we see no likelihood of its having a termination except we lose our life or a limb, when we must rest in tranquility or be invalided. When we come down here all the people are very kind to us

but the army certainly deserves it of them, it has gained much glory, & has endured a great deal for them. It is a melancholy thing to see the immense number of our fine young Officers wounded in the Streets of Badajoz, some without legs & arms, some on crutches, some blind led by others, some with their faces miserably disfigured a nose cut off or a cheek, all maimed or disabled at least for a time, in some way or other to the amount of 5 or 6,00 nearly thank God I have hitherto escaped although often I have been with my comrades when the chance was whether it should be he or I. In this campaign it is almost a constant scene of fighting. We had beat the Enemy soundly on both sides of the Tagus & Guadiana, and we expected a little peace from him for some time after, but he has still a great army and we have to expect nearly the same hard marching and fighting still. We are getting out reinforcements daily, but it is only like filling up our broken ranks, I suppose besides what have died in the course of the last 2 months we have 10,000 sick and wounded in the Hospitals in different parts of the Country, which with their attendants would make a pretty strong army alone. Our gallant Commander shews us the best example, he is indefatigable & is here there and everywhere where there is a chance of any thing being done. The Spaniards are picking up spirits since the battle of Albuera they fought well there themselves but the intrepidity of the British

by their sides made them stare with astonishment. They cheered our lads from all their ramparts (Well done Britons you deserve to conquer!) and I understand they give us the highest praise in their papers. I must set off again for the army directly although I am a little loath to leave so soon the kind family whose house I am billeted upon. It is a superb house, the young ladies play very prettily upon the Piano forte and the old Lady a good motherly woman has made me almost as much at home as if I were one of the family. My next Landlady may be a queen who will hardly let me into her house and will shut up all her daughters

till I am gone. We are not sorry to leave such houses as these. This is a great Holiday amongst the Portuguese and there is a very great show of beauty and fashion. The ladies are now playing some English country dances in the next room with which I am very much delighted. we dont hear these every day in the field. I think if I were with you & hearing a country dance or a reel struck up, I should be inclined to shake my foot in the dance yet. It is better than this campaigning work, I am nearly tired of it & in fact I believe we are all so. I expect that the last Packet has brought out some letters for me but they have gone up to the Regt. & I may not get them for some time yet. I must now go to visit the wounded Officers

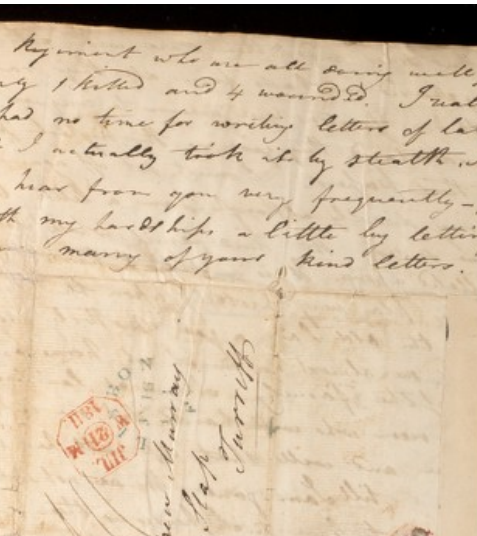
Camp
Near Messina Sicily
Aug. 27 1860

My dear Father

I am so much about and have so much to do and think of that I really do not recollect from what place I last wrote to you but I believe it was from Sicily. I have been all sailing since I left that with the wounded men, stay there a few days and have now joined the regiment again. We are in camp where in little huts made of the branches of the cork trees we are broiling all day in the sun with so little comfort about us that we consider the refreshing breeze of the evening and the cool nights are amongst the greatest we enjoy. It is equally hot here as in Sicily and we have none of the great heavy dews that we have there — I mean the great abundance of dew which almost there supplies all the year round. It is there a duty of the Magistrates to get a regular supply for their respective villages, and nothing would sooner excite a mutiny amongst the inhabitants against the Magistrates than their neglecting this part of their duty. I have seen the greatest discontent and mutiny if any day it did not come in, or if it was scarce or late in arriving, and from the nature of their

a description of the treatment I received from the officers who [illegible]

from my regiment who are all doing well, we had only 1 killed and 4 wounded. I really have had no time for writing letters of late except I actually took it by stealth. I shall hope I shall hear from you very frequently — from you both my hardships a little by letting me have many of your kind letters.



I hope you all enjoy most perfect felicity & health. Something makes my feelings warm because I think that I am so much nearer to you than I was. I hope I shall soon be so near as to be able to give you all a most affectionate squeeze by the hand. My kindest love to my Mother, Wm & all at Blackhouse and enquiring friends. Ever your own

Mr Murray

have I an expect a letter from you if you are within 30 miles of us — best compliments

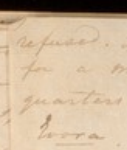
accustomed cool refreshing beverage made from it. I have seen them quite languid and spiritless as if depressed after their native powers. — Here I have got a plan of cooling & purifying the water in a large porous earthen jar which no one else in the regiment has, and it is a great treat for the officers to come and get a drink of it.

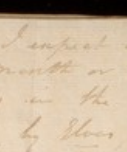
Since I came up from Lisbon I have met two friends whom I had not seen for several years. One of them is a Mr Stewart who was in the same class with me at College & fellow student with Dr Ryee. I had not seen him since parting at Aberdeen. The other was the companion of my campaigns in Naples & Sicily until we came with Sir Jno Moore to Gibraltar, when he went home & I returned to Sicily. I can hardly describe the pleasure I had in meeting them and in talking over our old stories. We had corresponded in this country but our regiments till now were so far seperated that we could not before get together. If the meeting with these friends afford us such pleasure, what must be my delight to get amongst my still dearer relatives & friends around my native spot in Scotland. I even think in the hills the trees and the rivers with considerable emotion & I shall even hail Tee as old acquaintance.

On arriving at the regiment my beloved kind affectionate letter was put into my hand. I could have given her a heart, kiss for her pretty letter so full of interesting stories of all my dear friends. What pleasure it is to me to hear that you are all well and that her little children are such fine boys. I can easily conceive how much pleasure you will have from seeing them running & playing about Hope as we used to do when young. She tells me also that Mama thinks little John like me which flatters me as much, because you always say that he is a fine boy. I shall not have to meet Charles about the country now for some time as I am in charge of the regiment, the Major having gone away sick. Our first Battalion is coming from Sicily and this one is going home, when perhaps I shall have a chance of going home with it. Perhaps the time of our meeting is nearer at hand than any of us expect. The French have again retired. We offered them battle here but they [illegible] a description of the treatment & escape of an officer [illegible]

My compliments to Mr & Mrs Menzies at Blackhouse and enquiring friends wherever you hear of them. I expect a letter from Mr Menzies soon, I am within 30 miles of him. Love & compliments

refused. I expect we shall remain quiet
for a month or two at least and p
quarters in the towns in a line fr
Torres by Thomar, Campo Mayor, & Portale
to Castello Branco. Having no table
write you on my knee, lying on my
House, when I write night I then





shall have a table and be more comfor
but as thank God I always enjoy the
most perfect health I have no reas
to complain of want of comforts, th
this is the chief blessing of this life.
Adieu. My warmest love to you a
and Jane most affectionately
Your ever faithful
W.m Murray

at Blackhouse and enquiring friends — ever yours
Mr. Murray
we expect a battle near
Doure, & are within 30 Miles of us — love & compliments

Villa Viçosa Aug.t 27 1811

My Dear Brother

I believe that I have not written to you directly
for some time, but it would be very ungrateful in me not to
return you many thanks for your pretty letters and fortunately
I now intend to send you a long one, to make up if I have been
neglectful — I have often so much to think of, that I should
neglect to whom I write, although I am generally a pretty
regular correspondent. The last news I had from you are of the
6th June, and I assure you that all your little stories do well
amuse me exceedingly, and it gives me much joy to see that
my Dear Father & Mother think I am mindful of them. I am
sure he must be a very bad man, who could be undutiful to
such kind parents, and Brothers & Sisters. Yes My Dear William
I am sensible that neither the distance, nor the length of my ab-
sence have diminished your affections, and my heart warms when
you tell me that you often think of me and talk about me.
What ungrateful sons and Brothers there are you mention who
neglect so much to write to their friends if they have it in their
power. I am highly fortunate in being remembered by some
young ladies, as you inform me, & much indebted to them for
their enquiries. I can assure them that there is any few things I
regret so much, as the loss of their most agreable & polite
society — that is the school for Humanity, which I am sorry to
say is here altogether out of our reach. At Lisbon the number
of accomplished Ladies is great, but officers have very little
time for dallying there, and in the interior of the country
we generally find them so ignorant, that they can neither
read nor write, from a mistaken notion of their parents that
they may not correspond with the young ones, but I cannot
be expected that such ignorant young women can make good
wives or mothers of families. — In Spain this prejudice is not
carried to such a height, at Salamanca I met a very pretty young
~~maiden~~ lady who took considerable pains to teach me to read the
Spanish language, & she had a younger sister, 7 years old
whom I thought much of, as she resembled you in the face
& who could already read & write. I had six weeks very hard
work after I left that, at Elvas, although I reaped the greatest
benefits from it, but interfered many scenes of sorrow. I
might describe many, however I think the subject too sad
a one for to enter upon here, but shall ~~then~~ attempt to give
a description of the treatment & usage of an officer who was
[illegible] of Marshal Beresford during the

wounded & taken prisoner by the French at Albuera, and in which he was
blind the [illegible] day, when he arrived after his escape. The Officer is
Major Brock of the 48th Regiment, who is upwards of 60 years of age,
and a very venerable looking man from his hair being perfectly
grey, so that we cannot help feeling pity and being interested in
attending to his story of hardships & observations. He received a
very severe wound in the head which laid his skull open, in the
battle, from one of the Polish lancers, and was barbarously
dragged about, after surrendering himself a prisoner by some of
the French soldiers for his watch, clothes and money. This money
consisted of 12 guineas, 3 Doblons & 25 Dollars and was nearly
the last thing they found, and was on his uniform coat and he would
not tell where it was which probably made them use him worse.
They would not believe that he was not a higher rank than what
he said and consequently although almost dead of his wound they
carried him along with them; for he could not walk. He had
not got away the same before the whole French army began to
give way, and he says he never witnessed such a scene of confusion
and terror as appeared amongst them. Our fire upon them at
that moment he describes as tremendous, and the shouts of
victory from the British redoubts cheered up his drooping
spirits. He expected as well as the Enemy that we should
follow them up, & that at least all the prisoners would be
cleared, but the great superiority of the Enemy in Cavalry rendered
it dangerous for us to leave the hill we had gained, and follow
them thro the plains, & he was therefore disappointed and had to
walk all the way to Seville, a distance of 60 or 70 miles, supported
by a man, with nothing more to eat than a little boiled rice now &
then. The French said that they fled for want of Officers to remain
them, and that Soult himself (as in fact he allowed in his Dispatch)
to Bonaparte) having all his Staff officers killed wounded or
dismounted, was much dismayed. Five French Generals were killed
and wounded 11 Colonels and a proportionate number of other
the greater number of our prisoners taken there, who were not wounded,
escaped. The Spaniards shewed them great attention but the
French army, they had no civility nor compassion for the wounded
men. The wounded English officers at Seville were all confined
in one large room and the Spanish ladies used to come to the
window and talk to them, and seemed particularly to pity the
fate of Major Brooks from his age & venerable grey locks I
suppose, but he was not a very great help in not understanding
a single word of the language. The disadvantage of not understanding the language of the country a person is in, are very
numerous, & it deprives him besides of many pleasures, and
the best source of obtaining information on the state of the
country & of the manners and customs of the inhabitants.
The day before he made his escape which was on the 2d July
he expect a rescue [illegible]
Down, & are within 30 Miles of us — [illegible]

a Spanish Pocket Book into his hand containing [illegible]
which he did not discover till many days after he was [illegible]
had crossed the Black mountains and of which he did not
understand the contents till I explained them to him after
dinner — In it she mentions her admiration of his fortitude in
supporting his mind against the weight of his misfortunes,
and the esteem she has in consequence formed for his character.
She tells him also that when she could not come herself she
had always made a point of enquiring for him every day & sending him her respects by a Senor Don Diego, (whom he recollects as a very good attentive man but did not understand
what he said to him) and she concludes by professing her
esteem for the generous Britons, & her attachment to the
crown of his Brittannic Majesty. — It is signed, A, but
he does not recollect the person who gave it to him, nor when
he received it exactly. Men were allowed to come into the
Prison to visit the Prisoners but whether any one ever made proposals to him for escaping on a former occasion, he does not know,
however on the 2d July a man came into the prison whom he so
far understood, that if he was willing, he would return at a
certain hour at twilight, dressed in two suits of clothes one under
the other, in order to supply him with
a Countryman's habit by which he might
be enabled to pass the Sentinels and
make his escape. It was so settled and
the man came accordingly & left the dress
and the room, saying that after he was
out in the street for some time he would take care to con-
duct him to his own house. The Major lost no time in dressing
himself, which he did undiscovered by many Officers in the room, and
those who saw him asked with surprize what he was about — he said
he was to be off — impossible they replied, we have 2 Sentinels at
the room door, 2 at the outer door & 2 at the Garden gate all of
whom you have to pass besides the convalescents walking about.
He said he did not care, he was determined to try a desperate one after
had also brought him, and then having them some Instruments
which he had procured for cutting the bars of the windows, and
bidding them "Good bye" he marched out through guards and
all without suspicion, into the streets, where having wandered
about for a little, he observed his deliverer, whom he followed
into a little garden & who afterwards, having seen the coast
clear first took him to his house, where he remained 3 days.
During this time, the man told him that from the first time he
came to visit the prisoners, which was 3 or 4 days before, he was
struck with his appearance and the happiness of his letter that he
got no sleep nor rest till he had liberated him and that his
sensations were such, he was certain he never could have seen at ease

Vincente, in Spain Nov.r 1811

My Dear Sarah

This is the only day we have had anything like a halt in any leisure or tranquility of mind since we marched out to meet the enemy who we soon had the pleasure to see here. However now we can give you an account of the glorious result for a Prisoner. Had you not read the Evening Post you would have and had enough to have described to you the incredible hardships which the troops have suffered during this last forced, rapid & bitter march they have had, to this day. Suffice it to say we have marched over a country destitute of roads and with the rain of the heavens & the enemy in the front, allowed to have no time to dress, or even to take off our knapsacks, only to lie down amid the rain & cold & wet & eat a little bread & cheese & drink all the water we have had since the 22d. We have had Cholera & Rotting & we took with hardly any the 6th inst. about 1500 prisoners, all kinds of baggage, all & any wealth, and all the military chest, & we are yet at the Corp. 6th Div. Lieut. Gen. Graham's & have many far. Officers & Soldiers, amongst the prisoners, as also Commissariat, amongst the Generals & Commanding officers of Brigades & Regiments, the Marquis of Gramby, Lord Wellington, the

Spain much emaciated. I find I have taken up a great part of the letter with this account, but I have very little other news to give you. Lord Wellington has gone off to the North of Portugal to invest or perhaps to besiege Ciudad Rodrigo. He moved at this time to prevent them getting in the harvest on that vicinity. It is better there than here, where a month ago it was finished, and they thresh it out immediately, or rather tread out the grain with horses & oxen. They are a century behind you in all the arts of husbandry. They do not manure their lands but take a crop or two at most off them & then for many years have the natural grass and fallow. I cannot help thinking how happy I should be if I had some of the good soil & good crops of Kilmarnock within 30 miles of me — but I compare

Sept. 1811

Mrs Sarah Murray
Kilmarnock
Scotland

Prince d'Arenberg who is married to Miss of Bruxelles. There are [illegible] the Stages [illegible] taken at Wavre to which point after [illegible] marched after the Battle and took and [illegible] have seen. The French have lost a great many in killed & wounded both officers & men. Our loss is not more I believe than 10 men killed 5 or 6 officers wounded and about 1 hundred men. Our regiment has one Captain & Lieut killed and 2 or 3 wounded since to the [illegible] has the greatest share.

The French Corps which was sent out in pursuit of consisted of [illegible] 5000 and when we came in sight of them we [illegible] to send them off to the [illegible] but they have [illegible] off the lanes before the [illegible] was then ready to march off after them [illegible] time upon the road but little thought that we were so near them for we had marched all day long the previous day to get up with them and all night which they had no idea we should have been able to do. But every [illegible] some proof of the excellence of British soldiers, on the marches we could not help admiring the spirit which they all showed on the advance. Our regiment is composed chiefly of young lads and was much amused on the marches to see that when they were so tired that they could scarcely go on they began to whistle some favourite tune

altogether, as over the hills far away we they began to talk about their revenge they would take on the French for all these hardships if they got up, and all they said at night when it rained they were not allowed to make fires was well but as get out our blankets and lie down

Our meeting with the Enemy hardly deserves the name of a Battle although there was some smart skirmishing; for as soon as he discovered that we had got so near, his dispositions were more for a flight than a defence.

Their General in Chief Grouchy marched with three or four hundred men by a neighbouring bridge which he crossed before us and got off the chiefly from the circumstance of his not throwing away his knapsacks ~~from them~~ which displeased them much and from our men being so much fatigued whilst his were fresh, they had slept that night in town. The ~~[illegible]~~ part of the French cavalry have also escaped as they made off when we first appeared. It was so far ~~[illegible]~~ for us that it rained in torrents for many hours during our advance and in fact during all the time of the Battle and as the rain was in our back, consequently in the enemy's face, his guards and pickets could not see so soon nor so distinctly as our advance

guards saw them. But without [illegible]
from our bed camp at two o'clock [illegible]
at day light we were already [illegible]
we had little more to prepare [illegible]
to form our line and lead [illegible]
against them. The steady [illegible]
directed movements of the troops at this [illegible]

when we were as yet uncertain whether or not
the Enemy was ~~[illegible]~~ equal in nume-
rous, with some of the best troops that
does least of were admirable. General
commanded us, he has always been below
the Soldiers & to him the greatest pra-
due. This will be reckoned on the most
things which has been effected during the [illegible]

Albuquerque Bicos, 1811.

My Dear Father

Pray tell me if you pay double postage for long sheets

63

By a letter from Blackhouse I was rejoiced to hear of the welfare of all my friends there, and at Skaf, up to the 25th of Oct. on which day it was dated, and I was also happy to read William's account of the good harvest you have had, at which he tells me you still stand a stout hand, and take delight in it. I believe I was never of much use to you in the farming way, I was too lazy and idle to work. It is certainly the most healthy, natural, comfortable and happy situation in life, that of a good farmer, there is no post without its cares, - those of the husbandman I conceive to be chiefly for his crops as depending so much upon the weather are consequently derived from the great rulers of nature more directly in appearance, & to which therefore he is more resigned. In other respects he has not so many crosses as those who mix more with the world, he lives more tranquil, and more regular, his bed affords him more refreshing repose, after the wholesome toils of the day and these altogether concur, (with the blessing of the Almighty) in rewarding him with the next greatest blessing which man can possess, which is health of body. Without this what are riches, fine houses, land & luxuries? They may bring cares, as they always do, but never enjoyment & happiness. Sickness preys upon the ocean. That you be

all, the blessings, without feeling any of the cares or crosses, is my constant prayer. It is my first wish that you may be healthy & happy, and when I know that to be the case it is always enough to make me so also – I wrote to Mrs Murray Blackhouse last week. I esteem her much, and long to be acquainted with so kind a Sister – she writes me such interesting and affectionate letters that I am sure she must be very agreeable & good hearted. – In my letter to her, I mentioned that probably I should be obliged to draw a few pounds on Scotland, as the expence here is so great to keep oneself at all decent & comfortable. I find my pay too little here, although in the Mediterranean I was able to save some money – The waste in clothes is beyond calculation, for sometimes I have been two or three weeks constantly sleeping in my cloths, when in front of the enemy, to be always ready, or when in camp, to keep myself warm at night – and I must have two coats a year, which cost me about £4 each – therefore in case I should draw £20 or £30 on Mr Anderson & Morrison, I hope you will give him advice to honour my bill. We are more than three months in arrears of pay, I should be pretty well, if I had that, but as I had a slight attack of the ague this Summer, at Villa Viciosa, of which I believed I never told you, I do not like to let myself be in want of any thing, on that account for fear of its coming on again, which I hope not – We just hear of the French being in motion again, but I hope we shall not have any more marching this winter or at least no more sleeping in the fields which however cannot be avoided on these occasions, when the army required to be moved in a body; as the towns are in general too large enough to hold it, & besides in the fields it is more ready for action. I hardly expect that they will let us spend our Christmas quietly, happy may you pass the season in the society of joyful friends & sharing in the usual amusements, while you forget the winter's cold, at the side of your cheery blazing fires, helping liberally around of the fine smoking dishes from the fat Mart, and drinking your bowls of hot Whisky punch.

What an interesting sight it would be for me, to step in upon you on such an occasion, or to find you surprised in the big room, all some gay young lads & bonnie lasses, trifling it away to Jenny dang the weaver or Maggie Lauder. – Or even to find you all set round the table, to laut or catch the ten. I would give a month's pay to spend an evening with you with such a party, aye, three too, & we should have a song too from our sweet Jean, and the good-nights should be sealed by a kiss! But at present I must content myself with thinking only of those happy scenes, and in wishing you all the full enjoyment of them, with many returns of the season. – I am quite delighted to hear that my Dear Mama, has got so much better, about the harvest time – I long to see you, My Dear Parents, & to have an opportunity of testifying in person, how much I honour & love you, for the kindness & tender affection which

always experienced from you both, and as my duty
as a Son in gratitude dictates. — I shall not
forget to answer in due time William's affectionate
letters and Portraits. He seems to have a fine time
of it. I suppose he does not repent now that he
followed your profession rather than mine. —
Our first Battalion has been halted in the

rear of the army, on account of its being affected
with the eye, consequently there has been a draft
yet taken place, and I have not heard any
thing more about my promotion on the Portuguese
Medical Staff which by the bye I am not very
anxious about, but at all events I shall not be
at home at present. I shall write again when
occasion presents — I am in expectation of having
a Staff Son — My kind love to all — from your
affectionate Son, Peter Mead

Lisbon 7th Oct. 1811

My Dear Friends, we departed out the bay
with have received a Summons on Saturday
evening, and getting supper before we went to
bed, as our drums are beating for 8 o'clock
I may just come from dinner, it is intended to
make a trade in hides, the hides are very
cheap. Domingo my Spanish Servant has found
fault for me against I came home. You must
know that in the Country there are no fire places
and the people, or the poor, the fuel is all wood and
is used here into warm the rooms in winter. They
have large Copper dishes in which they put the
wood ashes which give a heat sufficient to
the kitchens there are fire places, like that
in our Staff and in these we clean and
the people we generally go there to sit round them
in the cold evenings. We drink wine and the
wine is good. Those who like smoke
their pipes afterwards. The Spaniards all smoke
morning noon. Night not exactly the young
ladies but I have seen the elder ones do it
the best tobacco in this place is that
of Santocha. I neither smoke tobacco nor take
snuff. I left perhaps in fine state in the
evening. On account of the want of coal in
the Spanish houses, we feel them very cold
although the weather is not near so much
as in Britain. We have had frost but not snow.

10th

I can only add [illegible] the [illegible] friendship to protect you from the [illegible] cold but [illegible] that purpose a pair of good worsted hose or a flannel waistcoat will answer better. [illegible] have [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] upon the [illegible] of [illegible] there [illegible] not in this [illegible] want [illegible] practice forgotten [illegible] of [illegible] upon the [illegible] will do [illegible] recollect what a disagreeable [illegible] is when the [illegible] [illegible] and carry away the bridges and no horse can pass at the fords without danger of being carried down. the meadows are covered with water and the people look at the flood [illegible] changes [illegible] nature [illegible] being so far above the [illegible] being [illegible] or chance [illegible] the [illegible] almighty Creator. [illegible] written [illegible] great changes at my return [illegible] young friends [illegible] grown [illegible] and many others who are getting advanced in years will have additional wrinkles but I hope [illegible] in their [illegible] towards me they remain the same [illegible] hearts have not undergone [illegible] change in this respect [illegible] will [illegible] them all [illegible] have [illegible]

I am called to attend a [illegible] unfortunate fellows — a Medical Officer [illegible]

11th

When we are asked [illegible] Music or to dance [illegible] have to [illegible] offered us to [illegible] the dancing [illegible] stops till day light in the morning. [illegible] not the same idea of hospitality as the British & in the same way [illegible] — they call at any hour in the day without their offering you any thing except they are at dinner or just sitting down to it. [illegible] remember how different this is with you where no person of your acquaintance calls even at the door who is not presented with biscuit & dram. yet the Spaniards are kind to us in their own way too, they send us fruit wine, & invite us into their societies.

They are a strange mixture of fidelity civility & deceit falsehood — in their hearts I am sure they do not like us in general although they say they do but they have been faithful to us so far as to give us always good information of the French whilst they on the contrary can hardly ever get from them correct information of us, and in different towns they have kept some of our stores hid from the Enemy till [illegible] and we returned. —

The diversion of the bull fights is what appears one of the most extraordinary of this Country they first enrage the Bulls & then let them loose in an inclosed place where men attack them armed

with Spears & lances sometimes on horseback
sometimes on foot. It happens now and
that the Bulls gore the men & horses but
their horns are muffled with cloth so that
seldom wound them when they gore the
This is astonishing how expert & active
are in getting out of the Bull's way
Now, in the neck, which is the place
Chiefly aim to strike at ——

16th Sunday Evening has come round
again and our first Battalion has not
joined. I have written to day to Tom
Meggie it will go enclosed but you will
pleased to post a cover on it before
it, it will put you to the expence of
double letter but you will not mind
as Thomas they will be pleased to hear
from me and they deserve richly every

Almondalejo, 15th May 1813

My own dear Mother, 65

I was very highly delighted to receive William's long and most interesting letter about ten days ago, and above all it made me so happy to find that you were so well and spending your time so pleasantly amongst your friends. I only wish that I had been in the corner, to have partaken of your parties and feasting, I think I should have enjoyed myself better than here. William I see is getting quite the gay young man, and I shall stand no chance with him, although he says he will do all he can, to keep one of the fair ones for me. You may tell him that I wrote a very fine young Lady near his part of the country whom he must of course know, a long letter yesterday, & let him find out who she is. I sincerely wish the new married couple every happiness, and I hope you will have the kindness to offer them my warmest congratulations. This example will probably have a good effect on the Batchelors in the neighbourhood, — in your peaceful corner of the world they have no excuse, but here, where the houses are constantly full of soldiers sometimes friends, sometimes foes, and in danger of being plundered or burnt, — with the younger

liable every day, to be taken away as a soldier, how can the people marry with any prospect of happiness, or comfort, or peace of mind?

I am rather anxious to hear again from Blackhouse, that my dear Sister & little nephew are doing well. What a source of delight that fine little family must be to their parents. they seem to be putting off the giving me any pieces, till the last. I am sure that I should have much pleasure to see all the little boys, what a novelty it will be for me to find such a great change at home when I come home.

It is pleasing for me to know that you had such a good crop last year, when there seems unfortunately to have been a scarcity in many other parts, it makes us quite melancholy here to find there has been so much rioting in different parts of Britain. The prospect of success in Spain is good at present, and it would be particularly so if a few more reinforcements could be spared us from England, but I am afraid the troops will be required to keep the people quiet at home. Nothing has given the Spaniards more joy than the taking of Badajos, which immediately liberated the whole province of Estramadura of the Enemy, and has been a great blow to the French, as it is of the highest importance to our safety and future operations. It is of the greatest relief also to Portugal, as the burthen of quartering the military is now now transferred to the Spaniards and we shall get the supplies of this fertile province which the Enemy possessed last year, which will make provisions cheaper & more plenty in Portugal.

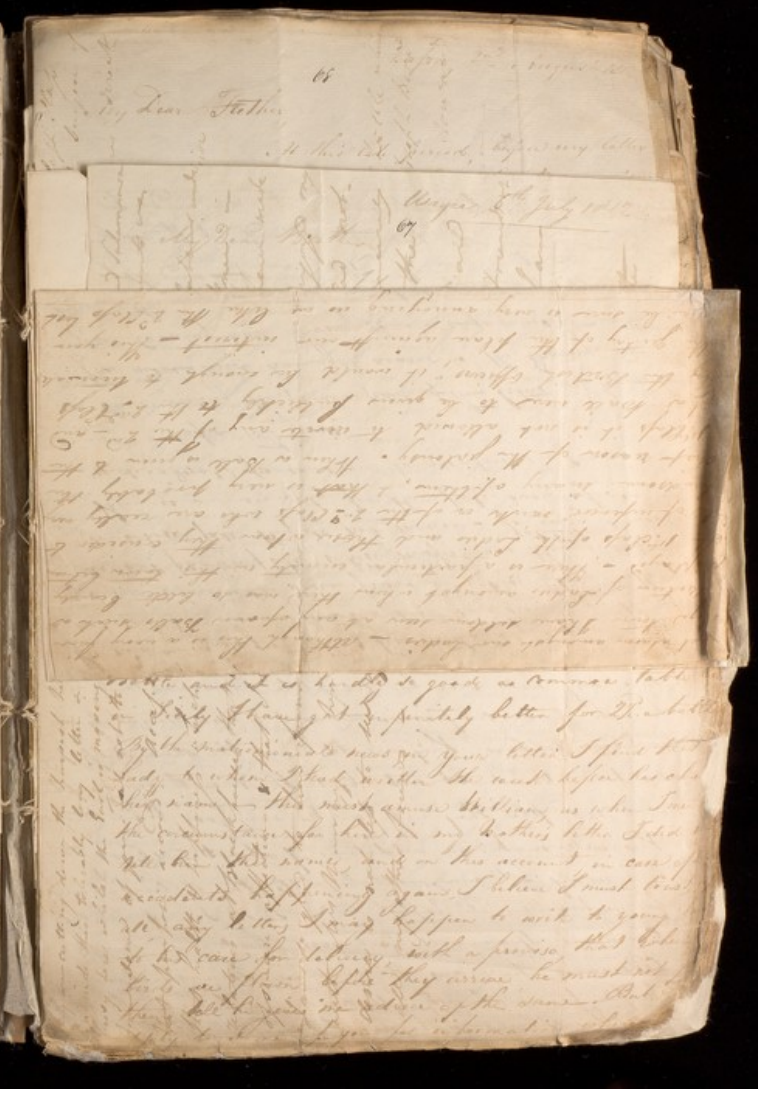
The French force is much weakened of late in this Country, the Russian war has drawn off a considerable number of them troops, and they are every day losing some by the Spaniards. The Garrison of Badajos consists of 5000 of the choice troops, our loss in taking it was more than at first was calculated upon, of course you will have seen in the newspapers that [illegible] killed and wounded it may afterwards [illegible]

The wounded are doing as well as can be expected, the weather all now has been very favourable for them, and not too hot, but within these few days it has begun to get of a higher temperature, and we may soon expect it to be very hot.

I am afraid that the Russians will not be able to stand long against Bonaparte, and that the French will be able to have a footing in Spain, till he can return from the north with reinforcements to their assistance. The Spaniards must see that we is their [illegible] or never most probably, that they will have a chance of liberating their country, and I dare say that they will make some exertion but they must be great ones, to be crowned with success. It is probable I think, that we shall advance before long to take Seville & to raize the siege of Cadiz

When I began this letter I was thinking that it was a long time since I had written to you, but upon second thoughts, I believe my last to Sleap was addressed to you, about the 25th March – this one therefore should have been to my kind Father, who is so mindful of me in this country, – so anxious for my welfare, telling me so generously not to want while he can give me – but it is no matter to which of you I write – you are all equally

dear to me and I am sure that he will know that he is nearest to me, although I may happen to direct to any other. My letters are to you all, and as I consider always that I am writing to three persons in one, I often forget to which I addressed the preceding. I am happy to hear that my friend at Kinglassie & Dunfermline are healthy & hearty as can be expected. Greet them with my most friendly salutations whenever an opportunity offers. My heart glows with grateful colours whenever you tell me that any one kindly enquires for me, & pours thro' the [illegible] fall not forget that I remember them at Blackburn, accept the hope of some



Pernambuco 10 June 1812.

66

My Dear Father

Whilst writing the last to my brother I blamed himself with the neglect of not sending us a few lines by the opportunity of a vessel which sailed to the pleasure of postponing commencing by learning that all the Boston friends were well & that you enjoyed good health I am sorry that you had any degree of trouble with the bills. But the amount is so much less than many which have been charged me & little or nothing, and I consider myself as having had a good escape, for it was nearly the two or three times that I now. It would be a difficult thing to spend much money about any of us now days. It goes here nearly as fast as it comes & you may well say that we would wish things as cheap as they are with you. I shall just mention the prices of a few of the articles in the way of provisions - Bread 1/. W. pound. Cheese 2/6 Butter 4/ Sugar 2/6 Potatoes 9/ a bowl 2/6 and Wine 2/6 a bottle. Brandy or Gin 6/. a bottle of Porter 4/6 Bottle Portwine 6/ a pint of Milk 8/ (not a scotch pint but a common bottle) a pound of Ham 2/6 - N.B. and you recollect that the pounds here are only 14 or 15 ounces. The common wine of the country which we get here is 2/6 a bottle and it is handed as good as common table wine. Sixty Ham get unsuitably better for 2/. a bottle.

By the unfortunate news in your letter I find that Lady to whom I had written the court before has changed her name. This must amuse Williams as when I mentioned the circumstance for her in my brothers letter I said I tell him the name and on this account in case of accidents happening again, I believe I must trust all any letters I may happen to write to young to his care for delivery with a proviso that before they are shown he must not [illegible] they arrive he must not [illegible] me advice of the same. But [illegible] to do me the favor to inform [illegible]

reports are circulated that I may keep at a distance from them
whereas he might not be involved to become my advocates.
I wrote to Mr Pratt lately from whom I received some cards
offered by Mr Williamson but I have never yet heard
from Mr Lyall since I left Britain although I have
written to him. – I have seen since I came to this place
of the Country the good old man who pats me so much
in mind of the departed Landlord of my younger days
and have been at his house. I know not what sympathy
may exist in his case but he really appeared to be as
happy to see me as I was to see him. I went also
to call on the young Spanish Lady at Talavera whom I
think was the Brother William. She had not forgotten
Mrs Brown & called to my little Sister, and she asked particularly
for the one in my family who used to kill her
the cockroaches. – I felt a great pleasure in coming back
again to see my old Landlord's Sundays especially as I
have been kindly received on every case on these two days
seem happy to see me. With some of them I corresponded
in the early language to which I am now tolerably
familiar. It is at the same time a means of improvement
for me in foreign tongues. –

We have begun to recruit here amongst the Spaniards
and our British regiment is allowed to enlist 100 Spaniards
considering the short time since this system com-
menced we have already got a good number and I
think may well soon be complete. Two are to be added
to each of our companies promiscuously with
our own soldiers. They are to have the same drill & ma-
nœuvres & I doubt not but that with our discipline
and example they will make very good line troops.
This will make an addition of about 5 or 6,000 to
our army. It may well be called the allied army
for we have in it English, Scotch, Irish, Dutch,
Germans, Spaniards, Portuguese, Italians, Swiss,
Corsicans, Russians, Hanoverians, Brunswickers and
people from almost all nations I believe but of
all that I have mentioned & more. – The Good

the number is so great that there is hardly a family which
not count in our numerous host one among on this side
some relative or some friend, on whose glory on the field
do not partake pride, whose misfortunes they do not commiserate
or whose fall they do not mourn. – Indeed, I may add that
there is an anxiety for the fate even of one or two
individual persons, not to mention the general cause.

Tafa 15th June.

Since writing the former part of this letter we have been on
the move and have got nearer to the Enemy. On the 11th
our Cavalry had a very sharp engagement with those of
the Enemy in which we lost a good many men owing
owing to our fellows having scattered too much in pursuit
of the Enemy who was completely routed in the beginning
and having run their horses out of
breath when a fresh reinforcement
of the Enemy came up, our close orders
charged amongst ours so scattered,
routed them & made about 100 prisoners.
Last night however our Royal Regiment of
Dragoons N°1. had their revenge & routed double their
numbers of the Enemy & took many prisoners. – The
Earl of Wellington has put 7 divisions of the Army
in motion against Salamanca, which they will arrive
about the 17th. – The Enemy has many magazines of
different sorts of stores for his army there, which by
Evening of the 17th or 18th Inst. I hope will have changed
masters. – This move of his Lordship has made us very
much on the outlook for Soult's coming down upon us
and indeed we have heard that he has actually collected
a considerable force to make a diversion to favour
French armies in the North. – Last night we [illegible]

When I began this letter I was thinking that it was a long time since I had written to you, but upon second thoughts, I believe my last to Hope was addressed to you about the 25th March – this must therefore should have been to my dear Father

Batch of 15 who went out with me and James Carey who has got appointed at the of full Surgeon to a Regiment – and I or 10 of them were many months to me in the Service – I have got over the heads of several in the Ro who were long before me in the s for which of course I have to thank friends –

A fortnight ago Sunday Mother Hope mentioning that we attend to the hostile of allies at first we supposed the Enemy attack is but that – Thousands was found that he retired. Our was always superior to his but in our order from Lord Wellington to the Enemy down to this distant pa his operations and to detain a

force of the French here as they would be he might have found to contend with. But immediately after our Army took Salamanca General Hill has allowed to advance again and these last two days we have been driving the Enemy before us. We have had two skirmishes which we have gained with very trifling loss, equipping that the Enemy lost – Thirty of the Dragoon Guards and four new – The Spaniards have some few Dragoons taken and the French have also lost a few. Since the 4th of last month we have been very much surprised indeed, and it is always the case when we are very near to the Enemy, or requires to be so much on the alert constantly remaining with field in the scorching heat of the day & the cold of a night marching & countermarching all

Dear Father

65

When I began this letter I was thinking that it was a long time since I had written to you, but upon second thoughts, I believe my last to Sleaford was addressed to you, about the 25th March – this we therefore should have been to my Dear Father

Brigade
9-5-
12-10-5
24-12-6

Commanded the Brigade but I am happy to say that the Officers belonging to the Regiment called it a very good character. The facings of it are green also but the buttons and sparkles are silver instead of gold. The Army of the North under Lord Wellington

[illegible] that we who do not [illegible] – they all dance without shoes – the ladies wear [illegible] all the dancing [illegible] had not been such [illegible] – the old and stiff [illegible] [illegible]

My Dear Father

[illegible]

he gave the order for the whole of the allied army to attack the enemy in his positions. It was then about 8 o'clock & before 9 at night. The French were entirely flying from all points, leaving in confusion with the loss of many pieces of Cannon, eagles, standards, nearly 5000 slain on the field & 5000 prisoners. Marmont dangerously wounded. The Two Commander-in-chiefs and many of their Generals killed, wounded & taken prisoners. Had there been an hour or two more of daylight their army would have been nearly annihilated. They owe much to the darkness which secured for so good an escape as they had. Our own loss of course is also heavy, it exceeds 3000 killed & wounded and amongst them our General Pakenham & many wounded. None of our former victories on the Peninsula can at all be compared to this, Lord Wellington is following up the defeated army close upon the heels, and the road by which they passed is strewed with dead, dying, prisoners & deserters coming in, arms, accoutrements & baggage. — On the 23rd the Cavalry cut off from Burgos and on the same day our Army received the reinforcements from Santander which made them nearly as strong after the battle as before. Some Regiments have suffered much severely, the 81st & 53rd had almost all their officers killed & wounded.

The consequences of this victory will most probably be highly important for the Cause of the Peninsula. It is certainly a very great blow for the French — King Joseph left Madrid to join Marmont but hearing of his defeat before he could reach him has returned in great haste, fearful of an insurrection in the Capital. South was at the time before Cadiz according to our last accounts and our movements on this side will depend on what steps he takes. The Count d'Erlon commands the force opposed to us here, which amounts to about 12, or 14,000 men, we have made several attempts to bring him to action lately, and have had a great deal of marching and skirmishing in which we have taken many prisoners &c., but their main body we cannot get near, they keep so sharp out, since we have surprised them at Molinas, and near Irurita. — I wish that we could remain quiet for three months of weather, which is the most unhealthy season of this Country, — the hottest period of the Summer. I should wish also to stay in this town, where we are well quartered, the situation healthy, and the Spanish people very agreable. I received both the letters wishing me joy on my promotion, I shall see you very soon. My situation is now much more pleasant comfortable & independant than it was

Mrs Mr Andrew Murray
Sept. Farm
Tarkwa

Aug 27 1877

Nimrar Sept 21st 1877

My Dear Mother 70

It is now some weeks since I wrote to you, we have been nearly a month

69

Zeyton 24th August 1877

My Dear Mother

Alcanar, September 1811

My Dear Father — 70

It is now some weeks since I wrote to you, we have been nearly a month [illegible] much [illegible] enough [illegible] there are [illegible] year, the [illegible] to [illegible] letter [illegible] two hours [illegible] employed, [illegible] as much [illegible] time to tell you [illegible] doing. But [illegible] say that [illegible] from any [illegible] month, [illegible] to hear from [illegible] cult [illegible] this wood [illegible] been rather [illegible] are hardly [illegible] all discouraged and so are many others which are passed on the march yesterday. We crossed the Segre yesterday by a bridge of boats & are now encamped on this side of it, in the [illegible]

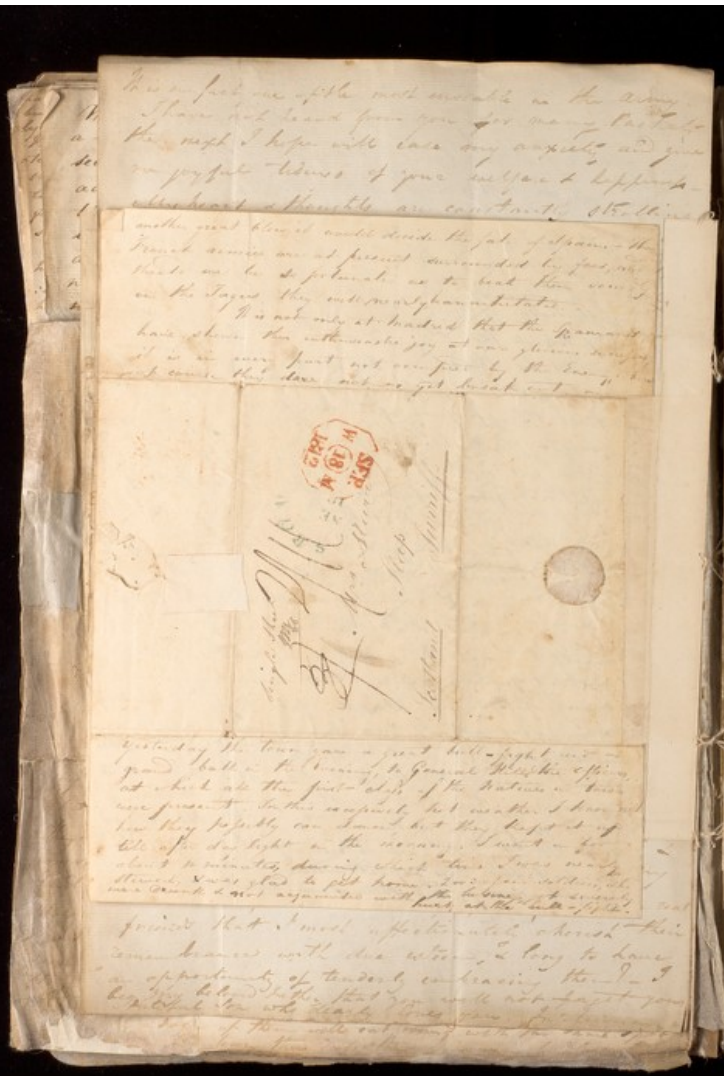
[illegible] by the hand [illegible] the other [illegible] from the [illegible] say that [illegible] impossible to describe the enthusiasm [illegible] of the day of [illegible] capital [illegible] themselves as if they considered [illegible] saving [illegible] observed [illegible] from the [illegible] of the [illegible] being the last [illegible] years. — But [illegible] be considered that it is not [illegible] a [illegible] hip [illegible] hard [illegible] fatigue, [illegible] the fact of [illegible]

[illegible] advantage [illegible] our hip has [illegible] letter [illegible] [illegible] defeated [illegible] a good deal [illegible] sickness of which however [illegible] is [illegible] wounded [illegible] many of them [illegible] from [illegible] army [illegible] Madrid [illegible] French [illegible] which is [illegible] the Spanish [illegible] also, 20,000 stand of arms, [illegible] clothing for a great many, 200 pieces of [illegible] many other stores. The French have retired upon the Segre to concentrate — we expect orders daily to pass the grand [illegible] and [illegible] of us [illegible] another [illegible] and so are many others which are passed on the march yesterday. We crossed the Segre yesterday by a bridge of boats & are now encamped on this side of it, in the [illegible]

[illegible] the most [illegible] in the army [illegible] heard from you for many [illegible] the mail I hope will take my [illegible] and give me joyful tidings of your health & happiness [illegible] heart & thoughts are constantly [illegible]

[illegible] stand for some days [illegible] some of the [illegible] of the Spanish [illegible] were inclined to be [illegible] but the women [illegible] long time [illegible] for the [illegible] [illegible] if they would [illegible] to be [illegible] before [illegible] what [illegible] in the streets [illegible] of the [illegible]

[illegible] provided that I most [illegible] observed their [illegible] with due [illegible] long to have [illegible] opportunity of tenderly embracing them. I [illegible] hope [illegible] will attend [illegible]



Almaraz, Sept. 26th 1812

My Dear Father, —

It is now some weeks since I wrote to you, we have been nearly a month on the march, going round the Province, since leaving Tafra, and I have had so much to do in my professional line amongst the sick Officers & men of which there are great many at this season of the year, that I really have had little time to put pen to paper so as to scribble a letter home. The mail is to be made up in two hours for England, & I should be otherwise employed, but shall hide myself to steal as much time as write you a few lines, to tell you where we are and what we are doing. But before I proceed farther, I must say that I have not received a single line from any of you for, I should think, 3 long months, of course I am extremely anxious to hear from you, to know that you are all well & happy.

The whole division is in this wretched town, which formerly had been rather a fine flourishing place, there are hardly habitable houses, the rest are all destroyed and so are many others which we passed on the march yesterday. We crossed the Tagus yesterday by a bridge of boats & are now encamped on this north side of it, in the

direct road towards Madrid. We had a very long march yesterday & move on again to-day. There is no prospect of much rest for us now till we get all the French on the other side of the Ebro – I may even say, on the other side of the Pyrenees out of the Peninsula.

The Marquis of Wellington has gone after the remains of the Army of Portugal which advanced on Valladolid when our Army went to the Capital. He has 4 Divisions of the Army with him besides Cavalry Portuguese & Spaniards. Three divisions remain in and about the Capital, & we expect to advance to that rendezvous, at which I am very glad, as I should like very much to see Madrid.

Soult is retreating as fast as he can, he has already evacuated the Provinces of Andalusia, Grenada, & La Mancha, and is passing by Murcia for Valencia, and perhaps will go behind the Ebro into Catalonia. More than the half of Spain is again free, and I sincerely hope that the rest will also be soon before we have done with them, and that soon too. —

I must now come to a conclusion, for I am writing in a most awkward posture with the worst pens & ink in the universe, you must not think that I am forgetful of you, or neglectful of you in writing because I send you such a scrawl. I request again will write to me oftener. I shall take the first opportunity of writing you a longer letter – I never enjoyed better health than I now do, amongst all this fag & marching.

I request you will remember me in the most cordial manner to all at Stap Blackhouse & other places where your living friends abide – Adieu & believe me – My dear Father –

Your most affectionate & dutiful Son

McLennan

direct to me
J. McL.
Surgeon – with the 3d Div.
General Hill's Corps.
Spain.

Lieut. Colonel John Hope to his father
Glasgow from Sharpness
29 Oct. 1812

My Dear Father,

After many days marching & manoeuvring
on the Lisbon, we now winter, we this morning
[illegible] will give plan of the house as you saw the st[illegible]
[illegible] time, but I shall then you the [illegible] not forgotten the
[illegible] time. I will tell you of two that you have entirely
left out. There are Cromwell's house (that was) and the
[illegible] building at the back of the house, the place where
the horses used to be stabled, with the room at [illegible]
by another. I will mention the old hide barn and [illegible]
some collection of the old Dragoons who used to [illegible]
[illegible] there. [illegible] would [illegible]
[illegible] the place when [illegible] on the [illegible] I hope [illegible]
[illegible] I think he was [illegible] of [illegible] the
the old barn, at the gavel of Cromwell's house is still [illegible]
What notes we used to find there amongst the old [illegible]
[illegible] — [illegible] it was the grand
[illegible] of young [illegible] & [illegible]
[illegible]. May I ask you will go to [illegible]
[illegible] middle of the [illegible]?
I envy you your fine trip to the [illegible]

Next September — I am glad you have
seen so much of the Country, than that I promise to [illegible]
to go & you will be able to be my guide, as it is so much
time & money we to save, [illegible] time. [illegible]
away about there then, eh? Even Wellington and [illegible]
[illegible] to the [illegible] much satisfaction [illegible]
but when is the time to come when [illegible] to be [illegible]
accomplished then? [illegible] is popping after [illegible]
[illegible] far from home [illegible]
be [illegible] married to that sweet young lady of [illegible]
you spoke so highly of, who I perceive is your good [illegible]
the you do not [illegible] me so — and when I have [illegible]
you will then [illegible] above to roam, for strange [illegible]
[illegible]. I shall certainly write a postscript to the [illegible]
fair lady, she will not be offended at the liberty [illegible]
[illegible] I love all the little cares (Cromwell [illegible]
[illegible] I love [illegible]

Bronnar, near Salamanca Nov. 1812

Since writing the above there has been a
wonderful change in the face of affairs. From the
[illegible] of [illegible] where we were crawling
[illegible] the Enemy, and expecting that by giving [illegible]

Cross de Gouve, 11th Oct. 1812

Lieut. Colonel Sir Thomas Graham
Glasgow from Magford
29 Oct. 1812

72

My Dear Father

After many days marching & countermarching with the Enemy on our Country, we this morning took up our position on a rising ground above the river Huerma, in expectation of having a battle about tomorrow morning. There has been a good deal of skirmishing these last two days in which they have lost a few men & I, but not more than two or three on our side. The Allied Army crossed the Tagus on the 20th & 21st and destroyed all the Bridges over the river which had been a considerable obstacle to the French, but the weather has been very fine so many days, that it is now probable we shall have floods and they have crossed over this morning & last night in very considerable bodies which is the reason of our falling back to the position.

It has been known that South was advancing towards Madrid for some time, and I think I mentioned it in my last as Adjutant Gen. was in motion. Since writing my last to Brother Alex we have hardly had a moment's comfortable rest, but constantly in the fields, burning and other marching & countermarching or constantly ready to march or fight. The nights are uniformly cold and humid mornings a heavy dew falls which almost equals a shower, and these last two days we have been without our baggage, which has been sent to the rear, as is always the case before every engagement, that the Army may be quite unencumbered.

Bivouac near Salamanca Nov. 1st 1812

Since writing the above there has been a wonderful change in the face of affairs. From the neighbourhood of Alba we were crowding on the Enemy and expecting that by giving them

Neither my time, nor my present state of confusion and bustle will allow me to describe a few of the thrilling scenes that I have witnessed within the last two or three weeks.

May God bless & preserve you all and keep you healthy, happy, & free from

This is the sincere wish of your affec[tionate]

Son — — W.

Cassa de Don Gomez 15th Dec. 1812

73

My Dear Mother

This being a wet Sunday from our I dedicate my time to write you a letter, and who knows, but some of you at Sleap may be similarly employed in writing to me. The dreary month of December, has for otherwise for us in this inclemente part of the Country, our pleasures are chiefly of the negative kind, that is, we rejoice that we have a close roof of any sort over our heads, that we are not much exposed to the cold & wet, that we have a dry bed to sleep in, & that we have plenty to eat. — But we have little to look forward to, otherwise to amuse and enjoy ourselves at Christmas, which, were I at home amongst you, I should anticipate, as a time of much merriment & social communication. We have no friends society to look & pay profits with, — to hand through a dance, or make us merrier & happy by shaking our hearts. We shall have no fattened hens or cocks; no geese or turkeys; no puddings with milk & eggs; no cream fresh butter, jellies nor jams, to our tea; and no crowded rooms with good blazing fires, throwing out such a degree of heat, as to make many one draw away his chair & keep at a distance. No, no —

Cassa de Don Gomez 15th Dec. 1812

74

[illegible]

Neither my time, nor my present state of confusion and bustle, will allow me to describe a few of the shocking scenes that I have witnessed within these last two or three weeks.

May God bless & preserve you all and

In the village where we are cantoned, at least, the other day we more dreaded the little Fairy than Joe; and both our heads & hearts are in perfect safety on that score. We shall be very comfortable however, if we be let remain quiet during the bad weather, & have no marching.

I wrote to my Sister at Blackhouse about the 25th of last month, from a wretched hovel I was then in, at Sanza. I did not feel myself much in a writing mood, yet was anxious to let you know that I was quite well, after all the hardships we had just gone through. It was a sad reverse of fortune, and little reckoned upon a short time before, when we were dashing away in Madrid. It was not without much regret that we gave it up & in fact, we did not give it, till the very last day, when we marched past it. That we were to abandon the Capital without a battle, I took my letter to you about that time, would lead you to anticipate also. It was melancholy to see the gloom & fear that prevailed amongst the inhabitants there, who so lately, & before, had shown so much joy at our advance, and for which, it was thought they would suffer. They were kind & civil to our people to the last moment, & took leave of us by expressing their hopes & wishes for our speedy return. The enemy received considerable reinforcements from France, and collected all their disposable troops in the Peninsula, to come against us, making an army of about 90,000 men, & 200 pieces of Cannon. It was a grand sight to see us & them manoeuvring. The weather was fine as day for several days that we remained in the vicinity of Salamanca, and the whole country around & round, as far almost as we could see, appeared covered with soldiers. The advanced posts were watching each other close, while the large columns moved in the back ground taking up their positions in preparation for attack or defence. Our Division was for some time stationed where the glorious action was fought in July, and we lay, cooled & sat, amongst the mouldering unburied bodies of the British & Portuguese, with little concern, although it was evident that in a short time we would very likely be many of us then present, equally low & mingled with them, to share the same fate. A good deal of commanding, skirmishing, took place, but circumstances then obliged us to retreat. Reasons which were the superiority of the enemy, particularly in Cavalry & artillery, by which he was enabled to turn our flank & the uncertainty how much we could depend upon the Spaniards who were with us, and the state of the supplies for our army, which were very scanty, so that we often travelled hard. In the retreat we have lost many men from the cold, wet, hunger & fatigue, some of whom have died, & others been taken prisoners.

[illegible] Lees & Jones, 17th Dec. 1812

79

[illegible]

neither my time, nor my present state of confusion and bustle will allow me to describe a few of the shocking scenes that I have witnessed within the last two or three weeks.

May God bless & preserve you all and

General Hill's corps remains in Spain on the advance, but all the rest of the army has retired to Portugal, to recruit and refit against the spring. The many loads of the French has given back a long way, as far as I understand, yet has suffered nearly as much as we have, which is therefore a good chance of our remaining totally quiet for the winter. My chief complaint will be, not hearing any news of you, & totally writing letters to my friends.

Thope to receive a great many letters from you all frequently, and they always give the greatest pleasure, as they afford me the great idea that I am sometimes recalled to your minds, and cherished in your remembrance. It is a comfort of great happiness to me in this distant land to know that you & my Dear Father, Brothers, Sisters, Relations, & other relations & friends remember me affectionately, & wish my welfare & happiness. Write frequently, & believe me ever your affectionate Son

Colonel Hill
Shrewsbury
Salop
Inclosed
Free
Lt. Colonel
Hill
Lt. Colonel Hill
Shrewsbury
Salop
ALEXANDRIA
MAY 18 1815
FOO
LAT

Coria de Gomez, 17 Dec. 1814

79

My Dear Father & Mother, & Brothers & Sisters,

Applaud me, celebrating friends of all ranks & stations, I am a Corporal! In your sensations & feelings relative to this fact, I want in your opinion, merely, amuse & interest on business.

Above all I am delighted to hear that my Dear Father & Mother, relations & friends in general are truly well. I hope my Uncle Mr Hutchins has got quite over his fever.

I have an opinion, little or not worth, as that of the 23d regiment which, you mention to have written, is the general feeling, & has been since to have written, after the security of Bayonne & Paris. Yet the Commander has, and the Staff, thought something have required from England, & Wellington seems to have been uncommonly lucky in getting all his troops well, and his establishments, every opportunity to gain I wish I could have had you, my two servants with my horses, two tackles, one to myself, I don't think that Roland has been abroad, but they were hearty, engaged about that time. I think Robert has played a little, but all the Harvard business I dare say it happened on one of the nights your return, when a warm Single happen would have been very acceptable on the cold Lowrie. I cannot, in my life, recollect the name of the dog, did make, I think, at Shirley, but I do not forget the little fellow, although it is a good many years since I dipped my spoon in it last. I can it sometimes remind sometimes, as a good place in wet seasons, to make small ricks of the corn in the field as soon as it is cut down, of 4 or 5 sheaves on each, & built as firmly as possible, to let the air in with a sheaf or two spread out & tied at the top to carry the rain down the ricks.

They are never afraid of frost in this country, heavily. But if the good head of the corn, should sometimes make the stems bend as they cut it down, & shake, by which means it is laid on the ground. They cannot use it with sickle as the grains is nothing, in comparison, & they never feed it with stacks. It is brought home, & thrashing floor, almost every day, as it is required, & thrashed by horses, & bullocks.

[illegible] to the house and barns and the grain put into granaries, and ploughed pits on the earth which they cover over very carefully, & by that means hide it very frequently from the most minute search of the Enemy. But these pits were first made for the last way of keeping the wheat fresh & good, which they do for a great length of time, and they now answer a double purpose. The Parson seems to have flattered you upon much in so speedily abandoning the affections of your favourite in your absence. I suppose you should not give a farthing for so Such Italian doings as these, you must give up some more fun at your age. I should hardly go too miles to see the Kiss-tin. It does not appear that you are inclined to be an old batchelor, like myself. But I have farther out than ever in my conjectures about who the Lady is to whom Italy owes a paragraph. Since you have told me her name is a stranger. I doubt not but you associate the most lovely ideas with a name which recalls to your mind the object of your tender affections. I do not forget any of my old acquaintances I assure you, particularly the favourite two accomplished Misses of Kingstwood. They do not seem forward to be much in your circle, I think as you seldom mention any thing about them. I request you will always present to that lovely family, our dear all, my warmest regards & best wishes when an opportunity occurs. Indeed I have often blamed myself for not writing to Miss J. & Miss J. I fear they think me very ungrateful when I have the truest sense of friendship & Happiness for such kind hearts abroad than I seem did when with them and that they enjoy health, as far as can be expected and are completely happy. I hope that our little Nephew will be very entertaining to our Dear Parents with their prattle. They must be fine little fellows from all accounts. You say that my namesake resembles me. I wish I could get him to stay with us a few weeks to amuse me, being such a spirited boy he would be pleased with the soldiers & the drums but I dare say he would not much like my house. My room is a small cold one having little more space in it than for my bed, table, chair & baggage. A little hole with a shutter is all my secondary, so small that when a person enters into it I am in darkness. There is no fire place but I get a few cinders put before the table in a tile & keep my feet warm. Our Brigade of three regiments is quartered in the little village in which there is not a single house two stories high. The other day it was so cold & rainy, & the rain has been at every occasion that I have had to shut it & sat all day on a bench reading at a Comfortable fire for forage too, the stores is nearly [illegible]

[illegible] and at another time I have a fowl, if any [illegible] will have it, and fine young beef, upon it lodge to compose a dinner with, it [illegible] after we travel to bed early, eat or sleep. The living in the [illegible] business, & perhaps my present medicine of tranquility & a little cam[illegible] is the other has returned, at least, the best suited to the order, [illegible] character of a Sutler & an old Batchelor, by having an 30. – I send you [illegible] the time I left Madrid. Not I thought it would pain you much account of it. [illegible] Mother will not think that I suppose have forgotten if from such an opinion after all the kindness which both to me [illegible] Mother have constantly shown towards me, & when may [illegible] the how wonderful and anxious they are about me, and [illegible] is I compose a singular good position to me to be favoured with a letter from any of them hands, but I should not wish they would put them [illegible] to any task to write to me only when convenient. I would always prefer to hear by any of you, that they are healthy comfortable & in health, which I hope they may long continue to be.

Tomorrow you are beginning to prepare about this time for a good [illegible] of after approaching holiday season, the materials will be gathering [illegible] for the puddings & pies & other good seasons on shop. The mistletoe [illegible] young round for the formation of many frolics. The holly berries [illegible] Stockings hung out at the fire place made to shine, & the yule cake [illegible] the Dance, &c. The cheerfulness of every Christmas will be [illegible] the commencement of every kind & worthy friends [illegible] Yorkshire, where in the Station of our little society & [illegible] being at this time my [illegible] & confines to bed [illegible] those kind fondings from a bad home which by [illegible] come on after all the fatigues & expences of the [illegible] marches & off of which it appears clearly to be the consequence, of course he has every care & attention which seems [illegible] day or night. His kindness & friendship to me merits more than I can [illegible] pay. I have every hope however that he will soon get correct as the [illegible] seems to have taken a very favourable turn for the day. On the first day of the new year he will be made Major General, and he will deserve it, for he is a very able, brave man, and has been on the army 30 years. He has been [illegible] Scotland & is fond of it, he often speaks of it. – how hospitable & social he has found the people & how jovial & pleasant to passing the society. There an hero has secured the affections of my regiment very sincerely, so that my time is quite occupied in the duties of my profession, & I feel [illegible] and when then too are blended, it is truly grateful to feel from the [illegible] with every mark of attention. – I am sorry to find from my brother's letter to me that she does not enjoy so good health as we wish such [illegible] when I write to her last I was so uncomfortable & out of sorts [illegible] the morning that I was not able to take her care with particular [illegible] I have been just looking over her letter and from her account of the [illegible] with which she is afflicted I find that her stomach is weak and [illegible] she is a little delicate & weak. I be persuade for her not the [illegible] most advice her to take, of the Still remains on the same state [illegible] recommend Magnesia and Rhubarb in a little [illegible] which every [illegible] hopefully encourage, hopefully [illegible] and after that [illegible] of the [illegible]

Gallistee 13th March 1813. 75

It is not yet a month, my Dear Betty, since your truly kind & entertaining letters from my native home was written. What a pleasure it is to receive such recent news and to know so circumstantially the events that are passing! The happiness which I enjoy at the accounts of the welfare of my dear kindred & friends is only damped by those you give me of the distressing complaint with which our dear Sister is afflicted, and of the miserable state in which you found poor Mr Walt Thomson. I sincerely hope that they are both on a fair way of recovering that great set of all blessings, Health, and that I shall yet have the pleasure to spend many, many happy days with them & you all in that state. I fearly hope also that the combustibles as you call them, which Adama has been applying to her eyes has cured them quickly, all my kind provisions and preparations for my home-coming make me look upon with gratitude, and I assure you that none of you can wish more fervently and sincerely for that day than I do, and I hope it is now not any distant. I shall have such a time amongst you. I only fear it will turn my head to get amongst so many lovely young Ladies as you tell of, and into such plays of all kinds, rompings, tearing them to pipes & caps, kissing & cuddling, that I know what so dear women, to be obliged afterwards even to take them. When I think of that, it makes me almost doubt whether or not it would be better never to know them, for I am sure that I should lose my heart to the whole circle, & be so bewildered to find out where it had gone to amongst them, as to get into a pretty dilemma, or what would be worse than all, after discovering to which fair one it had secretly stolen away, to find that he was already closely interwoven by the ties of mutual Love with that of another. As a different case here, we can never address romps with the round, fat, squish-aged, little Spanish Bannettes, love them and lose our hearts to them while we remain in the same quarter, which may be a week or a month, & sometimes only a day, but then we always take them with us when we go away. I don't mean the Ladies, recollect that our hearts. They dare not marry an Englishman hardly on account of their relations, they call us all Heretics, and many other kind of pleasant names, tell us what a pity it was that I am not a Christian! Indeed I am your own dear Christiana. I'm sure I need to enjoy so much, but you may be sure I shall have an hand in the Enjoyment, for if I can I shall have an hand in the Enjoyment and I shall be very intently to Celebrate the Joyful Day. Hopes and many the loss of the Evening so superior to ours &c

There are really some pleasant, affable & handsome ladies among them, their figures and gait are in general remarkably graceful and the better classes dress with great taste. I speak Spanish better & better than I could Italian now a days and I seldom requires a Dictionary to write letters in the language or to translate it readily. Upon dear little friends behalf Walter used generally to apply to me when he required an Interpreter & to say the truth never knew what he should do without me. He was one of the best of men and one whom every person was pleased to be acquainted with. I find that when you wrote yours his death was not known at Stap, although let was at Edinburgh when on the 15th of Feb. I received an affectionate letter of condolence which I have been favoured with from Brother Alex. I am sorry to hear by it that Mr Marshall of Edinburgh is so very ill; if his complaint be confirmed consumption, I fear he has no chance of recovery except he speedily changed the climate of Edinburgh, which I always thought very ill for one, you warm & congenial, and that after he a sea voyage. It is one of the most insidious diseases and seems so seldom to be detected by it affected with the hopes of recovery that the patient himself not only till it be too late, but even till the very last moment. In this country it is very rare, but unfortunately not uncommon in Great Britain. I thank the letter from Papa enclosed his last, to which you allude about the harvest as I have not received one from home since that season was finished. The prices of all sorts of grain seem to be very high with you, which will make your own good come to a considerable sum notwithstanding that so much was left in the fields. It is probable that the change of seed from Blackhouse will turn out to be of great advantage, and particularly on account of its being from an early, safe as you very justly remark. You seem to have had a pretty jolly party at St. Mill, and indeed always when you go there. Pray what has become of Mr Pandora's Brother who went to the East Indies, I have never heard of him since we parted in London! What has become of all the Tariff-Ladies? You puzzle me most completely with your Miss Marquis - Miss Sophia &c &c without telling me Christ family name - tell now you speak of a Miss Alam, whom Alama is trying to keep for me, & who you say is a Sylph, Italian, French, German, Turkish, Italian, African, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Persian and Chinese, which that side not mentioned. The platform are the Stream & Spanish contains in Burns books some very charming songs, as the Thorn, & B. Allan, which I sing, & the Soldier's Wife, & all on the same! - Pray say Jamie is a fine beautiful simple air as Lochaber the h of Tiny, afterwards & mention the other tune, but any song is delightful when sung by a home lassie. I shall not enlarge on news to you this time as have seen very frequently that would interest you, only that of the Duchess was gone on well, we hope

a sweet clever girl, but I see more known when you mean. Her old Johnny Stains of the Moon. I must try to learn a little good behaviour and manners I suppose, before I can show my face amongst your fashionables at home, after being so long with the rude Indians in the woods and with the rustics afterwards, and I must have a Dancing Master to teach me to turn out my toes & make my courtesy at that great big ball you are to give on my return, for which you must be indeed a Partner for me who will keep me right, and not suffer me to go wrong, and I imagine I must buy by my large iron heeled boots & spurs which now I wear for the Campaign, & put on a pair of pumps in case of treading by accident, from my awkwardness, on any one in the dance, or on some old quizz, coming the below the Belle, after dropping I intended to pinch the foot of my partner, as happened to me once in Sicily, and caused a most hideous scene. - I had been at one of the Gubernos Balls there and had danced with the young Princess of Castellarcio, whom I was very intimate with, and used to go with her Mother to their box at the Opera, 3 or 4 times a week - a very sweet young Lady and at that time my favourite. In Messina, I think I told you about that time, that I had caught the Mother of a very bad Fever there after she was given over by three eminent Doctors, and I must also tell you that although she was a Princess she was not of a Royal family only Noble, and that too not of a very rich description, she had perhaps 1600 a year which is reckoned as much there as £2000 or £3000 a year would be in England, and the title of Prince & Princess is very common - indeed she would have been very glad to have married an English officer - But to return to my story - After the Ball was a Supper, at which I happened to sit opposite to her and her Mother & my foot coming in contact with some one under the narrow table, I took it to be hers and began to pinch it at the same time that I looked her in the face thinking she would start or somehow otherwise acknowledge that it was hers. But as she seemed not to feel it and to take no notice, I continued to press harder & harder, wondering at her insensibility, when the old woman gave a screech & pulled aside her foot. Now the fact was that although I felt her old shoe was not so old but that she thought herself young enough to get another Husband, and she imagined for a long time that I intended it for some dashing English

My Dear Mother

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Gallipoli, 5th April 1812

I had this morning determined to give up a good part of the day to write you a very long letter when the General sent for me to go to Palermo 100 or 12 miles from this to settle some affairs with the Magistrates of that town, and I have now come back late and rather tired, so that my letter will be less or perhaps shorter yet I shall not lose the opportunity of the frank which I am offered tomorrow morning, however little I may write - were it only to tell you I am quite well, for that alone is good news I am sure to you who has always shown so much love & kindness to me and remember me so affectionately during all my long absence. I wish I could at this moment enter the parlour to clasp you in my arms as well as My Dear Father, Brothers, and that near three relatives & friends, to tell you all the grateful I am for your to warm & sinceful regards for me who hardly deserve them, as I left the country and desirete your society to wander here & there in foreign lands amongst strangers, feeling & undergoing all sorts of hardships of a soldiering life, when as Papa says I might have done well enough at home & remain to look Mr and Alice lately. I was very sorry to hear by a letter from the former that you had been complaining of your eyes, I hope they have got better since the warm weather which perhaps hurt them from your setting up later than you are generally accustomed to do. I love all the fine sport which you have about this merry times, and wished I used to enjoy so much, but you may tell Mr that I by no means intend to let him have do all to himself neither for if I can I shall have an hand in the business and I think

and many Hours

The loss of the evening is superior to ours

not put you to much trouble for ~~with~~ the manner we some-
times are obliged to live in here, and the beds of cold earth
I think I might not to be hard to please – with a lump
of cold meat a glass of punch and a shake down on the
carpet, being in your society, I shall be as happy
and much happier than many a King of these days.
I am very happy with my present Regiment and
besides am not far distant from my former one the 3d
which is particularly pleasant for me. The latter Reg.t is
at General Hill's head quarters where they frequently have
plays performed by the Officers and I have then always
20 Dinners and balls awaiting me when I like to go over
and some of them in turn come to spend a few days with
me when we have plenty of shooting of partridges, hares
woodcocks, snipes, rabbits, foxes, wolves, plover, teal, duck,
vultures, bustards & sometimes Bear without any game
tax – plenty of fishing, canoeing, hunting & horse racing
and we can take our wine & spirits freely without
any fears of Ganger or Supervisor coming to see if we
have a licence or whiskey pot.
I should like to know who the Miss Ann is whom
you have in view for me when I come home and I should
like also to know if you have her consent, ~~without~~ seeing
me, ~~that~~ I who am an old brown tawny fellow should
presume to whisper in her ear the sweet broken accents
of the tender passion. I tell them all candidly to
make no promises for they will certainly repent as
soon as they get a peep on my countenance, else I shall

find myself agreably mistaken. So I have found and Miss
Margaret I believe – Perhaps your letters of her praise was
be changed on her becoming Mrs Murray and I will tell
you who she is. Not many. The Ladies here have altogether
a Dozen of names so that we ~~are~~ to make a Mr Murray or
any other then would be a great crash indeed in the
name way. My present sweet heart's name is – Maria de
Remedios Florencia Rodriguez y Baeza, and I may tell
it to you as none of you are here likely to know her. She
is I am sorry to say not near this, and what is worse
she can neither read nor write, but it is not her fault
it is her fathers who has an
idea that if he learnt his
daughters to read and write
they would be corresponding
with the young men, and
perhaps make some foolish
choice, or even be made to run off.
She is of a good family, but this is a common prejudice in
Spain, and is what keeps the women so ignorant – she
sings and dances admirably and I have danced many a
many a waltz with her in her parlour to the music of her own singing,
in her mothers room when the father used to go to bed
in the siesta, that is to take his afternoons sleep after dinner
which the people of warm countries almost always do
in summer – My shirts are all tattered & torn, but I shall
not lay in many till I can come within reach of your
as one of yours is worth 4 of what I can buy, and I
cannot buy one here that I would put on me for less
30 or 35/. – I think you would hold up your hands with
and many times
The loss of the Enemy is superior to ours &

Valencia, 18th May 1813.

My Dear Father

I still remain here and expect to remain for some time longer. We expected daily that we should be ordered to the Frontier on our advance, but here we are still. An order came on the 12th for us to march on the 17th but on the 16th was countermanded. It is expected that the commencement of our hostilities must be near at hand, as many parts of the combined army are already in motion concentrating towards the point to which we may all be well enough close together but look on a military point of view is from one side of the Peninsula to the other – from Alicante to Santander – from the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean, and all our movements will be on the grand scale. I am now quite prepared for the campaign having had on a good stock of the chief things I shall want. I shall be ready to join the field day (or commencement of the march) whenever and separate marching as a member of the Cavalry of the Army I may not be able to describe all the fine sights of it.

Such I think will be the general plan of our operations and I shall write home to you and let you know what occurs from time to time. I am much pleased with my situation. Lately there has been a kind of [illegible] which is at the commencement of the season of the year [illegible] the Cavalry will not [illegible] – the Cavalry [illegible] and [illegible] be a fine time for a decisive point. [illegible] from the Enemy [illegible] and Horses with [illegible] see by the Papers that the Grand Army has had some advantage over Russia & Prussia [illegible] have some good accounts from [illegible] the Army this day very large force [illegible] and Prussians [illegible] a small force [illegible] concentrated [illegible] I think a hope that we shall have the greater part of the [illegible] behind the Elbe before a very month [illegible] and many stores [illegible] the loss of the Enemy is supposed to exceed [illegible]

wonder to see my stock of linnen – you would be
let me put on the cleanest washed shirt I have a
pannier. – With all the great deeds in the
of Europe I hope we may soon be able so to
old Boneys pride as to keep about afoot pea
Friend are retiring from our vicinity and are m
alarmed for our advancing upon them. I do n

that that Lord Wellington will not put the Army into
so soon as had been expected, and not before at least
fortnight yet. Our Brigade however advance to
centre some day this week, which is a very fine
and where we shall have good quarters and
good society amongst the Radnor Gn. Balls &c. Now
dear Mother I must conclude with kind & most affe
regards to all & believe me your loving & dutiful Son Jno.

Before Christmas you can hardly fail to have a letter from me, which will most likely have reached you by the 9th of January, when I shall enquire for Sergt Pepper. But we are at present a long way from there — Now as I wish to dedicate a part of this letter to my other two Grey friends I stop and as you have already got a page I must conclude hoping that this will find you all healthy, happy & free of care and remaining ever your affectionate Son — McClumpha.

My Dear Mother

The spirits of your careful lad would be very convenient for me at this time, for a day or two past before beginning the hard marching, and I dare say you would find many of my things not done up according to your liking — They must stand on honour for the next 5 or 6 month and without much reason for I understand the army is not to be allowed to go into towns any more during the Summer. We have this comparatively speaking about 6 month of rest, without much hardship, having only the necessary duties of the Regt to perform in very comfortable houses at times, and good living, no great trouble with our horses & Mules. We have all got fat as well as ourselves — But now we shall have to take every in hand between & the morning, for the March at 2 or 3 o'clock, to get the journey over before the heat of the day — the Baggage is to be packed at night before we lie down to be ready to load on the Mules in the morning and a little cold Tea made to take before starting — The tents have to be pitched & unpitched — I have to see and take care of my sick & the other Officers have to go on foot the days are hot & the nights cold — our provisions are simply bread & salt, particularly melancholy when there is no

lack of money or of grog — we become sunburnt & brown as the Natives, & have no more dances nor civil society, but all rough military tricks & amusements — we sleep in our clothes — spy at the Enemy's Camp & manœuvre with our chasseurs, and take a slot at a French man whenever an opportunity allows — with a little our labours seem to be coming to an end increase — and we only look forward to a quiet life when we get home to our families, friends & sweethearts, but sooner that happens the better. That God may bless, prosper you, defend you along & happy life is the constant wish, My beloved Mother of your loving Son — McClumpha.

My Dear Mother

How happy should I be to receive one of your long entertaining letters just before commencing, & adding you, I could add, doubly to the pleasure of writing you. We have had very gay since we came to this fine City which has afforded us such good quarters, good society, pleasant amusements and a delightful climate, all of which we are just about to relinquish — We have had many balls and concerts and at the last Ball I lately sat down the whole evening — the assemblage of ladies was numerous & particular as the dancing was kept up till 4 o'clock in the morning I had nearly broken a tender attachment before I found myself leading a young lady down — In the waltz a waltzing country dance which she was my partner and fortunately her left arm was detached by the pieces in the mourning crape on my arm — I stuck to it & helped it. The lower was standing behind me, was offended & went away mortified — blushes & confusion! the way the last dance in the room, but not my partner — At the close of the ball I was invited to a concert where I spent the evening at my favourite young friend's house, & the opera

and many other delightful amusements, the loss of the evening is supposed to outset

Camp, 10 Leagues from France,
at Vaaste, near Pamplona, Sept. 1813

My Dear Father &c

Our Army was crowned with success in a severe battle with the Enemy near Vittoria on the 21st Instant, and the place from whence I date this, being near the boundaries of the Peninsula, will give you an idea of what a brilliant career we have made since the opening of the Campaign.

The allied army under the Marquess of Wellington attacked that of the Enemy commanded by King Joseph Bonaparte in person in their strong position on the 21st the conflict was long & obstinate & lasted from 9 or 10 o'clock in the morning till night, we lost nearly 5000 men killed & wounded, but it was a very glorious day for our arms, the Enemy was driven from his position to the distance of 12 miles & upwards, 150 pieces of cannon have been taken from him being all he had excepting 3 or 4, & nearly all his ammunition waggons and heavy baggage, military chest, King Joseph's Coaches, plate, Jewels money & baggage and many stores have fallen into our hands. The loss of the Enemy is acknowledged to ours &

Comes from Wellesley, having left it with his father, Sister and Brother when the French came there. He then repeated the march the following morning at Sunrise — The time never seemed to drag more heavily than it did — It was Midnight before I thought I had been an hour in the company, and having several arrangements still to make, I was reluctantly obliged to tear away — The Music the very tone had grown Harrow, — and

Lt. Colonel Murray
Staff
Scotland.

The parting conversation was of course very tender — After I had given the Countersign of the March arrived, and I was not disappointed at it — I was at the Concert again last night when she told me that my farewell speech was a master piece of Pathetic Eloquence — You see we sometimes talk half in love like we talk as you do, but I must leave the rest of my letter to another opportunity, the post will not go for some days yet — Adieu My Father, the Lord

we have made many prisoners, among whom is a General Officer dangerously wounded – The loss of the Brigade I was in is upwards of 400 & among them I am sorry to say are several of my friends wounded.

My Duty of course has been much augmented by the hardships & the battle & I have hardly time to take care of myself, yet I stand it and very well. Till now I could not have worthen you a single line. 23 days have we been on the march without one for a halting day, the weather has been exceedingly bad, and what is surprizing to us & unexpected it has been uncommonly cold & rainy, and we have nearly suffered as much as on the retreat. We are dirty as pigs having had no time to get our linnen washed and from constantly sleeping in our cloaths in the Camp. To day we have got a halt and it was necessary – both men & animals are nearly knocked up – indeed many have already failed on the road. –

The French are flying before us, wherever we meet them they suffer, & wonderful to say we have never had a single reverse during the whole campaign at Salamanca, Toro & Burgos we made prisoners and the latter place they blew up, which stand as many hives. We expect the Dons without being a single man. I think it is very probable that we may now drive them out of the Country, and that very soon without any other battle of Consequence. The weather after the battle was very unfavourable for us, we should have had more prisoners & stores in the pursuit – the Spaniards and Portuguese troops in the action did their duty & fought well –

A melancholy accident happened the day before yesterday; while on the March an Officer of the 14th was struck dead with lightning by my side. The thunder was the most awful and tremendous thing I ever heard. The shock nearly knocked me off my horse & nearly 100 of us have felt its effects in a strong degree, but all recovered except Lt Masterman. Adieu my beloved friend I hope that all these things will hasten my return to your social circle – where heart & hearth (with them) are ever affectionately your's &c &c

Comes from Valladolid having left it with her further Sister and Brother when the French came there. We then expected to march the following morning at Sunrise. We

Now formerly we used to talk of driving the French beyond their boundaries we had little thought of being able to succeed so completely. There are now hardly any disreputable troops of the enemy in the country. I understand that Jacket has now been recalled into France also and therefore only the men of the different garrisons are in Spain. The people in France are so totally frightened lest we should invade it that they are collecting all the troops they can just on our frontier to oppose us and I think it is very likely we shall not make any more advance into France than that the French will try to drive us back. We have now [illegible] on the Pyrenees, and we are also [illegible] of the strong passes in those parts. The [illegible] which our allied Army is carrying on [illegible] the coast of Saint Sebastian on the sea coast [illegible] bottom of the bay of Biscay, which is a [illegible] consequence on account of its being a sea [illegible] to our Army for getting supplies of [illegible] the shipping. It is very strong and the French [illegible] it consists of nearly 3000 — Our Army [illegible] since the beginning of the campaign [illegible] and the wounded are in general doing well as the weather has been so cool and favourable for them. But our victories and successes are constantly attended with sensations of bitter regret from the death or the wounds of some friend or valued Countryman: we now learned the loss of a fine, honourable gentlemanlike young Officer of the 39th who was esteemed by all who knew him Lt Meade, he died of his wounds on the 9th

Besides those who die, many of our young men are maimed and disabled for life. There by at the battle of Vittoria alone in English Portuguese & Spaniards was about 5.000 killed & wounded, and as the English always bear the brunt of the day, their loss was more than double that of the other two.

In times of Peace this part of the Country must be delightfully beautiful & fertile. The general aspect of the country is now uncultivated & fine, but when we come to take a near view of the towns and the unfortunate inhabitants in see the destruction of war & its attendant misery. The houses are destroyed, & plundered the inhabitants fly to the mountains or are left at most destitute for everything, and the corn fields are trampled down or eaten up by the horses & cattle of the Army. We try to blame the French for these things but I can assure you that we are very little behind them and even the Spaniards themselves who are of the regular troops or who follow the Army are as bad if not worse than we. It is impossible in a large army to avoid, but the man least must be fed. These scenes occurring so frequently without the power of relieving the distressed and our rough manners & bearing are not calculated to soften the feelings, but on the contrary rather harden them. Neither do our habits & pastimes here in the mountains and woods lead us to improve our good manners we are far from being very polished in our appearance

comes from Wallsdale, having left it with her father, Sister and Brother when the French came there. We then repaired to our [illegible]

[illegible] shall against the daylight, the Tailor & Cordwainer, the barber, the Milliner, the Dancing Master and all those sorts of people to give us a civilized appearance. What an awkward fellow I should be at gallanting a Lady in a promenade, or in doing the honours of the Dance, at a Tea table or amongst the Gipsies at a Christening, or at the grand frolics and doings on a wedding day!

Mrs Mary
Post Office
Sherriff
Scotland

2 11/6

This almost wonderful that we get on from one day to another in the way of food, those under all circumstances have kept our health so well. At night we most frequently found what bread we have with us, and often have then no prospect of being able to get any more the next day, but when it comes we generally find sufficient again somehow or other and so go on. Frequently do we sleep when near the enemy by the side of a fire in the cold & rain without any covering but a cloak, and when the morning comes we find our backs nearly burnt & our feet quite in the fire as we sit through the champing [illegible]

[illegible]

Camp, Espegay pass of the Pyrenees
July 18th 1813.

My Dear Father,

We have been fighting and driving a superior enemy daily for these last 6 days. Yesterday our Brigade gained this Pass and entered France, we were chiefly opposed at this point by the armed peasants who made little resistance & run off at the first 2 or 3 shot we sent amongst them. We took off some of their pigs and sheep and returned to encamp on the Spanish side of the pass that our force may be concealed for the present. We believe it is not his Lordship's intention to advance much into France. In this quarter we have driven them out of Spain and got possession of the passes, but it has been very hard work and mostly at the point of the bayonet. I was never in such a heavy fire of Musketry as on the 7th Inst. and never in such a heavy fire of Cannon shot & Shells as on the 21st of Victoria. The Enemy had nearly made me prisoner on the 7th Inst. as I was dressing the wounded in the field, but a well directed fire from some Companies of the 39th arrested their progress & I escaped with a shower of balls about me none of which fortunately took effect. This was a glorious day for the 39th and 29th Regts who tho' not more than 500 strong

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Sister and Brother when the French came there. We then expected to march [illegible] – The time never seemed to

opposed & repulsed in the most gallant manner repeated attacks of three men of the Enemy. It is wonderful how our men have stood out so well the constant fatigues of this severe campaign, the weather is extremely cold & the rain almost incessant, our poor brave fellows have hardly a shoe to their feet, they cut sandals from the skins of the dead horses, but many are bare footed and yet they scramble over the rocks and do their duty with cheerfulness. The country of France which is behind us seems very beautiful & tempting. I should like a peep to come now & that I might travel the rest of to embark at Calais. The French in this part of their Empire are terribly alarmed for us – Most Militia and all their disposable force are marching in this direction, but I hardly think they will attempt any thing more than the defence of their frontiers, they have fought in a very cowardly manner ever since the battle of Vitoria, but they may have received orders not to risk much more for Spain, their soldiers are very tired of the war in this country, they are glad to get into France again and will not like to return here to encounter us & the Guerillas again. The only force that the Enemy has now in Spain is that of Suchet, & the Garrisons in Catalonia, which altogether may amount to about 30,000 men and they are not much to be feared. —

The valleys here are the most fertile & beautiful I ever saw and the people as we advance are uncommonly pleased at it, in fact we advance fighting every mile & the people throw bread & cheese in front to our soldiers as they pass through the villages. – His Lordship has been with our part of the army these last 3 days and he regulates all the movements in the most masterly style. When I escaped – the 7th Inst. I got up to where he & his Staff stood & when the fire was still the. He has been for some time enveloped in such a fog that he could see nothing of what was doing in front and he anxiously enquired of me what was going on, which I was able to tell pretty correctly. The contest in our quarter did not cease till an hour after dark, when the firing ceased, and

the contending parties rested
at their arms without fires &
in silence till day-break, when
it was discovered that the distance

between us was not above 40 yards and the action again commenced afresh, but the 28th Regt. and the 1st Brigade coming to our assistance the Enemy was soon put to flight. Our Picquets are now in the French territory & we are encamped about 200 yards from it. – The rain & marching has destroyed nearly all our baggage, and our animals are nearly knocked up. I think could our friends see us at this moment they would rather be inclined to laugh at our appearance, and were we to make our entrance in our present state into one of your gay

Alexandria 4th August 1813

My Dear Father

85

I hope that this will reach you in time to let you know that I am again with our own Army, but you can have heard that I have been in the hands of the Enemy. When I left with the whole French Army attacked the Cossacks on the 25th of July the Cossacks advantages were in and our Army obliged to retreat in front of Champigny where I was the intention of the Army to release the Colonel of the 5th but the impossibility to remove such a dangerous wounded and the that we could not bring him further than the place where he remained, and I was ordered to stay with him by the Adjutant General & Inspector of the Hospitals and had made up my mind to be a prisoner in France for God knows how long. I wrote a letter home to inform you of this & to say that I was again well treated & that I had the pleasure to see Mr Sevatte & that Mr Sevatte & I had been stopped as I understood no doubt but one of the Cossacks a interpreter, that whether I have deceased or not I have not heard. It will at all events be a pleasant thing for you to know by this that I have got out of the hands of the Philistines, safe & sound and in good health, and that I managed the business so well with the French General, that I

Mr Dear Father

Mr Sevatte

Sedgeley

AUG 13 1813

comes from Valladolid having left it with his father, Sister and Brother when the French came there. He then repeated to me the

was considered as a Prisoner of War, although the Colonel was and is perfectly free as they oblige him to give his word of honour that he should be their prisoner and go to deliver himself up to them on France (as soon as he should be required, exchanged) as soon as he recovered, and I wrote the French General a letter to that effect which the Colonel signed. It was by the good fortune that I spoke the French language so well, it a little addressed that I have got so well through the business, and I have reason to think that I shall lose nothing by it in the way of promotion, on the contrary I have already had the opportunity of getting the first vacant Staff Surgeoncy, which is a most respectable, honorable & comfortable situation, both with respect to distinction of rank, and pay.

When the French Army began to come up in pursuit of our retreating rear guard, on the morning of the 27th Oct. I sent out a flag of truce to meet it, and I obtained protection for the wounded Colonel from the General Officer who commanded the advance (which was General Abbage) till the Court D'Elon should come up, to whom I had a letter from General Hill and who commanded that Corps of the French Army. Genl Abbage left his Aid de Camp with us, who happened to be a Dutchman & to have a Brother a prisoner in England to whom he gave me a letter in case I should have such an opportunity to deliver it to him. I made friends of him, the Count d'Elon appeared to send out to meet

him to give account of us. The Count arrived & called on us. I presented him General Hill's letter which was he entered a kind treatment for the Colonel as the fortune of war had rendered it necessary for them to assign himself a prisoner into their hands, and to put his trust in their generosity. The General having read the letter was very civil and asked kindly for the Colonel, said he should have every attention paid him, and ordered a Guard for protection. He told me to apply Sir at Hill that I should be taken every care of & should want for nothing and asked me what I thought he should want, and he required Comforts, Medicines, dressing, & the aid of an surgeon &c. Seeing that he still considered me as having come in from our Army with the letter & flag of truce from General Hill, and he did not know it was by accidently and I liked to be made their prisoner, I thought it was a fine opportunity of making a friend of my profession which I knew would be very acceptable at that moment, as they were in a hurry to battle & I told the Count that I was a Medical Officer and that if he would give me permission to stay with the Colonel he was cured in a half out of danger, I should be very happy to do so and should consider it as a strong mark of his well known generosity & humanity, if that of many I might return to the British Army. He seemed very pleased with my proposal & said that cases by & by stay & that indeed he was glad to grant this, as it prevent he could not walk upon any of his Surgeons to attend the Colonel.

Comes from Wallachia having left it with his father Sister and Brother when the French came there. He then repeated to me

He then gave an order to General Kamarzin he came up afterwards to take the Colonel, parole on his side and to see that every civility and respect was shown to us. When General Kamarzin had taken the Colonel's parole the Officer also to have to me he said that he forgetting to take mine, but he said he had no order for that and I told him that I have the Colonel's parole for mine to stay not as a prisoner.

We two days we were badly off for provisions but the second day in any event French General, an elderly gentleman old Prussian officer came down day to day expect to see, you see a lot of bands, and in little band, however baggage of cannon we sent away with our own army, and we now that it has not been we thought that upon account of it the regulars of Prussian under Blücher, perhaps that they would hardly were see the army we again met French on the road which there was a great confusion, for the retreating from Dresden to Leipsic & all army a remnant one nearly starved & cut & bruised, and a deal of our things we lost & stolen. We kept a little money with us & that we hid in which of the walls, but hardly any thing else besides bedclothes and dispatches. The firing of the battle of the 18th was distinctly heard at the place and you may conceive the state of suspense we were in to hear the result. The French that were passing told us that the English were terribly beaten & would have to retire behind the Elbe and that we should soon have enemy at our heels & that we should be with them

Send you a little favourite Dance called the Fairy Dance

We played & [illegible] danced them. The partners of the [illegible] move off down the back as if unwilling to come with them, the partner of the Lady down the same on the other side and they follow them, [illegible] [illegible] bring them back and up again. (8 times) The first couple goes down the middle and up again. — This will not give dancing & exercise enough for you in Scotland perhaps, but for us simple [illegible] it is enough for us in this hot climate. — Pray tell me how the Fiddling gets on, and what are the favorite tunes amongst you at the present day. I shall be able to give you perhaps now one of a foreign sort [illegible] some [illegible] if I do not lose them by the way — I shall be coming amongst you very soon, [illegible] years in Half Pay [illegible] to become a quiet & steady citizen as any one of you all. You will [illegible] to myself and [illegible] me a servant boy & buy a horse. I must request of you to get laid in for me 4 or 5 dozen of good Port Wine 2 or 3 dozen of Sherry & a small cask of Jamaica Rum and the sooner you get them home & laid on their sides in a cool place the better. — We must have all days merry and happy [illegible] comfortable as [illegible] will admit & enjoy the society of our friends [illegible] they come to visit us. You shall be master of the ceremonies & regulate the bowl, the music and the dance. Our Dear Mother will manage the affairs of the table, see that the Ladies are well attended to, & take their [illegible] our worthy Father who shall preside, must be [illegible] of our party till I learn to behave myself properly at the other end of the Table, & I shall tell him all about the French & the [illegible] the Foreign Countries whilst you youngsters are settling your love affairs with the Ladies. — I had just been reading a little book of Scottish poems which my late Dear Friend Colonel Wilson used to be very fond of, and one verse in it happened to take my fancy. It is in the song of "[illegible]"

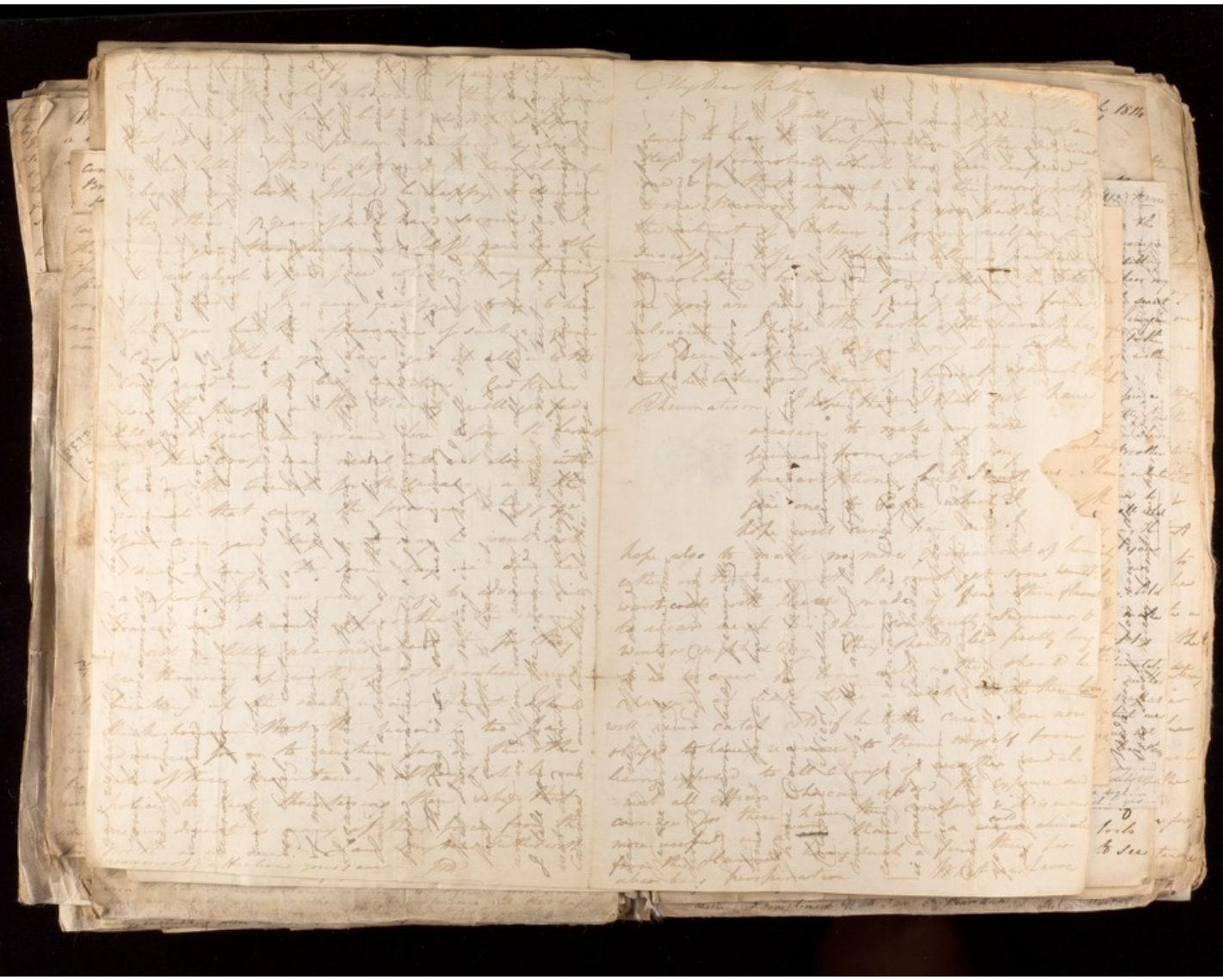
When we all day have wrought enough,
When winter frosts & snaw begin,
Soon as the sun goes west the loch,
At night when ye sit down to spin,
I'll screw my pipes & play a spring;
And thus the weary night we'll end,
Till tender kid & lamb time bring
Our pleasant summer back again.

When some of these peaceful scenes of Domestic comfort & happiness which I can so easily imagine, are brought to my mind and particularly such expressions as 'play a spring' which I hardly think I remember having heard since I left Scotland, they set my thoughts a-wandering over my native part of the World immediately — An Englishman would no more understand what you meant by talking of 'playing a spring' than I would do to be told in Greek. — Four days ago I received a letter which put me into a very melancholy mood. It was one from our departed [illegible] friend Mr. Walt[illegible] I got it by a [illegible] Lieut. 8[illegible] Regt: he had written it with his left hand poor fellow, & in it gave me an account of all his doleful sufferings. I sincerely lament his early fate. — I hope the Ladies will not interfere with your letter-writing. I shall be quite [illegible] if I do not get one of your long and amusing accounts of marriages & courtships of the neighbouring fair lovely damsels, who are [illegible] all you youngsters' heads [illegible]. And you must write a long letter too, for me from Mama and give it word for word as she tells you. I expect to get a private opportunity of an old acquaintance of mine, an officer going home shortly, & perhaps shall send some letters by him to different folks, but I am afraid to trust myself any more amongst the young Ladies — however if I [illegible] I may inclose a few lines to your care perhaps. But this is such an uncommon busy time with us all at present, for besides a press of duty amongst sick and wounded, the Surgeons of Regiments have a great deal of writing to answer to Medical and Surgical queries of an intricate and important nature just sent to us by the Inspector of Hospitals.

They are not unlike the Highlanders in the part of the c
being a very strong hardy race, & talking an extraord
language. Different from those in the low-countries.
men have long & plaited, which is tied with ribbons, a
allowed to hang down the back. Some of them
it to come up for down in the calf of the leg. I
way for the Frontier of France they affect the same fa
& deep cuts on the same way. Some of the men are
commonly tall, one in this town is upwards of 7 feet,
a woman (young) is about 6.

Since the 11th Instant both armies have been tolerably
The Enemy has not dared to molest us again, a
have been throwing the papers. The siege of
Sebastian has been going on very slowly on account
a scarcity of ammunition, and it seems to be the
to try to starve Pamplona to a surrender, which
not happen till the middle of October. This is
reported that the French will make another attempt
relieve it but they have lost much of their Prof. Dance
Marshall Soult. Many of our Wounded Officers have di

Lieut. Hall
R.N.
Mr. William Hall
Portland
Maine
U.S.



St Jean de Luz, 24th March, 1814

86

My Dear Father

Burgette 28th October 1813

84

My Dear Father

I wrote you a letter on the 7th October a very pretty long letter. Since that time I have quitted the Camp for a few days and just on my return some very bad weather which we have had of late. Cold frost wet wind and snow, I have which several of our Soldiers have died on the spot. It is really dreadful weather for the troops to be still in the field & particularly amongst these cold high Mountains. I have been appointed to General Stalle's staff of the Army & will probably be with the Cavalry should we advance into France as is daily expected since the Garrison of Pamplona has begun to treat for terms of capitulation & must now fall in a few days. I am much gratified at remaining with this part of the Army amongst my Friends & acquaintance, and you may now direct to me "2. Division" My best Love from home was at St Jean Pied de Port in the rear, which I now leave for daily the march. I long to get over the Pyrenees & see you and still more to get out of this sort of Campaigning & wars, to be home to see

OCT 27 1813

Mr & Mrs Hill

St Jean de Luz, 24th March, 1814

86

My dear Father,

I hope to have your happy home abroad by a good & plentiful harvest and that you are all well & hearty round your Winter fire side. Much would I give to be one of your circle.

I got my Staff appointment just in time to make me feel the loss that it is, inasmuch as it has been worth 5 Guineas a day to me and my Animals. Some horses and Mules in Camp have died of Cold & hunger, while mine are in a good house with plenty of Corn & straw to eat.

It has cost me nearly 100 Guineas my new situation altogether, and I am still in great want of Linnen things as Shirts, sheets, towel, pillow cases, Tablecloths &c &c. I hope I may soon get home to get fitted out at Slap, there are none seen to be got to buy in this part of the country.

There has been a good deal of robbing & shifting going on here lately, and some officers have had almost every thing stolen from them out of their tents at night while they themselves have been in their relief. One of the last days was in Camp an officer but older to mine, was robbed & I believe the fellows had tried mine but I had a regular defence against them all round my tent made of branches & Hawthorn branches, which no doubt saved my property.

I have hardly any thing new to inform you of, but a few days more will alter our situation here abouts, and we shall either advance into France with an Army of 150 000 men, or some Divisions will be sent to Catalonia where the French have still a footing in Spain, and which will be a long March in a bad season.

The Allies of the North seem to give Bonaparte enough to do, in that quarter, & work they may make him suffer as much as he did last Winter & then I think his crowning round be pretty nearly at an End.

The arrival of the Cold Season will be the harbinger of some Matrimonial matches amongst your young folks and I therefore hope to have your happy home abroad & good & plentiful harvest and that you are all well & hearty round your Winter fire side. Much would I give to be one of your circle.

I got my Staff appointment just in time to make me feel the loss that it is, inasmuch as it has been worth 5 Guineas a day to me and my Animals. Some horses and Mules in Camp have died of Cold & hunger, while mine are in a good house with plenty of Corn & straw to eat.

It has cost me nearly 100 Guineas my new situation altogether, and I am still in great want of Linnen things as Shirts, sheets, towel, pillow cases, Tablecloths &c &c. I hope I may soon get home to get fitted out at Slap, there are none seen to be got to buy in this part of the country.

There has been a good deal of robbing & shifting going on here lately, and some officers have had almost every thing stolen from them out of their tents at night while they themselves are the march. I now move to get over the toils of Campaigning & wars, to be home to see you and still more to get rid of the

St Jean de Luz, 24th March, 1814

86

My Dear Father,

the March. I long
now and still more to get out of the Tools
of Campaigning & Wars, to be home to see

85 Bunbo 4th Feb 1814

expect some fine long letters from Northam
the subject. Pick some good old woman a
many, to keep my house, I believe I shall
Soldier Wife to cook and wash for me.
few days for which I am to pay her 30 f

Addl

a year. I must have at least 2 men Servants
besides a footman or boy so that my Establishment
in that way will cost me at least 500 £ a ye
which is a very great expense. In Scotland
house
out of
might live cheap enough for that & Claudius
tes. God bless you all & have you in his holy
Sam will tell you all the news
Cousin Mr Alex. tells me there are
without expense to supply the vacant
there ought to be plenty of Slave Drs as well
Heaven on the event of a Peace, it would
that I did not come home before this

St Jean de Luz, 24th March, 1814

86

My Dear Father,

In answer to your Queries I must say that I have not heard from her the long time but I shall write to her by the first opportunity. I doubt not but she has other Lovers now. I remember I believe that very Day I set off preach on her to accompany me to Scotland to see the Country — I am of the same opinion by me of Foreign Ladies would make a very bad wife. Yet time & much translate some of them to be an amusement to fill up a little with some other Lady of my heart & flame of my heart. Lady Lily of my thoughts & my consolation of my life. Dear Jemima I cannot [illegible] in some of the Lovely expressions [illegible] sweet particular [illegible] lady, & did you see some letters I have received [illegible] language you [illegible] before I was to have the pleasure [illegible] you a copy [illegible] time [illegible] Quite as believe [illegible] a [illegible] the arrival [illegible] newspaper [illegible] has said [illegible] Allies [illegible] about the Allies of Napoleon [illegible] the Frank. We shall [illegible] the French officers [illegible] the same Price [illegible] as I was letting [illegible] the [illegible] daughter they must [illegible] be jealous [illegible] to have [illegible] yourself with us [illegible] they [illegible] them with the [illegible] they [illegible] them with the [illegible] this river [illegible] the Pyrenees [illegible] we may for the sake of forage for our horses [illegible] are do scarce of that article that I am [illegible] not yet [illegible] the mines [illegible] Bayonne [illegible] they have also strong [illegible] the March. [illegible] you and still more to get over the Tools of Campaigning & wars, to be done to see

St Jean de Luz, 24th March, 1814

86

My dear Father,

You must not blame me in the present letter for not writing to you oftener for 'tis nothing but press of Business prevents me. Having left the Station of Lambeg we came here with my Worthy Colonel & a Captain whose Arm I took off at the Shoulder Joint, & am ordered to proceed immediately to the Head Quarters of Lord Wellington about 30 miles from hence.

I have not had the happiness to receive a line from any of you this long time, the last was the joyful news that you all continue well and happy — Thank God I never was better — this is a healthy Country, & I find the inhabitants more to my mind than either the Portuguese or Spaniards — They are more Civilized, and the Women are very pretty handsome dress neatly — The houses are very comfortable, & handsomely furnished. I am quartered in a beautiful apartments in a fine large house — The Landlord is a nasty sulky, illnatured, ingoit fellow, but I have abused him into good manners. The Ladies of the house are kind, obliging, & one of them very pretty — but I must be off to visit others on the march. I long to hear from some of you and still more to get once the tools of Campaigning & wars, to be home to see

you — Yet I see less chance of Peace at this present moment than there was some time ago.

How dearly I shall enjoy and value the delightful time when I get amongst you again; and I think I shall never wish to leave your fire side ~~again~~ any more.

We have had very hard fighting since we entered France; the Enemy have made greater resistance than was generally expected and we have lost some fine Officers lately.

But I hope it will soon bring about a Peace, for this cannot go on long.

My warmest Love to you all my Dearest Friends — May God bless & make your lives cheerful & happy; —

& believe me to be

My ever dear Father

Your very affectionate Son

J. R. Murray

Indiana 25th April 1814

My Friend

What joy do I congratulate you on the events of the last three weeks! They appear more like a dream than reality. The alarm of my late imprisonment had indeed been the cause of that sacred duty — the attendance on my wounded Officers which has prevented me from writing to you. I am sorry for it, & I am sure you will forgive me —

Immediately I arrived up to Lord Wellington's head Quarters which I found the day after the engagement which gained us the city, I received the whole of the sick & wounded prisoners from Generals Pringle & Cameron, were put under my care — You will perceive that I am extremely high complimented by being made a staff surgeon as I am, to be thus entrusted to so responsible & respectable an situation, immediately under the eye of the Chief & Officers of the Quarter Master General — I feel to be gratifying to my dear friends to know, that in my professional line & in other respects, I possess so much of the confidence of the highest results in the service — This pleasing & encouraging it is, that I to do my duty under these circumstances for me

Noble Sir
Care
The Honorable Mr Martin
Nat Surgeon
Nassau

your
this
time
the
again
to
ever
quarter
and
a
Dear
Dear

At length there is a prospect of my being able to revisit my peaceful native land & I hope to be able to finish my tour from this I go first to Boulogne and from thence I shall endeavour to get home to Paris – I am most agreably situated here in many respects – I have a list of 3 excellent rooms, a parlour dining room, & bed room, besides bedroom, kitchen & stable; the people are very kind and we all live in very good style at a cheap rate drinking Champaigne, Burgundy, Claret & the best of Wines. When I entered the service first – with half the income I now possess I used to save a little money, but now it all goes as quickly as it comes in, & in such hard Campaigning as we have gone through, it is necessary to afford oneself as many comforts as possible, to preserve the blessing of health, which thank God, I have generally managed to do.

My time will not permit me to attempt to give a description of the great doings since our entry here and the Peace &c. This Royal Highness the Duke D'Angoulême made his entrance into Bordeaux yesterday and met the most flattering reception. Tonight I go to a most elegant Ball given to him by Lord Wellington, but I had rather be at a dance with some of your charming Belles collected at Sleep. I think I may yet get to the next Windsor Supper, but perhaps not much sooner, – Ellen Wilkes and I shall give you a couple of Wedding dinners and Dances. –

I have had the pleasure to receive the enclosed letter from Dear Mother & her Amanuensis, and I cannot but feel pleased with the flattering accounts they mention to have received of me from my acquaintances in the army & I shall be like a fool out of the water when I come home, & not know how to bear myself – I shall be put on half pay of 6 or 7/ a day, or perhaps on my arrival in London I may be offered a permanent situation either in England or abroad; and I am not determined how I shall do indeed, that I shall only be able to decide on when I get home & look about me for a few weeks. There is every appearance of the Peace being a permanent one, & it will therefore be necessary to consider a little what will be best for me to do, as it is like setting for my future life. It is not expected that the army will go home before two months, & at all events I shall not be able to leave the Country before that time, but as we have a little more like Old times amongst the people I should not dislike remaining in France for a few months on full pay with little to do.

The people of France show great joy at the downfall of Bonaparte & show opposition very fully as much felt to his tyrannic to us, particularly with Conscription & suppression of the Commerce with England. I do not think however that they are very fond of the stupid family of the Bourbons, but they take Louis the 18th rather than run the risk of another Revolution; for there is hardly a Frenchman who does not speak of this Revolution with a sensation of horror. They are a fickle volatile people and difficult to govern – The French Ladies are

thoughtly gay & engaging in their conversation & manners in society. They have a whirling away with them as you would say, yet I have not met one who would induce me to change my Bachelor's state. There is nothing going on amongst us as our best Dinners, Suppers, Balls, concerts, promenades &c. do not come in more gay & gallant amongst the Ladies than our Wife's Parish Wellington. There is also a good Theatre here and tolerable performers — In the

the Peace has made us all daily mad for the present — and in a short time again we shall be nothing for war. I must conclude with my paper in wishing every joy & happiness may attend you all — that the long looked for time of our reunion may soon come, to allow me to see & embrace with real cordiality my dear relations, kind friends, & especially my dearest Love — believe me to be ever affectionately yours

W. Stewart

Toulouse 2d June 1814

88

My Dear Father,

I suppose now of you write to me on from the idea of your letters not having time to reach me during my stay in France, & therefore I fear that I must content myself for about 3 weeks with imagining you all as well as I sincerely wish you to be. It is very probable that my stay at Toulouse will be yet 3 weeks longer & after that I may be 3 weeks more at Bourdeaux. I have got off the American Expedition to my joy, tho' I believe I could have been made Surgeon to the Commander of the Forces, which is 3/ a day new pay: it is going on ten years since I left England which is a considerable part of a man's life and I wish to enjoy a short time at home now after so long campaigning. I wrote lately to Bt. Hewson by way of Paris, tho I shall send by our own mail which will now reach you quickly as the Packet sails from Bourdeaux — The days of Battles & hard marching are at length over & I hope we may long remain in a state of Peace. It is pleasant to be with the army in these times and the Surgeon's employment would soon become an easy task. The Lady pay but will contain a pretty number of idlers, many of whom will find it a hard matter to live & cloth themselves decently — & many will be little inclined to exert themselves much to increase their income after being accustomed to the lazy life of the army

I do not think that the people of France are in general very happy at this change of affairs. Bonaparte's military fame seems to give them a great very much against their inclination & I believe that Bonaparte has many many partizans amongst the civilians — The French are also fond of glory and still speak with delight of their grand Victories — every man woman & child is proud of their military fame — think their Soldiers the finest & bravest in the world, and although they are obliged to confess that their armies were beaten, they will not allow that France was conquered. They say that their armies were not conquered but by ten times their numbers, & that as we did not come as conquerors of France, but of Bonaparte we were therefore received by the people & not insulted. In short I should not wonder if we should hear of great disturbances in this country after the allied armies retire from it & I would much rather be plain Mr Smith than Louis XVIII on the throne of France. There are also great disturbances in Spain — the King of Italy is very discontented — & the people of Norway will in all likelihood have war with Sweden — I hope the Portuguese will keep their hands well free of all this, but I hope we will bring the insolent americans to their senses.

— Our army begins to move from this, & in a few days no British will remain but a few Medical Officers, a small guard, & some of the worst cases of the wounded Officers & men. The French army comes to occupy this town about the 5th Inst, and Marshal Soult will have his Head Quarters here. I suppose we shall all be on good terms together, & for my part I am rather pleased to remain some time to see what sort of people they are.

Professional duties still occupy greatest part of my time but I have a good deal left to do in that way than I had some time ago, & am more at home in society, in the plays & curiosities of the place. Amongst other indulgences the Military Bonaparte granted them the privilege to the first places in the Theatre & the places of Public amusement at very reduced prices & this we also enjoy — we have the first boxes at the Theatre & only pay of entrance what the civilians pay of — & we see the Museum &c.

I have not had time to get acquainted with [illegible] of this place — The French Ladies require more [illegible] them than I could spare — some of them [illegible] very well but the French music is not [illegible] They are extremely lively & great coquettes [illegible] seem many who are pretty, but they are generally handsome figures — they have boundless [illegible] French & Belles.

Most of the wounded officers who [illegible] under my charge are gone & going [illegible] to Bourdeaux — Amongst them is a Lieut Urquhart 42d of Regt who was related to the Craigston family. He has had a very bad & tedious wound of the leg near the ankle — the Ball injured the bone which in pieces of it still continue every now & then to come away — At first I was afraid of the artery being wounded by the Ball which would have required a painful operation to get it tied, but it seems just to have escaped. ~~the ball~~ I have kept him with me as long as I could but all those able to be moved are ordered off to day & he goes to Bourdeaux. He is not yet able to put his foot to the ground, but you may inform his friends that there is no danger in his case although it be very likely that it will be a long time ere he get well — He had 3 or 4 other wounds but this was the worst — We have had many a tale about old times & the bonnie lasses in your part of the country.

When I come home any wants in the way of Sh
will no doubt be great. I shall make no d
to my stock of these beyond what is necessary
my current use. Till I have the pleasure to
dawn to Scotland. I am sorry to say that
shirts sent by Lieut: Spiers of my old Regt
have not reached me — the Regiment has
from this is at Bourdeaux about to em

Mr Chalmers
Nisbet
Berwick
Inverness
Scotland

for America & he had not joined the Regt
England when it was here. But I may
when I go to Bourdeaux as he will probably
then with some one there even should he not ge
after. One of your shirts are worth two of any
get home. I shall think the time long till I see
get amongst my dear friends — remember me
them all in the most affectionate terms & may
preserve you all in health & happiness. Never am I
valued Brother, with much warm affection & esteem

Bordeaux, 7th July 1814.

My Dear Brother,

I arrived here from Toulouse a
few days ago & hope to sail for Old England in
the course of the week. I hope I shall not
be long delayed from coming to see you but
that will depend on circumstances. I am
asked to go to Tarragona as Surgeon to
the General Officers ordered on the Court
Martial there, but have refused the situation
as I so much prefer going home to any thing else almost that can
be offered me. A great part of the
Army still remains in France for want
of Transport. I could go by Paris if I
liked but as I cannot take my baggage
with me I should be in danger of losing
it if I sent it home ~~with~~ along with
the Public Stores of the Army — and besides
this is not the best season of the year
for seeing what I should wish there.
After having remained so long in Toulouse
I did not leave it without considerable
regret. I was to have brought away a
young pretty little French Lady for
Wife to my little namesake Stephen

but she did not like to leave her Mama
till she got a little older. I gave her a
ring to keep for him, and he must come
for her himself in a year or two hence.
We did not much like the French Military
they are rather a bad set. The people of
the Town were very kind, I knew several
families, used to dine with them frequently
and go out to the country with them.
This is a much better town – indeed it is
one of the finest I have ever seen in
many respects. The streets & public buildings
are large & beautiful, the Promenades
are extensive & formed with taste, the
shops are large & rich, the river is
crowded with vessels, very large ones
come thus far up it although 60
miles from the sea – this is the
greatest commercial port in France –
and the surrounding country produces
the choicest of Wines. The people have
been remarkably civil to the British, but
many of them are now getting tired of
them, and there have been a few
quarrels. I have fortunately got into
a good house with civil people.

Mr. Spiers never joined the 35th Regt. in the
Country so that I shall probably never re-
ceive the parcel he had for me as
the Regt. has gone to America.

On my arrival in England I shall
write – I have only time to add my
most affectionate regards to all my
Dear Parents, Relations & Friends in
your Vicinity & that no one loves
more to embrace them than

My Dear William
your loving Mother & Wellwisher

Wm. Meers

Miss Mackenzie
Miss Mackenzie
Tarbolton
Scotland

Mary
are

preserve you all in health & happiness, remain ever
valued Mother, with much warm affection & tender
[illegible]

Bd Street 26 Sept. 1814

My dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his
room with a determination of writing to stop anticipation to him

(90) London 7th August 1814

[illegible]

after the Proper Birth day [illegible]

[illegible] and believe me to be dear Aunt
your affectionate Niece Ruth Bunny

all confidants and by that means [illegible]
to Cheltenham he wrote two friendly love letters in one to Eliza
because she had made him an apple pye bad one day, which she
not find out for a long time. [illegible]

22 Woodstock Street 26 Sept. 1814

My dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being sick we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to Stop entirely to him ...

I was disappointed in my expectations of the talent and splendour of Paris, excepting in some of the Public Buildings, Gardens & amusements, in which it is superior to London, but it is not half so big, & is comparatively little of that bustle and thirst of riches derived from Commerce, much conceit is neglected for the sake of external show, the people are decided very squeish, and although in public they appear gay, they enjoy but very little domestic happiness which is what constitutes the truest sweets of life. — I now have it many other countries I am more able to judge of the comforts of my own and to appreciate them. Our own little Island is the greatest and most happy thing of any I believe, in the world. What at first appeared most extraordinary to me at first on my return was to hear every one about me speaking English in the streets and to see the women of such fresh & pretty complexions. The difference of dress, also of the ladies & and very striking, the elegance of the travelling coaches, and the cleanliness of the houses. The climate of England I find already to be very different to what I came from. I cannot say that any time past and I fear I shall not like the cold windy weather in Scotland, but the sooner I get to it the better.

Many a

If my dear friends there will pardon me for it. My trip to Paris has cost me too — I intend to go down to Scotland by land should my money hold out, partly with a view to see the Country and partly to avoid the disagreeable sea voyage but I shall send my baggage either to Aberdeen or to Peterhead by sea.

Augt. 9th 1814 | 22 Woodstock Street | Oxford road

I did not send off my letter till I had arranged my residence & affairs, which I am happy to say I have done quite to my mind. My reception in London has been most flattering, not only by every one I knew but also by many who had only heard of me from Sir John Stuart. I mentioned to you before that Lord Hill wanted me to go out to America with him on his own Staff & that I had refused. He again has tried every means to persuade me to go with him, and as my cousins know, I have had a hard battle with myself to refrain from accompanying him to America which however I have at length accomplished, without refusing him absolutely, only I must remain here for about a month till the Expedition sails — rather it is not expected that it will sail at all. My name will be kept on the list till we see how things turn out, & if I think I don't go — if it does sail I shall have the credit of having been ready & willing.

Give my family and believe me to be dear Aunt Your affectionate Nephew Rob. Stewart

[illegible] to Cheltenham he wrote two pretended love letters in verse to Eliza because she had made him an Apple pye bed one day, which she not find out for a long time. [illegible]

Elmsfield Street 18 Sept. 1812

My Dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop entirely to him. The [illegible]

My dear Aunt

91

not having the pleasure of being personally acquainted with you makes me at a loss how to address you but from the very kind treatment my Sister Margaret received from you all when in the North encourages me to hope for a correspondence with you. my Sister Hill and I sincerely congratulate you and my Uncle on the safe Arrival of my Cousin in England from the pleasure we experience in seeing of him again can judge what yours must be on his Arrival in the North you will find him just the same in good nap of health as when he left England as a proof of which I assure you he has had a very hard struggle within himself for he had a very liberal offer made him by Lord Hill to go to Barcelona but the regard for his family and the pleasure of seeing his friends again overpowered his intention – should the Journey not be too much for you should be happy to see you here accompanied by your Son William whose hope we shall see – Town is now getting very thin but it has been a very healthy Season never was known so many public improvements which has been all in train by way of Revenge which I flatter myself you will be happy to hear it has likewise contributed greatly to the Restoration of your Spirits after the loss of my dear Father as my Cousin has limited me to Paper I must conclude my Sister joins with me in kind regards to my Uncle family and believe me to be dear Aunt

Your affectionate Niece Ruth Young

to Cheltenham he wrote two pretended love letters in verse to Miss [illegible] because she had made him an Apple pye had one day, which she not find out for a long time. [illegible] I must now [illegible] to the [illegible] and ask [illegible] compliments of all [illegible] Friendship, you [illegible]

Elmsfield Street 26 Sept. 1814.

My Dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop matrimony to him while he is

12. Sept. 1814.

My ever dear Mother

You will be glad to have heard of my safe arrival here and I assure you that I should have been down at Sap'e ere now had I not been presented by Butcaff. My cousin Ruth has written you a page, and I hope we shall all have a letter from you as soon after the receipt of this as you can. I cannot express to you the very great kindness I have received from my cousins in this house. We are all wishing that William may come up to see us; it will be a good opportunity to see his friends here & to go to London. I dranck tea at my aunt's house on Tuesday and went with her, her & Eldest daughter, & my cousins here to Dunphall afterwards. My Aunt has a family of very fine children. of herself I shall say nothing. Little Helen is the picture of poor Brother William was when I left Scotland yesterday I dined with Mr Barclay & met the Colonel &c; they were all exceedingly kind. Miss Barclay is grown up & well educated. The family consists of 3 Daughters & a son.

I am not quite settled about the manner I shall employ myself; but I believe I shall spend the Winter in Edinburgh. I should like to know if you heard if there was any plan about your part of the Country that I might have a chance of succeeding at in the practice of my profession. If I had got a few months time to be with you, the and that the Expedition under Lord Hill had not taken so very low, I should have gone out to America, but as it happens I would not go for the World. I might have been

or 3 days with you before the Expedition sailed, but that would have been worse than not to have gone down to Scotland at all so I have declined the offer. I shall go up to Newcastle altogether. If William should come up to London as I hope he may I should wish him to bring a few things for me but I do not send them unless he comes. I have been expecting to hear from you, as before I left Borden I wrote home to say I should be in England about this time and requesting you to direct to the care of Windsor the Army agent. I hope however that you are all in the best health & with every wish for the continuance of that blessing to you & all my other friends, I remain

your ever dear Mother
your very affectionate Son
Wm Murray

My Dear Mr William

It is now some time since I have written to you before but that circumstance is merely accidental, when I wrote one of your I intended the letter the same almost for all. In my letter to Papa & in the preceding part of this I have ventured to hope that I may have the pleasure to see you in London. Be assured if you can make it very convenient that I will be delighted

preserve your health & happiness, remain ever yours
Dear Mother, with much warm affection & love

to see you — but I partly fear that the notice is too short for you, & also that this is too busy a season of the year to get away — If you could make it convenient it will be necessary that you lose no time as I shall make my stay here as

My dear Ishall

AUG 16 M 1814

as speedily as can — There is very numerous acquaintance here as it is expensive — It is dearer living in England than abroad. Toronto has always to the last year Paris suits me as well as here — I have to see the Curiosities of London, when here before I was so pinch with my studies that I could not afford them for those things. Pray let me hear from you as soon as before. Ever yours

preserve you all in health & happiness, remain ever yours
sincerely Mary Ann, with much warm affection & esteem yours

Wrexham Street 26 Sept. 1814

My Dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop entirely to him. Ruth is going to write to Blackhouse, and has prevailed on me to my tomorrow to answer her letter from William for the present. It has

92

Wrexham 26 August 1814

My Dear Sister

to Cheltenham he wrote two friendly love letters in verse to Eliza because she had made him an apple pye bed one day, which she not find out for a long time. I must now give you a little of my adventures for which I have come at

all confidants and by that means quite ruined your

to see you – but I partly fear that the note is too short for you, & also that this is too long,

22 Woodstock Street 26 Sept. 1812

My Dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop [illegible] to him. My [illegible] Ruth is going to write to Blackhouse, and has prevailed on some of my cousins to answer her letter from William for the present.

to Cheltenham he wrote two pretended love letters in verse to Eliza because she had made him an apple pye bed one day, which she not find out for a long time.

Westfield Street 18 Sept. 1842

My Dear Aunt

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop entertainment to him. My Sister Ruth is going to write to Stockbridge, and has prevailed on me to answer her letter from William for the present. It has given us the greatest pleasure to have had [illegible]

to tie you — but I partly fear that the note is too short for you & also that this is too long a [illegible] make [illegible] look so —

[illegible]

My dear [illegible] I shall [illegible]

as I [illegible] here [illegible] England [illegible] in Paris [illegible] Curiosities [illegible] my studies [illegible] Beaches [illegible]

[illegible] Mr. Miller [illegible] Scotland

[illegible] to Cheltenham he wrote two pretended love letters in verse to Eliza [illegible] because she had made him an Apple pye had over dose, which she [illegible] not find out for a long time. [illegible]

Elmsfield Street 28 Sept. 1814.

My Dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop anticipation to him. My sister Ruth is going to write to Blackhouse, and has prevailed on me and my cousins to answer her letter from William for the present. It has given us the greatest pleasure to have had one from him so long a

to see you — but I partly fear that the note is too short for you, & also that this is too long a

make

to Cheltenham he wrote to a friend. Your letters in verse to Eliza because she had made him an apple pye had over done, which she

not find out for a long time.

constant use of you

Preserve yourself in health & happiness, & believe me ever most affectionately yours, with much warm affection & sincere attachment

B.

to see you — but I partly fear that the notice is too short for you, & also that this is too long a letter. I wish I could give you any information who the fair Lady is, but I do not know. I cannot find out the author's name, nor to whom it is addressed. Do let you know. I will endeavour to do it & let you know. I should do so rather too if I should ever visit Portland. I must return you all my most sincere thanks for your kind attentions, and should be always happy to hear from you —

my sister joins with me in kind remembrance to all friends and believe me
your affectionate Cousin
E. Morgan

very well Miss! you had better tell nothing of my delinquencies as I may know a few secrets too.

preserve you all in health & happiness, from an [illegible] relative & friend, with much warm affection & esteem yours
B.

[illegible] them at Christmas accept the wishes

Westfield Street 26 Sept. 1844

My dear Aunt

94

Cousin John being out we have all come up stairs to his room with a determination of writing to stop antimacassars to him. My sister Ruth is going to write to Blackhouse, and has prevailed on some of my cousins to answer her letter from William for the present. It has given us the greatest pleasure to have had our cousin here so long & particularly as through him we have heard so often from our friends in Portland and that you enjoy such good health which I sincerely hope may be of very long continuance. I envy the trip which my sister & Mary are going to take to see you all, and it must be a great pleasure for you to think that you will be soon see your son who has now been so long absent from you. I am sure your meeting will be a happy one for he has the greatest desire to get home to see his Dear Mama Papa & all other relations. He has been obliged to stay here for different seasons, during which time he has not been idle. He has been getting himself out, attending classes, visiting a great part of the Continent, and seeing all the wonders and curiosities about London & Paris. I find him a good deal changed. I should have passed him in the street without knowing him; about 35 or 36 years of age he appears with some grey hairs in his hair, and inclined to be bald — of a very dark complexion having been so long in the Mediterranean but not light brown hair. 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, and very serious and sedate like a Doctor, but is not always very quiet amongst us when he gets in all together I assure you. As to his love affairs about which we are frequently teasing him I really do not know very well what to say for him although we all believe he has some sweetheart he keeps it so secret we have not been able to find out exactly where she is. All we know is that he very frequently goes out the way of Chelsea and stays till very late, often till 8 o'clock at night and even later, and he writes a great many letters which we suppose to be love letters for we know there are often verses in them, and by the bye I had some verses from him the other morning upon a sugar loaf which I soon astonished his friend out, but he makes no pretends to make them all confidants and by that means finds things out — and just before he went to Cheltenham he wrote some pretended love letters in verse to Eliza because she had made him the Apple pye bed one day, which she not find out for a long time. I must now give place to the ladies and [illegible] you my dear Aunt have to [illegible] Affectionately yours
M. A. Morgan

My Dear Uncle

Before I have the pleasure of being personally acquainted with you I take up the pen to intermeddle an quelque you by letter. Cousin Charles not have made up our minds to accompany our Cousin, the time has depended towards that every day we hear of a week and soon now we shall be ready to set out. We are only waiting for a respite here, and each of us is more anxious than another to shake you all by the hand & to hold the merry Malay with you on the subject of your son after so long absence from you & so from all the last trouble and danger he has gone through. To day he has had a friend to dinner & Mr Buchan a young man who is a very pleasant speaker young man indeed. This is the Cousin Alex. mentioned before. We have been all operating him to speak up to day and a pretty old phaeton he has, although he has still stay towards Portsmouth or Plymouth for the purpose of seeing the Russian ships. I expect he has for a month to come to Russia and will write to Pap and have to him and on the intrim we are thinking of you. Last year Mr Mc the Rose was thinking of you. Family Lady in Richmond which would have made a pretty and very happy to be near to a married our circumstances Christian but she afterwards found that circumstances would not permit her and she was obliged to change her mind. My Brother John is at Sandhurst at School and is fifteen. Cousin Helen has a second time been very hard to see. Little Helen has recovered but Mama made it her to Scotland for change of air but that the Scots health of Cousin Helen and my Brother Alex. hurt to go to School again. Cousin Helen and My Brother Alex. hurt to follow our Pack to Scotland on day and say they will either get married or our absence or they will follow us to bring us back again. I am doubt return to them soon. In spared we are all well. If after the four years has passed over. I make no scruple to give my Sister Jane a trip after before the expiration of the time in order we lost the pleasure of seeing you. Jane is about to be married and then we should suffer great pain. Expecting to hear from Uncle and Aunt

My Dear Cousin William

It has been decided it seems that I am to write you in answer to a letter you wrote to Cousin Beth but I tell her to answer for her own sins I have perhaps enough for myself to answer for without being saddled with hers also, therefore I shall write you in my own behalf as you are a Bachelor and I shall for the present waive the ceremony and etiquette which the world considers necessary and trust I shall not be deemed impudent in being the first to write to a gay young man whom I have never seen. Being in my own behalf therefore I shall begin scolding you for making love already to Cousin Beth and as we all convinced you have been doing as the has some parts of her letter which she keeps concealed from every one of us except Cousin Brother and he rather increases the mystery than or doubt it. This is really not giving us a fair chance of

Another thing is you speak of kissing as if it were all a matter of common consequence of a business of course.

I must however inform you that it has been quite out of fashion these three years and nobody now even thinks of it tell the marriage articles he signed and witnessed. I shall let your Brother answer for his own thing sins to his Parents. We are going to hold a merry meeting on the occasion of his going abroad and indeed we shall have great reason to rejoice when he goes for we can make nothing of him, and I believe he has torn all our tippets which he will give us no assistance in mending, therefore I will always a good day work I wish sand to see this alarum. But hope I wish Jeane going North to see you all but hope that may be another time. I am afraid you will not be Come. Mary and I write very like your little [illegible] our sorrows.

Brother I think and indeed we can imitate his p
pretty well when we take time and try. O
tells me to say you must not be angry with her for
writing to you as she intends to write to Cousin Alexan
We all beg to be kindly remembered to his family.
Helen and I insist on your writing to us. w

Mr J. Murray Esq
Aberdeen
Post Paid

the party arrives at Rio to tell us all ab
them for we shall not believe all that th
will tell us. Do not wish to us tell a
after they arrive as they are to write to us f
Aberdeen and they will tell you how to ad
under cover. Believe me to be, all my
Dear Friend, very sincerely your well w
Eliza Ell

My Dear William 96 Aberdeen 9th July 184[illegible] morning

You will be surprised when you receive
Letter from Marshouse from Aberdeen London here

Aberdeen, 29th Jan. 1844

95

My dear Brother

I had the pleasure to receive yours by the
Carrier together with all my Boxes safe - I am
daily looking out now for an account of your
Wednesday at Leith - I have just heard from
Elizy who says she has heard such good accounts
of the Mining Jelly and other good things at Sea
that she is anxious to get down to taste some of it
She has heard two of the young gentlemen which
no doubt is her chief inducement - We have had
some dreadful weather here lately and many
ships have been wrecked close to this place -
amongst the losses is my poor unfortunate
baggage but I have recovered a handful
of the valuables. Two gold chains - 2 seals - a ring
a locket - a brooch - a pair of silver clasps buttons -
a pair of gold knee buckles - a bottle of otto of roses -
a rosary - my diploma a member of the Royal College
of Surgeons - and some coins. The gold chains on the
present of a lady - the ring and one of the seals on the
breast of an elderly lady - whose family I was
the Physician for some time and they made me
accept on coming away as I never would take any to
Mary Clan - the ring was her mother's wedding ring I may be
[illegible] hope to get him pretty well accommodated, aye little tha
for we were good man, aye hae a guidwife but nae unde
ty or Lowty guid gunnies like yer an and our guid house
aa isn't mickle mair altogether than ove William d

Brother I think and indeed we can imitate his
pretty well when we take time and try. O
tell, me to say you must not be angry with her for
writing to you as she intends to write to Cousin Alexan
We all try to be kindly remembered to his family.
I insist on your writing to us

that of my wife on some future day – another of the
seals is a keepsake of my friend Captain Steiger –
another seal is an antique – The rosary belonged to
a good old nun a Capuchin Friar in whose convent I
had our Hospital for 8 months in Italy – the nun
call me his son, & when I left that he came with
me to the door, & taking hold of mine by the hand, with
tears in his eyes to bid me farewell – he said as he
entered his rosary from his belt and gave it me –
This I have made out with my own hand it has long
been my companion, it is of little value but
it is what I hold most dear to me – Take it, my
with my blessing, keep it for my sake and sometimes
think on me – You are not a Roman Catholic, but it
will do you good. – Should I not be ungratefull not
to value it – I do & shall never forget the donor
whose heart was generously kind & a friend he was
Many an argument have we had about Religion –
I should see the good old man my because he
could not convince me to turn Catholic and
particularly one that I was had of an Evening about
that time and he thought I believed that I was going
to die – he used to come to see me every day and
would hardly come in to speak to me for fear of
disturbing me but he used to go and sit with my
Servant to enquire how I had passed the night &c.

them for
will tell us. Do not wait to
after their arrival as they are to write to us
Aberdeen and they will tell you how to
under cover Believe me to be, all my
Dear my sincere
Eliza

My Dear William

96 Aberdeen 9th July 1843 morning

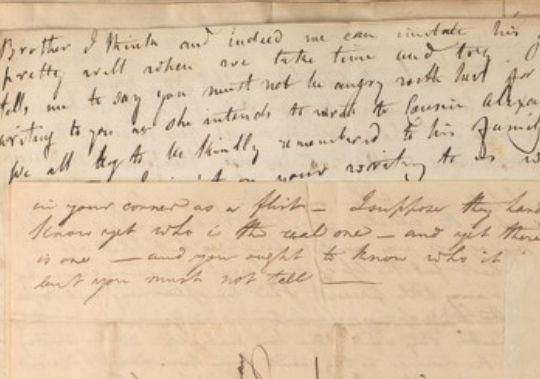
You will be surprised when you receive
Letter from Markham from Aberdeen London here

I shall write to him and after this day – he wanted me
much in the collection for little Museum which is left –
My baggage was worth about £200, but I shall not in
the least feel the loss of it – I regret it more on account of
the many little presents I had been planning out to give
to the children of my acquaintances in your corner. In
themselves they would have been valuable in this country
and the more so as they would have been rare and would
have shown that I was not unmindful of them even
when very distant for it was with that intent that
many of them were purchased and collected – I regret
as you have often heard me express I should do if left the
valuable books left me by my dear departed friend Charles
Wilson – But I need not talk of regrets, and in
my so I shall think no farther of the
losing, and they you will
not give, provided the least
unpleasing on the subject of
are very thankful that I got safely home myself and
I do welcome with all feel the comfort

I like Aberdeen very much – I have got all my
duty arranged so that I have not five minutes work
a day – I have never yet been at home when to be more
I shall show many engagements to attend – On Sunday
is a most respectable fine young man, we are most together
Colds & evenings attended the Lectures – I am glad to hear
of Mrs Murray continuing to hold better – I have not yet
a single Help since I came to Aberdeen – I have examined my
Date Character ~~upon~~ and intend to get up my good name to
again – I understand I have got a terrible character
I hope to get ~~him~~ pretty well accomodated, as little the
or we were good man, aye hearty guidwife but we under
ty or County guid guineas the year and our guid house
are not much mair altogether than our William &

Brother I think and indeed we can imitate his hand pretty well when we take time and long. Martha tells me to say you must not be angry with her for not writing to you as she intends to write to Cousin Alexander writing to you as she intends to write to Cousin Alexander to his family, and we all beg to be kindly remembered to him when we are writing to us when

in your corner as a flirt — I suppose they have not know yet who is the real one — and yet there is one — and you might to know who it is but you must not tell —



Give many kisses amongst the dear little ones for me — there are no news to write — Give my best love to our Dear Parents and Hope they continue well & hearty — accept same yourself with the affectionate regards of Believe My Dear William in the affectionate regards of

your Brother

them for me [illegible] will tell us. Do not wait to write to us from after their arrival as they are to write to us from Aberdeen and they will tell you how to address

Believe me to be, all my dear

My Dear William

96 Aberdeen 9th July 1813 morning

You will be surprised when you receive a letter from Matthew from Aberdeen I wonder how the due he is then but I hale mean no — you shall only hear I was rather fond at home and as we farmers like to speak about anything much better than corn which is as losing [illegible] at 18/ for 15 stone down that for a time it is at that with you, well but hear more long my dear I shall hear no more of that subject we after getting my porridge fed and ruled down with a wisp of straw but very little wisp for I sell a small one for a penny I left Whom on Tuesday morning by the particular desire of Hotter she wished me just to come in and on the 2d poor fellow after making with so great a lip as all his valuable Lesbia bag [illegible] & having so little to detain me & especially as he is now soon to change his Bachelor state I spent a few minutes more word of it from himself for you must know out of three guesses he gave I had to find his name he has guessed at 5 to tell you the truth William I am seen a good many houses to deny that he has been looking at which I think some of them may be any accommodation but he is like me he looks always to a house that has a good airy nursery in it (he calls it a room to implant his young ancestors in) but he is not quite so sure as me that he will get 4/3 days to begin with & you know they rent requires much in advance as he says to implant girls in — I hope to get them pretty well accomodated, aye little than [illegible] ever we were good man, aye hardly guidwife but nae under thirty or twenty guid gunners other year and one guid house Dodna [illegible] mickle mair athg other turn over William &

and goes the next for he must be fit when he is ordering a thaw
at one in the morning and the Dr not come home yet waiting him
to fix he is at a Ball at Dr Dyces and Sandy has been supping
with his friend Mr Davidson. I wait that is a kind house to
him for I then Mrs Davidson the was at Forgue in the Summer
when the guid man was there, I and you could by Mr Chaney
will he's not sober but will go on, no will all sit still as
we are until we get all the rest of his Aberdeen news,
aye & when he means to leave it — I have been making a
good many calls to day and am to sup tea on Thursday
the night at Mrs Smith's Mr Clement who are all well but I
have not called on Mr Lyal which I must do and also
on Miss Boyd Crown which I fear lies pretty near the
Dr now sit in bed I mean I am afraid the whisky fumes is
not all out of his head yet but still you are wrong for I have
not tasted it this day, aye but dont lie at 1 in the morning but
I mean all all the last day, not the last morning for the
before we went to bed for yet hear wee mama the Dr sell on
rose twa to bed the same day when with us (thank God Mr
I never saw him go to bed in the day time here) but aye mama
I have seen him in all the corners of the house when the Ladies were
here romping but see here tell what that Lady is that Sandy
means in the beginning of his letter, for I've been thinking
in my ain mind that he will be needing a bed & pillows
and some other things from me of his table & house, but stop
we that till we get down with the long letter, I wonder he has
never been speaking of Katie in all his letter, but I did speak
of her in the beginning of it & I believe I should not have been
here yet, I am happy to say she is always mending
but indeed we cant well understand him for he may say many
things but supposing of she is at that it is a sign she

is better & I wish she may soon recover, all the rest are
well say I pay to the chorus Mr P. Murray is rather better
leg is still the same Capt Wotson & Lt Leight the 5th Foty is marry as
we could — the Dr is come home to be & have been gambling
I have won a good many of the yellow Boys from him (at cards)
of cards and more wine than we can both drink in of week
from this date but in his own mind he thinks I will pay it
in his shirts I am fear in fact he is sure of it but I think I have
sobered him, but that is all for of I soon come home I will tell him
all the weak minds and indeed some of the strong ones with
my new tricks but I think it will be much better to go to bed
for he is to add some Pt tea when he gets up again and now
I have got rich shall buy some round cards & turn out a Herman or

Brave — until I get wher ag am I remain. Dr Mr
Your Fr
J Murray

My Dear Mother, — Aberdeen 9th Feby 1815.

I have been trying to get an opening to myself for some time past in order to write you a long letter, but have not been able to accomplish it on account of so many invitations and which I could not refuse — I was agreeably surprised on Tuesday night — by the arrival of Blackburn and first as I was putting on my hat to go to dinner the same evening, which I had set apart entirely to be writing some letters we were entertained by four into a most pleasant party to Tea, cards, supper, singing tricks, dancing and all sorts of fun — Last night I was at a great feast at Dr Dyces the anniversary of his marriage — I Alex. went to Mr Davidson's

Aberdeen, 25th Oct. 1815.

My dear Brother

Many hearty thanks for your kind long letter of Saturday last. I fear you are finding me but an unworthy correspondent since I came to this place, where I have been indulged with another gay carnaiche, and seldom allowed an idle moment. So much has my time been occupied in kind and pleasant society, that I have hardly been an evening at home since I arrived and still is little prospect of it for some time to come. I am not tired of it as I have such an agreeable variety but I should like to have a little more leisure for corresponding with my absent friends, and for study, and I hope that in time I shall have that too. —

I am always most happy to hear of the welfare of our Dear Parents and other relatives and Friends, and I am sure they will also be happy to hear that I am so well and so agreeably situated, and I hope to be still more so when I have got into my own house and got a Wife to assist me in keeping it. At length I have taken a flat in Broad Street which contains all the rooms I require in a very

commodious manner and in one of the best
parts of the Town. The rent is very high
£30 but I rather chose to save on some
other domestic points than that of a house.
I would rather have given £10 or 8 more for
one where it is then I could in many other
parts for another with equal accomodation.

If you come in at any time I shall be
most happy to see you, but in the ways I
am at present in I will send you no
invitation, as I can offer you no convenient
or comfortable accomodation – in short, I
myself have hardly any to offer you so
that I would almost rather you would wait
till I have it more in my power to make
your visit a more pleasant one for us both.

I have been thinking of taking a ride
or drive out to see you some day soon
but believe I had better defer it for
some time till my character for steadiness
be a little better established – I heard
from our Cousins at Kensington this
week, but not from Woodstock Street
since I came here – There are some
messages for you both from Mary and
Eliza and I must look over the letters we
to extract them for you – I heard from
Blackhouse some days ago, all are
well there. I shall be delighted if Katherine
gets strong.

Yours affy
Eliza Atkinson

I see by the papers to day that some addi-
tions are proposed on Batchelors which may
make me hasten my wedding day – I am
not jesting really about my serious intention
this way, but as I never shall consider
myself as independent whilst I have the
happiness of my dear Parents as well as
my dear Brothers to consult, I shall
not proceed much farther in the business
without consulting them on the subject
and indeed I shall consider their approbation
of my choice as so essentially necessary
that without it I shall not marry any
one – I say so much in
this letter as a preface to
my next which as it may
contain my sentiments
more explicitly expressed on
this subject and perhaps the name of the
young lady whom I have selected as
my choice, I trust you will consider
it for the present as an affair entirely
amongst ourselves as it is better I think
that these things be kept quiet. Write
me as soon as you can and say that
you will be happy to hear who my
sweetheart is, and that you will keep
the secret – you all know her, and I think
I have had a sufficient opportunity of making
myself acquainted with her good qualities

her conduct, character, and accomplishments to recommend her as deserving to become a daughter to my dear Parents and a sister to William – I am mistaken if she will not be a dutiful, ~~a~~ grateful, affectionate daughter and sister, & make a good and agreeable wife for one. It is a match for Love not for interested motives on

Mr William Murray
Elgin
N. Britain

ABERDEEN
25 FEB 1814
528 — E

Either part – a moderate competence with affection has been more my object than riches, and I hope we shall have enough to get through the world like our neighbours. Adieu my Dear William – make my kindest love to all at home and believe me Ever most cordially and affectionately Yours

Jno Williams

Aberdeen 6th. June 1814

My Dear Brother

We had a fine drive to Killiehead the day Alex'r & I left you, of course we slept there that day and night – found all well – Dinny Alexander was there quite recovered – had some fun in the Evening as usual this lad –

At Blackhouse on Wednesday found Nathan complaining a little but got him something which did him good & hope he continues better – had some fishing in the Ugie in the forenoon, & after Dinner made some visits in Peterhead – Alexie is getting a fine stout boy – Uncle was complaining of his grandest complaint again, having caught cold on Sunday. On Thursday came in here by the Caravan, to spend a quiet stay anywhere. To day I have applied for leave to go to London after the 20th which I hope will be granted – It is not as far as I think to bring home the good wife – You may get married first if you like now – and give me a new coat – You are in much request at Stevenson's

So that I may be among

I understand here that there is likely to be a great demand for Cattle. Craigston goes to sell his grass-parks tomorrow — his son George has met with a bad accident but is doing well — he fell from the railing of the stair and broke his thigh — being young and healthy he will soon get well.

I sent Mr Morrison Turriff some medicine by the Coach which I hope he has received.

If any of you will be in Banff soon or have an opportunity to see Cousin Andrew will you give him warning that I shall require a Bill for £100 from him on London before the 20th day should I get leave to go to London but I shall write to him before he send it to me — I will not have my house ready to receive any of you before the beginning of July which will be an idle time for you and every thing will be pretty about town & country. I fear there will be no Wife to receive you but you must content yourself in that case with Mr Stewart's fare —

most cordially and affectionately Yours
William Duff

How do Mamie & Papa stand it out? I hope well in good spirits. I should try to get a good-doctress for them to give them something more to think about. I think I shall be pretty well provided, & shall not require one with many weeks — Craigston's family will be detained in Town on account of the accident to the son, but I shall not require the bedding & things for six weeks — I think I shall buy a flock mattress for my Housekeeper in place of the Chaff. I saw her at Blackhill & and am much pleased with her appearance — she is a very clean decent looking woman —

I sent you the Clover seeds by Gillan the farmer — it was not easy to get the of the Quality as the people here have been disappointed of a ship from Holland — 18s the red & 15s the white — In your bag there were Holcus I thought another taste if you send it in some time by the Carrier I shall return it & get the money again

Aberdeen, 18th June 1815

My Dear William 49

I have been longer in replying to yours than I should have wished on account that you were apparently rather alarmed about the sore throat in your corner, but I hope without cause as I doubt conveying there is any danger of infection by the means you mentioned. However, I shall tell you what to do to stop it should it appear in the corner, as to its prevention, I know no means of that but to keep out of its way if you can & if you cannot, not to be at all afraid of it. Should any one apply to you to cure it give him first a pill of 5 grains of Calomel (not chamomile) and in an hour after 1oz of Salts – have the throat rubbed with equal parts of hartshorn & oil – & gargled inside with vinegar & water sweetened with honey – at night bathe their feet well & give a dose of Dr James' Powder out of Papa's Bottle – There

Sunday

great

Tell hi

George

is doing

after

young

I sent

by the

If a

or lan

Andre

that

from

chas

but

send

house

the bey

idle

be pr

there

To

we have got some fine recruits since

in – the increase of poverty will tempt

has our nothing frightened off our Tatie

Thermometer? – How are all your

lasses – give Miss Morrison & Miss

as I only got about half done the last

was out – I have got my old fiddle

Mr William Murray
Cape Tarvin

Royal Hotel

AUTHENTICATED
MAY 1815

at the work again and she is certainly

improved by my taking her to pieces –

perhaps not send you my other fiddle

for the man at Skaglee – I shall try be

My love to all at Skaf, and remember

me to all enquiring friends and believe

me dear William with much esteem yrs

most cordially and affectionately J Morrison

would be all that is requisite in the first instance unless the Patient be sick & then a liquid vomit would be proper – If there was much headach, great heat & redness of faces & strong pulse it would be proper to bleed freely in a strong person, & if the throat got worse a blister would need to be applied outside the throat & perhaps a little alum added to the gargles – These if taken in time will cure almost any sore throat and it would be improper to trust you, or even our Father with any case requiring more insight into our profession – as you would break our bread.

I am sorry to hear that Joseph Duff is so ill – I had heard from Mr Kee – Miss Ogden is quite well I thank you. I also thank you for your kind attention to our little dog I am glad to hear he is such a favorite with you all – I wish I could say that

Brother Abi. left he wrote said on the 7th – you had not much from them at Petersfield – sometime next month I expect

to be there. – The company do not gather time must before that time. I have not got my house quite in order yet – I want as you say the most material piece of furniture but that may not be long – are you anxious to get me off before Winter that you may set to work also in that line.

We expect news from the armies now that will be important as Bonaparte has gone off to your his troops as is said on the 9th/ – The struggle I am inclined to think will not be a very long one, yet I trust it will soon terminate in our favour. –

I received all the articles safe – I am short of Eggs – I believe Aldr. another hen will be acceptable along with them – Wm Langston's cart comes in I think you might send me in the chestnut machine by the wagon – I should like to have a plant of some kind to nurse from Sept – any or you like I have got some from Blackhouse – and by the bye send me a couple of bottles of common stuff of whisky for Drams. I had this day the honor to receive a present from Aut. Berdoy Montcoffer of a nice purse – My friend Bling was on Wednesday last. I LD O'Brien

Some of whom led afterwards to a runaway but more came to make up 10. to supper and they kept warming the house till between 3 & 4 next morning, when we were all pretty fou on Whiskey Punch – I wrote Ruth the day I received yours & sent your Message – I have not heard from any of them this long time I suppose they have taken things amiss –

Mr. William C. Murray
Care of Mr. Webster
Boston
Massachusetts

Free
to
Mr.

ABERDEEN
18 JUN 1815

My furniture is partly new & partly equal to new second hand – all reasonable prices – and the whole will not amount to the plantation one were making at Rapp – I shall leave the Drawing room to be furnished by the Wife.

I am glad you are selling good cattle prices – get up the crop before you hear of the marriage – The grain will be up ~~and~~ tea – I hope you will have some fine weather now for your hay time – perhaps I will be able to join with it. I write – late – kind love to all – very Dr. Mr. Murray most cordially and affectionately Yrs. William C. Murray

Write soon & send very [illegible]

Eliza Murray

"Private & confidential"

Aberdeen 29th August 1815

Should Mrs Webster call at Rapp from Foxglove, she merits all your kindness for her attentions to me – she will perhaps stay a day with you & then Rhe.

Aberdeen, 28th July 1815

My Dear William

I spent some pleasant days at Montrose after I left you. That part of Angus for the country was new to me & often in our passing Stonehaven some parts of it are very pretty. I had a curious adventure with our Provost Daughter. I was thinking into her bed room & was sitting reading in it when she came in. I have not met her here since my return. On Sunday I went to Inglismaldie – did not go to the Church at Montrose but left my respects in a Prayer book belonging to a young lady an acquaintance who lives near that place worth £2000 living to her at Inglismaldie I walked out to Rayne Hill called "the Burn" where the

Ensuing week. I have not received

I thought, but

to inform me, and I am hardly

to do it from the nature of my address is that I may probably put it off. I do not

Some of whom had afterwards been away but more came to [illegible] at 10. to [illegible] and they

Kept [illegible]

next m[illegible]

on the [illegible]

I recei[illegible]

not hea[illegible]

I suppos[illegible]

Scenery is most beautiful, romantic & picturesque. Had a day fishing also, & some shooting. With duty therefore I have had my share of fun. I have been very busy since my return to Aberdeen amongst the 3d Chelsea Pensioners — I sent off to the Army from Montrose of 27 for this place to I think from all the Stations of England & Scotland, collected, a very full Battalion with be formed.

I received our Father's letter and was happy to hear of all being well — along with it came the letter to Miss Nelson which he says nothing of it must be from Captain Thompson. It was at the time I was so busy amongst the Pensioners and I had not time to deliver it, but I sent it with my compliments written upon it & expect I would be happy to forward any answer to Capt. Thompson.

My fa[illegible]

second hand — all reasonable prices — and a table will not amount to the calculation we were nothing at Nap — I shall leave the Drawing room to be furnished by the Wife.

I am glad you are getting good cattle prices — get up the coat before you hear of the marriage — The Grain will be up ~~[illegible]~~ too — I hope you will have [illegible] weather now for your hay time — perhaps I will be able to join with it. Write or take — kind love to all — Compts. to Mrs Thomson

most cordially and affectionately Yours

W. Thomson

[illegible]

Part [illegible]

Part confidential

Aberdeen 27th August 1815

101

Mrs W. Duff has been staying with me of late — I think of spending the 4th time — I have not heard much further about my going to prepare — My clothes are not ready even yet — I am thinking that I shall not have much trouble in getting my journey off my hands — 29th July — I have heard from Blackhouse this morning — Our Father had arrived there, & was quite gay amongst the Young Ladies — Katherine & he were at the Barking last — & Katherine was quite well. I expect to hear from you on Monday —

Sunday 30th July.

Having taken it into my head that I should not like to leave the East of the Country without seeing the Highlands Dr Barclay & I intend setting off for that tomorrow morning — On the 6th we shall be at Blair and if

Sunday week. I have not [illegible]

[illegible] to incommodate us, and I am hardly [illegible] to do it from the nature of my [illegible] is that I may probably put it off [illegible]

Some of whom had afterwards been away hunting
came to make up 10. to supper and
Kept
next
you could send in the Gig for us
take us, with our Portmanteaus to
it would suit us particularly - on
we shall dine at Nap & if you
any body to meet us in the journey

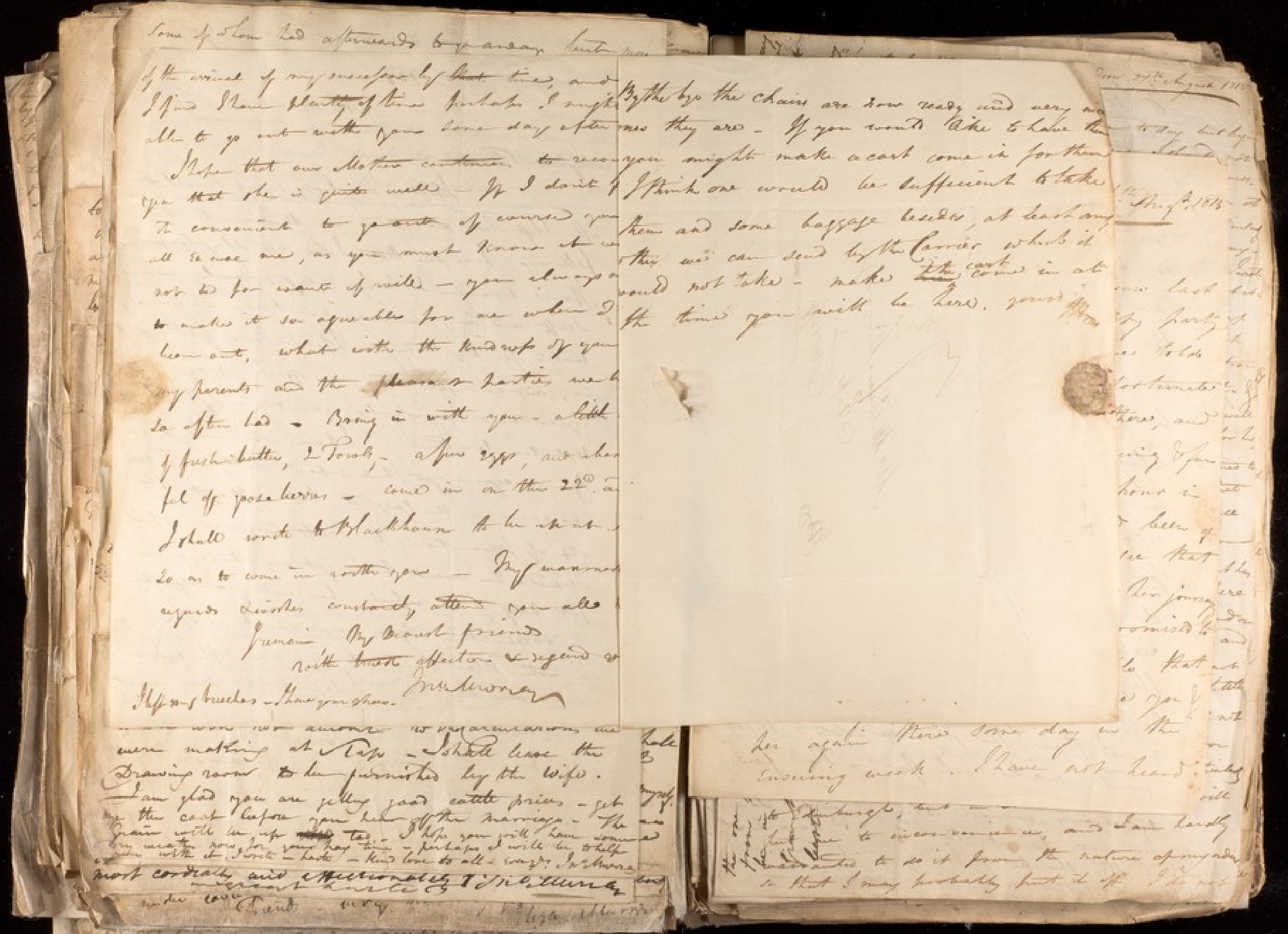
Mr William Murray
Nape Forfar

it will be so much the better. I have
to Blackhouse to this Effect that the
be up, give us any horse but the Grey
McDiarmid's Gig if yours be not in the Coach
one of them be at Arbroath, & if soon after
Second hand - all reasonable prices - our
whole will not amount to Plantations
mere nothing at Nap - I shall leave the
Drawing room to be furnished by the Wife.
I am glad you are getting good cattle prices - get
the coat before you hear of the marriage - The
Cream will be up ~~[illegible]~~ tea - I hope you will have
fine weather now, for your day time - perhaps I will be able
with it, I write in haste - kind love to all - ever
most cordially and affectionately Yours
W. Murray

Aberdeen 18th Augt 1815

My Dear William

Spent a very happy day at Monkshill
after Hight Sale and arrived in Aberdeen the day
following. I was glad that I did not delay longer for
found some one sick in every family in our
Staff and many invalids had been invalided,
looked for by them - I found many things to
do, and amongst them an offer of my
quarters in Sally, wanted very badly as
Volunteer lodgings. I have not heard from
Grant again yet, but expect daily as I see
his name in the Gazette, but without the
step of promotion to Staff Surgeon which
I expected he would have got on returning in
full hay, & in which he will considerable
be disappointed. You were speaking of coming
in with Blackhouse to see me. If you
could also the 22d I expect to hear some
her again. Some day in the
ensuing week. I have not heard



Some of them had afterwards by

of the arrival of my successor by ~~that~~ time, and
I find I have plenty of time perhaps I might
able to go out with you some day after

I hope that our Mother continues to recov
you that she is quite well — If I don't
it convenient to go out of course you
all excuse me, as you must know it w
not be for want of will — you always
to make it so agreeable for me when I
been out, what with the kindness of you
my parents and the pleasant parties we
so often had — Bring in with you — a little
of fresh butter, 2 Fowls — a few eggs, and a
ful of gooseberries — come in on the 22d. a
I shall write to Blackhouse to be about
so as to come in with you — My warmest
regards & wishes constantly attend you all

I remain My dearest friends
with ~~truest~~ affection & regard
J McMurray

I left my breeches — I have your shoes.

By the bye the chairs are now ready and very ne
ones they are — If you would like to have them
you might make a cart come in for them
I think one would be sufficient to take
them and some baggage besides, at least any
they we can send by the Carrier which it
would not take — make ~~the~~ cart come in at
the time you will be here. yours

---

were making at Tapp — I shall leave the
Drawing room to be furnished by the Wife.
I am glad you are getting good cattle prices — get
in the cash before you hear of the marriage — The
grain will be up ~~[illegible]~~ too — I hope you will have some
fine weather now for your hay time — perhaps I will be to help
you with it. I write in haste — kind love to all — yours J McMurray

most cordially and affectionately J McMurray

Dear 27th August 1815

1st Augt. 1815

---

her again there some day in the
ensuing week. I have not heard

to Edinburgh, but
to inconvenience, and I am hardly
warranted to do it from the nature of my order
so that I may probably put it off.

Some of whom had afterwards to parade, but more

were nothing at Rose – I shall have the
Drawing room to be furnished by the Wife.
I am glad you are getting good cattle prices – get
up the coat before you hear of the marriage – the
grain will be up ~~[illegible]~~ too – I hope you will have somewhat
fine weather now for your hay time – perhaps I will be able to help
you with it soon – look – kind love to all – ever yours. Yours affectionately
most cordially and affectionately
Margaret Leslie Gordon

Mr William Murray
Rose
Forres

FREE
JAMES
MACKENZIE
M.P.

"Part confidential"

Aberdeen 27th August 1845

103

My dear William

I expect to hear from you to-day but by

Aberdeen, 26th August 1845

102

My dear Walter

I returned from Blackhouse last night – from a very merry, happy party. I suppose you William will have told you of the accidental and fortunate meeting of friends we had there, and how we kept up the dancing & got home at early, or rather late hour in the morning. I wish you had been of the party. I was happy to see that my Mother continued to bear her journey so to stand out so well. I promised to her if I found it practicable that I should go out to Rose to see you & her again there some day in the ensuing week. I have not heard

from Grant what time he is coming in, but he is in the Gazette to be as being made Staff Surgeon and I have reason to think that he will be here in the beginning of the week, in which case it would not be proper in me to make so much delay in setting out for London as the trip to Stafa would necessarily occasion, & indeed I would rather write you a deal of letters than come down to take leave in the formal manner we must do at my leaving Stafa at this time. I know my Mother and you would feel this more than the pleasure of our meeting would make up for – the few hours of my stay would only be embittered with the thoughts of our parting, and I am sure you know me too well to accuse me of want of duty or affection should I not come. So I think I will at once say not to expect me. I shall not fail to write to you frequently and I hope you will afford me the some pleasure which will sometimes be a consolation in absence.

But why should we feel very sorry – We shall all be in comfortable & agreeable circumstances & situations, not for separation, & with the hopes and chance of meeting again at no not distant day – and you would not of course wish me to stay at home to live & die a dependant member of your family –

Some of whom had afterwards to be undone but more

I think you had better not send me
things by the carrier as I may be
together by & get £30 from Blackhoo
in case I should need it at this tim
you can settle accounts with me at

Marriage
Mad. Marriage

I may perhaps send some things to
or both for values – but you
manage all this when you are
yourselves – I shall require all
money till I settle myself again
we can balance accounts. Acc
my love to yourself William & Eugenia
& believe me My dear Father, your dutiful

Drawing

I am glad you are getting good cattle prices – get
the coat before you hear of the marriage – the
grain will be up ~~[illegible]~~ too – I hope you will have
fine weather for your hay time – perhaps I will be able
with the Sonie – luck – kind love to all – ever yrs. J. Thomas

Most confidential

Aberdeen 27th August 1846

My dear William

I expect to hear from you to-day but begin
to fear it. Not hearing in our Islands we
seldom have to wait a long time afterwards.
I hope you got safe home & found every one well.
I hope you will find that you had not been particularly
wanted during your absence. I wrote yesterday
which letter I hope you will receive to-day – and
also a letter to Blackhouse in which I did not
[illegible] that I would not be at least
[illegible] I gave them reason to think
that I thought they might not have great respect shown
[illegible] It is probable that our Mother
[illegible] will be up tomorrow, it will
[illegible] a week of great anxiety for her
[illegible] since then she has been accustomed to
[illegible] time, but I do not think that
the result will be any the worse of it, may all
[illegible] after she has rested herself from
the actual fatigues of the journey. Grandfather
[illegible] yet arrived but he will surely be here
in the course of to-day or tomorrow, and on
his arrival I must calculate on my time and
[illegible] for the route I shall take. I am not
quite determined if I go by land for all the
way to see the country, or whether I shall not
[illegible] on board the first smack here for
London. I have a great wish to go particularly
[illegible] Edinburgh, but in several respects it will
[illegible] to incur inconvenience, and I am hardly
[illegible] to do it from the nature of my order
so that I may probably put it off. I do not

positively say that I shall not be at Sla[illegible]
before going away – I am well enough to
take another night with you – if you
will say no more to me at going away
than – "Good bye, – a good journey to you, and
shall expect to see you again next summer
to the berries" — and if none of you
will think any more about it than if
I had not gone down — Now if I do come
remember these conditions. I will not tell
you to ask any of your neighbouring
young Ladies on purpose to meet me that
we might have a Canoe, as the uncertainty
of my coming exists, but otherwise I would
order to discover your favourite drive
them and to complement you & Miss on
my discovery. For I suppose you will not be
wasting any longer for my getting a wife
before you, as you used to say – I forgot that
I have made but little progress in that
since I came to this Country – and that
I have like most soldiers been more a general
than particular lover. – I had almost lost my
gay heart yesterday afternoon
but perhaps it was only fancy. I have a
notion that I will set about getting it back
in real serious earnest when I come down
next summer for at this time I have half
accused the thought of finding all my old
sweethearts either married or gone. —

7 past 10 o'clock

I have just had the pleasure to receive your
and was glad to hear all your good news.
I dare say you are well off for chairs now if
was fortunate that every thing got to Steph[illegible] home.
I hardly made up all my sleep so my the first
night as it was past 11 before I went to bed
and was up pretty early the next morning
but I made it all up last night. – Perhaps
not feel the want of it much, when left
in such a pleasant way as it was at Bal[illegible]
– I beg you will remember me to Mr. Urquhart
when you see him, and say how sorry I was
that I had it not in my power to warn
him for guard & vigilance that night. I will
probably write to him or see him before
away. —

2, 6 clock – I have some
thoughts of coming to see
you on Tuesday – to Tea.
I shall write to Mr. Urquhart
to say so, and ask if he can be over. —

"Confidential & Secret"

Now I do not wish that there be a large party
Tea – You may ride over to Kingsbrand and ask
Mr. Wm Duff over to Tea, saying you have some expectation
of my being out in the Evening – do you pass by Cath-
-town invite Miss Cooper, tell her that I am to be
out in the evening & that you are just going to
ask two or three youngsters only to meet & that
she can stay all night – go up to Dowlgie & ask
ask Miss Elspet Mitchell in the same way, let the

be all our party and say nothing more about it to others - Now it will be a pleasant party for you whether I get out or not, and do not absolutely depend upon me - tho' I think that I shall come, on condition I collect that you make not much of me, and let me go away without any ceremony for that will hurt me and make me repent my coming - I am not going to the end of the world

Mr William Alcock
No. 7 Tavistock

By the by, on second thoughts I wish you to send me some things by the first carrier who can - viz a clock - 2 fowls, and a single jar of Jams, as I shall have somebody to dine with me the week before I go away. - I think it will be better that you send the Grey-horse to Tavistock on Tuesday to meet me in case mine should be tired - at least it will let me be one hour sooner home - I shall breakfast at New Mapham - & be at Tavistock by 2. Let the horse be there by 1. I can go off directly & leave the boy to bring

London 23d November 1815. 112

My Dear Father, I have got a famous large st[illegible] lodgings may pass I think for half a dozen [illegible] months do long [illegible]

Brand Hurst, Oxford Road
Reading 13th Sept. 1815

My Dear William, No 125

When I wrote on Saturday I had just arrived & hardly knew what I was about - I am now settled for a time in Reading - at the same time for some weeks I have not the London Staff to give me an opportunity of attending the lectures and trainings for diseases of the Eye & Ear under my charge at the Institution which I am to visit. I am no longer the idle fellow that I was in the Hunter - The Ship being devoted to a particular object appears to me of consequence to me & most interesting - from the manner I shall be employed & the information which the Institution affords, I have very much - by the Within - that I shall have the daily satisfaction of being called on to do I hope some good - and [illegible] old & many kind friends here - In the [illegible] I shall find [illegible] there offered, & you must forgive me for being

your affectionate

Card here by some [illegible]

dry cold frosty weather just the

be all our party, and say nothing more about it to others – Now it will be a pleasant party for you whether I get out or not, and

[illegible] behind when we – that's

All friends here are well, I wrote you a few lines in Mr Frank – by the by when Blackhouse send the Box of Mouldiwarp which I mentioned, if it be directed "Staff Surgeon Murray, Horse Guard, London." wil forwarded by the clerk to the Ordnance Office. I shall get it without being obliged to go down myself to the Wharf which is upwards of 3 miles from hence. I received all my other Baggage safe – put a small parcel of oatmeal in the box for me for washing hands – and a few Eggs. I will be happy to get a few more socks from Mama, when the wives have time to mend them both better provided, like those I got before. –

My Expences from Aberdeen to London were £13-2/. from Forfar (inside) they would be £20. – It is a very long journey, but I got into the way of sleeping by night pretty well – Indeed I had often been in the habit of wanting sleep but you must say nothing about that – I had a very happy time in Scotland – it could not have been otherwise amongst such kind friends – Only Thieves (I mean if you understand me) called Boys and for no reason – ridiculous – I am against the Scotch Doctor

before I go away. – I think it would be well that you send the Grey-horse to Forfar on Tuesday to meet me in case mine should be tired – at least it will be no be one hour sooner home – I shall [illegible] at Kirriemuir; & be at Forfar by 2. Let the Boy be there by 1. I can go off directly & leave the boy to bring

London 23d November 1841. 112

My Dear Father, I have got a famous large [illegible] Kitty may pass I think for half a dozen [illegible] a long [illegible]

Those who took my from amiss need never fear a repetition of it and the loss of their opinion I make not a straw for. I shall not court much acquaintance here, at least for some time, the few I obtained are which I have, are, for the present, sufficient.

I saw John Strachan on Monday, he is looking fresh & hearty, but thin. – his working business does not agree with me – Every body here found me much stronger than when I left London – Keep your berry bushes in good order for next season that I may have another treat, I think there will be nothing to hinder me from paying you a short visit. particular if you will give me a Marriage, and so forth – I shall not have time to think of that happy state, or rather I shall be better to keep single for a year or two more. You will require to get a cottage for our Father & Mother first, somewhere about the town – They will get better health if near to their favourite spot the garden – Perhaps all these changes will be made before I come down – Nothing is going here, in the theatre, but Jessie of Dumbarton. I have not been at any of the places of Public Amusement indeed shall frequent them very little.

[illegible] cured her by some [illegible]

dry cold frosty weather just the [illegible]

be all our party, and say nothing more about
it to others - now it will be a pleasant party
for you whether I get out or not, and
do [illegible] about me - Yours &c

London 23rd November 1815. 112

My Dear Father, I have got a famous large st[illegible]
[illegible] may pass I think for half a dozen
[illegible] a less [illegible]

I saw Dr Bancroft's family yesterday, they are
and were enquiring about you all. The girls
good at walking yet however as before.
talk of your coming up, but I think it is a
question - it is very different in many
last year - and I should not be a moment
[illegible]

Mrs Murray
Jun.
Nottage
Swansea
Glam.

There is not the least chance of my having the
How I should have reported [illegible] this time
up in Great Pratia in [illegible]
are numerous - only a long account to day of how
is ordered to be treated - it is as gentlemanlike
possible consistent with his security - I know
who goes out as the Governor - and particular
the Deputy Inspector who is going out with
have met him ten times, since I arrived at
[illegible]
before I go
that you send the Grey horse to Swansea on Tuesday
to meet me in case mine should be tired - at last
it will let me be an hour sooner home - I shall
[illegible] new Machine - I be at Swansea by 2. Let the
[illegible] I can go [illegible] the boy to bring

B. Broad Stat. Golden Square
Th. 2 Oct. 1815

My Dear Father, 113

The labours of the day being finished I
sit down to write you a few lines, to let you
know that I am quite well & very agreeably
situated in all respects. Since I wrote to
you last I have been appointed to the
charge of an Hospital at Battersea which
is about 3 Miles from Chelsea, and
have a Division of the Yorkshire Hospital
Chelsea, with all the patients and affected
with diseases of the eye. It is not
necessary for me to visit the Journal
above twice a Week; the latter every
day: - so with these and my lectures
that I attend, I am completely occupied.

[illegible]
cured her by some secret [illegible]
dry cold frosty weather just the
[illegible]

be all our party, and say nothing more about it to others - Now it will be a pleasant party for you whether I get out or not, and [illegible]

London 23d November 1841. 112

My Dear Father, I have got a famous large [illegible] I think for half a dozen [illegible]

Today I performed two operations on the eyes, for the disease from which Miss Cust suffers, in presence of a very great no. of Surgeons, and I hope they will be successful. I have had the pleasure to receive a letter from Blackhouse by Mr Warden & he has one for me from Wm which is in his trunk not yet arrived. he was obliged to leave the vessel at Cromarty Shields by ~~the vessel~~ having lost her mast and the vessel is not yet arrived. It has made me happy to hear how well you are all keeping & particularly that Mrs Murray Blackhouse has so much recovered - I dined with Dr Bared last week, and yesterday with Mr John Barclay who is a very excellent young man - I saw Robt & Helen this evening who are quite well & desire them

remembrances - Robt has not yet rid his [illegible] They have promised me a frank tomorrow and therefore I have scribbled these few hasty lines - Mr John Strachan has not been very well but is now better again. I heard from Mr Wrightson some days ago who I find is leaving your part. In other words, he told me that he had seen you quite well & merry - I see no chance of my being sent from home this winter - The I have much to do I am profiting very materially since my coming to London in the way of Professional knowledge in many points - This is the place! & I have many good friends & acquaintances here. - Excuse my short letter - I beg you will all accept my kindest wishes - Ever Dear Father believe me My Dear Friend, Most affectionately yours Jno Murray

that you send the grey horse to Tyrie on Tuesday to meet me in case mine should be tired - at least I will let me be an hour sooner home - I shall breakfast at New Machar - & be at Tyrie by 2; let the boy be there by 1. I can go off directly & leave the boy to bring [illegible]

[illegible] cured her by some secret cut [illegible] dry cold frosty weather just the [illegible]

be all our party and say nothing more about me
it to others – Now it will be a pleasant party then
for you whether I get out or not; and
I not absolutely depend upon me – tho' I

Lord Colchester's Twenty
Lent 1815
Mr Mary Mac Farlane
Aff

OCT 18 1815

that you send the Grey-horse to Fyvie on Tuesday
to meet me in case mine should be tired – at least
it will let me be our hour sooner home – I shall
breakfast at New Machar – & be at Fyvie by 2. Let the
boy be there by 1. I can go directly & leave the boy to bring

London 23d November 1815. 112

My Dear Father, I have got a famous large sh[illegible]
property may pass I think for half a dozen
correspondent is at all events of a long le[illegible]
be expected that I can complete the task I [illegible]
perhaps take me a week or fortnight [illegible]
I sent off a Frank to you on the 21st [illegible]
from Alex: the day before and he was [illegible]
to which I was obliged in some degree to [illegible]
that Katherine had become bad again [illegible]
in her favour for recovering so well [illegible]
that this relapse will not be attended [illegible]
friends, the Davidsons in Aberdeen had [illegible]
a great many deaths there since I left [illegible]
Patrick who has not been well since he [illegible]
do not agree with his complaint, a[illegible]
settled comfortably in Turriff. I saw [illegible]
the dissecting out and sawing off the [illegible]
arm, at the same time saving the [illegible]
blind soldier to day but had not [illegible]
much disappointed – it seems he has [illegible]
to see what she is like, & then [illegible]
him some sight – I do it on the [illegible]
going on in our way here for [illegible]
lazy, idle fellow does those. [illegible]
whose life and limb I saved at [illegible]
cured her by some scotch oat meal
dry cold frosty weather just the [illegible]

London 23rd November 1815. 112

My Dear Father, I have got a famous large sheet of paper here for a letter which if I fold properly may pass I think for half a dozen and get me the character of a good correspondent or at all events of a long letter writer if not a good one. It cannot be expected that I can complete the task I have undertaken at one time. It may perhaps take me a week or fortnight as my leisure permits and subject accordingly I sent off a Franke to you on the 21st and another to Blackhouse. I had hard from Alex: the day before and he was blaming me for neglect in writing till to which I was obliged in some degree to plead guilty. I was very sorry to hear that Katherine had become bad again. the season of the year will not be in her favour for recovering so well as in Summer I fear, but yet I hope that this relapse will not be a severe one. I was sorry to hear also that our friends, the Davidsons in Aberdeen had lost one of their children. there has been a great many deaths there since I left. I had a few lines from my Uncle Patrick who has not been well since his return to Peterhead. He long journeys do not agree with his complaint, and I shall be glad to hear when he is settled comfortably in Turriff. I assisted at a severe operation to day, the "the dissecting out and sawing off the head of the bone of a soldier's upper arm, at the same time saving the arm. — I was to have operated on another blind soldier to day but had not time, at which the young man was much disappointed — it seems he has got a sweetheart, and is extremely anxious to see what she is like, & the operation I was going to do for him promised him some sight — I do it on the 25th. So you see there is something going on in our way here for me. I have a Colonel Talbot calling on me to day lazy, idle fellow I was there. I had whose life and limb I saved at Corunna. — Ruth has had the cold, but I have cured her by some scotch oat meal gruel, lemon juice, & water. We have fine dry cold frosty weather just the thing for my travelling about of which I have a good deal. it agrees with me so well, & gives me such an appetite

Nov. 24th 1815. My Dear Alex: I have just written to my Father to say that I intend taking a trip to Bagnères afterwards to Paris which will be extremely pleasant as I am to have my travelling expenses paid — now as I have written more frequently to Mary than to you I think spending this minister sheet when filled to Blackhouse by a War Office franke. I must hear from you before I start for Paris which will be in a fortnight's time or so, therefore on the receipt of this your news in a long letter, and by the by I can tell you a way of news and then sending me a letter which will come free even to France it is thus. wafer up the letter to me, merely directed Staff Surgeon Pinnery — put a cover on this also wafered, directed — as follows, then inclose this in another cover wafered directed as No 2 not forgetting to put the words, "Medical Department" on the cover of the outer cover to the Secretary at war. Your

pt. To "on the Majesty's service"
Mr Tanner
Medical Board Office
London

No 2
To the right Honble
Mr Secretary at War
Medical Department War Office — London

may send me a pretty big letter in this way, and from Mat they may write me in the same way - you may each do this once in six weeks as I intend making a ~~short~~ stay in Paris to get all the information I can, & I shall have all my foreign allowances given me while there.

29th Nov. 1815.

By the by I find that it will secure my letters more if now and then you put a third cover between that to the Secretary at War & Mr. Farmer, directed - at this Map Office
Samuel Wood Esq. Secretary of Army Medical Board

and make your letters long, such as need to come to me from the War Office as then they appear official-like, and you may put two or three for me ~~together~~. - I will manage occasionally to get them sent free, or nearly so to you all - for now as you must pay the foreign postage it comes to a considerable sum of money when we write frequently - The soldier mentioned in the last page has recovered good sight and is most grateful & respected.

My Dear Catherine

You must not be angry with me that I am going over to France as it is likely to be much to my advantage ultimately - I am going on the Peace establishment of the Army for a short time, which just now is a very great favour to obtain, and it will be exceedingly pleasant interesting and beneficial to me in many respects - I am going to bring over Johnies sweetheart if he be a good boy & I have no doubt he is but he must be more faithful to her, and not court with so many. I hope you have got better - My Brother's last letter has made me very anxious to hear further accounts of you - You must keep yourself well and all your lovely colours till I return to you which will not be long - I shall bring no French wife with me that I think you may rely on - I must take care not to lose my heart in France - indeed I shall be too busy to think of that - But my duty will not be of a hard nature - I dont now go to Regna to return here - I shall go to stop a day there & proceed from there to Brighton where I shall put myself in a Packet and in a few hours be in France - I shall pass by Paris where Mr. Alexander is

and I intend stopping there for the Christmas Day
I shall certainly see him. I pray you
will remember me very particularly to the different branches of
that kind family, as also to all the other good friends
and about your Metropolis —

Mrs Murray of Kennington desires her compliments to Mrs
Patrick and thanks him for the trouble he has taken in
making so many inquiries about a good school for her son
Cleg. but she does not now intend sending him to the
North but to Record him at a school near London. Mr
& Mrs Kennington are well as well as in Brasstick Street
I have several of them to enquire and they desire best wishes.
Messrs. Cracken & Warden also desire best remembrances.

My Dear William, 30th Nov.

You must not think that I have forgotten you tho' I have not
written you in particular for some time — I have not sent you
the long letter of news which I believe I promised you & now I
must let it be till I go to France. You see I am getting a
little farther off from you for a short time, but never mind
that it is all for the best — we must do something to get on.
I shall expect a long letter from you before I go which will be
about the 6th of next month I think —

Mr Bartlet dined with me a few days ago, a Sergeant in
the 69th Regt who has been in France — son of Mr Bartlet of
Fundystone. He is getting into Cookery into another Regiment to
prevent his going out to the East Indies — I vaccinated the
little Fronica of Waterloo on Sunday, it is the child of a
Soldiers Wife who was wounded by a shell at the battle of
Waterloo, & the Father lost both arms there — the woman was
brought to bed here & from the extraordinary circumstances of
the Father & Mother being both wounded in that glorious
battle the Duke of York stood Godfather to the child &
will patronize it — It is pretty that it is a girl, it at least
has been always to wand have more in the Duke's way to forward
his interests — I inoculated it for the Cow Pox on Sunday —
I am of course very busy before going off but will take my
leave of you again before that time — I shall not take my
much happy — I wish I had [illegible]

be all our party, and say nothing more about it
[illegible] it be a pleasant party then.

My Dear Mother

I have lately been getting off from you gradually first to Aberdeen then to London and now to France, but this last move does not take me much further away, & perhaps ensures my return more speedily & permanently – Besides it is to such a fine healthy country, & on the peace establishment to that I am sure you will forgive me for accepting the offered advantageous situation.

I did not intentionally deceive you when I left Aberdeen by saying that I did not mean to leave the country any more, I did not then expect it but I shall be better where I am going than any where in England, even setting aside the idea of some new prospects which I have in view from it. –

Don't give up my shirts and socks for it is not at all unlikely that I return in Summer, in fact this trip to Paris may ensure my future establishment here – I say no more about this at present we shall see –

What a treat your fine sat-Real has been here – it has cured half a dozen of my friends of colds, – I had something like a cold one night myself & old Susan, my good old servant here made me some nice gruel, and sent it off directly I shall take a small bag of it to France with me –

I am thinking of sending a box down to Scotland with some things that we useth to me, but I am not quite sure – if I do I shall send you another bottle of your Medicine which did you so much good –

I must leave you in charge of my Secretaries in your corner I shall not trust William with them, it would hardly be fair to throw temptation in his way – If he now runs off to Gretna Green with any of them he will have leap to answer for – any thing else I would trust him with little

I got a share of a £15 prize in the lottery the other day, I added three odd to the 15 and made fourteen below I had got £15.00 – If any of you come to France during the Winter I shall be happy to show you the curiosities and fit you into my spare bed – I think this letter will almost fit you for size – Take it in good part from my dear friend

your affectionate well wisher

Jno. Murray

be all our party, and I say nothing more about

it to

for

d of paper here for a letter which if I fill

, and get me the character of a good

ter writer, not a good one. It cannot

have understation at one time. I may

my liver, pimples and subject occurs,

and another to Blackheath. I had heard

blaming me for neglect in writing to

plead guilty. I was very sorry to hear

the season of the year will not be

in Summer I fear, but yet I hope

I was sorry to hear also that our

one of their children. There has been

I had a few lines from my uncle

return to Peterhead. The long journey

I shall be glad to hear when he is

at a severe operation to day, the

head of the bone of a soldier's upper

w. — I was to have operated on on

time, at which the young man was

not at his heart, and is rather anxious

tion I was going to do for him prevented

th. So you see there is something

[illegible] and I am not the

a friend Talbot calling on me to day

o. — Ruth has had the cold, but I have

, lemon juice, & water. We have fine

for my travelling about of which I

so well, & gives me such an appetite

London, 17th November 1851

My Dear Father

I am just come from the City and it is very late, but I must write a line as I am sending a Franks for you tomorrow. — I continue well and as busy as ever. — rather more meeting than I could wish, but it is not to be avoided. — I hope you all enjoy the same good health as when I last heard from you. — Deptford and agree with me better than London has done this time, however, I believe I may thank my active air, and the pleasant time I spent in it for the foundation of my excellent health. The Winter comes on apace on us and to day we have had frost and snow with great cold. I believe you feel it smartly, as yet tho' I have had no occasion to put on my winter clothing. I am glad to hear of some marriages likely to take place in your corner. — I am glad, from the nature of my present occupations not to be married, and not to have many lady acquaintances to distract my attention — it would not do. — perhaps I shall be more on the outlook in about another year — I don't know what to tell you in the way of news. I cannot not let my offer Frank escape

without telling you I was well - and indeed I must
let that suffice to you for news at present. I
am getting another franck for Blackhouse on
Monday or Tuesday when I shall write more
at length - I request my love and warmest
affection to you all - Remember me in
dear terms to all your sweet young ladies
who come to see you, and my friendly regards
to such as may in a friendly way inquire
for me. Believe me to be
My Dear Father
your faithfully dutiful son
Wm Murray

Nov 18th
Accompany all many letters and things which I have to write
I do not worth trouble of sending to my Mother in
answer to hers with the box of November, but
fancy I have that I intended it to have an idea
that I did write - Her socks are the most
comfortable things I ever wore and I shall
shall never be out of them - The butter &
cheese likewise I have been the greatest treat
I shall be expecting to hear from you so
getting some account of your pleasant parties
and the news of the neighbourhood -
With many good wishes for all your health
and happiness I remain ever your
affn

PS. Please only put my franck today
- no more - have had no time to
write more - some bread for Johnnie &c &c

for my travelling about of
so well, it gives me such an opportunity

Sunday Nov 18
Kingsbarns

My dear William

Within these few days I have had the
pleasure to receive four letters from
you and I feel very thankful at the
made me quite laughs in the index of
in offence and that appeal of
I feel very list the
in another of letters - So I
in Edred to can be with some expense
and more you by a time of that
the first and night before I have
to common a very letter. It has
great satisfaction to me to have of the
independent health of
and Mrs Morrison and
long in the enjoyment of it
to know the welfare of
they have got
wrote at least hand indeed
written a long letter
Shall I do in a
at home of well after
some cause for
with more
at Bonhill
at charge - I have
sick around to visit

studies hence — You seem not to have known that Mr. Ogilvie had left Scotland, he arrived here several days ago with his wife & William Gale.

I have heard from Mr. Mynhardt who has also left you part of the week by the stage — The life and manners of idle people in Chester are so very different from those who are active that their being much together is incompatible — These people also seldom write to others at a distance — They pretend to seek each other for this seeming respect but they are no less friends for it when they meet — This is the way of the world — there is no time for any but those present, yet being understood to mean no coldness or forgetfulness, it is little suspected & therefore not taught any thing of it —

I really have little time to spare, but always find as much as to write to my more intimate friends tho' I should steal it from my sleep —

I am glad to hear that you have got the plentiful crop so safely into the yard, I cannot expect to have all my wishes gratified, else I should have been at the Cheetah — I was well, hearty & happy when I was with you, and I continue to be so still — I have to be thankful that I never enjoyed better health than since I came here —

for my travelling about of
so well, & gives me such an appetite

I envy you the time you were about to take amongst the Eden creatures the Ladies — I certainly felt a happy time of it amongst them — If any there shall be treated with the greater reserve when I return, which I have no doubt I will be able to accomplish soon when I get a little settled, and then I may look out for a wife with more seriousness than I did before. You will be able to tell me who about may who overlooked my foible, and took them in good part. — You say nothing at all of your Sweethearts — I have at present no time to think of any of them — young ladies in that life — see

It would for the present interfere with my duties & studies and that would not answer just now — yet I frequently see such a lass much temptation to sit the tender feelings of poetry —

Mr. Warden has been with me the evening, he is quite well & busy at his studies. — All concerns are well, I saw them tonight as I dined with a gentleman who stays in their lodgings — I have kept them long full of lodgers since I came —

I have had some operation lately with my eyes which have succeeded very well — I have much improved in that trouble of my eyes —

Since I come here as it has been my chief study on Monday I am to perform several other very interesting operations at Chelsea — I shall go to the Play — I have been to see a Rehearsal, & Mrs Mardyn, & have some other famous actors and actresses to see, as I find leisure. I am glad to hear that the little dog Caro is well, and had a fine Operation, & so fond of get him bred by all means — give him Edward

I hope the box will reach me safely with all your good things and I am sure I am very much obliged to you all for your kindness & minding my wishes do not think of any thing more I can possibly want for a long long time but I will let you know if I do — and to you the same by me —

No marriages going on about this time — Don't wait for me in that way — I must conclude by begging you all to accept my love — remember me kindly to all my acquaintances & believe me ever

Your affectionate Brother Edward

P.S. I am well — give my travelling about, I find it agrees so well, it gives me such an appetite

Nº 1

St Denis 21st Feb. 1846.

London, 24th Oct. 1845

My Dear Father

I am going on a trip to Bagneux in a few days and on my return intend visiting Paris for which I shall be allowed travelling expenses and it will be very pleasant indeed, perhaps I may make some stay in Paris to see as much as I can of the French improvements in my way.

It will be nearly a fortnight before I start for Paris so that I shall have time to hear from you by return of Post. I wrote you a few days ago and shall write a long letter &c. &c. But this is to request you to write me a long long letter with all news in it — and in it are two small bottles of Raspberry Vinegar for my dear Mother

I have not time to say much more at present but shall write a very very long letter with all news soon.

I am busy with some sick offices and some operations. All friends are well and desire best regards.

My love to My Dear Mother yourself & William & believe me

Your ever Dutiful & aff.te Son

Wm. Clarke

Raspberry Vinegar for My Dear Mother

them friendly [illegible] them
without [illegible] Poor
and yet they [illegible] no more
under control than [illegible] I hope
just of [illegible] worth [illegible] my
fortune & even their cases are miserable
merely because they cannot have what they
cannot [illegible] they [illegible] are
although they are really as [illegible] as the
who can hardly [illegible] yet [illegible]

[illegible] leaving my [illegible]
[illegible] I have [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] I [illegible]
[illegible] like a child at parting
with them — with you all the same — but
did not [illegible] at [illegible] and the more
hard hearted [illegible] — those who
do not think [illegible] do not
shed tears [illegible] me. I can hardly
[illegible] [illegible] given
me that [illegible] my dear Parents
bore my [illegible] much [illegible]
Had it been otherwise I should have [illegible]
of my home coming at all

St Denis, 21st Feb. 1816.

No 1

My Dear William

Yr. Dear Wm. Brown
Care of Mr. Brown
Liverpool

London, 8th Decr 1815

My Dear William

I have had the pleasure to receive your welcome letter & glad to hear all the good news it contains. Of late I have written frequently to one or other of you – After this I will probably not write more till my arrival in Paris – I have reason to think my stay in France will not be very long. It will at all events be as pleasant in any situation – I have much to attend to & many to write to soon after my arrival. Pray do not be put for some time to hear either from me – I have just purchased up Mrs Rotth with some Spare cloaths for her & & in it are two small casks of Raspberry Vinegar for my Dear Rotth

Since I come here as it has been my chief study on Monday I am to perform several stars in ~~[illegible]~~ characters at Chelsea – I shall

after I send you my address from France I have another way by which you can send me some letters free ——

but no – I will not trust to it – only in lending some to you –

You can write me sometimes through Messrs Reed & Co Secretary at War as I have mentioned to Mly – and sometimes by the usual postage. I will write generally send yours all free, but do not depend to hear so often as lately.

Some interesting information on professional subjects has detained me a day or two longer in London than I expected but I go off positively on Friday morning for Bayonne first where I shall stay for a day or two –

for my travelling [illegible]

so well, & gives me such an appetite

St Denis 21st July 1846.

My Dear William

I value your long & entertaining letter as one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection, and the 'busy' will have time to write you [illegible] & will be equally interesting [illegible]

I was much amused by your interesting accounts – Enclosed is a Parisian Note for you which please burn after having read – I dine with Ruth & Helen tomorrow & go to Kennington in the Evening & bid them God bye before going. Send letter from Mr Sd. Phelan to day all well.

I go well provided –

Send no money as they

have made my allowance as liberal as circumstances would admit & I require any, shall draw but I am happy to say there is no chance of that – I got a share of at 1st price the other day & made three hundred in it was £1500 I wish you success in your constitutional v. wanter – Accept all of you my dear Friends of the affection & best wishes of

John Murray

Since I came here as it has been my chief study
on Monday I am to perform several new
duties at Chelsea – I feel

No 1 St Denis 21st Feb. 1806

My Dear William

Yours long & entertaining letter is
one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection
and tho' I may not have time to write you
will be equally interesting & entertaining

Brighton 11th Oct. 1815

My Dear Father

The Coast sailed some time before
my arrival here, and there is not another on
this side of the water the wind having been
contrary and boisterous for some time, so
that I may have to wait nearly a week.
This is a very gay place, the frequent residence
of the Prince Regent who is here at present
at his Magnificent Pavillion, and great
preparations are making for the reception
of the Queen & her Suite expected here on
Wednesday – and at Christmas the
Archduke of Austria are to be here
also. The town as to sea air & sea view
is certainly well situated, but the country
around is most bare & bleak looking
not a tree, nor a garden, nor even a
hedge, excepting just about the Pavillion.
The Prince is not much seen, but in
afternoons there is a fresh display of beauty &
fashion on the promenade

Lieutenant Hamilton
R. N. Ship Minerva
Leith
Scotland

Since I came here as it has been my chief study on Monday I am to perform several strange characters at Chelsea – I take

St Denis 21st Feb. 1816

No 1

My Dear William

I have your long & entertaining letter of the 1st one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection, and the journal will be equally interesting & I shall be glad to hear from you

Newhaven 13th Oct. 1815.

This is 7 miles from Brighton and from there the Packets sail – there is no harbour at B. and the passengers can only embark in the road leading from it in fine weather. I dined after the gay bustling at B. as I had my books with me and only a few idle dashing Ephemeral acquaintances there, and have come over here not only for the purpose of being more ready to join the Packet when she starts but to have the pleasure of reading again Shakspeare fairly out of doors, which I shall have time to do before sailing. I have got a nice small room to myself in the Inn with every comfort, attendance & civility – I can wish for, and I join none of the other inmates to be quite by myself, a pleasure which I have not enjoyed I don't remember since before. I get a London newspaper at breakfast every morning, and take an hour's walk towards evening before dinner and the rest of my time I read & write.

So well, it gives me such an opportunity

What a strange adventure travellers meet – at Brighton we had a man in search of a woman whom we supposed to be his Wife and offering a reward of £50 to any one who could inform him of her – He thinks she is gone to France but she is still at Brighton. The man the woman came down with was in the Coffee house with the other and they both dined there the same day I arrived there – The husband did not know the evidence. I know not what disconcerting may have taken place since.

P.S.

Fresh herring is cheap here and very good.

Being a port in close communication with France makes perhaps some difference. There is good fruit, yet there are no gardens in this part of the country.

It may perhaps be amusing to you to know that your Wheat & Rye come from Little Tartary & originally – Cauliflowers from Cyprus – anise & parsley from Egypt – horseradish from China, – Kidney beans from E. & W. Indies. Potatoes from Brazil – Jalap from Cappadocia – Lily from Syria & Perth & Carnation from Italy

Since I come here as it has been my duty to stay on Monday I am to perform several other [illegible] operations at Chelsea – I shall

I promise myself a very pleasant time in France and perhaps may wish my stay longer than that it is likely to be – however on my return I shall have a trip down to see you all & have a few months of idleness again say about the Long season as that is the most pleasant for

I shall not write again to you sailing but soon after my joining I am my – My head is with an very bad but you will probably make out the words – Keep up your spirits as [illegible] possible & God keep you well till we meet again – My love to you all & believe me with affectionately yours

[illegible]

so well, & gives me such an appetite

St Denis 21st Feb. 1846.

No. 1

My Dear William

I have your long & entertaining letter as one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection, and tho' I may not have time to write you very [illegible] that will be equally interesting yet I [illegible] to hear from me

Para, 30th Oct. 1845

My Dear Brother

I must write you a few lines now as then as I find leisure. I first wish all of you many happy returns of the season & hope you are well – I am quite well, & so busy seeing every thing here, as my stay may not be long, that I am moving about from morning till midnight and seldom in my own quarters. I have got no duty but am nominally attached the one Hospital to get free lodging & rations – my allowance of the latter are very great here 4 lbs of meat & of bread with brandy, candles, rice salt & wood – besides perquisites for [illegible] I caught 3 horses from Dr Cordon who he is going home for a little time and shall be sent in towards very soon. The schools of medicine chiefly occupy my attention at present but I also

Since I came here as it has been my chief study
on Monday I am to perform several Thing
in ~~[illegible]~~ operations at the Hôtel Dieu – I take

partake of the amusements & have been at
some of the Theatres. On Christmas day I dined
with Lord Hill, who is the same kind friend
as ever, he wishes me to join his Staff
but that I cannot well do from the
way I am to be employed. I should have
dined with my old Regt the 39th but could
not refuse his Lordship. Or rather it is the
Etiquette not to refuse such invitations.

I have many friends & acquaintances here
and it is in consequence very pleasant for
me as they all wish Paris as well.

I have not seen the Duke of W.
yet but will be introduced to him in a
day or two. It is not quite certain
when the Head Quarters move from
this to Cambrai but it is thought that
it will be very soon. I shall be
willing to move in 7 or 10 days when I have
seen the chief things I want to examine.

It is rather expensive living here as hotels
are allemand, but it is a great thing to see
so remarkable a city & country in this way
which is perhaps not [illegible]

so well, & gives me such an opportunity

No 1

St Denis 21st Feb. 1816.

My Dear William

I value your long & entertaining letter as
one of the strongest marks of your kindness & fraternal
affection, and the 'Long' will have time to write you
letters that will be equally interesting & I
shall be to hear from me

with our Gay Allemands, & in the time of
Prince Bo

There is no particular news – There are no
accounts of Lisbalette, he got out of the Country
dressed like a courier of the King of Bavaria.

Soult & many of the general officers are
gone to America & may give us something
to do yet some day.

We hear very frequently from England &
I go down to have letters from you. I have
had one from Lib.

The weather is very wet, changeable &
unpleasant here at present
and altogether Paris is not
at all an agreeable place
for residence at this season. I would
rather have some hard dry frost.
I shall finish this before Sunday at St Cloud

11th Jan. 1816.

I have got the charge of the General Hospital in Paris
which is a fine thing for me in many respects – it
insures my stay as long as the Army remains. I have
just come from dining at the Palace of the Prince de
Condé with his Surgeon, & the 3d I had the honor of dining
with the Duke of Wellington and after dinner there was
a grand concert at which all the great people were.

St Denis, 3rd February 1846

My Dear Mother

I have shifted my quarters to the distance of about 4 or 5 Miles from Paris which is just a pleasant ride after my duty at the Hospital here is over, before Dinner. All the Army left Paris a week ago, and the sick that could not be moved remain in Hospitals here to which I am attached, & it is remarkably pleasant. I have got an excellent billet in civil kind people, and I am in a fair way of getting a southern & two amongst some young Ladies who visit our family. I have nothing to much to do here as I had in Paris where I was in superintendence of the Lunatic Hospital & used to attend several of the French Hospl. lectures, & here I employ my leisure time more in study. It is some time now since I had any letter from Slash but expect one soon with all good news of your welfare. I am

St Denis, 21st Feb. 1846

My Dear William

Yours long & entertaining letter is one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection, and the I may not have time to write you one in return that will be equally interesting yet I am happy to hear from you

I am getting on well here, like the country, & situation, and am very happy. Our stay here will be uncertain, we may remain the winter. I am delighted with some of the French Hospitals — hope and some things to adopt others to avoid — may not reach you sooner than by forwarding — shall write me long by post cattle

Mr. Wm Murray
Care Slash Smith

Slash a Black horse — Fail not to let me hear occasionally from you. Remember me to all our good friends & acquaintances round about. Accept my best Friends, of my love and veneration with Believe me your son Jno Murray

Since I come here as it has been my chief study
on Monday I am to perform several other
[illegible] operations at Chelsea – I shall

St Denis 21st Feb. 1846

No. 1

St Denis, 21st Feb. 1846.

My Dear William

Yours long & entertaining letter is
one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection
& tho' I may not have time to write you
one in return that will be equally interesting yet I am
[illegible] happy to hear from me

had from Blackwood, and have written home
to you all several times since my arrival in
France – We promised ourselves very happy times
in this country, as we shall be in peace and
abundance with good allowances in a country
where things are much cheaper than in England.
We feel no fears here but the cholera & Lea &
that we expect will be latter off in April –
I have some intention of getting a nice little
Gig during the Summer, one that will be
nearly as good as Hottman Cott or Dundas Hall.
I shall not forget the many pleasant
drives I have had in old Rottman. I had much
good fun in it particularly when I got a cargo
of your Dear Young Ladies to drive in it, & I hope
these days will have a repetition – at least I
hope I shall soon have a repetition of such
happy times, for it is looking forward to
that I feel the more contented to pass a
short time more of a wandering life – and it is
with the idea of improving myself & being able
to return with more satisfaction & comfort to
I have undertaken another trip to France. It is
too far for you to come to see me in your Gig
so well, it gives me such an opinion

but if you did you would see me very comfortable
and as able to afford you Champaigne, Claret
and Burgundy, as I was to afford Sherry and
Punch in Aberdeen – You must get some
of the Ale I gave you there, tho' you should
send to Aberdeen on purpose for it – Write to
Mr Davidson to send you only the Carriers
or to Degen Gilt – Best Love to all –

I am writing London & shall
send a Sheet this to Lucy to forward
to you. Hey you will write soon. I
remember very much pleasure
from long letter you wrote me to London,
with all the news of the Corner. I hope my
Dear Father keeps well & hearty. That
William has nothing worse than some low
stitches now & then. He has had a fine time
of courting this winter. We had some rare
fun amongst the sweethearts last year tho'
and I long to have another such Winter and
Summer as we then had. I hope he will be
taking to himself a Wife however & becoming a
more quiet man amongst them that I may be
from more danger

St Denis 21st Feb. 1816

No 1

St Denis 21st Feb. 1816.

My Dear William

I have your long & entertaining letter as one of the strongest marks of your kindness & affection, and tho' I may not have time to write you one in return that will be equally interesting yet I am sure you are always happy to hear from me and to know that I am well & that my love for you all remains unalterable. I have just written a long letter to my friend Beasley and shall send this to Aberdeen along with it. I have got all the Aberdeen news from him and I find they still have some stories about me there amongst them, but nothing criminal. A young Bachelor in the parish accusing a great deal of scandal & talk amongst the lasses and I therefore think it will be better for me when I go North again to take a wife down with me and then I shall seem to have had no — What a round you seem to have had of feasting and courting, yet not a single word is mentioned about the fairest lady and you say not who the ladies of your party at Skye were. I am rejoiced to hear how well our friends are standing out. I suppose our Father is thinking affairs are not going on so well as when Bonaparte was stirring about amongst us, but times must get better for the farmers to repay their labours. We find provisions of every sort very cheap in France and I dare say we shall have a very pleasant summer here but it cannot be more so than the last was, nor equally so but I fall be well

[illegible]

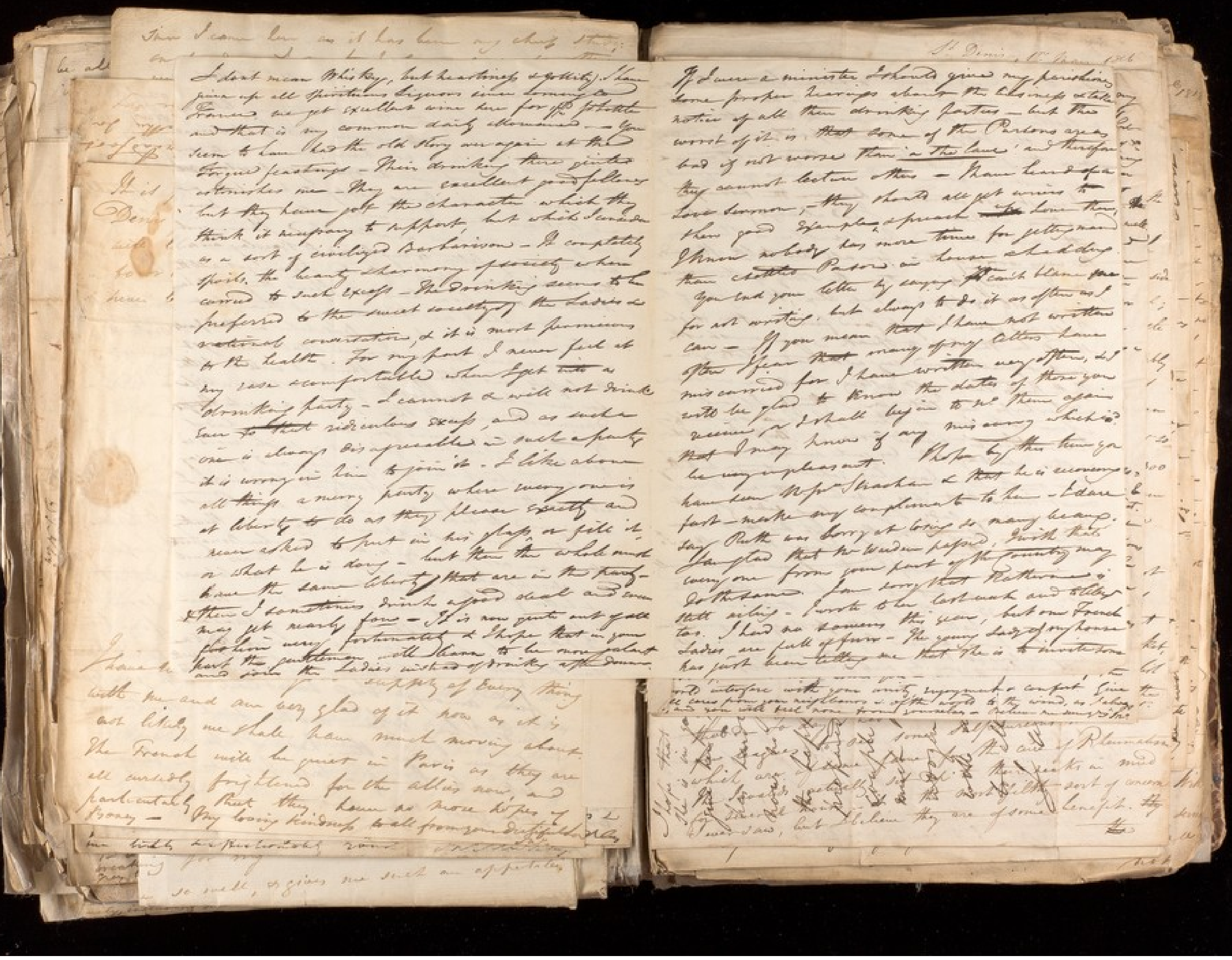
It is probable that I shall stay at St Denis for about a Month — and then the weather will be becoming unpleasant for a trip of 100 Miles towards Flanders. I have been in that part of the country before.

[illegible]

I have taken out a good supply of every thing with me and am very glad of it now as it is not likely we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all curious & frightened for the allies now, and particularly that they have no more hopes of Bonny — My loving kindness to all from your duteous

[illegible]

so well, & gives me such an opinion



since I came here as it has been my chief study

I dont mean Whiskey, but heartiness & jollity. I have
given up all spirituous liquors since coming to
France we get excellent wine here for [illegible] a bottle
and that is my common daily allowance — You
seem to have had the old story over again at the
Toryne feastings — Their drinking there quite
astonishes me — They are excellent good fellows
but they have got the character which they
think it necessary to support, but which I consider
as a sort of civilized Barbarism — It completely
spoils the beauty & harmony of society when
carried to such excess — The drinking seems to be
preferred to the sweet society of the Ladies & rational conversation, & it is most pernicious
to the health. For my part I never feel at
my ease & comfortable when I get into a
drinking party — I cannot & will not drink
even ~~to that~~ ridiculous excess, and as such a
one is always disagreeable in such a party
it is wrong in him to join it. I like above
all things a merry party where every one is
at liberty to do as they please exactly and
never asked to put in his glass, or fill it,
or what he is doing — but then the whole must
have the same liberty that are in the party —
& then I sometimes drink a good deal and even
may get nearly fou — It is now quite out of the
fashion very fortunately & I hope that in your
part the gentlemen will learn to be more gallant
and join the Ladies instead of drinking after dinner.

I have [illegible] supply of every thing
with me and am very glad of it now as it is
not likely we shall have much moving about
The French will be quiet in Paris as they are
all cursedly frightened for the allies now, and
particularly that they have no more hopes of
Boney — My loving kindness to all from your dutiful son

so well, & gives me such an appetite

St Denis, 1st June 1816

If I were a minister I should give my parishioners
some proper lectures about the blessings & take no
notice of all these drinking parties — but the
worst of it is, ~~that~~ some of the Parsons are as
bad if not worse than "in the Lane" and therefore
they cannot lecture others — I have heard of a
Love sermon, — they should all get wives to
then good examples & preach ~~to~~ love them,
I know nobody has more time for getting married
than ~~Catholic~~ Parsons in Lower [illegible].

You end your letter by saying you can't blame me
for not writing, but always to do it as often as I
can — If you mean ~~that~~ I have not written
often I fear ~~that~~ many of my letters have
miscarried for I have written very often, & I
will be glad to know the dates of those you
receive for I shall begin to No. them again
that I may know if any miscarry which is
be very unpleasant. [illegible] by this time you
have been Mrs Strachan & that he is recovering
fast — make my compliments to her — I dare
say Ruth was sorry at losing so many beaux.
I am glad that the Warden passed, I wish that
every one from your part of the country may
do the same. I am sorry that Rattray is
still ailing — I wrote to her last week and tell her
too. I had no flowers this year, but our French
Ladies are full of them — The young lady of my house
has just been telling me that she is to [illegible]

not interfere with your unity, enjoyment & comfort. Give the
comes from your neighbours is of the [illegible] to the wind, as I always
and you will feel more towards yourselves & believe me [illegible]

the use of Rheumatism
which are [illegible] sort of [illegible]
[illegible] but I believe they are of some benefit.

St. Dennis, 8th May 1816

105

The Frank did not come yesterday & therefore I have got a little more time to write. I saw Mr Heathcote & Ruth and children last night in Woodstock Street. Mrs H has not been very well but is again better & all other Cousins are well. Cousin John has been sent on trial to a Grocer's and likes it so I believe he is not to remain at the Bronwyn's diligence as they are not inclined to pay £100 premium required for his apprenticeship. He requires to be bound for 7 years and during that time he boards with the Grocer free. I do not think that the business of a grocer is an eligible situation but it is quite useless for any body to give any advice on the subject to Mrs M. —

Mr Hatchen is to dine with me to day. Mr Wilmot intended to have asked Buttons but he is engaged. Mrs Y. tells you that he is quite well. —

There must be hard times for some of the farming people when there is so little demand for the produce and so low prices. The Cattle seems to be the only thing worth rearing. I saw a story of a poor farmer in the papers a few days ago. He had lived in Fortune of the high & lowest and his land had

and supplement mine after you — let some of the cares of the world interfere with your comfort. Give the same from your neighbours & of the wages to the world, as I always do & you will have more friends & believe me always

Yours

Dear Mary

I have taken out a good supply of every thing with me and am very glad of it now as it is not likely we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all awfully frightened for the allies now and particularly Prussia. They have no more hopes of Bony — My loving kindness to all from your affectionate

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Dear Mary

I have come here as it has been my chief study: to keep up and more & some from on Sunday and all on my account — There is no being off in Scotland the Minister would be putting us all in the jaggs for such a party on a Sunday — it is the great day for these things in Scotland & we must conform to the manners of the country — I must not introduce our homeness the foreign customs at home — I had always great fun with Miss Mac, and her scruples. — She was the very worst of them for all her talk afterwards you have only to mention the story of the power very quietly to Papa or Miss Clay, the night of the Ball, and you will get good fun. — after it, she should be the last to speak — you must talk about it quietly, and say not that I told you — Ruth thinks the has got a story about me unknown and perhaps has told you. I think I should have a fine collection of them if I had anybody to mention them to me. Miss Mac: odd: action about the lies just amuses me — some of them must then have had exclamations; but they must know that it is a rule with me to make love to every lady I get along side of, but without any thoughts of the most distant idea of marrying them all, tho' I love them all — I ~~they~~ need never be disappointed I have unfortunately made this now so that it must be a double letter so I shall add another page after the fire shall we manage better about the postage & franking when I have abroad before. I now say lady is hard to get at home and in other out of sight so clear & easily as I always you by such practical tips.

105

The Frank did not come yesterday & therefore I have got a little more time to write. I saw Mr Heathcote, Ruth and children last night in Woodstock Street. Mrs H has not been very well but is again better & all other Cousins are well. Cousin John has been sent on trial to a Grocer's and likes it so I believe he is not to remain at the Bronwyn's diligence as they are not inclined to pay £100 premium required for his apprenticeship. He requires to be bound for 7 years and during that time he boards with the Grocer free. I do not think that the business of a grocer is an eligible situation but it is quite useless for any body to give any advice on the subject to Mrs M. —

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so well, & gives me such an appetite

St. Denis, 1st May 1816

2 May 1816

Nothing could be more pleasant, in any station abroad, than my present situation – I have profited in many respects by my visit this time to Paris, and now it is only a little odd – Tomorrow I shall go in society the greater part of the day and all night – I would not exchange this for any of your country practices about Dunsyth at Christmas – I hear that Williamson still makes his disappointment appear at not having got the Abbots situation when Lord [illegible] is however a very good fellow for all that, & I hope he is very much pleased he is going to be married. – You must have had very great fun with Dr Cow – A more I think must be one of the most unhappy mortals on Earth – and on the other hand a prodigal must have very little enjoyment, or at least, only transitory – A prudent man is rich in whatever situation of life he be in – he always saves a little of his income, however small, or great, & he is therefore always rich, and independent, contented, & enjoys ease of mind, if not happiness in reality. The D. would not do for the Sisterhood – They always liked the antiquated tricks and I have no great opinion for the Sisterhood. Upon my word little times do be give each a free mason kiss from the founder of the Sect. It is not likely that our ministers have become sadly of gospel preachers. – Did you ever hear more of your rebellious Sister, who was to be for ever disbanded from our table? Give my best compliments to all inquiring friends, you sent at the Kirk of Dunsyth who I imagine are all alive – you must not begin weeping thought then as I did Maggie at the Kirk of Kingsburgh – I wish my Dear Father, both of you every happiness, and that many the good apparent may attend you – Let none of the cares of the world interfere with your comfort, enjoyment & comfort. Give the all cares from you neighbours & of the world to the wind, as I always do, and you will feel more good humour & better in every respect. [illegible] Rheumatism [illegible] sort of [illegible] benefit. They [illegible] I believe they are of some

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an appetite

[illegible] for my

[illegible] in being so long at home, and my [illegible] and taking you by such a pedal trip.

I have taken out a good supply of every thing with me and am very glad of it now as it is not likely we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all carefully frightened for the allies now, and particularly Russia they have no more hopes of Prussia – My loving kindness to all from your dutiful [illegible]

[illegible] would not alter any of it – The Doctor went to him one day and said he must be a great Liar, and he knew Bankrupt only to give him a different line of the farm, by which he said he meant two lines sent on a lease during the life of three persons he named name – The landlord appeal on to thought the mark was right and the lease was made out – In two days the Doctor returned with his lease in his hand and said to the landlord now you and I have no more dealings, my lease is out – There as bad of landlord – Why say I Doctor because the two persons on whose lives my lease depended were dead, they were hanged yesterday at the assizes, and were condemned before the lease was made out – I had no other means left to prevent my ruin. ——

I hope things go on well in the Farm. Tomorrow I shall write to Blackhouse as I am to get another Frank – I hope they all keep well. I have heard of Wathins being here down on a visit there with the Dowr. Thus you see I get accounts of these things – I am my dear Friends, Your's ever, [illegible]

St Denis, 9th March 1816

My dear Father

I have just been playing over a few fine old Scotch Tunes on the flute with the warm recollections of some merry days I had ~~had~~ with you when I got rid of the Fiddle and stowed up the Bonie lasses about your fireside to shake their supple legs in the floor at a reel; and now I take up the pen to have a little conversation with you. I have been remarkably lucky in remaining so long in the vicinity of Paris where there is always something to be seen and learnt, & indeed consider myself altogether as having come out here, as I have about £300 a year more than I had in Britain and am in the way of spending my time to advantage. If the Income Tax be not discontinued I see you are all in a fair way of kicking up a riot in Britain. If the Government can, I wish it may take it off, for it is the only one that affects me directly & will be £30 in my pocket which will just short keep me, my little English servant, & my horses all short throughout the year.

[illegible]

Mr William Murray
Stock Exchange
London

Free I come here as it has been my chief study

[illegible] we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all cursedly frightened for the allies now and particularly that they have no more hopes of Money — My loving kindness to all from your dutiful [illegible]

so well, & gives me such an appetite

I hope the times may soon get better for the Farmers for at present they do not by any means get a price for their produce equivalent to their labour & expense. The failures amongst them seem to be numerous which must create a good deal of distrust, alarm, & distress in the country. I hope Mary pays itself & allows you to live comfortably besides, if it does not, a few of the most respectable of you should join & draw up a memorial to Lord Fife, but that is perhaps to be avoided if possible, for having taken your farms at a certain rent they become like any speculation in merchandise, – if you have a good bargain the more profit will be yours, & you will give none of it to his Lordship, if you have a bad bargain it is not his fault & as you gave him none of your great profits, he has no right to take your bad bargain off your hands; but rather than that they should suffer much, for his own sake he will be inclined to assist them a little. It is a great happiness to me to know that you are all keeping your

health so well, & I am sure I should be very unhappy to hear that any thing ailed you or my dear Mother. With the degree of health & comfort which you both now enjoy at your time of life, it is fair to be expected that you will be able to enjoy life in a hearty way for many years to come. But being on good and easy terms with the world, & I trust with Heaven, I hope none of us would care much for death when it pleaseth the Almighty to send our temporal career. I hope that <u>wasabond fellow</u> amongst the lasses, My Dear William, is well, & that he is as good and merry a fellow as ever. I am extremely anxious to hear from Blackhouse about Poor Katherine as the last accounts I had of her were very far from being favourable. This I understand has been a severe winter in Scotland, I was fortunate in having a very mild one last. When I think of my visit among you it could not have been better managed and still to be in the army, my time going on. I spent a delightful time, but was a little too idle. – I was like a boy who had just the day from school & inclined to do little now

Dundee, 1st May 1816

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an appetite

[illegible] so long as it has been [illegible]

so I hope the times may soon get better for the Farmers for at present they do not by any means get a price for their produce equivalent to their labour & expense. The failures amongst them seem to be numerous which must create a good deal of distrust, alarm, & distress in the country. I hope Mary pays itself & allows you to live comfortably besides, if it does not, a few of the most respectable of you should join & draw up a memorial to Lord Fife, but that is perhaps to be avoided if possible, for having taken your farms at a certain rent they become like any speculation in merchandise, – if you have a good bargain the more profit will be yours, & you will give none of it to his Lordship, if you have a bad bargain it is not his fault & as you gave him none of your great profits, he has no right to take your bad bargain off your hands; but rather than that they should suffer much, for his own sake he will be inclined to assist them a little. It is a great happiness to me to know that you are all keeping your

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an appetite

[illegible] as it is [illegible] we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all cordially frightened for the allies now, and particularly [illegible] that they have no more hopes of Bony – My loving kindness to all from your [illegible]

St Denis, 7th April, 1816.

My Dear Friends

As I am very profiting by my opportunities for improvement, by the vicinity to the Capital, and as my stay here is probably nearly drawing to a conclusion, I have little time for writing long letters to my correspondents, but I have time to write a few lines at all events, to let you know of my perfect welfare, & that I have been extremely happy to hear of yours, both by the kind letters of my Dear Father & Wm, & of Alex^r. It is very seldom indeed that a person has a valid excuse for not writing at all. Poor Katherine seems to have had a severe turn of illness, and I am sorry that the continues so weakly. We have had a cold

St Denis, 1st May 1816

Do not write me at present through Mr Bonnet to tell you again - I am not sure if he can forward them to me - but I hear again - If you can send them to 32 Woodstock St London, either free or by paying the postage to that Corner Ruth will get them forwarded to me by some friends of mine in London

Mr Murray
Post Office
Paisley

Let me have a letter from you soon with all the news that are interesting at the Corner, it will give me great pleasure. My friend Dr Franklin in London has lost two of his children in the measles lately. My love and affection to my Dear Father, Mr Wilson, your with kindest remembrances to my young friends & to your sister & brother

The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all cursedly frightened for the allies now, and particularly that they have no more hopes of Bony - My loving kindness to all from your affectionate

so well, & gives me such an appetite

backward sort of a Spring in this
Country, but you seem to have had
a dreadful winter. The change in the
way of taxation I think will be of
some use to you as well as to me —
It will get me my breakfast at
least. I was well away from Ebo
before the station there was broke
up & before the Staff of this Army
was fixed. We carry on the war h
rather more pleasantly than we did
in Spain, & I should be hard to please
if I did not feel happy in my
present situation. I have no thoughts
of a wife now that I am out among
the Scotch & English Lasses, but I
am sorry that I cannot have a
little courting amongst them now &
then.

St Denis 4th May 1814

I shall be getting so old with this soldiering
trade that no one will have me in a
year or two more. I intended to
have written to Little Blyth & John
Strachan at this time but must
defer it having some particular
business on hand. My best remembrances
to all kind Inquirers & Believe me
Ever My Dear Friends
Ever sincerely & sincerely
Your's Jno.

St Denis, 8th May 1815

My dear William

(Now that the good weather must have made its appearance amongst you in the foggy regions, you will be so busy sowing & planting, that the day, & too hard at night that both writing & conversing are, I suppose for a time, out of the question. It is a lucky thing that Sunday is a working day in your part of the world. Otherwise you would hardly have time to say your prayers, & the reason perhaps that they don't keep it holy here is, that the lazy scoundrels of priests are praying & groaning away & going through the form & mummery of Mass during all the days of the week to sanctify the whole nation. You see I have still my residence near the capital & may be there a month longer. Stay mostly in Paris & only require to ride out to see my patients every second day. The weather for some time past has been quite delightful & I continue to make the best use of my time. The French language is now as familiar to me as English from having so many lectures in it for. After staying so long

[illegible] to the Country for a [illegible] some days, & then to the aid of Rheumatism [illegible] the weeks in mind [illegible] sort of cure [illegible] I never saw, but believe they are of some benefit. [illegible]

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an opportunity [illegible]

[illegible] love and affection to my dear Mother, William, & yourself [illegible] with kindest remembrances to your sister [illegible]

[illegible] shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all outwardly frightened for the allies now and particularly that they have no more hopes of Boney — Pay loving kindness well from your [illegible]

[illegible] for my

Mr Murray
Seat Farrith
Scotland.

in Paris I shall not mind like the provincial towns on the frontiers for quarters, but I have only to recollect myself of the sort of quarters I sometimes had in the Peninsular campaign to become contented with anything like a christian house & roof. — I have changed my lazy system I meant upon with you of sleeping in the mornings till 9 or 10 o'clock & rise every morning before about 5 which is about the same time you will be getting up. I find it good for the mind as well as the body & never enjoyed better health in my life than I have done since I came to France. I hope that Providence has been equally kind to you all, & the more frequently you tell me so the more happy shall I be. By the bye when you write to me through Mr. Tanner you must mind your letters of a long form as you did at first as that is the official form & by directing under cover to me in the way I told you before to Mr. Bonner's office with the difference of directing to me — "care of Mr. Jones 22 Woodstock Street, Oxford Road, London", I will get them sent free to me to Mr. London which Mr Bonner I find cannot do to this country. Thus still we can write free. Do write oftener — many do the same too.

A month more in Paris will pick up more almost all I want of the French Classics, unless I was going to be six months more to allow me to dedicate my time to the study of National History. I have gleaned much from attending the French Lectures & Practice of the Hospitals, & when I get down to quiet quarters at Valenciennes or Cambray I must set about reviving what I have really acquired from what I have seen & heard in Paris. It will be some months amusement yet & I should like to do it quietly with you where I should have top combining to draw off my attention than I shall have in these gay garrison towns — But in the midst of all the bustle & gaieties of Paris I have been ten times more studious than I was in Aberdeen. There is no end to a man's

with kindest remembrances to my mother & sisters & to Mr. [illegible]

I shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all curiously frightened for the allies now, and particularly Prussia. But they have no more hopes of Poney — My loving kindness to all from your duteous [illegible]

so well, it gives me such an appetite

Paris, 8th May 1816

My Dear Brother (Alexr)

I had the pleasure to receive your letter, in Sept, which was gratifying on account of the good details respecting Katherine's health, & of all the rest of your fine little family. You ought to be an extremely happy man & friend of a dozen boys & I hope you will have an addition to the stock soon & a happy & speedy recovery of Katherine from it. I wrote you very lately & inclosed several letters for you to distribute viz for Mrs Dr Strachan & J Beasley. In addition to the directions I then gave respecting her opinion I have to add that I am fully well convinced now that in place of trying to stop her vomiting, we ought not at all to discourage it. Let it take its own way and don't consider it as a disease at all but to me more healthy, as it

[illegible]

Mr Brown, N.B.

Mr William Brown

Mr Thos Thomson Esq. [illegible]

I shall not make any apology for my short letters — if you knew how much I have to write you would not blame me. My warmest feelings fervently beat in me when I think of my Dear Parents & you. I long to be remembered to all kind enquiring friends — Yours

with kind & affectionate remembrances to my dear Mother, William, Mary & [illegible] & to all my

[illegible]

The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all curiously frightened for the allies now and particularly that they have no more hopes of Bony — My loving kindness to all from your disappointed [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an opportunity

a natural vacuation, menpay (now at last) for her health, whenever it comes on of its own accord. — Grant I have no doubt will let you know about the payment of the Bill when it becomes due. He is wishing to set house & furniture off in Yorkshire but he will perhaps find some difficulty — I was lucky to get them off my hands as I did, I shall not be able to furnish on a hurry again.

I have only time to add my love to all friends particularly all at your warm hospitable fireside & I am ever affectionately yours

Wm Andrew

[illegible]

[illegible] nothing I was going to send a Bank note in lieu of a Bill but it is the same. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] so well, it gives me such an opportunity [illegible]

[illegible] The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all curiously frightened for the allies now and particularly Prussia. But they have no more to pay of Prussia — Pay having kindness to all from your dutiful [illegible]

[illegible] Lyneside into the County for a [illegible] some Alpaccas and latter [illegible] the cure of Rheumatism [illegible] sort of cross [illegible] but I believe they are of some benefit. they

My Dear Mother

Paris, 23rd May, 1816

I believe it is a long time since I wrote to you before, but you will not consider me deficient in this way when I write to any one at Staff it is all the same to whom it be addressed. There has been much fine weather of late which has let me take much pleasure in following all my pursuits here & makes me very busy. I rode in Bois this morning a little after day light when the Hospital visits commence and the country between this and St. Denis at that cool hour looked charming. In the road for about 3 miles there are no houses but a rich open country of gram fields where the crop is already far advanced. By the bye you will be happy to hear that I am one of the few permanent with this army tho I was one of the most Junior of the Staff Surgeons. About one half, & in fact more of some of the ranks have been reduced on Half Pay within these few days, as a mean of Oeconomy to the England.

In one more quickly, so to tell me if you

[illegible] Lodge side into the Country for a [illegible] some Strawberries and [illegible] which are actually [illegible] the [illegible] sort of [illegible] I know they are of some benefit. [illegible]

Half Pay on Service
Half Pay Staff
Mr Mrs Blackburn
Staff
S. Mary

friend — [illegible]

Love and affection to my dear Mother, William, Sophia with kindest remembrances to Sophia, Jane & Elizabeth [illegible] Yours dutiful Son [illegible]

[illegible] we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all curiously frightened for the allies now and particularly Prussia. But they have as more hopes of Bony — My loving kindness to all from your dutiful [illegible]

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an opinion [illegible]

and of course we consider ourselves as being remarkably fortunate who are kept. I have been thinking of getting over Little Andrew but we must let some time elapse to consider of it, to let Andrew himself get pleased and reconciled to the idea of it, & I must first see in what way I am to be settled when I get down the country to the army. We have no positive orders for moving as yet but it cannot be long now. We are now at St. Denis, we shall certainly not be here after the end of this month. But when I go, I shall not have to feel displeased with myself for having misspent my time here as I should have done had I neglected the opportunities I have had here of improvement. I shall leave Paris however with a strong desire and intention to revisit it next summer to attend to some branches which I have not had time for at this time, & chiefly of Natural History and Chemistry. Affairs being so

long accustomed to this strange extraordinary place exhibiting things of the first grandeur & magnificence on the most admirable & liberal plans and at the same time others of the greatest or rather lowest meanness, and the utmost degeneracy & corruptness of morals, I shall feel the change very sensibly when all at once I find myself in places completely small & uninteresting as Cambray or Valenciennes in either of which I shall be stationed. The Country about there however is famous for having been the seat of so many Campaigns & battles & sieges, and Waterloo is not above a good days journey from thence to which I shall certainly pay a visit. If Mr. Urquhart be come to your part of the Country & you should happen to see him I beg you will remember me to him in the warmest manner. I hope he will make a trip over to the Continent this Summer at least to France and the Netherlands where I shall be most happy to see him & to have the

to me more quietly, or to tell me of your

love and affection to my dear Mother, Mollie, & my family with kindest remembrances to my young friend & family and some distant for Mr.

Just lately we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all cursedly frightened for the allies now and particularly Prussia. But they have as more hopes of Poniatowsky — My loving kindness to all from your dutiful Son

so well, & gives me such an opinion of

Valparaiso, 20th June 1846

My Dear Brother

I have had the pleasure to received your very kind letter of the 7th June which came to me safe and sound with all its good news respecting your health. I am glad you did not direct through Mr Bannow as he has now left London & goes to reside in Aberdeen in my old house & flat opt in Bt Street that therefore is for the present one of the intermediate modes of free conveyance not to be adopted. I would not wish to send through the W. Arb. Secretary at War Office & I can alone once in 6 weeks, but that with private opportunities, to Beth will be tolerably well. When you caught me letter sent to Beth I get them for; wanted to me through my friend D. Gordon If you wanted at any time to send a letter to me more quickly, as to tell me of your

[illegible] Lennox side to the Country for a [illegible] some disturbances mid lates [illegible] the end of Rheumatism [illegible] sort of cases [illegible] but believe they are some [illegible]

as my guest for as long time as he will do me the pleasure to stop. I if he will not comes "Que le Diable l'emporte" as the old Lady at Bordeaux used to tell him. – I have not heard of the fine young ladies lately. I mean the young ladies I requested of William to distribute lots of pipes amongst them for me, not for himself at the same time else I shall not trust him again with such commissions. I have had no time to spare for courting lately, and the Ladies here are quite of a different quality in this part of the world. I would not give one night courting amongst your sweet Loving & lovely young Scotch Lassies, for twelve month time amongst the forward, cunning, deceitful gipsies here. I declare this to London. I request my best regards to any of my kind worthy friends that may enquire for me at Kirk or Market – and My dear Beloved Parents, believe me ever to be with truest affection your dutiful son

J. M.

[illegible] love and affection to my dear Mother, William, Jemima with kindest remembrances to inquiring friends – believe me your dutiful son J. M.

[illegible] Now as it is [illegible] we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all outwardly frightened for the allies now and particularly Prussia they have no more hopes of Posen – My loving kindness to all from your dutiful [illegible]

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an opportunity

marriage & so you can direct it simply & singly — Staff-surgeon Murray, British Army, Valenciennes, France — & pay the inland postage. I imagine I shall generally be able to send my letters to you free. Your accounting the still active occupations of our Dear Parents and of their enjoyment of the blessing of health makes me exceedingly happy. In my last to Alex.r I mentioned that if I were to select a place of retirement for them when you took full charge of a Wife, it would be Dorroff in the midst of their friends, in a fine spot of country, warm as to climate & like to what they have been accustomed & so near to Hap from whence like me when at Aberdeen they could be supplied with every thing they could want. Alex.r mentioned his new house at Kilcaldie and I am sure no one wants he more kind to them than he would be, but what I do not like in that is the great change of air — I have somehow great fancy for Dorroff, and should like to find them not only comfortably but genteelly settled there — & able to give me a room there to stay with them when I come home. If they be not comfortably & happily I am sure it will make every one of us sorry, and as to Wives if any wife of mine were to speak a harsh word to hurt any of their feelings say nothing of the should stay one day longer in my house — I would break her neck — We have now two examples of the bad results of mothers by-laws which disgraced them & those who ~~too~~ allowed it — I am as busy as a bee here — I have got to the back town of all the Cantonments and have got settled quite to my mind — In a fortnight I shall have more leisure to give you a longer letter with all news — My love & duty to you all & believe me Dear Mother yours

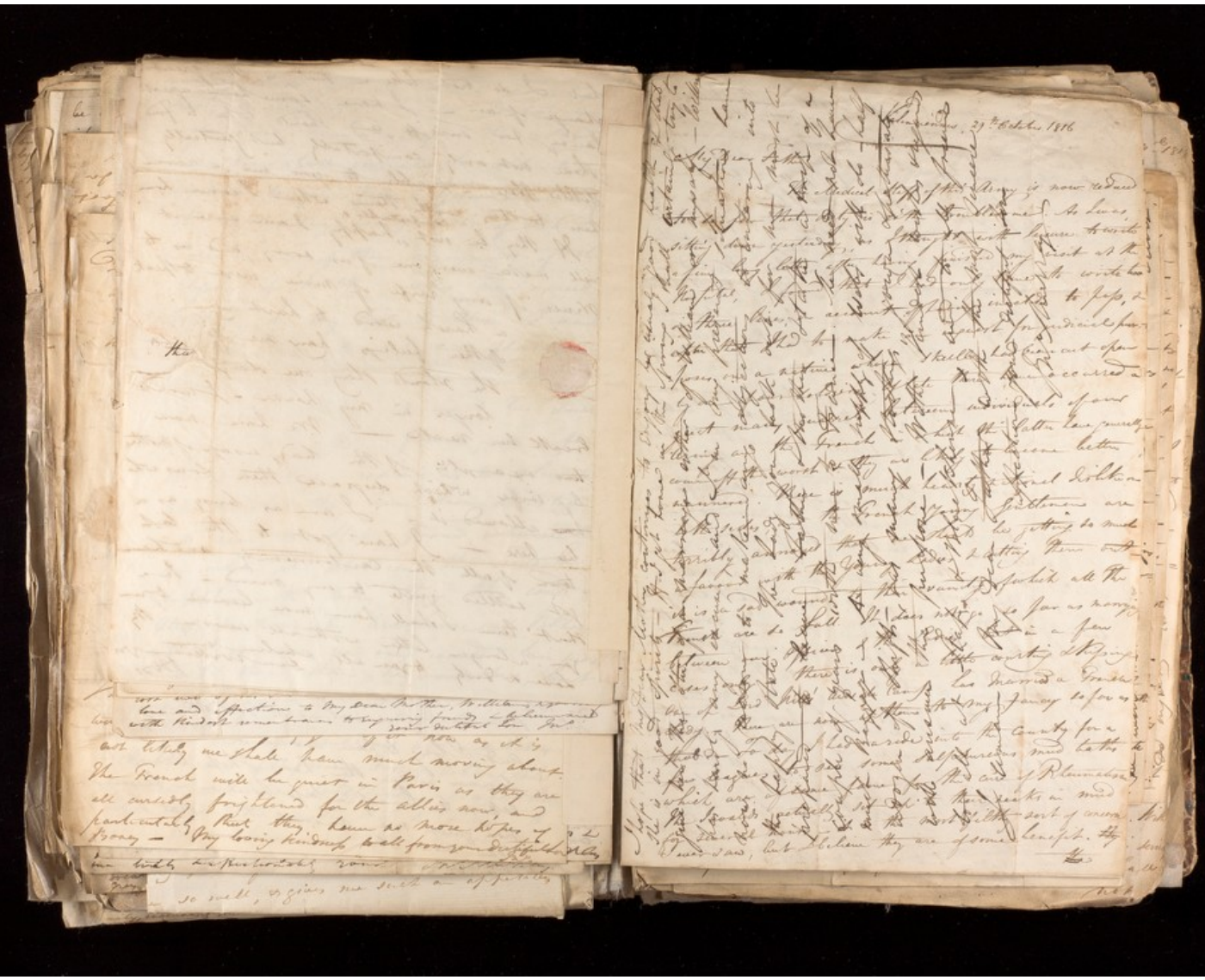
Thos

[illegible] love and affection to my dear Father, remember me with kindest wishes to my young friends — believe me your dutiful son Thos

[illegible] as it is and likely we shall have much moving about. The French will be quiet in Paris as they are all curiously frightened for the allies now and particularly Prussia they have no more hopes of Poony — My loving kindness to all from your dutiful Son

[illegible] so well, & gives me such an opinion of [illegible]

[illegible] Lednaside [illegible] the County for a [illegible] some [illegible] the end of Rennadoss [illegible] sort of [illegible] benefit. [illegible]



Cincinnati, 29th October 1816

[illegible]

[illegible] Lane and affection to my dear Mother, Brothers, Sisters
with kindest remembrances to my friends in Plymouth
[illegible]
[illegible] you now say it is
not likely we shall have much moving about.
The French will be quiet in Paris as they are
all curiously frightened for the allies now, and
particularly Prussia they have no more hope of
Posey — My loving kindness to all from your dutiful [illegible]
[illegible]
so well, & gives me such an [illegible]

By the way I saw some fields, quite still, ~~not the fields~~ — you
could not have much more harvest weather than there
has been in this part of the Country. I am anxious
to hear how your harvest is getting on, & expect to
have a long letter from you by Nelly & to hear all
the news of the North from her. She returns while
will be before the ~~time~~ & I hope in safety. — I
heard from Ruth & Eliza some days ago that they
are all well there & looking out for her. We had a
most magnificent Review of the whole of the British
Army joined by the Hanoverian Troops & Danish
Contingents about a week ago & after the Review a
grand Mock fight was planned & conducted by the
Duke — the Dukes of Kent & Cambridge were present
and many great people — It rained at the latter
part of the day which spoilt some of the effect
but it was exceedingly grand sight — The line
during the fight extended over several Miles &
when the firing of the artillery commenced and
the Engineers to lay pontoon bridges over the
Schelde & every thing go on as if it had been
a real fight except that there were no killed &
few only wounded accidentally, the inhabitants got
very much frightened thinking there was something
serious going on. One Regiment of cavalry ~~scattered~~
along the line, & about 20 or 30 Field cannon
represented the Enemy. The ground was soft &
deep where I got home my horse was as ~~tired~~
as possible — Our Troops are now all put into
winter quarters — The concentration of all the army
in this neighbourhood afforded me the pleasure
seeing many of my old friends. I had very few
acquaintances in the Division where I came to the
place first, but now have fully too many.
[illegible] so well, & gives me such an opinion of the

I 31st October 1816
expect a long letter from you soon which William
told me you were going to write — It will probably
come by Nelly whom I hear you had been galanting
to Aberdeen. I had long letters from Cousins in Lond
a few days ago by which I got much of the Northern
news, & when Nelly arrives I expect a whole bag
-ful. I understand she was delighted with you all
and very sorry to part with all friends. Amongst
and above all other news I am glad to hear of the
welfare of my Friends in the North & hope you are
all as happy as the day is long — I have to be thankful
for the enjoyment of the best of health and the
place abounds in amusement of all sorts Fashionable
— coursing with Grey hounds — shooting — horse
racing — Balls — Plays — Cricket — parties —
Lotteries, advancing with the French, dell sorts of thing
Since wrote the first part of this letter one
of my old acquaintances an Aid de Camp of mine to
has broken his collar bone through himself at
the Race by his horse having fallen with him in
consequence of which he is detained here my patient
We shall be very gay here on the 2d keeping the Duke
of Kent Cambridge & Wellington are coming to
dine with the Regal — in the Duke of Kent's hall
day. The Officers of the Garrison act a Play in the
Evening. Amongst them are some good actors. One
of them will take this letter to London for me —
I would as soon be present at your quadrille supper
as at all these fine parties with the great people.
I should be ten times more happy with you all, if
I should even put up with a sprain of the ankles for the
Evening too to have that pleasure, I never sprain it now
waltzing is the chief thing I dance here now
days — no fishing

The public news are not particularly interesting [illegible] moment, and as to our Domestic sort of news would afford little gratification to those who d[illegible] know the parties – It is different with yours to me, for now having had the opportunity [of] renewing my acquaintance with all in y[our] corner the news of the individuals of your par[t]

and of all the ~~little~~ occurrences about you both acceptable & interesting to me. [illegible] my old Flame Miss [illegible] is going to be marr[ied] she will make an excellent wife I am su[re] Are there any more of your Young Ladies [and] Gentlemen going together. This state of peace [and] quietness is favourable for these things [and I] am expecting to hear that the Young Goodman [will] soon be letting the day for

so well, & gives me such an opportunity

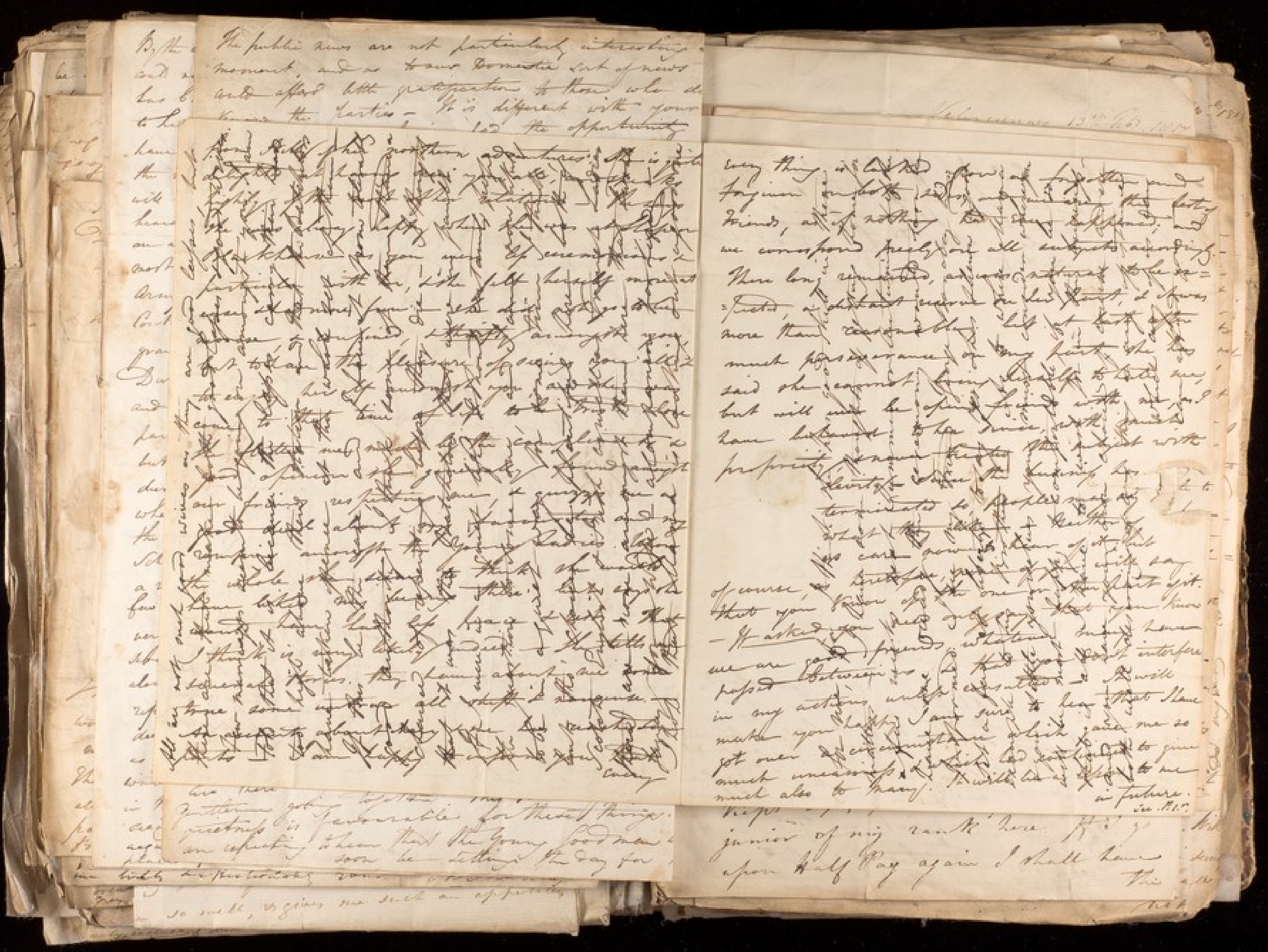
Mr Murray
Fort [illegible]

Valenciennes 13th Feb 181[illegible]

[illegible]

and be [illegible] — I have had a [illegible] from

[illegible] junior of my rank here. [illegible] upon Half Pay again I shall have [illegible]



The public news are not particularly interesting [illegible]
moment, and as [illegible] Domestic sort of news
would afford little gratification to those who d[illegible]
know the parties. — It is different with your
[illegible] the opportunity

[illegible] 13th [illegible] 18[illegible]

every thing is [illegible] and
forgiven on both sides, and [illegible] the [illegible]
friends, as if nothing had ever happened, and
we correspond freely on all subjects according.
These long [illegible], as was natural to be ex=
=pected, a distant manner on his part, I always
more than reasonably [illegible]
much forbearance on my part, she has
said she cannot [illegible] to [illegible]
but will [illegible] with [illegible]
have [illegible] the same, [illegible]
propriety [illegible] the subject with
[illegible] the [illegible]
terminated [illegible]
what [illegible]
[illegible] care [illegible] of it but
[illegible] will say
of course, [illegible]
that you [illegible] that you know
— If asked [illegible] have
we are good friends, whatever [illegible] interfere
passed between us [illegible] It will
in any actions [illegible] that I have
make you happy I am sure [illegible]
got over [illegible] circumstance which gave me so
much uneasiness [illegible] to give
much also to Mary. [illegible] to me
in future.
Jan 18[illegible]

junior of my rank here. [illegible]
upon Half Pay again I shall have
This

[illegible] Gentlemen going [illegible]
meeting is favourable for these things.
am expecting to hear that the Young Goodman [illegible]
soon be telling the day for

so well, & gives me such an opportunity

The public news are not particularly interesting at the moment, and as I have domestic sort of news they could afford little gratification to those who do not [illegible] the Parties — It is different with your Albany [illegible] I am sorry to hear that Sol Hunter is still unable to return to his business — the idea of the loss of time he is enduring must affect his spirits for a fellow — I have had the pleasure of meeting with Barthol. Lee who is after the appointment of Surgeon in the 18th Regiment — from him I have got one of

the Bangor news. I hope you had a good stock of your old grain after the frosts were — if you harvest a good crop, keep up it will be good for the farmers. It is seldom I have time to write such a long letter as this. Give my kindest love to my dear Mother & to Willie & Helen. Our Dear Father, anxiously & [illegible] Hollands, yours. J. S. Clarke

Our Dear Father, anxiously & [illegible] Hollands, yours. J. S. Clarke

Pittsburgh, Nov. 28th 1846

My Dear William

I had begun the enclosed long letter some Fortnight before I thought that I am more in your debt than his in the letter way but it is just the same thing to whichever if you at Sea I address my letters. Then I hear fine accounts of your doings on from Nelly, who is much disappointed that none of your young lady had the gallantry to visit her — It is a great affront to a young lady to have you so far denied to have got a single acquaintance — I have told her that had I been in her place I would have stolen the old Clerk of Independence of the young fellow and made you be fair for them. Then that Bishop is going up to London what lies as if he had been smitten. Our Winter Summer Balls commence this very night and as we have a great stock of British Ladies amongst us with plenty of money the French ones, we shall be very gay. The frost has set in very fine, so much so that the ice in the Potomac of the fortifications and on the canal is covered with Skaters — We shall be quite fashionable here for a season some years, but the love of our own country & our country folks will always prevail with, My Dear William, your affectionate Brother J. S. Clarke

Keep up, particularly as I am your junior of my rank here. If I go upon Half Pay again I shall have this

The public news are not particularly interesting at the moment, and as your domestic sort of news they could afford little gratification to those who do not

Valenciennes 10th June 1816

My Dear William

Longer than I hope since I last heard from you it let that does not by any means prevent me from writing as I believe I opportunity occurs in the hope that you are all well. I content myself you will be glad to hear that I think I never had an easier easy better health than I do at this place notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. There land campaigns have of in the Peninsula, indeed I may add in Scotland. There is much gaiety going on but regular hours, and no hard drinking is all the fashion in the parties I associate with which is quite amusing our ages — we are well lodged & fed, & have only as much duty as to be a pleasure for us. There still to do now in proportion to what did when I came here first, and I am not left enough patient time I am to Valenciennes. The army in my health. The only place suffering there is in an great degree are the young children we have not had measles which are raging amongst them & living fatal to several children, owing to the damp & cold weather in a great measure. It is not cold with us, but constantly rains. This place is called the Versailles of France & it seems to discover the hand of the Chamber of France. Dis seems to discover the distress amongst the people of this country & perhaps the left them in Britain, and the dearth of provisions the is of grain and their contributions are very hard upon them. Yet in Bonaparte's time it was fact that all of grain & returns

Kept up, particularly as I am the junior of my rank here. If I go upon Half Pay again I shall have the

So well, it gives me much an opportunity

Flow, Illus

The public news are not particularly interesting at the moment, and as I have domestic sort of news they will be allowed little gratification to those who do not

I am sorry to see by the papers that there is much alarm and disturbance in Britain still, for disturbances — those factories in London seem to have had conspirators for suicide as well as murderers too — The Malling think it will keep some firms being put on half pay — Meal seems to be getting very high — I hope you have got your Corn good well stored this year as of grain of good quality which will repay you for your lately bad trouble of the last season. In this weather your Christmas will be over I hope — I have tried a merry one — and will keep it up merry the livelong Winter evenings during the cold weather I have. I have expressed your all the compliments of the season with a little addition accordingly to Mrs. I sent another to Catherine a few days ago — If you give me some favourite sort I may write you another in that style, when I am in the humour sometimes. Have you been giving or getting any kisses for me lately. I hope you will not let the season pass over without a good shot. Nelly Davies was dancing last I suppose she was for that night — Had some letters from the Kinnaghan Lads lately — Mary & Eliza I think have left a great inclination to write to you to hear your news. I am good friends with them all now since nothing did happen to interrupt it. I think all wonders of women of them were going to get married but don't know — If you be writing to Ruth or Helen send your compliments also as they are getting on good young ladies and they seemed they hope you are all good friends with them — Ruth can not know I suppose that to make our correspondence again — I know you will be pleased to hear the big Man W^m has for you knows that concerning the business altogether.

Mathews yours. J. McCleery

Dear Nell

Yours gotten — to hand — May 9th

Sometimes goes — favourable — for these Parts

Our expectations is — I hear that the Young Good man will soon be letting the day for his.

So well, I guess we shall be approaching

I have not heard yet how your Cheese went off, in fact it is thought fully too months since I heard from you at them you kindly gave it in exchange of the Crops. We find ourselves very well here in this way of thing as the crop of hay was very good sufficient, but I am well off having three cattle of large and only two horses now to feed upon them. I should think that I have met the French Government ~~that~~ efficient a hand ~~[illegible]~~ day and we may all come a little money low yet. When I die will be — In England the money times are much better than in France even in Paris. There is no promotion going now in the time of Peace, but we are all thinking who keeps on full pay in these times, & I like the Army better than I think country practice. I'll see as much hope Summer as take me over to Ireland

pay you all a Visit and shall have

some fun in getting you — Wives and

kissing you first for you. It is time

that you are beginning the courting for time. I am

it must be nearly bedtime when I write you and the

example may be good for me. I shall have all my

courting to begin — you will be able to give me a

lesson as you will be a professional in the trade. I

has it always pretty late ~~night~~ till 2 o'clock this morning

this is the night your Ignorance expires, but

I don't go as I have two some letters to write for the

post to morrow so lose the pleasable pleasure of

holding a little deal conversation with you. you must

not believe a word about that Nelly bad here days as we to

to go Mark my Dearest any Sweethearts, for the Young

nothing of the matter — Where there's a quarrel

called my Sweetheart There ~~is~~ other some

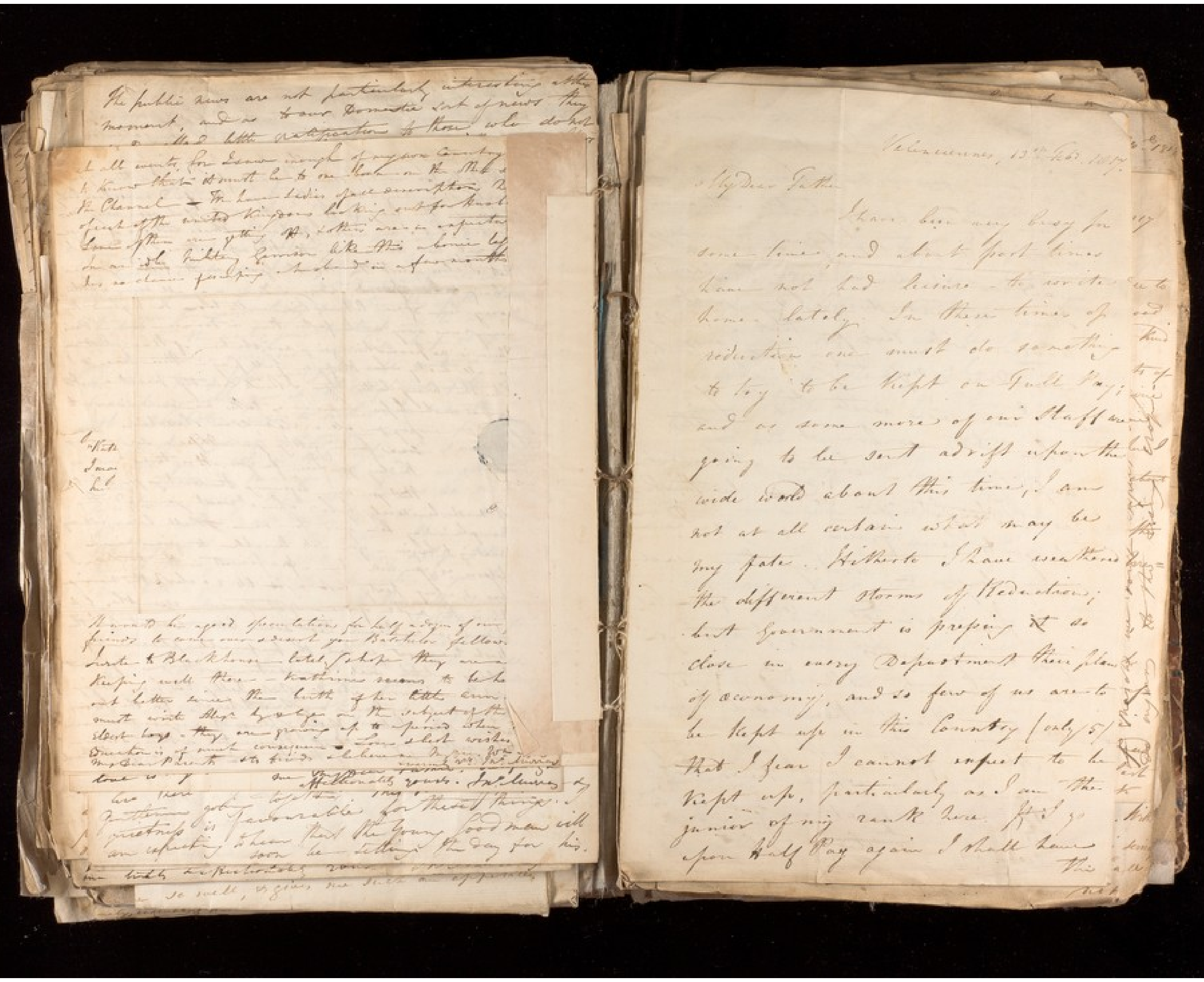
I shall have for service, thought that was enough the Rest to be

Kept up, particularly as I am the

junior of my rank here. If I go

upon Half Pay again I shall have

this



The public news are not particularly interesting at the moment, and as to our Domestic sort of news they [illegible] little gratification to those who do not [illegible]

[illegible] all wants for leave [illegible] of my own Country [illegible]
to know that it must be to [illegible] on the [illegible]
the Channel — The [illegible] ladies [illegible]
[illegible] of the united Kingdoms looking out for [illegible]
[illegible] are getting the letters [illegible]
[illegible] Military Garrison like this [illegible]
[illegible] a few months

It would be a good speculation for half a dozen of our
friends to come over & court you Batchelor fellows
[illegible] & Blackhouse — lately [illegible] they [illegible]
keeping well there — Katherine seems to be [illegible]
not better since the birth of her little [illegible]
must write [illegible] on the subject of the
elder boys — they are growing up to a period when
Direction is of much consequence — Love & best wishes
my dear Parents & [illegible] friends [illegible]

Affectionately yours. [illegible]

we were getting together [illegible]
[illegible] is favourable for these things. [illegible]
am expecting to hear that the Young [illegible] will
soon be settling the day for his

so well, to give me [illegible]

Valenciennes, 13th Feb. 1817.

My Dear Father

I have been very busy for some time, and about post times have not had leisure to write home lately. In these times of reduction one must do something to try to be kept on Full Pay, and as some more of our Staff are going to be sent adrift upon the wide world about this time, I am not at all certain what may be my fate. Hitherto I have weathered the different storms of Reduction; but Government is pressing it so close in every Department their plan of economy, and so few of us are to be kept up in this Country (only 5) that I fear I cannot expect to be kept up, particularly as I am the junior of my rank here. If I go upon Half Pay again I shall have

this

consolation of seeing you the sooner — if I remain on Full Pay you will have the satisfaction that I retain a good & comfortable situation without dangers & fatigues to undergo — and in whichever way, the favors I have received during my short services will shew you that I must have done my duty satisfactorily.

I will soon write to you again when I know how it is settled respecting me. — I write at present as I thought you would be thinking long to hear from me, as I have been longer in writing than usual.

I have not had a letter from Sophy for many weeks, but I trust you are all quite well and getting heartily through these hard times.

About a fifth part of this Army is going home, which shews that affairs are quiet in France and seem in a settled way. This

is a merry time with us, being the Carnaval, and some Masquerades are coming on from which I expect good fun. I hope my dear Mother is well & heart. If I go home it will perhaps give her some more to do — She may prepare for a marriage on two at least, for I must become a steady character amongst you. I hope all the bonie lasses will not be gone before my return whether it be now or a year hence. I believe I am a letter in Kind Williams debt which I shall soon pay. I have them all my Sisters in the Letter way at Blackhouse. My Hearty wishes to all there when you see them or write. I beg you will always remember me to that Enquiring Friends, and with warmest love & affection to you all I heartily conclude. Remain ever My Dear Father, your Dutiful Son

Valencennes 30th Sept 1811

My Dear Sal

I promise myself much happiness, with regard to my future views, after this [illegible] I can as yet say but little. I shall not

Valparaiso Nov 30th Sep 1

My Dear Sal

months 6 months come

but not here.

I promise myself much happy. Not
regard to my future views, after this
I can as yet say, but little. I shall

Valencennes 29th March 1817

My Dear William

I send these few lines by Dr Mitchell who is going with his Regt. to Scotland. Getting a letter you accuse I z you down, without ~~[illegible]~~ to Jerusalem &c. When we arrive, do make your the papers, & This is the times keep enable you the your work signature of your body & soul all go on well.

I promise myself much happiness. Wed regard to my future views, after this dear I can as yet say but little. Let us

St Denis 21st Feb 1818 letter to his brother William
Talks of father, married to avoid his ill-relation back
Mad him. Abroad on drink

Valencennes 29 Oct 1816
Mad folk Fortitude for Rheumatism

July 10 1813
Talked with the Duke of Wellington

Sept 27 1813.
Promoted Surgeon to the Forces
Prog 18/- a day on troop's mess
Cancel by mistake date

28 Oct 1813
Appt to Gen Hill's Corps
2nd Division

July 10 1813
Talked with the Duke of Wellington

—

Sept 27 1813.
Promoted Surgeon to the Forces
Pay 18/- a day on Foreign service
Cancer Regimental Staff

—

28 Oct 1813
Appt to Gen Hills Corps
2nd Division

Surgeon 6 July 1912

2nd Bn 66th Regt

2nd Division

Portuguese Portugal

Sept 1912

Surgeon with the 34th Bn

Royal Hills Hosp

Spain

POST C

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRIT

St Denis 21st Feb 1816 letter to his brother William
Talks of getting married to avoid any scandalous talk
about him. Advice on drink

Valenciennes 29 oct 1816

hand bath treatment for Rheumatism

Valenciennes 1. 3. 1817

30th Birthday

Valencennes 29th March 1817

My Dear William

I send these few lines by Dr Bartlett who is going with his Regt. to Scotland. When any opportunity of getting a letter along way on the road to you occurs I embrace it if I can to tell you I am well & thinking of you all, without reckoning which of us wrote last. When you write me through the War-office, do it on foolscap paper and make your letter as long as the breadth of the paper, & put no wax, only wafers — This is the Official Style. I hope the times keep good for the Farmers to enable you all to get on nicely with your work and your frolicks — a mixture of labour & pleasure is good for body & soul and a good market makes all go on well.

I promise myself much happy prospects to my future views, after this dreary war is over. I can as yet say but little — but I shall

Valencennes 30th Sept. 1817

My Dear Father

Have just written to Lilly. Amy about his boys who I hope will turn out fine fellows, and be ready to get into some situation when another war calls for the young men again.

The country must be overstocked with all sorts at this time when so much retrenching taking place in all branches of Public employment, and the Ladies will not have to complain of want of Beaux as they used to do during the war. We who remain in the army in foreign stations will be quite cut out I fear — I believe I shall be kept while our Army remains in this Country which will be only about 10 or 12 months longer & by & by I must be anxiously thinking how I am likely to be disposed of after that, & thinking what I had best do if my lot be half pay again. If I make out 8 years now in the army I get another step which I surely would manage to do in that time my half pay would be 13/ a day and even if I did not get further promotion my half pay would be 10/. from having served only 20 years, whereas now it would only as before be 7/.

Valencennes 30th Sept. 1818

My Dear Father

You see therefore that it is a great object for me to try to keep in the Army to buy for the other step of promotion at least. I see very little chance of my being home this Summer, unless I may be sent over to the other side of the water in charge of a battle of sick or invalided fellows. We shall see.

I have just enough of duty to make me relish the occasional gay amusements of the Garrison & having the best of health, as usual I banish all idea of care & sorrow.

I have given up all my French sweethearts, and that spirit, & am ready to begin courting with a whole heart again.

I think I should keep it so till I crop the channel again. I shall have no French wife — that I've made my mind up to, from the experience I have had of their hearts & dispositions.

I am just wearing out the last of my Dear Mother's fine woollen socks which I had another supply by next winter — If she will prepare me some, I shall think of some means

I promise myself much happiness regarding to my future views, after this dreary I can as yet say, but little. I shall not

Valencennes 30th Sep. 1854

My Dear Father

As an opportunity occurs for my sending some letters, by a Frank, as far as Aberdeen, I embrace it to write a few to my correspondents as my time will admit, and first I begin one to you. I have been glad to hear that you have got over the Winter as well as could be expected. William tells me that your Rheumatic affection has rather increased since I was at home, and that you walk more lame but that in other respects your health has not been to complain of, and that you are hearty and in good spirits, which is a great thing for your own comfort, and pleasing for us all to find you so. I am much gratified to hear also that my Dear Mother is holding out well and keeping in good spirits. In the course of a few months more now, there seems no doubt of the Army's going home from the Country, and you may then expect another visit from me, to get an idea ramble amongst you, by which I promise myself much happiness. But regard to my future views, after this date I can as yet say but little. I shall

not

of getting them out. and her white cotton
are worth each half a dozen of those I
Let them be of good large size in the
What young Ladies are at the other

Mr William Stirling
Seat Forrit

Give my kindest love to my Dear
Parents and to all Friends and fam
and I remain My Dear William
your affectionately
W. S.

not at all regret should I be put upon
Half Pay for a year or two as I could very
well occupy myself either in study, or
in travelling about to different parts, or
in getting a Wife, but at the same time as
it will be for my interest to remain on
full pay, if I be offered a situation to
my liking, it would be wrong of me
to refuse it. It is so far pleasant that
I am not in the least anxious about the
matter, and it is probable that I shall
have my choice. I shall not think of
determining upon any thing till I get to
London. We shall all be sorry when this
service is at an end, and when we
leave this country, where we have been
so well off and spent our time agreeably
and comfortably. I know of the Guards
we are likely to be sent to where we
can be equally well in every respect. The
Army has been extraordinarily healthy, &
for my part I have never been ill a
single day since I last left Scotland, &
have got very stout. In winter I led a
very gay life, & so far as late hours
and constant Balls & Parties I may say
led a dissipated life – Since Summer
came in I have changed, & now get
up with the Lark and am pursuing
general studies – Amongst other things
am learning Fencing.

Since the 8th of this month the weather has been
very seasonable and every thing is coming for-
ward beautifully. In the beginning of the
month an old close fellow of Dr Stewart's
came to ~~stay~~ a week with me. I went
with him and staid a week in the
country, about 60 miles from this. I happen
to have little to do in my Hospital at
present and can employ myself as I
like almost. I intend to ask leave of
absence for a short time to go to Paris
but am not sure of obtaining it. There
are so many English there at present that
I am told it looks almost like an
English Town. France seems very quiet
and I think will remain so
for the discontented know no
leader will not dare to cause
any sedition. The people will
generally be pleased when we all go as
it is a mortifying to them to be supporting
and paying a foreign army to keep them
in subjection. They have paid pretty
smartly for their last support to Bonaparte
and it has turned out for the ultimate good
and peace of Europe that he came back
from Elba when he did, for it brought
the French much more to their senses,
and allowed their Government to weed out
many dangerous characters that remained
quiet power after the first abdication. I
upon country news pretty regularly, but

Aberdeen Newspaper which Mr. Smith gave Sarah to send to him. The Magistrates there have had fine quarrels. I hear from Mr. Barclay lately & am glad to hear that he is getting on well. I thought his Brother Sam would have been married before this time, but I hear nothing about it —

Sarah

Brother William seems waiting till Esther has the good example — I see you have not settled about home or where you would be best situated in the event of his getting married. I am hoping that you all stay together till he determines upon it, at least he wishes you to do so & I am sure you must be better than with him.

the dear Newspaper which Mr. Smith gets sent to him. The Magistrates there have had four quarrels. I hear from Mr. Barclay

1 A. L. that I is not

although the Colonel [illegible] I did not expect to see it. Almost all the French Generals came in to call upon him respect. Some of the officers spoke a little English and then understood a little it but could not speak it. I had conversations with some of the Surgeons & found some of them pretty well informed on Surgical matters particularly, but not so well on Medical. One of them I found had been made prisoner by us at Maida, he said that he found an English Officer who was very civil to him & gave him a Guinea after he had been robbed of everything. Because he was a Free Mason, which the Deputy Officer also was. There are a great many Free Masons amongst the French, but not amongst the Spaniards or Portuguese, in fact it is prohibited by the Government. The inhabitants almost all fled from the Village and remained almost all the time in the Mountains during the time the French were here, when we drove them back, they returned etc and brought in with them many Frenchmen who had been trying to make their escape to France through the by roads in the Mountains. Thus I have enjoyed the enviable sight of the advance & retreat of a Second Army and at the same time not to be long with them, nor to be made prisoner. I had been often saying how much I should like to be, never had an idea that I should have come to pass as much as done. I shall indeed properly enjoy my leisure for all the trouble I seem to have to learn the French language by the advantage & pleasure I derive from it. A few days I was with them, as the Colonel does not speak a word of it in fact respond every day by the pleasure I derive from reading French books which are to be found in every town. The old woman of the house in which we are was very kind to us all the time which we had spent away, we had, expecting that they might have taken it & found

be lost situated in the event of my being married. I am hoping that you all may together like he determines upon it at least he wishes you to do so. I am sure you would be better than with him.

the same as Chocolate & a dessert some bread and I was astonishing to hear this most extraordinary language which they speak here, which has no affinity with any other that I have heard spoken, but in sound is more like Arabic or Chinese than any other. I certainly thought that I should have had a hope of quite a Stance, and indeed had the enemy been victorious as he fully expected, it is most probable that we should have been interrupted for several months, which would have made us all very anxious to hear from and about the French Army there were many raw conscripts and long legged country fellows, who stood shivering up in their red coat in town, and they appeared very much frightened to be going to fight in Spain. You will have heard of the terrible bloody battle which we have had in the 28th & 29th of July there was only had a month of battle daily from that time till the 30th or 31st of August. The Fortress of St Sebastian has not yet fallen. Pelon

it has been found a stronger place than was expected. It is said that Pamplona must soon surrender there for want of provisions in it for the Garrison. Since the 1st of July the loss of our Army must be very considerable & that of the enemy is much greater, as reputing to the 31st we have been always victorious and taken many thousand prisoners. It has certainly been a glorious campaign for our Hero. In the month of May, although it has cost dear in British blood, and there are many fair women there, Lord Wellington capable to conduct such a grand movement.

August 7th

I have had a very uncomfortable time of it with the Colonel. I was obliged to take off his leg on the 31st and he was so distressed by the loss of blood from that wound, that I was

[illegible] management to [illegible] harvest. I [illegible] a little fund. I [illegible] all a good credit

Aberdeen Newspaper which Mr Smith gets sent to him. The Magistrates there have had fine quarrelling. I learn from Mr Barclay that he is at

be best situated in the world if you married. I now hoping that you all may together tho he determine upon it at least he wishes you to do so & I am sure you cannot be better than with him.

Valencennes 20th April 1817

My Dear Mother

I hope that time is not depriving you of any of the blessings of this life viz: Health & happiness and it adds to mine to hear so frequently that you & my Dear Father are always standing out heartily. I suppose William keeps you amused with his love stories for by all accounts he is carrying on the war in that way with great perseverence. Some say it is with only one, others say two, and if I take his own story along with them he must be over head and ears with them.

I gave you the reasons why I was prevented (in my letter) from revisiting you this Summer, but there is every appearance that the whole army will be home next Summer, and then I must in reality ask some of the Bonny ladies on your side of the channel if they will follow a Soldier and share his quarters. I must however first see what prospects are held out for me either in the Army or somewhere else before I entice any one into the married state, and after this army goes home, but not before, can I know what my prospects may be.

By the time this reaches you I expect that you will have a visit from part of our kind friends at Blackhouse as in Mr Lack letter he talks of getting

and

Aberdeen Newspaper which Dr. Smith got sent
to him. The Magistrates there have had
fine quarrels. I hear from Mr. Barclay

and some of the youngsters going up. Katherine has
been a little troubled with her stomach lately, but
does not prevent her from stirring about, and I
the journey will be of service to her. The Children
benefited by it no doubt after their Kooping coughs.

We have had much changing in this Regiment
lately, 4 of the Regiments have gone home
the greatest number of my Lady acquaintances
and we have got a new set, which as yet
know much about. But in the army we
want for acquaintances, and we are not long in
them when we feel inclined that way,
foreign Country. They are always kinder to us
when we are at home, at least in England
people don't much relish Military acquain
for their Daughters, as they always have an
that we are going to run off with them.

I shall come home with an enormous
stock of Shirts before another year be over
it will be giving you good Price to empl
or two of the Boxes Cases in exporting yo
dew; and I trust William will keep the
and I shall do the same to some of the
ladies here for him. I have heard of his
pap some forged Messages from me at Pa
but he was found out. Helen mentions

Mr B. Morrison is going to get married but does not
say to whom. and also speaks of Miss Mr. Adam
I think he never spoke
of it before. I fear there will be none of my old
acquaintances left by the time I return and the
younger ones wont look at me. I will be better
pleased if you don't send out any thing to me in the Country
as there are risks besides the expense which need not
be incurred. The only things I shall buy in town
shall be of Cambric articles, which are so much
cheaper in this Country; and if I can bring a
piece or two I shall do it. —

The times I hope continue good for
the Farmers, and I am glad to find
that all the people in your part of
the Country are quiet, which is not
the case in some other parts in England. I hear of some
failures in your part of the world which I hope
will not affect any of you. The times I dare say
are hard for many, and one hardly knows who
to trust with their money. Alexr has kindly taken
the trouble to settle all my affairs in the North
for me, and has become my agent. My pay
and allowances here are twice as good as at Aberdeen
and we are all very much attached to our Female
Quarters. We are living in ease and idleness, and have
constant round of pleasure, balls, parties, rides
and so forth. I had letters from Helen, Mary
Eliza last week, all well. none of them are married
yet.

be best situated
married. I now hoping that you all may
together till he determines upon it at least
he wishes you to do so. I am sure you
be better than with him.

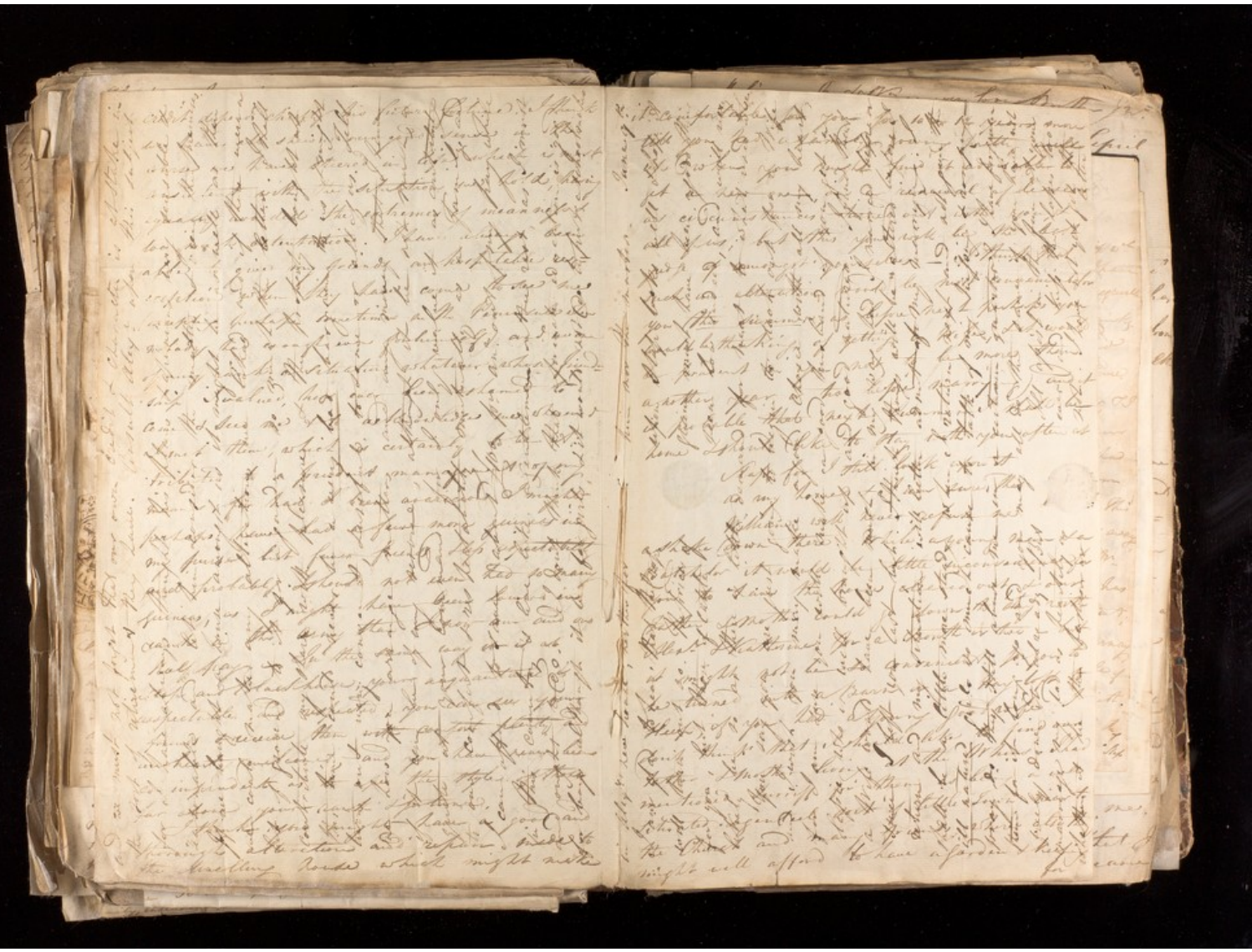
Aberdeen Newspaper which Dr Smith gave last
to him. The Magistrates there have had
fine quarrels. I hear from Mr Barclay

I suppose they would have no objections to another trip
the North. I cannot but you will remember me to
kind friends in your neighbourhood. I am glad
hear that John Strachan is getting better. My
wishes to him and all with family. As you know

Mrs Barron
Elgin

will those to whom I should wish to be remembered,
do it to them in my name when you see or write
say I have requested you to send them my best comp
and you will be doing as I request. The weather
from being settled here yet — we have been fine
day perhaps & the next hard & cold winds. Pro
we never have them with you. — Love in partic
at Rep and Black house, believe me my Dear
any affectionate

be best situated in the world if you
married. I am hoping that you all may
together. He determines upon it at least
he wishes you to do so & I am sure you
cannot be better than with him.



Valenciennes 16th Augt 1815

My Dear Father

I have had the pleasure of hearing by Mr John Smith that all my friends in your part of the world are in their ordinary good health & have got from him the leading news in Aberdeenshire. I have just come back from a little trip I made into Brabant, which I have been highly pleased, and I came home by the Famed Field of Waterloo, where the ground was still manured by the slain, and the colour of the crops in numerous places indicate their graves. The Line of the English & French on the day before Fontenoy which was fought on the 45 just before the troops came home to quell the rebellion.

Mr William Moore
Aberdeen
Scotland

of the Battle extended about as far as between Slap and Surrist, and the peasants who point out the ground even at this day, almost shudder at the recollection of the sights they beheld after the victory put them again in possession of their houses and lands. I have sent to Blackburn some Waterloo Oats, Barley, Rye, Wheat & Beans.

Alex^r has informed me of the different plans you have been thinking of for accomodating our Mother & yourself when William gets his Wife. It is natural to think that after being so long resident upon Slap you will like best to continue there and in that case if all parties be agreeable I think the best plan would be to have a house built for you as a good wing to the present house such as might be useful afterwards, and the old house with considerable alteration (as mentioned by Alex^r) might be improved ~~made good~~ without being heightened. This seems to me to be more advisable than building a new house quite detached about any other part of the Farm, and it will be much more agreeable for yourselves. I hope Hannah will like this plan, and I am sure I should like to find you all so situated. In making these alterations [illegible] Fontenoy which was fought in 1745 just before the troops came home to quell the rebellion. The

upon each now to forget one.

It was not yesterday that it became

arrangements however, of course.
Take it for granted that William
is more to be considered than either
Alex^r or me, after yourselves, and
his kind acquiescence in all your
wishes, and kind attention to you
and our Mother, will never surely
be forgotten by any of us. His
heart we all know to be an honest
and an honourable & affectionate one,
and I am sure he will feel himself
proud of his charge & the more friend
the longer he has it, as it will do
him the more and more honour, for
the most graceful worthy of all duties
duty & affection to his Parents! —
(Duty to Mama!) I am My dear Father
Yours Ever & Ever Murray

Belleisle 13th April

My dear William

Once again, when from a third trip to
Skene made to see the Countess Lady, I
had that pleasure to receive your very agreeable
letter of the 12th for which many thanks.
I congratulate you all upon your good
health, and pray it may long continue.
I see you are still engaged Valetudinarian &
am delighted with the accounts of your
painting and fishing. Of late I have been
away there, but the relation of them
could not be so interesting to you. The
last time I have been there I was away
until been passed in pleasure. Mr.
John Smith accompanied me, who has
come out to see a little of the Country
and we went to Doway, Lille, Tournay
and we went to the Field of Battle of
Fontenoy which was fought in the 45 just
before the troops came home to quell the
rebellion. The

Mr. Amand - passing by the

you soon now to forget me.
It was not yesterday that I
became

There is a great deal of modern classical ground in this neighbourhood, of which Waterloo is now the most renowned part, which I have lately been to see, and also Brussels and Antwerp. I went down to these places with Mr Thomas Smith where we met his Brother who he came from Holland & we came home by by Waterloo. I could have wished you with us. The Harvest is going on delightfully here and the crop is exceedingly abundant. I have eaten some of the new flour bread already. I hope the weather will prove favourable for your part of the Country. The Harvest is by no means an early one here, neither will it be so with you as you mention which makes it always more doubtful as the season is apt to fail. Here the people always attend to the affairs of harvesting on Sunday afternoons & in late seasons the Clergy should recommend it to the people in Scotland as it

Believe me My Dear Sister your very loving Brother

Valenciennes 13th April

may very properly be called a work of the first necessity to collect the fruits which the earth produces for the food of mankind. The French Corn Country I never in my life saw is Brabant, between Brussels and Antwerp — It is the staple commodity of that Country, and they rear only few cattle and those chiefly in the house. They do not approve of keeping pasture land at all one crop excepting meadow grounds, and after the first of grass which they make into hay they plow the grass up for some other crop which to us appears quite a strange sort of farming, but I am not sure but it is the best. In this way they keep a great many more horses and servants than with you, & by their keeping the cattle in the house, make much dung. Think how this wd do at home —

26th

We have had some fine days to day, and there are fireworks in the Evening. Yesterday we had a Holland Ball — and on Thursday we have another. The races continue for three days. In about a week the grand reviews commence. So we have always something going on and entertaining but I would rather be at a quiet ball

upon each now to forget me.

It was not yesterday that I became

Velencianas 27th Aug.t 1817

My Dear Mother

I take the opportunity of sending these few lines by Mr John Smith who has been here on a visit to his Brother, & I have written a packet of Letters to go by him which I have inclosed all to Blackhouse. Not that I have any news, but I wrote on account of the opportunity and as he can send this to you on his arrival it will give you the first accounts. I am happy to say that I am quite well

Valenciennes 12th October 1817

My Dear William

I wrote you a few days ago, but after the mail of that day, I now begin again with an intention of writing you more at length. When I tell you that I have got 300 patients in Hospital you will say this is harvest time with us both, or to business, and I assure you I have to get up at any light as early as you. Times are changed with us, you will say, to what they were when I was with you, when 10 & 11 o'clock in the forenoon often used to find me in bed, both at Rose & Aberdeen. I have had to receive the whole of the Sick of the 2d Division during their stay in Camp here, & for the last month my list has not been under 200 any day. Amongst the Regiments is my old one the 79th, and many other acquaintances which has made the business of the Camp extremely agreeable for me of late. The grand Review is on the 15th & then the troops go into their Winter Quarters. The Russian Review is just over, from very grand. They had a sham-fight which lasted the whole day, & we shall have another. I wish I had you all here to see it. There are a number of great people collecting for that purpose

Carefully & Wellness.

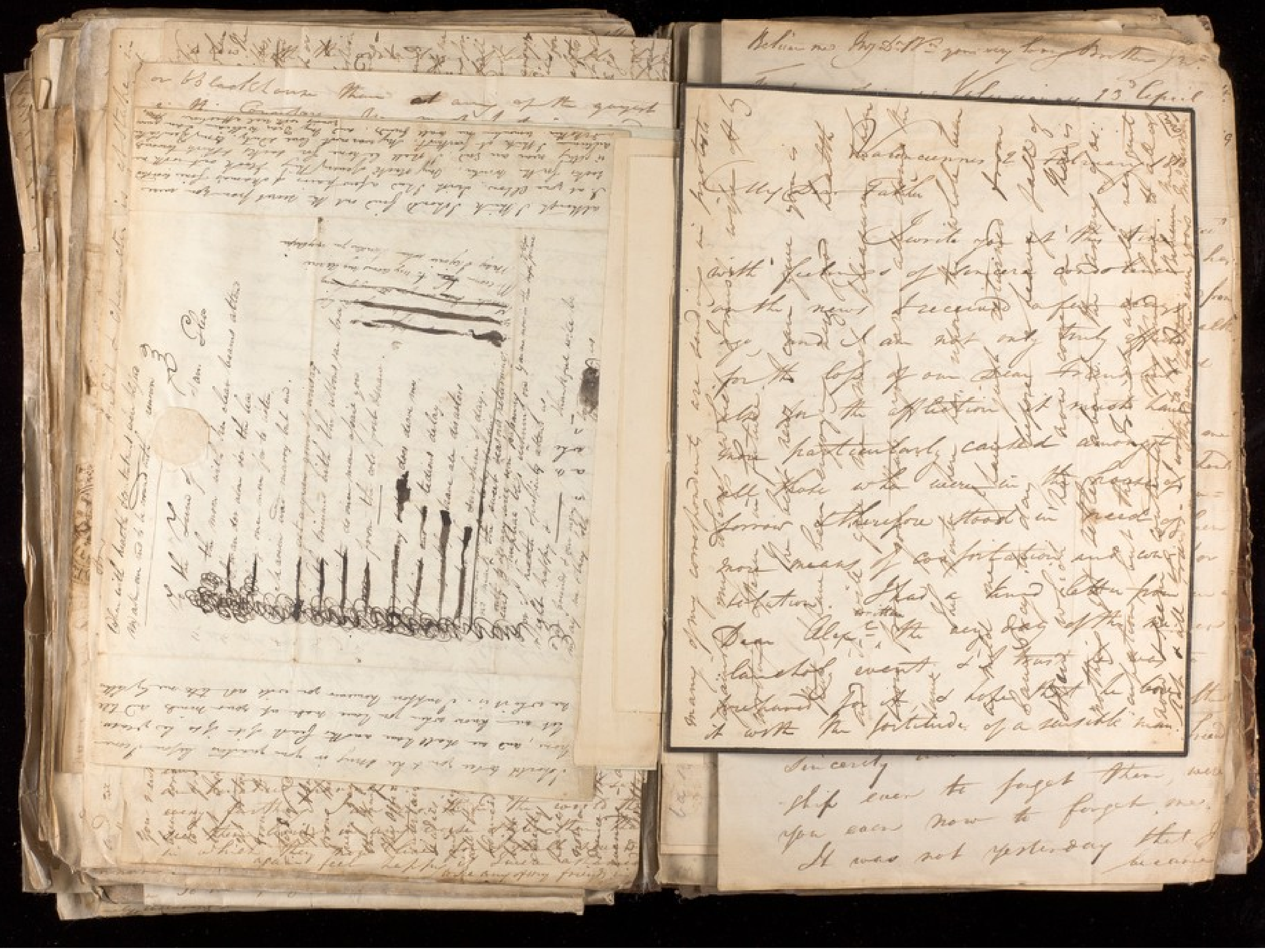
c/o Mrs Murray

Kirkcaldy

Fife

Scotland

Judas Except of the Hill Case and Cover
Pelisse the Copy of the Hill Cover
Estate of Jane Hill Deceased



or Blackheath than at any of the gayest

Believe me My Dr Wm your very loving Brother J

Valparaiso 13th April

My Dear Father

I write you at this time with feelings of sincere condolence on the news I received a few days ago, and I am not only truly affected for the loss of our dear friend, but also for the affliction it must have more particularly caused amongst all those who were in the house of sorrow & therefore stood in need of more means of comfortation and consolation. I had a kind letter from Dear Alexr written the very day of the melancholy event, & I trust he was prepared for it & hope that he bore it with the fortitude of a sensible man.

Sincerely

ship ever to forget them,

you ever now to forget me.

It was not yesterday that

became

Believe me My Dear Mr. your very long Brother

Valparaiso 13th April

that our Dear Mrs. and her family & every all felt so much for her. We have every reason to believe that she has gone to a better & happier world and as she has ended a very unsettled one in this, it becomes us to feel a real comfort at her release, and to be thankful to Providence for this desirable dispensation of his mercy to her and us. Yet we cannot help regretting, in her, the kind hearted friend, the dutiful Wife, & affectionate Mother, and we have a melancholy pleasure in mourning for one so dear to us all, & for a long time while we speak or think of her it must naturally be with a mournful heart. but I hope none of you will have the weakness to find it easier to forget them, were you each now to forget one.

It was not yesterday that I heard

Sincerely

It was not in the course of a few days or weeks that we found ourselves prepared for our loss as well as for the news of her death and yet since I had written and long dreaded this event although it would have been a great relief to me to all parties to have had it done & over. I was therefore prepared to receive the accounts of it even after I got from home. It is not now her fate that I pity, for on that point my mind is more at ease than when I saw or heard of her continued misery while in existence. I am sure that constant or the rack of anxiety, I spent at those distressing periods of her state, & to and many instances of unexplained patience under them, I feel

knowing

dwell upon the subject unnecessarily
to make the morning unbecoming
Christians, or hurtful to your health

If I have not written so often as usual
of late, it is chiefly because I have
been much occupied about the Cotton
time in different ways, and I found

Believe me My dear William your very long Brother

Mr Lang a Turner by Trade Valparaiso 13th April 1818
and I must get ready for it.

My Dear William

I write to you upon receipt
of yours of the 5th Inst., which has
afforded me very great pleasure for
its good news respecting the health of
my Dearest Friends, & your kind
affection towards me.

You all seem to blame me
for not writing oftener, and I deem
be sorry if you did me the in-
justice to think I had ever been
unthinkful of any one of you, for
that of all things has never been
a fault of mine & I am quite sure never
will be. You have given me too
many & too long proofs of the
sincerity and value of your friend-
ship ever to forget them, nor that
you each now to forget me.
It was not yesterday that I
became

acquainted with the worth of you all and that I became attached to you!

If I have not written quite so often lately, it has been that sometimes perhaps I felt some delicacy in sending for a Friend sometimes from my having a good deal to do or having a friend staying with me from a distant part of the Army, and sometimes I had nothing to say that would interest you in the way of news. I have lately had some very fine young Ladies as my Patients and they generally occupy a good deal of a Patient's Doctor's idle time. However, remember that my heart has never been in very great danger since I left Britain and I shall take it home again in tolerable sound state.

I am glad that the Jugglers amuse you — a gentleman has just drawn 2 in my room which I shall copy for you — I have done them badly.

I am sure My Dear Sir I think that you cannot think I would be angry with you for proposing what of all things must be the most desirable for our dearest Parents in their infirm old age — the protection and assistance of the best of Sons to be in his own house — Your own heart must have been your grateful reward in this kind proposal, and tell you really make up your mind to take to Gonzalo, nothing will delight me more than to find them staying in their old place. But when you marry, it will be better for all parties that the establishment be quite separate. I have only time to add my love to all — and to say that Mr. Thos. Smith is always inquiring very kindly after you.

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

Give my Love to Thousands — Happy to confirm acquaintance with your Brother & Sister — Yours affectionately

Mary Hoare

Hay Lodge Tuesday Evening 1st Nov 1818

I wrote a few words a few days ago hastily & then upon the receipt of your letter so that with this you will not accuse me of laziness. I am much obliged to you for your kind letter & the so much interesting news and I fear that mine can very little as I think I shall have given you a card of my first & to talk of the parties I go to I should tell you how about the every day I am just here with them, & cannot escape the thought of them. Mutton is dinner at 6 or 7 & always followed by Champagne Claret Hermitage Madeira, & such other good things the Ladies leave us almost before I offer gentlemen let me alone — I offer to be the delighted of hearing the cards & music as that & the other stand down & the fine weather have come in, we dine earlier, & I hope will

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

[illegible]

imagine from your last that I should find all Hope must of you will be very and Habits. There is no longer any doubt I [illegible] come in the end of January [illegible] Likely that I shall be with you about the time I went home last.

Shall I bring a Wife with me or shall I depend upon your having one in readiness for me? I must request that you will give us your Wedding soon after I get home whether I give you mine or not. You are settled which I am not and a Wife will be a great Comfort to you when and you see how your Charge is likely to turn out. With me it is different – What Wife would I like to have a family & household from place to place with me? It would not be very comfortable for both parties, perhaps I should not that to past [illegible] for distant countries [illegible] the Scrapes of having [illegible] I have never really been some little danger of doing it, but only

and you seem to be [illegible] to get up at [illegible] early here in the morning. In Winter [illegible] usual hour of rising to bed was 2 in the [illegible] and my time of rising here. Now I [illegible] but at 10 and rise at 5, at [illegible] and I study with Latin, Botany [illegible] [illegible] of that sort. But [illegible] distance only is in the [illegible] I find [illegible] time they are [illegible], till near the [illegible] of this now, I call upon the Ladies again as your Wedding soon after I get home whether I give you mine or not. [illegible] otherwise employed.

There have for the last two years been a lady resident in Boulogne the [illegible] [illegible] and indeed I generally [illegible] with a [illegible] when much [illegible] can escape from the idle [illegible] It is [illegible] that not offend [illegible] we are always most happy when we are employed, & following some [illegible] a life suitable to the station in which we are placed. —

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

I become some sad study character at
Turner and Sotts. I dance there in a
way that to my own thought have a
to my to me. I am a great deal more
than I need to be, but we shall
see fun when we meet there

I am glad that Mama has got the
to help her, & particularly that she
so fortunate as to get such a good
one as you mention. The other
Rathbals seemed all very good
I hope your housekeeper will be kind

Valenciennes 4th May 1811

My Dear Alex.

I have just received yours and
shall have time to introduce these
few lines into my packet, which
I made up last night, before it be
sent off. I am glad to hear all
your good news. I write this chiefly
to give a prescription for that affection
which Papa sometimes feels in swallowing
dry substances, and also for his
rheumatism. — They are written
on the other leaf, — No. 1 is for a
liniment to be rubbed, in the
quantity of a teaspoonful, upon his
chest morning & evening
and No. 2 is a mixture of which

is to take, at first, a teaspoonful in a small cupful of warm milk every morning and evening two hours before breakfast and on going to bed, and after about a week he may take of it a teaspoonful & a half each time or two teaspoonfuls if it agrees with him & does him good.

He may use a little of No. 1 also to rub upon the parts where he has rheumatism, on his back.

He should not eat dry meats but as little as possible, or he should take some liquid with them as beer or milk. They may knead upon the back when it happens, & give a little weak spirit-and-water.

ever affectionately yours

B. Murray

Get back the prescription that either No. 1 or No. 2 may be got again if required

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

with us thought like the Tweed Cottage it

Valenciennes 6th July 1818.

My Dear William

I ought to have acknowledged the receipt of your very kind long letter much sooner. It is always most pleasing news to hear of the welfare of all my dear friends in your country, & you will be glad to hear that I have been quite well & have had time to make some little tours in the neighbourhood.

I began by going to the Russian Lines with Lt Wm Inglis, at the time the Emperors Brother (Michael) was here, and you know that journeying about always agrees with me. The season is very delightful, and during the last trip I made, on the 1st 2d & 3d Instt by Douay &c, I found the people busily employed at the Rye and Barley

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

with us there at the Trent Cattle is

I have nothing particularly to write about, all is quiet much more so than they are in England at this time of the Elections. I shall not be able to get away to Paris, but am not much disappointed. Hope to hear next time that my prescription has been beneficial to my dear father & suppose you have by this time settled all about where they are to stay. I was rejoiced to hear that our Dear Mother was in such high health & spirits, & enjoying her painting & music. She is always better when she has some object for of amusing active employment, and I look well to give her a good deal of this. I fancy we shall be here a heavy season will be over before I get home but I can get them in James & Phillis, which is a good - The garden must be getting by & into its glory. I have written this in haste & you will have some trouble to make it out, as I have been writing much of late & got into a cramp habit. My kindest love and regards to you all and believe me, my dear Mr, your truly affectionate Br.

J. C. Brown

Harvest for most luxuriant crop. By the papers I was happy to find there was such a fine appearance in Scotland & that cattle were selling well. It is expected that we shall leave this country in about three months when it is probable that there will be a very great reduction of the army. I shall not ask any appointment meant in the mean time, as I would rather have some time on half pay to see you all again, & have a little quiet study either at Edinburgh London, Dublin or Paris - Perhaps Rome.

I have not very much leisure to write at this time but have an opportunity of sending this from to London - in about a week or fortnight I shall be able to make up a Packet of letters by a Smack to Aberdeen or Peterhead, & shall write more at length. We are all to be reviewed tomorrow by Lord Hill, and it is expected that the Eng. by the will soon go to Camp - I escape that now.

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

Boulogne, 18th Sept. 1818

My Dear Father

As you may be wishing to know how I like my change to this place from my old Quarter at Valenciennes, I write you this by Post direct, as it would take a long time before my letters could reach you by the way I used to send them under cover. At the same time I am going to prepare a general packet for the North in a few days, which will not reach you, however, before the beginning of September. Continue to direct your letters for me as usual.

I am remarkably well & really do find the change in every respect most agreeable. Have both Town & Country residence. In the Country I am furnished, free of expence, with 6 rooms, kitchen, stabling &c. in an excellent Chateau belonging

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

to the Lord of the Manor of Hardin Abbe
was never better pourtrayed in my life. The
Situation of the place is beautiful, & the
surrounding country rich & picturesque —
front of the house at a few yards Rod
is the main Paris Road from Calais,
that I have an opportunity of seeing all
the numerous English Passengers, as the distance
from Boulogne (which is quite like an
English watering Place from the num
of Families there) is about 4 miles — I
have merely two rooms which I hire f
trifle, for the purpose of economizing
Bathing in the Sea in these beautiful
-nings, or for Sleeping at night when
to Balls or Parties which are very frequ
& already my acquaintance is extensive —

My study with the Cavalry is very
indeed; I consider myself in a measure
taking a ride to visit the Hospitals
gives me little trouble as I keep the
good horses: — In short, my situation

you envied me — & I never was in better health
or Spirits. In addition to my other amusements
I have had some fishing in a river close to my
Country Chateau, & the shooting season is also
just approaching — yet with all these advantages, from my
I have some regret from having relinquished
where I had spent a couple of years so
agreeably, & had so many kind friends. —

The Harvest is already finished in many parts
of France, & I see by the Aberdeen Papers
that it commenced long ago in
different places of Scotland. I
hope the Crop is generally good
with you this Season, & that it will be well
got in. It is generally very fine in France, the
oats only are short in Straw owing to the long
continuance of dry weather. —

We shall not know exactly about our
going home till next month when Congress
sits. October is mentioned as the most
likely period of our evacuating France, but
and there is a report that part of the Army
will go to garrison the Netherlands for a year
or two. —

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

with us through life. The Finest Cottage
cant answer at all, so that unless I
lose my heart at this Boulogne amongst
the many pretty Cottages here I think
I shall carry it pretty sound back
with me to Scotland. Some Ladies
thinking to make an Attack upon my
Station in the Country one of them day
and I think I shall have a very
pleasant party of them. Some Lovely
you could join us. I think we shall
disturb the Old Marquis a little who
lives on the other side of the House.

There is no public news here of
consequence. France is as tranquil
as if the Bourbons had never been
forced upon the Country, and there
will be no disturbance either on
Army is withdrawn. There are no less
than 20 or 30,000 British visitors in Paris
and the Country is covered with them

This before the 15th of Nov.: The forty
of Cambrai & Valenciennes are not
begun up till that time, but
several Regiments, and a great part
of the Stores are already embarked.

It would be pleasant enough to go there, it
will be considered the fortunate part of
troops to get off so to any Army
Continent, if such be formed. I shall expect

have the pleasure of paying you a visit
course of a few months, if first on the Pa
shall, like to spend the Winter in Edinbu
and the Summer follow in the Continent
to prosecute some studies. I must now conclu
with the warmest love to my Dear Mother & Broth
& sister & remain Your affectionate Son, Jo

Dr Mr Murray
Mr Jr Smith
Portland

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

Boulogne 22nd August 1818

My Dear William

Hesdin Rabbi
22nd August 1818

My Dear Mother

I wrote to William in the
morning, since which Shade rode out
any Country house, & I cannot
Shelp remarking how very different
my present lodging is from some
to write you from in Spain. My
landlord is a Marquis who has given
me some of the best rooms in his
house, and, having my horses, this
is just the distance from Town
that is most desirable for a tour-
ist. I should like to bargain
have such good quarters for life, if
were near you we with some of your
can
Boxes I should give you all to me.
a very hearty party in my Saloon.

It would be pleasant
will be considered the
traces she get of them
Continent, if such Re

have the pleasure of paying you a visit in
course of a few months, as if first on M. Pa
should like to spend the Winter in Sicily
& the Summer following in the Continent
to frequent some shades. I must now conclu
with warmest love to my dear Mother & Broth
I remain ever
Your affectionate Son

This before the 15th of Nov.: The forty
of Cambrai & Valenciennes are not to
be given up till that time, but
several regiments, and a great part
of the stores are already embarked.

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

Last night I was at a gay part of fashionables at the house of a Post Captain of the Navy in Boulogne and my chief amusement was speaking Italian the greater part of the Evening to a young Irish Lady. It so happened that none of the others understood that Language & as we kept up a very lively conversation we observed all our neighbours quite on the fidget to know what we were talking about. I would have given any thing to have understood us. I have scarcely ever met a Lady from the Portuguese Isles who spoke Italian so well and I am delighted to have made her acquaintance to practise my favourite Language with. We look upon each other as already old friends. From this and a curious discovery I made in the course of the Evening that she is related to the wife of a very particular friend of mine & was one of a party of young Ladies who were staying with him at one time when he was writing to me and who sent their love to me in the corner of his letter – about 12 Months ago. – She is neither old nor ugly – so I must take care of myself or of her.

To day I return to another Dinner & Evening party – thus my time is spent from one party to another – I am sorry she is not to be there to night.

Amid all these gaieties, however, I do not forget the dear young Ladies of my own country, with whom I spent so many happy days when last I was at home, and I shall have the greatest pleasure in renewing my acquaintance with them and I think in a very short time, for it seems to have been ascertained within these few days! since I wrote last that the whole Army goes home in Nov. When I pass by Valenciennes I must pay, if before the 15th of Nov.: the forty of Cambrai & Valenciennes are ordered to be given up till that time, but several regiments, and my next post of the Stores are already embarked.

have the pleasure of paying you a visit in the course of a few months, as I put on Mr. Pa should like to spend the Winter in Sidmouth and the Summer following in the Continent to frequent some shades. I must now conclude with warmest love to my dear Mother & Brothers & kind enquiry from my dear Father, remain Dutiful & affectionate Son Sy

Boulogne 31st Oct. 1818

My Dear William

An opportunity of writing to Edinburgh induces me to take up the pen to send you these few lines to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of the 4th Inst. & to inform you that we are all in a bustle preparing to go home.

I was delighted to hear that you were all so well at Slap, and hope you have by this time got the crop all into the Barn yard in good condition as we have had about 20 days of exceedingly favourable weather in this country since you wrote me.

I shall not be able to leave this before the 15th of Nov.: the forty of Cambrai & Valenciennes are not to be given up till that time, but several Regiments, and a great part of the Stores are already embarked.

Some Cambric for you, & hope to get it smuggled over with my baggage. That seems to be the chief thing worth taking with me from this part of the Country.

I can scarcely say how I stand in the way of a stock of Linnen when I get home. I have worn out what I took with me, & what I left in London I suppose will be somewhat spoilt; so that I shall place some dependence upon you for Shirts & Socks as you have been kindly providing some for me.

As yet I have no determined scheme what I shall do, if put upon Half Pay, as a good deal will depend upon circumstances. I hope you will have a good Wife lookt out for me to settle me at home.

My kindest wishes attend my Dear worthy Father, yourself, Brothers & all our kind friends, to whom I beg to be remembered, & I ever am, My Dear Brother with duty & warmest affection yours

Jas Murray.

Shamefully worn & torn clothing, my poor soul will be a [illegible] troops [illegible] continent

I have the pleasure of paying you a visit in the course of a few months, as I put on Mr. Pa[illegible] should like to spend the Winter in Edinburgh and the Summer following on the Continent to prosecute some studies. I must now conclude with warmest love to my Dear Mother & Brothers & kind enquiry [illegible]

I have not been able to learn if I am
to be put on Half Pay, but cannot
expect any thing. Me as the Reduction
is to be very great — In that case my
intention is to start off almost im-
mediately to see you all, and I hope to
spend my Christmas with you, — but
cannot say positively, as circumstances
may prevent my coming till Spring,
but at present, I rather think I
shall be down in December.

It is possible that I may remain
in London, or be in Paris for the
Winter but I would rather wish to spend
the Winter in Scotland amongst my friends
and make my tours in Summer.
Some wish me much to stay in Paris
and many wish me to stay in
London: and I cannot positively de-
-termine on any thing till I see what
is going on in London from where I
will write to you soon after my arrival.

I cannot expect to hear from
you again before I leave France, but
about

the 20th of Nov. you might be writing
me to the care of Glennie — London.

I am glad to hear you account
of all friends — I see that the young ladies
are slipping through our fingers, & they
will be looking out for partners to keep
them feet warm before the cold frosts &
snow: — Are you looking out in that way
or are you preparing the hot brick &
additional blankets.

I shall be happy to find our
beloved parents healthy, happy, & comfortable
and I am sure we are all
much obliged to your kindness in
keeping them with you. I am
happy too that you have got
young Assistant to Mamma the
piece is quite satisfactory to every one
and so much liked by you all — I
beg you will give Jessie my very
best compliments & also to her family.

I am sorry that your neighbour
Dawing at Cotham Lodge has unwell
and hope the fever will not spread
farther — Remember me kindly to
all our dear female acquaintances
and to all my young friends. You
must say thousands of sweet things for
me as I will up for yourself — Love to Sister
& Mamma. & believe me yours affectionately Robt. Johnston.

No. 4. Blenheim Street, Bond St.

London 22d January 1819

Boulogne 22d November, 1818

My Dear Father,

You see by the date of this that I have not yet left France. My Division of the Army, viz. the Cavalry, have all just gone, but I am detained here with the Inspector Generals Family, three of them are unwell, and he requests me to remain with them for some time, as he himself is obliged to go to London. The rest of the Medical Staff who have come over are on duty at Dover and Deal, at the hospitals there, and I should be the same were I to leave France, as none are yet allowed to go away. So that I am much more comfortable here, and besides living better, and more reasonably, than in England, I have 4/6 a day more pay at both Salt Sall: so that it is no loss my remaining at Boulogne in any way. – For if I hear on half pay, which I am not yet sure about, it would not be before the 24th December, & consequently I could not get down to Scotland sooner under all these circumstances, and the winter setting in, you must not expect me so soon as you imagined,

hear such bad accounts of Mrs Paulton

and, indeed, as it would not be by any means pleasant to go down to Scotland by sea in Winter, and rather too expensive to go by land, perhaps I may decide on remaining in Paris during the Winter, if I find that I am not to be kept on Full pay abroad and that I would not go to Scotland before Spring. I don't think that my Mother would be very easy to hear that I intended going down by sea about Christmas time – she would rather that I came down in the good weather in the beginning of Summer when we could make some journeys together about the Country. Give our friends plenty

The whole of the Army will leave this Country before the 30th, the last of them reach Calais on the 24th Inst, and the Heavy Baggage goes by Antwerp. The weather has been uncommonly favorable, and the embarkation has gone on beautifully without scarcely a single accident. I was very bad for some time, but have now nothing to do

besides

attending the Inspector General's family which remains here during the Winter. –

There is every appearance of the French remaining very quiet, and as far as I am able to judge, the people in the part of the country where the Army has been, are very sorry at our departure. –

I have not heard from any of you since about mid-harvest, – at which time the weather was backward for getting in the Corn, but in the last of the world at least, it became very fine weather immediately afterwards. And I am in hopes that all was tolerably well got in, and that the Crop will turn out a very good one for William. I will write to some of you or to Blackhouse again when I know more particularly what I am to be about in the mean time I write this that you may not be anxious about my delayed letters. I beg my dearest love to you all and kindest remembrance to Friends who care for me – and

dear such bad accounts of Mrs Panton

Seven, My dear Father, with warmest affection
Your dutiful Son
Wm Thomas

Letters of
Sir Thomas de O. & R. C. S. Kbt
from Gibraltar in Spain March 1813
to his arrival in England Sept 1814
his again leaving his native country
in Nov 1815 — Journey to
France his return returning
with the Army to England
in 181 — his arriving
at Ab — on
the 181
being a period
of years
Vol II

No. 4 Blenheim Street, Bond St.
London 22d January 1819

London, 20th Dec. 1818.

My dear Mother

I arrived here safe & sound to my Christmas dinner and certainly ought to have written to Sept sooner but I cannot say how busy I have been and still am. I have met many many friends in Town amongst the rest Sir R. Barclay with whom I dined yesterday — all well — I have been very happy to hear from all quarters of the welfare of all my own friends in the North, but find you in town — I am very sorry to hear such bad accounts of Mrs Paulet

No. 4. Blenheim Street, Bond St.
London 22d. January 1819

it will be out of my power to have the pleasure to join your parties at this merry time, my staying in London for some time being so necessary for me. My stay home will not be required for more than 2. or 3 months & then I shall hasten down to see you all.

I am on Half Pay from the 24th. Inst but I can get in again when I like, & might not have been placed on Half Pay now unless I had rather wished it, on account that I could not have got leave to stay in London for long leave of absence to see you all. Tell Wm to send me his Commissions, & any of you that I can do any thing for let me know soon.

You must excuse this hasty scrall for I cannot say how busy I am. I have written to Blackthorne.

With love kindly to my dear Father yourself & Wm & kindest wishes to all enquiring friends

Believe me My dear Mother
ever your affectionate Son
R. Spencer

means letting them know the reason to you all

write after jobs in town. — I am very sorry to hear such bad accounts of Mrs Paulton

No. 4. Blenheim Street, Bond St.
London 22d. January 1819

My dear Mother

I wrote a short letter to Sleaf after my arrival, and I have heard from Blackhouse of the welfare of you all, which made me very happy. I am now expecting a letter from some of you at Sleaf, and am anxious to get Williams commission respecting his service of Blue ware, that I might have time to get it well executed, as I am frequently in the Country and will perhaps have to go to Bath, and Bristol, and Nottingham, before seeing you, which obliges me to be a good deal out of the way of doing jobs in town. — I am very sorry to hear such bad accounts of Mrs Paulton

With my duty I have to yourself to my dear father & Mother and affectionate regards to all friends in Sleaf. My dear Mother

Your ever affectionate
J. Johnson

Mrs Johnson
Sleaf
Lancashire

Jan. 7. 25th

On my arrival from Chatham to day, I had the pleasure to receive William's letter, which I was expecting, and I am happy at the good accts of all at home. I went to Chatham on Saturday to see the large Military Hospitals there and spend a couple of merry days with old friends. I am truly sorry to hear of Mrs Paxton's melancholy situation and fear that she will be soon taken from her family who will severely feel her loss.

All friends here are very well – I am quite man to Cousins Ruth & Helen and have been three times at Kennington when I found the last time, and had some dancing of Quadrilles and Waltzes – They are all well – Margaret is nearly 2 inches taller than I am and stout in proportion, and at the same time a very pretty good girl. – I am thinking what a Jolly pair we shd make.

I am glad to find you have had such a merry Christmas – I assure you that I have spent mine very gaily and pleasantly. Mr Gordon and I live together, & I believe we have not dined more than twice at home, & that was when we had parties of our own. – Sir Robt Barclay & I have been much together – He is as kind as good. His niece the late Mrs Gray of who went to India married the Captain of the Ship on her arrival there – which I hope will be a really good match. – I hope Cousin John Thacker has made a good match. We were not quite sure of his marriage here till we received by your letter – I suppose you will be having some wise chatted out for me – before I come home. The Bonie lassies are not all married those, nor engaged – I am a good deal more Jedate than Lucy, but still I must have some fun when I get down amongst them. I was nearly starting for Edinburgh with Miss Urquhart of Byth who sets off tomorrow morning, but I could not leave town so soon – There was a report of her marriage which is all nonsense. I shall write to her Brother by her. Hope Mrs H. of Craigston is better – This mild winter must be very pleasant for you – I do not remember of seeing any one milder in the Mediterranean than this here in England – I do not at all suppose that the Fevers in Alexandria and the Country are owing to the Season.

I smuggled home some Cambric for you & we shall a busy time in sorting my linen when I return – It is in great disorder, & although I am almost in want of sacks

London 15th

London, 6. March 1819

London, 7th Feby 1819

My dear Father

I wrote to stop lately which of
letter I hope has been received & found
you all in your usual good state
of health — I am carrying on the
war very agreeably here, having
a good proportion of useful study
& pleasant parties to divide &
pass my time, and although the
weather would not well answer
for a voyage to Scotland yet,
it answers my purposes here, &
the season will soon be favorable
for my visit to you — It will still
be about a month before I can
leave this — I thought some time

and warmest regards to you
all. Believe me
your ever affectionate &
Jno Sawrey

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my
dear Papa and you are holding out well, &
I think that in about a month or 5 weeks
I shall be free to leave London to come
down to see you all, & spend a happy

Sawrey Esq
Sawrey
Hawkshead
Ferry
Lancs

time with you. The summer & berry season
would have been more pleasant, but we
shall be independent of season when we
get together. The time I have not been a
day unwell since I left you & I trust
in God that I will enjoy the pleasure of
seeing you all in good health —

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my
dear Papa and you are holding out well &

London 15th

London 6 March 1819

age of going with Sir Robt Barclay
sooner, but I fancy he will go
a fortnight before me, & can I see me
do go so far together, it will not
be beyond Edinburgh, as I shall
have to stay 10 or 12 days there
if I pass that way which I
most probably shall do. —

My attendance on lectures and
at Hospitals here now costs me
nothing, at least as many as
I wish, which had not used to
be the case when I came to London first,
so that I am not at great
expense for these things, and
this is just the season for
them in greatest perfection which
is the chief reason of my staying

in order to take advantage of them.
I think of sending a box of luggage
by some Banff or Peterhead ship, &
shall write to you when I do.

By our news from your part of
the country I am glad to hear that
grain fetches good prices, & I hope
the farmers are all making fortunes.

We have only had one day's snow
here, which did not lie, there
has been more with you I fancy
which was wished for I suppose
on account of the ground, but
we expect a forward spring.

There is nothing particularly
new here that can interest you
I hope to have the pleasure
of hearing from you soon &

and warmest regards to you
all believe me
your very affectionate &
Jno Spence

some with you.
would have been more pleasant, but we
shall be independent of season when we
get together. I believe I have not been a
day unwell since I left you & I trust
in God that I will have the pleasure of
meeting you all in good health.

London, 6 March 1819
4 Blenheim Street
Bond Street

My Dear Father

I was very sorry to hear by my Dear William's letter of the death of our poor Cousin Wm Paxton, & have written to my Aunt. I should have been still more sorry to have seen her when she was in a stage of her disease too far advanced to admit of a cure, & yet expecting Leonard has done her good. She is a serious loss in her family and must be severely felt by her Mother, Husband, & Children and also by her friends – She was the least likely to die of most of us, when I saw her last.

arrive before me. With love and warmest regards to you all. Believe me
your ever affectionate &c
Jno Murray

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my Dear Papa and you are holding out well. I

you may inclose your letter to me, 1st cover, to Dr Gordon, Army Medical Board Office. 2d Cover Mr A. Milne. 3d & later Cover

To the Lords Commissioners
of Woods & Forests
White Hall
London

Accept along with my Dear Mother & William my most affectionate wishes and believe me, My Dear Father
ever dutifully & faithfully
Yours
Jno Murray

Write in haste as I am just going over to drink Tea.

To
To

would have been more pleasant, but we shall be independent of season when we get together. The time I have not been a day unwell since I left you & I trust that I will feel the pleasure of [illegible] you all a good health.

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my dear Papa and you are holding out well &

London 16th 1. 1819

I have been so busy since I came to London that I have not had time to write home so often as you may have wished, but I have been quite well thank God and have been employing my time very usefully as well as agreeably. About the end of this month I shall get my business here finished, and shall set out for Edinburgh, and expect to have the felicity of shaking you all by the hand before the middle of April. The weather has been more country for these last ten days than during the whole season, but I trust it will be fine before I set out.

I am most happy to find that you have been keeping in good health & spirits at Stap & Blackhouse and hope I may find you all as well as I wish you.

Tell William that I understand his hide & seek hint, & that perhaps before long we may be playing at the game in this our house when I am sure he will be happy to join in it. He will then judge for himself. — I have just rec^d a Box of fine things from Blackhouse fish, whisky, Wine, Jelly, Eggs, Salmon, puddings &c, which are really a treat. Br. Gordon and I stay together and we have been living on Scotch dainties by this having received supplies from McBeth & Aberdeen before & now the arrival of that from Blackhouse keeps up our stock, which was very kind & mindful of him. I shall call on Mr Ferguson of Pilton and write Alex^r in a few days. I sent some eggs for him by Sir Robt Barclay.

I shall be very much pleased if you would have been more pleasant, but we shall be independent of season when we get together. I believe I have not been a day unwell since I left you & I trust in God that I will enjoy the pleasure of meeting you all in good health.

arrive before me. With love and warmest regards to you all. Believe me

your affectionate Br

Jno Sawrey

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my dear Papa and you are holding out well.

I am glad to find that this has been a good year for William's commencement and sincerely wish he may never have or deserve success ful. You have shewn us all a good example, & it must be as pleasing for us to reflect upon the very respectable character which our dear Parents so deservedly bear as it is encouraging for us to endeavour to imitate & preserve it.

I am sure we are all sensible how much we owe to you both, and I am equally sure that you will find us all dutiful & grateful to you.

The time will soon run on when I shall be made happy in seeing you all, and I hope you will not find me a troublesome guest then. I give you a little more stir about the house. My kind love to my dear Mother, yourself, Wm & Rose & believe me your affectionate Son John.

London 2d April 1819

My dear William

Glad a most agreeable event has at last taken place, which I hope will be productive of great happiness to you both. Yesterday in my letter to my dear Father I sent a little letter to you, forming me of all your welfare.

It is not possible that I have not written to you since my arrival from Lisbon. I am sure my dear Brother that it was not from want of hope, or forgetfulness of you, and I am equally sure that you will not suppose it. When I write the Sheets I think of you all there at the same time, so that I really much do not remember, when I must to write to whom I addressed the preceding letter. —

I shall be much pleased to receive your letter to inform me of your marriage, which I hope may arrive before me. With love and warmest regards to you all. Believe me

your very affectionate Br

Jno Spurrell

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my
dear Papa and you are well

Since I wrote last I had an offer
to go to Italy, having my expenses
paid &c, but I must spend some
time amongst you all, before I
enter upon any occupation. I
also had an offer to go on full
pay, but declined it for some
months, when if nothing better
turns up I can have the ap:
:pointment. —

I see cousins pretty frequently
and shall deliver them your messages;
they are all well & always enquiring
about you all, & sending their love.
I suppose some of them would
fain go to Scotland again. They
talk of it with much delight.

The description of your parties
and punch-drinking almost frightens
me from coming amongst you — but in
Summer. I hope your stomachs do not
require so much warming with it
as in Winter, and by that I may
perhaps escape the Campaign.

My friend Dr Gadow & I have had
plenty of Whisky, but not above
a couple of bottles have been
drank in our house the whole
winter. I am rejoiced to hear from
all quarters that you make
an excellent Good man — and hope
you will soon have a good wife
and many other good things. I
shall look out for some books
on Agriculture for you, but
I fear you will not get much
work out of me either at sowing
or Gardening. I should not too

arrive before me. With love
and warmest regards to you
all. Believe me
your affectionate Son
Jno Sawrey

I shall wait for your stock. I hope that my
dear Pater and [illegible]

be able to gain my bread at your trade, and yet I think I should often like it better than my own.

Alexie must be very amusing to you all, and if he be a good scholar I shall bring him some nice books. I shall find great changes upon Blackhouse's youngsters, & I hope great improvement.

I have not been an idler here, or it is with some difficulty that I can get away. — I have so many friends in London, and there is always so much going on, that I am engaged from the morning till late midnight either after it in one way or another. At present I have some of Mr Hamilton's family unwell under my care, but hope they will not be long ill, or I could not go. I have stayed so.

[illegible] you.
would have been more pleasant, but we shall be overhead out of season when we get together. I believe I have not been a day unwell since I left you & I trust in God that I will [illegible] the pleasure of [illegible] all in good health.

London 15th April 19

My dear William

I am now soon about to proceed on the very pleasant errand of paying a visit to my dear friends & Country, & hope soon to have the happiness of shaking you heartily by the hand. On my reaching Aberdeen I shall drop you a line to say what day to meet me at Turriff — I have sent some Boxes to Banff which I suppose will not arrive before me. With love and warmest regards to you all. Believe me

your very affectionate Br

Jno Sawers

22 Sept
1819

elly Dear Father

I have no pleasure superior to that of hearing happy tidings of all my friends in your Corner, when out of the reach of visiting you frequently as I used to do last Summer, and I am thankful to Providence for the continuance of his bounties to us while we remain in this transitory world. To keep yourself & our Mother as contented & happy as time will allow should be now your chief study, you have accepted the ~~busy~~ station

Rochester

1st 1819.

when we shall quietly talk over about the sort of situation would be most agreable for us, and he advises just what we ourselves wished that I should remain idle for a week or two with Orang Annes

season of your life with honour
and credit to yourself and
your Children, and I hope
we shall follow the good
example you have shewn
us. The reflection of your
having done your duty so
reputably towards us, by
which you have gained our
love and esteem, and
such a respectable character
in Society cannot fail to
afford you a satisfaction
which I hope you feel.
The same private and grateful
feelings I of course owe
and express to my Kind
Mother who is still busy
in her good Offices to me
and all of us, & I trust
that you are both sensible
of my duty, love & regard
towards you being equally
sincere as inalterable. I
appeared giddy, I believe, when
I was at home amongst you,
but it was because I was
like a bird got loose out
of its cage, or a boy enjoying
his holydays from School &
and you accused it because
you saw I was happy.
I almost lived upon the
hopes of your coming home,
but now I hardly get so
many in a month as I used
then to do in one day &
-night's time. I was following
the good example of Dr Dodd
and you. I was extremely
sorry

Rochester

1st 1819.

when we shall quietly talk over
about the sort of situation would
be most agreable for us, and
he advises just what we ourselves
wished that I should remain idle
for a week or two with Mary Ann

to hear of the melancholy fate of poor Robert and of the sorrow it has occasioned in that excellent family. I beg to be remembered to them when you see any of them, also to Janet & Maggie, & other friends in that direction.

I have stood out another Reduction in our Staff and here, the Staff Surgeons, medical senior to me are put on Half Pay, which strongly indicates that I am a good friend at Court. I think I left Aberdeen just in time, and I hope that my good fortune affords you pleasure - although for the present it keeps me a little distance from you - This must be your harvest

Rochester

My Dear William Sept: 22d 1849

Many thanks for your last interesting and affectionate letter. I need not say that I wish I had a few nights of fun amongst you, and a few days amongst your Berries. You have reason to be much pleased with your lot, and I rejoice that we all enjoy health, competence, and no small share of estimation and happiness, which in a great measure is the result of our own conduct & temper. As usual I am either busy with study, duty, or amusement and apart of all in-door makes life more pleasant. and I don't know what it is to have an hour hang heavy on my mind. You will say

1st 1849.

when we shall quietly talk over about the sort of situation would be most agreeable for us, and he advises just what we anticipated that I should remain idle for a week or two with Mary Anne

and suspect it the more as you
yourself are silent upon the subject. The kind manner in which
you speak of our Dear Parents
does much credit to your
good heart, & I am sure my
Dear William that they may
depend upon receiving from
any and all of us a dutiful &
affectionate attention which
their love and care merit for
us so justly entitling them to.
Wherever they the transaction to
settle I shall be pleased to
it is better that they should
have their own choice in
this. I think you should
be getting the farm into your
own hands at the first term
of commencement, and that our
Parents should keep a good
independent competency in
their own hands so as to be

Rochester

any thing that may be required
for their seperate, comfortable,
and respectable maintenance.
Let them have £1000 while
both live, the longest liver
to continue in possession of
the use of it. It will prevent
all words & chances of dispute,
which I have no fear will
ever happen between us, that
a regular settlement be made
of all affairs when our dear
Father retires - consider and
talk over matters coolly, deal
all as equitably as you can,
let no trifles ever for a moment
give us cause of uneasiness or
rancour. It will be for their
interest & for all that we try
to support each other and
assist each other to get on in
the world in place of each
Trying

1st 1839.

when we shall quietly talk over
about the sort of situation would
be most agreable for us and
he advises just what we ourselves
wished that I should remain idle
for a week or two with Wilfrey Dennis

to make the most from the
other that he can, make
that as well as you can
without hurting yourself
materially, and Alick in
turn should do all for you
that he can. I trust my
part of the business to you
all I could not have it in
more honourable hands. Do
the best for me, and the
I be in an independent or
at present it may happen
that I may require some
if I change my station
life, and it is very likely
that it may be in my power
to do something, if not for
any of you, for your family
in some way or other. If a
Father and Mother make

of the place to render at them=
selves it will be desirable,
and wherever they take or
build their house there they
will have in it a good room
for me, for as I shall not
have a house of my own
either you and Alick I intend
to make theirs my home &
head quarters. I trust they
will keep my bed from
getting cold and damp by
always having some young
lady or ladies in it. Should
any of them get attacked to
it I shall not turn her or
them out, but I must get
a berth in it however may
often there may be, if they
do not mention for with the
[illegible] to death of

Fort Clarence Rochester

London 4th Oct. 1819.

arrived here safe & well
evening (the 3rd Sept) by
very night on the road
at York - we got off
[illegible] delighted
[illegible] waiting for us
James McGregor to day
as kind as ever
him & his lady tomorrow
when we shall quietly talk over
about the sort of situation would
be most agreeable for me, and
he advises just what we amongst
wished that I should remain idle
for a week or two with Strang & Mars

Fort Clarence Rochester

London 4th Octr 1839.

My Dear William

We arrived here safe & well on Saturday evening (the 2d Inst) by the sleep every night on the road & staid 2 days at York - we got along comfortably indeed & were delighted to find your letter waiting for us I saw Sir James McGrigor to day & he spoke him as kind as ever - we dine with him & his Lady tomorrow when we shall quietly talk over about the sort of situation would be most agreable for us, and he advises just what we ourselves wished that I should remain idle for a week or two with Ostrey Jones

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you all if I get time, & shall send them over by Mr Sowerby probably, when I expect he is to be away from Paris. Such you will hear of from Rochester sooner than this letter can reach here — You will have been here this time. The times continue bad for the farming in general still but I think you will feel more of the distress — kiss the young ladies for me on matters in general, it will do you both good — There is little good tipping you out of Scotland to get with my remembrances to friends & believe me to be

with true affection & truth
Your very faithful friend
& Brother Jas Clark

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you against next time I shall

Fort Clarence, Rochester

that he may have more time to look out a place that will suit us after our. This has made us very happy and we shall look out for some very lodging — we have not felt much fatigued — the weather was very fine — Lars got sometimes on the outside of the coach which they have liked, & it refreshed him. It is however a long journey for any one. but we are both so heartily upon will all be hoping to hear of our safe arrival & our dear. I heard from Blackhouse in Dec & shall write him from here. I shall be congratulate you on the happy termination of such a

get harvest home & trust it will have turn out to good account for you. The harvest was not farther advanced about Edin. than with you & in some places not so far. but fields of immense droves of Scotch cattle on the road, & prices are keeping high. There is great demand in England for Scotch cattle. I have said much to farmers on the road in England & the staggest farm was one sent this by a Scotch farmer, who had every thing in your style — round ricks straight edges & horses ploughs with the horses abreast, while his neighbours had four horses in line with a driver. The postman's bell is ringing therefore I must give Mary Anne's love to you all in which I join & some kiss to

Fort Clarence Rochester

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you against last time I shall

wishing everything good may attend you all. You will need to do so before — as you have not yet paid. Ever your aff. Brother

Frank Foster.

OCT 7 1855

Mr. William Foster
Leek
Staffs.

Rochester Barracks Feb. 19.

My dear William

Besides having received your letter on Monday, I dined at the Barracks that day, & all the Sergeants & families were there. I think you will be pleased to hear that I am appointed one of the Board, at Chatham, for examining the Pensioners called to duty, to the extent of the Battalions during the present unfortunate state of some of the manufacturing districts. This may not be a long duty, but it gives me, at sight, an exceedingly agreeable and will be pleasant to myself, all parties, & much more pleasant, since I have not written to Mr. Blackhouse, and as the Sergeant will be sure to do so, you have better

Intend to prepare a small
packet of letters for you
as a first time, & that

Fort Clarence Rochester

[illegible] and she will come, we hope, before the
[illegible] weather comes on, when it would be
[illegible] — travelling either by sea or land
[illegible] Blackhouse's trunk, she
will have [illegible] that this house affords — I [illegible]
[illegible] how much we feel ourselves
[illegible] to this kindness, and that of all our
dear relations at Slap and Blackhouse. It
is nothing [illegible] than the feelings expressed
[illegible] the conviction of such sincere & delightful
[illegible] that this world would be
[illegible] indeed not worth living in, if we
had not some [illegible] we cared for, and if we
had not some [illegible] we could rely on, to
[illegible] we knew cared for us. Mary Anne
[illegible] hurts herself by wishing
[illegible] that she could get a peep at her
Gomer as she calls them — viz. Slap, Blyth, and
Blackhouse — they were indeed the kind-
est friends at all times, to us — and whenever

there is any thing the matter with her she al=
=ways wishes for our Brother and says she would
be well if she were to be kept in spirits with
her — She is begging me to give her kindest love
to our Mother, Father, and yourself, and to say
that she hoped to see you all in Summer
as healthy and cheerful as when she was
with you. Pray tell me how Grammie's Eyes are
holding out? Mr. Gordon has come up this very
sorry that his time did not allow him to go
to your cousin — he had too short leave — long
Wife. We hear that the Typhus
Fever is increasing again in
Aberdeen — London is very healthy
just now — We had a fall of
snow a few days ago which even lay on the streets
for a day — but it is too soon for winter here yet
What sort of a lambing have you — I was rejoiced
to hear that you got the crop in so well & hope
the prices of grain will be good to repay you
for all your trouble — and before another Christmas
Mary Anne says you must have a good-wife
[illegible] — How goes on the new house? Are they to do it well.

Intend to prepare a small
packet of letters for you
all if I get time, I shall

we have got comfortably lodged, a chamber, drawing room,
bed room, closet, & servant's or baggage room; and
we can have a second bed room when we want it.
We have been out a good deal, but have not had
any parties of our own — Cousins sisters are our friends

Mrs William Murray
Fort Sumter
S.C.

with us, and I gather from the Friends dined
with us another day, expect the beginning. The
other day when we should have dined with the
Mr Rutherfurd not — who was at our Parents mar-
riage Mary Anne was not well enough to go —
we are always happiest at home.

Fort Clarence Rochester

Fourth November 1861 William.

William should we continue go
In this cold winter weather
Love often makes him sick Fright to.
Lapses quite his brains do Bother
Indeed to tease now he should hurry,
And set on other dinner tarry
Make haste then — get a Mrs. Murray.

Mary

I have only room to add my love & best wishes to you all, and many thanks to William for his kind long letter which I had the pleasure of receiving yesterday, and believe me to remain ever affectionately

Yours

Mary Anne Murray.

Please to send the enclosed to the Sheriff Post office the first opportunity —

"To us, & May you may enjoy health & happiness.
Mrs
[illegible] one: [illegible] will need to pay a [illegible]

Fort Clarence, Rochester

Fourth Reverse. William.

Willie should we counting go
In this cold winter weather
Love often makes him sigh High ho,
Tofaes spite his Brains do Bother
Indeed his time now he should marry
And set another Sweet tarry
Make haste then – get a Mrs. Murray.

Tom.

I have only now to add my love & best wishes to you all, and many thanks to William for his kind long letter which I had the pleasure of receiving yesterday, and believe me to remain sweet affectionately yours

Mary Anne Murray.

Please to send the enclosed to the Sheriff Post office the first opportunity. —

15. Upper Belgrave Pl.
Pimlico
London.

21st Dec 1819.

My Dearest Friends,

I have to inform you that I am appointed to the Charge of the Hospital at Chelsea, and to be near to it we have changed our lodgings to a beautiful situation here. Our address therefore will now be as above. We have just had the pleasure of receiving William's letter through the Medical Board & glad to hear of the welfare of all

to us, & that you may enjoy health & happiness. [illegible]

at Slap & Blackhouse, and I am happy to say we are both very well. I write you this to tell you of my appointment & new address & to wish you all the joys & comforts of the season & many happy returns of the same. Mary Anne has been writing what she calls her Christmas Acrostics for you all & to leave room for them I conclude with my love to you all & wishing every blessing may attend you, & I remain, My Dearest Friends

ever most affectionately yours

Wm. Murray

Intend to prepare a well packed of letters for you all if I get time, & shall

First Acrostic. Father.

Far away you're not forgot
A friends you were to me
Then I shall send this little note
Here with my love to thee
In long I hope we shall be back
Remember me to all at Slap.

W.M.

Second acrostic. Mother

Many days we've spent together
Often both at Slap and Bryth
Thro' the hills and blowing heather
Happiness where my Johnnie wife
Every day to me he's dearer
Rest assured me wish you never.

W.M.

Third Acrostic Mother

Mary Anne doth write you this
Oftentimes she thinks of thee
Thy companying she oft doth miss
Having lived with you in glee
Dearer but let this acrostic prove
Remembrance, true Regard and love.

W.M.

15. Upper Belgrave St
Pimlico
London.

21st Dec 1819.

My dearest Friends,

I have to inform you that I am appointed to the Charge of the Hospital at Chelsea, and the near to it we have changed our lodgings to a beautiful situation here. Our address therefore will now be as above. We have just had the pleasure of receiving William's letter through the Medical Board & glad to hear of the welfare of all

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you all at fixed time, & that

Fort Clarence Rochester

My dear Mother

I have just read the pleasure received Mrs's kind long letter offering us a home. We have gone to take the opportunity intending this to reach you before Christmas. It gives us delight to hear that you are all well & happy. We have many more days yet before we are soon. I should not wonder if we should be at Portsea & should be very long. We had some sad & happy days before the Convoy sailed to us all. The world, and the vile decay of nature, especially we must be patient and by resigned to the hope of being Parents to all long lived in us, & that you may enjoy health & happiness.

I intend to prepare a small
packet of letters for you
… time, I shall

My dear Father

This is the first time that …

Fort Clarence, Rochester

My dear William

Fort Clarence Rochester

Johnny's letter is folded about the Ointment &c —

London 11 January 1836

My dearest Mother

I embrace this opportunity of writing to you a few lines to ask how you all are & to hope, before you receive this, that the worst of your ointment, but in case it should, I hope it will have its same good effects, which comes from Johnny's, & must do good — I trust you keep up your spirits and if he had been as formerly I wish he was with you, then there would be plenty of laughing — We have had a severe winter of frost and snow here, I hope for all your sakes it has been milder in the north & that our Fathers rheumatism has not troubled him, and that there is a prospect of fine crops to William this next harvest. — We had a

Dinted to fit space at well packet of letters for you all if Lord time, & that

you may write one through yr. Board & sometimes both Com.ns of Woods &c. I have Secretary at War Mr. yr. Cousin Dr. Gordon, Assistant Adjutant Genl. Ord.ce Board office. So Cover — me. — Don't forget on the 1st. his Maj.ys Service — and Ord.ce Dept. left hand corner — when you write through the Board — when you write through the

Mr. Murray
Post Service

ABERDEEN
27 NOV 1836
528

make them through the Board long as I believe yet the Office need not be so —

Bd. Comm.rs of wood & forests — Just 2d. Cousin Ad. Milne Esq. 3d Cousin Dr. Gordon 4 Blackburn Esq. Bd. Ptt. 4th. mes. — other Members come to Town I will get mine Hyson Dear Ord. Many Home Sis to send a couple of Hogs to you along with mine would be — with Compliments & Wishes to you along with Brother & my sincere friend Mr. Murray

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you against last time, I think

Fort Clarence, Rochester

We the other day from Blackheath filled with numerous good things indeed the kindness of our friends there and at Hayes is so great, that I am at a loss how to express how much I think of it. Jane wrote me a very nice letter indeed, and Andrew one to his Uncle — I suppose when the weather is milder you will be finishing your new house & hope it will be warm and comfortable for you. I expect to have so many happy & funny days in it with you —

Elizabeth has been here for six weeks past & we are so happy at home that we very seldom go out to parties. She is sometimes a good deal out during the day, but spends all his evenings at home, which is a great comfort to us & I hope that he has it in his power to do so. —

I expect our good friend Mr. Wm will go to Jersey on a visit in a month or two, which will be a great pleasure to us. He has been busy marrying one of his nieces, Miss Mansfield of Midmar, to a Dr. Nuttall a friend of ours in London, and we expect the new married couple at their house in London in a few days.

Has William been looking out for a helpmate this winter? He wrote all so in his own letters but you must write me a private word about it, & leave with you we would find out some secrets between us. — I think my Brother will be with us next month for a short time & wish we were nearer you that I might get a sight of you now and then

Dear Mr. Stanley

Dear one: I will try to get a

Fort Clarence, Rochester

4th Feb: 1840.
15 Upper Belgrave Place Pimlico

My Dear Friends

We were delighted by your united letter to find you were getting through the winter so healthily & happily – you see many of our great folks have slipt away, and our new King has been in great danger but is rather better. Thank God all at my house are quite well & merry, & we often talk over the pleasant days we spent with you last Summer, & wish for a repetition of them. They say they wish you were within reach of a walk, that we might not have a long drive, & that would do them more good than all the parties we go to here. We never see Butter milk here, & all its attendant fun – & the trick of the Donkey beats any thing they ever heard of. I hope winter is now over the weather has turned fine here, & we are able to take our walks again. We are expecting that Mrs

Entitled to frank as well
packet of letters for you
all at Last time, I shall

Fort Clarence, Rochester

Mrs Horne will be up soon, but she is very agitated
in another marriage of one of her relations at
this time – Miss Marion Mansfield of Midmar, to
a Dr Mutlak a particular friend of ours here, &
probably Mrs H. will come up with them. At the
request of Mrs Horne Mary Anne has been sitting
for her miniature – to a Mr Robertson for her – it
is not yet finished, & will cost £30 Guineas.
I have a letter from James Barclay Knockluth
with the particulars of poor George's death, which
was very kind of him, & I have answered it.
It seems Aberdeen has been very unhealthy this year,
the fever is not quite eradicated from it.
I thought that last directions for the preparation
of the ointment for my Mother's Eyes, along with
the ingredients. I wish I could get an opportunity
of sending some made up to her & will do it when
I send a box down with some things – but before
I do this I wish to know if there be any thing
particular that any of you would want that I
can send you – In the mean time you can make
little of the ointment by mixing equal parts
of the old & dried ointment, & melting them in the
cup over a gentle fire – when melted a sediment
will fall to the bottom, which is to be separated
from the clear portion, & the latter is what
is to be used. – I hope the Eyes are not getting
worse, perhaps the cold frosty weather did
not agree with them, & they will get better,
the season advances. – We called at Wood & Hooks
Sheet yesterday on our way to Chinnes in town, &
found Cousins up to their ears in business with
mourning for their Customers – they were quite wild
enquiring kindly for you all. Mary is in Town at
this Season.
By the slow progress of the new house I suppose the
Giddy Ladies are failing to have the desired
effect upon William – Mary Anne says she will
not promise to go down to see him in summer if
he does not promise to give her a wedding –
he has no longer the excuse of my shewing
him the way yet – Get a good sister for us
William however long time you take it, we
with much delight I can say that my choice
is every thing I could wish & becomes dearer to me
every day – I wish you equal good fortune with all
my heart, for you deserve a good wife. We are daily
expecting one: You will send to get a [illegible]

Fort Clarence Rochester

15 Upper Belgrave Place, Pimlico.
London 26th Feb. 1820

My Dearest Mother

I expect to have an opportunity of sending a small packet to Aberdeen, by a son of Mr Burnett's of Leuchat, and shall prepare some ointment for your Eyes, at my own Hospital, which I can depend upon being good, & hope it will reach you safe, & prove useful to you; warm the cup in hot water to melt the ointment, & then apply a little of it with a small brush as before. I hope you are all keeping well since we heard from you last, we

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you all at first time, & shall

expecting when of Dunlugas's marriage — he has no excuse for not marrying we would think. I must write to him again for we can never forget such a kind friend. — So Jeannie

Mr Mann

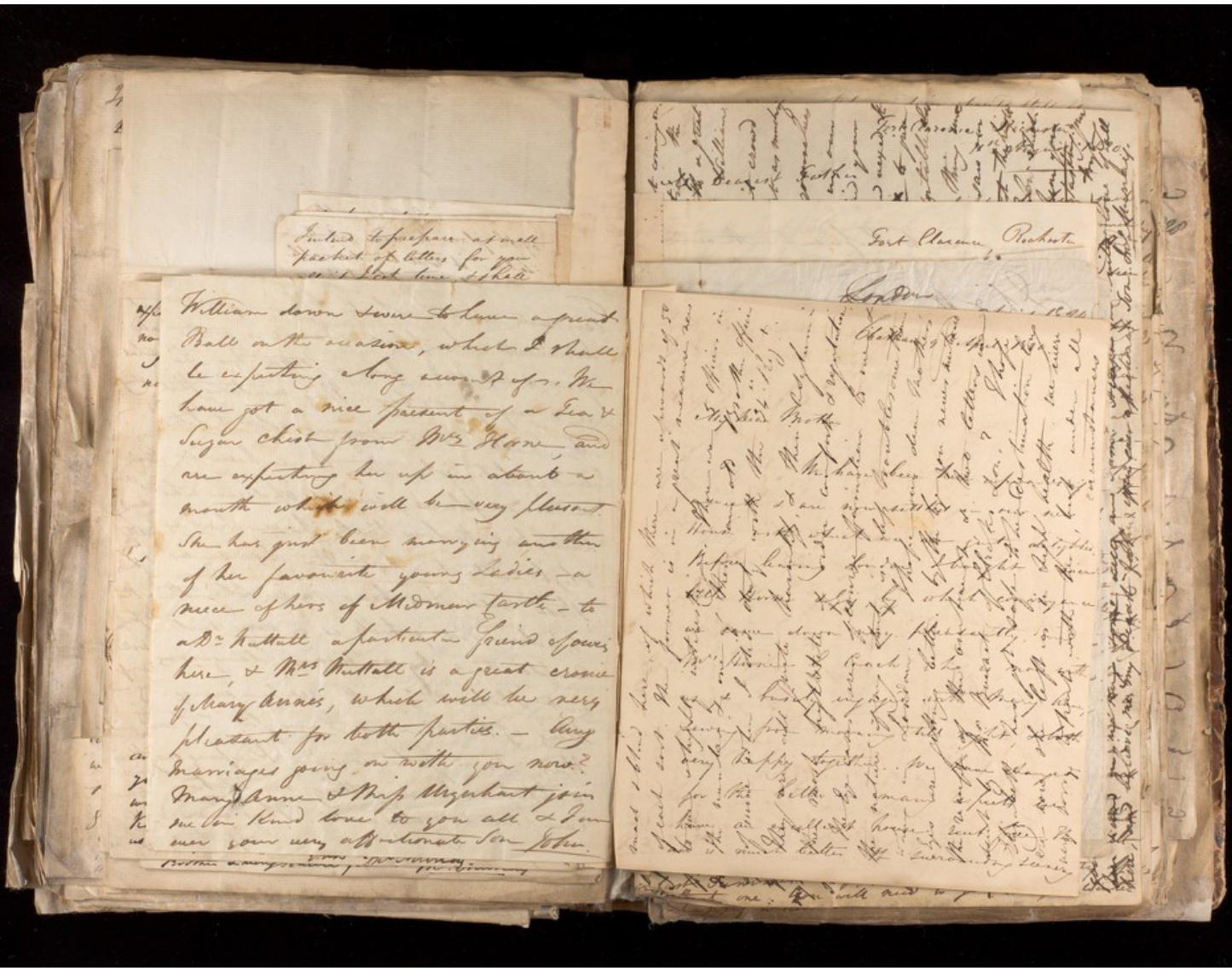
and Mr Hay getting their house a building yet — Mary Anne & Elizabeth join in kindest wishes to you all. & Mary Anne will write soon. Keep yourselves warm, well & merry — remember us to enquiring friends & believe me most affectionately

Your Dutiful Son
Jas Murray

Fort Clarence, Rochester

My Dear

We are all very well, thank God & keeping ourselves very warm & comfortable during this second winter, which prevents the Ladies from going out. As we are sitting down to tea in the Evening Mary Anne many times says she wishes she were at Sea, & this brings us to talk & think about you all, which we very often do. We had a nice box from Blackhouse 2 days ago, & amongst other things were the 2 flannels & your two pairs of stockings for us, quite safe, & Mary Anne begs me to tell you, that since you gave her stockings to a man, (for which she is truly obliged to you) she has had no more cold feet, but on the contrary they are often, like yours, too hot. We had letters from Andrew & Johnny, & very well written which I have just answered. I suppose James is with you, & we owe him a letter too — he is a very good boy. They mention that the Small Pox are raging about Peterhead, and, of late when they have been so, in some places, several children who have had the Cow Pock, have had a slight attack, but the disease in these cases has been more like the Chicken Pox, which is a very mild Complaint, & by no means dangerous: but I hope they will escape every thing of the kind. — I am glad to hear that Anne Johnston is keeping easy & I hope she is getting rid of her Complaint gradually. They were expecting



Enclosed to prepare as well
packet of letters for you
[illegible] time & that

William down seems to have a great
Ball on the occasion, which I shall
be expecting long accounts of. We
have got a nice present of a Tea &
Sugar chest from Mrs Howe, and
are expecting her up in about a
month which will be very pleasant.
She has just been marrying another
of her favourite young ladies — a
niece of hers of Midmar Castle — to
a Mr Ruttall a particular friend of ours
here, & Mrs Ruttall is a great crony
of Mary Anne's, which will be very
pleasant for both parties. — Any
marriages going on with you now?
Mary Anne & Miss Mizenhart join
me in kind love to you all & I am
ever your very affectionate Son John.

Both unexpected, [illegible]

Fort Clarence Rochester

London

Fort Clarence Rochester.

London

1820

Intend to prepare a small packet of letters for you and that time I shall

Mr William Murray

Skap Gunn

JUN 14 1820

Fort Clarence Rochester

London

Sep 25 April 1820

My Dear Brother

This will be handed you by Miss Urquhart who leaves us tomorrow morning for Scotland. By her I send a Writing Desk for yourself that I promised you some time ago & in it a gown for your sweetheart from Chantrey with me for Jeanie & a small parcel for our Mother. Our with the Tops were more worthy of you acceptance

Fort Clarence, Rochester

I had the pleasure of receiving
your kind letter of the 18th
but we have Blackhouse
not got the letter concerning
Andrew's coming up, which he
sent through Bifsons
go to Chatham on the 21st
29th & Mrs Horne is
and goes with us. Mary
is pretty stout & I hope
will be able for the
& none the worse of it.
house there is unfurnished
I shall feel what it is
furnish it, although I th
make as little answer

Intend to prepare as well
packet of letters for me

purpose as I possibly can
Yours truly thank you for all your
kindness to Will
the bushels or basketfuls
the round heaps
weeds will answer for marl
with a little clay to give it a
The mass to be made into
a convenient size, moderately
dry, & the work is completed.
will not answer to light a fire with
but the fire once brought to a white heat
balls will effect it be very durable
will produce a heat incomparably more
intense than common fuel of any kind, &
increase the value of ashes as a manure.
to complete it they ~~were~~ provide a saving
the parish, & prevent a nuisance in general.

New method of making Butter.

Put the cream collected for Butter into a strong
manner cloth, tie it up with a string, dig a hole
in the earth 15 inches deep, & put the bottom of it

Fort Clarence, Rochester

26 Jul 1820

Chatham 4th June 1820

of it be sufficiently capacious, to allow the c
in the linen cloth to lie about 6 inche
all over – Put another cloth around the
contain the cream to keep the earth f
when deposited in the hole, cover it up with
and let it remain 24 or 26 hours, then t
out, & pour the cream, which will now
very thick into a bowl or other vessel
and stir it well from 8 to 10 minutes with
wooden spoon or ladle when the butter
be completed formed & may be taken out
washed as usual. The advantages of this
of making butter are 1st The cream yields a
larger quantity of butter or an addition of
in lieu. 2d In hot weather butter is obt
without tedious process, & is free from th
rancid taste that long & hot churning be
generally possesses. 3d A very small qu
of cream may be made as well as a
quantity.

Effect of hot water on flowers.

Most flowers begin to droop & fade dir
hours in water; a few may be revived
substituting fresh water, but all may

[illegible] when thinking very kind to
[illegible] when a letter two days
[illegible] whenever gave us much pleasure
[illegible] that you were all well
[illegible] a sad disappointment to me
[illegible] see you this summer; but
[illegible] not ask for leave to come
[illegible] here but at any rate
[illegible] would have been advisable to take
[illegible] journey at present as I expect
[illegible] to have an addition to our
[illegible] until that event is well
[illegible] think it is for the best that
[illegible] common quiet, but you
[illegible] what a pleasure and
[illegible] it would have been to me
[illegible] have been with you on the occasion

Intend to prepare as well

but I trust we will do very well
and that it will not be long before
we have it in our power to enjoy the
society and kind hospitality of our
dear friends at home. Really hope
you are well and very merry, you
must be so for our sake. We are
both enjoying excellent health since
we came here. Oliver is well & looks well
and has so much to do that he has
not a moment of idle time, and I
think he likes it, which is a
pleasing thought to me. Frank Moore
stays with me at present which is
a great pleasure to me, and I am so
busy making little clothes that I
never think long, but I often wish
that you were here, what a pleasure
that would be. — We have had cold
wet weather here for a fortnight yet but
but I trust it will not injure the crops
it was the 30th of May I last saw that dear

Fort Clarence, Rochester

number kept to the Gardens. — Prince Albert
talked of at present but the Coronation which
is to take place on the first of August and
whether the Queen will come to England or
people say she is to go to Paris there time to
decide, but how far it is true I know not.
I had a letter yesterday from Miss Murray
Woodstock street, they are both well and
very busy. — We heard from Blythe last
week, but hope ere they are gone from
there by this time, Blackheath very
dull is going to Blackheath for a while
which she will enjoy very much. —
When Oliver comes in I shall say he will
to write a few lines to this letter, so I
leave the rest of the paper for him and
only add my kindest love to our dear
Father, Willie and yourself and believe
me to remain your ever affect. Daughter
Mary Anne Murray

My dearest Mother.

I am expecting soon to hear from Blythe
to get good news of her all. — We have got
quite settled here, and are making ourselves
very happy. — Mary Anne is very busy & good
Mrs Storrar expecting her. You must not take
it amiss that we cannot go down to see you
this Summer, but I hope we shall get away
next one. I will write to you

Fort Clarence, Rochester
25. July 1820.

Fellow Dear Brother & Sister 16th June 1820

a cheese ready to distribute
amongst the unmarried neighbours we expect a
Chey Dear William shall it will be time
you off the Bachelor list

We have been made very
happy by the receipt of your letter at
last, but we are vexed to hear that
you have not heard from us since
we left London, for we wrote to
Mary & days after our arrival here,
and twice since. The 1st letter was
sent through the War-office to
Blyth, the 2nd to be franked by
the Marquess Anglesey, & the 3rd is today
now on the sea going down to
Aberdeen by Mrs Fraser, who came
down one day from London to see
us. I now remember that the first
was

Intend to prepare as well

for a long time past Summer and then
they shall have a new acquaintance to
introduce to you all. I shall be asking
Friends if you are keeping up your asse

Under cover to
Mr Murray
Post Paid
Wheel

good Spirits for many a more often than
you were always such delightful compa
and always so happy to see her that it
a treat to her to speak about the time
spent with you & the pleasure we shall have
to see you again & to hear of your welfare & hap

Fort Clarence, Rochester
25. July 1820.

was an invited one from Mary Anne & me to you – stating to you some circumstances that induced us to propose selling Williamina (against our will) in order to buy some other present in your name – & leaving the sale of her to you. The chief reason is that I am obliged to hire a House here to enable me to perform the duty, & we bought one in London rather than run the risque & the expence of bringing up Williamina, and as she is useless here she is – we trust you will not take it amiss that we propose selling her. I hope our dear Parents will find the new House comfortable for them & that they will long live to enjoy it. Most happy would we have been to assist at the Fire Kindling. I hope God Pipe has granted your proposal for an advance of allowance for building. I can only say that we have found the furnishing of our small house an expensive job but we hire retired & will soon make all up again. In some months hence we shall be very glad of our Dear Mother's company & her absence I deplore you as my wife much regretted by Mary Anne who is constantly speaking of her dear Father & Dear kind you all never to us. I wish we were nearer to you that you might now return the visit to us. We have written to ask if Sophia will come up along with Andrew, who would be a very great comfort to Mary Anne as we do not find any pleasant society here, and as [illegible] one. We will write to you [illegible]

Intend to prepare at well

Fort Clarence, Rochester
25. July 1820.

Fort Clarence
Rochester
25 July 1820
Mrs Swift
No 13.

R.S.

such a friendly kind hearted Companion. Mr Horne is prolonging her stay with us for some time. We sincerely hope that our dear Father has got quite rid of his

Intend to prepare as well

Fort Clarence, Rochester
25. July 1820.

My dear Brother

I have to thank you for your very kind letter in answer to the one wrote our mother, it gave us since pleasure to hear you are all so well I hope by this time the flitting is over and that our dear friends are comfortably settled in their new dwelling. Jemima Jane there is all eager the house warming very much — Mrs Fr Williamson I believe you it will with very great regret that I brought myself to think of her disposal but it was thinking that my riding days are over and that I might enjoy your kind present more by turning the into a dish — as your tureen or some other piece of plate, which would be daily before our eyes, as the pledge of your regard given to me on our marriage, I shall be equally happy however that she retain it to the end of her days if it be your wish only they must consider me as entirely mine and take every care of her which I am sure they will always do. I regret the determination we were obliged to come to of leaving her up here but the ... work to spare. I am upon my ... highly delighted at the thought of seeing Sophia who has kindly offered to come and visit us, and look in here very soon; which the distance was not so very great that we might see you all, but at all events I look forward with pleasure to next summer when we hope to get to see you. I think John will be able to get away by that time. Mr Williamson will and to get ... one.

Fort Clarence, Rochester
25. July 1820.

My Dear Alex.r

As you mentioned in your letter of the 29th ult. that Sappho would be ready to set out in a fortnight from that time, and as we have not heard from you again we have been in a state of anxiety about her arrival for these last ten days, and are now beginning to think seriously about her & what can be keeping her; & we are wishing the more for her speedy arrival as we have a grand launch tomorrow of the Trafalgar first rate man of war, of 106 Guns, and a number of distinguished

personages are to be present with occasion
as the Duchess of Florence & Wellington, the
Prince Leopold, Lord Darnley &c &c. We shall
be to busy if she does not come in time
to see them all. Every body that comes to
the door we think is her — and we have
lots about who will come with her.
Some say our Mother others say little
Anne & some say 'And so we shall see
then we don't know how she is coming.
The Misses Mounsey's came down on
Saturday to see us, and we thought
we could promise them a meeting with
Lizzie so but as yet we are disappointed
Sally was obliged to go home yesterday
(Monday) and Ruth stays with us
till after tomorrow to see the launch
and in hopes of the arrival of from
Blackhouse. We are all going on

very well, happily thanks. They are all at
work about me sewing, & even I have
been enlisted into the service, & think I
shall soon be an accomplished Needlewo-
man. We have been very merry — I played them
the trick of the Tower the other night
with great success, & they thought it very
strange rat had got into their beds & they
were kept jumping about from bed
to bed for an hour like lamplighters,
did not even hear us listen to hunt
our dress with laughing — at last when
they were nearly in fits from fear we
were obliged to discover the rat. —

I shall leave this letter open till Mother
goes, as she will take the letter to town
and get it franked, & perhaps before
that time Lizzie & Ben escort may have
arrived. Many a time we see tricked
with a call "Here comes Lizzie & little Anne"

27th. The Launch and Tavies are both
over yesterday and Ruth is preparing to
go home, and still no Repair or no
letter respecting her. We are not uneasy
respecting her, but sorry that she should
have missed the sight. The Launch was
most beautiful indeed & we had excellent
seats to see it. Harvest is coming on very
fast, the rains laid the crop very much
but it is getting up again greatly.
I began this letter for Blackheath, but
Mary Anne says she owes a letter there and
I shall just send this to Rose. I hope
you are all getting in as well as we are
in the new house very — we are highly
pleased with our situation & house, &
going on very well. We hope that Mr
Urquhart is at Bath. I shall inclose him
a few lines. Mary Anne joins me in
kindest love to you all and I am ever
most affectionately your's M. Turner.

Fort Clarence Rochester
11th Mont

My dear Mary

I have arrived safely at Chatham
ten days ago and found my Uncle and Aunt well
and happy to see us we received the news of your marriage
from Aberdeen in 6 days and had a very pleasant
voyage. I think I never saw this country more
appear very nice and every one is cutting down
my Uncle's house is pleasantly situated on a rising
ground at the west end of the town
gas and coal dry pleasing and pleasing prospect
Chatham is a garrison town in great amuse
ment and with the officers I find an agreeable
companion. Dr Pringle is a very good
one of them is the kind we see in India and
Aunt Ann thinks them better than the Medical Board
by which my Uncle's Hospitals both for the
insane and sick and wounded are
very bad. Altogether I feel sorry we came
with more expectations than absolute Ayes
for our arrival here the 2nd Regiment of
Origins have been sent from Chatham
to Kingston in Upper Canada
for the service of the Duke of Clarence and
great meeting with the sight of the
of the 1st sent launched in the
was driven
it frigate which
is not
friends
my Uncle
Chatham
Dear Grandfather and Grandmother are well
the wave of money into the new house I am your affectionate

Fort Clarence Rochester 12th August 1820

My Dear Grandmother

I take the opportunity of the B.s sending a frank to write you a few lines as I hope you will believe I am always mindful of you all and of your kindness to me. I have the pleasure to inform you that we are all quite well here and in the best spirits so much so that I can scarcely write for laughing going on amongst them. The chief things I miss here are my pottage and the oat-cake but I make them other dishes suffice for that want. This is a very nice place and both Jane and I like it very much and we intend to get both as fat as Aunty. Mimmy before we leave them. I go every day through this Hospital where the female Jones are and am very much amused among them, some of the Officers are my companions, and I am getting acquainted with some nice boys one of whom is to drink tea with me this evening Uncle has got a very pretty bay pony and gig which is very pleasant for driving about. Our house here consists of three good rooms up stairs

[illegible] friends, & in filling up his [illegible] book. This is fine warm dry harvest weather here and I hope it is equally favourable with you. —

These 20 years, [illegible] Summer [illegible]

Mrs Murray
Stat Forrit
Scotland

Frank

12 AUG 1820

ROCHESTER

12 AUG 1820

stairs and two rooms and a Kitchen with Mrs Boggs
sleeping closet down stairs & Letchen the mean
servant and I have each one room downstairs
and Mrs Bogg is at present the cook but soon
to be the nurse when they will require another
woman I expect these changes to take place
before I leave this and I shall give you all
the news when I come home and bring a
piece of chase in my pocket with me for you
all to dream on. My Aunts are both hard
at work making Doll's cloths and I have
been busy too hemming dusters for them.
I have not gone to school here yet but I have
been busy at home one of the mad Officers
heard me my Caesar lesson one days I hope
you are comfortable in your new house and
that Uncle Wm is nearly ready for his bride
home coming we are all wishing our selves in
your Garden amongst the gooseberry bushes and
if you had some nice young ladies I should
have great fun hunting amongst them for
I have got no sweethart in England but
shall go a courting with Uncle Wm and per
haps get married before him but I must
conclude as the wind is rising I must go & fly

my kiss. All here unite with me in love to
and to my dear Grandfather and Uncle
and I remain your most affectionate Nephew

Andw Murray

My dear friends

Andrew seems to have written
such a long letter for his exercise to day
that I suppose he has given you all the news
we have here. It was only yesterday we all
wrote you by post & now inclose this to
Blyth as we do not let any opportunity
escape of writing to you. We should be
very happy if you could all come and
spend a day or two with us as we are
so pleasantly situated here & so happy.
If any of the dives about you were in
the way of making worsted socks like
those I got when at home last I should
like to have 3 or 4 pairs before winter
We have no public news - we are looking
forward to the trial of the Queen with
[illegible] place
all his friends, & in filling up his
book. This is fine warm dry harvest weather here
and I hope it is equally favourable with you. -
Here 20 years, home Summer and Winter

Fort Clarence 21st Aug. 1840

My Dear Grandfather,

Although I wrote to the others first yet I am no less mindful of you. The little Ships and boats are just sailing under our windows in Medway river and they are constantly passing which afford us great amusement. The country beyond the river is a busy scene with the people employed at harvest, but the people here do not appear so active as they are at harvest in Scotland on Saturday last we had a thunder storm and the lightning set fire to a large barn full of wheat taken in the day before, the flash that set fire to it and I saw it burned to the ground. The fire engine was playing on it and then the water with great force. I never saw lightning before but that day I saw it both before and behind. I am busy at School examining my Jackets bags and have begun to Arithmetic. I still read and write there and Uncle takes great pains with me at home in different ways so I hope I shall forget by my visit to England. We have only had one letter from Scotland since we arrived and I am anxious to receive answers to my letters. Which I hope will inform me that you and all my dear friends in the north are as well and happy as we are here. Aunt is sometimes complaining of a pain in her side, and saying she really fears as that it was all over, but Jane said on board the Ship she would give £40 that she had never come away. I expect [illegible] all her friends, & in filling up the [illegible] place book. This is fine warm dry harvest weather here and I hope it is equally favourable with you. — Here [illegible] years, [illegible] home Summer [illegible]

My Dear Grandmother

Mrs Murray

of Skye

[illegible] Letter that the mail is [illegible] Mr. Mc. Donald is the only of your family. Let that you are in [illegible] Remember me affectionately to your Aunt. I will see that Dr. [illegible] shall see your letter & [illegible]

so I guess by comparing the sums that Jessie was nearly twice as bad as Aunt Murray. I do not know what profession I am to be of yet but I shall have time to think about it before my Education is finished. I used to think I would be a Farmer, but at present I rather think of being a Doctor, because I think I shall be a great Physician. I have never required any my self. There is a great Boating match in this my blood hero to day which I should like very much to see but the night rains and it is too far off. The English are great Boaters and they have boating clubs in every county. London is in a great bustle about the trial of the Queen all the common people are on her side and some of the higher ranks too. All in this house wish her to get off as we think she has been very badly used by her husband we fear however that she is guilty or the ministers would not dare to have behaved as they have done. An order has been given and is said to have the clock in Shutters in the Tower of London to be furnished for her which I am sorry to hear. Yesterday I was hearing the Military Band play but by day of spending Sunday you will say But such is the fashion here I was out during the last night at my uncle's and I wanted asked Uncle William to work though as I think the coming winter is to be a very cold one. My Uncle and Aunt were not invited. I must not tell you her Dear Name

One and all join here in their kindest love and wishes long on all at home and Uncle William but beloved and I remain My Dear Grandfather

Your most affectionate Name sake

Andrew Murray

23 Aug.t

My own dear friends

Andrew had written the first part of this 2 days ago, and I add a few lines as I may have them franked by sending them to London by Andrew, who goes tomorrow morning to see Cousins there. We are all well here – Mary Anne is sometimes complaining a little but is in excellent spirits and finds the great comfort in having Sophie with her. ~~you~~ does not go to London at this time. They are all writing their letters to go by Andrew & I have some more to write so must conclude as Andrew seems to have given you all our news. All unite with me in Love to you all & friends at Perth, and Believe me

most affectionately

Wm. Murray

all his friends, & in filling up his book. This is fine warm dry harvest weather here and I hope it is equally favourable with you. –

Here 20 years, [illegible] home Summer or Winter [illegible] when at home

Fort Florence Rochester
28. Septr 1820

My dear William

We received your's of the 19th, and return you many thanks for your kind congratulations & wishes to us on this occasion, and we shall be very happy of an opportunity of having your own compliments in so good a cause. You will surely promise us a Wedding if we encounter all the dangers

Dr Wm Murray
Hampden
Tamworth

London August Twenty Eight 1820

of the Sea for it. We suppose that Blackhouse has had some other reason for not coming up than he discloses — probably he could not leave the Lady's company so long as she would not allow him to risk the danger of a voyage? Mary Anne & I will be most happy if you will make Williamina your riding horse, if she will answer the purpose, & you might soon teach her to go in the gig. We did not like that she should be an useless burthen at Slap or Bath, & you should not keep stumbling. Bob. We are hourly expecting Johnie up and Andrew is packed up ready for a start home again. Jessie is this day off for London with Miss Murray. I hope your Harvest will be an abundant one and that it will amply reward you for your labours. Say to our Lela at Kingsford that we condole with them on the death of their Father and that we hope they are all well. Miss Murray informed us of the Event. You must let me know the amount of the Kitto & Butter and perhaps I may be able to get something in London for you with

Rheumatism should still plague you. You never acknowledge the receipt of a pot of ointment I sent home by one of Mrs Buchan's. I shall make up some there by Elliott's sons. I shall make up some there to send by Andrew. We have asked Alex. to come. Perhaps this will come

Your Daughter to School

here again, and picked up the English & forgot his Scotch as well as could be expected. He is very attentive in writing letters to all his friends, & in filling up his Common place book. This is fine warm dry harvest weather here and I hope it is equally favourable with you. —

* Here 20 years, [illegible] he met Summer [illegible]

the money, as I have to be up
Town about the middle of Sept
month. Let us hear from you
when harvest is over, & give u

Mr William Murray
Slap.

12 17 8
1 5
16 5
2 6 11 8

all your news, we are always hap
to pay for letters from Slap or Bla
house. With our united love to you
all at Slap, I ever remain My
Dear Bn your Affte Bro Rd Murray

ROCHDALE

Mr William Murray
Slap
Near Forfar
N.B.

Mary Anne is recovering very fast, & that the Daughter
is a fine thriving child. Andrew is gone to School
here again, & is really a fine lad & has picked
up the English & forgot his Scotch as well as could
be expected. He is very attentive in writing letters to
all his friends, & in filling up his Common place
book. This is fine warm dry harvest weather here
and I hope it is equally favourable with you. —

London Sept. 7th 1820

coming Chronicle (Evening Papers) it will be in
one of the Edinburgh ones & in the Aberdeen
Journal & Chronicle. Tessie has been of the
greatest consequence to us at this time, she
is such an excellent nurse, so agreeable, & ha
at every thing. We have had an answer to our
Letter to Mrs Hope, who is quite delighted at
news, & coming down to see us again. She is go
afterwards to France with an old Lady, a Mis
Hamilton. We are thinking that the Butt
will be well enough Salted if you do it the same
way as you do for yourselves, when you mak
Pelt Butter, as we must a pickle on it wh
it comes up. I trust the new kits w
give it a taste. I must you would se
a piece of Cheese to Janet & Meggie for us
We will send some of our Crying Kibbuck to
you all by Aberdeen. We wish we had had
you here at this time, to have had some fu
Mary Anne thinks you will be pleased at her
getting a Daughter, as she will be more useful
to her & more a Companion if they both live
long enough. When she is able, she says she will
write you herself about her – she says she is already
a very pleasant Companion to her. I am sorry
to hear that your Eyes are still bad and that

Fort Clarence Rochester,
17th Dec. 1820.

London 20th October 1820

My Dear Mrs Murray

Be so good as to forward the
enclosed

As I am here and have
the opportunity of a frank it is with
pleasure I write you a few lines, which I
hope will find you all really well. I have
been here for three weeks past and have
spent my time very pleasantly indeed, as
the Misses Murray have shown me every
attention in their power. I have heard frequently
from our friends at Rochester since I left
them they are all very well, and getting on
famously. Isabella Jane is really a most lovely
and just the very image of her Father, in the
last letter I had from them mentioning that she
had been dipt in cold water that day for
hold your Cigars work green marble

in his speaking English, his French & Drawing.

about one & Twenty years, but I make my self always
at home Summer & Winter

London Sept. 15th 1820

coming Chronicle (Morning Papers) it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones, & in the Aberdeen Journal & Chronicle. Jessie has been of the greatest consequence to us at this time, she

the first time we often wish that we had you with us, to see how well she is then John is put a day Boarder to a school at Rickatlie, and sleeps at home which I am very much pleased at as we will have more in our power to see how he is and have you made out your intended visit to Elcho Lassy. I have been buying some Fountains for him very pretty Dimity at 1/ and a beautiful Print at 1/6 & 8 bottles Elcho the letters you showed me that you had from Banff — this in nothing new has at present the queen is the general topic whom most people believe to be innocent Will you give my kindest regards to our friends at Elcho, when you see them, say I shall feel that I shall meet her very as Miss Elcho in London you I shall have many meets any but compliments to you Mr Murray and Mr Will.m and believe me

Dear Lassy to very sincerely

Elcho we shall hear from you soon if you have not written Effie Johnston

long enough. [illegible]

wrote you all about her — she says she is already a very pleasant Companion to her. I am sorry to hear that your Eyes are still bad and the

Fort Clarence Rickatlie
17th Dec. 1820.

My dear Cousin

As Jessie is sending a few lines to my good mother I beg of her to leave me room to write a few lines to you, you really deserve a good scolding for never writing to us, but I hope not just now as I have the humanity to give you one. I wish to congratulate you and my uncle and hope for the happy addition to the family and that both Father and Mother are well. I have not had the pleasure of seeing little Cousin, but I dare soon shall be able to hope each pleased at having another in the family. Boy and a great favorite with us, as John is gone to school we shall not have him up till the month as holidays are wonderful jobs would come [illegible] should have had Effie here — I had almost forgot to tell you of another addition there is to the family, your Cousin Eliza Murray was married last head to Mr Smith a friend of Mr Gowan's and from what I hear a very good match for her, Mrs Gowan and Miss Island is looking very well and means shortly to present us with another addition to the family, I think you ought to look sharp out for a wife now for you will be called an old Bachelor, my paper tells me I must conclude. Mark unites with me in kind regards to my uncle Aunt and yourself — and believe me your affectionate Cousin

Helen Gowan Elizabeth with great merit

hold your [illegible]

in his speaking English, as French & Drawing.

[illegible] present — above one Christmas week you [illegible] these 20 years, but I make myself always [illegible] when at home Summer and [illegible]

London Sept. 7th 1829

Morning Chronicle (~~Morning~~) paper – it will be in some of the Edinburgh ones, & in the Aberdeen Journal & Chronicle. Tafse has been of the greatest consequence to us at this time, the

Fort Clarence Rochester
17. Dec. 1830.

Fort Clarence, Rochester
25. October 1830.

My Dear Friends

As I am going up to Town tomorrow for a day I shall write a few lines in case of getting a frank today we are all healthy & happy here & hope you are all the same. We are happy to hear of the safe arrival of Andrew whom I dare say you have seen ere now, & who was a very good boy while with us, as is also Johnie He is at School & busy at English, French, Latin Drawing, Writing & Arithmetic.

I hope by this time, indeed long ere now, that you have had reason to hold your Clyack with great mirth in his speaking English, his French & Drawing. I have spent above one Christmas with you these 20 years, but I make myself also very happy when at home Summer & Winter.

Mrs Cotton care of the Rev. Andrew Tait
Aberdeen
Scotland
Free
Oct 26 1830

long enough.

write you all about her – she says she is already a very pleasant companion to them. I am sorry to hear that your Eyes are still bad, and the

London Sept. 1st 6th 1820

Morning Chronicle (~~Courier~~) & Post — It will be in
some of the Edinburgh ones, & in the Aberdeen
Journal & Chronicle. Jessie has been of the
on account of a plentiful harvest and
got in. Jessie has joined us again &
much pleased with her London Jaunt
Mary Anne & her little one are both
quite well & in great spirits — Isabella
Jean is very good humoured & laughs
to us — She has her dip in cold Salt
water every morning, and still pre-
serves her likeness to her Grand-Mamma
Has yellow hair ~~&~~ blue Eyes, tho' they
both would have been dark at first.
I sent a few Medicines by Andrew & hope
they will be productive of good Effects.
I hope you keep a warm house to
guard against the Effects of this cold
and the approaching colder weather.
I shall not close this till I go to London
and shall conclude at present to give
room to some other to add a few lines
I remain with true Love & affection yours
Jno. Murray

wrote you accounts
a very pleasant Companion to her. I am sorry
to hear that your Eyes are still bad and that

Fort Clarence Rochester,
17th Dec. 1820.

Fort Clarence Rochester
25th Oct. 1820.

My dear Mother,

I cannot let this letter go without a word to
you in pencil, altho' never I think in the
so interested here except about one colour, and that
Johnny John has already given you. It would
be a great treat to you to see Andrew after this
travels, he is a lively spirited Boy and gives
good account of what he has seen —
Almost Jessie will suppose under our care
we have placed him at day boarding at one of the
first Schools here, he goes to it at 9 in the morning
have a famous dancing school of evening and meet every day except
Saturday and Sunday. Jessie has been to Ball & late Supper & stayed
night and now I wish you all good night. John Murray Junior
Surgeon may fancy I suppose you have heard of
Elizabeth's marriage, she became Mrs Jessie
on the 23d ult. and the ceremony took place
at Edin. they once said they were going abroad
for a year, but I do not know if they thought
to do so. — I wish you could see our little
Isabella Jean, crowing and laughing to us all
lately. I wish you all a good night & sound
sleep with kind love to you all I am ever My dear Mother
Your affectionate Son Jno. Murray

in his speaking English, his French & Drawing.

I am almost above one Christmas week you
Have 20 years, but I make my self also
looking after it home Summer or Winter

London Septr 16th 1820

Morning Chronicle (~~Morning~~ Papers) it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones & in the Aberdeen Journal & Chronicle. Tessie has been of the

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London ... 1820

... to day ... and when you can ... letter ... private opportunity they

---

1820

Mr Murray

Turriff N B

... expecting ... but as you are out of the ... it may not be ... Turner are on their way up here

wrote you ...

a very pleasant Companion to her. I am sorry to hear that your Eyes are still bad and that

---

Fort Clarence Rochester
17th Novr 1820.

My dear Father

London 6th Decr

Fort Clarence Rochester
11th Novr 1820

My Dear Father

As it is now ... since I had the pleasure of writing to you ... the Sunday ... is to be dedicated to ... my Dear ... Mary Anne is writing to Mrs ... who is in ... and from whom we received a Letter to day. She is quite well ... Mr & Mrs Turner ... the Winter ... John ... a Letter to Andrew ... scarcely written any letters ... making considerable improvement particularly in his speaking English, in French & Drawing.

... spent above one Christmas ... these 20 years, but I make myself always happy when at home Summer or Winter.

London Feby 7th 1829

ornin[g] Chronicle (Morning) Papers — it will be in
ome of the Edinburgh ones, & in the Aberdee
T[illegible] Chronicle. Tafie has been at the op

London 27 Dec 1829

[illegible] little Isabella Jane on her
[illegible] birthday — till her time for work
[illegible] — You will be happy to hear that we
[illegible] well, & [illegible] Dolly this in our own
[illegible] sometimes in occasion
[illegible] our time flies on
[illegible] wings in uninterru
[illegible] it is the same with
[illegible] from Blackhouse a few
[illegible] the news of his fire kindling
[illegible] they had been disap
[illegible] visit in Autumn & now
[illegible] for your stirring most fro
[illegible] we may all meet there ne
[illegible] we shall hold a merry tim
[illegible] the receipt of the 1st
[illegible] good condition, along with some fi
[illegible] sweetmeats also beautiful & fine
[illegible] must be so good as to tell us
[illegible] of the Butter when he sent
[illegible] the next bill, tell me know if I can send him
[illegible] any

to hear that your Eyes are still bad and the

Fort Clarence Rochester
17th Dec 1830.

My dear Father

London 6th Dec

[illegible] thing from London for his new house for the a-
[illegible] ment — I shall have a considerable sum of this
[illegible] in my hands with the Bp. on his debts to me,
[illegible] which he sent some time ago. He may be needing
[illegible] some crockery, some Curtains, or Carpeting &c, &
[illegible] he must write me freely all he wants, as the
[illegible] things are cheaper in London. We were very
[illegible] happy to hear by Wm's last letter that our Dear
[illegible] Mother's Eyes were keeping better, I wish your
[illegible] Rheumatism would take itself off. You must
[illegible] keep uniformly warm — Flannel & a large
[illegible] Plaister with whisky punch in, would be
[illegible] during the cold weather are probably the best
[illegible] remedies you can make use of. We are anxiously
[illegible] hoping that our dear Parents may find them
[illegible] selves comfortable in the new house, & that it
[illegible] may agree with your health. Tell us if there
[illegible] be any thing you would like us to send, or to
[illegible] bring down with us for it. We promise ourselves very
[illegible] much pleasure in our next visit to you & I think I have
[illegible] spent above one Christmas with you
[illegible] these 20 years, but I make myself also very
[illegible] happy when at home Summer and winter

London Sep.th 7th 1826

Morning Chronicle (Evening Papers) – it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones & in the Aberdeen Chronicle. Tessie has been of the party

London 2 Oct. 1826

Fort Clarence Rochester
17th Dec. 1826.

My dear Father

London 5th Dec.

Fort Clarence. Rochester
5 Dec. 1826.

Acrostic

My dear William Sweetheart

Since you have now turn'd out the Rats
Which will make room for wife and brats
Ere hasten on the bridal day
Ere time shall steal more years away –
They hinds and seemeth cold and dull
However decked however full
Each day to thee or your dimet seems
And pleasures but a waking dream
Rich are the joys of married life
Take quickly then dear Will a wife.

our Mama will like our little Baby who is her v picture. She has a cold Bath every morning is thriving nicely. We are expecting Cousin Ha down to stay a week with us they have very busy this summer, & they are quite a Mrs Gerrard got a son on the 2.nd Nov. and

Mr Rose Bermondsey

doing well by last accounts. I think we mu Eliza's message to a Mr Smith which Brook We are anxious to hear from Bath, as we have heard of Mr Hazehard since the Journeys left and we believe he is at Bath. We expect up at Christmas time. So pray to get in to hear that your Eyes are still bad and the

about one Christmas with you
these 20 years, but I make my self also
by when I he mes Summer and Winter

London Sept. 5th 1820

Morning Chronicle ~~Morning~~ papers — it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones, & in the Aberdeen Journal or Chronicle. Tessie has been at the sea

London Sept. 5th 1820

to hear that your Eyes are still bad and that

Port Glasgow Rochester
17th Dec. 1820.

My dear Father

London 6th Dec.

My dear Father

I cannot let this go without adding a few lines altho' I can have nothing so long as John has written to his Father and I dare say told all about us. We are all in good health and our little Isabella grows throving admirably she is very like our dear Grandmamma at Hope and will be a fair beauty like her. She begins to laugh and amuse herself with toys and scraping with her nails on a newspaper. Hope you are all well at Hope and that you enjoy the fine weather we have had it has been quite like spring. Mrs Poole's letter this morn.g from Mr Thom from Paris quite well. I believe she is to stay there for some time and then go to the South of France. Mr & Mrs Turner are at Orleans, they were with us for a day on their way to France. — Miss H. Murray

a very up or

to hear that your Eyes are still bad and that

about one Christmas with you

Hope about above one

Hope 20 years, but I make my

today when I come home Summer or under

London Sept. 16th 1820

Morning Chronicle (Evening Papers) it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones & in the Aberdeen Chronicle. Tessie has been of the very

London 2 Oct. 1820

Fort Clarence Rochester
17th Oct. 1820.

My dear Father

London 6th Dec.

Little parcel might arrive even

ever with you to help you in your very

here being about this time. I believe I have

not spent above one Christmas with you

these 20 years, but I make merry always

being when at home Summer or winter.

London Sept. 7th 1820

Morning Chronicle (Decemy) Paper it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones & in the Aberdeen Journal or Chronicle. Tipie has been of the 29

London Nov. 29 1820

till next Friday or the 2nd being which does not do without it — I have the pleasure to inform you that we are both very well and I hope this will find you all the same at Sleep and that our little Eyal very well and doing as much damage among the Beaux as when I was in the country. I am sure I should be very jealous if any of them should happen to see him at Chelsea and I know little of him from the time he first left Portsea we went to see a newly married couple and I am sorry I can't send you some cake to eat but indeed you lazy fellow you have time to write if you get at least your dreaming has been to little purpose only think of letter writing get before your eyes dry Mr Cantelo so very the proper and I am bigg you to wish him joy on our name — I have now got a maid who bakes out cakes beautifully and we indulging in that luxury from the usual from you and Blackburn to be had a hundred Girl before this one who did not know how make them and you would have laughed have seen John and I one trying the baking one night we mixed the salad water in the Salt Land beam and finds them on the

to hear that your Eyes are still bad and the

Fort Clarence Rochester
17th Dec. 1820.

My dear Father

Christmas season
not we were at them till midnight, but they all they were so bad we could scarcely eat them they were smoked, broken in bits, black, dirty and so hard and indigestable as pieces of dead bread I am sure Cass would have turned up his nose at them — Bye bye — how is the nursing over. has he been out for a airing by ladies to catch nothing in the dark chaise, and are you carrying on any more tricks among you — We had a letter from our good friend Dunlop the other day, so well of his following one good example yet others which I am sorry for, for I think an amiable lady would be a great comfort & elegant addition to such a Laird and Place.

Wrote to Mrs Barclay —

My Dearest Friends /

Mary Anne gives me the pen to send my love to you all, and to say that I hope you are chasing away the dull country days with as much cheerfulness and good health as we are doing. We have been invited to our Christmas dinner a month ago, but I should much rather that we could have the happiness of eating it with you. I think I shall send you a newspaper with the speeches in the House of Lords at length on the state of the Country. We have got our 19,000 Pensioners — I shall wish you all a merry christmas & happy new year as the season is drawing near — & again give up the pen, remaining yours, with truly affectionate attention Mrs Barclay

We have an letter from William two or three days ago from Edinburgh, & he says he is not so much about this time

Little Pascal might have been with you to help you in your merry making about this time. I believe I have spent above one Christmas with you these 20 years, but I make myself also happy when at home Summer or winter

Fort Clarence Rochester
17th Dec. 1820.

My dear Father

On the approach of this festival season we all wish you a merry Christmas & happy new year with many returns of them, & shall send all this to reach you in time for the Christmas pipes to sweeten the with the news of the welfare of all your friends at this place. We were made very happy to hear of the good health of all our dear friends at Stoke by the receipt of William's letter a few days ago, & I was glad to hear that your old complaint had yielded a little to the remedy which I sent you by Andrew although it had made you sick a little at first. Our little girl is in the 11th day of the Cow-Pock & still doth favourably, it is now nearly over & we have all anxiety we may have had about the disease which were raging about us. We will send some letters for you by a vessel which is ready here sailing to Sir Robt Barclay & I think it is likely you will be going that way, to Paris, soon after the receipt of this, so that the little parcel might have arrived. We wish we were with you to help you in your merry making about this time. I believe I have not been about one Christmas with you these 20 years, but I make merry also my dear Father at home Summer & Winter.

London Sept. 16th 1820

Morning Chronicle (Morning) Paper it will be in one of the Edinburgh ones & in the Aberdeen Journal or Chronicle. Topic has been of the very

London Nov. 1820.

to hear that your Eyes are still bad, and the

William Lessing Esqre
Stoke
Farnham

M.B.

I have now got a reinforcement to come down with, and I think you will be pleased with your little Granddaughter, who is beginning to know and amuse us — we were delighted to hear that Dinkie has got a little daughter and wrote him the day we received William's letter, to congratulate him & Mrs Leslie. To Mr Urquhart going to get a wife, we suppose he is busy courting or we have not received any letter from him this long time — we wrote him some time ago to come up & see us which he had given us a sort of promise to do when Mrs Barron had left him a sort of Widower. Now that William has got the house so far in order, of course we all supposing that he will be out a courting most of the Winter, & have a nice sister all ready for us in Summer — A good Wife would be of great use to him now, & indeed I do not see how he will well get on without one — I think Bachelors do not thrive so well as when well married. I am sorry to find that Grain is so low, but those who can keep up a while will gain by it, as it will certainly rise in the spring. The season has been very open here hitherto, expecting yesterday that we had frost & snow, but it promises to be a mild winter. — Our friend Johnie is going a very well with us, and speaking English as well as Andrew did before he went away — we find him behind in reading & spelling English he is getting on best at French and Drawing — Josie is like a Mama to the baby and a very great comfort to us — she is so good & careful that I do not know where we should find one like her — She has also improved in her English and this place has agreed very well with her health — I must not tell you I suppose about a lad she has got here, but I suspect she will not like to settle in this part of the country. If she marries & leaves us we must send for Grandmama to take [illegible]

Wm says the is s[illegible] way. I wish you [illegible] about, for a st[illegible] been accustomed [illegible] clos, & who would [illegible] and stay with [illegible]

[illegible] so deserv[illegible] [illegible] but here [illegible] good one [illegible]

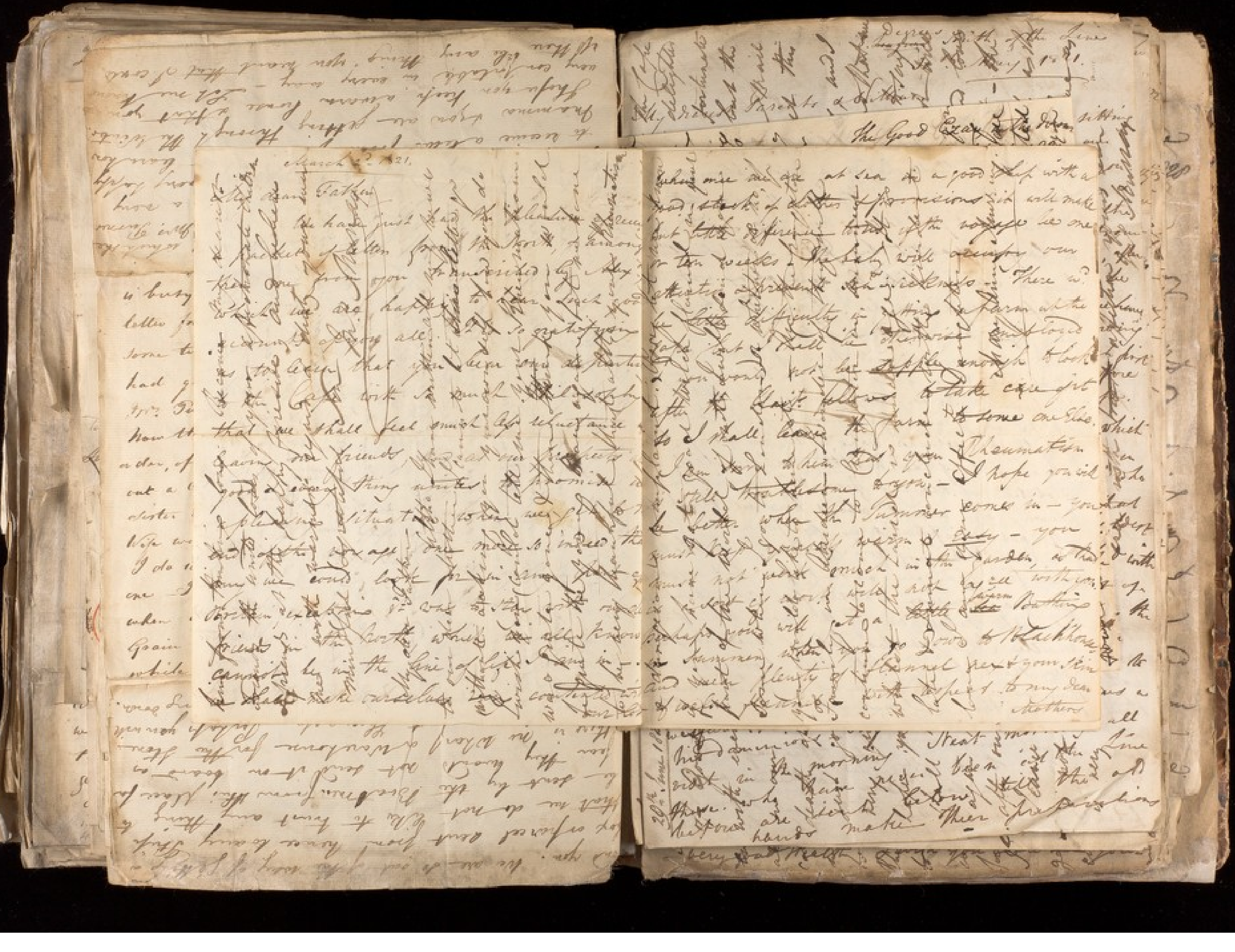
washing. [illegible] her immediately [illegible] neighbourhood, [illegible] the [illegible] her when we go [illegible] would stay with [illegible] to look out for us [illegible] do best — but she must be healthy.

Dec. 17th

The frost & snow is off again & we have fine open weather — there is nothing new with us — the worst of the cow pock is over with our lassies. Cousins Ruth & Helen have had bad colds, but are better again & we send Johnnie to them later day — We heard lately from Mrs Horne

and you. We are so out of the way of getting a
box or parcel sent from hence to any Ship
that we do not like to trust any thing to
be sent by the Boatmen from this place for
fear they would not send it on board as
there is no Wharf or Warehouse for the Store
Ships that come to Shearness. Perhaps you will
think of something by the time we are coming down.

Paris and she sent us a print of a little girl which she
thinks like her God-Daughter. Mr & Mrs Turner
had gone to Orleans to stay which is a very
pretty & healthy place. We shall be very happy
to receive a letter from you soon to learn how
Mamma & you are getting through the Winter.
Hope you keep a warm house & that you
are very comfortable in every way — Let me know
if there be any thing you want that I could



March 2. 1821.

My dear Father

We have just had the pleasure [illegible] a number of letters from the North & among them one from you transmitted by [illegible] which we are happy to hear such good accounts of you all. [illegible] is gratifying to us to learn that you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the Cape with so much [illegible] that we shall feel much less reluctance leaving our friends [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] strong [illegible] [illegible] pleasing situation when we [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] we must [illegible] the time we could look for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] friends in the North which we all know cannot be in the line of life I am in [illegible] shall make ourselves [illegible]

when once we are at sea in a good ship with a good stock of clothes & provisions it will make but little difference whether the voyage be one or ten weeks. The baby will occupy our attention & prevent [illegible] ennui. There is [illegible] difficulty in letting a farm at the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] shall be [illegible] [illegible] you would not be happy enough to look after it [illegible] to take care of it so I shall leave the farm to some one else. I am sorry to hear [illegible] you [illegible] Rheumatism — I hope you will [illegible] you — [illegible] better when the Summer comes in — you [illegible] [illegible] warm & [illegible] — you must not [illegible] much in the garden as that [illegible] [illegible] all with you [illegible] warm bathing [illegible] perhaps you will [illegible] a [illegible] & [illegible] summer [illegible] flannel [illegible] & your skin [illegible] plenty [illegible] [illegible] respects to my dear Mothers

The Good [illegible]

Heat [illegible] in the morning [illegible]

headache. I shall inclose a prescription for her
which she may get the small quantity ac-
cordingly in it, to serve her till I send her
a larger quantity by Jesse – the directions
how to use it will be sent along with it,
I hope it will cure her. I am glad to hear
her Eyes are keeping better.

We were very sorry to hear of Brais[illegible]
which will be a great loss to the neighbourhood
The young Land is as yet under age but I am
told he is a very promising young Gentleman

Beth has returned home, & we are sorry to hear
on account of bad health. we are daily in
expectation of hearing from him again and
knowing our anxiety about him we think he
will not disappoint us as formerly. Give
our love to him if you see him. We shall
have fine Gardens at the Cape, but no possible
you may conceive what fine Climate it is
when the hedges are of the most beautiful
myrtle. It is not too hot, & never very cold.

We shall prize a letter from you more
than ever we shall be able to hear every
2 or 3 months. but I must write several other letters

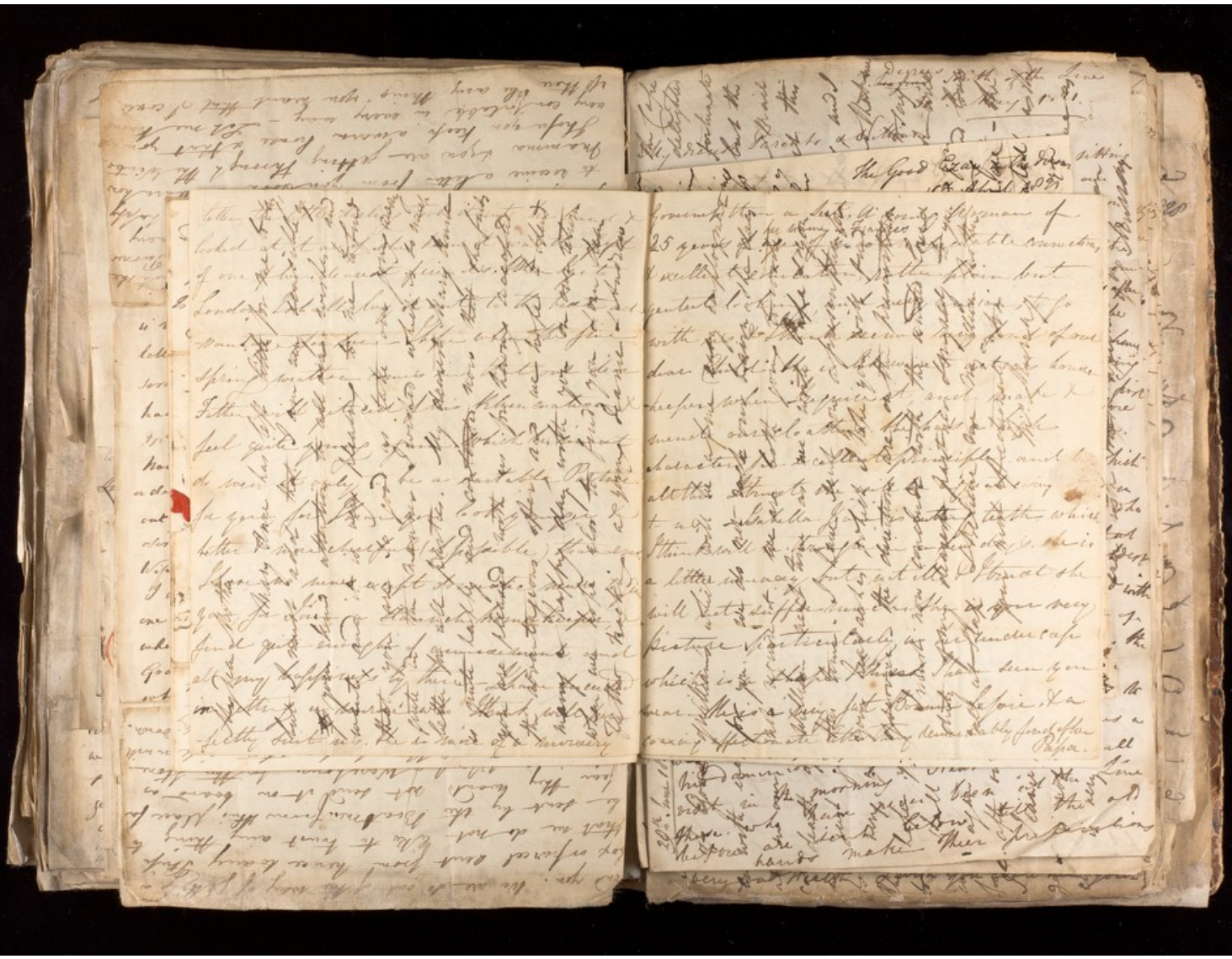
The Good Gray Dear sitting
18 April 1855

two or perhaps [illegible] grey, I suppose we
should have [illegible] above all things to
have gone to bed for a
month or two. But it might have
made us very sorry to see Mary and
you to take [illegible] have gone,
and I hope it will be less hard on
us all to get it without any ceremony
of this kind. The time of your departure
is not yet certain [illegible] think it
will be about [illegible] we are
already beginning to feel as if that
requires [illegible] but
we wish [illegible] never begin
to have gone [illegible] had
been to make a fit [illegible] coast
yet as a [illegible] stocking [illegible]
in case of Cousins [illegible]

and you. We are so out of the way of getting a
box or parcel sent from hence to any Ship
that we do not like to trust any thing to
be sent by the Boatmen from this place for
fear they would not send it on board as
[illegible] ourselves out, and these preparations will
occupy our minds & prevent us from thinking
much about any thing else. We shall not
be long in writing again — Write on receipt
of this. Give all yours in Love & regards to

Dear Dear is here as busy as possible, and
is the Belle of the Assembly, many dozens of
every thing for the navy she has had
a great [illegible] Millinery [illegible] besides
[illegible] in London
[illegible] to fit

to receive a letter from you soon to tell us how
Mamma & you are getting through the Winter.
Those you keep awaiting house & that you
are comfortable in every way — Let me know
if there is any thing you want that I could

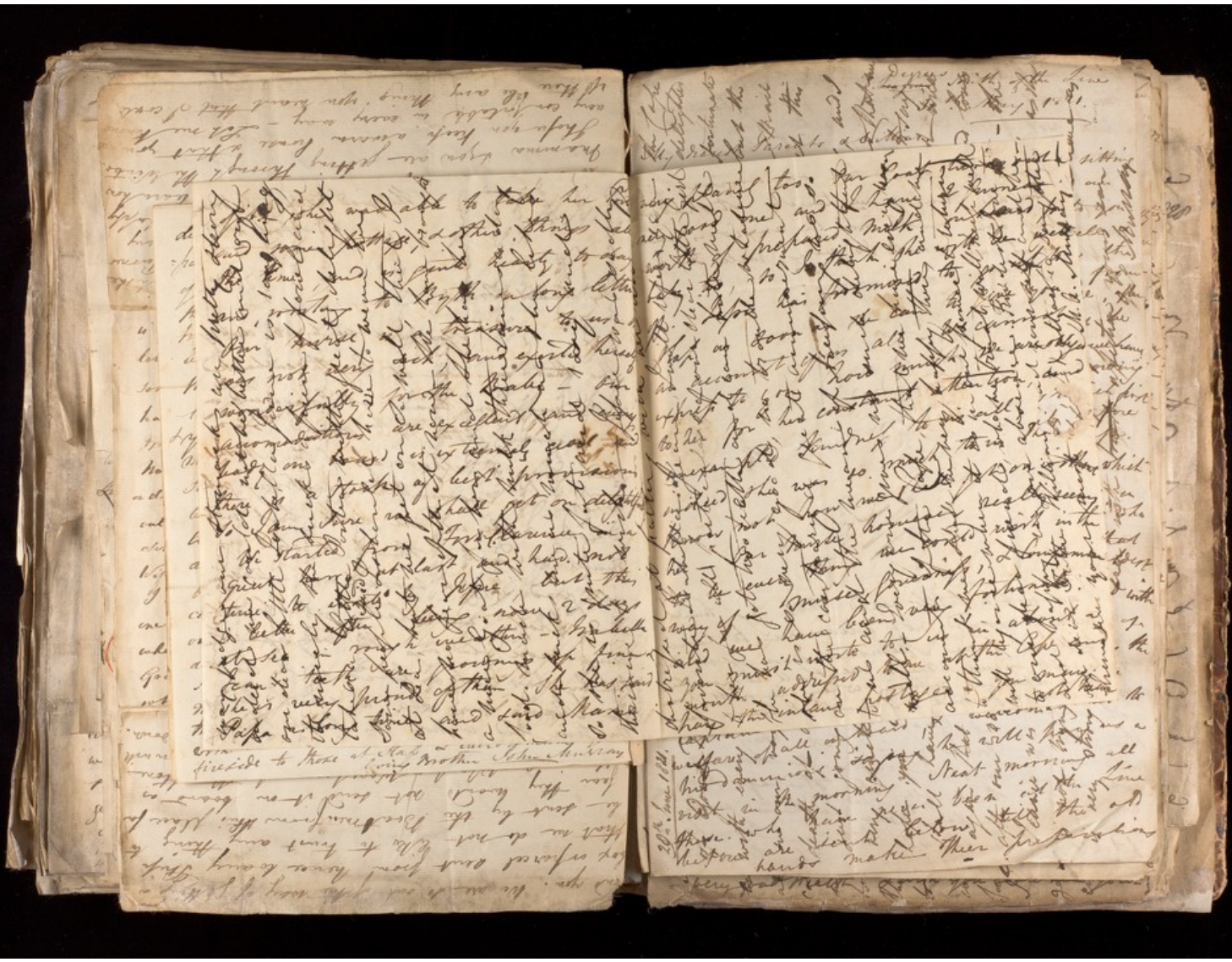


the expense of paying Housekeepers — we were very happy to hear by the last letters from the North of the welfare of all our dear friends there, & I trust we shall all continue to keep well & enjoy ourselves till we meet again — but we can never feel so completely happy as when we were amongst you. I should not be sorry now if we did not leave this till June so that we should arrive in the Spring at the Cape whereas if we sail now we shall arrive in the Water about June their day corresponds with night here, & their Winter with our Summer, which will make the change a serious one for us. We have got a delightful introduction to Governor Murray through the kindness & warm interest of Mrs Murray being the Mrs of Sotheran which will be useful & pleasant for us. Little Johnie is so long that he is going with us — he is afraid some one

gain the affections of his Cousin before he sees her again — The little creature is now exceedingly fond of him, & he looks forward with no small degree of anxiety to the time when he may be able to woo & marry her. We wrote some time ago to Mr Urquhart writing him to tell us how he was, as he wrote us saying that he was so ill as to be obliged to leave Edinburgh for the benefit of country air & rest, but we have not received any answer to our letter — Let us know how he is in your next if you have seen him. How are you getting on during these hard times — The farmers in England I think are fully poorer than in Scotland as the tithes and poors rates are so enormous. It is expected that something will be done for them in parliament this session, we have to thank our dear kind Mother for being so mindful of us — we have not seen the things come in the last box which is at Cousin Hoare's in Poole but we got the letters that were in it. From

Great morning

dear Father will take the trouble to be pre-
pared little things for us we shall then
of something for her. — I am glad to hear
that her legs are holding better; and
trust that my last prescription has
been serviceable to her — I hope that
the approaching warm weather will al-
leviate the pains our dear Father suffers
you must not allow him to work
much & expose himself to damp & fog
stooping in the garden which must
be very unfavourable to his complaint
Are you carrying on still in the old way
amongst the young ladies — you young
Butchelors have fine times going about
country. I am glad remember that I am
out of your list & advise you not to
allow yourself to become an old one
I sincerely wish you as good a wife as
mine, & that I think would be the best
thing that could befall you. I conclude
with the love & kind wishes of all my
fireside to those at home & believe me my
Dear Brother Your affectionate

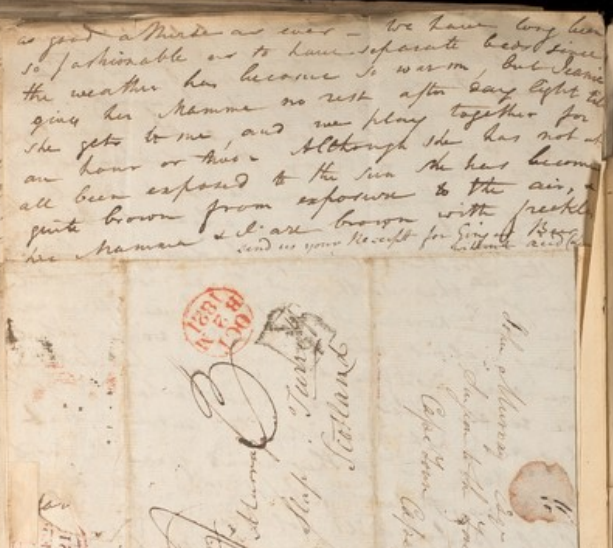


from us again till our arrival at
the Cape helps us touch at Madei
but you must not be anxious, che
as we shall do very well Dear

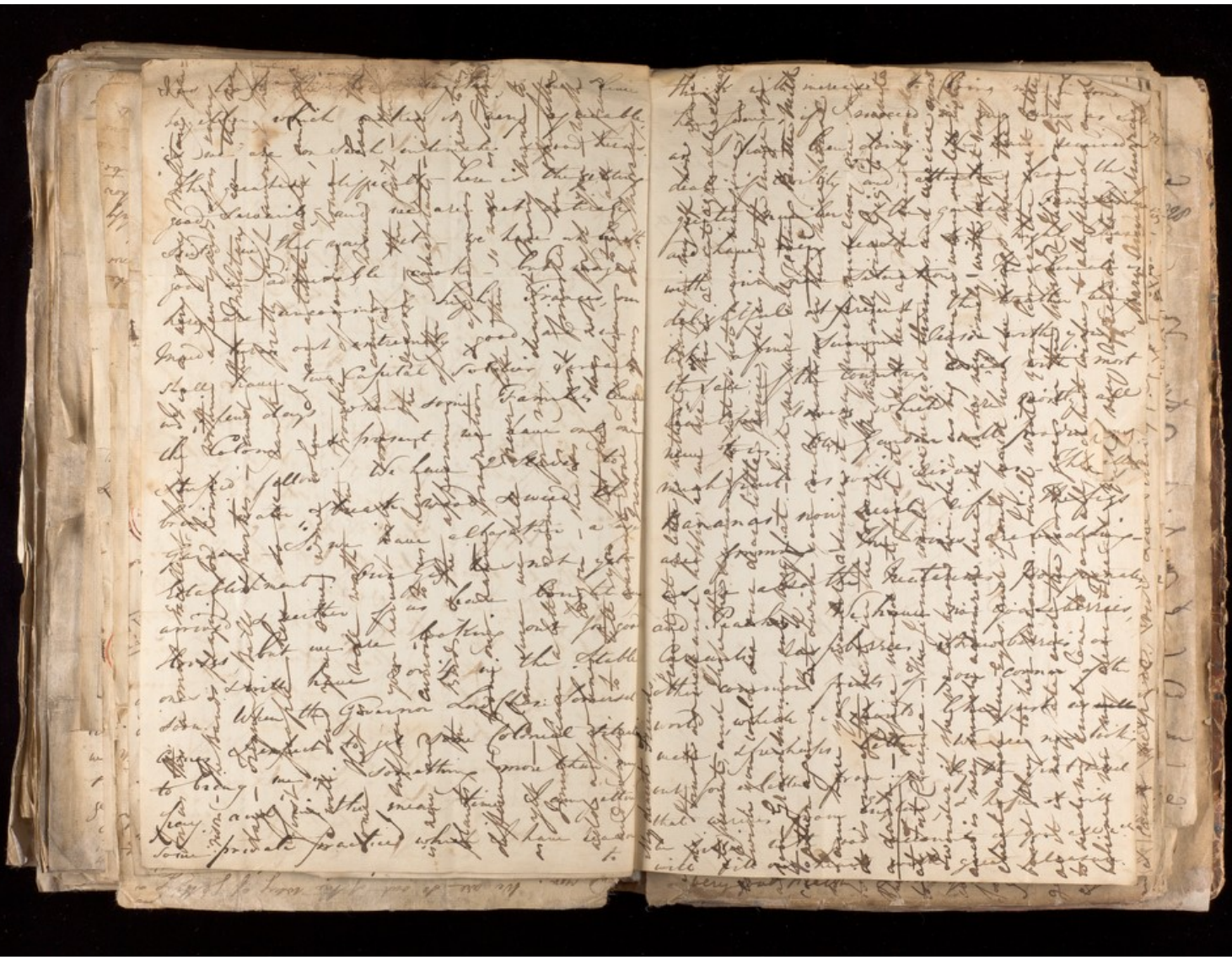
I am not a little vexed that my time
money would not allow me to lend
William some Memorandum of us, but
he will excuse me — we shall remember
him when we return when he will have
a wife & family — I must leave a few
with the time —
fireside to those at home — every many
Mother Sister Aunt

which on this occasion were made with all the due forms but not always – The long boat on deck was filled with salt water – One of the men dressed up to represent Neptune, another for his wife (on this occasion the Black Cook) one is Barber with an Iron hoop for a razor another is his boy with Tar & grease for lathing over the mouth & chin for Lather and the others are Neptunes ambassadors & attendants. – Two Ambassadors first came down for Mr. Murray who hearing of all these preparations was somewhat alarmed to go up with them although she knew that nothing was to be done to her – after Neptune had bid her welcome, I was next called, & Baby being asleep in my arms we went together – They went through the ceremony of shaving me with a bit of clean stick, and they asked permission to throw some water in my lap as they intended to shave and dash all the other passengers properly – This being done Frances was then summoned, & shaved with the stick and we were the only persons on board who were treated with lenience – Cabin passengers always give them plenty of Grog which is one reason and another reason is that they would not allow any improper treatment to be used – but the steerage passengers and young sailors were lathered with pitch & grease, shaved with an Iron hoop and dashed with bucket-fuls of dirty water out of the Pump. Such is shaving in crossing the Line. I saw no fun in it Baby seemed to enjoy it amazingly. The day was boiling hot, and the men taxed at the time to enjoy their duckings, but many suffered from severe headacks afterwards. I wrote part of a letter to Blackburn on the Northern side of the Line, we had on them got into the South East Trade wind which we have now – Near the Line there are many calms and variable winds which are very disagreeable in such hot latitudes, one really does not know what to do! they are not inclined to move a limb and feel as if they would give the world for a mouthful of fresh air. Our dear Little Baby did not complain a bit as we completed the round, she had scarcely any thing on day or night but always was as if coming out of a bath from perspiring so profusely which kept her quite cool – She used to jump and take exercise to herself when we were notable to give her much, and was so full of her fun that the quite amused us all. She is a sensible little creature, and really astonishes us often – She is a most hearty laughter and always ready for fun – talks a great deal about Papa & Mam-ma alive in great friends with Nanny the Girl who has supplied her with enough milk and I hope will continue to do so. Mama stands it out very well, and is

as good a Mother as ever – We have long been
so fashionable as to have separate beds since
the weather has become so warm, but Jeanie
gives her Mamma no rest after Day Light
she gets to me, and we play together for
an hour or two. Although she has not
all been exposed to the sun she has become
quite brown from exposure to the air, &
her Mamma & I are brown with freckles
send us your Receipt for Giving the Brown
Lilliput acid



By this time of course you have seen Gipsie and
got all the news of us – I have filled this
as you see all about ourselves – often do
we talk of you all and wish we saw you
– but the time we hope will come when we
shall be all very happy again together – by
all the Times we can Sing or Play Jeanie long
more likely Read Stories to her, it she thinks it
Sing to her, & whenever she hears it she thinks
ask me Chorus immediately. Frances is very thing we
can with & in calls.



with regard to this Colony as affording a good
settlement for persons who have no employment
at home, or who think they would better their
circumstances by coming abroad – as far as
I perceive this place does not possess the
advantages which people in England gener-
believe it does for adventurers, excepting
perhaps for mechanics, of these it is now
think well stocked for the present. There
many of this description who have been here
from 10 to 20 years & who have made what
may be called fortunes, but the days for them
are gone by, and several who have come
out lately have failed – The place is stock-
the breaking up of the St Helena Station
gave a stagnation in trade here as it
gave a stagnation was chiefly supplied from

Mrs Munro
Clapham
Middlesex

Cape of Good Hope
Cape Town 14th Nov 1821

My dearest Mother

I am really longing ~~[illegible]~~
to hear from you very much. That I am only
[illegible] as all are well as we were. We like
the Cape very much indeed, and John looks
much better than he did in England. Isabella
grows a delightful little girl, and many a
one here admires her the sweet little
days many words and in her empty
continues very like you but a little fatter
she is as fat a little thing as ever
saw. – I am sure you would scarcely know
her, she is so much improved since she
left England. She has grown a beautiful
little. she keeps [illegible] hands and sings
to every Officer who [illegible] her. [illegible]
it [illegible] Robb and wonders with her innocently.
prays [illegible] to [illegible] the
& I weep, [illegible] to [illegible]
gain and the [illegible]
it into some of the [illegible]
and [illegible]. They is just [illegible]
here [illegible]
very [illegible] health [illegible]

with regard to this Colony as affording a good
settlement for those who have no [illegible]
at home
circumst
I perceive
advantag
believe

We like the Cape as well as we can any
place so far distant from our dear
friends but we look forward with pleasure
again to our return among st
you, and I hope we will enjoy more
very happy days together in our dear native
land. – Poor Mr Cobb being an invalid
here about my sister to visit long since
I have not seen him. I suppose by this time
is known the news at Bath. – The winter
here is quite like a very fine English
summer, but I fear we will find the
summer weather very hot, but as we
a few days longer here, we must make
delay, hoping written deals during the
the day. – I think we will have better
to tell us of your sailings at
Blackheath and Bath, for we do
think you are all enjoying yourselves amongst
many friends
from 10 to 20 years who have made
may be called fortunes, but the days for
are gone by, and several who have come
out lately have failed – The place is
the breaking up of the St Helena Station
since a Regiment was chiefly supplied from

ries and butter milk, we would be very happy
to enjoy the fun with you. – The
present Governor Sir Rufane Donkin
to dinner the other day and I was
lady of the party. – I forgot if I told
that I named Fannie when she was
a month old, and she gave us no trouble
I have a nice little Poultry yard, at
present I have 6 hens and a Cock, 3 of them
laying, and I mean to set them as soon
Cluck, and have a numerous
family before long. – We have a great many
and fig trees in our Garden which
promise a very plentiful crop this year.
I hope I may found time to pay you a
visit at Clap and give you all our
Colonial news. I love any thing made you
happy with some of our tricks to Rutter &
I will leave the pen to Glen to write Fannie
Kisses & love to Grandma from Papa & Uncle Will and Jenny dear
Mama & Aunt Sarah & Uncle Alfred & Jenny & Mr. Mummery &
& 3 weeks in my way to Ireland
gave me the Rotten & Dear

Very Good Health

with regard to this Colony as affording a good
settle
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bele

Mr. Murray
Hat
Scotland.

NOV 26 1847

PAID

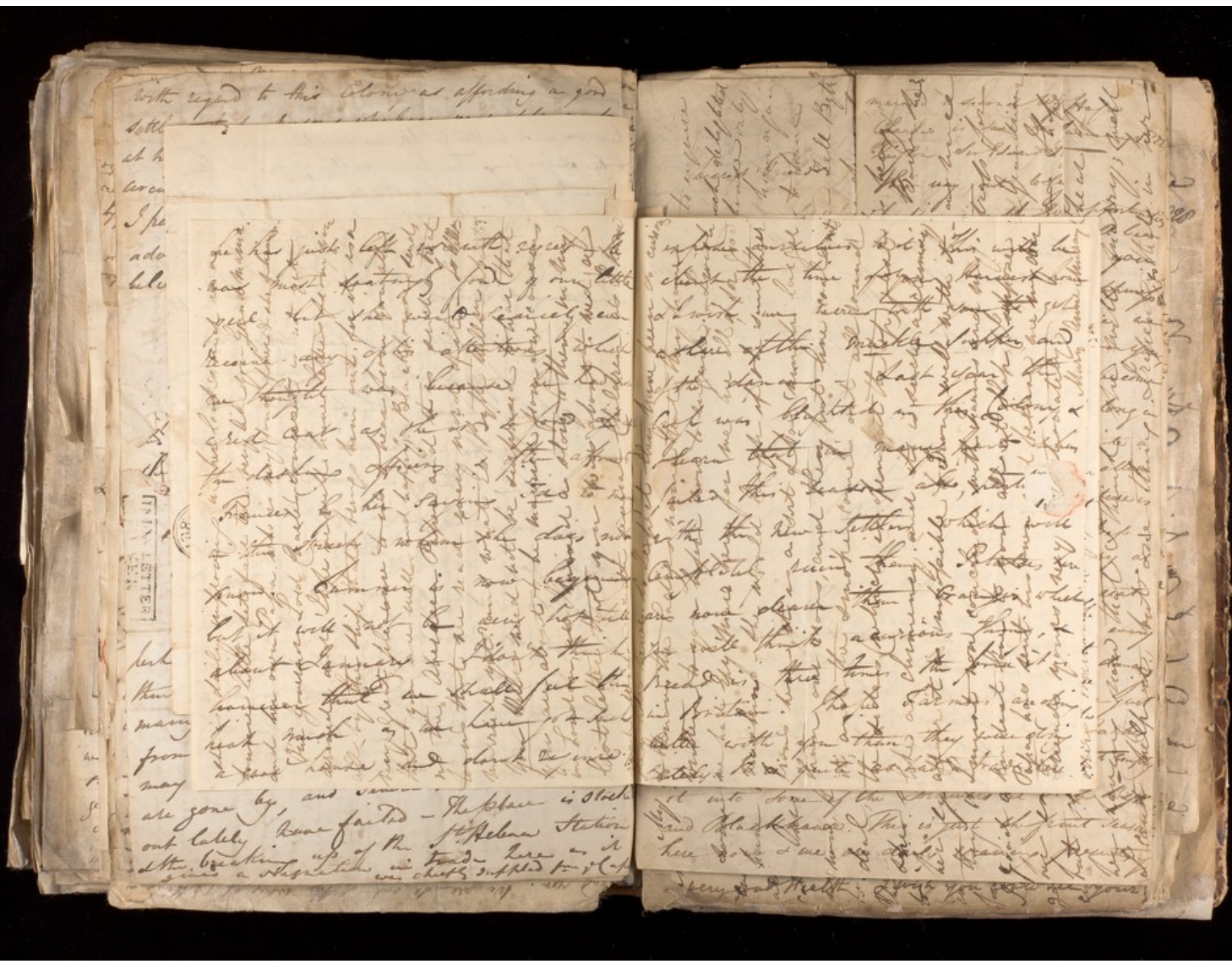
FOREIGN LETTER

many I
from 10 to 20 years who have made wear
may be called fortunes, but the days for thy
are gone by, and several who have come
out lately have failed – The place is stock
the breaking up of the St Helena Station
since a vegetation was chiefly supplied to it

My dearest Friends

We have had daily
accounts of you all from London and
from Blackheath which have
and to that we are all very well
and I am happy
that you have had a
so happy a voyage
thus speedily come to Scotland
the two eldest to Principal Seatons
Kings College
a 3 weeks in his
gain and the Portrait

it into some of the
and Blackheath. This is just the great
here
very good Health



with regard to this Colony as affording a good
settle
at h
circu
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adop
hele

There is no place better than dear
Scotland after all, not even after
having come thus far from it.
Our dear expecting long letter from Lady

J. McMurray
Esq.
Tarsiff.
N.S.

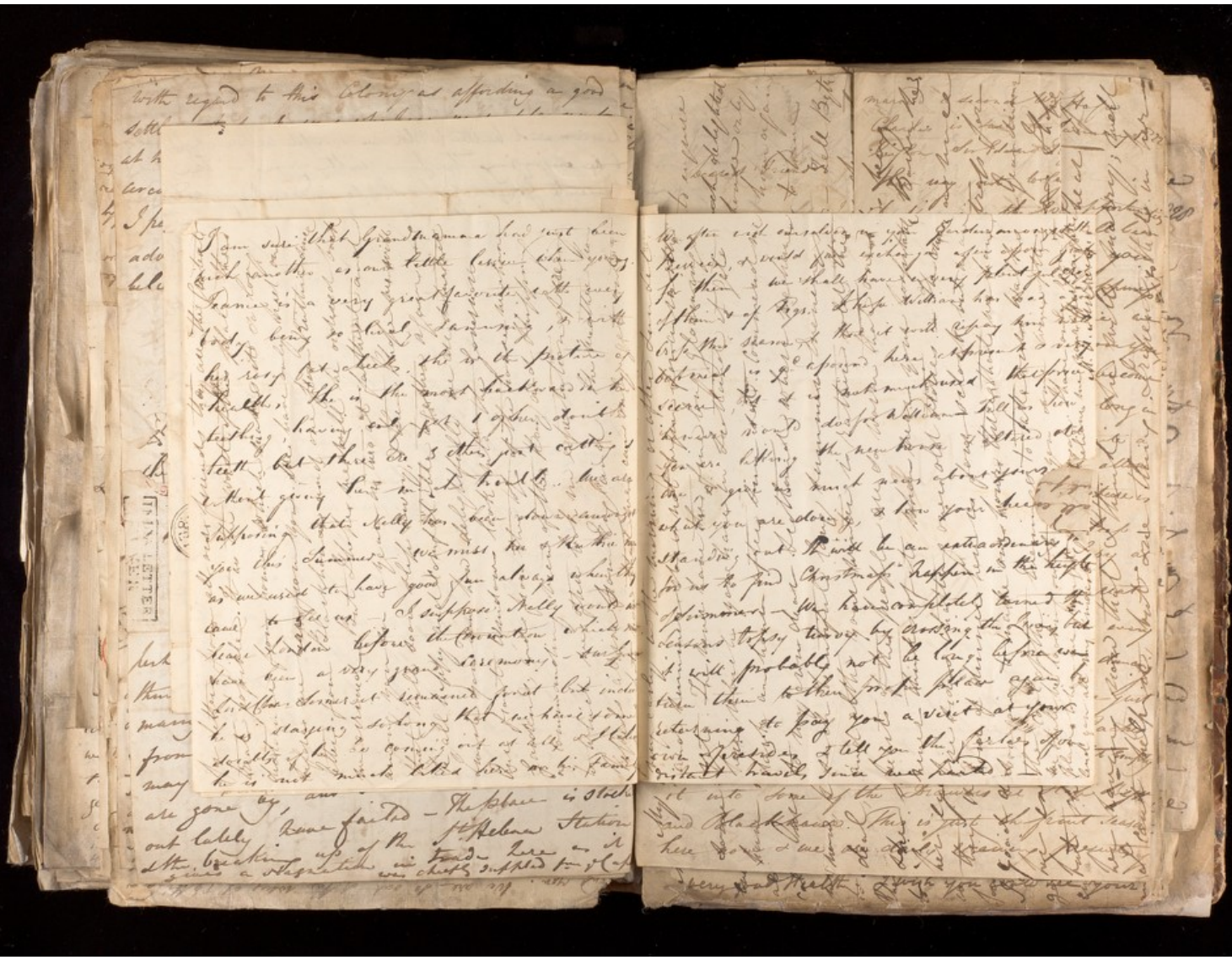
giving us an account of what you
are all about & of the news of the
neighbourhood, which will be so entertaining
to us. Mary Anne will add a few lines
if she have time. Our to all most
to you all & Kind regards to all
friends & dear mrs McMurray
most affectionately yours
Ann McMurray

are gone by, and
out lately
the location
have a stipendiary
Rev. Farrier — The place is stock
St. Helena Station
up of the Trade. Here as it
who chiefly supplied the C.

Cape Good Hope
Nov. 1848

My dear Friends

We have received by the
ship Sally, and are surprised that we have not
had any letter from you but we
know well that you have not forgotten
us and we know that your silence is from
usual health, & therefore we are not at
all uneasy about you. We hope to hear
very soon from yourselves that you are
all as well & happy as we wish you. We
left Agnes quite well, but we wished
not that we expect the last of the three
remaining months to be rather disagreeable
in little as cold will prove to Agnes your
climate, we are in every way comfortable
& not into some of the houses of the
and Blackhouse. This is just the front house
here so we are quite [illegible]
Very sad health. Long you see we are your



with regard to this Colony as affording a good

Our Gig has not yet come out, & perhaps we
shall not get it till the Good Ship returns
next year — They are here a sort of covered
Spring Cart very much with 2 rows of
seats which is very cool & convenient
of machine, & indeed gigs without tops are

Mr Newbold
Seat Carrick
S.A.

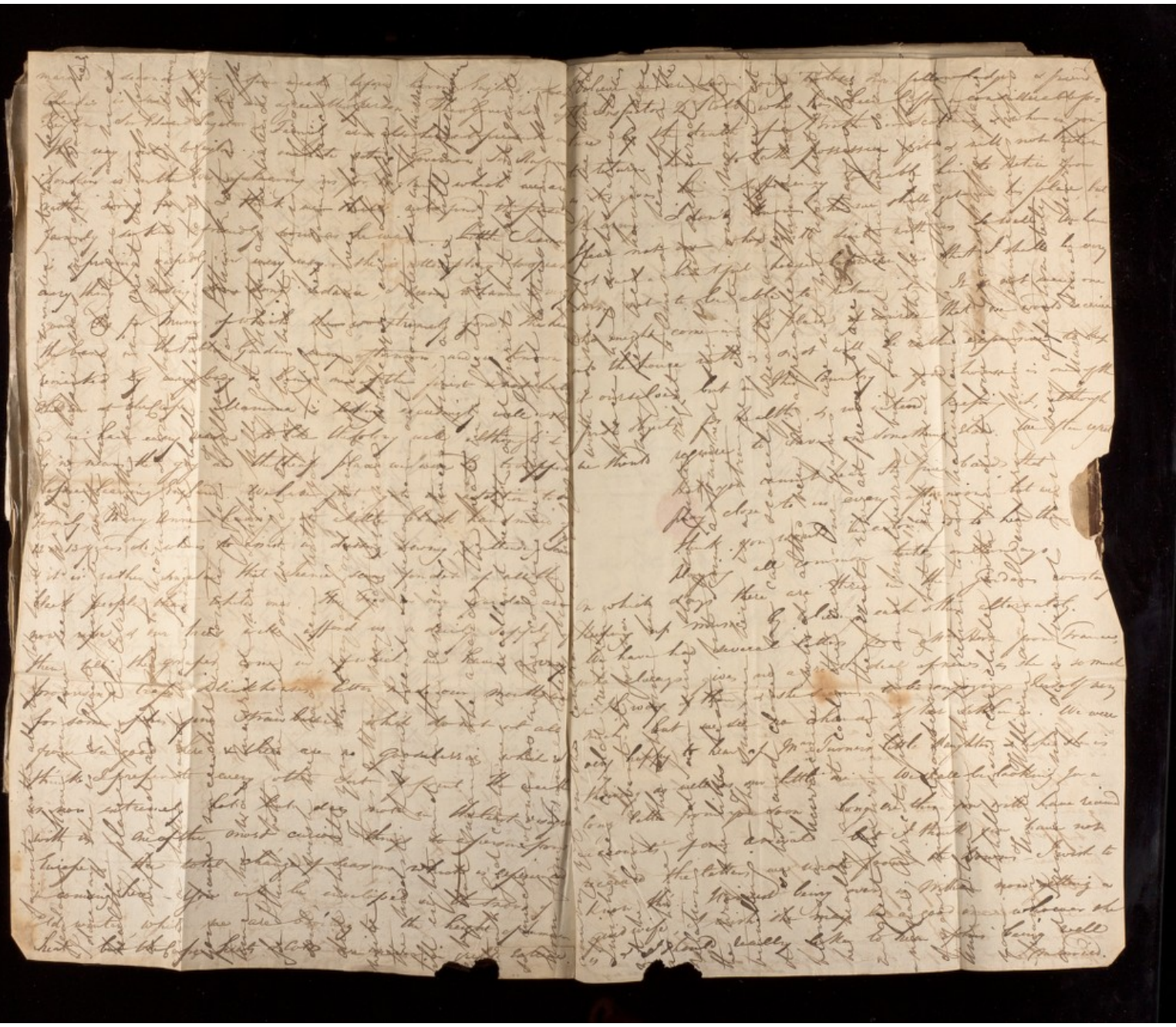
not comfortable as they want a defence
from the Sun. We find ourselves more comfo
situated than at Port Clarence yet it is not
we are so far from our friends, & I think
could have liked this place much better. I
conclude with my warmest love to all — Ever your
Mr S. Mark

are gone up, and
out lately. Rose failed — The place is stock
the breaking up of the St Helena Station
a stagnation in trade here as it
were a stagnation was chiefly supplied to

it into some of the Dwarfs
and Blackbeards. This is not the least
here done & we are
very sad Health

My dearest Friends

I cannot let an opportunity pass without responding to your welcome letter, to inquire after you all, and to tell you how well we are. We have been very much delighted lately by letters from our absent children at Hope Farm and Black house only another account of themselves has made us very anxious to have them home again in hope that he will tell us he is quite recovered. Jessy seems to have been very unwell but thus long before this she is quite recovered. Tell Bertie he would enjoy the letters from a sea voyage to the Cape and my dearest little Jessie would amuse him very much after he arrived. She chatters away at a great rate and constantly reminds about and is very much admired by some very dashing beaux. She is certainly a very fine stout child and is a great comfort and amusement to us. Wish you could see her for Jan since she would delight your. When we ask her where grand mama lives she says at Pa (meaning Slap). She can sing God save the King and has an excellent ear dancing in time to any sort of tune. Fanny is glad to have Grand Mama so well and busy among her babies and clothing. I wish we were at home that I might help her the Lord's day we would have a regular time today we had been quite late. Hope Grandpa's rheumatism is better and his health altogether good. My Brother wrote others that he was thinking of divorce the good wife for her good doings in the early part of December. She seems such



[illegible]

Mr Murray
Jun. Esq.
Sorrell
Scotland

is just nothing but tossing away his precious time that
should be spent at home with a good wife & many good boys.
So the poor ill fated Queen is dead — it is well for herself
and the country, & I suppose the King will be marrying
again. He is become a great Traveller in his old age.
I suppose he will be down amongst you next summer.
We have been very much gratified by good accounts of your
health from many quarters, & I hope we shall con-
tinue to receive equally good ones. Give our warm re-
membrances to all enquiring friends — Accept our united
affectionate & dutiful love & regards & believe us ever your
attached [illegible] Mary.

Cape of Good Hope
27th February 1822.

My dearest Friends

We have just received a letter from Blackheath of the 23. October with the very welcome intelligence of the health of all our Friends in this part of the world, and we have some hopes that there will be no fever in the Island, which is daily expected. We are at quite well and happy (thank God) and have nearly got through the heat of the Summer without feeling any disagreeable, and the rest of the year is very pleasant. They have just the Measles on board the Ship that brought Blackheath's letter, and she is put under Quarantine for 21 days — as having the Measles prevent us having the pleasure of seeing Blackheath's letter, tho' we have heard from him. They are very much frightened for Measles here, as it has not been in the Colony this 10 years, and nearly half of the Population therefore is liable to be attacked. But I think that the longer they keep the disease out, the worse it will be for them in the end. We have no Chincough here either.

Very and Health. Give you and the your

Our Nursie has turned out like all
other young who come out here. She has
left us and going to be married, and
we have had all our expense & trouble
of bringing her out only for her advantage.
Mary Anne however has got an excellent
little black girl, of whom our baby is
remarkably fond, & we have really not
felt any loss of Frances, who latterly
got so idle, & careless of Jeannie, that
we were glad [illegible] rid of her. This
will go by a [illegible] Cape gentleman to
Cousin's House in London who will forward
it to you. Our baby is more an amusement
than a trouble to us now, & breakfasts
and dines at Table with us & behaves
herself like a little Lady, & mostly feeds
herself. She is far advanced in the teething
having cut one of her 2d set of back
teeth. Dr Robb has joined us again after
being in the Country nearly 2 months, &
she will scarcely stay away from
him a moment. He sends in his application
for leave to go home to-day.

At length our Jos have reached the bay in
one of the Ships with the 49th Regt, but is
under quarantine as the Measles are on
board. It will be a very great comfort to us
when the weather gets a little cooler, as
one cannot take much walking exercise
in the warmer months of this Climate.

4 March

We have, I believe, been fortunate enough
to hear of a widow woman who has
been wishing to come to us at a
course, and who we think we will
get from her present Mistress, at
she requires her but very little. If
she comes we shall change for the
better, as Frances, at her best, would never
have come if we happen to get another
little one in some months hence.

I am sorry to hear that our dear Mother
again is complaining of her Eyes, and if they
get bad, she may not be in such good
spirits till they be cured. She may apply,
at nights, a small cold poultice of bread
bread & water to them, and morning and
evening work them with some lotion according
to the following prescription which has
been [illegible] Health. Pray you [illegible] yours

can send for to Turriff or Banff.,

℞. Aqui Sulph. ℥ vj
Decoct. Althea. ℥viij
M. f. Lotio

and if this did not quite answer
try this other one. a Teaspoonful
honey, four grains of white vitriol
two gills of Rain Water — mix

Mr. Alex
Scott Turriff
N. Mond.

If she gets better from this advice, &
may prepare her Guinea again for
and I shall be glad to hear she
much better from it — perhaps cured by it.
We are very happy to hear you have had a
good harvest and prices better. William will
have good luck yet — in a Wife & all.
I have no news to give you — The mail

Cape of Good Hope
23d March 1822.

My dearest Friends

The Pigs of nice Honey have come safely to
hand and the socks for which many kind thanks — we
attacked the honey the night of its arrival, & Mary Anne
and Jeanie both eat of it with the greatest relish, & you
may be sure I did not let it escape untouched — we
thought it tasted of Aloes, & we fancied ourselves at a
few hours at home, as far as fancy would carry us. It is
very long we think since we heard from Scotland, but the letters
we have lately received from Mr. Thomson gave us good accts
of you all, & we are happy & contented — We are all quite well
and have got another Nurse, who I think will suit us much
better than Frances — a widow, with little girl 9 years old, but the
little girl, her daughter, is to be boarded out. Our Chaunt Joseph
has sailed for England, and I am for the present at the head of
the Department — we do not yet know who is coming out in
the place of Mr Robb, but we are wishing at may be Gordon
and that he will bring with him either his wife or his
sister as a Companion to dear Anne. 23d Mr. I find I have had
time to write than I expected, and you cannot tell the
Blackshaw people how very much we enjoyed their
kind letters in the Box, and how much we feel
obliged by all the fine things they so kindly sent us.

her, & it is quite amusing her attempts to
depreciate

but the little seems to agree very well with
her, & the mother an excellent Nurse & enjoys
very good health. I wish you could see yours

can send for to Turriff or Banff.)

Hy. Aspri Sulph. gr. vj

[illegible] Bvii

I hope you played Milly some fine tricks - she expresses herself as highly delighted with her Mother's trip as she knew you all better this time. I told you in my last that Frances had left us to be married, and we have been some weeks without a nurse, but have at length got a very good one - (I find I am repeating what I said in the other page yesterday), we shall be so happy to hear from you after your harvest is all over in expectation that it may bring us the news of Wm. going to get a Wife, and all about her. We have heard that he is going to get married, & are anxious to know if she be of our acquaintance. In my last I sent a prescription for my dear Mother's Eyes, & hopes it will prove beneficial - she must tell me in your next how she feels herself, and she must keep herself in good spirits - to be able to give orders about sheets & shirting for us by the time we come home, which may be sooner than she expects, and with a larger family than she or either of you saw us with when we went away.

I hope our Dear Father has stood out the winter well - if he had been here during your winter months, he would have got such a roasting from the heat as would have astonished his Rheumatism. We are very well - good harvest and prices better. William will have good luck yet - in a Wife & all.

I have no news to give you - The mail

Jessie is throwing beautifully, and would chatter, play, dance, and sing, in a manner that would amuse you all very much - she is a dear affectionate little Toddy. Mary Ann is increasing well. this climate agrees with us all delightfully.

I must conclude as the man has come for my letter, saying the Ship is about to sail - Accept our warmest love and best wishes - remember us kindly to all friends - and believe me with unceasing affection yours, with true regard

Jno. Murray

her, & it is quite amusing her attempts to depreciate

but the little seems to agree very well with her, as the mother, an excellent nurse & very good Health. I wish you could see yours

can send for to Turriff & Banff.
Rg. Cupri Sulph. g. vj
[illegible]

Mr. Murray
Leslie Turriff
Letters.

We are very ill
good harvest and prices better. William will
have good luck yet — in a wife & all.
I have no news to give you — The mail

Cape
August 1833

Good Hope
19. Nov 1832

long letters a
Nell was lost
me for sleep
Anne and her
quite well. S
accounts of her
reached you
This is quite
as Jeanie, and
[illegible] Balcarres
[illegible] Her Grandfather
[illegible] Ruth & Nelly
Miss Murray is very fond of her little
sister, but extremely jealous of my taking
her, & it is quite amusing her attempts to
depreciate
but the little seems to agree very well with
her, as the nurse, an excellent nurse & very
good health. I wish you could see your

can send for to Turriff & Banff.
Ry. Aspri S. 18th. 8. 1831

We are very well — good harvest and prices better. William will have good Crops yet — in a Wife & all. I have no news to give you — The mail

Cape of Good Hope
August 1833

Cape of Good Hope
17th June 1832

my long letter a
which was lost
as one of the ship
Mary Anne and he
are quite well. I
accounts of her
has reached you
This is quite
as Jeanie, and
against Dalrymple
Mr Mm
st, — the Goffetts
as Ruth & Nelly
is so strong, —
Miss Murray is very fond of her little
sister, but extremely jealous of my taking
her, & it is quite amusing her attempts to
depreciate
but the little seems to agree very well with
her, as the nurse, an excellent nurse & very
very good Health. Wish you could see your

can send for to Tariff or Banff.
Rg. Capri Sulkh. [illegible]

We are very well [illegible]
good harvest and prices better. William will
have good Crops yet — in a Wife & all.
I have no news to give you — The mail

My dearest Mother

Cape of Good Hope
August 1833

Cape of Good Hope
19. June 1832

My dearest Friend

We sent off some long letters a few days ago by a vessel that was lost here, amongst which was one to Aleph informing you that Mary Anne and her doubtlessly daughter are quite well. I hope the one with the accounts of her birth, on the 29th ult., has reached you safe long ere this one. This is quite as sweet a little Baby as Jeanie, and she is to be Christened "Margaret Dalgyrple Elphinstone" on the 32d Mon., the Godfather is Dr Robb, & the Godmothers Ruth & Nelly. Miss Murray is very fond of her little Sister, but extremely jealous of my taking her, & it is quite amusing her attempts to depreciate

but the little seems to agree very well with her, as the nurse, an excellent nurse & very good Milch. I wish you could see your

can send for to Tariff & Bantt.,
Ry. Capri Silk. &c.

Cape of Good Hope
Feby 27th 1843

My dearest Father

and I beg you will make very free with it that I may soon send you more if you like this specimen:— only keep a few old Bottles to drink together at our return, & store them so that the frost may not destroy them. We have letters from Blackheath to late as 26th January informing us that you are all well, & we hope this will find you in the same good health as we happily enjoy — we were very glad to hear of Blyth's improving in his health, & we hope to hear next, of the approaching Nuptials of the 2 Williams. Mr. Warden here is in a tolerably good way, but there is very little going for young men, on speculation, like him, at present. This is the prettiest & most pleasant season at the Cape, we continue to like it more on longer acquaintance. Write us some of your fine long letters soon. In my letter that was lost

her in my estimation — She tells me that she is dirty, & poops in a Towel, and does not use paper (pape) and that she pees on the floor, and that therefore Papa should not take her.

Mamma's hands are now pretty full with two of them, and many a time does she wish that the Kind Grandmamma to rock the cradle, although we have been very fortunate at this time in the persons we have had with us for Nurses. I am sending home some Wine to Blackheath, to be divided with him, Blyth, & each end of the house of Slop (4 parts) — You will have to pay your share of the Expence of freight and duty, but I make a present of the cost of it here to you all

and

have good luck yet — in a way or other.

I have no news to give you — The mail

but the bustle seems to agree very well with her, as she looks an excellent horse & enjoys very good health. I wish you could see your

can send for to Tariff or Banff.,
Ry. Capri S. Elk. Ovi

I was acknowledging the receipt of some of Mrs.
all of which we have received very lega
We all join in warmest affection to
dearest Hap Friends & a kind remem
to enquirers for me and I ever rema

have good luck yet — [illegible]
I have no news to give you — The mail

Cape of Good Hope
7th August 1842

My dearest Father

I have been made very happy by the late accounts from you come to hand that you dear mother are both holding out so well and that you seem to be comfortable in your house & happy. We are all in the best health here, thank God and are doing the same more so the longer we remain at Simons Bay. The dreadful hurricanes & rains we have experienced which have done a great deal of damage both by sea & land. I begin this letter to go by the Captain of one of the Brig vessels who is from Petersburg, & who has offered to take home any thing for me. You see by the frequency of our letters that we do not forget you & we are made very happy by having so often from you all. Mary Anne is now busy with her dress, not left much time for writing letters. Her two young babes and her House keeping occupy all her time but the bustle seems to agree very well with her, as the mother, an excellent nurse & very good health. I wish you could see your

2 October 1842

name Grand Daughter, she is [illegible] [illegible] advanced
for her age. The people will not believe that she is
not yet two years old. And little Margaret is the
picture of health, liveliness, & mischief. [illegible] are
[illegible] [illegible] two [illegible] [illegible] of the Cape if
[illegible] Margaret has been vaccinated, & the Pock
took beautifully. We have no Measles, or Hooping-
cough in this Country, we shall have to encounter
these diseases when we return home. There is
certainly no part of the world where people
are so plagued with servants as at the Cape.
Our [illegible] child is taken ill at a Town
about 100 miles off, and her husband has written
to her to come & see it. She has [illegible] so much
about [illegible] left it to come to service that
the [illegible] she does not think she can [illegible]
back to [illegible] again, so we are again on
the out look for another.

29th Augt 1822

My dearest Father
I have to thank you in the kindest terms
for the [illegible] of a letter which you wrote us
lately, & which gave us the greatest pleasure
to see your handwriting again so little changed
from what it was twenty years ago. We are
often wishing that we had you here for a
[illegible] at the Cape as we think the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] would effectually [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] what it is [illegible] [illegible]

and you must keep a good [illegible] of your
own little [illegible]. [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]
little Margaret is three months old, & she is
well worth her age. Our family is all [illegible]
to [illegible], which will be a novelty for you to
see when we return to [illegible] corner of the
close of my Mother's part of the letter [illegible]
[illegible] lost another of our Nurses, whose place
was soon filled by a nice lass from the High-
lands of Scotland, who came out with her sister,
the wife of a Ship Captain about a year ago
[illegible] whom we are uncommonly pleased
[illegible] is the first Scotch servant we have
[illegible] since we left Scotland, & she and
[illegible] seem to have better qualities for
[illegible] than any of the others. We have so
[illegible] told you how selfish all
[illegible] [illegible] here is quite
the English ones are, & [illegible] house but [illegible] &
master of all in the house [illegible] not
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] come are
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for the
without an occasional [illegible] the [illegible] very
[illegible] [illegible] I am [illegible]
clever of the [illegible] young lad of the
name of Brown [illegible] [illegible] a schoolmaster
to the Cape from the [illegible] of [illegible] - from
[illegible] we have heard [illegible] of the Country
[illegible] [illegible] not tell [illegible] about you
[illegible]

20th Sept. 1822.

My dear William — This letter has been very long in going off, and when I look at it it will ~~date~~ I think be hardly worth sending, but I hate have had very little time for writing long letters. We have lately had the pleasure of hearing from Blythe, and from cousin in London — We are all quite well thank God, but Jeanie has lately had a slight attack of Scarlet Fever, and Mary was complaining for a few days — The Baby

Mrs. Murray
Care of Mr. Smith
Jr.

Cape of Good Hope
27th Dec. 1833

My dear Father & Mother

It seems to me a long time since I wrote to you, and as there is a small prospect of a vessel sailing I embrace the opportunity to let you know that we are all thriving and well. I begin with Papa, he is fatter and looks much better than when we left England, for which we do and thank God offer our grateful acknowledgments. Isabella Jane is growing very tall and is a fat fair boy before time, speaks every thing very plainly sings and dances, she grows and is begun to have quite a companion to me now and is a very sensible child for her age. Margaret is now between 6 and 7 months old and is a lovely fat little Infant — all clapping in the country which is much

together yet argument

20th Sept. 1822.

My dear William — This letter has been very long in going off, and when I look at its old date I think it hardly worth sending, but that Rama has very little time for writing long letters. We have lately had the [illegible] from [illegible] Worth, and

and you may believe a great pet with us all. She has cut two teeth and can say Papa, Mama, and ta ta. — I have plenty to do now, Grandmama to keep them as we like to see them. — I forgot if John mentioned to you that we had taken a cottage 4 miles distant from Cape Town for the summer months, and are now living at it being 8 degrees cooler than in Town. John rides to Cape town every day after breakfast and returns to dinner between 5 and 6 O'clock. — We have kept one town house as it is an excellent one, and have lent it for a few weeks to Dr Denebin and family who is just arrived from England in Dr Robb's place. He is a German, but has been a long time in the British service and is quite an Englishman, his wife is a very lady like pleasing woman but in very delicate health and they have one child a little girl of three years old. — When is our Brother William of Hope going to take unto himself an helpmate, he is really so long about it, tell him with my love that I am quite tired trying to guess who the happy fair one is to be. — We to Bath. Snow begins to disappear of his own entering into the Holy state and it will really be so terrible if he persists in celibacy. — I have not heard from my sister for a long time but Mr Ellen in her last hopes in mentions their welfare and that they were in Italy. What are the young ladies at Blackheath about, I expect to hear of their being married very soon. We had a few lines from Emma in London lately and were delighted to hear from them of the welfare of all our dear friends, Kelly William and Kelly seem to have been prodigious friends, I think they will make a match of it. My dear Grandmama

[illegible]

[illegible] together I get a [illegible]

Cape of Good Hope
28th January 1843

My dear Brotha

We have not yet received letters from any of you to say you have heard of little Margaret's birth, although we have received the Aberdeen Newspaper in which it is mentioned. It is some time now since any of us wrote to you & I have been to every body, but you will be happy to hear that we are all quite well, & hope to hear soon that you are all the same. We are still staying in the country which is much
together. I get a quain to Ryan

20th Sept. 1822.

My dear William — This letter has been very long in going off, and when I look at it all ~~that~~ I think it hardly worth sending, but I hate have had very [illegible] fine long letters. We have cattle

cooler during this hot season of the year than Cape Town, and Mary Anne and the little ones enjoy it very much. Margaret has got to Death without suffering at all from their cutting, and is the favorite of every body. Lance is quite a Companion and a fine stout girl — now at her lessons. I have not any news of importance to tell you, but I was thinking it is a long time since any of us had written, & therefore having a mail making up today I take up my pen. Were any of you at Edinbro to see the King? Are you not going to be married yet? I am glad to see by the Papers that Cattle are selling

better — I hope you had a good crop last year, & that it is turning out to good account. What are our Dearest Parents about, — I am sure you will make it as pleasant and comfortable for them as possible. and nothing will give me so great happiness as to hear that they are well & happy. Our time here here is running fast away, and I hope we shall soon all meet again to have merry days as before. We are really getting anxious to receive letters from home of you now, it is so long since we heard — My Family would I am sure join me most cordially in their love & warmest wishes to all their dear dear friends & tho they know I was worthy

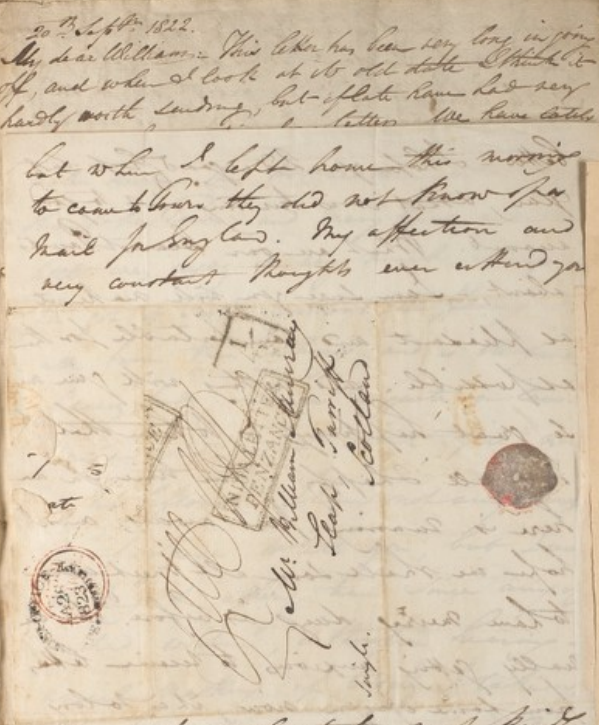
together yet again to [illegible]

can send her to Turrill & Bandt

20th Sept. 1822.

My dear William — This letter has been very long in going off, and when I look at its old date I think it hardly worth sending, but after that I have had very letters we have rec[eived]

but when I left home this morning to come to town they did not know of a mail for England. My affection and very constant thoughts ever attend you



all, and I also beg to be most kindly remembered to all enquiring friends. Give my love to Mr McGuchan, I have hope he will. Believe me ever my dear William with Brother's love yours

Jno Murray

Good bye

you are only to fill your [illegible] will be an abundant [illegible] to you [illegible]

Eye of good Hope

20 Feb. 1823.

My dearest Parents

I have little more to say than that I am quite all quite well, and anxious to hear from home, as we have not had from you since your having received one copy of the first letter. The opportunity and my writing you to be an abundance which I can have, as next, I feel more fast that I can hardly my self of the thought that they must be much missing it that we otherwise should have heard from you. I gave an account of great pleasure I have from Blackbourn that you were all in good health. We are still staying at Cowley [illegible] a very great favourite with us all, and will make you an excellent wife.

[illegible] Together I get acquainted with [illegible]

all, and I also beg to be most kindly
remembered to all enquiring friends.
Give our loves to Mr Mgahan & some
hope he will Believe me ever my
dear Willian with Brotherly love yours
Jno Marsay

Cape of Good Hope
16. March 1825

My dear William

We have had very great pleasure in receiving two letters from you within the last few days, and you have delighted us with all your good news. We cannot help suspecting that you are going to tell us of your marriage in your next, and considering all you say, and where you have been lately, we think we can make a pretty near guess at the favourite lady, and if we are right, I am happy to say she is a very great favourite with us all, and will make you an excellent wife.

Do write us soon and often, it gives us so much pleasure to hear from any of you. We send you the United warmest affection from family to you all, and to enquiring friends, and I am ever, my dearest Parents, with dutiful affection yours

R. Murray

Mr Murray
Post Tarnaby
Wigton

all, and I also beg to be most kindly remembered to all enquiring friends. Give our loves to Mr Hepburn, and hope he is well. Believe me ever my dear William with Brotherly love yours

Geo. Murray

can send for to Turriff or Banff.

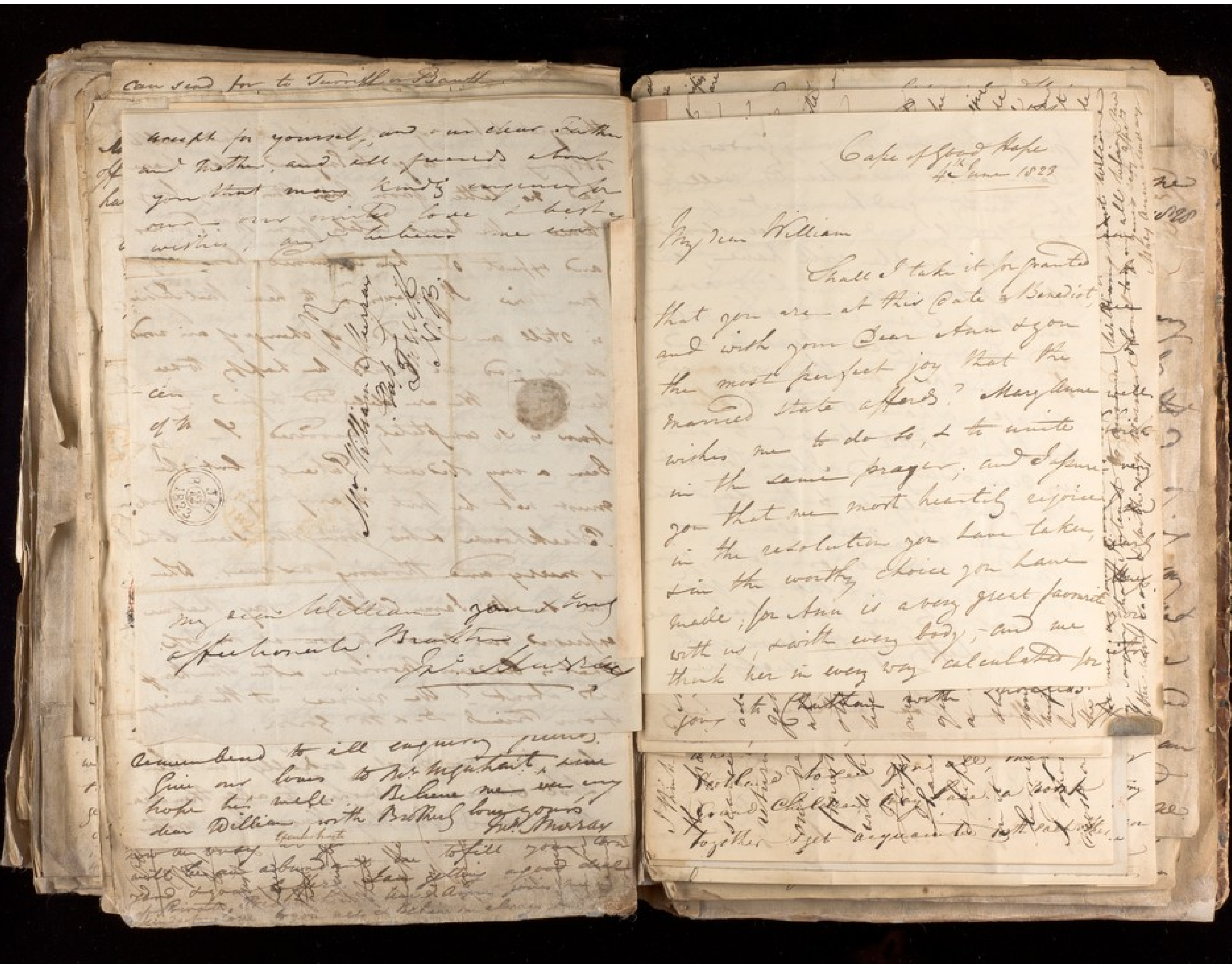
We were not at all angry with her for going up to Stat, and shall be very glad to find her settled there permanently at our return, with a flock of young ones running about her. Now tell us candidly if you are right, if you have not already communicated the secret to us before you receive this letter. We rejoice to hear of the good health of our dear parents, and most sincerely pray that they may long enjoy that blessing — It is most particularly gratifying to us to hear that you are so kind & attentive to them, and I am sure that the young Godwife will have the good sense to put up with their little faults, if they have any, and be as affectionate & kind to them in their old age.

Remember me to all enquiring friends. Give our loves to Mr Mcpherson, & we hope he is well. Believe me ever my dear Dillian with Brotherly love yours

Jnd Massey

We regret to hear of Mr Urquhart's bad health & obliging him to go to England — We have had no letter from him this very long time — We heard lately from Mrs Fraser and expect she has returned home by this time. It grieves us to hear that Lizie is still an Invalid, if change of air would do her good we should be happy to see her here. We are delighted to find Jane quite so completely recovered. She has been a very obedient Patient, but she must not be put to any very hard work. Blackhouse & his youngsters seem to be as merry and thriving as ever. When you see Mr James Chalmers, say that we expressed our sorrow to you at his loss. What is Andrew Morrison & the other Banffies about? We rejoice at the marriage of our Friend Dr & Mrs Gordon.

[illegible]



can send for to Turrill or Bonth

accept for yourself, and our dear Father and Mother, and all friends about you that many kindly [illegible] for our our united love & best wishes, and believe me [illegible]

Mr. William D. Murray

my dear William your ever affectionate Brother
Jno. Murray

remembered to all enquiring friends. Give our love to Mrs. Urquhart, & [illegible] hope her well. Believe me ever my dear William with Brotherly love yours
Jno. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
4th June 1823

My dear William

Shall I take it for granted that you are at this Date a Benedict, and with your Dear Ann enjoying the most perfect joy that the married state affords? Mary Anne wishes me to do so, & to unite in the same prayer, and assure you that we most heartily rejoice in the resolution you have taken, & in the worthy choice you have made; for Ann is a very great favorite with us, & with every body; and we think her in every way calculated for

your [illegible] Chatham with

together & get acquainted with each other

Can send for to Turnill & Bennett.

for the situation of young Goodwife of
Slap – She is warm hearted, well brought
up, thrifty, good humoured, of a
good family, and well accustomed
to the charge she will have; and,
what I think as much of as any
other thing, I am sure she will be
kind to our Dear Parents, and
humour them in their advanced
old age. I have written to Blackhouse
to make a little present to our
very Dear Sister, and I look forward
with great delight, to the days when
we shall all meet again. —
We have received your letter, giving
us the pleasing intelligence of your
intention, and we have been made
exceedingly happy by the news of the
well fare

of all our dear Friends at Slap &
Blackhouse. We were much pleased
to finding that Blackhouse dearest Sister
seem to approve of your choice
so fully, and I have no doubt of
your prudence, & prosperity. —
We are now enjoying the cool
winter season, & glad to see a
fire in the room; and the c[illegible]
have got as rosy cheeks as any
Scotch Lassies; but lose them always
in the Summer time.
Tell our Dear Parents that we
are always talking of them, and
that Jeanie is often asking when
she is going home to see Grand-
mamma. Say to her how much we
feel her kind remembrance of us.
[illegible]

Remembered to all enquiring friends.
Give our loves to Mr Megahan, since
hope his wife. Believe me ever my
dear Dillian with Brothers love yours
Geo. Murray

[illegible]
together. Yet a year to [illegible]

can send for to Turrill & Beach

and in the Webb way. today to Pa[illegible]
that we hope he will dance at a[illegible]
your Daughter's Weddings yet.

Mr. William Murray
Stockbridge Mass.

SEP 5 1853

Now taking it for granted that you and
dear Sue are actually one, then
whole of your Family unite in lov
& warmest affection to her & to you
at Rat[illegible] and I ever remain My
Dear William your loving Mother
Ann Murray

Remembered to all enquiring friends.
Give our loves to Mr Mynahart & sine
hope he will. Believe me ever my
dear William with Brother love & yours
Jno. Murray

Good bye
We are only
to fill your
with sugar & bread & butter & plum cake
and Dear Sue & Mr & Mrs Murray
Rat[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible] Sue is better but
[illegible] out again in the
[illegible] day as the weather
[illegible] I wrote you
[illegible] you would
[illegible] Sue
[illegible] which may
[illegible] intelligence
[illegible] in a few weeks we
[illegible] letters
[illegible] with
[illegible]

[illegible] a book
[illegible] Children
together. I get acquainted

can send for to Turnill & Bantt

we are expecting in a few days, for fear of the arrival of Mrs Murray Lynnes at Leeds, having been led to suppose the ceremony that second Christmas would take place about the beginning of May. By William last letter to Mary Anne which she was extremely pleased to receive last week, and which she hopes soon to answer in a Congratulatory letter to him upon his Bride. We hope that the Wine may have arrived before the Bridal day, as we should rejoice to have contributed something to the merry making on that happy day, but little did we expect when we shipped it that there was such a Champagne fête being used on so good an occasion.

William's letter made us very happy

for the good tidings of the welfare of our very dear Parents — Long may you all continue well, cheerfully together!

I have only to add at present the warmest love of all my family to you all, and that I always am my dearest Friends most dutifully and affectionately yours

Wm. Murray to his Father

Remembered to all enquiring friends. Give our loves to Mr Mcfarlane & Lizzie hope he is well. Believe me ever my dear William with Brotherly love yours

Geo. Murray

Mr Murray
Leeds

Cape of Good Hope
9. November 1823

[illegible] going to the Country in a
[illegible] little time, and I shall
[illegible] the first mail for England.
[illegible] all are well with the exception of my
[illegible] Mary, who is still poorly; but I
[illegible] the Country, I am sure will have the
[illegible] and it is in that hope
[illegible] we are going to take the
[illegible] being about 3 weeks
[illegible] just at hand, & the heat
[illegible] to get approximate, we shall
[illegible] have to take a Country house on our
[illegible] hands we could go either to Rep, Bath
[illegible] Wakkerstroom for the next four months – but
[illegible] cannot be gratified at present, and if you
[illegible] there we should find the weather
[illegible] – then the Thermometer
[illegible] 80° for several months to
[illegible] it seems 120°, which would
[illegible] tickets for you, if it work out
[illegible] fields. We most sincerely hope that you
[illegible] are all quite well & hearty & happy
[illegible] Dear Fanny – Winter is nearly over
[illegible] to see you all, many
[illegible] Children [illegible] a book
[illegible] together. I get acquainted in both parts
[illegible]

Can send for to Turrill & Bennett

Mr Wm Murray
Commercial Rooms
Leeds

POST OFFICE
JY 12
1824
CAPE TOWN

1/2d

Mr Wm Murray
Commercial Rooms
Leeds

Commend me in [illegible]
Give our loves to his Mr & Mrs Murray, & tell
hope he will believe me ever my
dear Willian with Brother's love & yours
Jas Murray

[illegible] to fill 70 [illegible]
[illegible] about [illegible] dull
[illegible] Rumors [illegible] Bethesda [illegible]

Can send for to Tweedsmuir

every thing is going on prosperously with you all.
The new Settlers here have had another deathbed
season and their crops & new houses have been
nearly destroyed by a dreadful rain Attended by
thunder & wind which continued for two days & had
actually washed away the soil of the fields & gardens.
Their place of location is about 550 miles distant
from Cape Town near the banks of what is called
the Great Fish River, and the River is said to have
risen 30 feet above its common level. You can
conceive how great the Spret of the burn of Tweed
would be, if the waters rose to that height - and
how prettily it would water your meadows. The
banks of the Great fish River are curiously
formed, as you may fancy when I inform you
that they were only overflown in a very few places
by all this increase of water, so deep has the
stream worn its bed through length of time &
the force of its current. In the heat of Summer
this River is almost dry, & that it can easily
be crossed in many many places on foot, but
are upwards many deep places in it in which the
Hippopotami lie - the skin of a young one of
which I gave to Captain Roy. We are anxious
to hear how the young Gaile wife is getting on, &
hope that the air of Sleep is agreeing with her &
making her fat. —

Give our loves to Mr McMichael & wife
hope he will believe me ever my
dear William with Brothers long ago
Yrs Murray

Good bye

Dear from Sleep - Winter is nearly over

Together yet again to be

Can send for to Tavistock

INDIA LETTER
WEYMOUTH

Mr John William Murray
Staff Surgeon
North Britain

Remember me to all
Give our loves to Mr Urquhart & tell him
hope he will. Believe me ever my
dear William with Brothers love yours
Gd Murray

Grandhunt

Received from Bloodhouse the gun
& cartridges, & hope soon again to
hear from Staff. Winter is nearly over
Football to be played, & a book
should be kept, & a
together. Get a quart to drink

bed. I am sure when she recovers that
she will be as sensible of your great
attention and kindness to her, and as
grateful to you for it, as we must
all be to you who were at a distance
and unable to take our
share in it. It was well that you
called in Dr. White, who seems to have
been of the greatest service to her, and
it will be best to do so whenever any
serious is the matter — which I
may be long averted. I think
my dear Mother should be allowed to
sleep up stairs in an airy bed if
she preferred it, & I think it is a pity
that our dear Father has accustomed himself
to sleep in such confined air — Lately

with a good dose of Blackhouse's Whisky
Punch for a Night-Cap, and some fine
new Blankets (not old ones that have
no warmth in them) he might venture
to sleep in a bed with Curtains,
and in Summer when this will reach
you, I would recommend him to try
the Experiment. I hope I shall soon have
good accounts of you all again, after
letter you promise me from Mr.
Lister. I am glad to hear that Alex
is getting on so well with his Drilling —
he deserves to prosper as he is so in-
dustrious & obliging. I wish you woollen
stockings would arrive now, for the Winter
is just at hand, but it is not like your
Winters, for we seldom see snow, or feel
frost.

Give our loves to Mr. Mugshart & Lina
hope he will Believe me ever my
dear William with Brotherly Love yours
Jno. Murray

from Blackhouse & he gave us
good accounts, & I hope soon again to
hear from Sarah. Winter is nearly over

together. I get acquainted

Cousin Ann to Truro

I am glad to have to inform you that my dear little girls and I are quite well, when I receive any letter from any of you it is no easy matter to satisfy them answer to all their questions about you

all. They think they know Blyth and Blackhouse from my having their Pictures and they think you will have them when you have seen them - but they think they are he at great loss to know the rest of their friends when they come home & I do not go with them to point them out

Remembrance to all enquiring friends. Give our loves to Mr Mcphail & Anne hope he will believe me very dear William with Brothers love I remain

Yours truly
Jet Murray

Spare sheet

I am only to tell you that we are all well & are getting along nicely & I am & Ann sincerely hoping

Thing you & my dear Papa to keep in good spirits, and I trust of good hope hope we may all meet again the long. Please have a share of my warmest love for you all.

14th March 1825

My dearest Mother

Your ever affn Ellen

It is a long time since I thank you written to you, but I have been so busy that I had not time to write when opportunities occurred, and you must not think me unmindful of you. I have this day had the pleasure of hearing from William & Ann, & delighted with the good accounts they give me of you all. You will be happy to hear that your little grand daughters and I are very well - Many a time do they talk about Grand Mamma & ask me a thousand questions about you - They are both at School & getting on with their Education - their School Mistress is their Governess at home. I had a letter to day from Mr Robert Stanley

from Blackhouse & he gave me good accounts & I hope soon again to hear from Scotland - Winter is nearly over

[illegible]

who gives me a pleasing account of you & how
kindly you received him - I am sorry that Mr
Gibbs has yet no Family. I herewith enclose
you a rough sketch of the Front of the

Tomb Erected to the Memory of the dear departed
Saint, which will be an interesting Memorial
to you. Mrs Horn has been very kind to me
to take charge of the Children & urging me
to send them Home - but - I am keeping
them with me here a little while longer
& sending her their pictures which you will be

Cape of Good Hope
Oct. 7th July 1826

My dearest friend Cape of Good Hope 1826
I think that all the ink at
Cape must be frozen and that
you have yet time to thaw it
for it seems an age since I have
had the pleasure of receiving
any from you. Imagination fits -
but if you are all well, as
I take for no news, as good news, the
only I think of care, being all
very well ourselves, thank God -
I lately dispatched a small parcel
containing Cape flowers for Sister
by

from Stellenbosch the gives
a sample to & I hope soon again to
hear from Sarah - Winter is nearly over

Give my loves to Mr Mquhart & dear
Believe me ever my
dear William with Brothers long ones
Yrs Murray

an old Mediterranean friend on his way home from India which I hope you will receive more speedily than my last Boxes are in reaching me – I have with me at present a Dr Strachan (not in the house) who has come lately from Banff & who says he was intimate with our friend Mr James Chalmers, & from him I have got a good deal of Scottish news. I am sorry to hear of the death of good Dr Duff of Longedward – I hope the family is well provided for – he has Mrs Hom in Aberdeen, but I have as late accounts of her from herself as he brings me – she is a most excellent correspondent – I hope to hear good accounts of my dear Parents by the first Ship now, & of the welfare & thriving state of William & Anna & their lassie. My hopes with they could see their friends in ~~Scotland~~ are constantly asking me about them – they are both healthy & I have great comfort & the pupils to me – I am not yet sure if Miss Brown is to remain with me in the sole charge of them after her Brother & Sister go away, but I have made her a very liberal offer & hope she will stay with them as she is exactly the sort of person to suit me & them.

[illegible] from Bleathhouse & he gives [illegible] accounts, & I hope soon again to hear from Sea[illegible] – Winter is nearly over [illegible]

[illegible] together. I get a quarter to [illegible]

Remembrance to all [illegible] Give my love to Mr McArthur & [illegible] hope he will believe me ever my dear William with Brothers love yours

Jud Murray

Good bye

[illegible] to fill your [illegible] will be [illegible] a good deal [illegible]

I am anxious to hear what sort of a harvest you have had the last year & how the farming business is getting on, and of my acquaintances are getting married

Here we have no public news of any consequence — Our Governor has not got off this as his Lt. Governor is not arrived. Our news from India are not very favourable at present — War continues & there is great sickness — we are happy

remembered to all
Give our loves to Mr. Urquhart, & we hope he is well. Believe me ever my dear William with Brotherly love yours
Jn. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
20 1847

Cape of Good Hope
8th Augt. 1826

My dearest Friend

I wrote you last by Captain who took home a box with some small presents for some of you that I hope will arrive safe. and as it is about a month since he sailed I now take up the pen to write to tell you we are quite well & we hope you are all well. By some of the late arrivals I heard from Blackhouse & he gave good accounts & I hope soon again to hear from Scap. Winter is nearly over

together I get acquainted with each other.

Cape of Good Hope
5 October 1826

My dear And. & John

I have been thinking of writing to you this long time past, & I now embrace the opportunity of a friend who has put in here on his way home from Ceylon. I have been very happy to hear very good accounts of you both, and I hope you are both occupying every hour of your precious time to your improvement. I have not yet got decided accounts of the situation disposed of in India for one of you being yet secured, which I was in hopes would have been decided before this time.

Cape of Good Hope
5 October 1826

I am anxious to hear what sort of a harvest you have had the last year & how the farming business is getting on, and [illegible]

I am to get the situation for one of the boys which I wrote to Calcutta about some time ago. I am in hopes of hearing of further success of your young friends [illegible]

Mr. Andrew Murray
Jun. Esq.
Scotland.

Family and I am so happy to hear that her health is so much improved. The little girl seem devoted to a great [illegible] every body who knows her & will be a source of happiness to you all. Mary [illegible] a long letter with all your news.

Give our loves to Mr Mcfarlane, I hope he is well. Believe me ever my dear William with Brotherly love yours

And. Murray

[illegible]

I am anxious to hear what sort of a harvest
you have had the last year & how the
farming business is getting on, and
times are getting more

but I still look forward to its being yet
for me if we live it — In the mean
time I think John might try how he
would like to be a Doctor, which would
always be a gentle profession for him,
and one in which I could certainly
be of service in forwarding him.
He could have an apprenticeship of
3 years in Aberdeen to any one he
chose, bargaining to get away the last
Winter to Edinburgh, where I would
recommend him to graduate; and
when he was M.D. we should get
him a situation. I hope you are
both studying French, Natural
History, & general History & science;
that you are not forgetting your Sat
Pay attention to your English reading
& Speaking — and do not neglect

Give our loves to Mr Mackintosh & Anne
hope he is well. Believe me ever my
dear Willie with Brother's love yours
Geo. Murray

Cape of Good Hope 1847
Dec.

the minor accomplishments of dancing
and dressing neatly — but be good
economists withall, & keep genteel
society. You will be glad to hear
that your cousins here & I are
very well, and perhaps in a year
or two now we may see you —
they are fond of learning and are
very good scholars for their age. It
is sometime now since I heard from
Black House. I hope all friends
there, and at Skaa & Hillhead are
well. I shall not have time to
write to any of them at this time,
but the Children wrote to Skaa &
I shall enclose their letters in
mine to you — They join me in
affectionate to you — & I hope you will

Kind love to you all, and
Children joined in a kind
together yet a year and we shall be

I am anxious to hear what sort of a harvest
you have had the last year & how the
farming business is getting on, and

Remember me to all kind friends
Believe me my dear Stephens
your very affectionate
Wm. Murray

Cape of Good Hope 1827

My dearest Friends

I never let a good
opportunity of writing & sending home
pass without taking advantage of
know that I do not forget you.
is going home in a few days & I
see if I can send you something
with this large sheet which I

Cape of Good Hope
28th October 1836

My dearest Friends

I never let a good private opportunity of writing & sending home little memorandums without taking advantage of it to let you know that I do not forget you. One of our Officers is going home in a few days & I shall therefore see if I can send you something by him along with this long sheet which I propose filling. In the first place I have the pleasure of informing you that the little girls & I are quite well, thank God, and that we are getting on very comfortably & happily. I have been fortunate enough in receiving several letters from you of late & the good accounts of you all both young & old have been most satisfactory & gratifying to me. In addition to this I have got a deal of North Country news from Mr Leslie who brought me two letters of introduction & whom I was very happy to see & to afford any advice & assistance in my power to him in getting into the ways of this planet of the service. I found him a very intelligent & worthy young man, and I have no doubt but he will get on well. He has been ordered on duty to the Frontiers about 600 miles distant & there he

I am anxious to hear what sort of a harvest you have had the last year & how the farming business is getting on, and [illegible]

Remember me to all kind friends
Believe me My dear Nephew
your very affectionate Uncle
Jno. Murray

Mr Jno. Murray
or Esq.
Aberdeen

Give our loves to Mr Urquhart & tell him I hope he is well. Believe me ever my dear William with Brother's love & yours
Geo. Murray

[illegible]

will be a neighbour of Savage tribes, the Caffers, & where he will meet with many novelties to study. In the way of shooting he will have game of all sorts & sizes from the Elephant, Hippopotamus & Rhinoceros, down to the field mouse — and from the Ostrich to the pretty little Sugar bird — and he [illegible] have a fine field for Natural History [illegible] has been hitherto had very little opportunity. Another offer from your neighbourhood joins us at the same time & Dr. Smith from Mr. Duff also a very sensible active man who has gone to the frontier likewise. — By late letters from Andrew I am glad to find that he is doing so well and liking his profession, & making himself so many good friends — At length Johnny seems to have overcome his reluctance to become a Dr., & I shall be glad to find he has decided on entering on his apprenticeship with any of the Infirmary Drs he likes — They are both fine promising boys — indeed I suppose they are nearly men now — and I have no doubt they will get well forward in the world whenever it may be their lot to go on to settle, which is as yet uncertain and will depend on circumstances — but at present a good Education is the grand object, and a good introduction into Society wherever they are is of great consequence, & I am glad to hear that they are likely to have had in Aberdeen through the kind [illegible] of Mrs. Ross. The expense it may make to their Papa in the Expense, if they be careful and prudent, will be trifling, and it will be made up for, very fully, when they enter the world, by the friends that it will procure them as boys, and the friends they will make by it in life. I think that James would make a good Minister if he would like to try that profession — I do not think that the sea faring line is a pleasant or a profitable one in the present times, unless one has a great deal of money at command, & then too it is precarious. Meanwhile he has time enough yet before him to think a little longer what he will be. I should like to know what Miss Ann's accomplishments are — if she plays, & draws, & dances, & walks & speaks well — So much for Alex.r's family — in a year or two more we shall be talking

Cape of Good Hope
19. Nov.r 1827

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet
[illegible] see the proceedings on the Ceremony

[illegible]

Cape of Good Hope
19th Nov.r 1827

[illegible]

of Mrs Ann's Bevin's Education – Pray has the young
Lass ever been fuffpet yet? Her Cousins say
they should be very happy to assist Aunt in
Grand mamma in nursing her, & indeed they
are very handy nurses & uncommonly fond
of little children which I encourage – Then the
Jeanie wants me to send one of her Drawing
Books to Grandmamma, & I shall try to
do so by this opportunity. I have begun

Mrs. Stone
Blackheath
Kent

Children to ride upon goats & they are now
very independent – Mary Jane seems the best
& boldest rider of the two – The goats here
are very large. I shall now conclude with
our united love & affectionate remembrances
to all our dear friends about you, and
believe me ever your sincere & affectionate
M. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
19. Nov: 1827

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet
I'll give the proceedings on the Ceremony

Cape of Good Hope
14. Nov.r 1827

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet
you will see the proceedings on the ceremony

Cape of Good Hope
19. Nov.r 1847

My dear Williams

On the other half of this sheet
will be the proceedings on the Ceremony

Cape of Good Hope
Nov.r 1826

Mr. Murray
Hook

Cape of Good Hope
14. Nov.r 1827

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet
I will give the proceedings on the Ceremony

of sending a Letter by a person going as
direct as he can to Aberdeen & shall
therefore set about writing a few
Letters hence - I have already said
that we are all well, & this is
always my chief news - Then Chalmers
have heard of the opportunity or
have seen the person / Mr. Shand
who is going, who is an acquaintance
of theirs, and they told him they
would also write, besides sending
verbally by him their love & respects
to their friend. I think they will

both soon write much better than me.
I am anxious to hear what sort of a
crop you have had this year, as the
accounts in the month of July and
beginning of Aug.t were rather unfa-
vourable regarding both the Hay
& Corn Crops. Again it is feared that
there will be a deficiency in the
wheat crop in this Country from
what is called the rust, in many
parts of the Colony. I hear that a 3
of the crop is destroyed by it - The
wheat harvest commences here about
the middle of this month - Barley &
oats were cut a month ago - they

letters.

Cape of Good Hope
14. Novr. 1847

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet
I will give the proceedings on the Ceremony

Cape of Good Hope
16th January 1847

My dearest Friends

Many many happy returns of this season to you all – I hope you are all well and enjoying yourselves – & you will be glad to hear that we are all well & hearty – It appears to me that you have not been hearing so frequently from me as formerly but I cannot say wholly with any neglect in writing, but as I am much engaged in one way or another it may have happened that I missed some opportunity of sending to you having so many persons to write to & so much to write. I am very sure however that you have never attributed my silence to wilful neglect or forgetfulness of you for that will never, never happen. My late letters

Cape of Good Hope
October 1836

private & pers.

– Pray kiss the young
& the Cousins, say
to assist Aunt in
ing her, & indeed they
& unceremoniously fond
I encourage them to
the Drawin

are called Hay in this country & were
as such for the cattle without dem
threshed out – Part however is they
out for feeding the horses as Corn
but not a pound of Meal is ma

Mr Murray
Hay

in the Colony. If any Scotch farm
were to come they wd require to bro
Millers with them, & such as understo
Wind Mills for the rivers run in such
beds that there are scarcely any o
which water mills can be erected, &

Cape of Good Hope
October 1836

— Pray has the young
t? Her Cousins, they
to visit Annette and
ing her, & indeed they
& uncommonly fond
Dear Rose then the

from you & the good accounts I have heard of you all have been exceedingly agreeable to me & made me very happy. I hope my dearest Mother has had no return of the inflammation of the face, but let her consult her Doctor when it makes its appearance at any time as she seems to have benefited by his advice. I hope soon to hear good accounts from dear Sister Ann & hope she has had a happy time & favoured Mamma with a strong Baby to keep Ann Eliza company & prevent her being spoilt by being made too much of. I am glad that mine are sisters as they are so much better companions to each other than if they had been Mamma's, & Margaret is such a sharp little creature in every thing but Music that she is nearly in the same class with Isabella in most things — but

Cape of Good Hope
14. Nov: 1837

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet
[illegible] the proceedings on the ceremony

Bella has all the Musical talent I rather think, & is a great performer already on the Piano, having got the first prize at the Academy at New Years Day — not because she was the youngest scholar, but the best & farthest advanced.

There is one reason I think for your not hearing regularly perhaps, which is that I sent many Letters by boxes & small parcels which is not a good way — I hope however that they will all come to hand. I have just heard that our old Governor Sir Charles Somerset is coming out again which is not generally liked, but it will not make much difference to me I hope, although we were never very good friends.

The young ladies beg to send their most affectionate wishes & warm kisses to each you — and with best remembrances to all your young friends I remain your affectionate

Mrs Murray

Believe me ever yours

Cape of Good Hope
14. Novr. 1827

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet

Cape of Good Hope
1st July 1827

My dearest Friends

I had the great pleasure of receiving Wm's letter of the 8 April a few days ago, giving me the delightful news of you all being well, and I am happy in being able to give you the same good accounts of my family here. I was anxious to hear how you had got over the severe winter, which is often a trying season in your regions, and I trust you will always have a good stock of fuel & shutters to keep out the cold. My children take a great interest in all your letters now, & are very inquisitive about you all. The

INDIA LETTER
PAID
1827

Cape of Good Hope
14. Nov.r 1827

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet [illegible] the proceedings on the Ceremony

it will not be very long now before the time comes, and I hope we shall all meet again & have many a happy day together.

The news of the great changes amongst the Ministers at home, has just reached us, and we suppose that it cause great changes here also which however will not make any great difference to you or me — I am always very busy here & getting on very well — when I leave this station it will not be without regret — in regard to Climate it is superior to all others I have been in Europe, & few or none surpass it.

I am soon expecting a Box with sundries from my Cousins in London which ordered some time ago — It is an age since I heard from either of them. I shall now conclude with the united love of the children & myself to the Houses of Slap & Blackhouse, and to all our other dear friends & believe me

Yours

Cape of Good Hope
Dec.r 1826

Pray kiss the young [illegible] for Cousins & say to Aunt Annie and [illegible] kiss, & indeed they [illegible] unceremoniously [illegible]

chief persons that they pretend to scribble & write letters to in their play I find are their Grand Mamma, Cousins & Mrs Thom, and sometimes Effy — and I suppose there are some hundreds of pieces of paper about my room scribbled over with sweet little letters & drawings to them. I am much pleased with the gratifying accounts of your young family at Slap, & I can easily conceive what anxiety Mde Jeanne's situation expected from the difficulty in getting a good Nurse. Their Cousins here are doating fond of Children, & I hope they may have their Cousins & friends at home in their early youth that they may be the better friends in after life, but it is still very uncertain when they may go to Europe, altogether I remain here there is no necessity for my parting with them — but

Cape of Good Hope
14. Nov.r 1847

My dear William

On the other half of this sheet you will see the proceedings on the Ceremony of laying the foundation of the first Presbyterian Scottish Church in this Colony —

I fear you are all thinking me a very lazy correspondent but I assure you I am very busy — I hear frequently of your welfare & that is what I most wish to know & I am happy to [illegible] we are all quite well. I have sent an order on you for £15 to Mr. Paulton Tuckfield for Dr. Leslie's Mother — the Dr. dined with me a few days ago & sailed on the 17th for India in perfect health & spirits — I hope you have had a good harvest this year — wine is turning out very good. — Blackhouse will settle with you for the £15, & he tells me you are very punctual in your accounts. I hope my dear Sister & your little ones

Pray kiss the young [illegible] & her Cousins, & say to Aunt Annie and [illegible] ing her, & indeed they [illegible] & uncommonly fond [illegible]

Ever my dearest friends
Ever most faithfully & affectionately
Yours
Geo. Murray

Mrs Murray
Cape Town
C.G.H.

are thriving nicely – and I am rejoiced
to hear such accounts of your beloved
Parents, & to know that Anne
& you are so very kind & attentive
to them. – Continue my dearest friends
to administer the balm of kindness

and help to them in their feeble state
& it will bring you a Blessing.
Accept for you all – all our warm
love & affection – May health
and prosperity attend you – and
Believe me with sincere
affection yours faithfully &c
W. McMurray

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

Many happy returns of the season to you all –

Cape of Good Hope
18th January 1830

My dearest Friends

I have within these few days had the great pleasure of hearing from my dear Brother William of date 2nd & 16th September. It was delightful to hear such good accounts of the health of my beloved Parents – but at same time I had great regret, to hear of the attack of illness sustained by my dear Sister. It is early for her to be getting the Rheumatism, & she must take care of herself when she gets well rid of it – which I hope she very soon did, and I hope it was not her back that was affected, for that is a weakly part with her.

account of the Cape of Good Hope

Warden

are thriving nicely – and I am beyond
[illegible] to some beloved

I cannot well think how it happened
that you had been long, long in hearing
from me, and I fear you must have
been thinking me forgetful of you
which is very far from being the
case, for however busy I may be
I am constantly thinking of you
all, although I am often busy &
very tired when I get home – so
much so that the children complain
of my being out so much, & try
to engage me with them, & to get
me to hear lessons or play with them
when I have any leisure at home
and I suppose William is fencing
this with his little girls. I was
glad to hear such good accounts of
your crops I hope you got them all
safely in. I suppose
love & your
and prosperity attend you – and
Believe me with sincere
affection yours faithfully
McCluskey

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

you farmers with for war & war prices
again – It is at last ascertained that Sir
George Cole comes as Governor to the Cape and
I suppose I shall go on very well with him
as I am well known to him – I went out
first of all in the same Expedition with
him to the Mediterranean & I have at
present his daughter under my charge
whom I have cured – He is at present
Governor of the Mauritius, but he will
not be a better Governor than Genl. Bourke.
Poor Caro! it indeed gave me a
severe heart pang to hear of his
name & of his fate – he was a
link of remembrance of former days that
never never can be forgotten. My dear
children thank God are well. They are my
delights & blessings, & they are going on
improving daily – Their little minds
are already widely opened & cultivated
& they are dear companions to me &
to one another. I know you will be
pleased to hear some account of the Cape of Good
Hope.
[illegible] inquiring also about
Mr Warden

Cape of Good Hope
26. August 1820

My dearest Parents

I have been made very very happy by being lately from Slap & Blackhouse that you are keeping well and that the younger branches of the Slap family are thriving so well. I am happy to say that we are all in excellent health likewise, & hope we may yet meet happily round your fireside to give you an account of the Cape of Good Hope

Cape of Good Hope
11. Nov. 1829

are thriving nicely – and I am regrettd
and amounts to your beloved

I think I have no news that would be
interest to you – many changes have
lately taken place in the Colony wh
will no doubt be favourable to ma

its future prosperity, & it will now be
on a more English sort of system than
to many – I shall now conclude wi
all our loves to you all, & with m
warmest wishes believe me ever
dearest friends your affectionate
Jno Murray

and prosperity attend you – a
Believe me with sincere
affection yours faithfully &c
Jno Murray

making inquiry also com
Warden

are thriving nicely – and I am rejoiced
[illegible] to your beloved

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

The time is drawing on when I must be sending home my dear Lassies whether I immediately accompany them myself or not but if I do not go with them, you may be sure that my chief prospect will be to join them as soon as I can. Their good friend Mrs Grant has offered to accompany them & stay with them, which will be a great relief to my mind satisfaction to me, as she has been so long with them & knows them, and my ways with them – but I am not inclined to send them to Scotland at first as I fear the cold would be too strong for them, and I am therefore thinking of boarding them with some respectable & kind family in the neighbourhood of London – or at Cheltenham – perhaps till I want home myself to take them to see their friends in Scotland.

I hope that William will be able to keep Slab for I should not like to go back, & find it was not "Home" still – give our loves to him & Ann & the children – accept the same yourselves – and that you may enjoy Health and Happiness is the constant & sincere wish of My Dearest Parents – of your affectionate Son

Mr Murray

affection yours faithfully &c
Mr Murray

Mr Murray inquiring also about
Marden

are thriving nicely – and I am beyond
expression to your beloved

affection yours faithfully
Mc Murray

Mrs Murray
Cape

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

You just must consider this a long letter from
it is about all I write nowadays – I am very
busy indeed – Your letter of the 4th June
is the last I have received from home – I
suppose you have written to me at Sydney
since – I hope to hear from you soon
I suppose you are all well at home
to hear continued
good accounts of you & the family
I see by the papers that you have had
a good deal of rain – I hope it will
have set in now for better & that the
crops will be fine – It is scarcely warm
enough for us at present – we have
a fire almost every night, & the
boys are obliged to keep doors & windows
shut & blowing fires & drinking hot
whiskey punch to keep themselves warm.

Mackay inquiring also about the
Warden

are thriving nicely — and I am respond
[illegible] to your beloved

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

and yet I trust we shall feel all
well & comfortable, & happy, & your
little Granddaughters & I wish you a very
merry season & many returns. We
have been wishing we could send
you in a dozen of our best wine
for Christmas day & that you could
send us a bottle or two of whisky
& some oat meal — I hope you will
have some of the last Constantia
that home. I wish you to be con-
tented & happy, & to have every
body about you so, & I am sure
it is the wish of all your Sons —
Dear William & his kind Wife
speak so affectionately of you both

I wish so much to make you happy
that I feel very much obliged to them
& I hope you are fully sensible of it.
They were very busy at Harvest & I
sincerely hope it was an abundant
& profitable one for them. I hope they
will get their lease renewed on favorable
terms. Give our warmest love to them.
When I think what a wretched state
poor Ireland is in, how happy I am
that you are all quiet & comfortable
in Scotland. We trust our old Com-
=mander the Duke of Wellington will
be able to get his own Country quieted.
I have sent a prescription for
Black house to get for you my
dear Mother, but I hope you will
not be using much medicine as
it may rather do you harm than
good — much better
[illegible] this by Captain [illegible] upon [illegible] and also
[illegible]
making inquiry also about Mrs
Marden

affection yours faithfully &c
McCluskay

are thriving nicely — and I am ever
[illegible] and ever yours beloved

but just live quietly, & keep your
mind easy, & do not trouble yourself
much about any thing besides "cracks
with neighbours & friends." & taking

care of your "Auld Good Man" — I wish
my little girls could go to you now & then
for I am sure they would amuse you &
would like to learn Scotch — They have
begun French

affection yours faithfully &c
Mc Murray

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1849

Cape 5. March 1849

[illegible] William

[illegible] the pleasure of receiving
[illegible] of the 19th October only yesterday, and
[illegible] to congratulate you & Mrs
[illegible] on the birth of a little stranger to your family, and
[illegible] anything may attend this
[illegible] Christian. — It is curious that you &
[illegible] girls, but I am glad that my
[illegible] as they are so much better
[illegible] for each other. I am very happy
[illegible] that Ann was recovering so well, &
that our dear Parents are yet spared to
[illegible] and Martha, and also to hear such good
[illegible] of many friends. — I am glad
to say we are quite well, and now nearly
[illegible] the climate which has at times been
very [illegible] and oppressive. I am going home
this by Captain Boyd of the Almorah, and also
[illegible] inquiring also about Mr
Marden

are thriving nicely – and I am rejoiced
at [illegible] and amen to your beloved

with letters I have sent specimens & horns of the horns of different sorts of Antelopes of this Country for Andrew's Museum – I am glad to hear he has such a taste for Natural History and a novelty sent him occasionally will therefore be prized by him. Grandmamma might make him a present of the birds. I have sent her lately a stand for her Teapot in a Blackhouse Bag, and some Children's Clothes for you, which I hope will arrive safe. You seem all to have got an idea that I am going home immediately but that is not yet decided on this side the water – it will depend on the arrangements of the department that may be made at home by Sir James Stephen and if I can remain for a whole longer I think it will be all the better – I may be long before I get a place to suit me so well – I might go further & not fare better – for the climate is excellent and my private practice good.

Affectionate yours
Mc Murray

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1839

Indeed if I were to stay here a couple of years longer I might get our Nephew John out and establish him at the Cape, which would be a better thing than for him to enter the Army. I shall probably know about my future movements in a month or two, as there is now a vacancy at the Mauritius & in India – and it may not be long now, ere it come my turn for further promotion – but tell them I am little hence than any way – You did not say what notions our father had taken about our money matters – It was surely all very plain – you got every thing into your possession and I have your Bill for £600, which was my calculated share – and £1000 was settled on our Parents during their joint lives, which was also arranged about. Tell them not for nothing – if we did not place money at their disposal, I am sure we will all readily join to make them comfortable and if interest has diminished since our agreement the loss is to me be diminished accordingly as I shall write to Blackhouse about – Infinitely more easy is necessary, but we must very soon [illegible] about money matters making inquiry also about Mr. Warden

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

Cape of Good Hope
26 April 1829

My dearest Parents
and Friends!

I do not know what you will say when you hear that I am going to be married in the month of June, if it please God that we live & are well. The Lady I have chosen is Mrs Grant, whom I have mentioned in my Letters before, as having been such a friend to the children, and whose amiable qualities & domestic disposition, and cultivated mind have been long known to me, from her having lived in the same house as an Invalid under my care.

Mr William Murray
Mat Smith Esqr

are thriving nicely – and I am rejoiced
to send to your beloved

My little girls are uncommonly advanced in their Education – Isabella is before Margaret in Music and drawing – Maggy has begun Music but has not such ear or taste for it as Bella – They are nearly equal in reading, writing, grammar, and French – she is rather behind in geography – and

all their progress they are almost entirely indebted to their kindest of friends Mrs Grant – They have gone through their exercises with – Bill Sergeant, in winter, if they remain here the Dancing Master again. I hope that some day the acquaintance opened may be of advantage to your little Girls – They speak of them often & seem

affection yours faithfully
Mc Murray

very kind
Mr Murray inquiring also about Mr
Warden

are thriving nicely — and I am beyond
[illegible] amount, your beloved

affection yours faithfully
Mc Murray

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1849

She is the widow of a Captain Grant of the East India Company's Service — she died in India upwards of a year ago, and as I am to be appointed at the Head of the Medical Staff here, and to remain at the Cape, this will enable me to keep my dear little Girls with me in the most desirable way, with their kind friend to take care of them as their nearest relative.

I shall now send you their pictures home which I had done for myself to keep, and I will send you the picture of her who is to be your Daughter in law — by the first good opportunity — by which you will see that she is young and handsome — But what is better than all she is good.

Being well assured of all your good wishes, I will give due directions in time to have Cake & Gloves for you all, and I shall be happy to hear from you as soon after you receive this as convenient.

We are all quite well, thank God, I hope this will find you in the enjoyment of the same.

Mrs Grant begs me to present her best respects to you both, and says she will have very great pleasure in writing you, when she has a claim to send her love & duty. — The Children send their love & 100 kisses to you & all their dear relations about you in which I sincerely join them, and [illegible] making inquiry also about Mr Warden

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

Cape of Good Hope
14th June 1829

My dear Father & Mother.

For the first time I have now the pleasure of addressing you and I begin my correspondence with the much honored and dearly loved Parents

John desires me to write to you at this time by an opportunity which just occurred to commence my dutiful affection and acquaintance with you by informing you that we were married in the Military Chapel here on the 14th inst and to-day being Sunday we made our appearance at Church again which is the signal to our friends here that I am at home to them, and as I am not a very strong creature I am rather tired with all my exertions and number of visitors but cannot let the opportunity go without writing to beg your blessings and good wishes

very kind [illegible] inquiring also about Mr. McKay Warden

with my most hearty good wishes for your Health & happiness & my dutiful regard Believe me, My dear Father

affection yours gratefully
Mc Murray

Your ever attached Son
Mc Murray

Mr Mc Murray
Care
Mr Gale
Tailor
Sadleine

are thriving nicely – and I am again
[illegible] and ever to you beloved

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

My dear Sister I have heard much about you from my dear husband and about my new brothers and sister and their children &c. I am better acquainted with you all than you think and I am sure I shall be very happy if God should grant that we all meet. I consider that I owe my life to my good Doctor he has got me through severe and tedious illness and I feel that my health and constitution are re-established nearly to their original state, and I am not a little indebted to for this to the companionship of our two little dear darling children and whose education has been my chief occupation and delight now for several years that I have not been going much out except now and then that the Doctor gave me a drive in his gig. If one thing more than another affords me a prospect of great happiness in this service with my

dear John it is my sincere attachment to these children and their's to me and I trust that I will never have cause to regret my having become so nearly related to them. We are all well thank God and I hope this will find all dear at home. I must by that that will be taken in part as a letter also to my brother Mr William and my sister at home although I shall write again soon to them. I purpose writing at this time to Mr Lockhouse for his saying I must write to you all at that time as he wrote to you all before our marriage to announce the event and he is very busy as he is now to be at the Head of the Department here in the Pretoria branch and has been long at the Head of the Civil Medical Committee and esteemed and respected by every one from the Governor downwards, as you no doubt all know.

affectionate yours faithfully &c
McMurray

very kind [illegible]
making inquiry also about Mr
Warden

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1849

Cape of Good Hope
27th October 1849

My dear Sister

As the Doctor had been writing to Blackhouse I shall do myself the pleasure of addressing a few lines to commence acquaintance with you as the first have wrote to our dear Parents, and hope very soon to have the pleasure of hearing from you all on my becoming your new relation. I shall be very happy to hear that you are all well at home as I imagined to see that the Doctor and the Children are quite well and that I am also pretty strong myself and the Doctor says if he had me at home for a few months in the fine invigorating air there and under the care of his dear Mother

very kind [illegible]
making inquiry also about Mr.
Warden

authority nicely – and I am respond
[illegible] to your beloved

I suppose I must depute you at our joint request to make our marriage known to such of our numerous relatives as you know would take a friendly interest in it. I hope you will receive the children

pictures and [illegible] safe which were lately sent, and I must now conclude with the united love, duty and affection of our little family [illegible] to you all and with great pleasure I subscribe
Yours dutiful & affectionate daughter
Eliza Murray

Good bye to all
Mr. Murray

affection yours [illegible]
Mr. Murray

are thriving nicely — and I am beyond
[illegible] to your beloved

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1849

and living quietly among all your good things such as the fresh milk and butter cut cake honey & fillies and Whitby gardens and gooseberries and green fields &c. I should soon be quite well. We often talk of you all and I hope the time is not far distant for going home that I may have the pleasure of making a personal acquaintance as I think the Doctor friends are all as fond of him at home as they are here and he says he is sure they would be all very kind to me and I should like very much to see you all and take home our two dear little lasses to grandmamma and grandpa. They have been long my companions and comfort when I was in a wretched state of health and unable to walk and therefore our attachment had been formed in the strongest

affection yours faithfully
McMurray

manner long before there was the most distant idea that we should ever become such near relations and as circumstances have turned out that mutual affection is one of the greatest comforts for us all. They are growing nice big girls, fondish them and are very good sweet tempered creatures, loving & and undeviatingly fond of each other and getting on very well in the different branches of advanced education & accomplishments. I hope your two little all & daughters are thriving nicely and by you will give me an account of them and I hope our Brother has had a good harvest this year to make you rich. The Doctor desired me to tell William that he has the promise of a new sort of Indian wheat which grows in the cold parts of India and which he is sure will resist the climate & ripens soon before Barley.

very kind love
making inquiry also about Mr.
Marden

are thriving nicely – and I am rejoiced
to [illegible] to some beloved

I beg you will remember me to Major and Mrs Douglas
when you see them and I would now conclude
with my united dutiful affection and best wishes
to Grandpapa and Grandmamma, Brother Willy
Yourself and the children and believe me to
remain My dear Sister
Respectfully Your
affectionate Brother
Elizabeth Murray

Mrs Murray

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

[illegible] dispose to receive
[illegible] with all your
[illegible] on our marriage,
[illegible] we are very
[illegible] wishes, and
[illegible] such sincere
[illegible] ort heartily
[illegible] one of the very
[illegible] t we can have
[illegible] of you all, &
[illegible] have to com-
[illegible] of ourselves
[illegible] have written
[illegible] very lately,
[illegible] this good op-
[illegible] but I was
[illegible] portunity passes without writing again.
I had a letter from Mr Barton of
very kind congratulations, and
making inquiry also about Mr
Warden

27 April 1829

My dear Mr Murray

On receiving your pleasing
communication of yesterday to Mrs G.
I can assure you the pleasure
pleasure as I myself felt on becoming
acquainted with it, having equally joyed
and fully appreciated the great advantage
and happiness bestowed on your charming
children by your very amiable and highly
accomplished intended, absolutely
warranting all that happiness and comfort
in your union, which we gladly anticipate
and from our hearts most earnestly
wish you long to enjoy –

Believe me to be the real sentiments
of your faithful Friend
Wm Thompson

Cape of Good Hope
11th Nov. 1829

My dearest friend

We had the happiness to receive your kindest of letters with all your friendly congratulations on our marriage, and be assured that we are very sensible of your good wishes, and that we dearly love such sincere friends, & that we most heartily thank you all. It is one of the very greatest pleasures that we can have to hear good accounts of you all, & I am very happy to have to communicate the same of ourselves. Eliza & the children have written home amongst you very lately, but I will not let this good opportunity pass without writing again. I had a letter from Mrs. Panton of very kind congratulations, and making inquiries also about Mr. Warden

who I am sorry to say died here on the , and I beg you will thank Mr Panton most kindly for me, & give my best regards to Mrs Panton and him. Mr Warden died in the Civil Hospital here, of Consumption - he was in very poor circumstances, & indeed had no funds whatever when he died, but he had several friends and had every care & attention paid him in his last illness, under which he suffered for several months - I have got Mr Panton's Bill by me for £10 - which he was never able to pay a farthing of - I will return it by some opportunity tho' it may be of no use.

I hope our dear Mother has received the pictures safe by this time for I am sure she will like to possess them and to look at them sometimes - Eliza begs to thank her mamma most kindly for the Web she has prepared for her, and she will be very happy to get it. We are delighted to hear such nice accounts of the little lassie at Skaw whom ours would be so happy to see. We are doing so well, & the climate is so good here that it seems so much our advantage to stay a little longer, that you cannot be disappointed at our not going home at present. - It is very pleasing to have such good accounts of the Blackhouse family & I hope to see John here, but I have something better in view for him, if I succeed, that to remain at the Cape, about which I will write to him soon. I suppose Andrew will settle in Aberdeen & get on there with good friends

Cape of Good Hope
14th April 1850

My dearest Parents,

I take the earliest opportunity of sending you the intelligence, which I am sure will be very gratifying to you, that Wm Murray got a pretty little Lassie on the 11th Instant and that both are doing very well — Her sisters are delighted and surprised at the event, and forsake every thing, for a few days that the allowed of the Nurses — Mamma is going to

[illegible]

[illegible] Pretty Pretties which Papa has [illegible] of business, & time also to have play with the Bairns at home — Sometimes

I must now conclude with begging you will give our best compliments to all friends who enquire for us with good wishes — accept our warmest love for yourselves and wishing health, happiness, and prosperity may attend you all. Believe me My dearest Friends — ever your affectionate attached Wm Murray

Mrs Murray
Manse
Tarrett
Scotland

FOOLSCAP

INDIA LETTER
PLYMOUTH

JAN 27
1850

the Baby herself which I think will be the means of restoring her health most perfectly & be an additional amusement to her – I was for some time very anxious & uneasy about her as she threatened to have a premature confinement at the 8th Month, and as she was & nearly dying after a Baby she had by her former Husband, but thank God she has got safely over it with quietness and care, and I trust both will go on well.

I am obliged to conclude in haste, but we all join in expressions of our warmest love and affectionate duty to you – and with kindest regards & wishes to all friends around you. Believe me ever

My dearest Parents

Your affectionate Son

Wm. Murray

P.S.

The Baby is not unlike the Picture of her in a manner which I sent home to you – with an intermixture of my own features –

I have sent home different parcels of the Nepaul wheat for you all. &c.

and working health, happiness, and prosperity may attend you all. Believe me My dearest friend – ever your affectionate attached Wm. Murray

Different Curiosities which I hope shall plant & business, & time also to have play with the Children at home – Sometimes

Cape of Good Hope
18th June 1834

Cape of Good Hope
14th October 1834

My dear Brother

We had great pleasure in receiving your kind letter of the 20th June last and thank you all for your congratulations & good wishes on little Elizas Birth – I am very happy in being able to say we are all quite well & hope this will find you all the same – & that there was no occurrence of Fever or sickness of any kind amongst you – We shall be happy to find that our dearest mother is alive again, & our dearest Father as well as usual – Approving highly of your plan of Establishing a school near you I shall open a Subscription list in my family towards its furtherance & shall here begin with myself —

Wm. Murray Esqr. £5..5/. —
Eliza Murray Sept. Do. 2 - 2
Sarah Murray Junr. 1 1
Alexander Wm. Murray 1 1
Eliza Murray Junr. Do. 1 1 Total £10..10/.

[illegible] & trying to be useful & happy, & trying also to have a play with the baiseu at home – Sometimes [illegible]

and prosperity may attend you all Believe me My dearest friends – ever your affectionate attached Wm. Murray

Mr. Aurora
Sir Murray
Seat Smiths
Scotland

POST OFFICE TWO PENCE
JUN 27 1834
JUN 27 1834

This will be sufficient authority for my Banker Blackhouse to settle with you for the Ten Guineas we have subscribed on the other side — which we place at your disposal to be laid out as you think on the Seminary establishment, to which we wish every success — They let me know wherabouts you are building it & how you get on.

I am sorry that the wheat has been so long in reaching you — but I hope you will yet arrive safely & succeed. Be careful of it for a year or two till you get enough for your husbandry & separate any different sorts that may appear amongst it — I should think it best to sow it in the Autumn for your Climate — but you may try a little of it early in the spring. My friend I think Stock you is inferior, but the other sorts are not adapted to your climate on account of their lateness.

We have letters from all of Mr. Murray's Brothers at this time (2 in India) the 4th had not yet reached Scotland so soon as he proposed when this was here but there he has been amongst

[illegible] warm, [illegible] and prosperity may attend you all. Believe me My dearest friends — ever your affectionate attached W. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
18th June 1824

you before this time — My friend to whom I wrote about Stephen Johns situation in India has been travelling on the continent & there not yet heard from him — but it matters no difference in regard to his Dealing at present & after all he may perhaps do as well by coming out to the Cape as India as allowances are so much reduced. I have Mr Gurnard has left Bank ere this time — I think I told you that we had made up our quarrel & that Brother in law is now my Brot. Collin in London — I have not heard from Ruth of Nelly lately, which is quite my own fault, as I have so little time for correspondence yet I hope I do not get quite in arrears with you & Blackhouse — Your letters & news are always of the greatest interest to us — It is rather curious as you say that no families should be all of one Gender, but I would not exchange my dear little girls for any boys and have no anxiety on that score. I must now conclude My dearest Sister I have only got to add that we all unite cordially & in the most affectionate way to you all & that I am ever Your most devoted Brother W. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
18th June 1844

The Boy will be at
Dundee to attend to
Gr. & Sophia when you
be in Edinbr. you
are Cape of Good Hope

New Years day 1844

My dear William

I had a call yesterday from an acquaintance of yours Mr Smith of Aberdeen, and I have availed myself of his offer to take any thing home from me to you, so I begin to scribble a Letter & shall then see if we have any thing else to tell — In the first place we send you all our best wishes for many very happy returns of this season.

[illegible] Different pleasures which I have to [illegible] business, & things also to have [illegible] play with the bairns at home — sometimes [illegible]

[illegible] wishes, happiness, and prosperity may attend you all Believe me My dearest friend — ever your affectionate attached Mr Murray

Cape of Good Hope
18 June 1851

Cape of Good Hope
19th April 1851

My dear Mother

As there is an opportunity at present of sending letters to Europe I would avail of it to write to you as I am sure you are always happy to hear from us. I am very glad to be able to tell you that we are all quite well and getting on very comfortably and happily. Pallas and Maggy are growing great big girls and are very good children and getting on very well with all their studies. Little Baby continues to thrive as well as we could possibly wish. She was a year old on the 10th of this month. I have just weaned her and she is now beginning to get her double teeth. She is the greatest pet with us all, and her sisters are so fond of her that it is their greatest delight to get her to play with and their being so makes us all very happy. He is

[illegible] business, & time also to have a play with the baby at home – sometimes

[illegible]

Mrs Wm Murray
Mt Pleasant
Aberdeenshire

F. Smith Esq

and prosperity may attend you all. Believe me My dearest friends – ever your affectionate attached Eliza

Cape of Good Hope
18th June 1844

to find of her Pupil that she will go to us when
when she sees time. We were very happy when
by a letter I had the pleasure of receiving a little
time ago from Mrs William Murray that you
and our dear Mother and all our friends were
quite well and I hope this will find you all
equally so. I was very happy when that my
Brother Robert had been paying you all a visit
and he is quite delighted with the kindness you
have all shown him for which I feel most
grateful, we expected him to come here about this
time next year and we are not sure but he
will be accompanied by the young Doctor.
We were very happy when that our brother William
had had an addition to his family and that
Mrs Murray had got so well over her confinement
I think his family and ours put together would
make a pretty good show of daughters. The
Doctor is busy with all his duties but
although

he undergoes a great deal of fatigue it does not
in the least hurt his health as he never sits
and looks well and strong. We thought some little
time ago that we should now be leaving the Cape
but we find we are still to remain here for a while
longer and it is such a healthy place and the
Doctors practice so good that we have every
reason to be satisfied. I should like much to go
home to become acquainted with you and all our
friends and I hope some day not very distant
I may have this pleasure. We hear very frequently
of you all from Blackwoods who is a very
correspondent. his family appear to be from all accounts
very promising young people and I wish that our
children could become better acquainted with all
their cousins. I should write to my sister Mrs Murray
by the next opportunity. We all join in
every affectionate regard and wish to you and
our dear Mother and all our friends & Relations
and prosperity may attend you
all. Believe me My dearest
Friend - ever your affectionate
attached Eliza McMurray

My dear Mother
Your very affectionate daughter
Eliza Murray

[illegible] a Pleasure which I hope to [illegible]
[illegible] business, & time also to have
play with the bairns at home - sometimes
aspire to 8.

all Believe me My dear
friend - ever your affectionate
attached Ex. Murray

and domestic affairs. We pray that God may be kind to you, and grant you consolation and health & happiness & that he may be pleased to spare us all to meet again that my family may have the pleasure of cherishing you & showing how much they love and esteem you. We thought some time ago that we might probably have been at home about this time, but there is no certainty in our movements, and we may have to go to India for a year or two, to finish my period of service before I can return to settle altogether at home – I have now got so high up in the service, and my pay is so good that a few years more will enable me to return pretty comfortably provided for if health be granted, and

all Believe me My dearest friends – ever your affectionate attached W. C. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
18 June 1854

My dearest Mother

I am sure I have every reason to be most thankful to the Almighty for this blessing which he has so bountifully bestowed on me. I had a letter from my nephew Dr. John a few days ago from London and rather regret that he has not obtained an Indian appointment but it is perhaps all for the best – he may succeed very well here, and the climate is a most congenial one for him to enable him to bear the exertions he may be called on to make in his profession. I shall be expecting him out to me in the month of June which is the beginning of our mild winter. We have been very well in the Country this Summer, which has done Mrs Murray and the children a deal of good and yesterday they all spent the day at our friend Gommers where they enjoyed themselves very much, as he has a nice family of children & the grounds and gardens helped out yours beats them in Apples Gooseberries & Currants.

The Pastor of Rev Thomas de Kock's Congregation hoisted a white flag in honour of business, & trade also not have play with the barrow at home – sometimes

aspire to

we hope to have the pleasure of Mr. Fraser's
Company this winter also when I have no
doubt John & he will enjoy themselves, but
they will not think so much of
Cape ladies as of those they leave be-
hind them in Scotland. John says the Sonder

cannot at all compare with them. We
happy to hear such good accounts of
Hall, and of all Blackhouse branch
family. It must be a source of great
to you to see your stock turning out
creditably to you, & to find that the good
and precepts of their parents are followed by them

all Believe me My dearest
friends – ever your affectionate
attached W. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
18th June 1854

My dearest Mother

I scarcely expect to give you what happ
since it affords me and my little family
circle to hear good accounts of your health
much of that of the dear friends about you
and I scarcely mean that that blessing
may long be granted by the Almighty to
you all – you will be glad to
hear no doubt to hear the
good accounts of us, and I am
thankful that I shall be able to inform
you that we are all very well, and
that time passes lightly & pleasantly
with us. At the same time our
probably the young people
on board with their education
the pastime of their manners & their
different pursuits while Papa
plenty of business, & time also to have
play with the bairns at home – sometimes

to learn Thing Work to Sew, or to Sew a Coarse, at Logic, or to Play at Puzzle to have a regular dance at Court to them all at which Baby joins the great fun. Your Mamma tells is growing a great big girl & promises to be tall & rather pretty & clever & happy & thinks will be of a good sort too, & is generally good tempered & is very clever except at Music in which she is rather backward in her fingers with her sister but she dances better & is altogether a much scholar & a dancer. Baby is a very great favorite of everyone & almost in Cape Town. She is a pretty & lively creature & can hold & speak Dutch with the Dutch people & English with the English & even tries Hindostanee with the Indian Children & their Servants

Elsie & I are wishing that we had an opportunity of sending some things to you & Dear Una — You must just tell Blackhouse to keep you in Cape Wine from the store I have in his hands and I shall tell him to do so, and I hope you like it, and that it does you good. We shall now be looking out very soon to have the pleasure of seeing Mr Fraser and Doctor John on the way out to India. I am sure he is much indebted to Mr Fraser for his great exertions to get him the appointment and I have no fear of John's getting on well. He will do much better than if he had come to the Cape. But I am well enough satisfied with the Cape and I hope to be allowed to remain some years longer for I have no work to go on to India altho I should not care for my own sake alone.

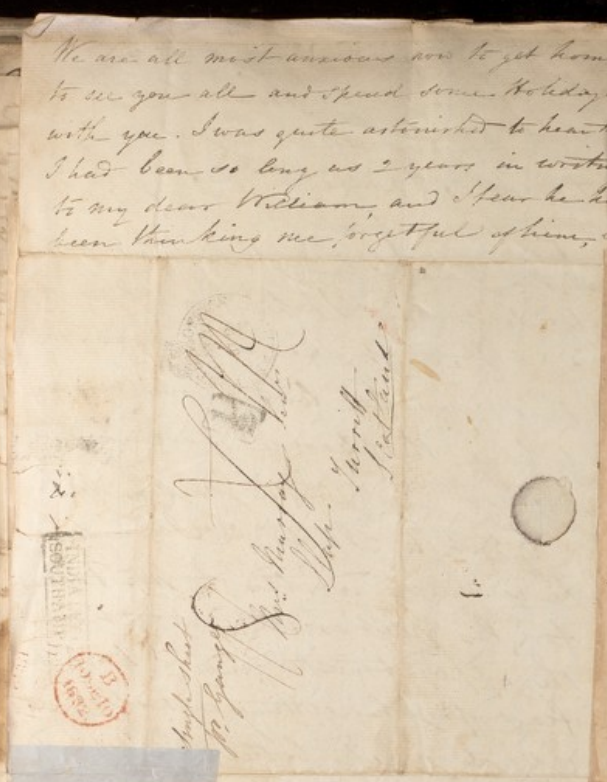
Cape of Good Hope
23d July 1832

My dear William

I beg to return my sincere thanks for your kind long letter giving us the detailed account of our dear Mother's illness, although it grieved us very much to hear that she had been so very ill. By some marks from Alex^r. I was very much pleased to find that she was better, yet I am very anxious about her, & hope I shall soon have a favorable Letter from you on the subject. I hope also that all your dear Children have quite recovered from the

that our dear beloved good Parents have gone before us to a happier place of abode. to which we must aspire to go & to rejoin them.

We are all most anxious now to get home to see you all and spend some Holidays with you. I was quite astonished to hear that I had been so long as 2 years in writing to my dear William, and I fear he has been thinking me forgetful of him, or



I hope he will never allow himself to form that opinion of me — when I am the very one at Sleep & mean it for all and for every one altho' the simple Odds may not indicate it. I hope the holder will not come near your heart of the matter & I think it will not come to the Cape.

We are all most anxious now to get home to see you all and spend some holidays

severe attack of measles, and I hope the Baby did not catch the disease, for if she did not, it strengthens some professional points I have been lately writing upon. I am happy to inform you that we are all quite well and just as busy as Bees. In congratulating our Sister & yourself on the addition of little Isabella to your flock, my Isabella sends her best love to her little namesake, and wishes she could get an opportunity spending a day or two wd Maggy and she would work for her.

I am sorry to find that you have not got a full house of Sleep again, but you

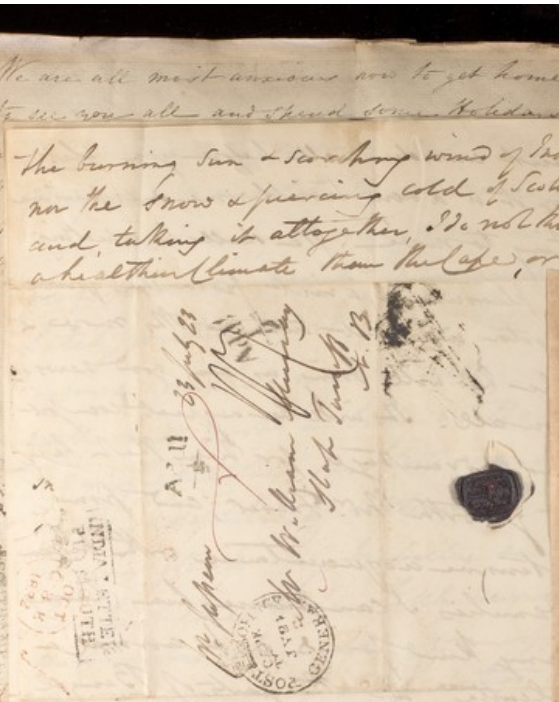
for any one at Sleep I mean it for all and for every one altho' the simple addition may not indicate it. I hope the holiday will not come near your heart of the country & I think it will not come to the Cape.

must consider well before you flit, for it is a very troublesome & expensive thing to move. We shall be expecting the pleasure of a visit from the young Doctor in about two months more, & hope he will bring us very good news of you all. It will be a great comfort and advantage for him that he is to go with Mr. Fraser, and from my extensive acquaintance with Indian Families I can insure him having many kind friends on his arrival in Calcutta, and other parts of Bengal.

There is no more word of my leaving the Cape for the present, and I hope I may be allowed to serve out my 30 years where I am — there we have neither

that our dear beloved good Parents have gone before us to a happier place & above to which we must aspire to go & to rejoin them.

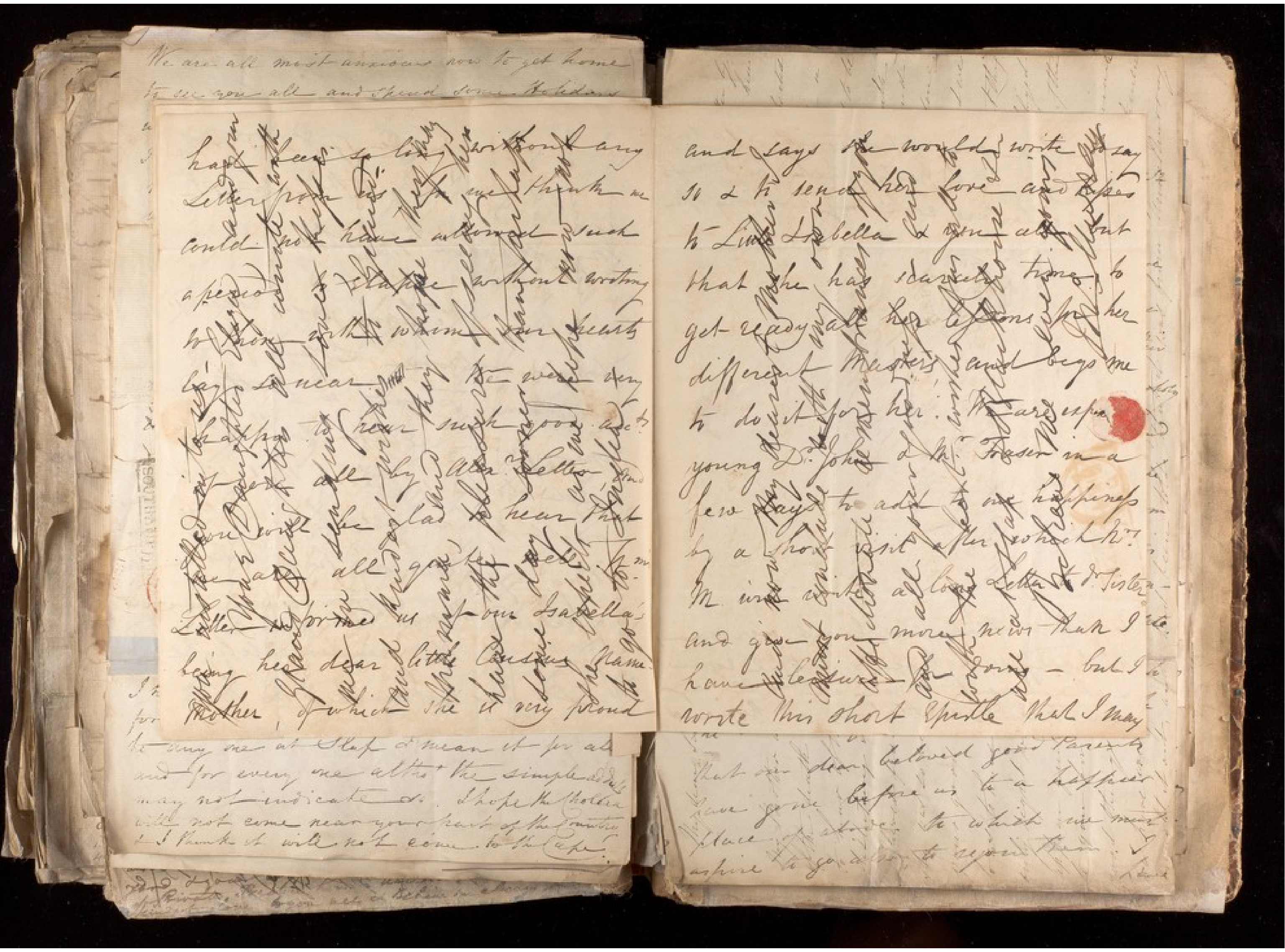
We are all most anxious now to get home
to see you all and spend some Holidays
with you. I do not fear
the burning sun & scorching wind of India,
nor the snow & piercing cold of Scotia,
and, taking it altogether, I do not think
a healthier climate than the Cape, or a



more agreeable one. My paper reminds
me to draw to a close, & with our united
love & best wishes to our dear Mother,
Sister, yourself, & daughters, & kind
remembrances to all friends I believe me
ever your affectionate Brother Wm Murray
To every one at Slap I mean it for all
and for every one altho' the simple address
may not indicate it. I hope the cholera
will not come near your part of the country
& I think it will not come to the Cape.

Cape of Good Hope
3d Sept 1832

My dearest Mother
I have just received
some welcome Letters from
our dear friends in Scotland,
one from Slap & the very
old date 16th Dec 1831, which
ought to have reached us long
long ago. I hand one from home
to Father & Mary, which have
given us the greatest delight.
It has astonished us that
you
should have so much to write
about. I am
sorry for poor Mr Murray
& Mr Tweed, who have
lost their wives.
Nothing
but
Death
can
separate
us
from
our
dear
friends
in
Scotland.
It is a great pleasure for me
to hear that all are
in health & happiness.
I am
that our dear beloved good Parents
have gone before us to a happier
place, to which we must
aspire to go, to join them.



We are all most anxious now to get home
to see you all and spend some Holidays

had been so long without any
Letter from us for we think we
could not have allowed such
a period to elapse without writing
to those with whom our hearts
lay so near. We were very
happy to hear such good acc^ts
of you all by Alex^r Letter and
you will be glad to hear that
we are all quite well. M^r
Letter informed us of our Isabella's
being her dear little Cousins Name
Mother, of which she is very proud

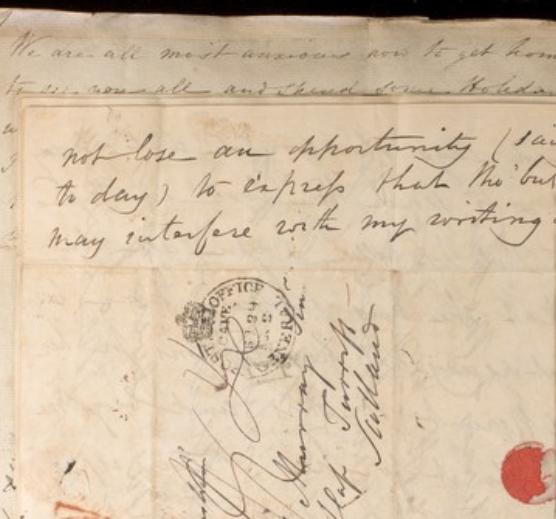
and says she would write to say
so & to send her love and kisses
to Little Isabella & you all but
that she has scarcely time to
get ready all her lessons for her
different Masters and begs me
to do it for her. We are expecting
young Dr John & Mrs Fraser in a
few days to add to our happiness
by a short visit after which M^rs
M. will write a long Letter to d^r Sister
and give you more news than I can
have leisure for doing — but I
write this short Epistle that I may

to any one at Slap & mean it for all
and for every one altho' the simple address
may not indicate so. I hope the Cholera
will not come near your part of the Country
& I think it will not come to the Cape.

that our dear beloved good Parents
have gone before us to a happier
place of abode to which we must
aspire to go also to rejoin them.

We are all most anxious now to get home
to see you all and spend some Holidays

not lose an opportunity (sailing
to day) to express that the business
may interfere with my writing



to you at Slaps my heart ever rem
unchanged in love & dutiful regard
& attachment to you and all my
dear Friends & Relations at home &

the very one at Slaps & mean it for all
and for every one altho' the simple words
may not indicate it. I hope the cholera
will not come near your part of the country
& I think it will not come to the Cape.

Dear Father received a few days
ago & he writes he will be happy
to see Mr Slaps — I shall be very happy
to expect it as I shall be there
to receive him from Port Elizabeth
that he may be properly taken care of
here & I had already the
hopes that Mr Slaps & friends get home
in time to see him again & be
well

The decease of the Almighty
that our dear beloved good Parents
have gone before us to a happier
place & above to which we must
aspire to go and to rejoin them

We are all most anxious now to get home to see you all and spend some Holidays

dear friends & relations at home &
to any one at sea & mean it for all
and for every one altho' the simple details
may not indicate &c. I hope the Holden
will not come near your part of the country
& I think it will not come to the Cape.

The darkness of the Almighty & cope
that our dear beloved good Parents
have gone before us to a happier
place & above to which we must
aspire to go & to rejoin them.

We are all most anxious now to get home to you all and spend a few Holidays

I cannot express how much I feel my heart warm toward you all for the unremitting care & attention which you have all given to our beloved Parents — I have been very anxious about my beloved M. Let her enjoy all the comforts the united annuity can afford — let her all the benefit of medical aid — soo her sorrow — Prevent her feeling the blank as far as possible by your kind & dear friends & relations at home &

the very one at Sea & mean it for all and for every one altho' the simple words may not indicate it. I hope the Cholera will not come near you & part of the country & I think it will not come to the Cape.

Cape of Good Hope
26 October 1854

My dear Brother

Captain Brazier & Mrs have been with us for some days and we are all well and delighted with their visit. They have brought the melancholy tidings of the decease of our dear and regretted Mother as I said would be the case & they have thrown a gloom over our spirits however much this event was to be expected & may be considered a relief in her debilitated state.

We must submit with resignation to the decrees of the Almighty & hope that our dear beloved good Parents have gone before us to a happier place of abode to which we must aspire to go & to repent them &

and the particulars I gave little from
Blackhouse in which he justly gives
so much credit to my dear sister for
so much for your dutiful affection &
[illegible] late Parents
[illegible] state and
[illegible] which so much
[illegible] to me. He knows
[illegible] in his power to
have done every thing [illegible] and
[illegible] them again — and as
[illegible] benevolent heart bears
[illegible] themselves the recompense
[illegible] superior to any other earthly
[illegible] we now erect a small marble
[illegible] to their memory as also
[illegible] I have yet received
[illegible] which [illegible] lead me
[illegible] letter which I wish not for it
exact but I wish not for it
arrival to the [illegible] you both from
[illegible] meant for which you have
[illegible] for your [illegible] taken my [illegible]

of the trying last letter amongst you
I have long felt that I should not
see my mother [illegible] dear to memory
[illegible] and the thought has often been
painful to me — but I submit
[illegible] to me — but I submit
[illegible] — and clearly — to receive them
[illegible] fine young men — and to enjoy
their delightful society. Fraser is
an excellent gentlemanly, kind-hearted
young fellow — and every thing
[illegible] I see [illegible] highly pleases me
[illegible] — he is a perfect gentleman,
[illegible] physician of the highest grade of
[illegible] qualifications, well edu-
cated in all branches of general
knowledge — steady well disposed
kind hearted & endowed with a
good healthy constitution — He
would get on any where, and if he
keeps his health as I hope he will
he must prosper in order with the
extension which we [illegible] & interest we
have [illegible] for him [illegible]

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Relation with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to breakfast, and some one

G.G.P. 1835.

may add a bit to my Letter. I hope that my dear Sister and all your Family are quite well and happy, and with truly affectionate regards to you all I remain my dear William your sincerely attached Brother W. Muir

Stellenbosch 1st June 1824

Cape of Good Hope

Cape of Good Hope
3d June 1833

We have an opportunity of sending a line to Europe just now, I avail myself of it to write to you, and am happy in being able to give you good accounts of us all. We have not long since from you or your good husband for some time, but we had lately a letter from Blackhouse, by which we were much happy to hear you and all our friends were well. I am sure you will be glad to hear that we have had very late and pleasant letters from John and our Mother, the letter had not been well received but they again quite recovered and John was in excellent health; they

Since the good news that I need to give very [illegible] The Army Estimates have passed this

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Lieut. with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to breakfast, and come on the Great Work, and remain me

Stellenbosch 1st Lang
1824

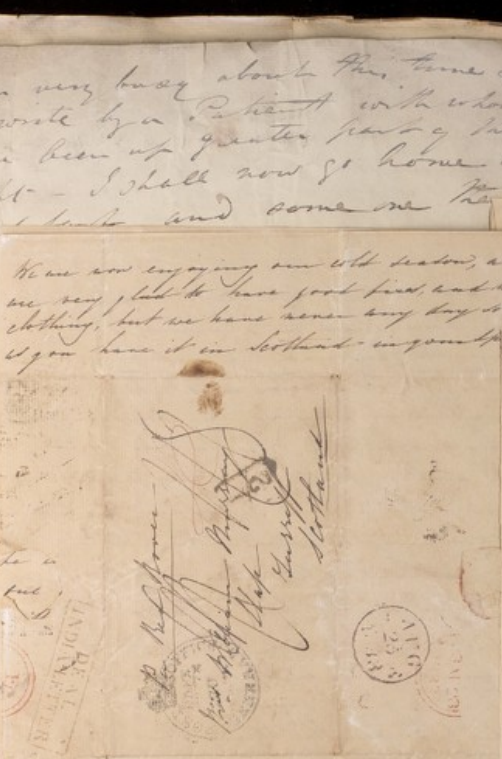
Cape of Good Hope

both living with a London of mine, where they are very comfortable and enjoying themselves much; who had not been appointed to any regiment, but in a short time we expect to hear of his being settled. I wish he may be near my brother, as they are such great friends that they will not like to part; it was a very great satisfaction to us to have Johnny staying here on his way out, and he is a very great favourite with every one of us, and we were very sorry to part with him. Bella and Maggy are growing up fast; the former is nearly as tall as Jane and promises to be very handsome. Little Maggy is the merriest little creature you can fancy, and running about quite independently, and our little Mary Anne is thriving beautifully and is such a sweet tempered darling. I made her your nightcap, and it is a great comfort to be able to do so. I am afraid it will be a long time before I have the pleasure of being acquainted personally with all your young family, for the Doctor talks now of purchasing a house and staying here for some years longer; we all like the place so much, & it is such a healthy climate, and agrees so well with us, but I suspect his friends in Scotland will not like to have of this plan. I think Bella and Maggy are a few years older we may come home and then go home. I think there is not much chance of our going to India which is a great comfort to me, I had such bad health there that I should dread returning, and yet if the Doctor went I am sure we would all wish to accompany him. I have nothing in the way of news to give you, none that I know that would be interesting to you. Since my last I have now that I need to have any apprehension of being sent on to India. The army estimates have passed this

may I say happy and with truly affn. regards to you all. Do leave me ever dear William your sincere attached Brother M. Munro

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Lieut. with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to Breakfast and some me

We are now enjoying our old season, and we very glad to have good fires, and warm clothing, but we have never any day so cold as you have it in Scotland – in your letter



I believe the Order is going to write of his brother by this opportunity, he is very busy, and out all day; but he is always in good health, and the good

Wishes of his Brothers by this opportunity, he is very busy, and out all day; but he is always in good health, and the good

happy, and with many

wards to you all. Believe me

for dear William your affectionate

Wicked Brother M. Mill

Fullerton 1st June 1824

Cape of Good Hope

Since the beginning of March last, when Sister Jean's letter of the 5th of Feb. last was received, we have not been regular in our correspondence at Fullerton to be sure I cannot only say that we always have you in our kindest remembrance. Dear William, we are very sorry indeed at your Brother's death, we are also the Rev. Mr Mill's death. Rammie and the Rev. Mr Mill seem to be very busy in Jamaica, and to be quite good. The Missionaries have received in our hands, yesterday, the Missionary Herald, long enough for us to know what is the case of our dear friends, all well, and happy, in Christ. That the same is the case with the Jamaica. It does not seem as now that I need to have any apprehension of being sent on to Jamaica. The Army Estimates have passed this

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to bed – and some one [illegible]

Fullerton 1st Lang
1824

Cape Breton Feb.

[illegible] superior, without any notice being taken of [illegible] one of inferior rank into my place. How long I shall remain for some time longer on Duty here – which is all what I wish and therefore I consider my very fortunate in these times. It is some time since we have had the pleasure of hearing from Stop – we are delighted when we get letters from you, or any of your other friends at home, and my Mrs Murray got one from you about 6 weeks ago. – It is curious that our Children are all girls, but if you are of the same opinion with me I have no disappointment in this at all – on the contrary I am delighted, and scarcely know whether I should like a Boy half so well – I think it would be quite out of my way after being so accustomed to my little girls. We have been considering lately about sending Bella & Maggy home for 2 or 3 years to have the advantage of better Masters than there are here, but we are not quite decided on it, nor whether we will send them to London or Edinburgh. We have written to both places on the subject and I have also written to Mrs Stow, altho she has behaved very coolly to me since my last marriage, and I have had very little to say to her for a long time, but she has corresponded with Bella & Maggy & seems to continue to take a great interest in them.

We have a Son of Mr Edmonstone's staying with us for a few days – the India director who gave St John his appointment, and we are glad of having an opportunity of showing this attention in return for his Fatherly kindness to John & Robt Fraser – this is a fine young gentleman of 14 years of age, a Midshipman in the Admiral's Ship, & the Children she have fine romps together.

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to breakfast and some one else

We are all agog here at present about an Expedition that we are fitting out under the direction of one of our assistant Surgeons, Dr Smith, for exploring the unknown regions of Central Africa. The

Coast is pretty well known but all the central part of this Continent between the Tropics you know, are quite unexplored – we know not what is there. The Expedition will not be ready to start for many months nor will the Seasons suit for it till then. We have not heard from our friends in India

Stellenbosch 1st June 1824

Cape of Good Hope

We have not yet heard of the arrival of Dr Smith & Co from Delagoa Bay.

Cape of Good Hope
4th March 1833

My dear Brother

I have much pleasure in informing you that Mrs Murray added another nice little strong Daughter to our Family on the 23d ult.; and that both are doing quite well. The other girls are delighted with Baby, and are all anxious to be allowed to assist to nurse her, which is a good thing as I deem it an essential part of Female Education to

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up quarter part of the night – I shall now go home to [illegible] and come no more

Stellenbosch 1st June 1824

Cape of Good Hope

be handy about Children and sick people. It is rather curious how our Children are all Daughters; but I am by no means disappointed on this account, altho' there are some people who seem to make themselves quite unhappy if they do not get Boys. I hope that your good wife & family are all well, and that every happiness & much prosperity will attend you all.

I was very sorry to hear of the Death of Cousin Ruth, and the more particularly as she was the Manager of the House & of all matters for Helen, who must feel her loss sadly. I hope however that Helen will be able to get on well, and that she will be comfortable, and have enough to be independent.

We have not much in the way of news here at the Cape. We are going to lose our good Governor Sir Lowry Cole, with whom I have become long acquainted, as I went out to the Mediterranean in the same fleet with him, and he has been very kind to me & to my family here. I am very sorry at his going, and we do not yet know who is to be his Successor. I am happy

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to [illegible] and come on the [illegible]

to say we are all quite well, and hoping that my dear Sister and all your Family are quite healthy a

Mr. William Murray
Halifax
Nova Scotia

Cape of Good Hope
1st January 1834

Mr. Murray

Cape of Good Hope
3d January 1834

My dear William

All my family join with me so sincerely wishing many many happy returns of this season to you and all around about you. It is a good long while since I wrote to any of you, for in this unusually hot weather we are really disinclined to exert themselves in any way more than they can help, but I am happy to say we are, & have been, all very well, and we hope that our dear relations about your fireside have also been well,

happy, I remain, with all my Lad[illegible] uniting with me in warm affection towards you all, My Dear William your attached Brother
Wm. Murray

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up greater part of the night – I shall now go home to bed & [illegible] some one [illegible]

Fullenbosch 1st Lane
1824

Cape Town Feb.

We had the pleasure of hearing from Blackhouse a few days ago, by which we had very delightful accounts of you all – His fine family must be giving him the greatest satisfaction as they are all turning out so very well, and he tells me that yours are also getting on delightfully. I am very much gratified to hear that you have got a renewal of your lease on favourable terms, for I should not like to find another family occupying Hays when I return home, which I hope will be some day – Before we are all too old & decrepid – as it is to be hoped to enjoy ourselves together and see our families get acquainted together. I once thought of sending the two eldest daughters about the [illegible] Mrs Hutt [illegible]

[illegible] Mrs Hutt [illegible]

[illegible] time, but I do not like to part with them, as they have got on so well with ourselves, and I dare say they will be able to get education enough here for their rank in life. There is no use in giving children ideas above their station which is often done in the present day to their unhappiness afterwards. I am [illegible] afraid of their health too, from the [illegible] of Minster, unless I were [illegible] myself to take care of them.

I have not heard from our Stephen John for several months – but I have seen a gentleman who saw him later than I have heard, & he was then quite well – If he keep his health, he will turn out a [illegible] Physician as well as Surgeon as he is [illegible] [illegible]

I am very busy about this time &
now write by a Patient with whom
I have been up greater part of the
night – I shall now go home to
some one

We are daily expecting our new Governor
and by his Ship I expect to hear if I am
to get Sir Richard Plaskets house or
I fear he may not give it me for

Scotland

MAR 26 1834

I have offered, but I shall have his
minimum – and perhaps may give £
300 more if required, altho' I did not
before. We all join in love & affection
to our Sisters – Nieces & yourself.
Wm. Murray

My dear
affectd Brother
Wm. Murray

Stellenbosch 1st Jany
1824

Cape of Good Hope

Cape of Good Hope
February 1834

My dearest Friends

We have been visited with a
severe affliction in the loss of our
dear little Mary Anne the sweetest
& most engaging Baby that could
possibly be. On the Wednesday the
had been but rather
ailing at times the great
heat on the evening
of same day she was taken ill. –
On the Thursday the fever increased
& was more particularly at night
on Friday morning at day light

Love to all at Stel.

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up quarter part of the night. I shall now go home to

Hillsborough 1st Lang
1824

Catechumen Wh.

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom I have been up greater part of the night. I shall now go home to

unlucky to me for my poor Mary Anne, we had just bought a house, and just decided on going to live in it the 20th of the present month, &

been planning how to make our so comfortable & happy in it — how little do we see into futurity! When well & happy we are always planning to be better — The weather had come

Mr William Murray
Tarrett
Scotland

Stellenbosch 1st Jany
1834

Cape of Good Hope

Cape of Good Hope
14 July 1834

My dearest Friends

It seems a very long time since any of us have written to any of you and I fear you will be thinking very forgetful of you — but it is not so — This is our Christmas time — that is to say it is our Winter Season, and we are pestered with parties every night, and with business during the day so that it is enough to knock us all up, and I am obliged to give up nearly all private correspondence,

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up quarter part of the night. I shall now go home to

Stellenbosch 1st Jany
1824

but yet I don't forget you, & you must not think so — I only wish we could go and spend a few days with you, & make the new relations acquainted with each other, & get some of your cakes & whisky, & have a crack with you, for it is a very long time since I was at home amongst you now, and we are getting old bodies.

You will be glad I am sure to hear that we are all well, & thriving & happy, & contented, & comfortable in our new house, which we are making one of the nicest in the Colony. It makes it look as if we were settling here for life but that does not follow — the house will do for any body & will sell well if we were tempted to go home & leave it sell it which we may yet be — & if we stay it is a comfortable home for us. It is some time since we have had any letters from Scotland, & it is also several months since we have from the young Doctor, but we are sure he is doing well from other quarters — he has already got himself a good name in India as a Clever Dr.

I hope your youngsters are all getting on well, as well as yourselves, and all our friends in the neighbourhood — I think I could still find my way about blindfolded to all yr neighbors.

Stellenbosch 1st Lang
1824

Cape of Good Hope

Cape of Good Hope
29th Augt 1824

My dear William

We ought, & indeed had intended, writing you all long Letters by our Countryman Mr Morrison, but have deferred it too long, and now the Carriage is at the door to take me to the other Bay where his Ship is lying & I must only

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom I have been up greater part of the [illegible] I shall now go home to [illegible]

Yours

Yours you could see we are now here house – we have plenty of room for all, and have two back tenements let which we do not require, one

Mr William Smith
Clerk
Scotland

£2 9. 10/. a month & the other at £3. 7/6 a month which helps to bring in the interest of my purchase money. I must now conclude with all the kindest & most affectionate regards of my family to you all. & believe me always your loving [illegible]

Mr Murray

Mr Murray

Mr Murray

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom I have been up quarter part of the [illegible] I shall now go home to [illegible]

Yr

Fullenbosch 1st Lang
1824

Cape of Good Hope

refer you to him for all news of us. I was going to write to his Father & Mother to say how happy we have been to see him, & to find him such a fine gentlemanly young man, but have not time. You must give our kindest regards to them and all friends, & with our best love to you all. Believe me always your affectionate Brother

Wm Murray

Wm Murray

My dear & Worthy Brother

Wm Murray

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom I have been up Quarter part of the [illegible] I shall now go home to [illegible]

Hullenbosch 1st Lans
1834

Cape of Good Hope

Cape of Good Hope
5th Sept. 1834

My dear Brother

We have had the pleasure of a visit from young Mr. Morrison of Colgate for a few days, and as his ship requires to undergo some repairs, it is probable that we may see him again before he sails. He is quite well, & is a tall stout young fellow, very much liked in the Ship, and we were highly pleased with him, & had a fine crack about all friends in the North.

Love to all at Stat. &c.

Thos. G. Mr. Morrison

William Morrison Esq
Stat.

Mr. Murray

Wanted Brother

Mr. Murray

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom I have been up greater part of the [illegible] I shall now go home to [illegible]

Stellenbosch 1st June 1824

I was glad that he met our Brother Wm. Fraser at Calcutta, who was kind to him. You will be glad to hear that we are all pretty well. Eliza is rather grumbling as she is expecting a Baby this month, and I hope soon to be able to give you good accounts of them. In other respects we are going on much as usual, & finding ourselves very comfortably settled in our own-house, which has been frequently warmed during the winter by gay parties.

We hope that this will find you & your's all well, and as it will be popping in upon you about Christmas we heartily wish you all a very merry one with many happy returns of the season. Our winter is nearly over, & fortunately without any wrecks in Table Bay. The Bolton is in the other Bay 24 miles off, where I had to go down twice last week to see of the passengers who came in was extremely ill. If I can I will send a little Cape wheat for you by Mr. Morrison for seed. Pray how does the Nepaul wheat get on. It will do I should think for Malting very well.

We all join in most affectionate regards to you, our Sister, your Children & all friends. Ever yours sincerely [illegible]

Lone Hall near Slab. Nov. 7

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom I have been up greater part of the [illegible] I shall now go home to

I have only just rec.d Andrews Letter intended to have come by a [illegible] mentioning the Tablet to the memory of our respected Parents, the whole of which I approve - and also his exertions about

Mr Wm Murray
Mas. Tower
Monmouthshire

the Murray Bursary, about which I think the Proceedings of the College are behaving very oddly - but Andw. seems in his Letter respecting the point, & holds the law over them about it - I must now conclude with

Fullenbosch 1st Lans
1824

Cape of Good Hope
24th Feby 1835

My dear Brother

We are not destined to be long very happy in this world, and you will pity me at this time - I am sadly depressed at the heart-rending bereavement I have sustained by the death of my beloved Wife, and I am now obliged to leave my dearest Children, and go again to the seat of war: - But we must make up our minds to whatever befalls us in this world, which is wisely directed, - I shall therefore enter upon the task before me with energy, and it will divert my mind.

[illegible] unchanged towards you, am

Yr. affect. Wm. Murray

Love to all at Hill. &c.

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom

my dear little Sisters will be well taken care of by my many good friends in my absence, & on this score my mind will be pretty well at ease. It is quite uncertain when I may return, but I hope we shall be able to vanquish and punish the savage invaders in the course of 2 or 3 months, & to restore peace & confidence to our Border Colonists, who have been the great sufferers by the Invasion. I am going up by sea, which you know I dislike very much, but I cannot well go by land, and take my Baggage with me.

about it. I must now conclude with

Fullarton 1st Lans
1834

I hope that my dear Sister & all your family are quite well. I am very happy to say that we are all very well, which is a great blessing at this time. I shall now leave off, & close my letter before embarking.

20th It is a true simile "as uncertain as the wind" – I thought to have been off to day, & prepared everything in the morning as the wind was fair, but suddenly it chopped round again to the S.E. and here I am still at Capetown.

The news by the Post from the Frontier this week is favourable. I have rec.d a very kind letter from the General, saying he will be so happy to have me with him, & that our troops have been drubbing the Caffers famously, & took from them upwards of 4,000 head of Cattle, & killed 100 of them.

hoping returns of [illegible]

[illegible] towards you, our

Wm. Murray

Love to all at Stat. &c.

I am very busy about this time &
now write by a Patient with whom

I have just returned from visiting all
my dear Children which almost overcom
me as they were so sorry. The dear Ba
is 8 miles off – the other 4. I wish that
Slap or Blackhouse had been within a

few hundred miles of me to ha
sent them to – but it cannot be d
I have done my best, & God will ta
care of us all as He sees best for u
May He help you & your Family & keep
you all in health & happiness. Address always
about it. I must now conclude with

Stellenbosch 1st Lane
1824

Cape of Good Hope
24th January 1827

My dear Brother and Sister

Although I am so much ex=
=cited that I have but little leisure
for private correspondence, my heart
is always with you and my other dear
friends around you; and I therefore
sincerely hope you do not attribute the
infrequency of my letters to any dimi=
=nution of my affection and regard.

You will be happy to hear that we
are all quite well, and I hope you
and your Family and my other friends
and relatives in the Scottish kingdom
are the same; & I wish you all many
happy returns of the season. I
remain ever yours, &c

Wm. Murray

Love to all at Slat. &c.

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom

Fullerton, 1st Lanc.
1824

I must now heartily congratulate you on the addition of Catherine Pusbaré to your Family, and on my dear Sister's happy recovery; and I do wish very much that I could slip in and see you all; but it is a great undertaking to flit with my Family, and give up my settlement here: However, I do not despair of renewing our acquaintance, and introducing our Bairns to each other some fine Summer's morning, at the proper season; and I have no doubt our youngsters would soon get intimate among the Berry bushes. I had a nice long interesting Letter from Alex.r of the 11th October a few days ago, which gave me

very great pleasure. It is indeed very gratifying to hear such good accounts of his Family and their prospects. I have not heard of or from John very lately, but this is the season that many ships come in here from India, and I have no doubt I shall have a letter anyone from him. We are very quiet here now, but the Ministers have not acted well not following up all Sir Benjamin d'Urban's plans with the Settlers, by which they would soon have been civilized and made Christians. We have found our new house so comfortable this summer, that we have not been obliged to go out to the country; but I shall probably send the children out

Yours truly
Jno. Murray

Some balls at Stat. 2nd

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom

somewhere for a month. I shall require my daughter Maggy to write to her Cousin Anne, and hope they will

up some correspondence with you all & that will answer for me. My dear Daughters join me in affectionate regards to you all and to our other friends & Believe me your loving Brother

Wm. Murray

Hillsborough, 1st June 1824

Cape Town Cape, 2d Sept 24

My dear Brother

I had my great pleasure in receiving your and dear Anne's joint affectionate letter a few days ago, and in hearing such good accounts of your Family and other dear Friends in your Corner. Many circumstances connected with the Circuit I have lately had still have with my department, and private Practice, and my darling Family, have so occupied my attention & time, that I feared I have neglected or rather not had time to keep up my usual correspondence with my friends, I trust however that you will suppose me for my apparent forgetfulness, when I assure you that my heart is ever the same to you all, and that my affection and brotherly love & kindness towards you, and ever will remain

Yr. affectd Brother

Wm. Murray

Love to all at Hillsborough

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Parliament with whom

Stellenbosch 1st June 1824

You will be glad I am sure to hear that we are all in excellent health, and as happy as possible; and we always take a great interest in hearing of your Family and of their progress. I have had a letter this very day from our Nephew Dr John, who was thinking to go to the Hills again for change of climate. He was better, but not quite recovered; and I have written to him some time ago to come ~~off to the Cape~~ and ~~over~~ to give up India, if he finds that the climate does not agree with him; for I am sure that he would do well here.

Since the peace this time last year, the Savages have been tranquil, and will be kept in good order, if the Home Government will be guided by our Governors recommendations.

The Caffers are now in a fair way of becoming civilized, and in time will make a fine set of Subjects for His Majesty. The winter is now just over, which has been wet and stormy; and there has been some lofs of shipping upon the coast. As yet we have not got any Steamers out here: – now however, we have formed an association for that purpose and if success attends the undertaking the Colony will be infinitely benefited by it. I have joined the Agricultural Association also, and am beginning to pay some attention to Chemical speculative Farming, which I find a most interesting Study; & perhaps I may yet come and take a peep at you in Scotland, and get some Farm near to you and Alex.r & James. Upon your and Alex.r & James.

I must now conclude with the respectfully

Yours truly

Jno. Murray

Some balls at Stellenbosch

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom

you all the best love of my Cousin and myself to my dear Mother & you, and your Family, & all Friends; & begging you to

Believe me, my dear William, your affectionate and attached Brother

J. P. Murray

Hallenbock 1st Lans
1824

My dearest Brother & Sister

I hasten with the pleasing intelligence to you, that I shall be able to communicate to you the intent I had for some time past, of approaching my dearest Marriage with Mademoiselle Bertha Sophie Henriette Constance de Marin Comte de Cerisier, which took place at the Protestant Church here, in a very gay & numerous party on the occasion, and my friend Alexander Pat great travellers was married on the same day, & of your own dear sisters, & they

your affectionate Brother

J. P. Murray

Love to all at home

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Lamplight with whom [illegible]

[illegible] the parties to a Collation in my house where we spent the evening very pleasantly. You see I was not long in following my Son after his marriage! Other newly married pairs are staying at my Father in Law's house & the leading lady of his Family hence come in to lay with me, & leave the Gentlemen to themselves. I have written to Indiana to get gloves for you all on the occasion. Don't think I could have thought of all present at it. I suppose this is the first Gentleman's Sons, Nieces, or Nephews who

Yr. affy Mr. Murray

Hillsborough N. Carolina
1824

has got married, and I hope it will be an example many of them will soon follow. There have been an immense number of marriages this season here since mine. I was the first to shew the example to those of our Social Circle, & the contagion has been since spreading like wild fire. You will now perceive how necessary it was for me to provide myself with a dear Companion of a more permanent kind than my Daughters, and I have got a sweet sensible affectionate one, who is dearly beloved by all my Family, and I do not intend to get old, for her sake, for 30 years to come (D. V.)

Give my love to all at home & believe me

Your affectionate Brother
Mr. Murray

Love to all at home

I am very busy about this time &
now write by a Patient with whom

Fullenbosch 1st Lane
1824

You know that I expect soon to
to Madras, and it is delightful
have the idea that we shall
with Isabella there. I have

Mr. Murray
Glasgow
Scotland
N.B.

a most satisfactory arrangement for
two darling little ones, Eliza & Emily
the former is to be left at a nice
Boarding School, & My Mama-in-law
to keep Emily for perhaps 2 or 3 years,

Mr. Murray

Madras 23rd July 1838

My dear Brother & Sister

I must write you by the mail
which goes to day, to thank you for
your kind and most acceptable con-
gratulations on my marriage, and to wish
you in return a long enjoyment of health
and happiness for yourselves and for
your dear children. We were very happy
to hear by your letters of the 8th of January
that you had often friends in Northumb-
erland & well and you will be glad to
hear that we are all well here and
that I Sunday had a letter yesterday
from his nephew John informing him of
his safety. We have heard lately from
the care of the little darlings Eliza and
Emily, who are continuing to enjoy good
health, the one being at school, and
the other with my Parents, but the latter
comes home every fortnight or Saturday
and stays till Monday and though they
miss us they are very happy with
their other companions my little Brother
and Sister, and Nephews and Nieces.
My little sister Mary Anne goes to the
same school as Eliza and is only a year
older. We had a nice voyage. Before this reaches

of your dear Sisters' Sons, I remain
your affectionate Brother
Wm. Murray

Some time at Sea.

Stellenbosch 1st Jany
1824

My dear William and Ann,

My Anna has left so much of the letter for me to fill up, and I would do so with all my heart, but that Bella & Margaret say it is their turn to write you. I shall only say therefore that we all think India a very nice place, and like it very much. I have fine pay – £7 a day – and we are most comfortable & happy from being so many of a family & one station. Leaving the Ladies to speak for themselves I shall only add my Brotherly love & sincere good wishes to you all, remaining ever most affectionately yours

Jno. Murray

My dear Uncle and Aunt.

I have been often wishing to write you since my marriage but have been so hurry and bustle that I have never been able to make it out till now that I have thought of you dear Sister's Sons, I remain your affectionate Brother

Jno. Murray

Love to all at Hall &c.

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom

and had the pleasure of finding Nelly and Mr. Bridgewater well, we stayed with them the first two days and the next found a month's visit to Longbiggins one contain Colonel Strachan with whom we had very hot weather, the thermometer shewing the day being between 90° and 100° and it cause bitter blows from the one we have had set bits from our Really lovely house we managed to waddle through the hottest season of all so happy that we did not give ourselves time to think about it. But it is quite hot enough and the thermometer very little under 90° in the house at three of heat while you were expiring in the dam fm Scotland in the hottest day of Summer. I believe, from the first week perhaps when I told that we have 25 servants to do work that at home two or three would do, but of them have high wages and we have nothing to do with their beards, that or lodging. We have a very good house well furnished, good carriages and horses, and are really very comfortable. Shape after a few years to have the pleasure of going to Europe to become acquainted with you all and that concludes this part of the letter. Love and kind wishes to you all.

Believe me, Your affectionate

Jno. Murray

Cannanore, 25th Novr. 1850

My dearest William,

I must write you, were it only a few lines, by this overland mail; as I have been so long in writing to you. I am now nearly 500 miles from my family at Madras, having been carried all the way in a Boy upon mein shoulder, called a Palanqueen. I have come all this way right across the country from Sea to Sea, from the Coromandel Coast to the Coast of Malabar, and have been much pleased & interested with my journey. I have chosen the best season, & have not been at all annoyed by heat – in fact, in some of the high hilly in the interior, I felt it rather cold, & I have been quite well. I am delighted

of your dear Sisters' Loves, & I beg you your affectionate Brother

Jno. Murray

Love to all at Hd. Qrs.

Fullerton's Lane
1824

MADRAS
DEC 1850
Paid 1/12

JAN 11 1851

1851

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Pedestrian with whom

Jno. Murray

Jno. Murray

Jno. Murray

Jno. Murray

I am very busy about this time & now write by a Patient with whom [illegible]

to make this journey to inspect all the stations where any of Her Majesty's Regiments are cantoned, and it takes me a good many months to complete my round. I am now about to leave this for Trichinopoly, from whence I shall return to Madras, and after being there for about a month, I have to visit our stations at Bellary, Hyderabad, & Belgaum, which are situated towards the Southern parts of the Madras Presidency. I hear frequently from my Family at Madras, and am happy to say they are all quite well – the Baby Anna Louisa thriving beautifully. I hear often from Nephew John, who is also well, and much looked upon as an Physician amongst his Brethren. [illegible]

Yr. Affte. Brother
J. W. Murray

Fullerton 1st Jan.
1824

We are preparing on all hands for war, and when once it is kindled, no one knows when & where it will end. I fear we are not so well prepared for it as we ought to be. There is no prospect at the present of my having to take the field, but, if necessary, I feel quite equal to the hard work still. This is a splendid country in some respects, and the days not disagreeable with any of us – I except I am pleased now that I have come to it; – my pay is about £2,500 a year, and the work not more than I am quite able for; yet I do not wish to remain in India more than 3 or 4 years at most; and then the Brave the happiness of returning to Scotland, to see you all, and settle down to have amongst you. I must conclude with my affectionate [illegible] of your Dear Sisters' Sons, & Nieces

your affectionate Brother
Jno. Murray

Love to all at Hill.

I am very busy about this time &
now write by a Patient with whom

Love to you all, and believe me,
dear William, Your ever attached Bro
Wm. Murray

Mr. William Murray
Kept Jervis
Esq.
Via Alexandria
FEB 6 1860

Stuttenborch 1st Lang
1824

My dear Sister

An unexpected opportunity
of sending the enclosed, which
Mary Anne has got made
the most ingenious Pocket
place, — She has very little
hope of seeing you again — her days
would I fear are numbered, yet
there seems but too much reason
that their number will not
be long, — but her strong Christian
faith is resigned to whatever God has
to take her for — I had already
written to you today, before the gentleman
came to be the bearer of this arrived —
I accept along with this the assurance
of your dear Sisters' love, & believe me
your affectionate Brother
Wm. Murray

Love to all at Hal. &c.

Stillenbosch 1st Sept.
1824

My dear Sister

An unexpected opportunity occurs of sending the enclosed, which Dearest Mary Anne has got made for you. She most ingenious the Herbit of this place. — She has very little hopes of ever seeing you again — her days in this world I fear are numbered, indeed there seems but too much reason to think that their number will not be many — but her strong Christian mind is resigned to whatever God has decreed take her fate — I had already written to you today, before the gentleman who is to be the bearer of this arrived —

Accept along with this the assurance of your Dear Sister's Love, & believe me your affectionate Brother

Wm. Murray

Love to all at Hal. &c.

Love to all, and Believe me, Dear William, Your ever attached Bro.

Wm. Murray

Mrs Alexandria
William Murray Esq
Nova Scotia
Halifax
N.S.
Ship Letter
FEB 1 6 M
1830
DEC 2

To

Wm Murray Esq

Stage