Papers relating to John Procter

Publication/Creation

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Rockside,
Nov. 11th/78.

Dear Sir,

I attended Morning Service, yesterday, at the Catholic Chapel at Hassop, with Mr. Procter; he went through the service quite calmly, I could not trace the least excitement on his features; I also noticed that he did not make as many motions with his hands as the others did. Mr. Procter has been talking

to the Catholic Priest at Hassop
about giving a treat at Christ-
mas, to about 50 Catholic
children; the priest has
offered the use of his house
for the occasion. Mr. P. says
he expects a £5-0-0 note as
a Christmas Box from his brother,
as the means of giving the treat
Mr. Procter was very desirous
to attend the afternoon
service at the Catholic Chapel
yesterday, but I dis-couraged
his going to it; I tried to

entice him in a Church of England, at Longstone, but he would not be so bigoted; but however, after tea we had a walk to Bakewell and attended service at All Saints Church, a Church of England.

Remain,

Yours Respectfully

William Tonge.

Basingstoke
Nov. 16th 1898.

Dear Dr. Baker

I am very much obliged for a sight of the correspondence which I now return.

I regret sincerely that John has not adhered to his promise to you not to attempt in any way to encroach upon the increase of liberty you have given him with regard to attending the Sunday Service at Strood R. C. Chapel.

This immediately wishing to give a treat to the School Children at Xmas shows plainly that his promise is not to be relied on. This

letter of you dated Nov. 15th is
evidently a very slippery one, but
as he is discharged at his own
hearing can of your knowledge I hope
it may be a check upon him
for the future.
It is very unfortunate that he
gets that he meets with at any
rate no discouragement from Fair-
field upon subjects they are well
aware are meeting with your dis-
approval, as likely to retard his
progress. I may not attending to
these statements that you make
with regard to things they have
written to him I suppose too are
to conclude that they are correct.
They ought to be exceedingly care-
ful to make no remark to him
that he can in any way construe

or twist with their sanctioning
things that you prohibit.
The management of him ought to be
left entirely in your hands, and
all John's relations impress upon
him the desirability of carrying
out your wishes and directions
to the letter. Any granting of his
wishes that you consider suitable
for him we shall all of us rejoice
in for his sake, but should you
have permitted a thing in the night
to say a word to him that may
lead him to suppose there is a
divided opinion as to the manage-
ment of his case.
His choice to have a companion
of his own selection on Monday
morning from a visit to have some
one with him who will exercise

in control. Now he left it his
own devices he could probably in
his present condition form intuitive
kindly & his friends with serious
difficulties. Do you know whether
he does hand over money sent by
Henry & Mr. Frye as Henry states?
With kind regards to Mrs. Baker
& yourself

Yours very sincerely
Bessie Porter

Berwick S.R.
Aug. 11th 1878.

Dear Dr. Baker

We have all perused with intelligence your Story in the Local Courts to adopt. I have written Uncle John Porcelin a long letter giving him a full statement of the present state of affairs as well as how they have stood for the last few weeks. I have sent him copies of your letters with regard to John meeting with Lacewright from Mr. Porcelin

I have with regard to "pious friends" Roman Catholicism &c.
I think it better to let him see the two letters alone. I have sent him copies of the telegrams & letters that have passed between Bessie & yr. R. & Fairfield during the last two or three days. I neither un-fairness had sent a copy of Lizzie's letter but I told him about it. It is I think a position to do just the two letters one & I have requested his intervention. I believe his opinion will have weight at Fairfield.
With kind regards
Yours very truly
Bessie Parkes

I remember calling at his house with Father when we were at Matlock - his name is Michael Morrell - & he then lived in a very nice cottage high up on Matlock Bank with a garden which he cultivated himself, & he and his wife inhabited a fine old fashioned sort of kitchen parlour where a cup of tea & a new laid egg might be expected to be easily procured - he sold his eggs & chickens very likely. I believe he is a "Freeman"

& I think a person thus
is be pleased with -
he would very likely
remember Father's falling
at his house - There is
a splendid air up on
the hillside where his
house stood. I believe
he was the inventor of
the "Abel Morrell's eye-
eyed needles" of which
you may have heard.
and I saw his name
the other day, in the
"Monthly Record" with
reference to a Petition
to Parliament - for Peace,
I think. We had no
idea until quite lately

Stevens threatens proceedings about John
Coved you meet Stevens on Thursday
and Henry Proctor here much me. if they are willing
to try and arbitrate
~~they~~ ~~further~~ ~~unpleasantness~~

Minute of York Preparative Meeting, 3 mo. 10, 1878.

"The accompanying Report has been received, and read, from the Committee appointed to consider the position of York Friends in reference to their Burial Ground arrangements. Agreeably to the suggestion in the report, it is decided to have it printed and circulated amongst our members. This meeting intends, at its rising, to adjourn to Second-day, the 18th Inst., at 7 o'clock, when the company of Women Friends is to be invited, to enter upon the consideration of the Report."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE BURIAL GROUND.

To York Preparative Meeting.

We have very carefully reviewed the present position of Friends of York, in respect to their Burial Ground arrangements.

The Heslington Road Burial Ground was opened in 1855 for the joint use of The Retreat, and Friends of York particular meeting. It will be found by reference to the minutes of the Preparative Meeting, that it was expected the burial-ground provision then made, would last for sixty years. It will therefore be seen that little more than one-third of the time has yet elapsed, during which the Heslington Road Burial Ground was expected to be used. In the twenty-two years

The Friends' Retreat,
near York.

Jan. 12 1879

Dear Mrs Procter,

I enclose for your perusal three letters received from your husband.

I think it is evident that a crisis has now come when it will be necessary for us to decide on a course of action for the

12/1/79.

If it suits yr. views I thought of taking John next Thursday to see Dr Hack Tuke to ask his opinion on the case. After getting this opinion we — you, your Brother, I — can talk matters over & adopt such course as may seem best. Would Thursday the 16th suit yr. ann[ot]

Please consider as Confidential Henry's letter, John.

Yours faithfully

R Baker

P.S. One letter of John's I have mislaid but will bring it with me to London

I have several Consults so please write me if Thursday will not suit you

future; & I should therefore be glad if you would arrange with your brother for him to accompany you to London ~~next~~ this week. to meet me for a consultation, at the Devonshire House Hotel.

Yours faithfully
Rob.t Baker
M.D.

P.T.O

Basingstoke Jan 18th
1879

Dear Bessie

The enclosed came from John to day. & the letter in the other envelope from Dr Bates. I telegraphed to Dr Bates this afternoon as follows "My sister is at Bridport intending to return Thursday. I shall your to Lond tonight. She will probably return Wednesday & meet you in London as previously. She will telegraph tomorrow"

She must therefore tele-

graph to Dr Baker as soon
as they get this (or some
time during the morning)
as I believe that will suit
them. It is most inconve-
nient to me to go to London
at all this week but if
this not Thursday I can
not possibly go up for
nearly a week as I am
in the jury at Manchester
beginning on Saturday
& possibly lasting till
Wednesday or Thursday.
It is just another instance
of Dr's shuffling ways
& I shall let him know
very plainly when I see
him that it will not
do to play with me in

the matter. Henry's letter
is a very fair one. He is
evidently thoroughly
ashamed of the trouble
I want had anything to
do with it beyond quoting
John's own words. He
is well enough & has
what he calls "a legal
bill of divorce" He is
well enough to live with
his wife & I shall tell
Caro that he does not
shuffle out of his duties.
I cannot stop to write
more now as I am very
busy. Send head by
return whether I will
be home Wednesday

what time. They should
write to Dr Bates tomor-
row as well as telegraph
to him. I am very sorry
to hear Uncle is so poorly
This cold weather I expect
tries him a good deal.
With dear love to Uncle
Aunt & themselves believe
me to remain Ever affec-
tionate brother

Charles J Stevens

Extract January 5th 1879

"Before concluding however I should like to direct your attention to a certain point of future arrangement. I have not yet heard what you think about Mr Rhodes. You will perhaps also be thinking over the likelihood of Bessie carrying out her suggestion of coming over to Rochdale prior to my departure from it. This is perhaps rather a delicate subject to treat upon but in reality I would

Lay 9

"I suppose it will be useful to communicate with Dr Baker without delay on the subject of my return to the north, & the bestowal of a legal "Bill of discharge." No doubt he is under the impression that I am anticipating with pleasure a visit from Bessie in February & that we a week or two after her arrival at Rochside we will proceed together to Newcastle. His idea is quite out of harmony with my sentiments"

"In all probability nothing

will be arranged until a visit from Dr Baker but in the meantime would it not be advisable for you to write to him indicate my wishes & especially to advise him my opinion that it is quite needless & but undesirable for Bessie to come to Westbrook when it is not likely that I would be prepared to settle down with her immediately after leaving Westbrook. Indeed I cannot see at all what would be gained by her coming here."

rather she did not
come here at all.
I do not feel by any
means at home with
Bessie among so many
strangers I would prefer
to wait until I can
permanently settle down
at home".

Jany 4th

"If it be decided as
I hope it may be
we to go to Melrose
I would like to have
matters at the end
of this or early next
month, & perhaps ar-
rive at Newcastle
in the middle of May".

Northumberland Mills.

Newcastle on Tyne.

Aug. 13th 1878

Dear Friend
Dr Baker –

As I wrote
to Mrs Procter at Ventnor
to explain that your
Secret her presence
would interfere with
your management – for
Ellen. & she has therefore
left the unfortunate –
-hood yesterday –
Her visit was claiming
to Ellen Fear that
must leave here

beneficial. The
Consternation has which
appears to have aroused
at Basingstoke is most-
absurd & amusing.

Yours Truly

Henry Potter

Rosetrevor
Matlock
January 11/49

My Dear

Your welcome letter duly arrived yesterday, & I am glad to find you are keeping better — Agreeably to your request I directed my last to Barnstaple, but I see you are still undecided abt remaining at Brighton over Sunday. No doubt however Charles James would forward you any letters coming to Barnstaple during your absence,

We are having snow this morning with an appearance of more — The frost is less severe — The Steamer to which I referred in a previous communication is laden with all kinds of delicacies of splendid quality — It is very kind of Mother to send it — for which I will take good care to thank her when I write as usual on Sunday — The Company here just now is very small — I believe but Eleven Matters to dinner yesterday — Hear

however that more are expected –
Lord Beaconsfield's illness does
not seem so serious as some of
the newspaper reports leaders to
suppose. At the present juncture
I think his services could ill be
spared – Albert & I presume that
Alfred & I are the only members
of the Fairfield Family holding
such opinions – I think Charles
James as well as yourself may
be said to entertain liberal principles.
Some while ago there was a gentleman
here who had been at Wells House

& it appears the company there was keeping very well up —
I had a note from Lizzie yesterday & she seems perfectly — Lane & Annie apparently very much as usual — I again entreat you that we must procure some one to do to take poor Corbyn's place, but probably it will be best to defer getting one until we get settled down in the North —

With very dear love

Yours ever affectly

John Rowley

The Friends' Retreat,
near York.

Jan. 15th. 1899

My dear Doctor,

I send you the notes re John Proctor's case.

Dr. Swanson read most of them to me, so I wrote hastily from his dictation.

I think however you will find more than you require, rather than less. All going on right.

Yours always
R. Wood

1 Westbourne Villas 1878
Basingstoke Aug 12th

Dear Sir

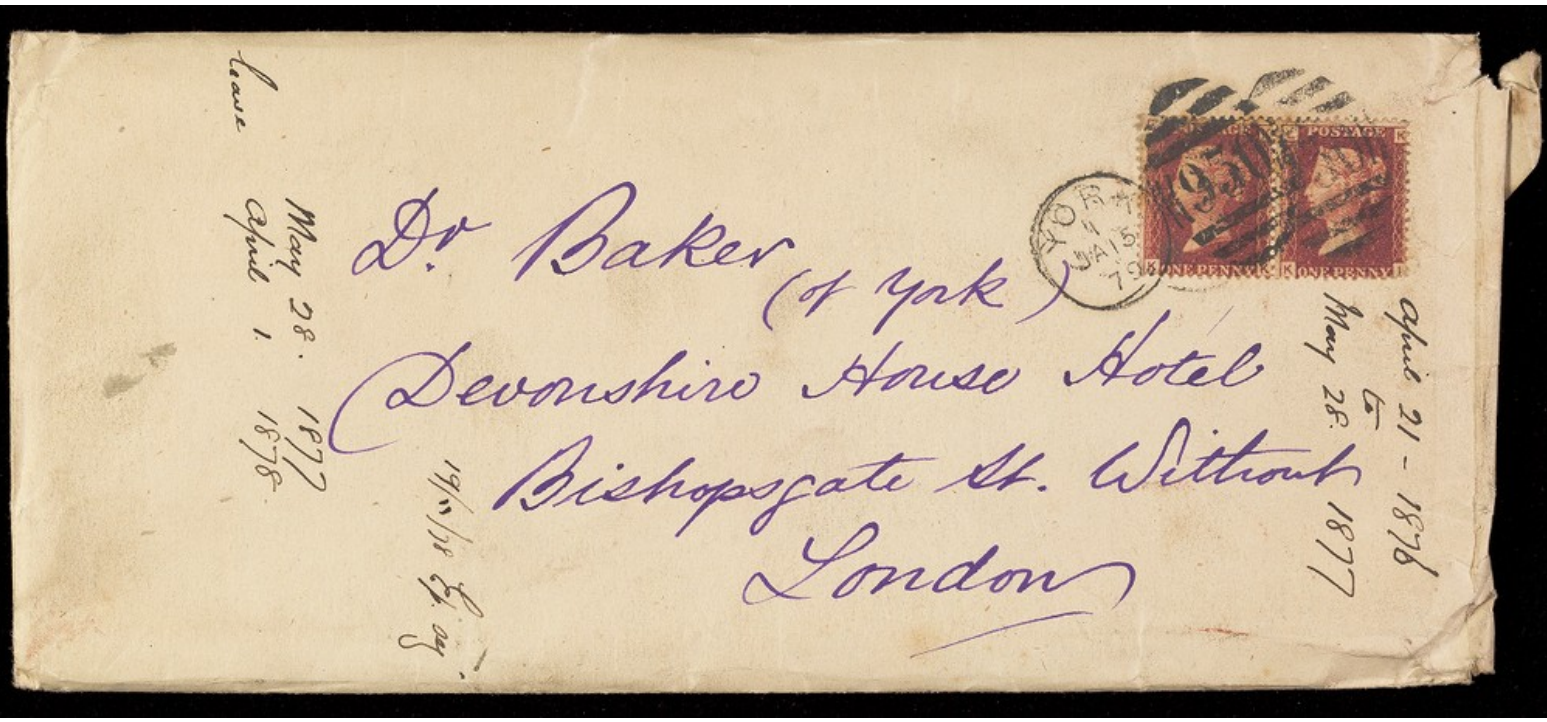
I just write a hasty line to say that my sister to assure you that we are fully prepared to go all lengths to support you in your endeavour to prevent the foolish conduct of Mrs Pizey of Farnfield. I hope you will on no account act the part of withdrawing from the case as should be a great addition to my sister's already

heavy load of care upon her to do so, she would then entirely lose all hope of her husband's recovery. Bessie has by my advice written very fully to her Uncle John Proctor of Clementsport telling him the whole case & requesting his assistance in compelling the Fairfield people to alter their line of conduct & telling him that unless they consent to uphold you in your arrangements for this relief that I can see no other way but for me to apply to a Master in Chancery

to make my sister his
"comitee" & thereby oblige
full control of his actions
& that in that case I should
also feel it my duty to
lay the state case before
the Board of Newcastle
Monthly Meeting on the
ground that Mr Porter's
conduct is calculated
to cause a breach of
love between her & my
sister. I want if possi-
ble to get John Porter
reply before I ~~[illegible]~~ begin
pushing matters but
as soon as I do I shall
act with vigour. I have
already seen my solicitor

about it she will be prepared
to act as soon as I see
there is no other course
left open. I am sure your
kindness to my sister
& efforts in her husband's
behalf deserved a better
return than for all this
extra & unnecessary
trouble to be given you.
Henry Porter will find
that I am not to be played
with if he carries the
matter to late action in the
matter. Upon telegram
arrived duly this morning
& I telegraphed the sheriff
to get bail for Bancroft.

I am Yours faithfully
Charles H Stedman



Dr Baker (of York)
Devonshire House Hotel
Bishopsgate St. Without
London

YORK
JA 15
79

POSTAGE
ONE PENNY

April 21 - 1878
&
May 28. 1877

May 28. 1877
April 1. 1878
Leave

19/11/78 Eng.

LONDON
NEW
79

copy

Basingstoke
Aug. 10th 1878.

My dear Uncle

As you & Mr Rowday said that in the event of any serious difficulty with the Fairfield family I might apply to you I now avail myself of that offer.

Yesterday by the mid-day post I received a letter from Lizzie stating that her Mother, the day she with (Thursday) had gone to Matlock where she was to be met by Mrs Wright of Bolton, & they were going to be together in lodgings for Mrs P. to have some hydropathy. I am sorry I have not Lizzie's letter to send you but I have forwarded it to Dr Baker.

Within the last week we have

had three letters from Fairfield
viz: one from Lizzie last Saturday
one from Henry & Charles Jones
on Monday, & one from Henry &
himself, received only on Thursday
the very day she started, & in
neither of them was one word said
of the steps that was meditated
& arranged for. On receiving Lizzie's
letter yesterday we immediately
telegraphed to Dr. Baker informing
him of the steps that had been
taken, & asking him if it had
his sanction, & if not to take
what steps in the matter he
considered best for his patient.
(Mem. follows on the telegram) —
This morning Dr. Baker again
telegraphed — (Mem. follows

(See Saturday's Telegram.)

Charles James at the Telegraph & Stanley — (Here follows C. J.'s Telegram. & Stanley.)

I enclose you copies of the two letters I have written to Dr. Baker. From the one I have written today you will see that Mrs. Porter & her family understood distinctly that Dr. Baker objected to a delay of this kind. The fact is they knew Dr. Baker would not consent to his brother going into lodgings in the same place as John, & it is perfectly evident that they carefully concealed the matter from Dr. B. & simply as that matter is now I might again have the opportunity of objecting. I consider

their behaviour in this matter greatly lacking in straightforwardness, & they certainly cannot plead its having arisen from ignorance as they perfectly understood their footing in this matter.

I am sorry to say that for some little time past instead of seconding Dr. Barnardo's efforts in Johnny's behalf for the furtherance of his recovery Mrs. Birchall has been taking a very contrary part. When I was last at Fairfield it was discovered that she had been encouraging Johnny in his wish for a "juvenile companion" notwithstanding Dr. Barnardo's fully expressed statement that such a companion was not to be thought of. Her explanation to me in this matter

was that she meant Irwin was about Mr Irwin's age (he was about 26); & Dr Baker, that she merely said "that she should be glad when he was well enough to have a juvenile friend". Similar letters which refer to this subject. (These letters show that was it which you told me from statement on this subject was not entirely without foundation, & my reply (i.e.) We do not know the exact statement of fact, but it may well it was sufficient to make him resolve & discontinue with his companion, & also to make him think that I was standing in the way of his wishes. The matter was thoroughly gone into, & also Dr Baker's desire that his connection with the Roman Catholics should be

this encouraged his injurious to him
in his present condition. I enclose
you a letter I received from Fair-
field from which you will see
that Dr. Baker's brother-in-law
efforts unavailed. (This was your
letter that James injudicious letter)
John stated to Dr. Baker & my-
self when we met at Sellers that
Mrs. P. was intending to join
him at Nelson to pay him a visit
of a week or two. Dr. Baker said
that he did not suppose it was correct
but if so he should oppose it, & if
she persisted he would throw the
case up. This I told Mrs. P. when she
was advocating the opinion that
her presence would do John good,
& you see she knew perfectly well
Dr. B.'s opinion. While earnestly
pressing her objection to this proceeding

to Wallace as being gentleman among
men. Then & less decisively for his
Brothers &, as we shows, for
himself, when I reminded him
that I was his nearest relation
& that if this latter was to be con-
sidered the point ~~object~~ was his
being married me (which Dr. Baker
had stated, & that a visit from me
reasonably was likely to do him
good rather than harm) she
responded "Then will probably
not consider it good for his health
to see him again for some time".
Henry had visited Emma only a
week or two before I had, so visit
regard to the interest of our visits
was now quite much in a footing.
I felt deeply grieved & also
annoyed, at her evident wish
to keep me, his nearest relation,

away from home, while pressing her
son & her son's visit upon him.
My visit to Fairfield to expand
to her was certainly to me a most
unhappy one. Except from the other
members of the family I received
much kindness, which I thoroughly
appreciated, & for which I felt most
grateful. I expressed freely to
Henry my sense of his kindness
to me during my visit, & I was very
sorry that in my depression I was
unable to say the same to his brother.
The first evening I was there two
letters from John Carew, one for me
& one for her. I showed her mine
but the written showed me hers,
& read me one word of it; & even
told me my name of its contents.
I am perfectly sure that I have
no claim to her letters any more

than she has expressed. It is merely
a question of kindness or letter sides.
I thought she might have forgotten
she had told me nothing of it, &
when I found she said nothing I
asked her if it was a dark passing
letter, when she replied "yes" & nothing
more was said. I felt myself in
a complete mistake, though I think
natural relation, & I fully resolved
that even if I were ever invited
to her house again as a visitor during
my poor husband's illness that I would
never again subject myself to such
unhappiness & mortification.
Among my letters there I had
three letters from John the first
of which I showed her, & the
other two I read her, & also to
Henry & James at separate times,
all except the 2 last very small

portion, but I was totally unaware of its contents. There was any letters received by any member of the family from John during my stay there besides the one previously mentioned. I know they frequently wrote to him & I have reason for strongly to suspect that they also heard from him more than that once.

Lizzie (who was with John) I know was heard from, but no portion of her letters was read to me. Henry told me it was satisfactory & John seemed happy & improving. Henry Kinsey read me a letter he had received from Lizzie, & also one from John, a day or two before they arrived. This was the only letter from Lizzie during her many months with John that I either saw or had read to me.

From the commencement of the illness there has been an evident reluctance on Mrs. P.'s part to acquaint me with any particulars of the symptoms, & which the nature must be of the greatest interest to me in attending any prospect for recording & Fairfield of all intelligence (except Mrs Otters) I have received throughout the two years & quarter of the sad illness.

I am accordingly sorry there is not a pleasanter understanding between Mrs. P. & me; I have endeavoured for Johnny's sake & getting sincerely with her, but I cannot submit to these duplicity charges, & I am quite sure that if she adopts these measures for concealing not the nature of the disease in opposition to the Dr's & mine that it will have the effect of ~~[illegible]~~ estranging

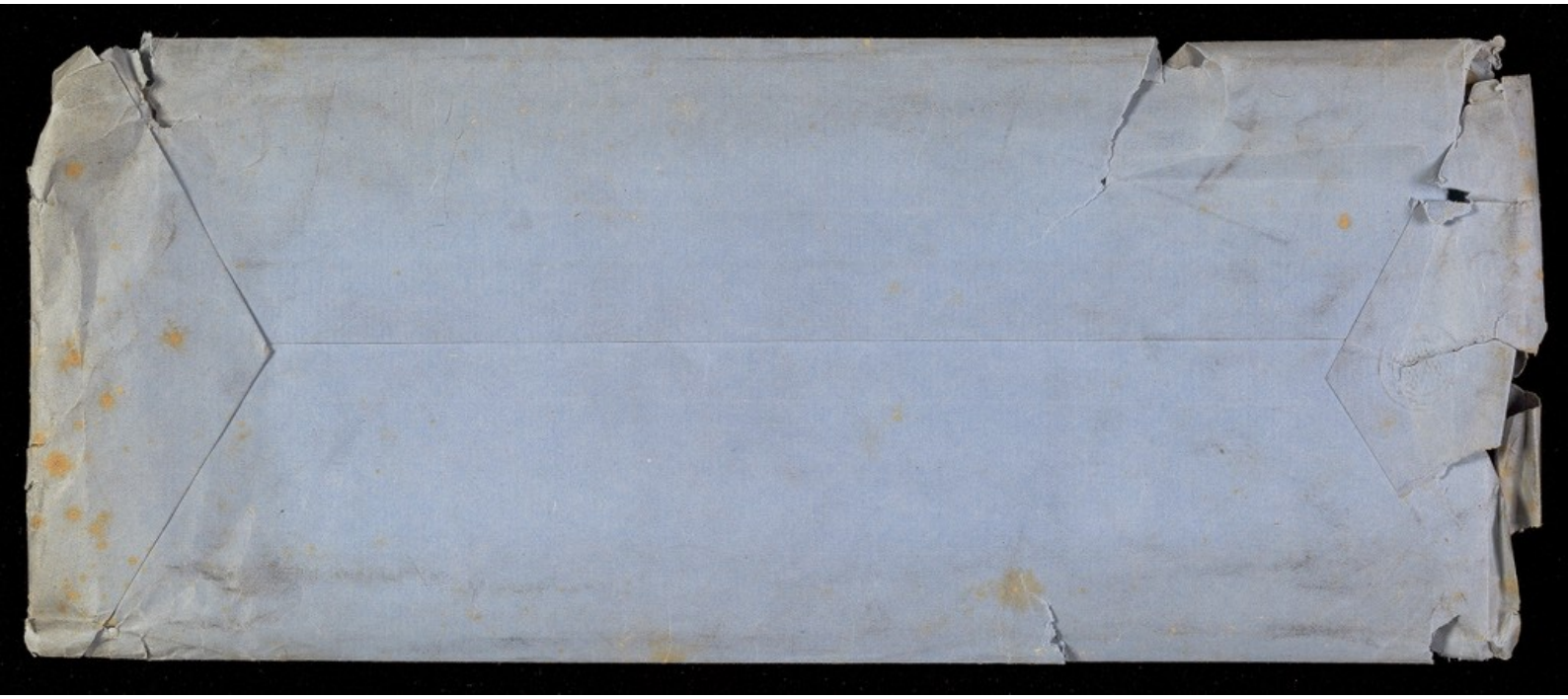
our good Lord.

My Brother says that unless there can be some alteration, it appears to him that the only course will be to make John & Edward in Chancery, & he also thinks that it will be his duty, in any behalf, to lay the whole matter before the Friends of Newcastle Monthly Meeting, & the ground that Mr. P.'s conduct in the matter is calculated to bring about a breach of love between her & me, but he would prefer such extreme steps being avoided if you can see any other way out of the difficulty, & thinks it very likely if you will kindly intervene in the matter that it may produce the desired result, & so render it unnecessary to take those steps. With love —

Yours affy

Bessie Porter

a John Porter



Bassingbourn
Cmbg. 12th VI 1878.

Dear Dr. Baker

I cannot tell you how vexed & annoyed I have been at giving you so much trouble. I am fully aware that my dear Husband's illness has been unusually troublesome case, but I have your kindness & consideration upon through the perversity of his brother is indeed vexatious.

I am much obliged for your letter received this morning. your remarks with regard to this matter are perfectly just.

I am much obliged also for Stuart's Skeis. I was return Mrs Wright has gone for Mr. Parkin's Commission, & not-

view varies as you could gather from Henry's letter. The family have distinctly told you either in the matter, & I see no ground for their supposing your views with regard to the matter have altered. I certainly know no reason for supposing so.

I enclose you copy of my letter to Uncle John Porcher in case you care to see it, & also of one I have sent Emi to day enclosing a copy of your letter to me.

I do earnest you with entire glow the case up, though I see clearly you have every reason for doing so. Uncle John Porcher, with, I feel sure, indifference & I believe his remonstrances will bring matters

to be manuscript issue; my
Brother & I have resolved to do
everything in our power to help
forward your, but having had the
experience in a matter of this
kind we really scarcely see
what steps we can or ought to take.
Do you wish me to forward your
letter to Fairfield? we hardly
know what to do for fear of increasing
your difficulties. On reading
the letter again Charles feels
says there is nothing in it to
prevent its being forwarded
& that he is sure you would
wish them to know without delay
how strong your objection was
& the course they are adopting.
With kind regards
Yours very truly
Bessie Parkes

Rockside
Matlock

Dear Charles James November 6/78.

I received a very kind & acceptable letter from you yesterday, congratulating me upon the complete & happy restoration which has been permitted me — I assure you I most fully sympathize with Bessie as to the severe strain which my unfortunate illness must have been to her — trying however as this continued separation has been, the clouds of the past seem now as entirely

rolled away, & the future before us looks as bright & encouraging — that I think I may say with reference both to myself & Bessie, that we are disposed in harmony with the advice of S. Paul to "leave those things that are behind & to press forward towards those that are before" or as it is elsewhere expressed "forgetting" those things that are past we press forward to those that are before — You may rest assured that nothing shall be wanting on my part to atone

as far as I can judge that Bessie must have gone through in various ways during this long & trying expectation. Leaving her nearly fittest of her kind. long & I fear often vexatious journeys backwards & forwards. The uncertainty as to when we could confidently anticipate settling down together all this must indeed have been a great strain upon her. I believe however a happy future is now before us, & I feel proud & pleased that you entertain a similar

view of the case — Nearly tells
me that enquiries after my welfare
are very frequent & numerous in
Commercial & other circles, & he assures
me of a very cordial reception again
into the north — I will enclose with
this a note I received in the Spring
from our Clergyman of S. Thomas Church
in Newcastle — It contains some particulars
which will not particularly interest
you, but as an indication of the good feeling
still entertained towards me by my old
friends I thought you might possibly
like to see it — With many thanks for
your kind wishes, hoping at no very
distant date Bessie & I will have
the pleasure of entertaining you as our
guest at Rosemoth Villa believe
me to remain yours affy &c
John Leech

Roe Side
Matlock
October 30/71.

Dear Dr Baker

I have not as yet been favoured with a reply to the letter I sent you the other day, but hope I have stated the case with fairness & clearness.

It is needless for me now to dwell further upon the two obvious points in my previous communications — They are briefly comprehended in the simple, & I hope reasonable request for religious liberty.

and the refusal to select myself
a congenial companion —
I may however perhaps add with
propriety that in writing home
to my Mother I made no
secret of my regular practice
of attending the Catholic Chapel
at Hastings on Sundays. In fact
I have not unfrequently written
& dated my letters home from
Hastings — having a little spare
time between the Services —
I have given occasionally a
'resumé' of the Discourse I

the Priest – described the Chapel,
& referred to the flowers, Candles,
& Incense – In replying to my
letters not the slightest attempt
at anything of a protest or
remonstrance has been made –
but once or twice an expression
of satisfaction that I have
thought of her (my Mother) when
at my "favourite Village" &
occasionally some favourable
allusion to the comments I
had made on the Preacher's
Discourse – It is also I think

some three or four months since I received a letter from my sister (Jane) expressing some surprise that my mind was so completely "made up" in favour of Roman Catholicism & hoping the Dr. "would soon give me leave to practise it" — When these simple & strictly truthful statements come to be considered, together with the fact of some of my Mother's Nephews being Catholics — & my own tendencies in that direction for many years I am unwilling to believe that the slightest objection will now be made against the simple attendance on the Sunday Services

Sincerely yours

J. Mulholland

Roeslside
Matlock

Dear Dr. Baker November 1/78

I understand from Mr Longe that he has written to day to you with reference to our papers, & also with respect to my brother's letter received yesterday containing the statement (which I showed to Mr Longe) that there "certainly was not the slightest objection felt to my simple attendance on the Sunday Services at Hanson Catholic Chapel – I

rather regret that he should trouble you further in the matter - seeing that I had already written to you myself twice upon the same subject. I must honestly add however that my brother Henry - while readily acceding to my wishes about the Sunday Services, expresses a wish that I should not attend early or week-day Services - or enter into any other ecclesiastical engagements - In replying I have faithfully promised

strictly to regard the contents
his letter contains —
As to a change of arrangements I
do not wish to push the matter
forward at present if you prefer
that Mr Longe remain a little longer
but having particular engagements
from home to place my wishes
with fulness & honesty — before
you I felt I could not do less
than simply state my wishes on
this as on other matters —
Henry also quite approves of
the arrangement on my behalf
to remain some time longer at

Portsmouth when he considers I am getting on in first rate style —

With kind regards to Mrs Baker, & hoping the Keeper better

believe me to remain

Yours sincerely

John Porter

Roebuck
Mattock

Dear Dr. Baker Nov. 15/78.

Having received a note from my brother alluding to something you said in writing to him relative to a supposed intention on my part of giving some sort of entertainment to the R. C. Children, I hasten to assure you that I have not the <u>slightest</u> <u>intention</u> of doing any such thing. I told that

such a procedure would be utterly unwalled for, I might possibly have a slightly overexciting influence on the mind - so that I feel fully warranted in holding myself entirely aloof from all such affairs during the coming Xmas - I presume Mr Longe in writing to you has been making insinuations on the subject - he must I think have been hard up for matter to fill in his letters, if he requires

to retail such idle gossip as that to which I have referred — & I regret that he should bother you with such misguided statements —

Having so recently written to you on various matters I do not think that I need add more at present, further than to express continued good prospects, health, & spirits —

Yours sincerely

John Trotter

Rattleside
Matlock

Dear Dr. Baker January 10/79

I have I find sent my letter to the post this morning, without making a certain suggestion which occurs to me as a very feasible one, & one which would save you a considerable time — I understood when you visited Matlock last September, that you intended to contrive to see me before my final return to the north — I beg therefore to suggest that Doncaster might afford a convenient spot in which

to meet. There are one or two little things I am requiring for which I had intended going to Derby - Doncaster would have suited just as well, where I could put up at the Elephant Hotel. The coming before the date convenient to yourself would thus be in readiness for you at Breakfast time - as I presume if you arrange to meet me in Doncaster you would secure the early train or as to enable you to return by the noon Express -

& I would also return to Nettleton by the Mid-day train –
This will no doubt be more convenient to you than coming over to Rockville – & if approved by you, will I think, suit all parties concerned –

Yours sincerely
L. Pratt Porter

Bridport.
Jan. 14th 1879.

Dear Dr Baker

I have just received your letter & enclosures forwarded from Basing's Lks. I am intending to return to my Brothers tomorrow & will call upon you in London on Thursday with you. Kindly let us know what time you get to London, & we will call upon you at the Queens Lime Street Hotel. If you think well to have a consultation with Dr Pike I shall not have the slightest objection to such an arrangement. Thus at the same time I am fully satisfied with your opinion.

The present state of affairs is

I am very much obliged for the tickets you have
for us, & am very sorry that we shall miss
you as much as we
With kind regards
Yours very sincerely
Bessie Porter

I am letting replying Thursday week & hope to
be consulted.

must trying. John either is not of
sound mind, or else he is acting
in a very mysterious manner.
I do not believe this set of letters
at Exhibitions is anything but a
scheme so that he may be esp.
cially in his own devices.
I enclose you a letter Charles James
received from John upon the subject
of Matters; please to bring it to
London with you as I shall want to
have it back again. John in his
letters to me has spoke against the
happiness of the opening of the
year.
Wish receive your letters from John
on Monday or Thursday then I can
so I have only had time to glance
at them.
Please excuse the hurry with
as the mail Post leaves in half
an

Rockside
Matlock
Derbyshire
January 10/79

Dear Dr. Baker

It is not very long since I wrote to you, & feel a little delicacy in troubling you with further correspondence — A letter however received from home yesterday, recommends my writing to you plainly to state my wishes & feelings as to the character of future arrangements — You are probably aware that, subject to your approval — Melrose Hy. Estate has suggested for me for a short stay prior to my return home —

This proposal has been recently referred to & seems to meet with approval - I feel to have made headway at Methodist almost beyond my most sanguine expectations - but having resided here already for some six months - a change such as that alluded to would be very pleasant, & I believe also advantageous in various ways - In writing to my brother I suppose the propriety of engaging with a well known Dentist in Edinburgh,

for a week or ten days during my stay at Melrose - He says he considers this a very feasible suggestion - seems under the impression that he will shortly receive a letter from you bearing on the subject - In the meantime as already stated I am advised to make known to you my wants & wishes in the matter - Do you approve of this arrangement - it is proposed I shd leave Moffat for the North at the close (on Thursday) of this month - This line of

procedure would no doubt cause Mrs John P, to defer her proposed visit to me for the present - but it hardly seems worth while for her to come all the way here in Mid-Winter - when, on account of Dental operations, & other reasons I would not be prepared to go with her from here as at one time was proposed -

When you have time perhaps you will kindly consider these points, & make needful arrangements -

I continue exceedingly strong & vigorous.

Sincerely yours

John Keeler

Poet's Pride
Matlock
Dear Dr Baker Oct 27/78

Agreeably to my promise & your wish I will now more fully place before you my sentiments & wishes than I could do in the limited time allotted to us on Friday. The opportunity however that has been afforded of seeing Bessie & of a brief interview with you was very pleasant & satisfactory to me, & I feel to have to much to be thankful for in various ways. I experience a little delicacy in urging any additional favours beyond those already engaged — At the same time

you are well aware of the two, shall I say "sore points"? with me — Religious Liberty & the Choice of a Companion — When I say "religious liberty" I hope it is distinctly understood that all I am contending for is the simple privilege of attending Sunday Service at the Catholic Chapel — & that I most faithfully promise while here myself to hold myself in check as to anything beyond what I have indicated — I must further honestly tell you that during the whole of Mr Hordyman's stay at Matlock, I was in the regular habit of attending

the Sunday Services. Perhaps at first sight you will look upon this as making rather free with what increased liberty you gave when at Dreaulin - but in appealing to Mr Hodgson on the matter I found he was inclined to draw the same inference from your observations at that time as I did myself - That was that while you discouraged the Study of Catholic literature or visiting amongst those holding that Faith yet that you did not absolutely prohibit the Simple attendance on the Sunday Services - Our interview however at Dreaulin was so short that there scarcely seemed

an adequate opportunity afforded
to come to any very precise understanding.
Having therefore for some time enjoyed
the privilege of attending Hassop Chapel
I confess it grated very much against
my feelings to be told by Mr Tony
that he "had orders to prohibit any
attendance whatever on the Catholic
services of religion" - When therefore
the entire circumstances come to be
received by you with that kindly
& sympathetic spirit which I
readily acknowledge is the main to
have characterized your dealings with
my case I quite believe you will
think it best to accede to my

long cherished wishes. I mention
having gone to the Catholic Chapel
during Mr Hodgson's stay, not only
as a matter of frankness & honesty -
but also as a proof that any
apprehension as to the supposed
exciting influence of these Services
is utterly groundless — They had
no exciting effect whatever - but on
the contrary a calming & pleasing
influence in every way. As to attending
any early Services or going fasting or
otherwise to partake of the Sacraments
of the Church I neither asked nor wish
at present to do any thing of the sort -

but being well known here as a
Roman Catholic it certainly grates
very much against my feelings
to be prohibited from attending
the services of the religion I profess.
but I feel persuaded it is a prohibition
you will be disposed at once to withdraw.
In the next place I must make free to
ask your kind indulgence as to the
choice of a companion. You have hitherto
sent me obliging attentive men & I
would be sorry to say anything to the
contrary — but as weeks & months pass
by & I continue so strong & vigorous
it will be readily seen that
there is no need whatever of anyone

in the shape of an "attendant" – but
that all that is required is some
pleasant congenial companion –
& even this I consider is not absolutely
needful – & yet I see from some letters
that the extra expense of a companion
is not begrudged, but readily granted
in consideration no doubt of my known
preference for coming on to go out
walks with me into the country – & for the
sake of company at nights – This
honour as I have already intimated
a matter of choice rather than necessity
having anyone at all – Mr Hodgson was
away on business of his own in all I
should say at least a week or ten days

yet I get on just as well by day & by night during his absence - Under these circumstances I hope leave will not be granted to select myself a congenial companion - but perhaps I have already said more than is really necessary on the subject - as I consider from the tenor of your remarks on Friday that I have no right to infer any unwillingness on your part to grant the modest request I have made - I have only to add my sincere thanks for the numerous kindnesses received at your hands - as to your medical skill I am certainly myself a living testimony. I must however further assure you that the granting of the privileges I seek shall not lead to any abuse whatever of liberty accorded. I held it to be to my own interest as well as a matter of principle to take no undue advantage whatever.

Sincerely Yours
Robert Barlow -

I hope Mrs Baker keeps better
JB

Copy

Barrington Park
Aug. 12th 1878.

My dear Uncle

I am sorry to be troublesome, but I think you might see a letter I received from Dr. Baker this morning. I enclose a copy of it. I am not surprised at his unwillingness to Percival's behaviour in this matter. I consider his remarks perfectly just: had I behaved in the same way, although John's wife, I should consider I had been empirely open to the just condemnation of the whole family.

With love to your circle

Your affectionate niece

Bessie Percival

Newcastle
Aug. 4th 1878

Dear Friend
Dr Baker —

I am in receipt of your telegram. I must say I am somewhat surprised at its contents, as I do not see why Mathews visit to Muskock need interfere in any way with Johns progress, or your

The deed & rec are perfectly satisfied with the arrangements Bro. Jim

arrangement of the case. She much needed a change of air & some hydropathic treatment, & so has joined her sister at Meatlock, & of course was also looking forward with pleasure to seeing something of her son & now when she has been so long separated

Yours truly

Henry Procter.

P.S. I am sure Mother has no idea that you would still consider it unsuitable her seeing John, otherwise she would have consulted you.

how fully thy mind is made
up, on Roman Catholicism,
and so hope it may not
be for long that Dr Baker
wishes to prevent thy
practising it. & that
in the meantime, thou
may still have some
enjoyment at thy old
favorite English Church.
Mother has been much
pleased with thy letter
I received yesterday — & felt
"comforted" by thy assurances
of remembrance. She wants
me to tell thee how much
thou art in her thoughts.
I hope thou will let us
know if there is anything

we can send thee to Malloch -
The Trousers thou mentions
were stolen from R. Villas
one night - but - Celle
else seemed to have been
taken - Jenny has gone
for a few days & she
takes with James Watson.
I expect - thy proposition
about the Farm can
be mentioned to Dr.
Baker - ~~[illegible]~~
~~Abedeff [illegible]~~
~~Abedeff [illegible]~~
~~Abedeff [illegible]~~
I do not know ~~Abedeff [illegible]~~
whether thou named it to
him at thy last visit, thyself.
Both Love & hoping to hear
soon from thee, thy affec Sister
Jane

Northumberland Mills.
Newcastle on Tyne.
Nov. 13th 1878

Dear Friend
Dr Baker –

Thanks for yours. Seem quite ready to think with you that it is best not to disturb John at present as he seems so happy & reconciled to a longer stay at Westlock. I shall write & explain to John that he is not in a position to spare money for any such purpose as he proposes.

He certainly has no reason for expecting any such gift - as he speaks of but from time to time I forward to him a cheque usually £5 which he gives to his attendant for their joint extra expenses.

Yours truly

Henry Procter

I will return the Longer letter tomorrow —.

Fairfield
June 20th

Dear John

I may not have time to write much to-day but I thought thou might like to be assured our continued resolve to do what we can to forward thy wishes. I was much obliged for thy letter & have been intending to write, but Teppe has been away & my time is a good deal taken up in Anna's room — I hope we shall hear

soon how thou likes Malloch
& trust thou may have
some pleasant days there
tho' we naturally shared
thy disappointment at
thy not yet coming North
as we had hoped.
I am very glad to find
it is to Rock Side thou
art bound, as we know,
by the experience of near
relatives that it is a
very comfortable place
with good hydropathy
& at the same time tolerable
fare & accommodation.
Indeed I should imagine

it is quite the nicest Estab^t of the neighbourhood. Aunt Christie & Aunt Mary have been there repeatedly & greatly enjoyed it. And it is more select than Smedley. We are also very glad that Hill has Lehman with them — as it seems Dr B. is not willing to sanction a young companion at present & I feel sure they will like his company much better than that of a stranger. It seemed a long journey from here to Matlock, but

I fancy it will not be very far from Ilkley -

June 23rd I thought the suggestion about having some occupation on a farm, after a short time at Matlock very likely to be good for thy health but I suppose it will be well to wait awhile now & see how Thou gets on at Rockside. I don't wonder Thou gets tired of having no settled work. There is a man who used to live at Matlock who I think Thou would like to go & see if he is still a resident there -

Rockside Hydro Mn
Matlock

My Dearest

Your amiable letter reached me this morning along with Eva from the North. We are getting about tolerably every day — this afternoon we have been to Haddon Hall — a most interesting place. Through which an attractive looking young lady showed us.

The heat is still great but
to day has been rather
relieved by a pleasant
breeze — Tomorrow we are
thinking of going to Derby
which I hear is an interesting
town — Yesterday we were
at Buxton which seems
a very fashionable part —
this I think upon the whole
I prefer Matlock.
There is no one here that I
know, but there are some very
nice children, only the worst

of it is that they are not
my own — what a delightful
thing it would be to have
some of our own — I trust
in the good Providence of God
this blessing may be in store
for us.
There seems to be a Clergyman
here but I do not know his
name or where he hails from —
There appears to be a Friends
Meeting house also in Matlock
a gentleman who was there
last Sunday said that there
was about 30 persons present.

I presume they would be almost entirely made up of visitors, as I believe there are but 2 or 3 resident Quakers here — I understand that in this County the Dissenting element is largely in the ascendancy —

I must now make up this letter for the post — A poor pen must be my apology for any want of regularity in the penmanship

With very dear love

Yours ever affy

John Crocker

Rockside Hydro Establt
Matlock
Derbyshire
July 1/78

Revd & Dear Sir

Agreeably to your wish I will send you a few lines that you may know something of my procedure as a member of the Catholic Church.

I was at Chesterfield yesterday attending Mass, & called in the afternoon on the Priest,

who had received the letter
you had kindly sent on my
behalf. He was very curious
showed me over his new Church
& Schools, & invited me to
go & dine with him any
afternoon I inclined. I
told him it was very uncertain
how long I might be residing
in Derbyshire, but sincerely
thanking him for his kindness
hoped I might see him again.
I have since learnt however

that there is a train from
Mallow to Assop in time for
Mass, so that I think I will
go there next Sunday all being
well – It is needless for
me to repeat what a happiness
it feels to be a member of the
One true Church, how ardently
I wish to be a really devoted
& consistant Catholic. how
grateful I feel to you for
the active interest you have
taken on my behalf, how
pleased I would be at any

time to hear from you, & how glad I will be if circumstances permit of it, to re-establish myself at Elkley & to find myself of some Service to you & the Church in your Parish. I have received letters from home from which I find my relations are quite reconciled to the change in my Creed, & I hope by a consistant life to win the good will of some from whom I still apprehend some little opposition but this after all is a very trifling matter compared with the Salvation of my own soul

with many thanks for past kindness

believe me
yours sincerely
John Wilson

The Rev. Father Pope
Myddleton Lodge

about here, but I feel like a fish out of water without my young friends –

Please give my kind regards to Joe Fairbridge when you see him and also William Wood.

Perhaps some day soon you will be inclined to send me a few lines again – I feel sure we will meet again some day and have some jolly trips together over the country, which I think would do us both good

Yours affectionate Friend

J. Wm Procter

Rockside Hydro Estabt
Matlock
Derbyshire

Dear Robert

I was very glad to receive a letter from you this morning, but I cannot make out what has come of the one you sent before to Ilkley. I think it must have been miscarried as I do not believe that anybody would keep it back. You do not however inform me how you could

like to live with me on a large Farm in Scotland for 6 months, or what you are busy with now. I do not wish to trouble you to write oftener than is pleasant to you, but I feel so much interest in you that I long to know how you are getting on and what your wishes are about the future.

I wish you were with me now you would like I think to go with me tomorrow to Nottingham to see the Prince and Princess of Wales. They are going to go through the Town in a procession with the Bishop of Lincoln, the Catholic Bishop of Nottingham and 17000 Sunday Scholars and several Bands of music. I often wonder how you are all getting on at S. Thomas's Church. I sometimes hear from Mr Gibson. There are some beautiful Churches

Roadside Hy. Estab.
Matlock
July 8/78

My Dear Sir

Having been informed by my brother that the letter I sent you has been misunderstood, I most willingly apologize for not having made the case sufficiently clear. I am well aware that the manner in which the statement was made to which Henry refers, together with the fact of a printed extract from "The Tablet" was calculated at first sight to mislead

miles to secure the consolations of religion. There are plenty of Ranter's Chapels & Schism Shops round about, but nothing short of the supernatural powers of the Catholic Church with the soothing balm provided in the Confessional can adequately meet the case of the wholesale Miller burdened with the misdoings of former days, & determined to return home with his sins which were as scarlet "made white as "Porter's Pearl flour" & to regain the title one enjoyed on the corn market of one "in whom there is no guile"

yours respectfully
Wm Porter

Mr Robert M. Davidson
Newcastle on Tyne

but upon a little consideration I should have thought the manifest absurdity of the thing would become apparant. I regret not having added a postscript to make sure of there being no misapprehension on your part. I had no intention of misleading you personally, but supposing you would see through the joke yourself I thought it might possibly afford a little innocent amusement on the Corn Market at a time when the Trade seemed rather depressed. My

brother informs me that the Milling business is still wanting in activity. I hope however that the Newcastle Millers will contrive to make a good deal of money in the Autumn, for I want to cut a dash among the Catholics on my return. I find the true Church's are few & far between in this County. Yesterday I had eleven miles to go to receive the ministrations of a Catholic Priest, & the Sunday before I walked eighteen

Rockside Hy.c Estabt.

Matlock

July 17/78

My Dear

I am glad to receive a letter from you this morning. You seem to have an active time of it at present with respect to Cottage & Business - fruit preserving & house-renovating - The heat here is by no means so intense as when I first came, but the weather keeps wonderfully fine & we had a most delightful excursion yesterday in breaks to

an ancient ruin some 9 miles
off & had tea out of doors
in a most romantic situation —
There is a fine young lady here
of the name of Smith from Lincolnshire
but I do not suppose that
you know anyone in that County —
There does not appear to be any
body here from the North —
Lisbon left on Monday as
arranged & is succeeded by a
Mr Hodgson (I believe from
Doncaster) I cannot say that
he feels quite such an

agreable companion as Lilburn
but no doubt it is but a temporary
arrangement — Edmund expects
in a recent letter that Lilburn
after being at the Mill a week or
two might return to Matlock.
but in all probability Mr Hodgson
will expect to be employed with me
for a month, but I do not know
precisely what arrangement Jo Beth
has made with him — He did
not come on Monday as expected
nor have I any idea when he is likely
coming — but suppose it likely that
he will endeavour to call upon me

before I leave the neighbourhood for good, which I hope will not now be long — I am progressing very favourably, a fact to which I have frequently been testimony, but being naturally of a very active mind & being so fully restored in health the time to me seems very near when it will be no longer either right or needful to be without deservedly employment — I am rather hoping that my exposition about Melrose Abbey & Edwd. will eventually meet with approval —

With dear love yours ever affy

J. Hunt Rule

Rockside Hy.c Estate.
Matlock
July 6/78

Revd & Dear Sir

I feel that I am making rather free to trouble you with another letter so soon after the note I sent you on Tuesday, but I am anxious to know the rule of the Church in reference to Household Devotions. I neither wish to make myself needlessly singular, nor yet to act inconsistently as a Catholic. Of course I know that to attend a Protestant Service in a Church

or Chapel, is absolutely forbidden by the Church, but with respect to listening to a Chapter in the Bible or a short written prayer in a public Establishment or private house, I am not quite as clear on the subject — as I would like to be — On one occasion when I had the pleasure of a personal interview you referred I believe to the case of Catholic domestic Servants being allowed to attend the simple reading of the Scriptures — but how far there is different worldly circumstances under no Protestant rule can take

part or be present at such Services I would like more distinctly to ascertain –

You will no doubt kindly excuse me for making free thus to enquire of you in this matter – for there is no Priest in this immediate District that I can consult. Tomorrow I intend going to the Church at Hassop, but I have no introduction to the Priest – My wish is as far as practicable to go to Confession & Communion once a month, as you suggested –

With kind regards, & many thanks for your kindness in admitting me into the Church which I find to be a rich in blessings to my soul, & in communion with which I find much happiness, believe me to remain – Revd & Dear Sir

Yours respectfully

John Crocker

The Revd Father Pope

Mapdleton Lodge

Ilkley

Rockside Hydro Estab.
Matlock
July 29/79

My Dearest

I received your welcome letter yesterday – the day however seemed more fully occupied than usual, so that I did not, according to custom, get it answered by return of post.

I am much obliged also for the "Hampshire Herald" with such a capital a/c of the Combhurst [illegible] – The heat here is agonizing –

by no means so great as a fortnight ago — a very acceptable breeze prevailing — We expect to go to Haddon Hall to Tea this afternoon — The Winfield Manor trip was quite a success. It was provided in the green in the ancient Court-Yard — & dancing was afterwards indulged in — The company which was a very large one was conveyed in four breaks.

No news as yet from Henry

which I daily anticipate.
I believe there is also a chance
of Alfred calling on his way
to London. I will be very
glad to see either of them.
In case Henry calls at York
in coming, it may be that ar-
rangements will be made which
will render it needless for the
Jr. to come here at all.
I do not know where my little
Crucifix has been put. Lishman
who kindly proposed to forward
a few things I required, was

unable to find it - I left it
on my Dressing Room table but
possibly you may remember where
it is. Having for so many years
been accustomed to have that
beautiful symbol of our Faith
in my bedroom - I wish to have
it with me - It will be no
trouble to pack. I would also
like the blue Table Cloth with
the satin Cross upon it - to place on
the little table in my bedroom
on which I keep my little stock
of books. With my dear love
I am ever
affy
S. M. Rodes

Rockside Hy^e Estate!
Matlock
July 29/78.

Revd & Dear Sir

I was much pleased to receive a note from you by this morning's post, with its kind assurance of a hearty welcome back again to Newcastle.

In that Town I can emphatically say there is no one I will have more pleasure in visiting than yourself. I hear there is now much earnestness mani-fested by many of your

congregation, at which I heartily rejoice -

With respect to the step I have taken in severing my connection with the Church of England I do not feel that that cause places any serious barrier between myself & those members of that Community towards whom I hope always to feel the most sincere friendship. Your Church possesses so much sound Catholic Teaching, that, although on the question of the Validity of Orders

+ some other points, we may be disposed to call in question her claims, yet I believe many Catholics look upon the Church of England as in some measure a branch from the parent tree. I am often reminded that personal holiness is the great point to be aimed at, compared with which Church Membership is a comparatively "secondary" matter. I do not altogether accept that sentiment, but I trust I can testify to the possession of a

happy peace of mind, together
with a gratitude that knows no
bounds for my wonderful restoration.
The pleasure with which I anticipate
meeting my old friends is most
intense. I expect to go into
Scotland shortly & will send you
my new address. I am well
aware that the character of your
manifold duties preclude the
possibility of much correspondence,
but at any time when opportunity
offers I will be much gratified
to receive a few lines.

Yours very sincerely
John Wolfe

The Revd Marsden Gibson
Newcastle on Tyne

Rockside Hy. Estate
Matlock
July 15/78

My Dear Sir

In case this reaches you before you have sent off the desired articles from the Villas I will be much obliged if you could also forward a Musical Box which is about 6 in. Square also one of the smaller ones, if you can find one — There are some other things I would like to have now that I find I am not likely to return home

till the Autumn, but I think I will first see what I have already ordered for, safely landed before making further requests. As previously intimated, any further particulars concerning Lizzie will be interesting, together with an assurance of the determination to resist all attempts at vaccination. Any arrangements about adoption must I suppose be held in abeyance until we see how we spend.

I trust your health still improves,

that your resolutions concerning
systematic pedestrianism &
vegetarianism, are not altogether
visionary — I frequently
assure my friends here that
I have been a vegetarian & a
total abstainer for many years —
I must acknowledge at the same
time some "mental reservation"
when I consider of having experienced
a slight feeling of giddiness —
during a demonstration at Nottingham,
when in company with the chief
cashier of a well-known Northern
firm who seemed disposed to

make frequent speculations in Cognac –

I find there is a likelihood of Henry spending a day here "en route" for London, in the course of a few days – which will make a pleasant variety – You remember (Mr Hodgson) may do as a temporary companion, but I think I can best describe him as an obliging blockhead –

Yours sincerely

John Norton

Newcastle
May 23rd 1894

Dear Bessie —

We thought it was possible you might be coming over & think it is very well you have done so — I am not very well at present I could not get over to York, but I could you will come over to Guildford when we must —

try & see what is
best to be done. I
expect Walker is
writing today asking
you to come on
Saturday or when
it suits you.
From a letter from
Mr Lishman in Hongkong
he needed stricter in-
-junctions as to what
cases to be permitted
& no doubt Dr Baker,
will have further
instructions him. I am
afraid Mrs Jones will
not be at liberty

But it will be
well to ascertain —
Eight guineas a week
Extras would come
very heavy for John,
that probably a
much cheaper ar-
-rangement might
be made at Wattlon
or elsewhere.
Hoping to see you
shortly
Yours affectly
Henry Proctor

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–

Ilkley Wells House.
Wharfedale.
(Via Leeds) Yorkshire.

May 27/78

My Dear

Your acceptable letter reached me this morning & am glad to hear you reached Jack in safety, & that you expect after today to spend a little time at Tanfield. There is no doubt but that you will duly deliver the messages entrusted

Every day seems to bring me fresh strength, indeed I consider myself quite convalescent. I feel I believe I could already undertake more serious duties at home — at the same time the advice of my friends to remain in the country quietly for 2 or 3 months longer is doubtless upon the whole the best plan — so that I may be thoroughly recruited before re-appearing in Society —

I have spoken to Mr Nalle again, but he seems to display a contrived disinclination for walking. Possibly after a short stay his pedestrian powers will return — There was quite an extraordinary influx of visitors on Saturday — all however strangers — but I am so little in doors that it seems matterless to me whether there or not —

I still hold very decidedly against engaging Mr Evans — as I have

Nalle

Basing stoke, but now there
and intend spending some time at B

your forgiving me another visit until I am nearly

said before I am getting on so very nicely that it is comparatively an unimportant matter who is with me – It is true Dr Baker seems to have got it into his head that it is best to have an adult person, but Dr Seeman who is at least constituting yr authority says there is no occasion whatever for anyone to be with me – Of course it is pleasanter not to be entirely alone – but to have quite a young person to my own relations after leaving Elkley is what I have been looking forward to with great satisfaction, for I consider what has positively been promised – I also have a very strong feeling in favour of Melrose in preference to Mattock – Mattock as you say is doubtless a trifle nearer but now that you have paid the north another visit at Bridport I suppose it will be doubtful readily to re-establish myself at or near Newcastle

with love very dear Cousin yours ever affy
Florence Nightingale

Ilkley Wells House.
Wharfedale.
(Via Leeds) Yorkshire.

June 3/78

My Dearest

Your welcome letter duly received on Saturday, & I had such a busy day that you see I have deferred answering it until to-day. In the meantime I have received a note from Henry from which I see that Matlock is preferred for me in preference to Melrose. This I regret, nevertheless I consider myself highly favoured to get even to Matlock.

Hy C

treatment is doing me as well
that I feel I can continue to
gain ground anywhere where that
treatment can be pursued —
I note your continual anxiety
that I shd abide to the letter
by Dr Baker's advice in all things;
but it must be borne in mind
that I am now to move entirely
under Dr Lacon, & that before
leaving York Dr Baker gave me
to understand that so soon as ever
I left his hospt that I went to
Ellery not as his patient but

as an independent gentleman.
He still seems to consider himself
that he has some medical oversight
over me, & I suppose to some extent
I must for the present remain
subject to his advice. He is
one whose medical skill I most
fully appreciate, but I consider
the time has come for me to be
released from all restraints
upon my movements civil & religious.
& I most assuredly understood
from Dr. Baker that after leaving
Ellsley, it would be more

only my right, but also a positive duty to act in every way according to my religious convictions, whatever those convictions might be. I have repeatedly assured Mr & Dr Baker & my Fairfield friends that I really intend to desist from the instruction of Classes, taking any part in Entertainments, or other duties involving labour, & the possibility of overexertion but to be longer debarred from the simple attendance on whatever kind of religious service I feel drawn to, is a restraint against which I must certainly protest. My views as to companionship remain unchanged with dear love

Yours ever affy

John Ruler

What is the right
thing to do - I there-
fore do not think
my coming over to
York (as I have seen
Dr Barker so recently)
would be any ad-
vantage - I if you
will kindly write to
the Mill on Monday
what train you are
coming by I should
like to meet you.
I hope you have had
a fine day today
for Bolton Abbey
affectly yours
Henry Roche

Saturday

Dear Bessie

I have just rec
your telegram, b
am inclined to th
that as from Pol
letter since his lu
joined here he is
evidently happier &
proving that there
no need to be in
hurry about any
& as you can ass
tain Dr Barker vi
before leaving on
Monday, he can
take a day or t
think over & de

Newcastle
May 11th 1879

Dear Friend
Dr Baker -

As in your last letter, January was mentioned as a likely time for some change of arrangement for John I thought you might possibly be going over to see him shortly.
In recent letters John has again been urging a change to Melrose Hydropathic establishment & seems anxious to have his teeth attended to

whilst there by an
Edinburgh Dentist, so
that it may be all
right, before he re-
-appears at home.
This seems likely.
He also gives other reasons
for wishing a speedy
removal & asks me to
write to you about it,
I think the best way
is simply to lay it
before you in his
own words that you
may be the better
able to judge when
you see him of the
best steps to be taken
in the interests of all
concerned.

Yours faithfully
Henry Proctor

Roeiteside
Matlock

Dear Dr. Baker November 6/78.

I was just preparing to spend the day in the Country when I received your favour of yesterday - which now that I have returned I hasten to acknowledge - Not that I wish to trouble you with needless correspondence, but I cannot think of allowing such a kind & considerate reply to my previous communications to go by unnoticed - Your favourable verdict as to increased religious freedom has I may almost say rolled away the only cloud that hung over

an otherwise bright & happy life -
It is true I would like a change
of companionship when you can
see your way to approve of it; but
it is neither my place nor
would it be in good taste to
press the matter with anything
like unreasonable determination -
Supposing Mr Inge remained with
me during the rest of this month,
& you were to see your way kindly
to permit a change in this respect
for the two or three remaining
months of my stay at Matlock,
I am sure there would be no just

cause for me to make the slightest protest in the matter — In spite of your observations on the subject in your note to hand this morning, I still hope from what you verbally communicated to me when you were here — that some such compromise as I have made free to indicate may eventually be made — It is a matter I must leave to your favorable consideration — In the meantime you must accept my sincere thanks for the increased privileges accorded me — You may further rely upon the faithful regard on my part of promises

previously made as to taking no undue advantage of the additional favours now bestowed upon me —

There is just one other point where I must ask for a little further attention — If I rightly read your note you allude to a "single" Service on the Lord's Day at Hassop — but I presume I may understand leave is given to attend the Afternoon as well as the morning Service? — While I was attending this latter Service Mr Troye proposes to attend a Church of England Service near at hand, & to meet me soon after 4 o/c. at the Village Inn (which is a highly respectable one) to partake of a cup of Tea before returning by the evening train —

Not being perfectly clear however as to your precise meaning in the matter, & Mr Troye maintaining that you only sanction the attendance of the Morning Service I await the favour of more precise instructions — afternoon Service usually consists of 2 hymns, prayers in English, & Sermon —

Sincerely yours
John Porter