

Trent University Library & Archives

Frances Stewart Letters

[78-008](#)

Contents

Letters 1-49

Letters 50-99

Letters 100-149

Letters 150-199

Letters 200-249

Letters 250-277

Miscellaneous, Undated Correspondence, and Letters

Letters 1-49

[78-008/1/1 #1](#)

My Dr Mama July ye 31th

I arrived the 29th of this Inst in Dublin on board the Whery belonging to the Amazon and am in hopes that you will Send the horse for me very Soon, for indeed I Want to See you and all frinds very much. Pray let me know by the that I may have all my things redy, & If not MrLautall Desires me If you please to Let him buy me a coat for indeed I want Wanvery much. And so to conclude With Duty to Dada and Grandada & Love to all my sisters and Brothers

James Waller

[To Mrs Ann Waller

at Allenstown

Near Navene]

78-008/1/1 #2

Dr Madam Plymouth May the 10th 1753

I am just going to the post office to look for a letter From my Father but I have been there twice today already I write this before I see the other Because I am afraid the post will got out; you cannot Imagine how stupid I have been for their is not one soul in Plymouth that I have any acquaintance with and they are most of them Job's Comforters here for they tell me the ship is not to be heir this three Months I have been a little out of order since I came here and I am order'd to Exercise my self every day a horseback but it is so very expensive that I would not do it their is a Surgeons mate Lodgers in the same house where I do and he seas [says] it was such [touch] of the Eague [ague]; I have wrote two or three Letters to my Father which I hope he has receiv'd; it is my Constant Employment for three times week to go to the Coffy House to reed the News to find out When my poorship is to come again; Their is no News stiring here. I assure you I never was so much tired of one place in my life as I am of Plymouth Now I hope I shall not stay heir long enough to Recieve an Answer, I must now Conclude with Duty Love and Compliments to all Friends Esspecially to my Father and Grand Father and Believe me to be your Affectionate and Dutiful son and servt and honest Far

James Waller

P.S. I have read a good deal since I came to Plymouth But Adieu for I am impatient to heir from Dear Allenstown I never knew the Headache till now and now I do know it very well Adieu yours
James Waller

[Written on the outside: I have no franks]

Tiger in the River of Bengall the 30th of Jany 1757

Dear Sir

I wish my time by this opportunity was sufficient to write you a long letter, but it is not being all hurry & confusion from motion -

Mr friendship for you & attachment to the best of young men makes my present subject as disagreeable to myself as it can be to any, but the good Parents who's loss is very great indeed, it is the affections they bore him which makes me unwilling to write to them nor can I do it as I ought. I feel much for them & my loss in their Son -

The News Papers I dare say will shew you in what manner our Ships have been employed in India; very disagreeably I assure you, wholly to draw the Company from destruction which was brought by the folly of bad men to hangover our heads. After we had taken Calcutta and had been in action some days before, consequently every man felt fatauge [fatigue] but as none exerted themselves more than Mr Waller consequently none felt more, our boats with a 20 Gun Ship & Sloop were dispatched up the River to destroy Hughly a large city belonging to the Moors which was some days in doing Mr Waller commande done of our boats, and from a just sence of Duty woud allow no man to go before him, and was with the first that mounted the breach after the connonading was over, and his behaviour there was such (according to the accounts of all the Officers) that gained him great credit but Duty was hard for want of rest and he came on by a Noble spirit exerted himself more than nature could support, which brought on a bloody flux that grew worst & worst till the 25th or this month when the poor good Lad died as much lamented as I ever saw one you will make this disagreeable news known to his Father to whom I beg to be remembrd.

Mr Waller has all his pay due which may be received at the Navy Office as his Ticket will be sent there with any books he has allways been rated Midshipman the value of his things which I have ordered to be sold will be there received, as it will be charged to the wages of all who buy [] there is some little account between him & me but what it is I dont know nor have I time to look - I beg my Compts to Mrs Congreve & hope you have enjoyed a good share of health, when you write to our Shropshire friends pray remember me to them and believe my Dear Sir

your Sincere friend and humble Servant

Thos Latham

I lost my Brother before this place on looking over this I find it confused as my ship but I have not time to correct it we are now in treaty for Peace with the Nabob

[To Cole Congreve

copy]

[on the outside in very faint ink:

My Dr child

Thou went thy

Fathers Glory the

Mothers hope &

Now thy countrys

Loss]

78-008/1/1 #4

London July 1787

My dear Hariot

As Ralph is just putting his foot in the coach to go home I take the opportunity of telling you that I received your fine long letter yesterday which was very acceptable to us all - as we pine for Irish intelligence and yours is so good and so much to the purpose both your father and I thank you most cordially for it, we have our business now [in] such a train that we flatter ourselves we shall be able to set from hence on or about Monday the 24 of thereabouts - so that I hope I shall have my arms about all my dear Friends before the first of August - I never longed for it so much or was so much tired of a place - but absence sometimes is of use and shews us the value of our friends and dear connections that we leave behind - I am vastly happy to think I am out of all scrapes & troubles with the Troop - I wonder that no Captain has been named in my room - positively I never will accept of the command again - and I suppose that Tandy will quit if Rowley is put over him - and that there will be jealousy & bickering among them - I fear that matter between Nicholson & Rothwell must end in a disagreeable manner - I am happy I was absent Give my love to your dear Aunt and tell her I have at last bought the coach and if she likes it I shall be happy - the sheep that last went out sold well and if more are fit they should also go - I am much obliged to him for selling my horse he went higher than I expected - if you receive this in time perhaps I may be here to receive your letter but on second thoughts you had better not write any more I have inquired about Howard and am informed there was Prize at Grenada - but will enquire again - and be more certain - Ham Wade is still here - but expecting every day to leave to return to Ireland - I wish [] he could go with us - he is a very good natured [] and has been very much so to me - I suppose our elections will come on now speedily- I wish they were over with all my heart - Lord Bective did me the honour of a visit yesterday - Also Dick Allen and some other Irish boys - we all flock together in this here country - I must now close my narration as Ralph must set out - and hope my next letter to you will be from Dublin - so in joyfull expectation of that much wished for time - I now once more assure you & all my dear friends of Allenstown Charlisfor Stanbrooke &c

how I am their & your particular friend R W

[To:

Miss H. Beaufort

Allenstown

Navan.]

August 25th 1757

The forms of Condolence I am a Stranger to and were it not, it wou'd be nonsense in me to attempt giving that to my Dearest Parents which I so much want myself, and yet when I am convinced that there is an all serving and Merciful God (who knows what is most for our good and orders all things accordingly) I think it impious to repine at his blessed will, and since by repining you can not allter what had hapned, but only help to hurt your own healths, oh my Dearest and best of Parents, so not, but for the Sake of those Children you have yet, try to get the better of this [indeed] irreparable loss, think how much greater the loss of either of you wou'd be to them and rather let us try to submit patiently to God's Will, that provoke him to visit us withso great a misfortune, what comfort shou'd it be to us all, that he died with such a Character, and so beloved if that Worthy human Man, Captain Latham who I shall ever honour for his tenderness.

But give me leave to close this Mellancholly subject; and that I am unfit to begin a livlier one, I shall try to change, the Br of this, Mr Paine sent here with Bullocks, and requested Jemmy wou'd Billet them tomorrow Night, on some Friend about Cavan, but Jemmy does not know any one there and so gave that Man 5 shillings to pay for them, which he desires I will tell my Father. The Bullocks are for him, and Colln Murray. Jemmy []

Jemmy came home last Night, and went of this morning to Carrentell which is 30 Mile, I think he did much good at the fair at Palmerstown since he sold but two brutes, and has brought home three, in their place.

Mr & Mrs Balfour have left this Country, and taken a place in Louth, and Davey Rynd [is] to take Castle Balfour, this is a real misfortune; and I wanted not this addition to make this Country detestable.

Mary is very well, she will write next post, she is very angry at the Ardraccon Girls, who have forgot her I believe.

I hope October will bring us all tog[piece of lettermissing] how I long to see you all here, is not to [piece of letter missing]How is my dear little Bessy, is the spots [piece of letter missing] of herface, my [piece of letter missing] Cubs are well and [piece of letter missing]fine Children, An[piece of letter missing] Marias face still br[piece of lettermissing] but better. Jemmy and Mary join in [piece of letter missing]

Duty to you and my Dear Father [piece of letter missing]

Dear and honer'd Madm your [piece of letter missing]

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Dutifull and affect [piece of letter missing] Love to Robin[kids] Girls

[addressed to Mrs Waller at Allenstown]

[A piece of the letter is missing, about 1" strip down theside]

Allenstown Decmr 1779

My dear Dan

As my father wrote to you last week I deferred to write till this well remembering that all or any letters from Ireland used to be a treat to me when I was absent - also an Irish newspaper which used to be welcome if you could but get a little currant Whiskey, the feast wd be compleat - I must pay you a visit in your retirement but when I shall have time to afford myself that pleasure God knows - the Parish of Castletn not yet given away - and while there is life there is hopes - and tho' our hopes are but very small yet as they are I still have them - it is now said he intends it for James Maxwell - others say that Ld Farnham made it a point that Close shd get it - but none mention you, and the Bishop is looking out for a curate who will reside and has ordered Whittingham's servant to keep the House aired - and that looks as if he meant it for Maxwell, who is now abroad for the recovery of his health - you say that meat, gracerys and bad wine are dearer than in Ireland - and yet you live cheaper - this is a paradox to me - however if I was in your situation, I should be very unwilling to remove again - your house is not sold - neither are the horses - and what to do with them I dont know - they are not worth the feeding, to you at least on the chance of selling them in March next - I desired Cod[dington] might sell them at five pound if he could get it - but no one would do it - my father will sell them for that - I would rather pay it than have them running over the land - tho' I didnt want them at all - Dick Berry has pressed me sadly for 50 due to him - I sent Cod to try to get a part of it - poor Berry is really in want of it and I have no money of my own to give him - my little rents are unpaid and I am really in distress myself, in short there is no money to be got - and goods that the land produces are down - perhaps this Free Trade that we are to get may cause a little ride in our markets - I think Cod does very well he is careful and anxious to make the most of everything both in land and Tythe - I shall go to Dublin next week and then try to do something about giving up that cursed farm - all the money of the Parish would be little enough to keep it manured - for the soil is so gravelly that all the manure that was put on it has sunk - [Paunier] has called on me for her £ 400 - she insisted on its being paid the 10 of last month - I could not get it then - but hope I shall get it before Christmas - when I do you will send me your bond for that money - and as to the 10 guins you desire for yourself it shall be sent as soon as I can get it either of my own or out of the Parish - but Berry must first be paid - let me know in your next thro' what channel I shall send it you are too far from Bristol also I could readily get a bill there - and few of our merchants have any correspondence with Carmarthon or Haverford West - you say you wrote to Cod for a return of the Parish this year but he never recd a letter since you laft Ireland I can tell you the Parish set for £71-3-6 of which he had recd only about 60 [] and I much fear no more will be got till the assizes for really people are in distress I have recd but £23 from Cod since you left and I have paid Gerrard £10 interest out of it. I had a little last Post from Mrs Augier for her little interest which I will soon pay her with a demand for £3 odd money to some french man or other. I cannot read the name but she says she paid it by your order - the paper with the bargain I made with Ruxton is mislaid therefore I cannot at this time send you the

particulars - I know he has my acceptance for £42 - payable at 25 March -and Barlow has my bill for 69 payable at same time - these two sums hang like a mill stone round my neck, but the 62 my father is to pay will help and is the only part I am sure of - if Strgeon takes the land from us - I have a scheme of taking the two little fields where the glebe is, from Ruxton - he is offered only £1-0-0 per acre for them and I believe he would set for less - he was deceived on the land when he took it from you and now repents it sorely - the glebe too distresses him much and I will not divide it until I see Sturgeon - let me know your ideas of taking these fields - the money you owe for the wine- I would try to get kept of as long as possible and then try if he will take it by installments - The load of interest annually paid ruins us - with all the charges of curate Crown Rent &c &c Barry McGusty torments - Brab Noble, Mrs Connor - Will Dixon &c &c &c I give them good words and that is all - I wish as soon as your member returns you would get some franks to yourself & send them to me

[under cover to C Lambert]

Allenstown: 26 March 1780

When I wrote to my Dear Friends at Penlan last Sunday I was determined I would not write Again till your Answer to Robin's Letter about the Exchange of your living of Navan with Doctr Stock for Letter jenny might give us Some idea of your resolution on that Head, for tho' both Robin, & I, and every Friend of yours, whom we have Spoken to on that Subject, Seem Sanguine in our desires for the Exchange, yet no Step could be taken in it till your thoughts and those of your good Fathers are received on that Subject, and as it may be doubtful after your consent Arrives, whether the Matter may be Accomplished, or whether Stock Still continues in the Exchanging mind, we are All Impatience to make the tryal;-

By the best Information I can have, I dont find that your living of Navan Comn Anny every Exceeded £400 Clear of all Charges wheras Stocks is Clear of every Charge of Demand £550, or 60. One Hundred and Sixty Added to your present Income with the addition of Somewhat to be here after mentioned, is an Object worth Your Serious Attention, and I think would very Soon make you quite Easey in Your Circumstances, and tho their may be Some Inconvience, and disagreeable Circumstances in Your Setting so farr off and in a Country not the most Agreeable, yet I think the Happiness & Comfort which must Arise to you, of so much the Sooner having uor Affairs Settled, will be an Ample Equivalent. - That Cursed Black Prince who was the Mains of loosing Robin's first Letter. I hope before this, has met with her fate; I should also tell you further that Stocks living is now Sett to a Man of Fortune the Money for it to be paid punctually in Dublin half yearly. And now my Dear Dan you will think it doubtless very odd to give you Such a long Preachment, before I came to a much more Agreeable Subject;

Our Reverd Father returned to this part of the World on Thursday last, On Friday after the Service was over he came up as usual & Cordually Shook hands etc. & takeing me to one Saide of the Church Asked me kindly how you & Family did, whether we had heard from you, & how he might direct a Letter, I told him we Generally heard from Some of the Family once a week and also that Some one of this Family never missed writing Each week; well then, You perhaps may do the Busy as well as I "There is a little Non Cure in the Country west meath called Port Lemmon, 'tis Vacant but the death of poor Jones, and if "Dan thinks it worth his Acceptance he Shall have it, perhaps it may be of Some Service to him under his present Circumstances. Jones informed me it was worth about £80[] an & he need not Hurry himself in coming over, as he has Six Months to do So as to take Care not to let the living lapse"; You may be sure I thanked him Most Cordially both in Your Name and my owne and told him, I was Sure, you would be most thankfully Accept any favour his Lordship might bestow, and that your Gratitude would Equal his Goodness; I think you must imediatly write a Letter of thanks to him, for tho'it is Small yet it will be Some help to you; he Expressed a great regard for you & Said he wished to Serve you not only on your Owne Acct but for your Connections; So after Complimts etc we parted. I had not an opportunity of Mentioning the Exchange now under Consideration but intend taking the first fair Minute to mention it and have his Advice and Aprobation. Your last letter of the 7th

Insd thank you for your kind wishes about Killmore Bishop, we Shall have no more Altercation there about renewals £ 40 is settled & Agreed during incumbency the Rent Still at the Old £ 10 Yearly & fees very Exorbitant indeed

You need be under no hurry about my Bussyness I have not thoughts of Building this Year, the House is intended for Grange or Rathbran, there is one Already at Clonleason which will do

Observations on Husbandry & the Customs in Various Countrys are Allways pleasing to me, and Sometimes I have met very usefull hints, from places where the Husbandry in genl was Most Excerable - the description you give of the manner of plowing the Sides of Hills is indeed Absurd and doubly Expensive why do they not plow it as I do at Rantan not up & down but the Ridges to run on the Sides which would be much Easyer & better.

We are Sorry to hear Your Father has any Complaint but hope the Change from wett to dry will relieve him, the Season forsowing here has been very promising, & now nearly over for Oats, the Barly Just beginning, Our Winter Corn in General looks backward owing to the very Severe winter. We are all tolerably well Except My Dame who last nught after going to bed perfectly well was siezed in the Middle of the Night with a Violent Sore Throat, by Gargles & Cooling Applications she is much better this Morning & we hope will have no return. Your little Harriet is quite well & the Sweetest Infant I ever beheld. She is indeed the play-thing of the House & the best tempered Creature this world affords. So much for you my Dear Mary -Farewell May every Happiness & Blessing Attend You all Roots & Branches and may every future Letter unfold Something New for your Advantage.

Adieu WW

Mr Waller March 25 1780

Dortlummon giver

Allenstown 2 April 1780

In my last My Dear James which, by the by, I take for granted you Never received as I think it was on board one of those Packetts taken by the Black Prince, in it inform'd you of the Clover Seed being Safe Arrived but that Account was premature, for that Ship did not Arrive till lastweek, and I have now the pleasure of informing you that I have got the Seed home last Night Safe and well, without the loss of one Ouz, Sound & Clean & without the least Damage. This good woman of Mine has been remarkably well Since she got rid of a very Severe Cold after Xmas, till ten days Ago, she went to bed perfectly well but in the Night was Suddenly Seized with a Violent Sore Throat, which at first frightened us Exceedingly, but by immediate Applica of Gargles & Flannel, She Soon got over it & in two days had nor further Complaint. She is now very well and in reasonable good Spirits. We have here been much pleased about an Exchange being Offered from Your Nephew Doct. Stock to Beaufort of his living of Letter kenny in County of Donegale, for his living of Navan this living of Stocks is now Sett to a Tyth Farmer of Sunstance and Ccharacter for £ 10 p.ann, out of which Allowing all Charges of Curate & there now Arises a Clear Yearly income of £ 550 p.ann Engaged to be paid in Dublin half Yearly - Navan does not produce Con Annn More than £ 400, So that if this Exchange could be Effected there would be a Certain rise of £ 150p ann, which would be a great Addition to the poor felloes income, but unfortunately the Letter which was wrote to Beaufort for his Approbation and Consent was on board that Packett which was taken by the Cused Black Prince and was sunk, this has Occasioned Such delay that we never have had any letter from Beaufort Yet, as I was informed from undoubted Authority within these two days that Dean Gorges had Agreed for an Exchange of his living of Terfeckin in the County of Louth which I hear is worth 450, and is only waited Gorges return from Letter kenny where he went to View the Premises to finish all matters; this is unfortunate for poor Beaufort but however to make Some Amends to him the Bishop of Meath had presented him to a Noncure in the County Westmeath called port Lemmon, worth £ 80 p ann at least, Void by the death of Jones of Navan the Schoolmaster; I dare Say, by what I hear from all Quarrs about the Bishop that this is not the only thing he may Expect from him

All here are perfectly well, our winter has been Severe & our Spring Cold, but never was a finer Sowing Season. All our Spring Corn Except Barly in ground, the Barly will Soon be over & a prospect of a most plentiful Harvest - Corn is Excessively low Oats 5 ll bar & wheat not more than 1b: Wooll which we thought would rise greatly on our Opening Trade has not raised as yet 6 p Stone 1b the highest at present, however we are Sanguine in hopes of a Rise on all our Commodities, Linnen & Yarn Sells briskly and very likely to Continue up.

All at this place give you & Dear good Hanah every wish that can contribute to your happyness

Adieu WW

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the money for the Clover Seed will be in Deases hands before this reaches you.

Mr Waller

2 Ap 80

Allenstown 8th April 1781

My dear Mary

I am in a hurry this morning and cant stay to say more than that your last letter wrote for Dan came here duly but I have not had time to consider the contents duly, being much hurried about my farms at this season; A former letter I wrote soon after that which mentions the affar of Fox put that matter past any firther consideration as the young man had declared off.

I send enclosed the ground plans of the old ruins of a house at Rathban which comes into my hands at May next I request Dan will look it over and try what may be done at it with the least expense to make it habitable and some way convenient for me to live in at times, while doing busyness there till I can build something more convenient by way of a farm house & offices- I begg his thoughts on this as soon as possible as I must immediatly fall about making it habitable.

Ruxton was speaking to me the other day and I suppose it might be at the instance of Dr Paul who has a living somewhere near Mayn's in the County of Monaghan he had a mind to exchange the living & would be glad to do so at the expense of £ 100 loss he has we hear quarreled with his parishoners & is made uneasy, which is the cause of his desire to exchange, probably you may know or have heard of this living? It's now he says sett to aTyth farmer at 600 pound clear of all charges for 3 years & will rise greatly after except £ 10 yearly crown rent. These are the circumstances as near as I can remember - but what made me take little notice of it was that there was a sum of money to be paid of £ 8 or 900 for Glebe House & tho' he said Dr Paul would make the payments as easy as possible, yet I told him it was out of your power to raise such a sum, tho' the greatest part might be repaid by a successor. I should have told you that a good house & 40 acres of Glebe are in addition to of 600 pounds - turn this in your mind and try if anything advantageous may be struck out of it.

Poor Johnny Wynne is now numbered with the dead he departed this life after a few says illness on Friday last occasioned by a violent cold he recd at Sloan at a dinner given there by Stopford on the Saturday before which fell on his lungs by inflammation.

In a letter I wrote to the Bishp of Waterford the other day in answer to one wrote to me on his wife's being delivered of a daughr I mentioned you, as being still in South Wales, in very good health and as happy as you could be under very straightened circumstances - waiting the happy minute when some friend might do something for your relief, I said very little could be a help - I think the hint was plain but fear he will not understand it. Our Bishop in Dublin for a week; all here much as in my last - the good woman tolerably well - before this I hope Dan has recovered the use of his hand & that I shall soon hear from him & that he will write about the business I mentioned in my last to yr Bishop, Dobson & Stopford who by writing to his bror might possible

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hear if some young nobleman in want of a bearleader - my loving old Gen believe me ever your
these rascally news on chest me of a paper every week I did not get Fridays paper wH is of
reason you have but two

Mr Waller

Apr 8 1871

[Paul's Exchange]

Allenstown 20 May 1781

My Dear Dan

The very day I recd your last dated the 7th Inst, I had one from Mayne, by which I am informed that our Scheme for the Exchange with Paul is at an End I fear, as his living is less then we Expected and his Expectations of that of Navan More then it can I fear ever be brought to Clear £ 500 p ann, -- I shall Say no More of it, as he writes, he has by Letter of the Same date with that Sent to us, given you a very full and perfect Account of all transactions on that head, do you think an Exchange might be brought about for your Father's living? I fear not, as Paul I Suppose would not be Satisfied, at its distance from Dublin; the only Inducemt to your Father would be a good Glebe House and Certain Income. Nither of which he has by his present living; when you think of it, let me know.

Tho I have Seen our Nighbour of Ardbarccan, it was only at Church they returned last week from Dublin, and have been for some days at Fortland, when they return, I shall Certainly have Some Chat with him, and desire his opinion & advise as to the Bear leading Scheme this may lead to perhaps, his opening a little as to future Expaectations; they go off for Harrowgate, the latter end of the month. Not a tittle as yet has come who Succeeds to C. Pollard. I have not the least hopes of it for if he had any thoughts that way why Should he be so long about declaring it, before he goes off for England. I suppose it must Come out. I should like your House much, but fear the expense will much Exceed what I purpose laying out wh is at 80 or ahund every thing finished in the plainest manner, the Monsterous Roof Sufficitto Cover 28 feet in the Clear I fear as Timber is now a Monsterous Price would be too expensive - I Should be glad to see the plan and an Estimate of Expanse when you have leasure I send you the best plan I could draw of the House Imentioned The whole Mason's work case to but £10. I dont doubt but you May improve in this plan. I dont require large Rooms as probably it may here after be inhabited by Some good rich Farmer; I calculate Chiefly for Such a Successes: -

I thank God I have got clear of My Complaints - only if I walk much or Stand very long My Ancle is apt Still to Swell Against Night - even this I find to decrease from hence I Expect no further Confinemt. I cantSay My Dame has been quite Currt for Some days but hope Soon to give a better Acct however - considering all that has happened She is wonderfully well. weare all now here the Maynes & youngs Excepted Heylands left us this morning.

Nothing more offers at present but to wish you happyness from Each one of this House -

Yours ever WW

a happy Minute to my poor Dear Mary Health etc. to MY Old Friend

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

MR Waller

May 20 81-

My Dear Sister - Bath June 27th 1781

We arrived here safe last Thursday having accomplished fully all our purposes we stayd six weeks at Cheltenham & a fortnight at Malvern, where for years I have been wishing to spend some time from the apparent beauty of the place & we were not disappointed - a great Single house built almost agst the precipice so that we go out of the back-door up two pairs of Stairs, we lived at the boarding table for the first time & found it not unpleasant, the top of the hill divides Worchester & Herefordshires, two finer counties there are not - Zig Zag terraces cut out of the side of the hill make the Ascent easy - a mile & ½ up, & think of your affectionate brother, that stumped it up thrice - the view from the top is transcendently beautiful, three Cathedrals, four or five large towns, a multitude of Spires peeping thro one continued orchard or plantation but the inequality of the surface lessens as you assend & of course the beauty is less striking the more extensive, it put me in mind of this trifling life, the longer we live, the nearer we approach to heaven, the plans, the buziness the struggles of life become less pleasing of future happiness widens upon us & becomes every hour more extensive & interesting -

I am exceedingly pleased with the serious turn of your letters, I trust that you & all of us will be enabled to turn the applications of this life into blessings, as they are manifestly intended, weare too apt to cling fast to the pleasures & profits of this world, to add house & land to land, the hand of providence mercifully interferences, shows us the folly of these trifling pursuits, points all our aims to more valuable attainments & thus enables us to improve adversity into blessings

You alarm me exceedingly when you say that my excellent friend is quite broken down, I cannot think it, Surely his good head & worthy heart, that could so well guide a friend in affliction, will not himself draw evil instead of Good out of the wise dispositions of providence evil I call it, for what could be more fatal to his family or afflicting to his friends, than any thing that would endanger a life so valuable - it is my earnest prayer to God to Comfort him & all of us & to avert from us so heavy an evil - poor Mrs Welsh is often with us; she is at a loss how to dispose of herself, £ 200 given her some time ago & 300 bequeathed, will produce a very scanty maintenance I advise her to purchase an annuity - 500 a year present maintenance to the young lout & the remainder after the death of the mother, he was here at the time, I will not say his conduct hastened her but it must have vexd her exceedingly, & the young lady was growing rather ungovernable - £ 4000 to her, £ 1000 to Catherine & 2000 to the young gentleman that is lame, are all the legacies & it is sayd she had as much anon. She was buried sumptuously at Weston, her death was more like a translation than a mortal exit.

Poor Ann Atkinson is almost at her last gasp at the Hot-wells - the Blackers are well Mrs Dunkin is selling herself at Kensington in a small house her husband is not yet gone - they talk of his going by land as an express -

Mrs Staples has got two falls lately & the consequence it is feared will be fatal to her -

the Strodes I find are somewhere with her brothers I dare say they will contrive to cross upon you probably on their road between Connaught & the North -

this morning for the first time I was electrified & got several small shocks on my hip I am determined to spend some few guineas on an experiment that cannot hurt me, that may possibly & I trust will serve me -

I am sorry that poor Dan is disappointed & more so that his father is so badly paid, we must all have our struggles they are trials of our patience & resignation, when I look back on our past life & review a number of evils, heavy to our feelings more so in imagination, how easy they were born or how soon they vanished. One fear succeeding another most of them purely vain, it begets in me a reliance on providence, it makes one look forward to a happy issue to all our presents fears & wants, & I have not the least doubt, but that every wish & every want that at present occupies the heart of my Dear Sister will in the event be satisfied either virtually or effectually & therefore let us throw all our worldly care upon him & occupy our selves solely with the one thing needful -

My Struggle at present is to make up £ 500 a piece for the Lisburn family, upwards of two of which is already in hand, if it pleases God to spare me for ten years more it will with his blessing be attained with ease & help it forward I send the inclosed receipts to my best friend - ten years I say, this very day have I attained my grand Climacteric, an idea that naturally produces a new strain of moralizing thoughts but that I have already sufficiently satisfied you

Vanity of Vanities all is vanity, can this be better applied than at the instant that has brought an account of the death of Lady Miller at the Hotwells of an impostume in her breast before her illness was universally known - your affect Sister is purely I bless God for it, you cannot have more accept friends than J H S

[addresses to Mrs Waller

Allenstown Navan]

[Written in pencil on the outside: great great Uncle Smith's letter to my great grand mother. K. Peverley]

[78-008/1/2 #12](#)

22 July 1781 Allenstown

Before this reaches Penylon I do hope my dear Mary will besafely laid up with a whopping boy by her side & that you my dear Dan will be half seas over at least as Robin is now writing to you I will post pone everything I had to say to you till meeting - Indeed the only thing worth mentioning was relative to this Exchange - which the more I think of & consider, the more anxious it makes me to have it perfected if all matters answer our expectations; I shall live in hopes of eating a good mess of water [Tuckhe]with my excellent friend Mr Beaufort in the Glebe House of Annamullen, - all well here except a bad cold which had hung heavy on me for 10 days. This delightful weather will soon drive it quite away. Such delightful hot & charming days I have seldom seen, God continue it, or I shall be undone who have upwards of 240 acres of corn & hay to make up Never was seen a more promising harvest and hardly an indefferent field of corn or potatoes to beseen, Harvest just beginning here some been cutt & much more next week, tis sooner than I wish - we are going on Tuesday to Mr. Bellfour's for two or threedaus, the paper will inform you of the Grand Appearance at Bellewstown. Blessings & service attend you all

farewell WW

Cherry Mount: 6 January 1782

Your letter my Dear Dan of the 21 Ult came to me a Post ago as also your Former Letter: Mentioning the Affair of Mayne's Renting the Parish of Annamullin - In that letter you throt hints which if true would greatly lessen Mayne in my Esteem and which I am right Glad I can possitively Say you had not the least, Not even the most distant Grounds for Surmising, to my Certain Knowledge and also to that of Robin, Your refusal of the Exchange greatly disstressed & Vexed him, and I promise you nothing could have happened, that would have given him greater pleasure of More Inward Satisfaction then your Acceptance of the Exchange; I often heard him Say he was Sorry for Your refusal as he was Sure in time the living would Arise to 700 pan if not more; this certainly was his Opinion; and Yet, had I been in hisplace, I should not have ventured there being Still Some uncertainty in theMatter to have gone further then he did to Enforce your Acceptance; but inevery instance would have done just the Same as he did, and when you had refused and that for prudent & good reasons, I think if anything was to begot by it, you Should rejoice your Friend got it, rather then Surmise the least uncandid conduct in him. - I have been the More Explicit in the Matter, as I find by Some Letter from Mary to Some one I dont now recollect to whom where Some Surmises have been Insinuated, which Mayne was heard to Say he was Sure you could not in Earnest Entertain. We are very Sorry to hear Your poor Sailor has had need of a Physician, but you give us pleasure by hearing of his being now better - we all came here Yesterday for a few days & intend going home tomorrow or Next day by your last Letter I Should think the News papers had not reached you regularly, I promise you Except Once, there Never was a Sunday Since you left this that the 3 papers of the week was not sent to the post - how or whither they have misscarried I cant Say but that they are regularly Sent in truth - Robin informed me he wrote to you & Sent your Money off last week, he is however Idle enough at writing but I promise you 'tis not for want of the Sincerest Affection for you & yours.

Most of last week we Spent at BarVilla - paying Complimts on Ann's Marriage with Mr Digby which I Suppose you Saw in the papers I hope they well be happy for She is an Excellent Girl -

When Persons are removed from Friends they are too apt to think themselves Neglected & form little Jeleousies of their absent Friends- let not this be the Case with you My Dear - Children, for you may be Assured of the general Affectn constant remeberances of all your friends here & very particularly So of My Dear Dan & Mary of a Most

Affect loving Father

& Sincere friend WW

P.S.

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

We have all had bad colds & Still Some of us hold the remains The weather has been for Several weeks So constantly wett & Stormy& disagreeable that I fear it will Especially Amongst the poor turn out avery unhoulsome Spring.

My heart Service to my Old good Friend & Sincere wishes for many returns of happy years & Xmases to him & all under your Roof

Mr Waller Jan 6th 82

Allenstown 30th March 1782

In One of my Dear Dan's former Letters you mentioned a desire of Some information, relative to Some Old Irish Poems, which I find for Sometime past, has been a Matter Much Agitated Amongst the Learned, All I know of them is that About 55, or, fifty Six years Ago, An Old Shepard, who lived in my Father's Service, had an Irish Manuscript wrote in the Irish Character & bound in Vellum, of the Sixe of a thin Octavo, as well as I can recollect. Out of this Book I have heard a relation of mine (who at that time lived in my Fathers Family & had from the Old Shepard learned the Irish dialect & could readily translate it) often translate Several parts of Said Book, and ashe informed me was a History of the Giants of Ireland, or great Warriars, I perfectly remember, Several of their Names, as for instance Pin mac uel, the greatest Of all the Warriars and Answering in Character to Achilles, in Homer, Usker the Next great man & famous for his remarkable Size & Strength which in Homer was much in the Stile of Ajax - Philtagh, Dermot Dun, Connaan, Much in the Stile of Ulisses, a Comical, Cunning Ardfull Fellow - Anf Ofsian oras he Express it Usheen the Bard who writes the Story. Many are the parts & Stories which he related out of this Book, the Scene of Action all in Ireland & Much about Temorriah or Tara Hill, in this County, the Often Mention of the Harp, I should think a Strong instance of the Poem & Scenes pf Action being in Ireland for what right had the Scotch to the Ancient Arms of Ireland, you never See it - Mentioned amongst any of the Scottish writers. This Old Shepherds Name was OBrien, he died in my Service Since I purchased Rantavanat that place, he left a Son who afterwards lived with me as Bailifs where he is now I cant Say but I have for Sometime past been making Enquiry after him in Order if Possible to recover this Old Book which I am Stile in hopes may bed one. I have never read the present Poems published by McPherson but am Certain when I do I Shall find Many More Particulare, which I say - then recollect, to have heard translated out of this Book, the person who translated Assured me the Poems were in a most heroick flowing Stile & very Elegant Language.

This all I know of this Matter which convinced me thoroughly that the Poems were wrote in the Irish Language by Some Old Irish Bard, and Nota Scotch one that however the Present Publisher got the Original (for that it is an Original there can be be not the least doubt) I cant Say; I have been in Search of the Poems of Ossian but have not Met it in the hands of any Friend, Along Story this, but you have not much Busyness on your Hands so you may take your time to Con this over.

We are all tolerably well Again Except Robin who of 10 days or a fortnight has been confined with a Smart fot of the Gout in both feet, hecan but Just by the help of Crutches Hobble from one Room to Another -

The sudden death of Poor Ralph Smyth gave my Poor wife a great Shock, but She had now pretty well got over it, It rejoices us to hear his Son has dealt Generously by his poor Mother & promised to turn out a Useful & good Character, he intends Setting in Ireland, but his Mother

Mains to Sett up her Staff at Bath, a very fitt place Indeed I think for her. Ralph's Son has a wish to get Mellicient a beautiful place on the River Liffeyin C. Killdare, it is very Dear but I feel it will be too high for him.

Most Matters remain in these parts as in my Last no News, Except the Death of Our Neighbour John Nicholson, who one Fryday Evening last departed this life, by an Eruptive Billious Fever after a few days Illness; he has for Some time past been in a declining State of Health - His wife will have no great Cause for Sorrow for he was ver Cross & Pevish to her. She is now in possession of her Own Fortune which I dare Say is full £ 1800 p ann - he has left two Sons, good Boys at School in Drogheda, I cant Say how he has disposed of his Affairs as Monday is fixed for his Interment where I am asked & main to Attend Robin will not be Able

Tis well I dont write Often Especialy if I Inditeed Such long Epistles but you may thank your Owne Curiosity for the greatest part - Farewell, Happyness & Health Attend Your Dwelling & May every Blessing be the lot of you My Good Mary, My Old Friend & Each individual from the Garret to the Cellar - Sp prays Yours WW

I fear our New Ministry be better then the last but fear there is no great likelihood, the last were unfortunate

Allenstown 5th May 1782

My Dear Children

In the Course of last week I had the pleasure of receiving Your two Last Epistles, the 1st dated the 13th, the last the 19th Ult for a week or ten days past very few men have in that time undergon more Fatigue, Settling with Tennants & Labourers going and coming to & From my Several Farms, with other Settlements at the Critical time of May, Added to a Jaunt I was forced to take to the City to Answer a Roguish Bill filed by a bad Tennant, these have Occupied my time So as hardly to be Able to Eat, Drink, or Sleep, and for a week to Come will give me full Employment, I shall therefore Shorten this as much as I can.

Lett your English People Say what they will of this poor country & its Saviours the Volunteers, I will venture to Assert and time will prove the Veracity of the Assertion that his Majesty has not, I believe in all his Dominions a Sett of more faithful Steady friends nor better Effectuated to the Constitution, that they have asserted an uncommon Spirit to recover their lost Liberties is Surely Praise worthy, and that we will not be Satisfied with words only the unanimous Resolutions of our H. of Commons does plainly Shew -that we are Ripe for Rebellion is a Damned Falsehood, but that we ought to have our rights and that we will have them, the unanimous Voice of the People plainly demonstrate, happy for both Kingdoms if our New Ministry, Consent to our resonable demands without any reserve or Prevarication, 50,000 well disciplined Men in Arms, Steady in a good Cause are no bad, Spurrs to a Scary Adminsn - Our New Govern Promises fair his Character hither to open & unreserved. Thus farr, Poleticks. Such a Season as this for Rain, Snow, Frost & Cold, the Oldest Person now living Never Saw, hardly a filed of Green Oats to be seen & this 5th of May. Hundreds of Acres Still to Sow especially in the wett ground of the North - Not a blade of Grass, fodderare Expended, many Cattle ready to die for want of food many dead & no likelihood of a Change, the Wind Continually for these Six ir Seven weeks from N.E. to S.E. Cold as Xmas, now burning up all before it, Corn rising & likely Next Year to be Exceedingly Scarce & dear. I thank you for your last, I owne I did get a Letter from you, desiring my opinion about the burnt Land, which in truth the hurry I have of late been allways in prevented my answering - I have reclaimed Some Hundreds of Acres of that Moory ground you Mention. My first Step was burning a Sufficiency of the Sod or Surface to cover the whole ground on Inch or two of Ashes, Spread over it, I then Sowed Rye & trenched it in Ridges of about 6 feet over only taking as much out of the trenches as was Sufft to cover the seed, better Rye or in greater Quantities never was proved.

At other times I have broke up the ground Early in winter Harrowed it down in Spring & then burned it Spread the ashes hot, plowing it & harrowing & burning a second time & Spreading the Ashes, this produced me as fine Turnips as could be desired, but take Notice that the dryer the Ashes are Spread much the better for if they have got much rain So as to pooch them, their

Virtue is lost wett Ashes having little of no Effect of Land, the Salts being all worked out & Evapourated.

The Land you describe (if intended for Turnips ought to be plowed a Second time harrowed & well burned the Ashes to be Spread dry as Sufficiently to cover the whole Surface & then the Turnips Sown early in June, that is the first Crop Should fail by fly or any other Accident there maybe full time for Sowing in a 2d time. if it [hitts] it will produce an Amazing Crop of Turnips as good for Cattle as any in the world or for Eating at Table, I think the Red best. - Since they hav Nither Rye nor Rape I Should think Cabbage a good thing or the Turnip Rooted Cabbage, could they have Sale for Cabbage plants no ground produces finer plants or greater Quantities then this. I have produced from this Sort of Land great Crops of Grass particularly Timothy Grass the Seed of which I Sold to the Amount of £ 19 per Acre, white Americal grass does admirably in it - & if there be Sale of the Seed Answers very well - So farr for your Quesn in Agriculture. Robin is now able toride, little News in these parts we are all tolerably well & Sincerely rejoice at the good Health My Old Friend Enjoys & all the rest of you.

Here's a long letter, & if you know how much I have to do you would wish I would leave off, for that, & ridd you of further Stuff, take my Blessing & hearty Service of this House & So I bid you heartly farewell WW

Just about finishing My Palace at Rathbran & hope to have a Comfortable Residence there before Summers over or even very farr advanced

[Addressed to:

Mr Waller

May 5 82

reclaiming moory land]

[written in red ink]

78-008/1/2 #16

Allenstown 30th June 1782

My Dear Dan

Your letter of the 14th and one from Mary to our Mary here came by the last post, we are all as well as can be, and Harettas brisk as a bee, without a mark, Phsicg over &c &c. In my last I made a Mistake as to the height of that little Animal, I told you 3 feet one Inch & a half I believe that Since find it one Quar. of an Inch less. Viz. 3 ft1 Inch & $\frac{1}{4}$. I am in a hurry & cant Stay to answer your Letter now -Robin & I have hither to Escaped the Influenza, it is everywhere much abated & I hope we Shall Escape. A talk of Waterford being offered Tuam, & that he refused being His Grace, I cant Say with how much truth - but it is not yet filled - Mayne Appointed one of the Provincial Officers for raising the 20,000 Men Voted here, is gone to Derry it will be a good thing of him, & he Still keeps his rendivouss in Dublin, this will be a 3 or 4 months Jobb - I doubt much whither they will be able to raise them, not withstanding every Measure taken by Volunteers Govert & to raise them & the highest premium every given, it will Amount Nearly to £ 10 a man -

Blessings be with you

farewell WW

a fair prospect of a Plentifull Harvest weather for Somedays rather Cool & Some rain -

you see by the papers that my poor friend Lambert is at last released from the pains & troubles of this life

Mr Waller

July 1 & 7th 82

[Addressed to:

Revd Mr D.A. Beaufort Pennylan near LlanVile South Wales]

Allenstown 7 July 1782

Your two Letters My Dear Dan of the 14th and 23dUlt now are before me, little have I to Say in Answer as Nothing New or Material has happened in these parts Since I wrote last, I can only condole with you, on the dissapointments your good Father has met with, & think with you that Wm Orr has been Extremely faulty in not getting in Money, for surely out of even So low Letting as I Suppose it was Let for, much more Must have been got, tis a hard case and Extremely vexatious; and at this particular time disstrsing; Just now on the Verge of your removal.

Your desire I would inform you of the might Matters Metge has done to Occaisin Such & So many Addresses, you realy put a Question that I cant Answer for tho I much Esteem Metge and think him worthy honest Man yet I never could See the least Occasion to Address him more then any other Gentleman who Stood firm to the good of the Country, I was an absolute Stranger to the transaction, well I saw them in print his getting the Judge of the Admiralty & Serjgown was as I am informed Owing to a recommendation of LdLudlow on the Change in England; he is a lucky Rogue for his places which he has got I am informed is worth £ 1200 p ann he had but one Tickett in our Irish Lottery, which being the first drawn Tickett was a prize of £ 100, & a fortunate one of £ 10. Thus you see how fortune favours Some People. Tho we have had in our Publick affairs every Encouragemt our Hearts could wish, I dont find it has Yet Effected our Marketts for Wooll or indeed any of our Exports the highest price of wooll is yet only 12 s the lowest 10 s wheat & Corn of all sorts, rose greatly in the Continuence of the bad weather, but of late it has rather declined the wheat Still gives 30 p barrl our Cattle much as last Year -tis thought & Expected all will rise (Except Corn) toward the latter End of Summer Our Apples & fruit of all Kinds quite destroyed Several of my Young peach trees killed; I dont suppose we Shall make a Hegd of Cyder this Season or two basketts of Peaches.

The Influenza has reached this Country & monbers are nowill of it, Most of this House Except Robin and My self, but tho for Some weeks I have had a Severe Cough, yet fear my turn of it Still to come tho I an daylyfor 4 or 5 hours on horseback - I dont hear it has been fatal in this part of the world & with care & Sweating Soon goes off.

All Your Friends here very well & little Harrt quite unmarked, brisk, & lively - Sheep Sheering Road Making, Marleing, Limeing, Plowing, draining, Turf-cutting, blasting Rocks, building Quarrying, Visiting & visited, you will allow enough to Employ one Person; and 1200 Acresdispersed at 10 or 12 Mils Assunder, with broken Tennants at Dunsink to my lossof 350 has beggard me. - from hence you may Guess little Spare time remains on my hours whatever be the Case in Idleness or hurry I never forget my friends,Your Excellent Father, you, Mary & your young ones have ever my warmest wishes, for every blessing - Adieu WW

I told you in a former Letter a box was filled for you with Some Raggs & Sent to Maynes, who is now at Derry Athboy not yet disposed off, Nor Arch Br yet filled -

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[Addressed to:

Mr Waller

July 7 82]

78-008/1/2 #18

Allenstown 13th July 1783

My Dear Dan

These Rascally News Men have Missent, or not Sent at all two of Faulkners papers of last week, perhaps by the time this reaches you Robin & Young are or have been with you, Should they be with you tell Robin his Hay is going finely on, but the Lime Kiln not yet Set on fire but Expect to Sett it going this week as all the Culm was got home in three days, also tell him his castle at Phelpottstown was Stonr y & I sent them back to ye Mountain. Tell Young Nancy is perfectly well & hearty & every thing goes on at Cherry mount Swimingly

Blessings Attend you all -

dreadfull Acct from the Markett yesterday of [Kebs]

Oatmeal p retale 33 p Cr by wholesale 30

Oats from a Guna to 28 p barl wheat 2 gun p bar

My heart bleeds for the poor Labourer &c -

The weather delightful & Harvest promising here beginning to Trun will probably be in at 3 w [] End if hot dry weather Continues - the Country Nearly [] Exhausted I had almost forgot to Inform you that bigg Billy Gerrard Called here yesterday to make an Offer for your livingin Westmeath, Said that he would give as much as any one for it. Cadd came here on Sunday last & Said £ 40 p ann was offered as I knew Nothing of the Matter I desired he would post pone Agreeing till I heard from you that I thought £ 40 too little for you to Lett for Incumbincy I wrote to him to be inno hurry about Letting till further orders -

Mr Waller

July 13 - 1783

[Addressed to:

Revd Mr Beaufort

Chepstow

Monmouth

Fee Geo. Phillipps]

78-008/1/2 #19

Mr Waller's Congratulations

Mat 17 88

Rev Doctr Beaufort

Mecklenburg St

Dublin

Allenstown 17 May 1788

My Dear Dan

No letter ever came within the walls of this house gave more general satisfaction and true joy of heart than your last. My poor woman thro' surprise joy and pleasure could with difficulty keep from tears, the whole evening: which concluded in drinking the speaker in bumpers indeed. The situation so near our little habitation is no small addition to the pleasure we feel when ever you go there for induction, Ven &c give me timely notice that we may contrive our meeting at Rathbron. If the two sinecures can be got it will be great indeed, but even Drummin will be something noble joined to Colson, but should Drumcar come, it would be brilliant truly.

You never shall want a friend to assist you while Robin & I live so rest happy in the thought of your being supplied with the hundred you will probably want I hope indeed for the last time as I now am sure, a fund may be applied sufft soon to liquidate all your debts of every kind. Have you any friend who can apply to the Primate? Could Hamilton be of use, now on the spot with the Prelate, loose no time in applying to every body or anybody

The last money which I have any acct being paid to Armit was a bill drawn on you 21st June last for £ 4.3.3 ½ for which I see his rect on the back of the draft. So I take for granted there was a year due or half a year at the last end of the year which that simpleton Kellet ought to have paid or informed me of the demand I now begg you will pay all & settle matters and have the papers stoped sent as usual, with all the wanting papers. We are all tolerably well, and in expectation of the Waterford party being here the middle of next week -

May this good fortune which now awaits upon you be but an earnest of the future & many that good Providence which has hither to supported you, ever contrive to shower his blessings on you & yours

farewell WW

dont fail to let us hear as often as any step is taken in this matter Our Bishop is in town
therefore this must be pd out of your fund

78-008/1/2 #20

Wm Waller

Jan 11 89

to

Rev Dan Au Beaufort

Mecklembh St

Dublin

Allenstown 10th Jany 1789

The last post brought my dear Dan's affectionate letter for which I thank you, the late stroke of Providence has indeed been severely felt by his house, particularly my poor weak woman and I - but we must submit with resignation to the will of a beneficent Being who knows better by farr what is fit for us than we short-sighted animals can do - We have indeed had severe losses but we must submit and adore the Almighty who has left us still so many comforts. This will go to you by Alott he will also give you six sheets of large paper which I request you will get stamped for leases, a half crown stamp I think it must be. His man or someone from him will return here in a week, or thereabouts will you by that opportunity send back this paper stamped and the almanacks, the silver watch I sent to be cleaned and sett to right by a former messenger you will also send and at the same time let me know how our accounts stand, that I may keep clear with you.

My poor woman had been struggling before this last stroke which she still feel heavily, but by hurrying her from place to place, and by that man's taking of her attention to particulars I hope soon to tell you we have got over this distress we have suffered of late - farewell my dear Dan & Mary may the Almighty dispense of all good & happiness in this life send blessings on you and your children

Amen! Amen! WW

[78-008/1/2 #21](#)

Allenstown 10th July 1789

My dear Dan

Yesterday I returned from Rathbron but as I was there only one day found so much employment as not to be able to make an excursion to Collon, however I was not unmindfull of your affairs and find the grass on your farm which is greened is very great, and that people there particularly Jack Kieran would be glad to take if for 3 months this I think will answer better for you than putting any kind of stock on it as the season is so farr advanced I have therefore taken on me to write to Cadd to go there on Sunday next & try what can be done, a pound of perhaps a guina per acre may be had I dare say for that time - I have done all I could to get you one hundd of turf but the season is so late and the weather so bad I felt we shall not get it done to any good purpose but every means shall be used to provide it if possible

You got I hope my letter with a five guina note enclosed to pay winter six pounds which I hope is done I now also inclose a fifty pound note which I begg may immediately be paid into Latouches Bank for acct of Waterfords Bill and an accountable recd got for it on Billn acct & sent to

My dame has been but poorly but is rather better and now gets out a little Robin in West Meath hurried there by a special messenger from Ralph Smyth to begg his presence as his mother was at the very point of death having had a fitt or two which it was thought she could not survive many hours- all the rest well here best wishes attend your house Yours ever Wm Waller

Shrewsbury. 14th June 1790 -

The last post brought me my Dearest Marys Letter dated the 11th Mar and I are quite happy that Dan got to Town So conveniently and oppurtunly, to accommodate all matters for the Setting out of Frans. I should have been quite miserable had any delay happend or any inconvenience Occured by Dans being here, for the he was a very principal Opperator in our affairs here, Yet I would rather they were all matterually delay'd then that he should be kept one Hour longer then he could be spared with Safety to his affairs. I thank Dan for the Stockings he Sent me I like them well and they are large enough. I owe him half a Crown on that Acct which let him not forgett -

I am concerned I quite forgot when Dan departed to Send an Order for Boggs money about the will &c. I now Send an Order on my Friend Mr Antrobus for £ 25:5: which is the amount of his demand, I begg that Dan will get the money for him, and let him know with my complemts I should have wrote to him in answer to his Civil Leter were it not for the Double Postage which would be charged upon it; but you see I dont Spare poor Dan -

The Cert has been only finished this day, it will take tomorrow and the next day to Settle all my Affairs here, but on Thursday, Sometime on that day, I hope Early to leave this pleasant City Never More to Sett my foot in it, which I promise you I shall in no wise regret. Three weekstomorrow have I spent here, how pleasantly Dan can tell. - Two Letters fromAllenstown informs me Most Agreeably that all are well there - One from RobinSays Ra. Smyth is going to be married to Miss Tenison, who has £ 10,000 - I wish it may be so - This would be a better Fish then the mentioned inYours -

Robin writes that he dined at Lukes the other day and found him in a very declining way the Dublin Physns Say he is better Since he came under their Inspection that he had been very improperly treated, his disorder being a Palsey & not Gouty - have stoped all medicines, have ordered asses Milk & nourishing light diet - he is greatly fallen away even to Skin & Bone.

If a Letter cant Arrive here before Thursday at 10 OClock bid dan writ but dont write here otherwise as I shall Certainly get away of possible Some time on that day.

I wish I had time to transcribe part of a Miscelanous Letter I have Just red from Allenstown from the Groupe of Females that inhabit that Mansion - it gives the willow that was Sent to Nichs Coddington on Ann Warrens Marriage if possible

I can have So much time will transcribe it, for tis real Curious & wrote by Kate - Nothing New Stirring here - I Say no More but Most truly with Success to our young Saalor, Midshipman I mean I begg the Genls Pardon

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Farewell my Dear Children believe me

Yours ever WW

[Addressed to:

Revd Doctr Beaufort

Margaret Street

Cavendish Square

London]

[The seal used in closing the letter is the mark of the Waller coat of arms.]

Dublin: 27th: Jun 1790

I wrote a few words to you My Dear Dan the Eve of My Landing on Thursday last, which gave you the Account of Road proceedings thus farr -

This Morning brought me your Agreeable & pleasing Letter dated the 21st which I hasten to Answer, as you inform me of Exchange being favourable, I would wish to get as Soon as I can, the Bill which remains in Mr Antrobus's hands; which According to my Account after deducting the Hund which he is Entitled to by will amounts to £ 433:03:7 which may beremitted if you find Exchange favourable; if not dont Send it, till it is; as I am not in imediate want of it, but the Sooner it comes the better as it will Stop Some Debt here which pays Interest.

The Amount of the Sale at Shrewsbury Including £ 80 for the Carriage was £ 432:12:1 much less then I had Calculated for it in my own Mind - I have with the Amount of it paid of every Shilling which was due at Shrewsbury, Legacys included: Except Mrs Congreves which I had not Money to do, without taking that which was in Antrobuses hands, which had destined for other uses - 'tis incredible the Sundry demands I had on me, for Including the Legacyto Poole & yr Infirmary I have Expended on way or other Near £ 900, My goods I got of the Customs house readily as Old Friend went with me, and half a Gunea given the proper person brought all my Ten Carriages Safe out, Most of them never opened more than Just to See they were all Linen & wearing Apparel &c. They Never desired to open one of the Boxes they were all Old Prints & Books, and Away I brought them with great Ease to my Mind, and now have them Safely lodged in Youngs house waiting for Carriages from the Country which I have wrote for

I rejoice that Frans has got a good Birth, he will Soon make himself Friends and I dare Say will be an Honour and Comfort to us all.

Volmy, I have read only the first Vol. it is tedious I think but yet there is Some good useful knowledge in it, Speerman I dont know if it has a good Character get it, as our Accts of Africa are very inaccurate as far as I have ever Mett. by all mains get the New Addn of L'Londe British Constitution and let me know as Soon as you can the fate of my Collection of Old Books - Some of them I may Justly call Old indeed. Munbides me tell you that he does not know what to do with the Letter for Lord Allen & desires your instruction on that head.

I have this moment recd a Letter from Allenstown by the Horses Just Arrived; all well there - I intend Setting out tomorrow for the County Wicklow, where I Shall not Stay above two or three days at farthest, my poor Friend Scott being dangerously ill of the Gout in the head & Stomach, but I Shall go See Bess and our Friend at Dalgany.

Your Son William is here at Maynes and perfectly well he is with us dayly, we Shall now get him down for Allenstown as Mayne and Lorg willin a fortnight (if not Employed in the Maretime

Still) go to the Country, She is much better tho Still an Ugly dry Cough hangs over her, he and the Children are all perfectly well as is Your Mary Ann a Sweet good and engaging Child, Sensible & Prudent, She is indeed truly Amiable.

All Your Friends have been enquiring Since I came here when you & Yours are to be over. I tell them Next Month Some time, which we hope may be the fact, You will now I hope hurry off your affairs as fast as possible for People here will think you are Idling Your time there and Making a much longer Stay then Necessary for the perfection of your Mapps &c. - when I hear from you the fate of my Cargoe of Books, I Shall be better able to determine about others that may be got, and you will also Enquire after any usefull Entertaining, well recommended Books for me. Enquire after [Prase] I can think no More at present but to tell you what you My Dear Mary & Fanny I hope already knows that an Affect Father loves you all Passing well Adieu

Wm Waller

Take Care to get a proper rect from Antrobus for the Hundd Pound Legacy which must be on a 40 Stamp. - Get the Bills on this Country at as Short Sight as you can & the Sooner they can be conveniently Sent the better, provided Exchange be favourable -

I have advised Antrobus of the draft

My Dear Dan I recd yours & wonder at my Mistake Abt nutit is no Matter, as I have Engaged Comadore Cosby who is here on his way to London, there was Nothing in Your Letter of any Consequence, it will to get you Spake to Mr Bellingham who is secrety to my Lord Chattem - to have me Appointed in Dublin if yr war goes on - All well here with love &c Yours Ever RtMayne

[Addressed to:

Revd Doctr Beaufort

Margaret Street

Cavendish Square

London]

[78-008/1/3 #24](#)

London May 31st 1794

Dr Sir

When you were with me in Burton Street if you remember; you were so kind as to say you Thought a Friend of yours, would much likely take my Pictures at the price of 30 Guineas, if Mr Beresford did not purchase them; I should be much obliged to you to tell me whether you have seen That Friend; and whether he is agreeable to have them, provided Mr Beresford declines Them. I shall esteem it a favour to be informed from you respecting Them, as soon as convenient; I beg my best Compts to Mrs and Miss Beaufort, and beg leave to say, I shall be happy to hear that Young Lady goes on with her Crayons; if she should want Vellums, or any other Thing respecting the Drawings in my power, I shall be always ready to supply her with a thousand Thanks for your kind attention to me I have the honour to remain

Dr Sir

Your Humble Servant

De La Houlyesse

[on the outside:

May 31 95

De la Houlien]

[Addressed to:

Revd Dr Beaufort

at Collen

Ireland]

Oh Lord! God! of Heaven and Earth Saviour and Santyfier Eternal three yet ever-blessed one thou didest create and doth preserve usaltho so glorious great and highly exalted above our comprehension yet deighest to surround us on every side we find thy supporting hand but how canwe comprehend thy greatness or duly Magnify thy wonderous redeeming Love yet didest thou desire little Children to be brought unto Thee more than once brought them to Thy Bosom and Blessed them and rebuked those that wouldest have kept them from thee thou didest not dispise the Infant-state but didest become one thyself born in humility Laid in a Manger make us humble to Thy divine word and will ready to Learn every good thing thankfull to Thee: for those thou hast appointed to instruct us and as we grow in years above all earthly things make us thine this we beg for thy redeeming Love's sake. Amen. Amen.

Wednesday July 23 - 1794

London June 20 1796 -

My Dear Harriet

Yesterday made me very happy by having recd your very agreeable and pleasant Letter which was doubly wellcome to me as to all the rest of the party now here by bringing us pleasing accounts of your Grand-fathers returning health and most sincerely hope that a good fit of Gout will set up for years, I wish he would have something more done to his Ears, as the little that has been done has served him - and then Beaufort might go with more certainty to the Ear Doctor - I have got into the hands of an Eye Doctor and find myself much better - - he has Given me Great comfort by telling me that my complaint is merely in the lids and that my sight is in no danger, and I find all his applications are to the lids only - but as to the main business, little or nothing is as yet done - - the order from the Treasury not yet had; how provoking that I should come over for at least a month after I did - I should have been time enough the middle of next month - - however we are promised the order tomorrow and believe it will be got - your Father, Mayne and I sat 5 hours in the Treasury last friday waiting for Mr Rose to speak to us - - atleast we saw him and Mayne has got an Order to secure to himself and your Father the shilling a Pound for collecting so that so far we did some good and tomorrow our Grand Order for the money will be obtained when got - the rest of the business will be put into Train against the Transfer Books open - this day we dine at Mr Gasttins in the Country which will cost us our yellow Guinea for the Equipage, and on Wednesday the Maynes & I dine at Chelsea with Lord Cremorne - to be sure you would wonder to see me how well I look in my new Coat, white waist Coate, Black Culotes and silk stockings as white as the Driven Snow -

I dined with the Cusacks last week Mrs Cusack much better and talks of returning to Ireland shortly after she has drank some waters on the road - - the Meredyths are at last gone to Bath. poor Sir Richard very indifferent indeed - - the rest very well and glad to leave Brompton, your uncle & Aunt Mayne Betty & I intend to take a Jaunt to see the great Channell Fleet that is now collecting at Ports mouth, I wish every one of you belonging to Allenstn were of the Party - I should then consider myself happy and at home again - we go from Bertsmouth to Bath & Bristol where we shall remain only two Days - I wish to see the Wallers at Bristol & my Aunt Smyth at Bath - the Maynes have business at both Bath & Bristol so that we shall remain together all the Journey - I hope your Aunts Nose is by this time relieved from the Wen you mentioned and that She is quite well as to her Cough- I never knew She had a Wen on her Nose till you mentioned it as to the set of China you mentioned - I hear that China of that sort is quite out of fashion and not the thing at all now - a much more new fashion is expected in the next India Ships and I believe I had better wait to see that before I buy - my Thrashing Machine will be shipped this week and I will consign it to Mr Dease -the Doctor you mention is really a curious one - who cures without medicine, but Betty seems to prefer Doctor Turton who has ordered her some things and She is much better - her Nose almost quite cured - - but the last operation She under went for it was very painful - - the root pulled out was amazing large &

deep sunk in the flesh and gave her great pain in pulling out [] [covered by sealing wax] I have not heard from your Uncle Young yet but hope I soon shall - I shall write to him next Post at all events - Harry Maxwell & Mr Vernon dined at your Fathers on Saturday last - Harry looks but indifferently, tho he says he is quite well -Mr Maxwell & Lady Lucy set out this way for Ireland - no account from Francis since he sailed nor is it known where he is gone - but it is believed that Lord Hugh Seymour & his Fleet are gone after the Dutch Fleet to India- - as soon as we get our order from the Treasury I shall write directly to my Father to whom present my most afft Duty with my best wishes for a good account of him - - my Love to your Aunt - to yourself - Marcus, Miss Blacker, the Youngs & Nobles - how is little William - believe me my Dear Hariot

Yr ever Afft & Loving Uncle

[Addressed to:

Miss Waller

Miss Beaufort

Allenstown

Navan

Mrs Waller

Ireland]

London Feb 15 1797

My Dear Hariot

I arrived here last Saturday Evening and found your Father perfectly well - I wish I could say as much for myself - I got cold in Dublin which I increased at Sea - and have added to since I came here - - and Have very bad these Two or Three days - but as this day much better and hope to be soon well - I recd your very agreeable Letter of the 4 - - and am much obliged to you for it, and hope for a continuance of your correspondence - I was in hopes thursday to have had a Letter as in your last you said your Dear Aunt had increased her Cough and was then but very in different, I am sorry for the loss of poor H Thompson - he was a good Boy - I hope all the rest are well as I wish them - I find now I was full time enough in coming here - and indeed had I known circumstances; might have remained longer at home, as Ralph Smyth whose presence is absolutely necessary to finish our Business has had a fever and are lapse and can not come to Town, this prevokes me very much but I find that Patience is the only cure for misfortunes we can not forseer or prevent - Ham Wade lives in the same lodging we do, he is very well and is much with us, he is detained here waiting for leave from the Regiment to go home - we dine together almost every Day - - which makes it pleasant to both Partys - my cold has been so bad I could not go to the Play yet - I fear your next Letter will bring meacct of my poor Friend Deases release I hope your Aunt will be so good to ask Mrs Coddington and poor Mrs Dallas & her children to Allenstown - be so good to tell your Uncle Young - that I would write to him - but have nothing to say to him yet worth the expence of a Letter - that Just to request of - if he has so much of mine in his hands to give your Uncle Heyland one Hundred Pounds and to take a receipt as so much of my Fathers Legacy bequeathed to the Children of Robert Heyland - this money is for William Heyland who has run out all the money he got last summer - and has sold all his Things. Hat, Regimentals, Watch, Sword, Gorget, and even his Shirts in an uncreditable and nasty manner - and now ordered out to sea - if he can be refitted in time - I am vexed to the Heart with the accounts I have of his foolish conduct - but will not yet give him quite up - I presume the Heylands are now with you - if so - tell Mrs Heyland I would answer her Letter - in your next I shall hear how my Troop is going on and also all the little occurences of the Country - which you are so clever at collecting and which give me so much pleasure to hear -especially from your fair hand - and be sure tell me how my sweet little Fanny is - her disorder must have been very distressing to such an Infant, I had them is fortune to miss seeing Francis, he had but left Town a very few days before I came - if poor Dixie is gone let me know what he has left Ann Dallas - and whether he has left Robert Waller or his Father any thing - - I fear he has not left the Wallers any thing - as Ralph Smyth is not able as yet to come here your Father & I propose to take a short excursion to Bath for a few days -where I must go before I return to Ireland where I wish I was this moment - but when I shall have that happiness I can not at present conjecture, as some difficultys have started in respect to our giving security for the money that the Crown must have on our getting Administration - and whether [] shall return with out now [] putting an end to the trouble some business or not - I dont yet know - the weather here is

uncommonly cold and disagreeable constant fogs and small rain - I shall long for another letter from Allenstown full of good accounts of you all particularly your Aunt - to whom give my best Love as also to all the Household - Mun, the Youngs - Heylands & & - and believe me - -

my Dear Hariots ever true and most

sincerely afft Friend

R Waller

you dont say whether Mrs Ruxtons Veil is to black or white or whether of lace of gauze & yr Father & I dont know how to order it, tho' we have held many consultations on that head - your Father sends his Love and would wrote to you this day had not I wrote - he will write next Post -

[Addressed to:

Miss H Beaufort

Allenstown

Navan

Ireland]

78-008/1/3 #28

London March 7 1797

direct for us at

No 28 St Alban's St

My Dear Hariot

Your Letters are always wellcome but not ever more so than your last which I recd the very day I wrote my last dispatch to your Aunt - I must say it was wrote rather in a Puff at the strict silence you all had so cautiously observed for so many days - but the moment I saw your fair and wellcome hand, than the mist dispersed, and all was Peace and clear Sun Shine again - I am sure I partake somewhat of the Feelings of you Ladys who as soon as their Travel is over they forget all and are in Charity with the Person that caused it - but apropos - are you sowing Oates yet - the weather has been most uncommonly fine here and dry - tho' very cold and attended in the mornings with cold wet Fogs - I have got rid of my first cold by my Jaunt to Bath & Gloster - - but have got another attended with a sore Throat - - but as one Devil drives out another I presume I shall get rid of this by getting a worse - I have seen but one Play since I came here - - and really think I have no great loss - for the New House of Drury lane is so very deep and large I find it difficult either to see or hear well - - I shall try the other House - Just to try whether the fault is in myself or in the formation of the House - it would do your heart good to see how regularly & pleasantly we live, Your Father, Mayne and Noble self, breakfast at home, have our hot Rolls and a Mascon of Butter - and eat like Soldiers - we adjourn to dine at some Table Dote - neverless than six Hogs - drink our Two Bottles of Port and then return to our home - go to Bed supperless, for various reasons, first, that it would be costly, and of course unwholsome and next, that we may dream with clearer Heads of the Dear & beloved friends we have left at home, whom I promise you I never forget - either in my morning or Evening meditations - you tell me that Ruxton has taken my Charger - but you dont say whether he has paid for him - nor do you tell me whether my other Charger is well yet from his lameness, these are all material questions, which would suit that idle Fellow Marcus better than you - if any Letters on business of any Sort come for me, be so good to give them or send them to your Uncle Young - with my best regards to him & Nancy - who I am very glad to hear is better - - poor Dixies recovery or rather resurrection supprises and gives me great pleasure - I wish I could make him what he was in days of yore - I shall be sure to buy the Stockings yr Aunt desires as also the Sermons, but fear I shall not have the means of bringing thematters for the House you desire, as I find the Cash we shall have to receive here will fall vastly short of our calculation - - I shall however bring themarking Ink and the colours you wish for - but when I can flatter myself with hopes of returning I can not as yet precisely fix - for the material part of our business is still undone and I fear will still remain in the disagreeable state till Mr Pitt has got over some of the business which now presses heavy on him - Patience they say is a virtue - but when forced is rather the opposite - I hope I shall soon hear from Mun that he has recd Ralph Smyth [] and disbursed them - - I

hope [] Callaghan pays you - Sixp [] two shils & Two pence a month [] not - send to him for it - and tell your good Uncle Young that a few line from him, when he has time, woud be a Cordial- - I have nothing pleasant to tell him or or I woud do it - tomorrow we fastand Pray and finish our Devotions with Mrs Jermy at a game of Cards - this daywe dine at Mr Kingstons - - and as I am going backwards am to tell you that wedined last Saturday at Mr Newcome's - - pray tell Mrs Noble with my Love thatthey are all well and enquired kindly for her - and that her friend Miss Mascalwill write by me to her - I presume they Heylands are now with you - I wish Iwas with them - pray present my best regards to them and tell them how much itdestresses me that I am obliged to be absent - my most afft regards & Love- - and when you take a large Portion of any Love to yourself - to which youare justly entitled, distribute the remainder to Betty, Ann, Marcus, Fanny, theNobles Youngs & & an believe me my Dr Hariot ever truly Yours RW

Your Father has not got a Letter these ten days - and neverhad one from Collon - - as promised

[Addressed to:

Miss Hariot Beaufort

Allenstown

Navan

Ireland]

78-008/1/3 #29

Miss Hariot Beaufort

Allenstown

Navan

Ireland

London March 13 1797

My dear Hariot

I take the opportunity of a free cover just to scribble a very few lines in great haste to tell you that I recd your letter of the 5th on the 9th (a quick passage) and to thank you for letting me know that your dear Aunt was then better and flatter myself that by this time she is completely well under your tender care and kind attention we have done nothing in our business yet nor do I know when we shall be able to get away - it is really most provoking to be detained here doing nothing and I should have been in as good time now - as when I was dragged from my home - Mr Pitt has not time to look at our memorial - nor can I say when he will be so very full of more important business, all we have got for it is Christian Patience which I am now obliged to exert doubly as I have not a small touch of the gout to add to my misfortunes - but hope that it will be but a slight one - my foot was swelled a great deal yesterday and in great pain but it is this day much more easy - and I hope will soon take its departure - I fortunately subscribed to a circulating library and have books from thence - have read Henry and Common Sense a very pretty little book and have now sent for the Black Penitents - in short if the Court continues and Mr. Pitt pleases to keep me I shall read through the whole library - Marjore is quite tired of doing nothing here therefore is in the greatest hurry to return to Gloucester to do the same and leaves us tomorrow morn till we send for him - he has not been well and has consulted Dr Sutton who has been of service to him - tell Betty Doctor Turton inquires for her - if you want oat meal desire Coursey to send 15 barrels of oats to the mill which is 5 barrels more than I used to send - and the last meal was out - two or three months earlier than usual - as to my horse I told Ruxton in Dublin his bill was 30 guins but I would not wish to deal hardly by him and there fore must take what pleases him above 25 guins - but dont tell him this - only mention it to your uncle Young whose good natured letter came to comfort me yesterday and really cheered me tho' in great pain - I should write to him directly I am glad to hear the Haylands are well - Bob Hayland called on us here last week and got a little cash to take him home he said he would go to Allenstown to see his father as soon as he landed - the poor man was disappointed of money here and could not have got home without our assistance - hope Marcus is well - I presume his whole time is taken with the cavalry - and that he has not time to write - as I never recd one line from him since I left Allenstown - but I presume he wisely considers the expense of postage to me On Saturday night we went to see Mrs Siddons play the Grecian Daughter and I think it was

3-6 well laid out - the house was rather thin notwithstanding her powers which are great indeed - and the farce was Sir John Jarvis & Spanish Fleet- the battle was as well represented as we could expect [] I am glad our assizes are so late, as I may [] chance to be at them - you nevertold me [] about the arms that were found in Stile's [] or what became of him or whose they were [] Could not have concealed them from the Defenders [] Post just gone by - and no letters for me - but [] not be unreasonable - you are my comforter [] to me very often for which I am very much obliged and once a week from you is all I can desire - any time [] expired and your father going to take his morning walk to the Treasury - therefore as he takes this with him I must finish this with my afft love and regards to your aunt, the Haylands, Betty Ann Marcus & Fanny, the Nobles, Youngs and the poor Coddingtons, and last, tho' not least to yourself believe me dear Harriot

Yours ever afft

RW

direct 28 St. Alban's St

Pall Mall

and send me the Evening Post folded up as your mother will show you my love to her & the girls, send it twice a week

London March 25 - - 1797 -

My Dear Hariot

Yesterday brought me your long pleasant and most wellcome Epistle, and I Assure you I laid down my Novel of little Dolves to peruse those lines more than once or twice and allways found myself the more pleased the more I read them - they were allways wellcome to me but none so much as yesterdays as I was made uneasy by Muns Letter, which said your Dear Aunt was still poorly - you have relieved my mind however and I must confess myself obliged to you as usual - I have now no trouble on my mind for the health of any of my Dear Friends but my worthy Friend Young whom you say has had a great cold, and oppression, which alarms me, as his Lungs are but weak - I wish they were as strong as his good Nature and kindness - I am rejoiced however to hear your Aunt Young is well - as to myself I am still but poorly, the Gout remains on me - but not so badly as to keep me entirely within doors - - I can walk a little and yesterday went with poor Richard Burgh to see a new invention to carry people and great weights to a great distance and very smoothly too, without horses Bullocks or even Dogs - it is called the Autograff, and is to move rapidly by mechanical operation, what say you to this. I intend to buy one to call all the women to Church or Mass one Man keeps it in motion with great ease - it has not yet been put in motion - nor entre'nous - do I believe it ever will without horses, asses &c - if it does I shall never doubt or despair of seeing mountains shipping about - but poor Burgh is so sure of the performance of this Autograff, that he has already proposed to carry all the despatches to India by contract, it really is a very ingenious Machine if it can be prevailed on to move - your Narrative of my Domestic matters is very satisfactory. I believe in my last I mentioned everything you talk about - except having the meadows at Balrath shut up - I shall therefore be much obliged to Marcus to ride over there and order Christy Maguire to shut up Two of them directly - - I also forgot to mention Burn the gardener who must leave the House directly - - but as he owes me money - his Cow should be kept till I am secured the Cash he owes me - I think it better to buy Seed Barley than sow my own which is dirty and tell Murry so - there should also be 25 Barrels of Barley made into Malt - tell this also to Murry - I think Marcus was a great ass to accept of a Commission - he had now Honor without Pay - formerly he had some little Pay and would have had more as I should have appointed him permanent serjeant - but now that is over - for an officer can never decent - I wish I was among them but alas I see no immediate chance for any being able to get home - as our business still remains on hands - tho' it has got a little move lately from Mr Pit to Sir William Pultney - and there it sticks now - but I presume your Father, who is now writing, will give a particular acct of it - your directions as to Mrs Collards Eye Caste, too much at large, for you must know there are more Houses behind St Dunstons Church, than behind Ardbrackan Church - and how to find out the happy House that would enable me to oblige the Fair Collard I dont know - - I shall get Miss Lambert the Pencils - also for your Fair Hand - I must now take leave of you my Dear Aunt &c &c &c - and desire you to remember

your ever afft R W

I knew George Thompsons marriage long ago from []

[The outside of this letter is covered with lists of namesand columns of accounts]

[Addressed to:

Miss Hariot Beaufort

Allenstown Navan Ireland]

London August 18 - 1797 -

My Dear Hariot -

I find my self obliged to write once more - but hope this may be the last Letter you will receive from me from the detestable Place - our business is now on the last Count of being settled and I hope we shall be able to leave this about the beginning of the week after the next or in plainer words about Monday or Tuesday sennight - expecting every Post to have been able to tell you this - I postponed writing in answer to your last Two Letters - but hope you will now accept my thanks for them - they were more than I deserved from you, as I have not been punctual in writing to you, but you must know I have been engaged in a very particular manner these some days, and very agreeably too - A Lady young, and beautiful and truly virtuous, and tho' very low as to rank - yet is truly admirable - no more or no less than a Beggar Girl - She had resided in this House for some days - and has had the good Fortune, not only to please me but even to engage your Father, who has had her on his bed Chamber when I could spare her - and she had the Policy to engage his affections - what think you of this my sweet Hariot - but dont say one word of this Entanglement either to your Mother or your Dear Aunt who I hope is quite well and recovered her Cough - Oh how I long to Buss you all - but why the Devil dont you send the News Paper - or what hinders that cursed Cur at Cullon to send your Fathers - may he never see my bonny Beggar Girl - Mun Nobles surprised us all here most agreeably last Saturday morn - he has got Lodgings in the House with us and we are very happy together, Mayne also is under the same roof and Ralph Smyth within a few Doors of us - we all breakfast together in these Lodgings, and dine together at the sign of the Hand & Pocket, when no one is so charitable to give us the Invite - which we never refuse, when offered us, we dined at Mr Newcome's yesterday, and I had the pleasure of hearing & seeing that Mun was very much liked by the three Females there, who told me privately - he was a Nice Man - a very Nice Man indeed - tell Mrs Noble this with my Love, he has been at Ramela & Vaux hall, and has seen many more wonders - this day Ham Wade drags him about to the Pamerama - the Museum & c & c - but I had nearly forgot to tell you that Barry Magusty is on the vertical Point of Matrimony with Miss Murry - a Daughter of General Murrays - a very good looking young girl - of a very genteel family & good connections and if Fame speaks true £ 10000 in Cash - this last is really a weighty reason why these two should be Joyned together - I really am very much rejoiced at this - for he really one of the best natured Creatures and the most obliging, I ever knew - I am sure he has been so to me since I came here - your Father had a sweeping long Letter this day from your Mother - and one from William - as Mun had from Mrs Noble, to be sure it is pleasant to get letters from absent friends especially from those we love - indeed you have been particularly good to me my Dear Hariot - in this way - I am certain that my Hay is going on well - the Corn growing well Cattle fatning well - the Bunchmaking well - and that every thing is going on well at least you wishes I believe it - therefore that you - your Dear Aunt and every Individual may now be well and continue well is the nearest wish to the heart of your ever truly Afft R W

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

I rejoyce to hear that poor Ruxton is at last got home remember me to them all -

[Addressed to:

Miss H. Beaufort

Allenstown Navan Ireland]

Lisburn Nov 16 1799

Dear Mrs Elinor

as you have given up your heart to be the Lords continue towalk in his foot steps, study to pleas him avoiding every thing that he hasforbidden in his word, and taking his Laws for your rule, at the Same time inthe deepest Sense of your total inability to your Self to be faith full dependwholy apom him, for the power, who is ever ready to asist you and to hear allyour prayers, he encouraged you to draw nigh to him with humble boldness, bymany gracious invitations promises, hisname and his nature is love only on your part Shun every evil and if you havebeen unfaithfull Or of your guard instantly return confessing and forsakingwhat was amis, look up for pardon thro, the Good that makes the wounded whole,the Lord will speak peace to his people, be strong let not your hands be weakfor your work shall be rewarded, the Lord knoweth the days of the right andtheir inheritance Shall be for ever, faint not cast yourself on the unboundedmercy of God thro, a crusified redeemer and lean upon him, or trust in him withall you Soul, to them that had no might he increaseth strength, he that overcometh shall inherit the crown to conquerers due, keep looking to Jesus, and ifa Cloud should interveen, come again and again, till it is removed give notover your plea till he sais what will hold in he never said to any Seek ye myface in vain, but remember he is also a jalouse God fear to offend him.

I feel that God is love unbounded imeasurable love I long tolove him with greater ardor and to See him and cast my Soul at his feet, thetime hastnes mau I be found ready amen may every blood bought blessing attendyou and your dear sisters and parents I love you in him that is first of thelast the adorable Jesus our Lord to him eternal Glory with Father and everblessed spirit near to with out and pleas to send the manascript poems prbearer if any thoughts acur I might write in it, Sometimes it gives vent to theinword breatheing of our Soul when you see mis mina pleas to give my mostaffectionet love to her who am

yours in the best of Masters

D Johnson

[Addressed to:

Mis Eli Stewart]

My Dear Hariot

I had the pleasure of receiving your last letter and the only line I had since I left you all - I began to fear you had one and all forgotten me - but as your letter gave me so good account of your healths and of your amendment I forgive you one & all and pray that such good accounts may be continuing once a week till I have the happiness to seeing you I dined at Somerville and slept there that night - I was recd in the most friendly cheerful manner by all, but most particularly so by her Ladyship - who, the moment she saw me ran to me and kissed three or four times, shook hands with me several times, and in short was like a Sister. She is quite unaffected - and much liked by all who have seen her - and a good many have gone. Young went with me - Nicholson & his wife on the Monday and Nobles on Tuesday after - I am sorry you changed your pleasant Lodgings and have gone up that cursed Hillyou will come down before winter [] will be too cold for your Aunt & you - especially in the cold months - you have some wool here it is to be spun now - the yarn for the weft is spun - and Maths will cut the wool if not used - therefore let me know in your next Letter what is to be done with it - there came a Buss head here last Saturday to make Broath for the Poor - but as the Crops both of Corn & Potatoes are now come in and very good, I have desired, no more Soupe should be given - have I done right - nothing as yet done about Thompsons concern that I should be brought into Trouble and saying that both & She were coming over, and that then the affair should be settled - I am sure her intentions are just & honest - Dumpsey brought all the goods he had to Dublin - but the new cloaths he got before you left this, were all tattered & torn - I have turned away Betty Stewart and the Landry Maid - they both deny knowing what Richard took - nor have discovered what he took - except some old shoes out of my little room, which he entered by taking out a pannall in the Door in the Hall - I recd a Letter from him begging to be taken in again and saying there worse People in the House than he was - and offering to make great discoveries - but I think it Precident - I therefore have not answered his Letter - in short he is a bad fellow, and might do more Damage - I returned from Somerville last Monday and have been ever since quite alone - Young is so busy with his harvest he cannot leave home I am therefore quite alone - Mun is gone to Fermanagh with Nicholson to shoot Grouse but returns on Saturday - your yarn was not sold at Athboy fair - She could get 13 a pound but hopes to sell it at Navan Fair, but desires to know whether you will take 13 for it -

I hope to get in some money this day - in or about 70 if I do, I shall send it to George Thompson with directions to remit it directly to you [r] Aunt - and when you get it, pay Bartons Bill and the apothecary - the morning I came away - I left my Letter for Doctor Beddoes on his table in his Study so suppose he got it - if he comes more than twice a week I think you should bid him not to come or I will write to him again - tho' if necessary I should not Grudge five times the money he wd cost, where two so precious lives as your Dear Aunt and Yours are concerned - my Sincerest regards & Love always attend your party - believe my Dear Hariot

most truly yours

R.W.

[On the outside:

Navan August twenty eight 1801

Mrs Waller

Hotwell

Bristol

Marcus Somerville]

78-008/1/4 #34

I cannot give you the least idea of my feelings this day when sweet Mun and Maria surprised me I never was so glad to see them but would you believe it? I had all the appearance of deep affliction and to tell the truth the thoughts of my sending my little darlings away when they returned was what made me so silly. I wish you(r) dear Aunt were coming with us it would make my heart very light indeed if the Noble Captain would promise me to come soon I promise to do everything a poor lame woman can do for him and if I have the good fortune to have him in the same house with me I will cherish and comfort him more than he can conceive.

I will be very impatient to know what you think of our little angel Fan. Can we do any for you ladies at B I need not say how happy it would make me to be of use to you. & I flatter myself with hopes of the waters making me able to do everything. Do you think I will ever sit down if God grant me the power to walk. I do believe He will

A thousand loves and blessings attend you dearest Aunt Uncle Bess Anne Harriet and all I love

I am yours for ever A.M.B.

Charms charms charms

Aspect aspect aspect

Fear fear fear fear fear fear

Pain pain pain pain

Hand hand hand hand

Robert Holmes has copie finished

[addressed to Mrs Waller]

How are my dr girls? - How does your soul prosper? - I longto see you & tell you that I love you; indeed I do love you - but enough ofthis - We are all very anxious for your return & hope to see you the firstor second of May at farthest - Margaret desires her love to you I cannot say Ithink she is any better; but she seems to be happy in God; and resigned to allthe dispensations of her heavenly Father who in his infinite wisdom sees it fitthat she should be afflicted; I pray God that when it has answered the enddesigned if it be his will to restore her to health, that she may be a shininglight and may live but to glorify the name of her Saviour & Redeemer But if otherwise, he has decreed she mayleave a testimony for Jesus and enter into that rest where "fear & sin& grief expire Cast out by perfect love". & how great is the depravityof our nature, and how strong the love of the enjoyments of this world, whichcan make us desire to abide in these earthly houses of clay, where all aroundis as a barren wilderness, devoid of the smiles of Jesus. But when he ispresent there is more enjoyment in the meanest hovel, than all the luxuries ofthis world can afford - O let us be careful then of grieving his Holy Spirit& causing him to withdraw his healing beams; since all happiness is derivedfrom Jesus, and heaven is the perfect enjoyment of himself. O let us live moreby faith on him and even now enter into rest by casting off that bitter foe toour peace Unbelief O let usquicken our foot steps, we have not a moment to lose we are hastening towardsan unchangeable state. Eternity will shortly embosom us in its vast expanse,'Ere long the Archangel shall proclaim our time to be no longer, and the deadsmall & great shall stand before God. If now, even now, the Trump of Godshould sound - would we be dismayed - Let each of us ask ourselves would we goforth with confidence to meet the Bridegroom, would we be among the number ofthose who love his appearing, - It is an important question; for this is thecharacter of those who shall receive a crown of glory thus fadest not away -But if we feel alarmed at the thought - To whom should we go? To whom, but toJesus; for he has the words of eternal life - But if through grace we areenabled to say "Come Lord Jesus come quickly; O let us give glory to that Godwho had revealed to us the way of salvation, and may we hold fast the beginningof our confidence and rejoicing of hope stedfast into the end - I have of latebeen in heaviness through manifold temptations I have been led too much intothe conversation of the world; by which I lost for, some time, that solidpeace, & liberty in prayer, which I before enjoyed, O why do I ever wanderfrom my God, for I have never found happiness but in him

"How tedious and tasteless the hours

When Jesus no longer I saw

Trust prospects sweet bird & sweet flowers

Had all lost their sweetness for me."

But the Lord has again been pleased to shew abroad his lovein my heart & to cause me to abound in love through the power of the HolyGhost.

O may I never more from thee

One single moment stray

O keep me in thy fear & love

Else I shall fall away

O that for ever I could live

A life from sin set free

A life devoted to what God

Who lived and died for me.

" belongs to thee alone

In thee I live & move

O come my Saviour come away

And perfect me in love - Amen.

Give my love to Dr Martha & believe me to be your affectionate

Bess Johnston

My Father desires me to ask you if you would like John to go down in a coach for you -

[addressed to

Miss Ellen Stewart

Glynmouth

Wicklow]

[Letter addressed to Miss Eliza Stewart, Wilmont, Lisburn]

Tuesday 10th feb 1800 Belvedere Place

I must plead guilty before my dear Eliza, in not fulfilling my engagements, but tho' I feel my own deficiency is satisfying the demands that the kindness of my beloved friends required of me, yet I can say I never fail to commend their wants to his care, in whom all fullness dwells to satisfy their most enlarged desires who hears every petition of the needy,

Whose ears open to the sinners cry

Whose grace descends to meet the lifted eye

He reads the language of the silent tear

and sighs are incense from a heart sincere

Oh! that we may all drink deep of those copious streams of love which for ever flow for the thirst - Oh! that Wilmont may become the kingdom of God, and his Christ - That every bosom in it may become an altar flaming with divine love - That the glorious theme of redeeming love may inspire every heart and dwell on every tongue - It seems as if our Lord look on that sacred dwelling blessing it and saying - "I and my Father will come and take up our abode under the roof" - this is the chosen soil in which I will deposit the grain of mustard seed which shall spring up and spread her branches afar off -

These are they who are willing to follow me thro' good report and bad report - who prize my love, who value the favour of a Redeemer more than the smiles of this world - who do not reject me nor my ways. These are mine who desire to spend and be spent in my service - Who have employed the talents they received from me in promoting my cause & extolling a Saviour's praise - I will keep a book of remembrances of them and they shall be mine when I come to make up my jewels - Then I can carry my view farther to that even more glorious season when after having glorified him on earth, having fought the good fight of faith - having with our beloved Master suffered the scorn & reproach of men - We shall be translated to those regions of glory - and see my dear Father and Mother present before the throne of grace (God grant thee even) and say these are those thou hast given me they are thine by right of redemption - but thou entrusted them to our care and we have fulfilled thy will concerning them - We early taught them to sit at the feet of Jesus - We lead to drink of those streams of redeeming love. We consecrated them early to thy service - We now come with them to join the general Hallelujah! - This is the blessed prospect open to my view when all shall be encircled in those everlasting arms of love - which Jesus will extend over all. Oh! how does the account you give me of the revival of religion inflame my heart with grateful love, how thankful I am that the presence of God dwells

so much under that roof, where so many beloved objects are - yes I trust not only its inhabitants will put the sacred flame - but many poor afar shall resort to it to hear the glad tidings of salvation - saying tell me where the babe is that I may go and worship him also - I trust the very atmosphere will become impregnated with piety - and that all who approach the sacred dwelling may feel her hallowed influence. It will become the peculiar care of angels to guard it.

Thank God his kingdom is likewise fast increasing here - We scarcely ever enter a house that is not more or less dedicated to prayer. People no longer abusing their high privileges are not ashamed to fulfill the design of their creation and no longer invite each other to squander away their time and kill the tedious moments in trifling amusements - but assemble together to join in general prayer and thanksgiving - so are the evenings spent - and in some instances - Those who came to mock remain to pray - I am sure it will give Mr Higginson great pleasure to hear that Mrs Wilson has determined that henceforth her house shall be the house of prayer and no longer profaned by other parties but religious - she wrote Mr Kelly to tell him this and to get him to lecture and pray with a very numerous company - Mr Kelly intends being in the north this summer, & says he will make Wilmont his headquarters - I think our beloved Mr Averel be there also - I am sure it will give much pleasure to both my Father and Mother to entertain them inasmuch as ye receive one of these little ones ye receive me. Oh! that our Lord may also find his way and take possession of all our hearts - John dined here yesterday we were in hopes he would have come with us to Mr Nelsons in the evening to prayers; but found him not to be persuaded - May the Lord open his eyes to his true interest. You ask me is Mr Kelly spiritual I think he is very much so he is very reserved in his manners, and except when religion is spoken of retires to a quiet part of the room - but in lecture he is both very spiritual and able - in his appearance he resembles Dr Roke & in manner Mr Higginson - he leaves this to go to the county Wicklow where he hears there are many of his friends turning entirely to the Lord - How does the time seem to be approaching when righteousness shall cover the earth - The Lord grant Wilmont may enjoy a large share of the riches of his grace - believe me night and morning, noon and forenoon this is my earnest prayer - I need not tell you, to tell my Father and Mother how much I love them - believe me I feel them written on my heart - and except that love by incessant prayers to heaven for them - Remember me to my dear Aunt - may she and all of us have the Lord for our portion here and in eternity - Amen!

Farewell my dear Eliza love your affectionate

Ellen

78-008/1/4 #37

Bath June 17

We are come into this famous city for a short time for me to try once more the effect of these health restoring waters. Tell you mother, after I try them this time I will take a little of Dr Bed (does) and his wicked air but I have never heard of any one in my complaint receiving any thing more than very partial benefit (sic) and then he is such a dear man. I look forward with hope in our great God that my darling child and I shall yet meet and be happy and together but I remember that if not it is the will of the good God who has made me most delighted of Mamas with so good children as you and your Sister, she is very merry and good company. This is vacation so we are quite happy and want but you and dear brother F

AMB

I cannot express my beloved Fanny how happy your dear Aunt Sister and I was made by your long expected Collon packet which arrived the day before yesterday. I beg you will get your mother to send me her two letters if she finds them for I think she never sent them. They will be very interesting to me if a year old when written by her and having your name mentioned in them. I am very sorry my best love, our kind and dear Uncle thinks it not worth your while to come to Bath this time but I trust very soon I shall be better able to enjoy the delight of having you here. You will be so pleased too with all our A-town friends returning this Summer and hope you will be quite content. Farewell my dearest believe me most fondly

yrs

I cannot express my beloved Fanny how happy your dear Aunt Sister & I was made by our long expected Colon packet which arrived the day before yesterday. I beg you will get your Mother to send me her two letters if she finds them for I think she never sent them. They are very interesting to me if year old when written by her & having your name mentioned in them

I am very sorry my best love our kind and dear Uncle thinks it not worth your while to come to Bath this time, but I trust very soon to be better able to enjoy the delight of having you here. You will be so pleased too with all our A-town friends returning this summer.

We are come into this famous city for a short time, for me to try once more the effect of these health restoring waters. Tell your Mother after I try them this time I will take a little of Dr b's - & his wicked air, but I have never heard of any one in my complaint recovering anything more than very partial benefit & then he is such a dear man. I look forward with hope in our Great God that my darling child & I will yet meet & be happy altogether, but I remember that if not it is His Will. The Good God who has made me the most delighted of Mamas with so good children as you & your Sister. She is very merry & good company. This vacation so we are quite happy &

want but you & dear brother Francis to be quite content. Farewell my dearest believe me most fondly your

AMB

[78-008/1/4 #38](#)

Wilmont Thursday 16th 1801

My Dear Sir

We have just had the very great pleasure of seeing Mr Maine he is now gone to the shore where he intends to stay for a week. I was in hope that perhaps you would have spent a few days with him there as he intends to stay there all the time that he can spare from his circuit which he hears is Wicklow. I have a request to make of you which I am sure you will grant which is we hear Mr. Tobias with whom we were well acquainted in Dublin is appointed for Derry Circuit and as Mr Maine thinks it likely that he will pass thro' Newry we should be much obliged to you if you would make a particular request to him that he would spend a day with us as he is passing indeed we should not take it kind of him if he refuses this request I need not apologize to you my Dear friend for troubling you as I am sure your disposition to oblige your friends will not require any

With sincere prayers & wishes for welfare and happiness

I am, Dear Sir

your sincere friend

Ellen Stewart

You profess to deny original sin but you will at least acknowledge a Supreme Being the Creator & first great cause of all things you must also allow that is perfect in every attribute & quality of course agreeable to such a character cannot in any degree be the immediate or remote author of evil. Now if you once admit that such a Being as we have agreed upon is the creator of all things of course of man it follows that what soever he has formed is completely perfect in its Degree that according to its station in the scale of Being there must be no defect no misapplication of those powers with which they were endowed as respecting the intention for which they were given

As it is admitted that God is the source of Supreme Excellence it must follow that all intelligent powers in a state of rectitude would invariably tend towards him as Supreme still is but for every support would strain effected even however honoured would aspire of intuitively ingrateful acts of adoration & if in a state of true holiness the powers would be absorbed in the admiration & love of what was still so much more excellent & as all lesser degree of streams of purity pant towards the greater in no instance must there be the least exception every power must be engaged every faculty exulted gratitude as due from creatures in a dependent must be without ceasing & without diminution the smallest abatement argues defect & the least prevention of any of the powers which were given for the purpose of adoring God sin that in that despised book the ungodly those who forget God are ranked with the most immoral & for a good reason our obligations to an entire surrender of ourselves to him body & soul & spirit are as great & greater than any duty we can possibly owe to our fellow creatures however they are so inseparably connected that to disemite them they must both suffer now can it be supposed that a mind insensible to mercies daily confessed upon us blessings, as it were conveyed on the wings of "every moment" & even admitting your opinion for the sake of argument that we are not obliged to the atonement that has been made for our sins for our hopes of eternal happiness yet the mercies of providence the being brought from nothing into a state of existence that to hearts did we profess the virtuous being inclined would excite the most ardent gratitude. Let me ask you Sin if after an attentive & candid enquiry into your own heart & a lively sense of the Mercies with which you are endowed to you for your gratitude in due proportion to the obligation you are under after the most strict examination as to the motives of your own mind after an awful careful & candid sensing in the inmost recess & inmost secrets hidden principles of action do you find that variety in any one instance has influenced you that self gratification has never remotely or immediately had the least sway over you that your simple & only aim has been to promote the glory of God & the good of your fellow creatures in every particular you have never deviated from this state of rectitude in thought word or deed if you affirm this your mind is & has always been thus pure & upright I must acknowledge you are an exception to the human race I should rather did you acknowledge fear that the fatal & almost inextricable delusion & enthrallments of sin have so obscured your mind & darkened your understanding that the veins of excellence & purity which you entertain are so confined & limited & [] holiness narrowed to so great a distance that sin acting as a glass that dimenes [] glass we scarcely can perceive its existence and cannot possibly from any even of its true

nature. Mistake me not that in speaking thus I mean to particularize you. I speak of the whole race with which I am an individual without excluding me & this is the description both of Scripture & results of the observations that the wisest & best men of all ages have made who have paid strict attention of their own minds & but should you on the other hand once admit that in your motives has not been so upright that your affections have often under evil influence that your gratitude to the bountiful giver of all things has not borne a due proportion to his gifts & you at once admit that you have been either [] of course fallen from your original state of course have committed sin against & infinite being of course requires an in [] rite infinite justice demands, or infinite satisfaction but sin does not rest in a few & trivial (if any thing concerning [] Being can be called trivial) deviations from his [] but let us see ourselves & then ask where is the similarity of natures which would incline us to seek all our delights & all our powers ultimately but towards him as Sovereign Good Examine mankind not only in a savage state (certainly the most natural state) but also in the most cultivated & improved do you find that sin the contemplation of God in the acts of devotion towards that they [] then happiness

[addressed to

Wm Hannah Esq

Newry]

Dublin Feby 26th 1802

Ever dear friend,

(If after so long a silence you will allow me to call you by that Sacred and Endearing name) - Often has my conscience accused me for not writing to you and often have I resolved to do it the next day - But "Procrastination is the Thief of Time" - and so have I proved it - however I acknowledge my fault and allow you an Opportunity of Triumph by forgiving me - I say you because you are my Immediate Correspondent - tho' indeed I need a Pardon from each of you - and will that Pardon be denied me? If it will be any Consolation for you to know that my indolence has prevented my writing to others - I assure you that is the case - it is now almost 6 months since I wrote to my best Earthly friend - dear - Dr Hawies and shame I fear will keep me silent longer but enough of this - I hope to grow more Diligent

And now - tell me - are you all well? for it is long since I heard of you! I hope you have the Comforting Presence of Jesus among you. for my own part I have Reason to Rejoice in him - But unto me belongeth shame and Confusion of face - Oh! well is it for me that the Fountain of Christ is ever open. and that we have an Advocate with the Father - I am not indeed (thro' Grace) - an Idler in my Masters Vineyard - I labour much for others but have reason frequently to say "My own Vineyard have I not kept" - but with all my Irregularity and Pride - my Self-will and Workings of ten Thousand Corruptions within - I know that Christ is mine - Yes & he will subdue my Corruptions and love me to the end - this is all my Salvation and all my desire - as for me and my best Workings - if the Lord were to enter into Judgement with me on account of my holiest things I could not stand before Him but 'Counting my own Righteousness as Dung I trust to be found at last Cloathed' with the Spotless Righteousness of Jesus - is not this your Confidence?

But I suppose you will expect some news from me - indeed I have not a great deal to relate but what I have is good - I have lately heard of several Persons - to whom God has been pleased to bless my labours - Particularly one - of whom Mr Kelly was telling me his name was Richardson he was an avowed Infidel and Able defender of the Principles he heard me in Dublin about 18 months ago - was under deep Convictions of Sin - and Died triumphing in a most Extraordinary Degree at Athy about a fortnight back

My Congregations in this City are as great as ever - indeed I think the last always the greatest - I preach at 8 O'Clock ev'ry Sunday morning in Plunket St Meeting-house and also at 7 ev'ry Sunday evening - and ev'ry Thursday Evening at 7 - Tuesday Evening at 7 always in the German Church - Poolbeg St - and ev'ry Saturday at 7 in a large School-room which Aldn Hutton has built at the Bottom of his Garden - I suppose it will contain 300 people - here also ev'ry Sunday at 2 O'Clock I meet as many Children as choose to attend and ask them questions from the Scriptures - Lecture them - Sing & Pray with them and always Read them an account of the Conversion and happy Death of some Child - this Service is more Delightful than can be conceived - in the same

place we have Established a free Day School for Girls who are taught to Read - knit & Sew - these I attend at 11 - and at 3 ev'ry Day - at 11 - I Read & Explain to them a Portion of Scripture - Sing & Pray - at 3 I dismiss them with Singing & Prayer of a Saturday 1 [here there is a large hole in the paper] the first Class Spell and Read - and on a Monday '.. Repeat Hymns ec. which they have learned'. I am not Idle - 2 or 3 ladies attend thisse'. Day - Sev'l who are Governesses take it in turn - Bess is one and Mrs. Ball who is my Child in the '. another - besides these we have a Schoolmistress who is paid a Salary - we have now between 50 & 60 Girls in the School & I have taught them to Sing several tunes - and one of the Girls can Raise them and leads the Rest - indeed this School Promises much -

We go to England in the beginning of May - I hope to be in London by the second Wednesday of that Month - Mrs. C. I suppose will lay in ere long - I wish I could see you al before I leave the Kingdom but this I am sure that I cannot - however we may meet again on this side the Grave and Undoubtedly shall on the other - you see I have filled my Paper and therefore must conclude.

But tell me: shall I be favoured with a letter from you? and Speedily? - Oh! this will be a treat. and the more so as I have not deserved it- but I know you are kind - I seldom see Miss Stewart - I think I should see any one else from Wilmont oftener - but why should I complain I deserve knowthing Mrs. C. desires her love with mine to dear dear Mrs. Stewart, your Father - all your Sisters and all Neighbouring Relatives not forgetting the Beloved Garners - and Miss Pollock - have you seen dear Mathias lately

Believe me my dear Ellen

ever ever yours in Love & friendship

William Cooper

at Mrs Balls

No 9 Leeson St

Dublin

[addressed to

Miss Ellen Stewart

Wilmont

Lisburn]

Dearest Dear Aunt Waller, and most beloved Fanny.

A Letter which was received yesterday from Bess Waller has put me in the greatest spirits as by it I find all at Allenstown are well; and that you my sweet Fanny will regularly let me hear from you every three weeks - I regret nothing so much as not being able with my own hands to answer the few lines I get from Allenstown tho' Aunt Susan with her usual goodness is very willing to copy what I indite; but the more readily she performs, the more unwilling I am to trouble her as I have often heard her say she hated writing. Catherine Brownes letters together with your constitute my greatest happiness but not my only blessing for I have besides such Sisters, Sutton and Uncle Munfor dear Brothers and darling little Bessy Sutton & I shall never give up the delightful expectation of seeing you all once more and the Nobles. I am very fond of building Castles in the air and fancy a thousand more unlikely things may happen. It is time now to thank you my darling for the happiness your last affectionate and pretty Letter gave your Doating Mother.

Now dear Bess & Harriet it is time to tell you that you cannot imagine a more grateful person than I am for your little Voluntary every line of which you joy to my heart and made me bless you and the rest of the dear Friends that have made Fanny what she is I got a long Letter from Catherine every week; Mary Sutton will make her write a pretty hand & good Letter and I have every reason to thank God for the accounts I hear of her as well as those of my darling Fanny. I am grown a great Methodist so I hope you have no objection to that society. We shall be more happy by the Suttons & C coming to Bath on the 18th Catherine has seen much of the World since her trip & keeps a journal for my diversion. Sutton has taken a house for the winter a short walk of this - and they are to have lovely Emma Stock to stay with them this winter I propose to myself great happiness in all this. Would to goodness dear Mrs Daniel was not my [] but for [] Every one you know must have a [] but for [] your objection to come by long sea is another [] but for [] indeed I will do my possible to make this place useful & agreeable to you & it will make me happy have you even for one week to tease you well with questions about my precious Fanny. Susan looks as if she thought I had no pity on her - so I shall here say, God bless you all and keep my dear Uncle & Aunt well. I have a mind to try Gibney he has done such wonders for Aunt Beaufort which I am very glad of - Has there been any news of my Son Francis - not a word from your Grateful, & affectionate Mother, friend, & Niece

Anna Maria Browne

Mrs Daniels no better Mrs. Coddinton not very well, but not to say ill Our Dear Love to Ann Nangle Uncle Young & c c Sept the 9th

only Susan is very tired I would ask you if you have got fear Cowpers Life or my other pet Doctor Beatie

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[addressed to

Mrs Waller

Allenstown

Navan

Ireland

post marked BATH

stamped S E

8

1801]

[78-008/1/4 #41](#)

My precious Fanny

You see I continue to make good use of Sir M Somerviles being here to get covers free to you for I know it gives you pleasure to hear of all your Devonshire Buildings being well and to know it is written by my own hand that I am better and our dear Aunt Suzette with little Kate are in rude health and spirits

I am glad you are returned safe to sweet Allentown after being engaged in the riots in Dublin and getting out your teeth &c &c I hope you will write me a full and true account of all the wonders you saw there. I hope dear you got some good soul to bring you to see Mrs Latouche. your two Aunts (Browns) are with her now and I wish above all things to know you

May you be always good and beloved by your best friends Uncle & Aunt Waller & Bess and than I am sure you will be happy I am still looking forward to the time I shall see you. I hope and sure that you will be the happiest woman in this world of your dotting mother

AMB

love at all 100 times

[78-008/1/4 #42](#)

Dearest love Sir M S leaves Bath tomorrow so I am obliged to send this. I have no time to say word. I go to D Building in one quarter of an hour so good bye. God bless you and all the dear kind good friends we love so much, direct to D.B. I can not go to Clifton this year as I have no money. Many things I don't like where I am going but comfort myself with thinking that Everything happens for the best as angel Aunt Merdyth used to say. I love you more than I can express & am your fon Mother

AMB

[Miss Browne Allenstown Navan any day convenient

Bath October third'

Miss Browne

Allenstown

Navan

Ireland

Marcus Somerville

Post marked O C

7

1804]

78-008/1/4 #43

Devonshire Buildings Nov

My sweet Fanny

I have written many letters to you but could not send any they were so badly written (or so long a time writing. I have the satisfaction to tell you though that I am a vast deal better than I was some time ago - my limbs are as bad particularly my hands as ever but I sleep and eat as well as ever and my spirits are much more even and resigned than they have been for 6 or 7 years. Dear Uncle Aunt S. and Bessy are the greatest comfort to me. Bessy is really the finest engaging child I ever saw you're A was so good as to let her come to me for a night or two and I was quite happy. Catherine's delight can not be told and Aunt Susan was equally charmed with our little friend I am sure you will love her much

Nov 23 Cate is just gone into Bath to return B's visit and stay for two or three nights with Aunt Sut. I feel very melancholy without her, and would never part for a moment with her or you only for your own great advantage. To be with such dear friends so capable of improving you as our dear Aunts are every other person you see at Allenstown are is a great reward to me for the self denial of living so far from you my precious Fanny that I love more than words can express. I could write with pleasure this house only I fear you will not be able to make my hand writing so will only tell you to give my most affectionate love to beloved Uncle & Aunt W Bess Anne Harriot. all at Collon, and every one that remember your fond A. Maria Browne

24. Aunt Susan and your Sister are both with Aunt S. for a night or two but they love you greatly Ask Uncle if I get 30 or 40 pound here from any friend going to Ireland after Christmas: may I promise G Thompson will pay it in Dublin that! be very convenient to poor me.

N H is better. this cold is very severe

Write soon dear. I fear you cannot read this

[addressed to

Miss Fanny Browne

Allenstown

Ireland

stamped BATH

post mark not complete

dated in pencil 1804]

[78-008/1/4 #44](#)

My dear good little Fanny

I take this opportunity of our dearest & best friends returning to Ireland to send you an addition for your wardrobe and I hope you will like them. And when you look at them think of your poor mother. I send a list on the other side. I only make you a present by way of put you in mind of me for I am very sure your darling uncle, and Aunts will never let you come to live with me you will have nothing near comfortable as you have been used to from the kindness of all our friends. I am greatly delighted to hear you are learning the Notes & Adieu dear child yrs forever

A,M,B,

[The list on reverse side]

6 Rackets [Rockets]

3 Petitcoates

1 Stays

6 Stockings

1 Shoes

Pincion

1 Pincushion

[Written at the top of the copy in a different ink and writing:

This letter must have been written in Dec 1804 as F.S. went to E town on the 7th Nov CES]

78-008/1/4 #45

Your fame dear Fanny is spread far & near as a child that can bear a good deal of pain with firmness and temper. This gives me a good opinion of your understanding & shows you know it is better to suffer a little and have it over, than be perpetually teased by a bad tooth; our poor Catharine has not so much sense I assure, but I hope she will improve. you have great advantage by living with dear Uncle & Aunt Waller, Bess & c & c who are the best and wisest of friends.

I am better since I came here though very far indeed from being able to go to Ireland - but next Summer please God - Who will be so happy as we I am tired writing my beloved so adieu

[written in pencil

From Great grandmother Browne

in different pencil

The mother of Mrs. T.A. Stewart

dated in pencil

1805]

78-008/1/4 #46

Clifton Jun 7

I send you this sad scrawl my sweet child to prove I was not un mindful of you this is the sixth letter I have ready for you and Cathne also has many Epistles but neither worth payment and we could procure no covers. I wished much to tell you how happy I am and that I love you in my heart and soul with a long &c &c I hope you are sensible no mother ever loved a child better (indeed I believe so well) before because I hear you are a very good girl.

We are all in great trouble after the Stocks, they are charming young women. I love them very much, particularly Maria who is the image of her dear Mother - I am sorry you are not acquainted with them. The Bishop of K'. is recovering his health - but he is poorly yet, he is very kind to Cath & me

You know dearest Fanny I would write to you often if I was able, but I fear I shall soon be obliged to give even you up as a Correspondent as I find more difficulty in using my pen and Foot every day - However I am extremely well and happy and thankful to you for all the pretty letters I got of yours. I am delighted you were so pleasant at E-stown. Your being invited to stay so long with Mrs E and her dear children was a proof of your being a good little woman. Catherine is not bad but giddy &c indolent. I am greatly obliged to sweet Harriot for her P.S. Anne is very Idle for never favouring me with a line. Bess is also very stingy of her writing. Aunt Sutton being here makes all as happy as we can be so far from darling Fanny Browne and her noble captain. Aunt Waller &c &c -

June 7th I think I shall not

[written in pencil: 1802 (?)]

78-008/1/4 #47

Dear Fanny I cannot resist the pleasure of writing to you byour beloved Bessy Sutton. tho' I had almost made a promise not to use my pen till my fingers were better able to hold it. At present I feel not better for this cold stormy weather but the worst thing for me is the grief I feel at the thoughts of so soon losing Aunt Sutton, Uncle and Bessy that I loved as if she had been your sister Aunt Susan, Catherine, and I, will be poor creatures when we part with such dear friends I send you a workbag that Kitty and I made for you. I wish I could do you something prettier but Alas! my poor hands are good for nothing. they cannot even tell you how well I love you my dear child. but though very low at the thoughts of this parting hope has never forsaken me. I yet trust in the allpowerful God that he will allow me to be a little better. tell dear Bess I cannot go to Oxford as I have not money sufficient for such expeditions. Your Aunts think I should not have been better and as I could not get there it is no matter.

As soon as Aunt Sutton goes from Bath I think I will go to some very cheap lodging in or near Bristol and if I could afford it I would consult Dr Bedos and let him take his wicked will of me. I do not believe you can read this dearest dear F - God bless you and keep you a good child to make happy your affectte A.M.B.

I send you a workbag of my netting you will see how badly I can work

Give a hundred loves to my dear Uncle Aunt Bess Harriot and Anne Catharine & Aunt Susan joins me in the same: and tell them to give you a kiss apiece for me.

Why did you never thank Aunt Su for the pretty present she sent you by Bess. Pray do so soon

I was thinking so much of the Suttons wrote about the bag twice

[addressed to

Miss F. Browne

Allenstown

sealed but not post marked

written in pencil: Mama

Feby 9th 1806]

78-008/1/4 #48

My dear Fanny

I am very happy to hear you are so much improved, indeed we see it by your writing. I go to Mrs Es dancing school. I will send you a little flower of my drawing & I hope you will send me some of yours to see how much improved you are. I cannot say any more so dear Fanny I am your very dear sister

C.E. Browne -

Sweet dear Fanny

You can have no conception of the delight your last letter gave your sister and me, but above all other things our dear kind Uncle Waller taking the trouble to write word you were tolerable attentive to business. Domy best beloved continue to merit the affection of such friends never a child was blessed with before I do believe.

You hardly will believe when you see tho' ill looking writing that I am considerably better. to tell you the truth, my limbs continue to grow worse but my health is better than ever it has been since our dear Maria was born

Aunt Sutton the delight of all who know her particularly her sisters (I hope you and Kitty may be as fond of each other as I am of your Aunts for there is no pleasure equal to being united) I am greatly grieved to say leaves Bath tomorrow I hope they will return soon again.

I send you a little Etucase, but fear you have one as it is a very common Bath present. Your sister hopes you think of us it is all we expect for such trifles can never be useful and I am too poor yet I wish but I am sure you will never want at A-town while you are good. I send you some ball of cotton to show you how nicely we wind in England. Give poor Stanley [Stendy] handkerchief I wish I had better for your G-papas faithful Servant. God bless my darling child prays your fond mamma

A.M.B.

[addressed to Miss Browne]

Octr 4 1806

I was much disappointed my dearest Fanny at not receiving your promised letter this morning - your equipage was not such as to make me feel quite at ease, & I am very anxious, as we all are, to know how & in what plight you arrived at home -

As soon as you were gone I went up & settled my clothes which we had left in disorder, & felt very lonesome without my companion - then we went out to walk, & when we were going in to dress for dinner, I opened my mouth to call you - & found myself very often wondering where you were - Mr Bradford dined with us - in the evening I found my cold worse - my mouth very sore at the inside, & my throat - & one cheek quite sore to the touch - & so I was sure my old plague was returning - the next morning tho' my face continued sore we went to Rathbrann to see the Maynes - & as you have not been there I was sorry you were not with us, tho' indeed there is nothing much worth seeing, except the general lye of the country which is as far as you can see all round ups & downs continually - They were all delighted to see us - Bess went to look at their garden which has nothing very grand in it - I did not as I was afraid of cold - Maria Mayne has a poor little partridge that has a very innocent countenance - it was found lying wounded & brought to Maria by one of the laborers, the wound is almost healed, & it seems very healthy - Monday night my Aunt slept very badly & coughed a great deal, but could not get up much phlegm; yet notwithstanding that she was wonderfully well yesterday & talked a great deal at Rathbrann - last night she slept well, & today has been very tolerably most part of the day - I bathed my feet last night for my cold & powdered my cheek, & lay in bed stewing today till breakfast was ready - & my face is quite well today - & my headache better. After breakfast I retired to the parlor to cut out your shifts - & to read to myself since I had no dear pupil to read to me - Then my Aunt went out to air - then just as she came, the Lamberts arrived - Mrs Lambert looks much better than when we saw her last - & Flo & Kate seem well & enquired kindly for you - They gave a very different account of the ball at Ardee & of the Fortescues, from what the Maynes did - But the best thing that happened to me today was receiving a letter from our dear Captain - it was dated August 18 Newfoundland - he said they were feasting on fresh Codd which you know is caught in such quantities there, that all Europe is supplied from it - Francis had had but little bad weather, but found his passage much more tedious than he had expected - When he wrote, he expected to be at Quebec in a fortnight, & in England in 5 - Another good piece of news was the safe arrival of all our goods at Merion Street - if you see Mrs Waller pray tell her how much obliged to her we are for sending them - I had a letter from Fanny who expects young Francis directly - Mr E is getting a great deal better & has put off his Scotch jaunt - & is to stay at home all the winter - Honora is uncommonly well & very happy with her cousin Emma, with whom she is reading French & Italian & doing & learning so much that she finds the day too short - Sneyd is come back to Etown & very well after being very sick at sea -

Mr Edgeworth is chosen as a Commissioner for Bogs, so William will be employed with him, & is not to go to India

Bess Warren had a long letter from Bessy Dallas written very well & perfectly straight - They are very happy at Bath & like their Aunt very well - & are to stay there some time - There is an advertisement in the newspaper from Herchel the famous philosopher assuring the public that he has not made any prophesy about the weather as was said -

My father intends to go to Dublin on Monday & I have an intention of going with him that I may have the house comfortable & everything ready & snug - & they will probably come about Wednesday or Thursday - but you shall know for certain in time enough, as your Aunt Susan was so kind as to say she would bring you here & indulge your Aunt with having you with her to town - & indeed my dear child it will be much more prudent to do so - & make it much more likely that you can pay another visit

I assure you I will not unpack more than I can help & shall wait honorably for you - during the two days I am there before the rest of the company - last night Clarke brought in a long eared Bat, an animal that I had never seen before. Its long ears are an inch in length, & at the front of each there is a short ear - it was put under a glass on the table for further examination today - but alas the cat got in this morning, threw down the glass & eat the Bat - so I cannot say more about it -

Mr Bradford dined here today again & is a plague The Fortescues went away on Sunday so I have no news to tell you of them - Isabella Ruxton is going to be married to a Mr Townley Filgate & now I believe I have told you all the news that I have heard.

I was mad at myself when I found I had forgot to give you the socks - I send them now & a frill which I could not get washed - take care dear to mend the socks - & pray do not wet your feet or catch cold, & pray return to us well & happy & gay & ready for all our fuss - & to be very attentive to my Aunt - I hope dear Fanny you shew kind attention to both your Aunts - but particularly Aunt Susan - the best way of repaying for all her unremitting kindness to your poor mama, is by constant kindness from yourself & Catherine - I hope you will conduct yourself well - & act so as to shew me that your principles are steady - & your recollection good, of my advice - Pray be industrious & active, & lose no opportunity of adding to your stock of knowledge - & listen attentively to conversation - I am much afraid that you do not hold up your head, or mind your shoulder - & that you are not but I may have confidence in your exertions I hope -

I have learned a great deal about Touchstone for you but have not time to write it - for I must write for my Aunt to Miss Reilly - she is so anxious about Mr Carleton -

Everybody sends you the kindest & warmest love - Need I say my dearest child & friend how sincerely you are loved by your own

little governess

H B

how is your poor finger

Letters 50-99

78-008/1/4 #50

Devonshire Buildings Oct 17th

My dear sister

I hope you will know that this horrid writing is the worst of pens. I have no news of you. I am busy every day in the week with my masters except saturday & sunday Tis all I can do to write this

Good by C.E. Browne

Give my love to aunt W. Bess & H Uncle & Anne

My Dear Love

I long to get a letter of yours that Aunt S has. It will be too much happiness to receive one from you by her loved hand Cathe Aunt and your Mother are all extacy at the thoughts of her being here soon. I have given your sister a writing master that comes 3 times a week, and her french man 2. All this she thinks very great confinement having been so used to idleness, but as she applies she learns very fast. It is sad misfortune for the poor little girl that for the four or five first years of her life she was indulged above measure. How happy you are dear Fanny that the dear sensible friends you have found are so kind, and so proper. Pray my sweet child for their long life & that you may be good am sure they will love you always I beg you will write tome from Edg-stown you must have been an uncommonly good child when Mr E did you the pleasure of asking you. Tell Mrs E I love her and her 3 little maids detout mon cour. Apropos of french your sister maks a rapid progress in le langue Francois her master is very proud of her. Her writing master says she will dovery well. Is not all this delightful for your affecte A M B

[address to

Miss F Browne

Allenstown

Navan Ireland

on the outside: Mama

Oct 6 1806

also: Your affectionate sister]

78-008/1/4 #51

I believe Kate and I tire you writing so often but I never omit reminding you that we love you my sweet Fanny as well as ever was loved by mother or sister. You will find from Cathns letter that I am going to try change of air though my health is very good my limbs get every day worse - I have many other reasons for going toward Bristol. The principal is that your sister may have masters such as my poor £130 a year will allow. Think dear Fanny how grateful I feel to our friends that teach you. I could not afford to pay for all the pretty things in which you I hope excel. that will be some reward for all their trouble and the expanche that our dear kind Uncle had been at. God bless you dear child prays your affectionate Mother

A M Browne

Did you see aunt Sutton yet write when you do and give her my love and a great many kisses from me to Bess once more I say good by

C E Browne

Mamma can get no lodgings at Bristol but what are too dear till next Winter but hope to go there then

[addressed to

Miss F Browne

Allenstowne

Navan

Ireland]

Tentown Novr 17th 1806

My ever dear Sister

It is with sincere pleasure that I sit down to acknowledge the Receipt of your very welcome favor this Day; I am thankful that I still live in your memory - I don't say that I thought you forgot me - but I am sincerely thankful to God that you have not forgot him. It is love with you my precious sister, what a blessing that you feel your state; Oh my sister, I expected nothing short of its being love with your family - I early saw the Cause - It was an Enemy that did this, but eternal Praise to the name of our gracious friend who has not departed from us, or eternally cast us off - your Redeemer; There is but one way of getting rid of the over besetting sins, whether they are Love of the World or any other Love. that is to get our Souls filled with the Love of God - all Irreligion is the Love of what is contrary to him - this, my beloved Martha, is a simple Definition of the Matter; If we love every thing with Complacency that is at variance with our Christ Jehovah - so far we are religious; Love is the ruling passion of the soul, whatever its object may be; But it is the Object that renders it a virtue or a vice, a Sin or a duty; - now what have we to do but learn how to love him with the fervency of those affections that he hath bestowed upon us, & to withdraw them from whatever is contrary to his nature, his attributes or his Interest: Let us only consider what is it that makes us love the world? Why first because we are always thinking of it, - 2d because we are always taking of it and 3dly because we think it necessary for our Comfort & Happiness: now had we but wisdom & fortitude enough just to change our object, - and for it by heading the divine word & meditating thereon determine to have God in all our thoughts - then resolve to converse only with those who relish divine Subjects, - resolve to break thro every Impediment that false shame, or the fear of Man may have thrown up, to prevent religious Conversation, & in the third place be'. by the Doctrine of faith & Truth, that God in Christ only, is necessary to your Comfort & Happiness when you follow this process, so as to be fixed in it, then the Love of God will, & Must supplant every other Love, for the more you enquire into him as the source of your Comfort and Happiness the more abundantly will be revealed the riches of his grace & love, so that you will be ashamed before him, for ever having loved any other object because you will be fully convinced, more & more, than in him & m'. not in the world, all the fulness dwells of every thing that can in any way contribute to your real Happiness - my poor dear Robert Burrows - well I hope to see him before he takes his flight - Just last week I formed a plan for visiting part of the North & wrote my appointments to my dear Brethren the preachers - I have appointed but one night for Lisburn & 2 for Belfast, & was obliged to pass by both Drumbeg & Wilmount giving them merely a xian salute by the way- If Brother Dinnen is willing to give me to you & Drumbeg for one of his nights I shall be very pleased; but this I must leave to him - I bless the Lord for the poor Country people, as well as with our very precious friends in Colemain whom I dearly love - my best Respects & Love all your dear family- particularly dear Eliza & her dear Husband & Children - Indeed I often think of you all with great Comfort - I am about to set out on my Tour tomorrow morning - O pray that God may be with me all my Way & leave me not a moment to myself - I

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praise God for the sweet Acct you give me of Mr Johnston - the Lord be with you to the End of Time & then he will be your all in Eternity - ever yours

Ad Averell

[addressed to

Miss Stewart

Willmont

Lisburn

stamped Durrow]

December 18. 1807

My much loved and dearest Fanny

Catharine finished for me this day a very long letter but a sit was begun a week ago and the contents being old, I have made her take up this new sheet to tell you that I received this day makes the third I have got from you but have never ventured to write in return till I was sure that all infection of the measles was over I agree with you in wishing but not fearing your having them. Each line of yours so affectionate and gratifying letters make me one of the happiest of mothers. You can not wish half so much as I do that we could meet. What a conceited person I shall be when I have my two good girls to help in all the things that my own hands and legs will not perform. Since Catherine has had the measles she can neither write so well or so long as before. - I saw a letter from dear Bess yesterday to Aunt Sutton and am happy to hear you are all well but will defer answering your three letters particularly till I can say something decisive of poor Mrs Daniel at present my thoughts are employed about her. Catherine will then be more able to write for me I myself am grown uncommonly weak since the cold weather. I grieve that you have felt it so much in Ireland and know well how the poor are distressed by such an event. If you hear of any great object that a guinea would relieve from very great distress get it from Uncle Waller for me and seven shillings for Catherine which aunt Sutton will pay again for us to save any difference in the account of what I am to receive from Uncle Waller. You will guess dear Fanny that this is a widows mite I this day heard that the friend who bought over the knitting for Uncle Waller blanket coul not make much out Mrs Major Wallers house in Gardiners Row and I desired it may be deposited at Wm Lynes, Mountjoy Square. I am less vexed at Wms delay as it will be more useful in summer. Give my love to Miss Warren and pray say civil things to my dear friend Miss Marchella I wish Francis Beaufort safe remember he is my eldest son so dont expect I will love William Edgeworth or any other boys that you get for me near so well but am delighted with your having such friends as the Edgeworths. I could scarcely consult Dr Bigney at present but if he comes to Bath or I go to Ireland I certainly will have his advice though Entrenous no person will succeed in removing a complaint which I am now convinced was brought on by cold & in the hard season we had the misfortune to lose your dear Father. Your aunt Brown's live near Dublin I wish you would write to them it is a respect and attention due to them. Direct to Miss Browne 54 Stephen Green East Dublin I will now bid you farewell dearest and ever loved Fanny, blessing and love to aunt Waller that I as usual do at on with Bess Harriet Anna and above all Uncle W. Anna Maria Browne Ower poor Mrs. Daniel continues in as much pain and not one bit better

[78-008/1/4 #54](#)

Feby 1 1808

Sweet Fanny

I promised to write when I could get a Frank. If Sir M had datted it for tomorrow (as I requested) you should have had a satisfactory long letter both from Kitty and the rest of us. I fear it being too late if I keep it to say how well I love all at A-town or that I am better God bless you my darling

A.M.B.

Bandon, Feby 15th: 1809

Dear Martha

When I heard by letter, from Mr Hamilton, that you were come into this remote country, from your sweet abode in the North, my heart did truly, and exceedingly rejoice; because I hoped to be favoured with a sight of you once more, before (like your dear sister Ellen) you took your flight to Paradise; for the happy moments we spent together in the Lord, in the City of Dublin, came forcibly to my Mind. And indeed, it was gratification of no common kind, to me, to receive your sweet little note from the hands of dear Miss Clinchy and shortly after, to be favoured with a sight of yourself, after encountering the perils of the water.

"and if our fellowship below

in Jesus be so sweet;

what heights of rapture shall we know,

when round his throne we meet!"

My beloved sister, I bless God, for the grace communicated to your heart, by which you have been enabled to hold on to the present day, walking before his divine Majesty, in simplicity, and godly Sincerety, looking to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith. This is the plain path to heaven, as the poet sweetly sings.

"The Holy to the Holiest leads,

From thence our spirits rise;

And he that in thy statutes treads,

Shall meet thee in the skies."

O Blessed path! Safety and happiness attend it. "No sin shall be there, Nor any ravenous beast shall go up thither, it shall not be found there but the redeemed shall walk there; And the ransomed of the Lord, shall return & come to Zion with Songs, and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isiah 35th. It is true, ravenous beasts may roar upon you, and the infernal Sin may reject many things to perplex and discourage you, but while you keep in the King's highway, the Enemy cannot harm you; for God hath said, "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise in judgement against thee, thou shalt condemn; this is the heritage of the

servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord." Is. 54. In all your temptations my dear Martha, draw near to the Lord. Never keep the secrets of the Enemy, no, not for a moment. Say them all before your everlasting Friend. He will solve every difficulty, and enable you reap profit, by the say of your enemy. Remember, Martha, that if you are tempted, and that in a violent Manner, your case is not singular. Your Lord and Master was tempted in all things like as we are, yet without sin. It will do your Soul much good, to take a walk, now and then, into the Wilderness to observe the conflicts of your Redeemer, & how he triumphed over the Adversary. I doubt not but St. Paul had some thing of this in view, when he said he tried and tempted Believers, "But consider Him, who endured the contradiction of Sinners against himself, lest ye be weary and ' in your Minds. But my dear Sister, I must conclude, the midnight draws on, though I began this letter only a few minutes ago; but I could not think of letting Br Smith go to Kinsale, with this little token of love; especially, as you may begone be'. I reach Kinsale. If you should, dont forget to leave a few lines forme. My love to Mr & Mrs Mitchell. If you should be in the Country when I go next, I intend, God willing, thither to walk or ride to see your Sister. My love also to Br & Dr Matthias, tell them, they lie very near my heart. to Br and Dr Hanna as you are going home. To my old friend McClinchy and his excellent niece Sara and accept the same from

Your affectionate Brother in the Lord

Matthias Joyce

May the Lord ever have you in his holy keeping. May he go before you and your sister, in your journey; and cover you in the rear with his glory I could write much longer; but the labours of the approaching Sabaath Morning Call upon me, to gather my thoughts. Farewell. God night, and a happy Sabbath to you. Amen.

County of Cork December 25th

This day last year - we were all living at Wilmont with my dear Father - who was there confined to his death bed, & I remember putting him in mind that it was Christmas day - Many happy days have we spent with him in our old habitation - but how have we dispersed since that period which finished his suffering here & introduced him to a new world of Spirits

He departed this life March 16th 1808 - giving us every hope & assurance that a saving knowledge of the truth as it is revealed to us in Christ - His Gospel had set his heart free & that God in mercy for Christs sake had accepted of him - He was in his seventy fifth year when this took place, & Oh what mercy is it, that GOD does look on us at any time & gives us a desire to flee to him from our own doings - & take refuge in the only hope held out to us in the Gospel - the wounds of Jesus the way by faith - the gift of GOD & the holy Spirit our light to shine upon the way that leads us o the Lamb, but in the Course of seventy years has many continuous love we sought out how many ways has the devil continued to keep us from the way of faith - May we the Widow & surviving Children of my care to be remembered dear father know in time what it is to repent & believe the Gospel, & believing witnesses of the Doctrine of Justif¹ GOD, & daily remember the exhortation to press forward towards the mark of the praise of our high Calling in Christ Jesus - & altho' we are more dispersed in different parts of the Kingdom of Ireland may we one day collected around our heavenly fathers throne to sing the praises of redeeming Love & serve him day without night thro all eternity - then shall we know how to value the glorious plan of Salvation of Christ being made manifest in our flesh to make asatisfaction for our Sins - to destroy in us the love of Sin - to remove the sting of death from every believers soul - Thanks be to GOD that gives us the victory thro' our Lord Jesus Christ

Amen & Amen

I wish to take this little note of a conversation expressive of the State of mind my dear Father was in on Christmas day - which I had forgot until Lydia put me in mind of it when she Blayney & I weresitting"".. round the fire at Ringanane parlour after dinner talking about him whose memory is still dear to us all & his last & best days worthy of being remembered

Most of my sisters were walking - Mrs Wilson my Mother Tom & I were in his room - our compassionate Lord was with us - I think I read spoke & prayed with my father - his heart was touched by the Spirit from above - he saw the world he said as he never saw it before as a mere bauble - & said he never was so happy - He called Tom to him he spoke of the world in a manner I think he never did before - I put him in mind different times when the world of Satan would try to distress him but he is now safe - we must adore the goodness of GOD enabling such creatures as

Dear Child

I received a letter from you yesterday sans date. The postmark looked very much like Denby. I could see your writing and indulged more than a minute in thinking it must be that you & some of our dear friends were at the Bishop of K' as my Uncle on his way to Bath to fix the gout in his feet and leave it here was very likely I thought Well! I was a greatfool for being so dissappointed when I found it was only - Drumora - Something tells me I shall be better next year, and then dear only think "Who' I so happy, so happy as me"

your hasty epistle gave me more pleasure than weight in gold would have done but this is only because I hear you are a good girl, and that all your dear friends are fond of you.

I am grieved Aunt Ws cold is so teasing. Uncle has only beenlike all those who have the Gout. much affected by the weather, every one here (of the many that way afflicted) has been worse than usual, among the rest our friend Dicky Gossop I have had pain in feet & hands very like the discription of that sore evil Next opportunity you may expect a french letter from Kitty. I am going for a short time to Mrs Croswells in Willshire (if I am able) your sister is in great joy, as it is a very good natured family & a vast quantity of the best fruit, and Pinkney Park is a very fine place. I often been there and it greatly agrees with me. This eveining there came two very nice young ladies to see me riding on neddy Asses I hope I shall never hear of my girls making themselves so singular. They are Baron Hamiltons nieces and remarkable ingenious young women.

I mean to go out in a Carriag this day preparatoary to my jant to Mr Cs if this house is not sett on my visit being over. I hope to return here for I like it very much - though I have man objections - But when is the place free from all.

Ask Bess Waller if she has read Miss Rivere I think it beautiful and I think she know the author, I do believe, that is I am sure if a Beaufort wrote it. My son your brother F - thought to Direct your letter to the same place Devonshire Buildings

Aunt Susan affectionate love to you & all

I have tired myself too much to say more only give my love to all affectionately I am your fond Mother & friend

A.M. Browne

[addressed to

Miss Browne

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Allenstown

Navan

postmarked JU

180-

written in pencil 1804]

[78-008/1/4 #58](#)

[written Jan. 8, 1804;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/4 #59](#)

[to Fanny from F. Beaufort, Oct. 13, 1805;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/4 #60](#)

[written May 1806;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/4 #61](#)

[Sophy Rushton to Fanny, 1807 or 1808

no transcription]

[78-008/1/4 #62](#)

[to Francis Browne, Sept 7th, 1808;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/4 #63](#)

[to Fanny from EW, October 1809;

no transcription]

Lisburn

My darling Child

I received your letter by Mr Thomas Johnston and a delightful account of you all my beloved Friends from him I cannot tell you how rejoiced I am to think I shall now soon see you all once more that is if my dear Aunt Waller has a bed to spare now for me & Kate I hope to be with you early in the week after next but shall not fix the day till I get your answer for it would not be now convenient to my Aunt to allow me to see you all I will go directly to Kells and pay you & my Aunt & dear Girls another visit write an answer as soon as you can to this to tell me whether you have a bed or not - You have heard long ago I suppose that I only sent Kate to Ballynahinch & that I came to pass some time with good & kind Aunt Smyth who is as well as possible she has her little grandson Sidney Smyth at present with her he is a fine active clever boy of seven years old and Brother to dear little Patty I often wonder how Mrs Smyth can have their noise but she never lets the mout of her sight except to walk with me now & then she does not go outherself at all nor see any of her neighbours except two families next door Neighbours as she does not like the little tattle of Lisburn whilst I was at Wilmont I was very gay and was much delighted by two Dinner parties we had to different Mountains near that house The view from the Cave hill is most grand & beautiful we could plainly see Scotland and the beautiful Bay of Belfast &c &c I ventured to climb to the first cave but there took fright & stopped till some of the party climbed or rather crawled to the top of the hill on their hands & knees and I believe if they had told but the truth they did not after all see more then we did who stopped half way - for the clouds got between them & the prospects The other two Mountains we visited were called the Black Mountain from which after a tiresome & dangerous walk we could not see anything but what you had before seen too much greater advantage from the Cave hill so we all came down again & went to Colin Glyn amost beautiful Mountain that wants nothing but planting to make it enchanting for it appears to have been burst in two or three places across the Mountain by an Earthquake and a deep Chasm is sometimes Dry & full of pieces of the rocks that have fallen down on others fine Water falls and the whole mountainis covered with beautiful Herbs & different Heaths - Did you know anything of Mrs Ford the daughter of Mr Carleton of Rosstrevor She is dead & it is whispered her drunken & mad husband has been the occasion of it I will tell you a great deal more about her when we meet - Oh! the joyful thought -farewell then my beloved & Dearest Child continue to be good & happy give my best love to my dear Aunt and to sweet but lazy breakhonor Bess I cannot tell you how glad I am to hear she is well and gives some hopes of soon being in Meath - I am glad you are to get back you own dear Hary I wonder how you are able to live so long without your guide & sweetheart tell my dear Ann to hold up her head & be well for there is somebody that often thinks of her besides myself I am very glad Robert Mayne is out of pain he must work hard to be able to keep up love without money - I have my Doubts of his success Love to the Dear Beauforts & even your Mamsey

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

S.N.

[addressed to

Miss F. Browne

31 Merrion Street

Dublin

1810 written in pencil]

78-008/1/5 #65

July 2nd - 3d I mean

finished 4th

My dearest Harriet

I really do thank you greatly for your nice kind long letter, and of all your advice which you seem to be a little afraid of my not thanking you for - but I know I always want advice & I like to have you give it to me - I feel so odd with out any one to advise or order me & I am sure I hope I am doing without orders as you dearest Moome wish me - but pray dont be too sanguine & expect too much for then when you come you will be woefully disappointed - I know I have been very idle whilst Lou washere, but I dont think I could have done more - now do pray imagine that I have done hardly any thing and you will judge when you come whether you were rightor wrong - Very often when I began a letter to you I had determined to write only very little at a time but some times when they saw me writing to you they gave me things to tell you which obliged me to send it to you that day - & at other times I got so deep in what I was telling you that I ran on without considering - Now for the questions - 1st - it was in Percivals Ceylon that we read the account of the Ichneuman at least I believe & think so - 2 - It was that Every new language, we acquire, is like another eye - I forgot to ask Uncle B about Isabella color (which indeed as of old) I always thought of when I could not ask him - so will you ask him if you please & tell me -

I admire Ellen dear Ellen - I think the description of her amusement at the strangers in rowing her little boat is very well described there were a good many parts which I unluckily missed when they were reading it out - but I intend to read it whilst the Society Lady is here & then I will tell you my full opinion - I think some of the indeed all the descriptions are beautiful - & I think Scott shines in description - I have at last very nearly finished the Lay which you may remember I began before you went away at the corner of the card table as I dont sit there now I read it when I can between the first & second dinner bells I admire it (if possible) more thanever It comes first, Lady next & Marmion next I intend to read Marmion again whilst I have the other two fresh in my memory - We at least I am greatly entertained with dear Ld Nelson - I hear very little but what I do I like - Hementions Francis's friend Hillyers - & praises him immensely

Oh! dear Harriet, I wish you joy of dearest Francis - both for his promotion & his prospects of (I hope) further domestic happiness - Is Miss Wilson pretty in her face - I know her figure is like Miss O'Beirnes I suppose you have heard of Kitty Staples's choice. Bess Ruxton is very busy buying her wedding clothes - every body seems to me to know it for Mrs O'Beirne mentioned today in a letter to Mrs Waller - and Miss Savage talked quite freely of it to us - & all the Rosstown people seem to know it too - Mr Barry is to be in town tomorrow to settle his affaire & they are to be married at Rosstown - as soon as possible - Mrs Ford & all are in love with Mr

Barry - Margaret Barry is going to be married to a Captain Ammery of her brothers regiment -
Tell Louise the backs of the Card cases are 10 ½ inches by 3 ¼ broad the pockets 2 ½ inches
deep by 3 ¾ long - We have a fine patch of Mignioette blown in our garden & a good deal more
coming - every rose tree has three or four buds - so I am at last convincing Bess that something
will grow in it - my sweet peas are improving - our Rockets are out of blow now they were not
quite to be despised - If I could once arrive at weeding up all the grass it would be very nice -
ask Uncle Beaufort what we are to do with Wms great umbrella - I will take care of his hat &
coat I am a goose - you need not ask him about the umbrella - I know he is to take it

Love to all from your own child

Francis Browne

Bess is better & is home

[addressed to

Miss H Beaufort

Collon

post stamped 4 July 1810]

78-008/1/5 #66

May you never, my dear Fanny, have a more serious proof of the disappointing propensity of Men, than this letter to you and your coterie this day. My vehicle was bespoke for 5 a.m. tomorrow morning, & what is more, it was paid for yesterday in advance. But I have just now been obliged to countermand it, as I cannot stir till my circular lobby is put together, which I did expect to have finished this day. So being disappointed in this very important point of my fanciful architecture, how can I avoid disappointing my friends in Dublin and Cork, and myself very materially, in as much as I love so much of the pleasure I propose to myself.

Living these many days upon hope, like a young lover, I can only say that I hope to partake of your good Aunts hospitality on Saturday. But let not my Voiture set out to meet me, before the Postman brings a letter from Collon Nor I am be forced to postpone my Journey till Monday, which I certainly shall do, if the most urgent necessity does compel me to it.

If your letter for which I thank you had mentioned whether Ann Marylin intended to take her passage in your chaise, it would have been satisfactory to me. However I shall write a line to Brabazon, to put him off, in case he was to set out tomorrow.

Tell you great Aunt B. that I rejoiced in the finest of the weather yesterday, & rejoyce how at her having had so pleasant a journey. Tell her I have just had a visit from an amiable and Litterary Earl a Baronet and the Son of another Baronet, who were accompanied by a lady that is and one that is to be, who wished to see her and her two daughters. And further I have not to say For I am called & must away To teach my workmen - without Nobs How to perform my weighty jobs. So give my love to old and young 'Tis all can now be said or say or written to my dear F.B.

by her most affectionate D A B

19 July 10

Lady N & Mr. N. just arrived

[on the outside

Thursday

July 1810

Uncle Beaufort

addressed to

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Miss Browne

31 Merrion Street

Dublin]

[78-008/1/5 #67](#)

Wednesday May 16th

Chonice

E si in tornemdo Aluste

Mi ritroverse ad altro sposo in braccio

Che serrebbe di lisi!

Che serrebbe di mi! trimo in pensarlo

Qual pontimento avici

Dell' incostanza mia! Qual egli avubbe

Intollrrabile puna

Di trovermi infidele!

Le sue ginste guerde

Le smanie sue, legelosi, gli affermie

Ogui pensie sepotto

Iutto il sue cor gli leggerei in volto

Chonice

And if on returning Alustro should find me

in the arms of another husband,

what would become of him! What would become

of me! -

I tremble to think of it -

What punishment could I have for my inconstance

What intolerable pain he would suffer

at finding me faithless

His just quarrels, his anger, jealousy, grief

every hidden thought,

his whole heart might be read in his countenance

My dearest Harriet - As you desired me I wrote a little exercise to you but I think it foolish to write them in my letters because when you come home you will see every one that I write while you are away and therefore I think it foolish to fill up my paper with them - I was going to write to you last Friday but Bess said she wanted to write about bussiness to you so now you see I have got a large sheet as you desired - I believe that when you desired me to buy Si: Di: you forgot that Anne Nangle has them all -so I have ready the first con: on Gal: I myself tried the experiment of putting a piece of Lead under my tongue & a piece of silver over it & I perceived the change of taste immediately, and very strongly - I am very selfish I confess - but indeed I am a little sorry that you are taking the first reading of Si: Di with Honora - But it would be exactly the same with any other book & so I must make up my mind to be contented with either reading it to myself or making you read it over again with me; which you know of old I dont like - If Agnes had been at home I would have liked your reading that very well - because my own dear Moome I had read it with you before.

Bess says she will buy the Ed: Review she says also that she has a mind not to subscribe to it any more but to buy the numbers here - for the expense is exactly the same - What do you think of this? Do you never walk in the evening! I have slept for these four days till past eight - but I assure you I try to be industrious & I am always down at the first bell as you desired me - When I get up I read my chapter (I am now in the 2d book of Samuel) then I dress quick, & as I never have fire you may suppose I am cold - so when I have written some Geo: I come down & read Plut: or Gal: or Spu: till the first bell rings & then I cut the bread & butter & after breakfast I practice as usual - when that is done I write & read & walk & eat & work & dress till dinner, afterwhich I water the Garden & walk & tea & play & bed or supper - sometimes - Now you desired me in your last letter to Bess not to increase my practising - but you know you told me your self that I might play half an hour longer - in general I play two hours & a half - but one day when I was particularly anxious I did three - but only one day - Mr Warren says I am improving My Aunt made me play for Dean William Allot yesterday he said I played very well & he came again to hear me but I was out - Warren asked me today whether I had played for him, & when he heard I had he said he would ask him his real opinion of me - so I know I shall never have the satisfaction of knowing his real opinion - for I think Mr W wont tell me - we have bought a nice good Piano forte from him & sent off the old one - poor Mrs Waller has or rather is sending me over two fine Lessons by Mr Wm Waller - We are to go to Christ Church next Sunday again for the second time since you went - poor Mr Jager has been extremely ill so dear little Robinson

supplied his place wonderfully last Sunday - I understood every word quite easily & liked it very much - & heard an excellent sermon from Dean Allot - Do you know that there are a great many sweet peas up in our Garden & a great deal of Mignonette & the Siberian Larkspur has a bunch of Buds - Bess says she asked two or three book sellers about the books, & they all said they could do nothing or say nothing till they saw them - Thanks for the El'. which arrive quite safe - but it is better not to send another so soon - Anne will write to her soon with an account of the miners. She said she would write it so I could not say no I must write it - The Richardsons are in town on their way to England - they all look very ill & poor Letitias knee is so bad that she cant stir We heard yesterday from Mrs Bronlow through Anne Lyne of the poor little Darby Halls death She was quite resigned - & her death was rather sudden - Mrs Stewart is coming over immediately & she is to bring her poor remains over to be buried in Ireland - I dont know where - The Richardsons all desired to be remembered to you & so did Miss Fortescue - Mrs Vesey came here on Sunday & sent in tickets which I think was very rude & odd as she proffessed to be so anxious to become acquainted with us Lady Arabella Scott came to day to return a visit which Bess left tickets for yesterday We were all out so Bess & I met her & her caro sposo walking afterwards - he introduced her to Bess, & she was very civil & did not look at all cross - John says 4 of the books have been bought for your dad at Auction, it is not over yet - so they have not been sent home yet - Darcy is to come over soon so we dont intend going to any lectures till he comes - I dont see any one not even shop girls wearing spencers so you know I have a piece of blue calico quite new & nice & it would make me a very nice pellisse covered with a bit of muslin - a quarter of a yard of spotted muslin would do very well & would not cost more than two yards of cambric muslin for a spencer would do - Bess & I agreed this would be better than a white spencer but nothing was to be done without asking you - Answer this very soon - I have not aparticle of cold & I always wear my Velvet spencer - Good bye Your own

dear child

Fanny

write very soon

Dinner is on the table so forgive scribble & the bad direction

Bess wants to know what she is to do with Miss Quinns Handkerchief

[addressed to

Miss Beaufort

Edgeworthtown

post stamped 1810]

March 18 1811

I was very impatient for Monday, but it brought no letter from you, my dear brat, & I was obliged to live on patience till Wednesday, for your letter never arrived till that day & you sent it too late to the post I suppose, so if Catherine makes droll remarks any more while you are writing I will have her gagged - I am very much obliged for your letter, but wanted to know more of what you thought & felt on an occasion so new to you - I am glad Aunt Sutton was so good as to lend you her silk petticoat, & I am sorry I did not stick to my original opinion that a silk one was best for you to get - you were a goose to wear the white gloves, for when they are worn with mourning they are generally considered as a dancing signal - at any rate as your motive for not dancing was the impropriety, & want of respect to the memory of a friend who was so attached to you, & so much loved by you, you should have worn your black gloves, because you should have made plain to your acquaintances, (as I hope you did distinctly to your Aunts) that it was not any silly mauvaise'. or '.. sheepishness, but made you averse to dancing; but merely your consciousness of the total impropriety of your dancing in one month after the death of a friend to whom you were bound by every tie of gratitude & filial affection

Your steadiness about dancing has gratified us very much, because it shows that true sensibility which prevents our becoming selfish pleasure hunters, & makes the Heart appear in all our actions - but I beg you will take care that your friends understand what your conduct arose from, & do not let them think it was from obstinacy - I hope some other time, when there will be no obstacle to your dancing & when you are fitter & better prepared to go into public that they will have the pleasure of seeing you figure away as heartily, tho' much more gently than Bess Pakenham.

You have had two or three great losses by not being here, to say nothing of all the company of your travelling friends - There were, seeing great large trees removed & planted, & the Copper Beech removed from the garden, & brought into the field across the deep ditch by means of planks - & various other very interesting things of that sort - The other loss is the Female Quizette which makes me laugh very much, but would keep you I am sure in a constant war of laughing - sometime or other you shall read it - We were about the Copper beech from one till six o'clock - I think it was a still harder job than moving that at Allenstown, this time 3 years

I am starving for another letter, & want to know how you have passed your time since the bell business was over - I hope you have seen the DeLacys - if not may go - & whoever you see, take care & behave like a sensible well bred young woman, & not like a silly giggley - was Miss Wren at the ball? Were you introduced to either of the Miss Wades, -

We are all affronted with Cathne for refusing John McCausland - he is bright enough for a ball, & gentleman like & her cousin to boot & the sylphs who watch over ball rooms will some time or other punish her for that by making her a wall flower for a whole night - tell her that -

Dr. Hopkins has hired Owen, Wm I am sure you will be glad or- I believe we shall soon go home - that is Anne is in a great hurry to get back to town I dont know why - neither Bess nor I am in any hurry - my Mother is better I think, & her looks improved - her neck pretty well - Emma has had a great cold & violent pain in her ear, she is better today - The Chilles are very well & quite fresh now, you wd be delighted with them

Fanny E. has written to press Bess to go to E town now, but she will not There have been letters from Miss Hardy lately giving a much better account of Henry who they say begins to rally - I had a letter from Sophy yesterday - she has been very well ever since the weather grew mild - she does not take mercury - Pray give my love to Betty Rothwell - My Dad & Me & Bess went yesterday to see the Lamberts & Mrs Ardie Ruxton - poor Mrs L is grown very thin - Mr L looks 20 years older - & Flo is still confined to her room - My Pa & Ma & Ann are gone today to Drogheda - Mrs R. Mayne has a fine boy & Robt is as happy as if a king - Bess & I had a delightful walk all round the lake to day - I'm a little tired, that is the reason I am writing as ill Pray tell me very particularly about your time & pray dont let your mind be idle; exercise it & employ it - I have something very entertaining about luminous insects for you - & am sorry to tell you there are many in the sea at Carlingford bay, what a pity that we did not know it -

Why dont you tell me about Hooks roman history - I have been searching half the day for a history of the eastern roman Empire to take up when we left off - for I hope as soon as we are together again that we will set about our plans with vigour & have quiet pleasure in reading together - Dont forget to learn by heart the relentless daughter Are they reading any book now - what do you do all day & all the evening & what time do you get up - it ought to be very early since you go to bed so early - I hope you do something besides dress before breakfast - & that you dont be awake talking at night - Nay my dear love do not -

God bless you my love to all your people

[original with discrepancies]

What Person acquainted with the true state of the Case, would imagine reading these astounding eulogies, that the Glory of the people was the subject of millions of stings, and reproaches! That this protector of the Arts, had names a wretched foreigner, his Historical Painter, indisparagement, or in ignorance, of the Merits of his own Countrymen! That this Macaenas of the Age, patronized not a single, deserving writer! That this breather of Eloquence could not say a few decent extempore words, if we are to judge, at lease from what he said to his Regiment, on its embarkation for Portugall! That this Conqueror of Hearts was the disappointer of hopes! That this exciter of desire (Brave Messieurs of the Post) - This Adonis in loveliness was a corpulant Gentleman of Fifty! In short that this Delightful, Blissful, Wise, Pleasureable, Honourable, Virtuous, True and Immortal Prince was a Violater of his Word, a Libertine over Head and Ears in Debt, and disgrace - a dispiser of domesticities, the Companion of Gamblers, and Demirips, a Man who has on the gratitude of his Countrymen, or respect of Posterity -

[Examiner, 22nd March; 1812 written in a different hand]

Last night a Concert vastly gay,

Was given by Lady Castlereagh,

My Lord love musick, & we all know,

Has always two strings to his bow,

For chusing songs, the Regent nam'd

His'. heart for falsehood framed

78-008/1/5 #70

December 3, 1812

I must acknowledge I have given you some reason to think me rather tardy in the fulfilment of my promise, but I assure my dear little Fandance that I have only waited to have something very entertaining for you - & also to finish Mde de Bascetter having vowed that I would not write to any body till that was done. Nothing new or surprising has happened - so I shall just tell you that I live in the Cintz room - Harriet wakens me every morning at eight - or rather tells me the hour - for I am generally awake before she comes - I get up then & half dress, & read a little bit to myself till He comes, then we read Merope till the Horn sounds, she goes down & I finish dressing - After breakfast I go some times to my room for a qurof an hour before the maid comes to it, & then I go to the Library to write or read, or else I go to walk with Maria & Honora afterwds I sometimes walk with Fanny, but that takes up so much time that I have not much light remaining- when it grows dark I amuse Pakenham till his mother is ready for him, then I go to my own room, & dress, & take a little time then for making my flannel waistcoats & when Honora has done reading to her Aunts, we learn verses together till near dinner - after dinner we all draw round the fire -after some time the ladies & Wm go away, and then Mr E, Maria, Honora & I do in our heads multiplication sums that Harriet gives us - & Sophy does them on paper - Honora is the best hand - I am seldom so quick as they are & as I generally go over them after I have done them, I seldom tell the results in time; but I hope I shall improve - then Mr E teaches the children to dance, & as I was summon'd last night I am much afraid that I shall be made to join - after tea we sometimes read to ourselves, if Mr E has letters to write - or else we work if there is reading out - by the by I want some coarse work for night; I blinded myself last night doing satin stitch - I am very sorry you could not find my lawn, I think if you look again you will find a little roll of it, or else flat - some pieces of new lawn - after supper we go upstairs, about eleven, Ho curls her hair in my room & then we go to bed - & there is an exact journal of my life for you. it is said that the origin of water'd silk was this, a silkweaver happening to have met with some disappointment whilst ruminating one day on it for a long time, was chewing a piece of silk or Tabby, at last when he spit it out, he chanced to look at it, & observed that the color look'd quite different in those parts which had been wet & pressed by his teeth, & as it was very pretty he tried it with a large piece, it succeeded & it made his fortune

As it so near Christmas I do not think it worth while to say anything about the drawing room & I advise you not only to press going there no more, but to shew that you are perfectly contented with the place they like to sit in - cheerfulness & good humour will make any room pleasant - & opposing people about trifles will make you disagreeable, & will besides give them the idea that you want to govern - which is the thing that every creature has a dread of - There are many who sit in their parlours - & tho I think it an unwise thing - yet it is best to submit to it - Tell me my dear Fanny if all is Coleur de Rose - if not - & that you find any crows- examine your self impartially & observe whether you have been in fault - Take care every day to be attentive & considerate towards both Bess & Anne & take great care, not to insist on trifles of make er! work about them, as you know of old, nothing teizes them so much - I dare say, my love none

of this is necessary to write to you - but I wish to remind you of all this because I am very anxious that your conduct when I am not with should be irreproachable, that people may see that you act from good principles & good disposition - & not from being ordered - & as when Francis comes I shall be again away from you - you ought to study that conduct that will conduce most of the happiness of the community - but at the same time I would not have you give up your time so as to lose opportunity for your own private employments I hope you adhere to the custom of reading a little French or Italian after they leave the parlour after dinner - I assure you half an hour regularly employed thus will assist you much - & you are still too much a learner, to be able to afford to give it up the whole evening to others - be steady about the time that you now ought to be devoted to acquiring knowledge - for it is flying very fast, & every day makes ignorance in you more scandalous - I am sorry to find you have still a lump in your throat, while any remains, you should take very great care to avoid cold, as that might fix the lump there, & make it very troublesome - is you go out put on a cravat - mind now my duck - You are shockingly lazy, & as I suppose you goup about eleven, you have not much excuse - Tell Peggy not to go away till you have fairly jump'd up, at least upon your scant & then'.. if you go to sleep again, it must be with your will - I am sorry you cannot finish Modern Europe with the year - but do get on at least as well as you can, for I am impatient for you to read two or three books I have in my eye for you - I suppose when you have done the Iliad you will be glad to continue the thread in the Odyssey, at least I should advise it before the personages slip out of your mind - little Harriet is an excellent historian, I wish you my dear to be the same - & to succeed in whatever you attempt - which you are perfectly equal to, with a little regular perseverance - I am beginning to be much afraid I shall not get to town at time I wish - for I dont know how to go - I have a little hope that Mrs Torkington will be obliged to go soon to her sick mother, & if she does, I will go with her - I cannot well go such along journey by myself, particularly as there is any serious discontent about my staying away I have lately read, King Lear & the papers on it in the Adventurer - l'orphelin de la chine - & Nanine ou l'homme sans prejugé - both by Voltaire - they are extremely pretty - I read all this at Collon - I wish you would ask your Aunt Susan to send you some volumes of the Theatre of Voltaire - suppose six - I asked my Father, & he says all Voltaire's plays are perfectly proper to read - & beautiful - I am now at Mde de Stael - & looking into Mde de Genlis anecdotes des femmes illustres & am going today to read Mandevilles essay on Charity schools, as Mr E ask'd me to do so - I shall have numbers of new lines for capping, so I hope you will have some too - I hope if you see Mrs Knox you will not be stiff & silent - I am delighted they have got a house in Merrion Square - I cant help being a little surpris'd at the excessive grief of the Hamiltons - & have not mentioned it, because it is ridiculous - you never tell me anything of Sidney - do you often see her - is Sneyd often with you - Have you ever seen the poor Pet Fox - it was a pity you could not let in the Veseys - is the Velvet put the whole way down the front of your pelisse, or only to the waist - I think the mark of the old velvet appears on mine - & wish I could have as much fur as wd do therest - if they are worn trimm'd down to the bottom - it wd take 2 yds & aquarter - I have just tried on my pelisse & am sure Mrs T left it to some of her Girls to make, the Sleeves are so tight I fear I shall never have any comfort in it - The body sits very badly - & the wrists are so tight I can scarcely drag them on - I have not had time yet to try my gown - I am rather sad about my pelisse - & about money - I must trespass on you to pay Miss Liddy all that is due for washing that I may settle with Aunt C - I am very obliged to Bess for getting my feathers so nicely done -

I Hope the box went safe yesterday by the Mail coach & that Bess saw by my note that we were not in fault about the boxman - I will take care of your box - Honora had got a sick head ache - Give my love to Bess & Anne & the Hans - I am sorry I had nothing to make this more entertaining adieu you are most truly dear to

H B

Wm is always at his maps - all day & much of the evening - he thinks Caroline a fool & he says she dropp'd her handkerchief on purpose I am very glad you like Brydone

My dear child I will write as soon as I can again I love you with all my heart

We have heard nothing yet of the stray box - The Aunts have not been told & have not express'd any impatience Thank you dear for your letter write soon again - all here sends loads of love - Your letter was written remarkably well - how I long to see you my dear child

3 December

1812

H B

[addressed to

Miss Browne

31 Merrion Street

Dublin]

78-008/1/5 #71

14 Feby 1813 HB

My dear Fanny: I hope the delay of a couple of days in answering your call for money did not signify: I enclose you a draft on LaTouche for fourteen pound - of which you are to pay seven pounds to MaryMurray - six pounds to Kearns & keep one pound on account for yourself. I dare say Miss Thompson will give you notes for it. When you pay Mary, make her sign the following receipt, which you must write a fair & distinctly on a proper stamp.

Whereas Mrs Mary Waller late of Merrion Street in the City of Dublin deceased, did by her last will bequeath to Mary Murray the sum of nine pounds two shillings, & whereas the said Mary Murray has since intermarried with Luke Poole - now we Luke Poole & Mary Murray Poole do acknowledge to have received the said legacy of nine pounds two shillings together with eleven shillings more being the amount of interest of the same, due this 1st day of February 1913

Luke Poole MaryPoole

I thought I had Mrs Kearn's bill here, but I cannot find it - so I must have thrown it into my desk. It amounts I think to 6 or some such thing, but should be glad you Cod look for it before pay it - I want Miss Thompson's bill here very much, & I suppose I put it here along with the other - I wish you could find it & send it to me by post, for there are some articles in it I want to examine here - I threw a parcel of paper in, & I am sure you will find it & Miss Kearn's there - at the same time that you send me Miss T's bill, send me Ellinor's account with me. She said she had it ready when I was in town, I want to settle with my Dad about Mrs Donaldson - When you pay Kearns get a receipt on a stamp & keep it till I go to town.

I was in hopes of hearing to day that Bess & Anne were well, & what the court was of the Arabian ball - I shall be very anxious to hear that you make a good appearance at the drawing room - don't forget your fan - i.e. do in time, & prepare everything - I think poor Anne was going too - tell Bess with my love that I hope if she gets a crimson, she will have one rather inclining to marone, it looks so much richer at night than a simple poor crimson - I hope she may go to the Birth night - Have you got nice white shoes? Do [] Louisa begs you will enquire from the Wallers where the Allots are now, & let her know as soon as you can.

Did Maxwell call? he says he did - has Lynch sent the parrellel ruler yet - put it & all the other parcels you have into one tight parcel & send it down by the Carrickmacross coach - (D []) - but write the news that we ask for it - send them as soon as you can - we are in a great hurry for the ruler - Francisdictating "Bless your heart my dear little Bess & send to that ugly scapegrace Lynch for the Parrellel ruler of which I am in urgent want, & forward it by the Carrickmacross coach, but take care & preserve the edges. Heaven bless you"

He further begs you will send 2 ounces of Venetian red -

If you do not send the []

You must send for both Mary & her husband & make them sign in presence of you or Bess or Anne.

Mary's husband must sign the receipt as well as she - put them in mind that I have her three pounds on acct - & now if you give her six pound 13 shillings it will be all that is due - & give the remaining seven shillings as, she expected it to have been in the fund half a year before I was bound to pay interest on it. Get the Razor for the enclosed paper. All this house write in love to you all. Tell Anne her illustrations have been found. Adieu my dearest Fan

H B

I don't send this to be franked lest it be delayed

[addressed to

Miss F Browne

31 Merrion Street

Dublin]

78-008/1/5 #72

Clonghill Rectory, Decr

My ever own dear Fan, I am glad to tell you that all our Invalids are quite well & that Clon. Rec. is no longer our hospital. Now I must tell you of as comical an adventure as ever was, that happened to us: Last Monday morning we were all sitting at breakfast when Kelly brought a parcel to Uncle Sutton; this parcel contained the 1st Vol. of Madame de Stael's work on Germany, & the following curious Epistle directed to the Revd Thos Sutton, & written in a beautiful Hand;

"A Gentleman who has the misfortune of being in Solitary Confinement at the Inn at Kells since 5 o'clock this morning, & is likely to remain so until Tuesday morning, without any Book except one which he brought out with him by mistake having read it before - throws himself upon the mercy of Mr Sutton for the use of one or two Latin Classics for tomorrow - If he can lend him Nodes Attica or a common Virgil - he will be very much obliged - If not then any Classic he may happen to have by him - He applied early in the evening to the Curate Mr Moffort - but, Mr M had not his Classics at home & the most entertaining work he got from him is the satisfying life of Bishop Laud - Though it is not perhaps treating the Lady well he takes the liberty of sending Madame de Stael as a hostage for Virgil - and will take care to reclaim her from her captivity early on Tuesday morning - In the meantime Mr Sutton may be entertained by her company if he has not seen her last work" -

Inn at Kells, Sunday Evening

Well my dear after laughing heartily at our Unknown friend Uncle Sutton who really had no Classic sent him "Gilpine's Dialogues" & an Essay on ancient Cookery by Mr Warren of Bath. We all took it into our heads that he was a (Sharpie?) so Uncle S said in his note for him to leave the book at Hammons in Kells; & he also sent back Mme de Stael; Well next morning another parcel & letter was brought to Uncle Sutton returning the Book & begging two more as the gentleman found he was obliged to spend another day in Kells; this letter was a very long & extremely clever one, but still be added no name, but he says at the end of it, "I am hesitating whether I ought to add my name but upon reflexion I believe it better not - If tho' sorry changes or chances of this mortal life we shall ever come into actual contact, I shall not fail personally to thank you for the amusement of the day - & if we shall not meet, you, I am sure will be equally well pleased with anonymous gratitude [] it were offered with the appendage of an obscure manner. Dec 17th

This was certainly not the letter of a sharpie but of an extremely clever man so Uncle S sent him 2 more books & an invitation to Dinner. You may be sure we all prayed that he might come. At 5 o'clock a carriage drove up & Mr Wallace was announced, & in walked a very gentlemanly looking man about 40; He was at ease directly without seeming forward or impertinent. He said he would not have accepted Uncle S's invitation, only, that he thought there was too great an

air of Mystery about him - He turned out to be the brilliant & clever Counsellor Wallace whom opinion is taken in almost every trial consequence. He has the greatest flow of words & the most elegant language I ever heard, & we were quite sorry when he went away, however he will be in the country again in a fortnight & he said he would come again. He gave Uncle S his ticket & begged he would call upon him whenever he came to town.

Now Fanny on your peril dont mention this story to any one but Bess & as it might come to his ears in time & we should not like this at all - Love to dear Bess & Anne & ever believe me your own little Kate

I am not ungrateful to poor little C Wade now that you praise him so highly. I am inclined to be in Harmony with him.

[addressed to

Miss Browne

31 Upper Merrion St

Dublin

dated 31 Dec 1813]

July 30 1816

There was something so delightful to me in the kind look you gave me as we parted my beloved Fanny, that I have thought of it a hundred times since with pleasure, & indeed have continually had your dear eyes pictured to my thoughts and now to reward you for that look, here I am seated at my pen & ink to indite some part of this letter the 1st bell ring - I was not up as early as I ought to have been, but still you shall not be neglected. I was in bed at ½ past eleven last night, & prudently desired Peggy not to call me till ½ 7 - but she finding me asleep even then, left me so & I did not wake till just eight, since which I have been very busy, between chapters, marking new Hose, & mending old, & now having given you the satisfaction of knowing how long I slept I must go to my solitary toilette, where no dear voice will amuse or improve me while I dress, & no kind hand will be ready to pin & assist me.

Now for some account of our doings - as soon as you drove off my dear, I returned to my rest intending to go to sleep, but between thinking of you, & of all I had to do, I found my thoughts too busily employed to hope for sleep - at 7 then I arose & dress'd myself, rejoicing that the morning continued fair for you - I could not read more than my chapters, as attention was not obedient - so I examined & mended clothes for the wash - considered what I had to prepare for my leaving home, gave out the washing set about mending Nightcaps & half a doz'n other things, & just got down in three minutes after the bell rang - I was very cheerful by myself - but I found it difficult to withstand the kind greeting that Bess gave me, & her tenderness & sympathy - however let that pass - I proposed going to Bott - so as Anne went to see her Aunt directly after breakfast, she fixed an hour with him - & while she was away I amused myself with accounts, & Bess with the Freeman - When Anne returned we dress'd - & went to Bott at one - he strubb'd & scraped very gently indeed, [] a great deal & brush'd & scraped & all the black came off, & a good deal of the Tarter - but on two or three of my teeth it has taken such hold by not having been scraped for so many years, that he cannot get it off without injury to the tooth, & without the most particular care those teeth will soon go! let that be a warning to those whoever they may be, who refuse to have cakes of Tartar taken off their teeth.

He says Charcoal is very injurious to the teeth & Gumms- That burn'd bread is more harmless, but totally useless & that when you use tooth powder, you should after wetting your toothbrush wipe it, before you dip it in the powder as it is then much more effective in cleaning - mind this. I will send you some of his powder when I have a frank - When that disagreeable job was ended we drove off to Mrs Colvilles - both the young ladies were out visiting - Mrs C gave us a kind reception & in a short time a Tray of Strawberries Currants & Rasberries made its appearance & with cream & sugar, we made a very pleasant repast - & then came the Misses & along with them portentous clouds; & I was in twitter lest we should have to go & see the Almond tree & all the seedlings - or the Turret & its prospect - However we got in without rain, & my dear bonnet safe - it was past four when we left them so it was too late to call anywhere & it rained heavily the whole way home & I found that tho' we had had so fine a day it had been

continually raining here - Anne had had a visit from Rogers who brought her the letters - she says two of them are evidently forgeries she thinks - the others are more doubtful - I am very sorry I did not see them - She saw Miss Nugent yesterday & had from her that Miss C is very angry at the course being delayed, & says "We were ready enough for a compromise last spring & she would not make one, but now indeed she wants one herself" How Miss C heard that Anne wishes for one now, we can't quite guess, unless it is that Mr Jebb has been speaking to Meredyth - but Jebb is both unsatisfactory & unkind not to write at all to Anne

As soon as we put our bunches of roses in water, we went to our dinner, missing you at every moment - & hurried upstairs to put our feet almost into the fire - But the sun came & the evening grew fine & Bess & I went with a book to Bess McC & found her & Mary & the two boys alone, & brought them to tea - we were very pleasant - Cornelius & James played chess - I mended my old Night cap & the rest talked - They went away at ½ past ten & the moment the clock struck eleven we all went off - Now you have the whole history of our Maneuvres for yesterday - excepting, that Bess proposes that we should put off going to Gaybrook in hopes of having Anne with us, & this I think a very good measure - & that a letter from Mrs Stewart to Catherine came for which I paid 9d & wh Bess open'd - & she will act accordingly - I want to know my duck, whether you got a pair of silk stockings from Miss Underwood, besides the pair I made you get in April, & which are in my account - dont forget to answer this

Wedy. I wrote so far yesterday standing with my face to the wall after breakfast - while the ladies were at their studies or their writings upstairs - then I went to the garden & cut with an unsparing hand at the tea tree - then began a letter to Bell - & prepared to go out - when bonneted & just going, in came Miss Walker to tell that she has nearly agreed for a very nice house in Upper Mount St then Mrs Pendleton & Mrs Warren came languished here for a time - at last Bess & I set off - I paid my bill at Moores - we met the J O'Beirnes & heard that Mrs O'B has had a letter from the A D he thinks Kate better but from all he says, Mrs O'B think she cannot be really better - Mr Austen is come over & gives a very bad account of her - I left Bess then to walk in the Lawn & I finished my letter to Bell - as soon as dinner was done, Bess & I ran off to the Sack's house that I might give an account of the Garden & of Beau - When my letter was sealed, we set out to walk, & went by the Canal to Charlesmont St to invite a person who has a circulating library, to buy the books. When we came home Anne found a note from Rogers - saying that he had made Mr Foster again examine the letters, but that Mr F remained steady to his opinion, Rogers adds that as he supposes Anne will not proceed with the suit against Fosters opinion, he [] his services to make proposals of Compromise to [] - so Anne will employ him, as it will be more expedient than my father - I had a note from Mrs E who had a very [] passage -she went on board at 7 - sailed at ½ past eleven & landed at [] was not as violently sick as usual - the packet very full - The Rochforts & Miss Burgh & I forget who else - she said a great deal of sorrow for the asperity with which she had spoken of my friend & is very angry with herself & begs me to forgive her

Last night we had a strawberry feast - Bess slept ill but did not cough - I have been very busy all the morning rummaging the closet & my old Clothes - & I found Mrs Palmer's note lying and Sneyds old notes! - I have just heard from E town - Mr E has been getting better ever since the

day Mr Strutt went there, when he was so very ill, & he was able to go to the Assises both Monday & Tuesday & go through all the usual fatigue without being at all the worse.

They like all their goods & Honora thanks you for the Music book & likes that other lace of all things. Bess has a letter from my Mama. They are very well & hearty - they slept first at Marlborough, next at Johnstown, next at Cahir had tolerable weather - but on the Rock of Cashel were soused by a heavy shower & obliged to move to a Cabin - I imagine they were disappointed in that, for she does not say how they like it - Horse & carriage performed admirably till within a few yards of the inn at Cork, when the Spring broke. Wms horses met them there, & they found all well & hearty - The children a charming set - Emma thinks the maid will answer very well - I forgot to tell you they stopped to see Haywood, & Abeleix & were delighted with the latter, where the finest large spreading oaks they ever saw - & the house beautiful, & very handsomely furnished - I had a note from Aunt Rachel yesterday, including one for the penny post - & hoping you fine weather &c &c I shall write to her when your letter comes - oh how I long for tomorrow's post - when the letters came today, Ellinor came running up to know if we had heard from you.

We have been rejoicing in the weather for you - but I am very uneasy my dearest lest you should have damped your feet or walked too late in the damp at Dundalk - & pray take care of yourself, & pray tell me how you are, & if All goes well for indeed dear I am a little anxious about you - I hope you are not at all flustered & frightened, but that you take things quite easy - Do not be very anxious about being like or not - but take care to be at ease, which always marks the gentlewoman - "Fanny" act from your own judgement & observation - & do not put yourself under any one's directions, & do not be influenced by any one further than your Judgement points out

Pray be very particular in your accounts of all you do & see & hear as we shall be interested in every thing - Consider if there is any thing you want for I shall send something that you forgot, by the Cook - & any thing you like can go in the parcel - Had you not better have your yellow walking shoes? do you want brown ribbon? Apropos to Cook - June Rochecall'd yesterday to say that her husband is come to town so ill she cannot leave him - Bess told her that Mrs Stewart did not wish to have her for ten days - so if her husband gets better, she will go, & if he does not she cannot leave him, but she says she knows a very excellent Cook whom she can recommend & who understands the Country business perfectly - so if Mrs. Stewart approves Bess will see her if Mr Roche continue indisposed - answer this when you next write.

Now I have told you every thing in life but that Bess read out some papers in the world last night - & that at this moment Rogers is setting with Anne - & that Bess sends very kind love to you & will write to you very soon.

Susan or Catharine carried off Mary Sutton's nail brush. Edwd Palmer came here yesterday for it & the box - & says that the Suttons got no rain at all the day they went to Montpelier - Adieu my dearest Fanny Evermore your affectionate & faithful friend

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

H Beaufort

Mrs Thos Wade has a son & was ill only 2 hours - Maria Gerrard is gone to Mrs Smyth - We are to dine on Friday at Wm Thompson to meet the Rynds & good Music

At Woods acct wh I have not paid till you tell if it is right - then I will with pleasure

Black book 6-6

Melodies No 1 2-6

" 8 2-6

" 11 2-6

Passurl 2-6

Gelench 2-6

Book 7-6

Bess never wakened when you were going, & Anne scarcely heard a stir in the House - I fear I gave you the wrong gloves - I found your pencil & another pair on the table after you were gone

[Addressed to

Miss F Browne

at John Stewart's Esqr

Wilmont Lisburne]

Octr 3 1818

My dear Fanny

I believe it never happened before in my life that I was glad not to have heard from you - but as you said you would write very soon if my dear little A M grew better again: I have flattered myself that she has got over that fit of teething & is herself once more; however now that ten days have passed & no second letter - I begin to be anxious & uneasy & to have some fears that she has been too ill for you to write - or be away from her for a moment - & I beg my dear Fanny you will ask Mrs Steward or Mrs Hannaor any one, to write a few lines to tell me of the poor dear little child - if she has the measles I trust it is a favourable kind & if she is in any danger, I hope my dear Fanny that God will mercifully support you to bear whatever misfortune it is his will to inflict - the trials that He sends us in this life are sometimes bitter but as we resign ourselves with humble resignation to him he enables us to bear them - & to become purified & more deserving of his favor, by having passed through them. But I hope this is all misplaced & that while you are reading it, you are still rejoicing in your beloved little baby. I suppose Louisa told you in her letter, that I was in town where I went on a sudden with my father & Wm who had business there - & wanted me to take care of them - If I had thought that I should be three whole days in town I would have written to ask if I could do any thing for you - I am thinking of going to poor Moore's shop to say something about your affairs - but the shop is still shut - it is however to be kept till all the goods on hand are sold. The weather was but indifferent while I was in town - so that when I had business I was obliged to go out in the carriage with the gentlemen, which left me a great deal of time - but I was able to see the Hamiltons twice - & the poor Sneyd Es every day - The Hams are all well & enquired very affectionately for you - the H Hs & Mary were then at Rosstrevor on their way home - & have had a most delightful tour - & have seen still more than they expected - they did not go farther north than Inverness - The only relique of Macbeth that they found, was Birnam wood which still exists & though it was raining when they were passing it - Mary would get out & cut some branches to bring to the worthy of such gifts - They saw Lord Breadalbane's magnificent castle - Tatworth - I think - where every thing is on the grandest stile - there is one Grate which with its appurtenances (not including chimney piece) cost £ 7000

Scotland reminds me of the new tales of my Landlord - I hope you will soon have them - for I assure you they, or rather it is very interesting - & very amusing - tho' in many parts very tiresome & long - but the characters are extremely well kept up - & well drawn - & the interest of the book full as great as the former tales; we are reading it now - & very well for us that we have it - as my Dad went away on Wedy & will not be back till Wedy or Thursday next - He is gone with Mr Barry to Clonfort, to be inducted with the Sinecure of Kilconnel which is one part of what Mr B isto give in exchange - The other, which is a non cure in Ossony is not yet shown to be equal to my father's expectations - so that the exchange is not completed - but Mr B having resigned the Sinecure, he said it was necessary for him to take it without delay - & that if

the Exchange was not made to his satisfaction, he should not be required afterward to resign Kilconnel - I am uneasy it has been on so long an expedition without some of us with him, & I feel more anxious than I can tell you for his return. He consulted Dr Cheynein Dublin, who I am sorry to tell you said decidedly that his complaint is the Angina Pectoris - but alas a complaint such as that, which may end suddenly, & for which there is no cure, is one of constant anxiety - He thoroughly advised him to persevere steadily in drinking no wine & eating very moderately

Louisa asked Dr Blackwell a heap of foolish questions about me - & he has ordered me a most horrid mess of Hops & Chamomile - with Muriate of Iron, Ammonia & Cayenne pepper added to it - it is just like swallowing Hartshorn first - & then the pepper burning remains in my mouth & throat for hours - pray pity me - I am to take it 3 times a day - & after all I have the greatest suspicion that Louisa in describing what she thinks the weakness of my stomach, just went according to a little fanciful system she has about me - & when I saw the Dr he asked me so few questions & seemed to mind so little what I said of myself, that I don't believe he knows one bit about me - He does not think poor Robert's case entirely hopeless - & has struck out a new plan, & more of treatment - different from any he has yet had which perhaps may be of use. William got home on Friday evening last - & we have heard twice since he does not mention Robert.

All our last accounts of poor Wm E have been but very indifferent - the last paroxysm of violence has continued a long time - & the principal changes now are from violence to calmness - but not I believe to the livid intervals which he had some time ago [] talk of sending him a way - but not to Dr Jackson as I wished or to any experienced skilful person accustomed to the care of such invalids - but to a home they think of taking for him near Balllymahon, that he may be near Dr Gardner - This I think a most mistaken plan - and I hope they will yet change the plan - & have the sense to see the longer they delay sending him to the most skilful, the more they confirm the disease - When you write to Honora, say but little about him - She & Maria seem to go on very happily at Borwood - & we all rejoice that they are in England, & hope that their friends will keep them from one visit to another, the whole winter - They will leave Bowood next week I believe - & go to Lady Romilly - & in November they will return to Borwood for the purpose of meeting Dugald Stewart & Mrs S - who are coming there from Scotland - Sneyd has been very thin & nervous & delicate - but is better - & I trust will soon be quite well - Mrs E looks miserably, she has been so anxious about him - Lucy very blooming & well - All love & enquire for you I don't think I will go to Allenstown now at all for Bess will soon begin to think of going to Dublin & it will not be worth my going to Allenstown for so short a time - so I am thinking of meeting them in Navan on their way - or of going at once to town from this - I should like to be there before my people go - I suppose that will be in a few weeks now - I suppose you know that Mrs Waller has not been well & is to come to Merrion Street to have advice, which I am very glad of - & that Maria is to stay with us to have some Musical instruction - Do you know anything of a Mr McCreight curate of Bambride he is going to marry Bess Foster - has £700 a year & will have £300 more - & settles £300 a year on her - I hear he is very pleasing & handsome & they are all pleased at it - tho' the Countess de Salle says, if he had asked her for Letitia, she would have desired him to walk out of the room

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

The Clock has struck & the bell has mumbled - so I have no time to look at your last letter - to answer various things in it nor to tell you how much I enjoy your present happy situation - Pray write a few lines or make Mrs Hanna - Give my love to T A S - My ma & Lou send you 1000 loves & I am ever dearest Fanny your own H B

on the 1st my father died near 79

[Addressed to

Mrs J Stewart

Lakefield Lisburn

J Ferbr Lisburn

Collon october three

1818]

Dec 7th (1818)

My dearest Fanny

If I had not misunderstood Bess & imagined she had written to you more lately than I afterwards found was the case, I should without any delay have answered your letter, & let you know that early last week, a letter from Maria Mayne informed us, that the Physician had pronounced my Uncle Mayne out of danger & had hoped of his speedy recover. What a wonderful man he is to rally in this manner; My Aunt Mayne is pretty well -William & his family have been settled for some time in the Inn of Bangor, & Sally Mayne arrived on a visit, during my Uncle Mayne's illness - I suppose he has been since going on well, or we should have heard of it.

I am sure your parting with Nurse must have been very painful - she has certainly done great justice to Anna Maria, & such an experienced good woman, must be a great loss for you. I am sorry she has not been better replaced & also that A M is to sleep in your arms, I fear it will cause your getting up at night & catching cold.

I am sure you missed the gala at Lord D V W I hope you will soon return Lady Ds visit - as she left a ticket for you at Wilmont you are apt to do so & make it known to her that your home is now at Lakefield - if you do not make some little exertion yourself, you will lose her acquaintance entirely which would be a great pity - The [] Duke was no great sight to be seen, & in that respect you had no great loss - I was so fortunate, as to come by chance, for a very close view of His Serene Highness in the Library at L[] House - He is a middle sized middle aged man - of a thin spare figure & a dark sallow complexion - with a high nose & black hair - He had on a plain blue great coat & there was nothing to mark him out from any other man, but his foreign appearance - He looked civil & gracious to those who spoke to him - He and his suite came in two Quin Bray coaches - without any chill - except that he was escorted by six dragoons; I am sure had he looked much better at the concert on Saturday evening - where he appeared with all his Class & orders - There was almost excellent selection of sacred music - all the musical people & the Choir joined their forces - & Miss Stephens sang uncommonly well - besides sacred music - she sang Sweet Bird & Donald- by particular chance - If she goes to Belfast I hope you will hear her as she has one of the sweetest & clearest voices ever heard; Bess & I intended to have gone to this concert but she caught cold the day or two before & had [] so much in her head that we thought it best to give the matter up - She is now much better - but I think we did the wise thing - indeed we might not have got places, for it was greatly crowded - many stood all night - some fainted & some could not get in at all -

I suppose Harriet has given a full account of Mrs Bright's wedding - her sister Letitia was married a few evenings after - Mrs Shirley Hamilton who was there told Lady Staples there was a great deal of crying at it not by the bride who was very gay & hearty but Mrs Leslie Forbes

was in floods of tears - who the other criers were I don't know but Mrs Shirley herself I guess - as I don't think she is in that stile - The Provost tied the Knot -all very grand - who the bridesmaids were or if any I cannot say but there was neither cake, ribbons or gloves & [] on such shabby doings I say - The bridal pair went home to their own house that evening - which is one of the small houses at Mr Hamilton's side near the Mount St end of Merrion Square - Mr North's ambition is to get into Parliament but how his & his brother in law's politics will agree is the thing being of opposite sides of the gutter - Mr North is a great opposition man- Letitia told the Hamiltons she was marrying a Whig -

[78-008/1/5 #76](#)

[to Francis Browne, April 1811;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/5 #77](#)

[to Francis Browne, 1813;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/5 #78](#)

[to Fanny, April 14, 1814;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/5 #79](#)

[Miss Beaufort;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/5 #80](#)

[to Francis Browne, March 26, 1811;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/5 #81](#)

[December 28, 1816;

no transcript]

[78-008/1/5 #82](#)

[to Francis Stewart, Lakefield, Lisburn, from HB;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/5 #83](#)

[to Thos Alexander Stewart, Esq., Wilmont;

no transcription]

May 20th

My dearest Fanny

I fully intended to write to you yesterday - but I afterward found it impossible my time was so engaged - & now I think it is better that I did not do so - as I trust that I shall have it in my power before I close this - to tell you that our dearly beloved Harriet has arrived safely so far as Cork on her melancholly journey - the note which she left for you has I suppose told you that an account that from Louisa of a sudden & desparate attack of the heart pain in her poor father determined her to set off in next mornings Mail - I had been serving my turn at the School & little thinking was passing at home took a turn or two in Scinter Lawn on Friday last - to refresh myself - when I returned poor dear Harriet met me on the stairs & gave me Louisa's letter from which indeed I saw there was little to hope - & Harriet told me she had determined to go - had taken her place in the coach & had written to Upton to let them know her intentions - so there was nothing for me to say - & yet poor Harriet's own mind was in a pitiable state of indecision whether it was better or not - whether they might not more wish her to stay here & get to Collon if necessary on the other hand if he still lived the loss of a day might prevent her ever seeing him again - so that really it was impossible to advise - if she remained till after post hour next day she could not go till the morning after - because had she gone in the evening Mail - she would have arrived in Cork at night - miserably in all pass that day - Harriet had made an engagement to call on old Mrs Stewart to hear the result of a conversation she had with Mr Wilkins - it was impossible for her to do so - so I went to Harcourt St in the evening - Mrs Stewart told me that Mr Wilkins saw great difficulties in raising money on the security proposed by Tom - I suppose she has told you all that was said more fully than I can do - & that Mr Wilkins said - might not some place be procured for Tom - if all his friends - & all his wife's friends were to join their interest together - & Mr Wilkins said all these difficulties coming in the way seemed as if it was not the will of providence that the plan should take place - & Mrs Stewart said she thought if Harriet was to write to you & suggest if a civil employment could be procured for Tom that it might be better than the plans of emigration - it seemed as if poor dear Mrs Stewart had just formed the idea for the first time - I told her that many had been the letters & strong had been the arguments used by your friends to do anything in this country rather than go to Canada & that those arguments only ceased on finding the plans irrevocably fixed in Tom's mind - That we were all of opinions it would be better to stay in this country & tho' at present we did not know of every interest by which an employment could be procured - yet it would be well if Tom would consider seriously what business he could engage in - without injury to his health - & then try whether such an employment could be procured for him by any of his friends - she said Mr Mathias had refused some person to ask a favour of Lord Roden [] to keep all the interest he had for Tom - he did not indeed know whether Lord Roden had much in his power - or whether Tom would accept of anything that would break his engagement to Mr Reid to whom he considered himself bound - & indeed with reason, as no one could have acted in a more kind & generous manner than Mr Reid had done - but this she would say, that Mr

Reid was a person quite calculated to shift for himself & his family I have briefly given you the substance of what passed - I cannot but hope the delay, which has arisen - may induce a change of plan - & I do strongly wish Tom would consider if something might be done in some other way - To prevent this emigration intirely - I cannot do more than think on what I wish to say - for indeed my mind is in a state of great uneasiness -

Poor dear Bess - thinking that nothing she could say would prevent Harriet's going intirely - did not agitate her by trying to dissuade her & she went to bed in the idea she was determined to go - she says she slept a little - poor Bess did sleep better than I expected - but sleep never visited my eyes, very early in the morning I went to Harriet & found her more irresolute than the night before - that is almost resolving to stay till after the post came in - as she said at all events she could go the next day - & as the coach office people would not let her change the day - it seemed better she should pursue her original plan - So after much misery this plan was decided on - from the possibility she might find him yet alive - never did I pass more sincere blessings not knowing what to advise - Sophy E and I walked with her to the Coach office - & I own I wished that she might have been too late - from the hope the next days letter might have absolutely forbidden her to go - and I hardly think I ever experienced a greater pang than when I saw her step into the Coach - it carried six and there was just room for her 2 women & 3 men - one of the latter looked like a gentleman - & in my desperation I said "Sir, you could never do a greater act of humanity than taking care of that young lady for she is not well" - The man stared but said he would do so - So there she was, with a set of strangers, poor little delicate creature - in such a miserable state of mind - & with such a shocking prospect before her -

I hurried back to poor Bess - who cried a great deal - as you may well believe most miserable about her anxiety - The post brought a letter from Louisa which I opened - confirmed the sad news we expected - Theangina Terminated by Paralytic Stroke. His last hours were quite free from pain- & at eight oclock on thursday morning he breathed his last sigh - & his spirit returned to God who gave it - his weeping wife & daughter had the sad consolation of administering to his comfort while he lived - & of watching by his remains after he died - His affectionate son closed his eyes -those eyes that had so often beamed with love & benevolence on them all - his wife & daughter soothed their minds by prayer - and in the recollections of his character & principles - & firm trust in the mercy & merits of their Saviour & God - they were enabled to hear this bitter separation in this world with resignation in the hope & belief they will meet never to part again - in another & a better world -

Louisa had calmness enough to give to Aunt a distinct account of the progress & termination of the illness - I shall briefly say - that a Physician from Cork - who was sent for - gave them the first only "the hope there is while life remains" - He put as blisters & Calaplasma on the feet - which at first seemed to give him pain, but the pain ceased some & the blisters did not rise - Dr Calahan (the physician) was very good natured & tender to them all - He says that Paralysis of the brain - is a very frequent termination of Angina - I am sure my dear Fanny you will feel much when you hear that this dear & kind friend is no more - a more benevolent heart never existed - He was the friend of the poor & ready with assistance to all who wanted far beyond his power - Sad it is to think the last years of his life were years of discomfort & anxiety - and

indeed when we reflect how little chance there ever was, of his affairs being extricated - He is probably spared from much misery that protracted life might produce - What my poor Aunts & Louisa's situation may be God only knows - we have been careful not to mention his health to any one - as I fear his creditors will fall on all the property he had - but it must be immediately known now Louisa said that Wm would be obliged to go to Collon & that her mother greatly wished to go with him & take a last leave of all she loved so much - This Louisa dreaded for her - but my Aunt said it wd pacify her - in a few days we shall know more - tomorrow I only expect to hear from Cork as Harriet promised to write as she passed there, poor dear after all her fatigues to hear miserable news at the end of her journey! - my heart bleeds for her - Dear Bess slept well last night but was miserably low this morning - She can not be expected to be otherwise till we hear from Harriet - then she will be much better - Honora Edgeworth who went to Black Castle on Friday with William will be here on Monday & Sophy who was to have gone there on Tuesday will remain a little time here, poor little soul, she is anxious to all she can - doleful must it be for her - but I am glad to have her here specially on Honora's account who tho' she has a most willing mind, has so weak a frame, that I could not be at ease to leave her to herself & devote myself to poor dear Bess as I must do - Now they will be companions to each other & tho' there are others who would be more useful & I would rather have - & I think it is much better to have them here at present than not - I have prevailed on Bess to take the air both yesterday & this day & it has been of use to her.

[Written in pencil under date: Uncle Beaufort's death 1822]

78-008/1/6 #85

26 April 1822

My very dear Honora

I have been for some weeks past intending to write to you - but I thought it better to wait till your mind was a little calmed - I dont my dear friend attempt to offer you consolation - for I know how vain humerous consolation is under so severe a loss as you have felt - but if sympathy can soothe your pain - to that of your dear Aunt Mary you have it most sincerely from me - Alas! this Sympathy is all I can offer - But it is warm and from my heart - Who that knew her could help feeling poignant grief at losing a friend so valued so respected - but how must your beloved Aunt Mary feel - I hear with admiration and pleasure that you are beginning to return to your former pursuits - and dear Mrs May Sneyds exertions are most astonishing and admirable & prove that age is not an excuse for apathy, even in the greatest trials & afflictions -

I received your last letter a few days ago - which had come round by Mary - I ought not to say round - but I mean that it was delayed by being I suppose sent to Mary by a private hand - Thank you for it my dear Honora - it was excellent kind of you to write to me - at such a time - when every thought & every moment must have been engaged on the one dear object - I do hope my dear friends all. but in particular Dear Aunt Mary & you may not now feel the effects of the fatigue both bodily & mental which you have suffered for such a length of time - it is always when the time is over that one feels the effects - for the actual exertion is nothing when the present necessity for it makes one strain every nerve for the one end - the lessening the pain or contributing to the comfort of the sufferer - but why sol go over exactly what you already feel & know too well - why open afresh all your wounds - & renew your sorrow - indeed it can not do any good except shewing that I know what you must feel & participate in your sorrow - I am glad to hear that poor Lucy suffers less pain & has rather enjoyment than she had some months ago but what a long & severe trial of patience she has had - & what a fine example of patient & sweet tempered resignation she is - What a contrast there has been between the manner in which your winter has been spent & the English division of your party - & what a trial for your Mother watching poor Lucys hopeless sate - I mean by hopeless - the long time she may yet be obliged to be before she can have strength to rise but how greatly her very sweet temper must lessen her own pain that of her surrounding friends - We are now emerged in to the bustle of preparations for our departure which probably will take place about the middle of May - and you may suppose that all our ideas are in requisition to know what will be the most necessary provisions as to food & clothing for so large a party & driving so long a passage - for I may call our progress up the river & lake Ontario, apart of our voyage or passage - We have 19 individuals belonging to our own party, besides a family of six who are going along with us - this is the family of a sort of Groom & labourer who have lived with Mr Reid for above twenty years & who has actually saved enough of money within the last two years to enable him now to accompany his dear Master without being on Shilling expense to us - his wife was housemaid here & they have 4 fine little children - he says he could not live here after his

master had left this place - Our party consists of 4 parents 12 children & 3 servants - one a young man & two Girls for women servants - grown up, are very useless & unprofitable in America - as they require imense wages & do little or no work - I am enjoying the unusual fineness of this day from the hope that dear Aunt Bess is out driving - I am most excessively anxious on her account as well as Hariets that they soon go to some pleasant place in the country to amuse their minds & revive their spirits - for I think nothing will do them so much good and now my dear Honora I must beg you will give my most affectionate love to all my dear friends - at home & abroad, if they care for me - & can believe me your most affectionate friend

F Stewart

[Post marked

Belfast

Ap 28

1822

Addressed to

Miss Honora Edgworth

Edgeworthstown]

Hill Head April 29, 1822

My dear Fanny

Unwillingly I must say it will not be in My power to see you before you leave our native country - I have turned it over & over in My mind but the more I consider the more I see it impossible for me to accomplish a visit - if it had been further in May it would have been less difficult I often wander in thought with you both in past present & future & could almost wish we were not to be seperated - but what we were all to be of the same party steering our course to the same Country - but as this cannot be the case with regard to this world - I hope we shall be looking forward to meeting in a better

you may learn a very profitable lesson from your preparations for America - you have no doubt read every author & conversed with every one that cou'd give you any instructions & you have asked accordingly in supplying yourself with every necessary which is all lawful & right for if you went without those preparations you must necessarily perish - you are young My dear Fanny, but be as diligent in preparating to meet your God; What were we brought into this world but to fit us for a better & believe me it requires all dilligence & although very unfaithful Myself I feel it necessary to be often put in mind of death & Judgement & to put others in mind likewise that time is quickly passing & that we shall soon be called to these scenes - be faithfull one with another - & exhort one another to consider these things & prize highly the benefit of private prayer where you can open your mind to your dear Saviour who will give you a Godly Sorrow & repentance & let you feel his love in your heart - nothing can equal these blessings which every sincere Christian [] in there Soul - I may ask [] to meet me in prayer at twelve oclock every day even for a month - it will give me much pleasure to think that we are both at the same time at a throne of Grace - My exhortations are as much for Tom as for you - you are both very dear to me & I feel much at our seperation give My most affectionate love to him May the Lord bless you all & your Dear Children in which prayer Mr Fowlis joins me & believe me Yrs sincerely

M Fowlis

Samuel Anna & James best love to their Uncle Aunt & Cousins I have written in a hurry for Blaney M from whom I had a letter yesterday says you go immediately

Dear Maria I would have written to you on a seperate sheet of paper but considering the expense of postage I send these few lines to express my sorrow at not being able to see you, & to beg you to live near God May every change put us in mind of fleeting time which is hurrying us on to our great & eternal change the contents of My letter to Fanny is to give my love to Mr Reid & all your Children - believe me Dr Maria Yrs truly MFowlis

[stamped Apr 1822

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

addressed to

Mrs Thoms Stewart

White Abbey

near Belfast

(Ireland)

written in pencil

Aunt Fowlis

April 1822]

78-008/1/6 #87

14 May 22

My Dr Children

as I have an oportunity to Send this Down I Cannot let it pass without writing a few lines to you, a Gentleman was here the other day he says, it you are not very Carfull that the Capton has sufficent provition laydin for the Passengers that he engages to furnish with provitions - they will live on you as you cannot See them Starve, & it is a very Constant practtic with those who ought to Lay in Sufficent depending on the passenger who lay in their own - did you receive a Letter From the Clergymen that I wrote to you about, & that Mr T Singer Spoke to you about - I hope he has not drawn back- when here he seemed in earnest about it & that very warm - Miss Beaufortcald here Some days ago She says Mrs Waller is better Mrs & Miss Sutton was here & all well - Do not know whether B-ham is yet Married & he has forbit Anna from Coming here - John has got Wilkins to draw up the Statement of Strand Millis to lay it before Counsell - but it is not to be Spoken off - but I have not hear whether he has got his opinion or not - Poor John my heart bleed for him yet he is the Cause of your goin to leave your native Country - I have just received a Note from Miss Beauford Saying you are well & purpose to leave this 20th - God of his Inifinate Mercy be with you all My D- Dr Children; tho we Shall never meet this Sid the Grave - I trust in his Mercy, we Shall in Heaven - O my beloved Children for Get Not your God - forget Not your Poor Old Mother Write to me when you go, write to me on your pasage that you May have a Packet to Send on your arrival, let all that can write Say Something to Me - I hope I May be spared to hear of your Safe arrival & if his mercifull Goodness will Spear Me to hear of your being Little in acomfortable Situation I hope you will Call it Wilmont - if you Should meet a vessel at Sea you Might have a Packet to Send provided it was Common where Sent Safe - I Must conclude with every wish for your Eternal happiness is the wish of your ever affet Mother

A Stewart

15 May 22

My very dear Frances and Maria had not my mind been kept onthe streach about the state of my poor little Sarahs state of health you should have heard from me long since she is still in a very doubtful situation from the disease in her foot the surgeons have proposed amputation should it please the Lord to save her poor little foot [] be a great mercy, in her current [] be a double tryal - but under every dispensation of his wise providence may we say thy will be done - my very dear sisters we may never meet in this state of probation but Oh may we have a joyful meeting in that world where Christ receives the redeemed who have fled to him for refuge and laid hold on him as their only hope Oh my dear dear sisters remember me in your prayers and may our gracious Lord bless you all and preserve in all your ways and make you to see his love to you and your dear little ones and bring you safe to your journeys end

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

how much will we all long to hear from you that you are safe

farewell and believe me forever your attracted

Sister W Hanna

[addressed to

T A & Fanny Stewart

White Abbey]

[plus a variant extract tied with a ribbon: 78-008/1/6 #88b]

Journal Sept 1822

On Saturday morning June 1st our family accompanied by some of the little Reids & our dear sister Mitchell left White Abbey in the Barge, accompanied by our kind friend Mr Quin -

We soon reached the Brig George, which was at anchor nearly opposite to White Abbey - & which was to convey us to Quebec.

About two hours after we had come on board Capt. Thompson arrived, & gave orders for sailing immediately - this gave us some uneasiness - as not expecting to sail till the next day - Mr Reid had gone to Belfast - & had not yet joined us -

At 1 o'clock we set sail - it was a charming day - the Cavehill, & the shores on both sides of the Lough looked more lovely than ever - After we had proceeded beyond Carichfergus we saw Mr Quinn's boat following us & gaining on us rapidly - which set our minds at ease about Mr Reid - but a sad trial awaited us - for the same boat which brought him, was to convey back our dear friends the Mitchells Alexr Wilson & Mrs Quinn - as well as several other people who had accompanied us so far on our voyage.

2d June Sunday - A fine day - After breakfast not being sick I went on deck - I saw the fine Northern coast of dear Ireland in beautiful blue distance & the Island of Rathlin - but I was soon obliged to shut my eyes - as the motion of the vessel, tho' very smooth made my head giddy & gave me violent pains in my eyes - we all went to bed about 9 - but in the middle of the night a great swell came on & such a roll that I could scarcely keep from tumbling over my little bedfellow Bessy -

About 2 o'clock in the morning the carpenter came into put in the dead lights - & just then the vessel gave such a roll that all our trunks, boxes & baskets came sliding down to the leeside of the vessel - towards morning the swell abated a little & after breakfast I went on deck - to see the last view of dear Ireland. It was a grey dull morning but I watched the last glimpse of land as long as I could see it -

Tuesday 4th June. We met a Balbriggan fishingboat - by which T A S sent a letter to Mr Black

Wednesday Thursday & Friday were fine days - We saw numbers of Birds called Mother Careys chickens - also sea gulls - These birds are never seen very distant from land at this season -

It is about the size of a swallow & in its general appearance is not unlike that bird - In June & July it comes near the rocky shores to breed but at all other times keeps far out at sea -

Multitudes of them are seen all over the vast Atlantic Ocean - especially before stormy weather - They often skim with incredible velocity along the hollows of the waves & sometimes at the summits - braving the utmost fury of the waves & tempests -

The inhabitants of the [] Isles - draw a wick through the body of the bird which is by the process - so covered with grease as to burn when lighted like a candle - & serving the purpose of one.

Tuesday 11th Cold and dark but a nice steady breeze.

Wednesday 12th June at 5 o'clock a fine handsome vessel passed near us "we spoke her" - & found it was a Glasgow ship, called the Trelawney -

On the evening of this day we saw a large fish following our ship - some said it was a shark - at last it made a bound out of the water & rose several feet - so that its whole form could be seen & they said it was a Sunfish -

From this time till 7 July nothing new occurred - we saw several seabirds called shearwaters or Cutwaters - & numbers of Porpoises - we always observed that these Porpoises appeared in numbers before a breeze came on - Some nights the sea was illuminated with Phosphorous - which was very beautiful - On fine days we sat on deck most of the mornings & in the evening the sailors danced

Whilst we were passing the Banks of Newfoundland thick fogs prevailed & the weather was very cold - & it became tormentingly calm -

7th July we heard the welcome news that land was seen - 5 weeks after our departure from Ireland - it proved to be part of the Southern coast of Newfoundland - in a few days we saw two fine headlands of Cape Breton & Cape Rage & passed between them just at sunset. All this week we proceeded slowly up the Gulph of St. Lawrence - the weather remarkable pleasant & fine - but too calm for sailing - Several of the people amused themselves in fishing - & caught some fine mackerel & codlings & 2 Dogfish

The water from this time we entered the Gulph had a brown colour quite different from the fine blue of the Atlantic

On the 7 July a thick fog came on about noon - When we went up on the deck after having prayers in the cabin we learnt that we had a narrow escape - for in the thick fog a very large vessel had nearly run us down fortunately the danger was perceived just in time to be avoided by great exertion -

On the evening of Saturday 13th we took a Piloton board - it was a most lovely evening - & the dark purple tints of evening on the hills on the Canadian side of the river formed a beautiful contrast with the red tinge of the setting sun on the Nova Scotia coast opposite.

All seemed now to promise a prosperous passage to Quebec -Our Pilot said we had not yet come to Bic Island - Capt Thompson said that according to his calculations we had passed it -

Sunday 14th July - A fine warm morning but so thick a fog that we could not see land on any side Capt T wished the Pilot to anchor till he could see where abouts he was as there are many islands in this part of the river & the navigation requires some skill - the pilot assured him there was no danger as he was sure we had not yet passed Bic.

But a few hours proved he was wrong - & also too rash - for about ½ past 12 when we were all assembled in the cabin we felt a dreadful shock & horrible sensation as if every piece of lumber in the side of the vessel was tearing out - We all ran out as fast as possible & found the ship had struck a rock & was sticking fast on it - the tide was ebbing so that nothing could be known as to the state of the vessel - nor could anything be done as to removing her till the tide flowed again - In the meantime all was a scene of confusion & terror - the passengers in the hold became very clamorous - & the Capt with difficulty prevailed on them to wait in the vessel till he could ascertain whether there was much danger -

About 1 o'clock in the afternoon the fog cleared off about an hour & we found we were lying close to a small bare island with large stones all round it & reefs of rocks stretching from it like the rays of a starfish - Our ship had got in between two of these reefs in a most extra-ordinary manner & had struck on one reef - upon which she was now fast - and as the water became shallower we could see the rock under the ship -The Pilot now announced this to be Red Island & said that we must have passed Bic island long before - We saw some people on the island & heard a shot - Capt Thompson - Mr Reid & some others went off in a small boat to learn what could be done in case we should find the ship had been impaired - they soon returned accompanied by 4 men in a Canoe - they were all Canadians & spoke only French but I could not understand it - it was very different from what I had been accustomed to -

They had been shooting seals, which are very numerous here -These men are dark coloured with dark eyes & long noses rather handsome men- they wore mocasins a kind of shoe made of Deer skin or Calfskin without any sole & ties up around the ankle

When our passengers found land so near they wanted to swim or wade to shore but the Capt - prevailed on them to wait till the change of tide enabled him to find out the state of the vessel - & promised that in case of danger they should all be safely landed on the Island -

We continued in the state of suspense till the tide enabled the ship to move a little when she was towed round the reef of rocks - & after one dreadful scrape we set sail - But as it was dark & as the tide had again changed the Capt. thought it best to anchor till the next tide -

Next morning we set sail again & at low water anchored at Green Island.

Monday 15th July - We all like to see everything we could on shore - & accordingly the smallboat was prepared for a party to go to the opposite shore part of Nova Scotia - Mr Reid Mr S & myself together with some others set out & soon had our feet once more on dry land- the ground along the shore was covered with white clover & blue Irises which looked charmingly gay & glowing to our eyes - So long accustomed to the sameness of the Ocean view - We saw some Indian huts or Wigwams near us & went to them - The Indians looked inquisitively at us but yet seemed to wish to keep at a distance. The men were employed making Brooms the women or Squaws were making Baskets

They use little Hammocks for the Infants or Papousies- & suspend them from the roof of their huts -

We saw a path through the woods - & were tempted to explore a little way into these great forests We had not proceeded far when we came to a paling - beyond which was a small space of pretty open country - with rich meadows & corn & potatoes & several houses - Some in clusters little hamlets & some detached - All made of logs - we crossed two fields & reached the nearest house - the inhabitants were all French Canadians - the family consisted of a man & his wife & mother in law & a beautiful child about 3 years old - He was a fisherman & had a house for smoking the fish filled with fine salmon - hung in rows along the roof. ...

The Indians make Brooms of wood - Generally a Sapling or pole of Blue beech or Basswood or any tough wood & strip off the bark then they tear the wood in thin stripes from one end to within a foot or so of the other end - & when they have the pole reduced by doing this & a large quantity of striped pieces they turn them down over the end of the pole so as to make a brush when lapped round with some narrow stripes of the wood - leaving the smallest & longest part of the pole for the handle of the Broom - these are very coarse but answer for sweeping floors - & may be had for at rifle from the Indians -

The Squaws make Baskets of the same tough wood cut into stripes which they weave together - & dye of different colours with the juices of plants -

They also manufacture dishes & baskets of Birch wood & bark - & Butternut -

[Footnote on the back of a page: Stormy Petrel or Mother Careys chickens]

[78-008/1/6 #89](#)

[to Francis Browne;

no transcription]

78-008/1/6 #90

Clonghill Rectory

To Miss Browne

Quebec 23d July 1822

Here we are at last safe and sound my dear Kate after all our escapes, but of them I have written a history to Bess and she will exchange letters with you. We had many delays on our voyage up the St Lawrence and we amused ourselves in the intermediate time by taking a row to the South Coast where it just begins to be inhabited and where we saw two or three Indian Camps and a few houses here and there - Our eyes were gratified by seeing a brilliant patch of pretty blue Iris, just on the edge of the Sandy Shore near a little inlet of the sea water, which we used to have in our Irish flower gardens - These grew in patches all through the Trees and looked very gay and pretty; we saw numbers of our dear old Irish weeds - Docks wild sorrel, Yarrow and many others - but along with these are mixed many beautiful kinds which are new to me -

But I must go on with my narrative. We arrived here about 8 o'clock on Sunday morning and breakfasted on fish head and fresh milk which I think was enjoyed more than anything. I've ever tasted in our lives. After breakfast we dressed ourselves and proceeded to walk about the streets, which are narrow and crooked and full of rubbish and chips and shavings - The Houses are in general very good and very clean as far as I have seen there yet - We went to Church which is a very neat plain building, pretty large and very full of respectable genteel looking people. We had a very good sermon from Mr Mountain the Bishop's son - there is a good organ and a very sweet choir, some delightful voices. After Church we walked a little more and enjoyed the lovely views which surround us so powerful that we could not walk long. Next morning Tom had some enquiries and arrangements to make. At 12 o'clock we set out to visit Mrs Mountain to whom Miss Wren had given us an introduction. Whilst enquiring if she was at home she walked to the Hall door, so I told her who we were - She then shook hands in the kindest manner, and said she had almost given up all expectation of us. The Bishop was not at home nor the young ladies: but Mrs Mountain invited us to breakfast there this day - She is a fine looking old Lady; but nearly as deaf as Mrs Mountray. There is something about her face that reminded both Tom and me of our dear Bess She was as kind as possible and really seemed quite affectionate. How very much we are indebted to friends for having introduced us to such agreeable family She asked us in the most earnest manner to tell her if there was anything she or her family could do for us. She promised us a Ticket of admission to see the Citadel - This is a curious place wonderfully strong - I am sure I hope its strength may never be tried during our term here. It certainly has been a happy undertaking in one way, as it gives employment to some hundreds of poor Irishmen. There is a very fine view from the Signal Rock where there are Telescopes - it was dreadfully hot walking up to Cape Diamond the height on which the Citadel is built. It is ascent all the way and not the least shade. We were so fagged after the crawling

to the Cape and back that we were glad to stay in the cool shade on deck till after dinner when we took boat and went to the opposite side of the River. There is a very pretty drive all along the shore close to the water and on the other side is a steep rocky and woody bank which rises above one hundred feet perpendicularly - We saw a great many Indian huts and a number of Indian men and women. They seem in offensive people and very lazy

Wedy - 24th - Yesterday morning at half past seven Tom and I set out to go to the Bishops - 8 o'clock being their breakfast hour. We found Mrs Mountain ready to receive us in the dining room, and ushered us into the Study where his Lordship was sitting - he is a fine white headed old gentleman of 70 - quite patriarchal in his appearance; he came forward and shook hands quite like an old friend. He seems quite interested for us and asked every particular respecting our plans and intentions in the kindest manner. After talking for a short time we went back to the Dining Room, where we found the two Miss Mountains seated, who are very lady like girls they are altogether a very pleasing family, and will be most agreeable acquaintances for us. They seemed trying, to think of everything by which they could be useful to us - accordingly at one o'clock, Tom Anna Maria and I set off to meet them at their own door as we thought it better than to bring the carriage here as the streets are so very bad for driving. We found the two young ladies bonneted and ready to accompany us; they seem all enthusiastically fond of children. Mrs Mountain took Anna Maria away to shew her to the Bishop, he was so delighted with her that he brought her back in his arms and kissed her over and over When the Barrouche came round we went off and took a pretty drive to a sweet place about three miles off on the bank of the river It belongs to Mr Percival who came out here some years ago with his wife and family He struggled with difficulties like most others emigrants at first he is now very rich and has one of the prettiest places in Canada. It is laid out with great taste - the woods so judiciously cleared that the Lawn has the appearance of a fine Park- Mrs Percival is a most Charming woman accomplished and cultivated enough for any Society, but she lives here quite happily and educated all her children herself. She had eight children.

Montreal July 28th

Montreal July 28th

I intended to have finished this letter at Quebec, but every time I was writing the latter part of it, my poor sweet Bessy grew very ill. I think the extreme heat has affected her. She has continued very ill indeed ever since & today she is a little better, her eyes have rather a more lively look and her food has remained on her stomach. She is terribly changed: she bore her voyage as well as possible and was fat and lively a few hours before she grew ill - but the weather at Quebec was so hot and our cabin so close that I could scarcely breath. She is a sweet dear child but May God keep me from repining at His will. She and all other blessings are but loans - I trust this trial may, not be given me now, but if it is His will to take her or prolong sufferings. Oh may I submit with full security that is right that He sends or wills - and if her present amendment continues may I be not unmindful of this mercy. You will say I am in a breaking mood but dear Kate a deep impression has been made on my mind from having suffered a good deal and I always try to view with reference to the Giver of all, Indeed I dislike canting or talking unnecessarily on religious subjects We are very comfortably settled here in a most excellent house, clean airy rooms and quite enough of them, a sitting room, kitchen and fine bedrooms, but no furniture, all for fifteen shillings aweek!! As we arrived on Saturday we could not procure any meat, it was so late in the day, but we have most excellent bread and milk good butter fresh eggs and some hams of our own, so we are in no great danger of starving

The surrounding country is very beautiful, but we have not been able to walk about much yet as it rained all night and all the morning we had a violent thunderstorms it is now fair - but the streets are too wet for walking

I will despatch another letter from York. Tom joins me in love to your dear dear party, and so believe me here and elsewhere your own affectionate sister

FS

July 1 1822

We are now on the Great Bank of Newfoundland & have just dined heartily on a most excellent Cod which Tom caught yesterday evening. We have hitherto had a most prosperous & even rather pleasant passage. I have not been the least ill, though we have had some very sickening nights; for the first fortnight we got on very fast indeed & hoped to have reached Quebec by this time, but, for the last ten days we have had a great deal of Calm weather, & when there was any wind, it was not quite favourable. By tacking constantly we have arrived so far, I have much reason to be thankful that we have had so safe a voyage, & that I have escaped sickness. We are as comfortably settled in this vessel as such a number could be in so confined a spot. We have one very large cabin in which all the Reids sleep - Mr R & Tom Swinging in the middle in cots in this we eat, & in bad weather we sit there. I have the little cabin for my party, there are two good, & very wide berths in it, I sleep in one with my nursling; & my maid, Anna Maria, & Ellen in the other. I am very comfortable here & quite independent, & though I have only room to stand up & dress myself I am much happier than if we were all together - I am very glad to have it to retire to whenever I like. When the weather is fine I sit on deck all day except at meal-times - for the last week the weather has been foggy, damp & cold - on Midsummerday the Thermometer was only 42 at Noon. This weather is very common in this part of the Atlantic & is disheartening just now, as I am in a state of Feverish impatience which I cannot conquer to get to the end of our Voyage & be settled in our own log house - We have no passengers whom society could be the least pleasure to us - The Captain is just what you might expect to find a person who was raised from being a common sailor He is rough & vulgar but is anxious to pay us every attention in his power & is very good natured to the children - We are beginning to rock about so much that I must stop writing - though not sick I have had some bad headaches & am sometimes stupified & unable to fix my eyes on anything -

Wednesday July 10 - Ten days have passed my dear friends since I wrote the latter part of this, & yet we have made very little progress in this tedious passage - however for two days we were cheered by being within sight of land, a delightful sight after having seen nothing but the boundless Ocean for 33 days. This land was southern or South Eastern part of Newfoundland - we saw land on each side of us on Monday when we were between Cape Raye in Newfoundland & Cape North in the Island of Breton. They are a very pretty chain of hills ending in abrupt headlands. Today we have been for the most part out of sight of land - but now & then had a very indistinct view of the island of Anticosta a large island 130 miles long & 90 broad covered with stunted trees, but uninhabited. We have several times seen Whales at a distance spouting their Jets d'eaux into the air but they have not been very near us & we could distinguish the immense body of the creature; but we have often seen a smaller species very near us, which spouts in the same way. In the very middle of the Atlantic we were accompanied by little birds of the swallow tribe but web footed. They are called Mother Carey's chickens & are very pretty little birds. When in the middle of the Atlantic a poor little House Swallow flew into the rigging & was caught - We have seen numbers of a sort of buffin I believe called Shear

Waters because they swim on the surface of the water & seem to cut through the waves. About a week ago a little bird was found in one of the boats - & I took it to nurse as it proved to be a land bird & we were not near land at the time. It is very like our grey linnet but the Bill is very long & crosses over at the point like the crossbill. I have kept it in a basket, it is going on very well & is so tame that it eats out of our hands & sits on our shoulders. Yesterday its at on my head all the time I was at dinner - It is a dear little thing but does not attempt song. We are now in the Gulph of St Laurence - the weather extremely cold. -

Sunday July 21 Quebec. Here we are at last safe & sound after a passage of exactly 7 weeks & one day. We reached this new world at about eight oclock this morning - All our passage up the river has been most interesting - the views on both sides (since we have been able to see land on both sides at once) have been the most beautiful I ever saw for above 200 miles along the coast of Nova Scotia we were within sight of the finest mountains covered with trees from the highest point down to the water edge - As we approached the Canadian coast the headlands were equally beautiful & surpassed anything I had ever seen except Killarney. Some of the views reminded Tom very much of the Appenines. Altogether I was delighted more than I can express and Oh how often did I wish that I could show my pleasure with you all my dear friends - We came on slowly - On Saturday night last we came to the part of the river where Pilots are taken - Our Pilot came & we thought ourselves secure against rocks & banks - but how ignorant are we of our fate! next morning we were surrounded by a thick fog, & even the Pilot was at a loss to know where abouts we were - fortunately there was so little wind that the ship scarcely moved on. At half past one just as we were assembled for prayers in the Cabin, we felt three great strokes - & the whole ship trembled - Oh most frightfully - We all remained panic struck for a moment - you may imagine our fright when we heard that we were striking on a rock!! - exactly as we struck the fog cleared off - & we then saw that we were close to Red island. Some French Canadians happened to be on the island & as soon as they saw us they came off in their Canoe to assist us - They were very active & very good natured particularly one old man - who really was most benevolent & never left us till one the next morn. We struck there for 6 hours before we moved - or could feel sure that the Vessel was safe; at last she moved round, the pumps were tried, she made no water - all seemed safe - When bump we came on another rock; - Soon however after several bumpings & scrapings we got off providentially. - No bad consequence except two of the sailors were hurt - one of them rather severally by the anchor, & we had the pleasure of nursing him in our cabin all night & the next day & have made him nearly well again. the next day was lovely, & as we were obliged to anchor for tide we had time to go on shore - but I have not room in this letter to enter into the details of our excursion on shore, - our first landing on American ground - I will keep it for a letter to Kate which I will tell her to send to you. I cannot cram all I want to say into one sheet - and besides I am surrounded by people - 19 in this little cabin at once I scarcely know what I am about - for Bessy is roaring for me too, but notwithstanding all my confusion my heart is steadily warm by & gratefully devoted to my beloved friends - Give our kindest loves to Ma & Lou - Upton Etown Allenston &c &c &c &c &c &c -

[Extracts from F S July 21 1822

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

No 1

M:N

To Miss Beaufort]

[fragment - see 78-008/1/6 #95]

Wednesday night Sepr 11. 1822

My dearest Louisa

What horrible accounts these are in the Newspapers of the sufferings of the people in the West of Ireland! - I am sure a number of people will come to this country which is truly a land flowing with milk & Honey - There is no such thing as poverty - We have had very good opportunity of judging of this, as during our passage up from La Chine to Kingston, a distance of 173 miles, we slept every night, or at least several nights at Farm houses, & during the day, sometimes called at Cottages to procure bread or milk - The week we spent in this part of our travels was I think the most interesting of the whole voyage - & therefore I will give you a history of it - the first day nothing particular happened, except that it was the hottest day we had during our lives. No day had been half so hot since. We were in 4 open boats, sitting perched on our luggage exactly as soldiers wives sit on baggage carts. The Reid family filled two - we occupied a third, & a poor family who accompanied us from White Abbey were in the 4th so that we were a formidable party, 27 in number. About 6 in the evening we reached "Les Cascades" 24 miles from La Chine when the Rapids began; the scenery all along was very beautiful - but here it was magnificent - the water rushing over the great stones in that great river, & appearing between different wooded islands was most beautiful & formed such a contrast to the smooth glassy Lake (I may call it) through which we have been sliding all day. Our boatmen were all French Canadians, & could not speak a word of English - & their language was so different from the french we are accustomed to, that we found it very difficult to understand anything they said - but they always understood our French.

Whenever they came to a shallow place they stopped rowing & all took long poles, with which they push the boats on by sticking one end into the ground or against a stone. When rowing they sang a great deal, their songs had a very wild sound, not a bit like our old "Canadian boatsong". There was an Inn at Les Cascades to which we all went & dined. The Innkeeper was an Irishman- but indeed his accommodations were very bad. He said his rooms were engaged by an officer & his family so our whole party were to divide two very small rooms between them. The Female Reids 8 in number took one, we, the other - the male part of the Reids went to the Hay loft, which they said was clean & cool. The poor people slept in another Hay loft. The officer who turned out to be Capt Melville an acquaintance of Tom's, told us that the beds were swarming with Bugs - so we spread Mattrasses of our own on the floor & lay down - but not to sleep - for not one of our party, from Tom down to little Bessy could bear the bugs which we found crawling all over us, & all over the walls & floors. Tom said he would go to the hay loft, so I did the same & had all the weens carried out there; - & never was a bed of down so delightful - or never was sleep more refreshing than ours that night - on nice clean hay, with our cloaks about us - & the sweet air, & the sound of the cascade which lulled me to sleep in the most

charming way you can conceive. The next day we were to travel 4 miles by land, as the Rapids were too violent for us to remain in the boats: We hired a Wagonin which Mrs Reid & four of her children, Tom & I & our 3 Children & servants followed, & the men & boys walked. Waggons are the sort of carriage generally used by gentlemen's families in Upper Canada - They are just very large four wheeled cart with 2 seats like Gigs placed one before the other - the driver of course sits in the foremost & takes as many beside him, as there is room for -

We womankind took boats again at the end of 4 or 5 miles, but the men & even Tom walked the whole day, as we had a strong current against us, & the boatmen required to have the boats lightened. Tom walked that day 12 miles - & was the foremost of the party the whole day. Our progress was very slow that day & we stopped at "Coteau du Lac" where there is a Port: We were advised to apply to Col. Nichol who lives therefor leave to spread our mattresses in some military store room or some such place - So Tom & Mr Read introduced themselves to him, & made their request - he was excessively civil & said that he could give us a room in his house which had been built for a kitchen but was not used for one - So he shewed us into a nice clean light room more like a parlour than a kitchen. Here we were settling ourselves & giving the children their supper when Col. Nichol sent to beg that we would open a door (which was between our room & another & make use of that other room also, as he saw how much too large our party was for one room; - this was particularly aimable of him - for upon our opening the door we, entered a very nicely furnished drawing room carpeted, curtained, sofa'd & Booked in a very pretty manner - the Gentn & boys slept there & we females kept possession of the other room I always placed my Mattress exactly at the door that little Bessy might be cool for she never could sleep unless the air was actually blowing on her - She was very ill & feverish poor little dear & generally started crying every half hour.

The next mornng we got up at half past 3 & were glad to lose a few hours sleep that we might gain a few hours of coolness - for the sun was very hot though not half so bad as the first day - We had a heavy shower about the middle of the day which cooled the air & drenched us completely though we covered ourselves as well as we could by lying down under the tarpaulins that covered our luggage. We stopped for shelter at a post office. I forget when & found shelter, but no fire in the house at which we could dry ourselves & dripping garments - so we read a parcel of Kingston & Montreal Newspaper & when the rain ceased, returned to our respective Batteaux & when we got to Charlottenburg we stopped at an Inn & dried our clothes, but there was great scarcity of fire every where - for in this hot season people keep their fires lighted as short a time as possible. Having dried ourselves we once more went to our Batteaux & went on & on till nearly dark in the evening. & the boatmen at last stopped - but - alack a day. No house was near enough for us to sleep at - there was one in sight, but there was a Marsh between us & it & it would have taken up too much time to go round the marsh - so we determined to lay our mattresses on the grass which was nice & smooth & to keep company with our batteaux-men who always sleep either in the boats or just beside them on the shore - they had already a blazing fire at which they were busily engaged cooking pea soup for their supper. Our party had another fire not for cooking - but to keep the flies & insects from us, which by the way never annoyed us much, except one day before we came to Quebec. We laid our beds all round the fire - over mine Tom made a sort of little tent, of a sail & 3 of the long

poles the boatmen use - this kept us quite dry & comfortable - but the Reids would not make a tent though they might have & done so easily as we did - & I think both Mr Reid & James got colds which they still feel the effects of. Poor Mr Rhas been ill which has greatly altered his animated keen eye & energetic manner. All the Reids have been ill more or less of the same complaint - but nothing alarming - Thank God our family have escaped all sorts of illness - except little Bessy we have been all perfectly well since we left Ireland - & she is now well again & regaining her good looks & spirits. But I must return to our travels we all slept well & arose early to renew our tedious voyage of which I began to grow tired. The next mornng we went on asusual passing along a country not so pretty or as interesting as that we had for some weeks been near to. The banks of the river about Cornwall & fortwo or 3 following days was common land with a few log houses & comfortable farm houses & some fine walnut & Hiccory trees - but I have not yet seen any of the magnificent trees I expected in this country where everything is on so get a scale. The day after our night spent on the grass grew very rainy, & we were wet thro' all our clothes - I never was so wet in my life, so completely soaking with wet, however the rain began towards evening & we had not long to sit in the boats - Even under us was all wet - I never saw such awfully heavy rain. About 6 in the eveng we came to a little village the name of which I forget; we found that the walkers of our party had gone into a house to dry themselves - so we all fled to the same house in a great hurry - and found a most beautiful fire, but such cross people that they seemed quite angry at our going in the way of their tea making & Venison Frying, which occupied the entire attention of the very old dame & her maid.

The pushed us away from the fire whenever they wanted the kettle, & did nothing but complain of the dirtying of the floor & the noise of so many children. - at last after waiting a tedious qr of an hour our gentn came with the good news that they had found hospitality & lodgings - it was now very nearly dark - & we had to walk a good way splashing thro' the puddles & wet, & then up a lane full of cows & growling Bulls; - But we at last got to the farm house of Mr Marsh, & here we found Oh! such true hospitality - he was so active & thoughtful about our little comforts, that he left us nothing to wish for. He spread our bedding before the fire to air & his wife (who seemed poor woman in the last stage of adropssey) brought us pans full of nice new milk - & very excellent loaves of bread of her own baking - the only bread we had tasted since we left Montreal for I own though bread was plenty in every home - it was not good in general. I was the only one of the party whose clothes were still wet - & my shift was clinging to my skin - so I retired to Mrs Marsh's nice tidy little closet with her bed room & changed all my Habiliments - They have no family, so the house is very small - & they could only spare us the tiny kitchen floor to sleep on - but it was given with such a good grace that it made us all contented. My matrass was very wet - so I left it airing all night & went with Tom to the barn where there was plenty of clean straw upon which we spread our blankets & cloaks, & lay down as usual, without undressing which none of us has had the comfort of doing at night since we left Montreal. Maria & her children slept in the kitchen, & she saw that good natured Mr Marsh got up every now & then to watch & turn the bedding at the fire. The next day he insisted on driving us many as liked to go in his wagon to the far end of the "Longue Saut" - This is a rapid which lasts for 3 miles - & very few pass there in the batteaux. I preferred walking, but sent Betty & the children with Mrs Reid & her squad in the waggon. This day was not at all too

hot - it was early - & our walk was delightful - part of it thro' cleared farms & part thro' the wood, where we gathered quantities of Nuts.

When we slept in this manner at farm houses we paid nothing except for milk & bread - which were the only provisions we required as we had cold meat with us & dined & lunched every day in the boats - so that our lodging cost us nothing. In our walk we had peeps of the river which were most beautiful. I find I am at the end of my paper long before I am at the end of my week - so I will leave the rest for Anne Nangle. It is impossible to put so much in one letter - so I will only say that we are all well this 13th Sepr Tom is gone to Douro to see whether they like it well enough to settle there. I am living alone without anyone but the children for the first time in my life - I find every day much too short. The Fosters very kind Mrs F took me out to drive 2 or 3 times - as often as I could go. I wish you could all have the pleasure of seeing how very well & comfortably we live. Oh how completely happy I should be if - you may guess that if - but I know it is indulging weakness to wish for impossibilities or to expect perfect happiness in this world. God bless you all. Yours - F Stewart

[Extracts from F.S. dated

York Sepr 11th & 13th 1822

2 part, No 4 M.N.

to Miss Beaufort]

78-008/1/6 #93

Extracts from F.S.

Septr 18. 1822 Recd Novr 22d 1822

M:N: No 5 to Miss Nangle

York Septr 18th 1822

Tom has been away for above a week - he & Mr Reid have gone to see the township of Douro - & during my widows-hood what better comfort can I have than beginning a letter to Merrion St: I believe I stopped in my last letter when our hospitable friend Mr Marsh left us to proceed in our boats again, - our days were passed in a very monotonous manner, so I need only say we stopped occasionally for our boatmen to eat, which they did often enough certainly. - this food was raw pork & hard biscuit, which they seemed to enjoy much: they drank only plain water which they took every ten minutes, & which never disagreed with them though they were so very hot. In the morning before we set out & at night they always had hot pea soup. At the times the boatmen stopped to eat, we generally contrived to replenish our store of bread & milk; we had cold meat always for dinner or luncheon, & Tom brought some shrub, which mixed with milk or water, made almost cool refreshing drink. We were in many farm houses, some, very large, some small but all with the appearance of comfort & plenty; they had always enough of bread to spare us two or three large loaves, & we got always from 6 to 9 quarts of milk at a time.

The houses were invariably clean to a nicety - & well furnished with plain good furniture - excellent beds with nice white sheets folded over at the bolster. But these were all established Emigrants who had been here for 4 or 5 years. The Irish were always anxious to know where we came from & asked innumerable questions about home. I met a poor woman on the road who had come from Co Cavan - She & her family had been out two years - & she had a very sorry little log house - though not so clean, nor comfortable looking as those who had been longer here, & had adopted something of the manner & habits of their English neighbours. Most of the farmers in the townships thro' which we passed, were English or Scottish, some were Americans. Monday evening we stopped rather late but soon found out a house about two fields off - where we asked for leave to sleep in the Barn a sit was larger than the house - it was indeed large enough & was filled with sweet new hay, on which we laid our mattresses & blankets. No sheets were necessary as we never undressed -

On Tuesday we came to a very nice looking Cottage with green paling & green outside shutters to the windows - made like Venetian blinds, which are very common here. We were shown round to the back door & into the kitchen where there was a charming fire, no unwelcome sight, as it was very cold & felt frosty. In the kitchen the family all seated round the fire: - the mistress of the house a respectable looking elderly woman - her daughter in law & a parcel of

fine chubby children - who all looked as if they had every comfort of this life "richly to enjoy" - They were very hospitable & gave us 4 rooms, occupy all, or as many as we wanted of them - So having made our choice we went to bed - & should have been very comfortable only that it was terribly cold: - however we got up about five o'clock, & when we entered the kitchen, we found an old stout looking man warming himself at the fire - booted & a whip in his hand - he was master of the house, & had just returned from Kingston, 60 miles off where he had been to market. He had been travelling all night - & spoke of it as a thing which happened everyday, & that he thought nothing of doing. - The next evening it was nearly dark before the boatmen would stop. & it was a very cold evening, so "thinks I to myself", here we shall have to sleep on the cold rocks, for no houses had we seen for miles, nothing but woody rocks, & rocky island - for we had come to a part of the river called Mille-Isles - and a most sublime & magnificent scene it was. The grandeur of the high rocky banks - where no sound but that of the distant Eagle disturbed the solemn silence gave an agreeably awful feeling. At last we came to a more cultivated or at least a more - cleared part of the country - & we thought we saw smoke; in this we were not disappointed, but after the boats were fastened & when we came up to the house, we found its only inhabitant were an Indian family - who had no kind of furniture, or comfort of any kind - there was neither door or window- as this was an old deserted loghouse, when these poor travelling Indians had taken lodging - They could not understand us, nor we them, & we stood in dismay considering what we should do - when at last we spied a man coming to us - he had seen our boat - & came kindly to offer us lodgings or assistance -

This you may guess we gladly accepted, & we followed him about a Quarter of a mile towards the Forest - and in a little nook amongst woods & rocks we saw two snug little cottages, in one of which our good natured guide lived - in the other his old Father & Mother whom we went to visit. The old man lived in this solitary spot now for 35 years & now in his old age he amused himself by making Cyder & cultivating a nice little garden which he seemed to delight in, & which was very neat & pretty. In his sons house we found all the hospitality we had been led to expect from his first kindness to us. - His Wife a young English woman, without asking any questions, made a great potfull of "Sessanne" or Indian corn stir about - & laid out a nice tidy table for the childrens supper. Her cows had not come in - so she had not much milk & when one of the little ones asked for more milk she emptied her own cream over which she had laid by for her tea, into the Childs dish. I never saw such good natured people or such a sweet retired beautiful place - I felt quite sorry to leave it next mornng - On Thursday night about 11 or 12 we reached Kingston - but it was so late, we could not find any house open to procure lodgings, so we spread our mattresses out on the tops of our chests & covered ourselves up & slept in the boats - and tho' the dew was so heavy our pillows, except where our heads covered them - were perfectly wet, yet none of us caught cold. So you see, my dear Anne what reason we have to be grateful, for nothing but prosperity has attended us since we entered this country -

Saturday night 21st Sept I waited a few days that I might report to my dear friends the news from Douro - Mr Reid returned this morning - but poor dear Tom had been ill with a violent attack of bile & was obliged to remain behind - He was obliged to consult a Physician & to keep his bed - How fortunate that such a kind & tender friend as Mr Reid was with him - & also that

there was a good physician in the village of Coburg when he was ill. Before Mr Reid came back Tom was quite well again tho' weak. He had removed from the noisy inn to the Clergyman's house about a qr of a mile from the village, where he receives every attention & civility - they found Douro beyond all their expectations & equal to all their wishes in every point!!!! - The land is excellent - the country beautiful - with the Otanabee (pronounced Otonobee) a very pretty rapid broad river running all along one side of the township - The air the finest possible - for the ground rises every step you go on, & the current of the river is so strong that it draws all noxious vapours along with it. Standing water & marshes cause the Ague & lake fever, the only complaints ever prevalen there. There are some beautiful Maple trees at Douro - one 18 feet in circumfirance. This shews good land. How unusually fortunate we have been here- think of getting 1200 acres of such nice land, for ever & ever, & having only 95 pounds to pay!! - I can scarcely believe it myself -

Sunday night 22d Septr - Today Col: Foster called upon Major Hilliar who is secretary to General Maitland - Our business became the subject of conversation - Major Hilliar told him that "The Governor was so really anxious to give every advantage - that he would without reserve grant anything Mr Stewart & Mr Reid chose to ask, within the bounds of reason & possibility" So I think this is true encouragement - & notwithstanding the anxiety I must still feel about poor Tom & the want I feel of his assistance - I am in great Spirits. We are all to remove to Coburg. They have taken two houses there, where we women are to remain till they have cleared a little room, & have erected the log houses & made a road &cc &cc

This is all delightful but I must grieve to leave the neighbourhood of the dear kind Fosters - Elizabeths eyes quite filled with tears when I told her we were to go so soon & they seem as much interested in all that concerns us as if it was their own good fortune. - Coburg is on the post road between Kingston & York, so you see we shall not be quite out of the world - even at Douro. The chicks are all well - Bessy recovering her strength & spirits. Anna Maria is very good & very useful & sensible --- Your letters after this must be directed to us at Coburg District of Newcastle

Upper Canada

You know I suppose that you had better pay the ship postage of letters coming out here - as if not done the postmasters do not always forward them - but Sir L lees could frank them all Mr Fosters are franked still

Coburg Octr 30 1822

Newcastle District Upper Canada

We have been living in this village for above 3 weeks past. The Reids have another House a better one than this which tho' very pretty & neat looking at the outside is as nasty & inconvenient a little cage inside as ever was & I am longing to get into our Loghouse. There are 3 rooms on the ground floor, & 4 above, but they are so small that they are like little Closets; However it will answer for our wants at present, as we hope not to be here more than 2 months more at the longest we can reconcile ourselves to the inconvenience. This house has a nice little grassy place for the children to play about, that is one comfort, & there is a large barn where we can put our Chests & Luggage, which would be impossible to stuff into this toney House. The Kitchen is about the size of a large Closet, the sitting room a little longer. The 3d room indeed scarcely deserves the name, in it I keep my Housekeeping affairs, as there is not a Press or shelf of any kind in the House. Tom Stewart found some old boards in the barn & had made tempory shelves of them & tables as we have neither table, Chair or bedsteads. The carriage of these sort of articles are expensive which prevents our getting them now, but Tom has bed screws & all things ready to make every thing when we reach our dear Loghouse, - for which I am longing as ardently as if it were a Palace, & where I expect to spend a very happy & comfortable winter. Our bed rooms have no doors, nor is there a fire place in the house except that in the kitchen, so that it would not do for a winter residence. We have blankets to hang up for doors upstairs. This House was never finished inside & its last, & I believe only Inhabitant before us was a Batchelor that never cared much about comfort. We have plenty of blankets however, & there have been some very frosty nights since we came, yet I have not felt half so cold as many nights at home. indeed I have not felt so cold here as yet. Last week we had a whole night & day of snow, or rather large fleches of snow which darkened our windows, but did not lie on the ground. We have had a good deal of smart frost too at night which has given the woods a grey look instead of the beautiful Orange Autumnal tints they had before. This is a sweet pretty little Village, & has a brisk thriving appearance, & is increasing very rapidly. For years ago there was but 2 houses here in the midst of woods, now there is a very flourishing little town, a neat Church, a large School House opposite to it, two very good Shops, orstores, as shops are all called here, & there are 2 more fitting up now to be inhabited this winter. There are besides many Trades going on, shoemakers, Tailors, Blacksmiths, Carpenters, Wheelwrights, & a number more which will make this a respectable Town in a few years more. There are 2 Butchers, so that tho' there is no regular market, there is always abundance of good meat. The houses are very near in general, & the neighbourhood to the Lake adds to the beauty of the situation. The ground lies prettily about here too, in nice undulations & so very different from York. I was quite tired of York, tho' in every respect we had more comfort than here; We had a very convenient clean house & our dear friends the Fosters so close to us it was almost the same as being in the same house. They lent us everything to make us comfortable, yet except for their society I much prefer this place. I was very sorry to leave Elizabeth. She was really like

an affece Sister more than any thing also. Two or three families at York assisted us but there was only one that I cared much about, Mrs Billings, wife to the Commisary General an Engh woman & a very pleasing little person. I only saw her twice, but liked much what I did see. Here I had had visits from one or two families also, those I know most about are Mr & Mrs Henry, & Mrs Bethune, Mother to Mrs Henry. Mr H was for 15years engaged in the Northwest trade, & during all that time, never came home to his friends who lived at Montreal. he left home when he was only 13 & went thro' all sorts of adventures & hardships. One winter when their provisions fell short, he & his companions were obliged to eat some leather aprons they had, & the upper leathers of their shoes, & legs of boots. I hear Mr. Henry is very entertaining, but I have been very little in his company yet. He is a very pleasing neighbour, & has shown us much real kindness. Mrs H. seems so fond of her husband & Mother it is quite delightful; Mrs Bethune is a fine merry old Lady & lives in a dear little Cottage just opposite Mr Henry's & the 2 families are like one & always spend their evengs together. She & Mrs H have been very kind initiating mein the method of making barm & baking. They have the best bread in this neighbourhood & always make their own Barm. Some time ago we drank tea with Mrs Bethune. Her cottage is worth going to see it is so nicely fitted up & quite in the Engh style: hers & the Bp of Quebec's are the only Houses where I saw a Tea Urn since I left home. Her family were originally Scotch, but settled at New York, then at Montreal & 5 years ago when her daughter married Mr Henry, she came to live here. She has a Granddaughter & 2 Sons, who live with her. They are handsome Gentlemanlike men. The eldest is Proprietor of the largest store here & is unusually kind to us, is always sending us things & insists on supplying us with provisions for winter such as Salt Pork, Butter, Pease, &c at the same price he buys them as himself. If he hears I am without any thing he wants to take with us to the Bush he writes it down immediately. Mr Reid & his sons & our Servt Boy have been at Douro this fortnight & taken workmen with them. They went to prepare Loghouses for us. Tom had but just recovered from severe bilious attack & was quite unfit to go, so we all joined & prevailed on him not to attempt it. He gave Mr Reid a plan & full directions how to act. I will send you a map of our land & a picture & plan of our house when we go & see it. I hear it is a most beautiful country. Mr Reids House & ours will be a mile & a half from each other & about a mile & a half from a Flour & Saw Mill. The opposite side of the river is all settled & will be thickly inhabited & a year or two, & there is a reserve of land for a village exactly opposite to us. So you see we are not going so much out of the World, Our farm is about 35 miles from this place which will beour Post Town, but there are opportunities every week, & Mr Bethune will take care & forward our letters. it is probably that in a few years we shall have a Post Town nearer to us as, Government are going to open a new road between Kingston & Simcoe which will exactly pass by us! There are many Navy Captns settled in the neighbourhood. Capt & Mrs Boswell have visited us I saw him but was not visible the day she called. As I like to do as I would be done by, I will own that I have been ill for ten days with a complaint every new comer to this country is subjected to. I am now so much better I may call myself well. We have a very skilful Physician here who paid me every attention. For fear of catching cold on coming down again, Tom, who thinks of nothing but my comfort & indulgence, got a nice little stove, which makes our poor parlour warm & comfortable. He is quite well & also the Reids. Poor Maria has recovered the loss of her little baby wonderfully. Give my affect love to everyone of my dear Friends. Tell Catherine I got her letter safely & I will write next to

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Aunt Susan. Give my love to Clonghill & Allenstown, Edgeworthtn, Upton, Black Castle, Francis Beauforts & all - all- all - & pray give my love to Mrs Stewart &c &c -

F Stewart

[To Mrs Waller Merrion Street

M.N. No 8 Oct 30 - 1822 Coburg]

[78-008/1/6 #95](#)

[to Louisa, September 11, 1822;

no transcription]

[a fragment of an edited version of this letter]

Coburg Novr 10 1822

My dear Harriet This good Sunday our Clergyman Mr Mc Cauley being absent there was no service, so having read chapters, prayers & sermon at home, I think no sin to indulge myself in beginning a long sheet to you. My heart yearns indeed to all my dear friends, - but or what use indulging these yearnings, for this reason at least we cannot meet - nor probably next year - but I have no doubt that if we live for 2 or 3 years longer we shall meet again: for though Tom & I made a great effort & tried to conquer our natural affections enough to take this great step - yet we did not entirely quench them, but that they have kindled a fresh, & now I think burn clearer & warmer than ever. Yes my ever beloved friends tho' I like this country & rejoice that we came here, yet I look forward to spending some happy months in my own dear country with my still dearer friends - You have not lost me. I trust in God we shall yet meet again here, & tho' we may now be separated by oceans & thousands of miles - yet our hearts are united - They are strongly bound together by this which no distance or separation can break - I am bound indeed to you by affection & gratitude which increase every hour, & by the same principles & the same religion; in the last, I think we are strongly united - for the more I have heard & seen of other sects, & branches in religious opinions the more firmly I cling to my own & the more I admire the simplicity of it - & I pray to God that he will enable me to wait with you my dear friend in that straight path wh his word points out. - Dear H. I forgot to tell you that your little Bible has been my travelling companion & though the kindness of a generous friend supplied me with the large work yet your being more portable has with its manuscript notes been my constant study. Your 3 letters dated Sepr 2d, reached me on the 5th of this month - I need not tell you how I felt on reading your account of my dear Bess's sufferings - nor how often I have wished I could be with you to assist in nursing her & to contribute my mite towards amusing her painful hours.

I believe my letters have been so much filled up with histories of our travels & of our communications with the great folk about land, that I have never described the country, or the animals, or vegetable - I will now describe the country as far as I have seen. York is an ugly uninteresting place - the houses are neat & nicely painted, with green outside shutters, & when we were sailing up the lake to it we were delighted with the appearance of the Town - these white nice looking houses backed by the dark forest looked so pretty - but we found when we came nearer that the lake all along the shore there is quite stagnant & full of rushes - which are cut down every season & left floating on the water to decay - This gives the appearance of green duck meat - the town is sunk in a hollow. This place is quite different - here the Lake comes dashing up in great white waves, & the country whenever the clearing of the roads allows you to see it, is beautifully undulated - the village itself, though not so large as Collon is on two little hills - There are often pretty little trading vessels coming here wh add greatly to the cheerfulness & beauty of the place; - indeed if we had but the lovely smell of the season we might imagine ourselves near the ocean for we cannot see any appearance of land across the

Lake which is in fact a sea. Tom is going tomorrow to Douro, to see what progress they have made, & he is to return on Friday so I will not send this till he returns that I may tell you how soon we shall remove. This Loghouse I expect to find very comfortable after a little time. I heard there are some magnificent trees there, but I have been greatly disappointed in finding the trees & plants in general so like our own. I have never seen a tree large enough to satisfy me - but the extent of the forests have indeed satisfied me; I have not walked much since I have been in this country, but I expect to see trees & woods in perfection at Douro. The Maple, Hickory & Beech are the most common there. Hickory grows like the Walnut tree & has a resemblance to both Walnut & Ash. There is a great want of Evergreens here - there is nothing of that kind about this place except the Hemlocktree (what we call Arbour Vitae) - it looks very pretty for where large trees have been cut down young shoots have grown from the stumps & it has quite a pretty shrubby appearance - The Dogwood grows in the woods most luxuriously & its pretty red branches look very nice. In summer the quantities of crimson tufts of the Shumack tree (called here the Vinegar tree) were very pretty. I have not yet become acquainted with many wild plants; I saw one beautiful little ladies slipper on the banks of the St Lawrence between Montreal & Kingston - quantities of the common Anothera we used to have in our gardens. Bilberries - Wood sorrel & wild strawberries & Raspberries - Yarrow, Hawkweed - Scabious - Campanula, & blue Iris of our flowergardens growing wild - Yesterday morning Tom & I thought we had found some Gentianella - but upon examining the leaf & calix - we discovered it to be dwarf campanula - I wish I could draw it for you or preserve it - but all my blotting paper is packed except that I use for writing on - & so are all my books too. There is a great want of singing birds - but Mr Henry says we shall have plenty in spring - in Summer and Autumn we were deafened by grasshoppers, or a kind of grass cricket, which chirps incessantly & bothers one - but no sweet Robbins or thrushes or blackbirds - I have only heard the sweet note of a bird once & that was some weeks ago. I could not see it but it must have been very near, & it sounded like a thrush. I have seen several crows and wood peckers & Eagles flying far above my head - but we came too late to see any humming birds, of which I here there are numbers in the Summer - I take care always to be dressed nicely & am as well supplied with beautiful clothes that I should have no excuse - I have just made up a grand assortment of caps with the lace borders or quillings - I hate to be caught untidy at home - Since the weather has grown cold I have begun to wear my purple bombazine but am very careful of it - I have great deal of work to do, such as Baking & other such operations not fit for a pretty gown, on these occasions I wear one of my Sprig wrappers which My dear Bess & Annemade for me & often I think of them. I think you might tell me now who sent my very pretty washing silk - your 3 grand children are very good - Anna Maria is becoming more useful to me every day & is very good & sensible. Ellen has grown & looks very well - She sings several songs. Bessy is a dear little engaging brat - She is now thank God perfectly well & has many tricks & is very playful. She is not at all pretty []

We are in treaty for a cow - We have got a goose & gander to make a beginning, a little puppy dog for watching & keeping the wolves away from our cattle - for there are some wolves always in the woods when settlers first go into them, but they soon retreat. There are a great many Deer at Douro I hear. We are laying in salt Pork & Pease & various sorts of provisions for our winter at store - but I hope by next winter we shall have them of our own. The weather has

been very wet of late - & we had some snow; so wet a season has not been known for years as this has been & the roads are very dirty - but we have had some hard frosts at night & this lovely weather. There are very pretty roads here - pretty to my mind from the novelty there is such a wildness in the general appearance of the country - the cleared part open at each side of the road, like a common - Then wood again - Then a great part of it half cleared with the stumps sticking up & felled trees lying all about - The roads are in many places, where the ground is swampy, made by laying trees across, close together - those are called corderoy roads, & you may imagine what jumbling ones bones get in a wagon bumping over these trees. In general the roads are made by clearing a passage thro' the wood, & if it wants repair it is just ploughed up & then harrowed & left for driving on, so you may grasp what bogs these roads are in wet weather- & then in frost all rough - but when snow is fairly on & frozen over then they are delightful for sleighing. Yesterday Tom, the children & I took a nice walk of above a mile along the lake, the shore is very pleasant, it is smooth hard sand; the view of the village & its white houses & church made me wish that I could make a little scetch to send you. I believe I mentioned to Bess that I had been ill. I kept my bed a week from actual weakness - but I need scarcely tell you that I am quite well now - as you have just read that I took a long walk yesterday evening - indeed I am growing very strong with in the last week, & have resumed all my wonted occupations []

The Clergyman we had been in hopes of having with us, never made his appearance - nor could we ever hear more of him from Mrs Stewart or Mr Singer. I do wish we had one for we shall be at a great distance from a Church - There is one some where in the neighbourhood of Douro, but I believe it is 18 or 19 miles from us []

This country is very thickly inhabited & every year is becoming more so. I like it much - though the mode of life is certainly new to me - from living perfect idleness in the house of another, I have become a housekeeper & with only one servt - a girl of 16 to assist me - I am obliged to do a great deal myself - She is a great comfort & a most useful excellent creature, & does astonishingly. We make all our own soap & candles & bread; & in February are to begin Sugar making. She cooks & washes all our clothes, so you may suppose we are pretty tidy between all these things & taking care of Bessy - & I have heaps of work & mending always going on. When we have a Dairy & Poultry & calves & pigs &c to attend to, I think we must get some little girl to help Betty. Nov- 20 I have kept my letter much longer than I intended, as instead of Friday Tom did not return till Tuesday - He is more delighted than ever with his land & the Beauty of the place [] Since his return we have been in a great press packing up our goods, to set out from this on Saturday next. Our house is not ready yet, so we must live in a Shanty or hut for some days till it is ready; what causes so much hurry, is the danger of ice forming on a lake we must cross: this Rice Lake is scarcely ever open after the 20th of this month, it is at this moment freezing, so that we are afraid it will not be fit to boat across on Saturday - in which case we must remain here till it is hard enough for sleighing - so perhaps when I next write I may still be here - but there is a probability we may go, because we have had very little frost & a great deal of rain - & perhaps there may not be frost enough between this & Saturday to freeze the lake over - it is 3 miles across.

Anna Maria has got a feverish illness which is something like what she had this time 3 years - she is very weak & languid but I trust she may grow better. Change of air & going to that good wholesome place may be of use to her, & as our journey will be smooth by water it will not fatigue her so much as jumbling over bad roads would. This is our post town & our friend Mr Bethune will carefully forward all letters to us. Towards Summer I will send you a long list of commissions that I may give you time to procure all I shall require - but at present I have no wants - I must write turn about to all my dear friends & therefore do not be alarmed at not hearing from me as regularly as you have hitherto; for I find it difficult to write constantly to so many dear friends & you can hear from one another about us. All my love cannot shew you the warm affection I feel for you - Love to all - All.

[Extracts from F.S. M.N. No 7

Coburg Novr 10th 7 20th 1822

Rec'd Jan 1823

To Miss Beaufort]

78-008/1/6 #97

[Extracts from F S]

Nov 25th 1822

No 8 Recd Jan 14th 1823

25th Nov 1822

Coburg Nescastle District

Upper Canada

[] We were to have gone to Duoro on Friday last & had all our goods packed up ready to start in great haste, because that, Rice Lake which we were to cross is generally frozen over by the 20th of November & we were to have hurried off from this in order to get over before the frost - & to have lived in a shanty, or a hut made with boards, for some days till our loghouse was habitable but on Wednesday our little Anna Maria (who had been feverish & ill for nearly a week) grew decidedly worse, & we determined to remain here. Now the ground is white & frost every night - so we must stay here till the frost is hard enough for sleighing which will be in about a month - when we shall go there much more expeditiously than we could have done now - & by that time our house will be ready, for us without shivering ourselves in a shanty. My dear Anna Maria has had a smart fever I think occasioned by worms & bile. You remember she had an attack once before - however I trust in God the worst is over, as she has been evidently better yesterday and today. Poor Bessy is teething & has spots all over her upperlip & nose which tieze her much & make her very uneasy. She has also a spot or two on her head frightened me greatly as she rose in great white blisters just like that horrible eating hive - There is no such thing as St John's wort here, so I dusted it well with bark & put a little Turners Cerate over it & I think this new cure of my own has been of use. Anna Maria was greatly improved before her illness but now my poor darlingis lying in bed reduced & unable to stand from weakness - but she was quite useful before & really a pleasant companion - She had grown very tall & had a clear healthy appearance Tell dear Kate her nice present of stuff frocks & Beaver bonnets make her little nieces look very smart & feel very comfortable this cool weather - This morning the thermometer was 25 - tonightat 8 it was 27 - but I have often felt more chilly at home. I was quite surprised when I saw the thermometer so low - Tom went to Douro last week to see how the houses were going on - & he returned in greater delight than ever with the place - The beauty as well as goodness of the situation & soil - indeed I think from all I hear of it that if they had been searching all Canada they could not have chosen a place more completely to their minds - the house of Mr Reid is about a mile from ours - it could not be fixed nearer because the Reserves come between - the two houses are just the same size - 36 feet by 24 - I do not know whether Mr Reid intends to have his house the same inside as ours, - for when Tom was there only one house was erected & that was ours - We shall have

three rooms on the ground floor - & two rooms & a closet upstairs. In spring Tom intends to add a kitchen, dairy & scullery at the back - but for this winter we must do with our bedroom for a sitting room - as upstairs will be cold for the children - When the weather grows warmer they shall go upstairs - & our room will become a parlour. I expect we shall be very comfortable there, but I am not sorry that we have been detained for many reasons - 1st- I am glad to remain here till the house is finished & neat, it will be pleasant & now travelling in the Sleigh & 3rdly it will make the winter appear shorter for I suppose we shall not go till after Christmas - & we shall have the happiness & advantage of being near Church on Christmas day. I do wish some good clergyman would come to us - Any Clergyman who can have a congregation may have £200 a year from Governnt - if he can keep a school he will have £120 a year more - & if he chooses to keep Boarders he may get £50 a piece for them. I know this is what our friend Mr McCauley the Clergyman here has - he is an excellent young man & most active in establishing religion among this parishoners. There is a church & clergyman in the township of Cavan but it is 18 miles from us & except in Sleighting time we could not go there. This winter we cannot possess either Sleigh or horses -We must hire them to take us, where we are going. If we could get some nice, pleasant, good man to join our Colony he could have both congregation & school for there is a great many families near us - who tho' in the middling class wish for a person to preach & teach among them. We are very thankful that we are not in a very distant place from our fellow creatures. There are many settlers near us - chiefly Scotch & English farmers - there is one family of the name of Rubidge, of whom I have heard a great, he is a Captn in the Navy - & every one speaks of Mrs Rubidge as being a most delightful woman. They will be within 5 miles of us when the road is made - but at present our communication must be made by water which lengthens the distance to 11miles Mrs R was in the neighbourhood lately to lye in, & sent me a civil message & apology for not having called on me here - they have been only 2 years out & are still living in a log house. I hear they have quite a Paradise & every comfort anyone could wish for. They live on £100 a year!! Captn R was in debt & gave up all but this. In 2 or 3 years more he will be out of debt. Mrs R is a very nice accomplished woman - & teaches her children music french dancing, &c. I do not know of any other gentleman's family near but townships are settling fast. We pay at the rate of £20 a year for this house. We get excellent Beer & Mutton at 2d & 3d pr pound - potatoes 9d a Bushel. Bacon for nothing. Butter 7d per pound - Milk 2da quart. We bought a cow for £3 or 12 dollars. We get heaps of nice fresh buttermilk for nothing as the people here never drink it. They give it to the pigs - Thursday 28 Nov I have the happiness to tell you that both my invalids are better. Many thanks to darling Kate for offering to send us anything we want. We have all that is necessary now & and by next winter I trust we shall be able to procure everything. Clothes are certainly dearer & worse here so I will send a list of commissions soon which can be paid for out of our Irish money. Irish Bills will answer here. My Uncle may send them by post but had better send 3 copies of the Bills, 3 different posts -

Douro Loghouse Feby 24 1823

Well my dearest friends here we are at last at home, and although we must bear a good deal of inconvenience for some time, yet we feel real enjoyment beyond any we have had for many a long & weary month - Before I say anything more about this place, I must go back a month to Cobourg & tell you about what passed then. I wrote to you the 7th of Jany which letter I am afraid is in the dead letter office as it was directed to Merrion Street. The 18th of Jany I wrote to Catherine so you know by my letter to her that yours of Sepr 30 reached me safely; Ah dear Harriet you cannot conceive the comfort it is to think that you do not deceive me about dear Bess - thank you for giving me such a minute detail of her sufferings which must be most trying to her & her dear Nurse tenders. I will not say anything now about the anxiety I feel about you all - you know what one feels at a distance from a beloved in such a state, but you cannot well conceive how this anxiety is increased by such an immense distance as that which seperates us & by the length of time which there must be between letters - but this cannot be helped, - so I will not dwell on this painful subject any longer; I may however say that I do think this is the only source of painful reflection that I feel here - we have the prospect of possessing everything to make us comfortable & happy except the company of those we are most attached to.

In my letter to Kate I believe I mentioned a nice drive we had with very nice people called Mr & Mrs Faulkner on a very delightful day to a beautiful village called Port Hope - about 7 miles from Cobourg -

Nothing happened for some time after, worth mentioning except that we had a very cold disagreeable weather, a good deal of snow, & very little sunshine in the day, a most intensely cold night, so much so that water froze in our kitchen which is only about 9 or 10 feet square, where we kept a good fire all night. - in our room where we & the children slept, & where we had a fire constantly day & night the Termr was down several mornings to 30, before we got up. One night my poor little maid Betty slipped on the ice at the back door, fell & broke one of her ribs in two places as her side came against the handle of a tub.

Tom & I laid her on a Matrass in our room & had her bled, & early next morning had the Doctor to see her, who ordered low diet, saline draughts & Quiet - so she lay there for some days. I was able to get a Scotch lassie to come to cook & finish the washing - but she could only stay two days, & after that I was cook, nurse, & everything myself for a few days - We had luckily a fine round of Beef which lasted cold for almost the whole time, so I had no cooking except boiling potatoes, & I got on finely & had neither fatigue or hurry of any consequence - and poor Betty was able to assist me a little in a wonderfully short time. I think these little vanities are very useful for people dont know what they can do till they are tried. Betty is now quite well & useful & willing as ever, & a great comfort to me.

Well one fine day soon after this adventure, our friend Mr Bethune called to take us all out in the sleigh - he begged that A M & Ellen might be of the party - so we all drove to the township of Haldimond, the next township on the Kingston side - & after a drive of 7 miles, we turned. The country is very pretty & very hille, beautiful undulations & steep rugged vallies. Coming home it was desperately cold, & snowed a little, & we were very glad to get into comfortable houses -

We called on Mrs A Macdonald who had removed to her own house a few days before - if you received my last letter, you know something of her & the Boswells - we also called on the Boswells who we found very friendly neighbours during our Sojourn at Cobourg - They said they wished very much to take us to see Mr and Mrs Sowden, that we might see how very comfortably people can live in an indifferent Loghouse - so we appointed the following tuesday evening for our drive - it was fortunately sunny & mild, altho' the Thermr stood only at 10° - & in the morning at ten, was 11° below zero!! At half past one Tom, A M & I set out with Capt & Mrs Boswell, & drove 8 miles, mostly through wood, to Mr Sowden's farm. His loghouse is the oldest in the township of Haldimond, & has been built for 25 years - it is black & shabby looking at the outside, but I never saw more comfort & cheerfulness than there seemed to be within. There was a larger fire than my poor British eyes had ever before seen within the walls of a house - I am sure the logs on the fire were 8 feet long!! but since that I have seen many such.

I must tell you a curious romantic history about this family - the father & mother of Mr Sowden have been attached to each other in their youth, but for some reason or other could not marry; They each married other people & after old Mr Sowden's son was married to the daughter of Mr A's former flame - Some time afterwards, old Mr Sowden became a widower - the lady a widow, & as nothing was in the way then, they were united in their old age, & came to this country with their son & daughter about 3 or 4 years ago - Old Mr S died about 3 months ago - old Mrs S lives in the loghouse with the young couple & their children - she is more like a picture of an old lady than any one I ever saw - She was of course in weeds - but all her clothes were made & put on in the stile of 70 or 80 years ago - She is a fine looking old lady, her face & complexion reminded me a little of Mrs Montray On the whole we were well pleased with our evening & had a very pleasant ride home - the following friday was appointed for leaving Cobourg we were up by Cockcrow & had all our affairs in readiness, bonnets & pelisses all ready to clap on, but we waited & watched in vain, our Sleighnever came; at 2 oclock the man whom we had engaged to drive us sent word that he could not come till Monday so we were obliged to wait very uncomfortably - we had left out a couple of matrasses for sleeping on the night of our journeyas we divided our Journey - & we made use of these to lie on, & borrowed plated dishes cups & saucers &c as all our things were packedup, & we did not like opening them again - friday & Saturday were most charming days - the Sun so bright & warm & we were quite provoked at losing them & were all out of sorts.

On Monday morning Feby 10 at ½ past 9 oclock we left Cobourg - Tom & I on one seat with Elly stuck between us, Betty, A M & Bessysat before us - & Mr Parker our Charioteer in front of all - We had besides 3 blankets to roll about our feet & knees, a great many coats & cloaks & a bag of bread, & a basket of cold meat so we were pretty tightly packed. We had another Sleigh full

of luggage of all sorts, bedding, trunkstubs baskets, & on the top were 2 baskets of live stock - in one were a goose & gander, in another a Pullet & kitten, our servant boy sat to take care of them & Cartouche & Douro, another dog, sat beside him - we formed a very ludicrous cavalcade I assure you - We went 20 miles that day, & had a very pleasant drive - We passed through miles & miles of forest & I was delighted with this new scent - Every now & then we came to small clearings with Loghouses, & generally a good stock of cattle & poultry near the houses - at 4 we reached Page's Tavern where we were to pass the night - there was one very decent clean bed room but it had no fire place we preferred sleeping on the floor in the sitting room, where we spread our mattresses & blankets & coats & cloaks & slept soundly & comfortably

Page is an Englishman who has been only 3 years here - his inn is a loghouse & we found it very comfortable & everything tolerably clean. The next morning soon after daylight & breakfast, we set out again on our journey; Pages is 18 miles from this - all our road through thick wood - indeed the road scarcely deserved that name for it was merely a track through the snow where one or two sleighs had lately passed - We doubled & turned through branches & between trees & often had showers of snow from branches above us which our heads touched - The boughs of the beautiful Hemlock pine were loaded with snow & often they bent down so low that we were obliged almost to lie down, to be able to pass under them - We were 2 or 3 times obliged to stop & cut a pass for our Sleighs where trees had fallen across the road - This day we drove the distance of 9 miles through woods without seeing any habitation except a few huts of Indians - I told you in a former letter that the Hemlock pine of this country was the same as our Arbor Vitae - but I was mistaken - Arbor Vitae is called Cedar here & is common in marshy ground & on the banks of rivers - They grow large & spread their branches to a great distance - The Hemlock pine is a much prettier tree - its leaf is a dark green & when rubbed has a sweet smell - it grows very high & is feathered down to the ground & is quite a pretty evergreen here - indeed this & Cedar are the only trees I have seen here that can be called evergreen - except the different pines -

Feb 27 I have just heard that one of our workmen is going to Coburg tomorrow so I will finish this to send with him - & I am in hopes he will bring back a packet of letters with him - Last week Mr Bethune sent us some New York & Montreal papers, but I did not see anything of the arrival of a British mail

I must go back to where I stopped in my journal - 14 miles from Pages we arrived at the river Otonabee - This is our river - We reached Scotts Mills 2 ½ miles from this - here we found that we could not cross the river as we expected, the ice having given way & Scott's boat could not ply because there was a broad border of thin ice on each side of the river - So we sent a man across on foot to tell Mr Reid to send his oxen & sleigh to the opposite side of the river, 3 miles lower down - & we determined to walk across at a place called the "Little Lake" about 2 miles lower down - This delay was a great disappointment to us, besides giving us much trouble - but this day was to end all our travels, & that gave us Spirits to proceed with vigour we walked to the Little Lake & across it through deep snow which came above our ankles - John Reid carried Ellen & Mr Reid Bessy - the workmen carried our bedding, bags & provisions everything else we

left at Scotts Mills. At this side of the lake we found the patient oxen - our luggage & ourselves we packed into the Sleigh & we proceeded in the shades of evening to Douro - drove nearly 5 miles thro' woods, & at last heard a voice crying out "here they come" "here they are" & all the little Reids came out to meet us. We soon saw our Loghouse whose windows were quite illuminated by the glare of the charming fires Maria & the children had prepared for us - & even had there been no fire I think we must have been warmed by the Joy every one shewed at seeing us here, from Mr Reid & Maria down to the youngest - indeed it was delightful to be so affectionately received. Our house was in a very unfinished state, the doors laid to, not hung & worse than this, the upper part of the chimney was built with boards - as the frost made it impossible to go on with Mason work - but we are now safe, for Tom had it built up with some stone last week in a temporary way, & in Spring we must have it built over again, as it would not do as it is, & it smokes. The first night we found it rather cold - but every day since we have made the house more & more comfortable - we have got a great large kitchen with a huge fireplace, 8 feet long - one other room is smaller, & within it is a little store room & a room for the Children - At present we sleep in our sitting room, but in summer the children are to move upstairs, where we shall have 2 good rooms and 2 closets - & then we are to sleep in the room they occupy now. Our books fill up the entire side of the sitting room & give it a very comfortable look - We have 2 windows one to the south, & one to the west, so that we have now fine warm sun shining in from about ten till near 6. I think this is one of the prettiest places I ever saw - you would be delighted with it - even now it is beautiful when the ground is covered with snow - The river is nearly twice as broad as the Boyne at Navan - & at this place rushes on with great noise, & carries large lumps of ice down from Mud Lake 20 miles above - The current here prevents it from freezing over - but 2 miles below it is quite still, it winds beautifully & the edges are fringed with fine spreading Cedars & Hemlock Pine

Will you let dear Mrs Stewart know that we are here, all well & happy - The Reids never passed a winter with out any colds or illness of any kind, but this one - & they have lived nearly in the open air all through the winter - but certainly tho' the cold is so intense, I never have suffered from it as I frequently have at home - Tell Mrs S we will write to her very soon & give our affectionate love to her - also to Clongill Allenstown Etown Black Castle - Tell uncle Sutton with our love that we hope he will be so kind as to send the Needful as soon as he can it will be very acceptable by the time it arrives - Tom begs him to send 3 bills for Security - Dublin bills will do very well -

Now dear give my fondest love to my beloved Bess & Anne - Aunt B - Louisa whom I often thought of when they were travelling through the rebellious regions in the South - Ever yours most affecttely

F Stewart

Tom sends his kindest loves too

Mr Hughes has carried a days delay in this all well

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[Addressed to

Miss Maria Noble

Allenstown

Navan

Ireland

Sealed with FB in ornate script on red wax

FS Beb: 24th & 27th 1823

Recd Ap: 25th

To Miss Beaufort No 12]

4 Crescent Cheltenham Feby 27 1823

My dearest Fanny - Your last letter to me came just as Besshad set about hers to you, so I did not like to interfere with her letter - I know it would be such a cordial to you to get a folio entirely from herself - Now then my dearest I set about answering that kind and sympathising letter; and having finished reading the News-paper to the Ladies, I have retired to our room - stirred the fire - put away the fender drawn the table near the fire, and as you see made a new pen for the occasion, I have set myself down to indite to my own best beloved till tea comes up - We all continue just as when the last letter went off - Bess going out in the wheel chair every tolerable day - and as yet - notwithstanding the great severity of the winter, she has escaped cold, and I am in great hopes she will have become so hardly by all these airy drives, that she will not have that terrible Spring cough which of late years has regularly come to torment her. The abcess continues in the same state - varying in the quantity of discharge - but giving no pain or anything worse than now & then a little uneasiness or soreness.

The discharge from it is bile - almost always yellow or Green & yellow mixed & I am sure it is of very great use to her to get the bile away, with so little trouble - She does not drink the waters now - Mr Seager desired her not - Mr Seager is much much better, which I know you will be glad of - it is of so much consequence to her.

Her spirits are wonderfully even & good in general - The only thing she complains of much, is that her knees are stiff when she first attempts to rise from her chair - but no one seems to mind it much - They say it is caused by the cold; - She walks up & down the room frequently - very stoutly - without leaning on any one as she used to do; - She scarcely ever complains of giddiness in her head - and she is able to read a great deal to herself - which is a great advantage to her & us

I have been very uneasy for great part of this winter about my dear Mother, who has been very unwell indeed - I told you in one letter that she had the Jaundice or at least a great tendency towards it - immediately after that She got a great cold, & renewed it twice or thrice - so that she had such a terrible & inward oppression & sinking - that William sent for Mr Hayes a physician - Her illness was very like what she had at the time of the Great Snow in 18

They had been dosing her with Hypo, which he said was quite too lowering for he ordered other medicines and the very next day she began to mend - had better nights - less apprehension & lowness - & in a few days her appetite began to return - She was able to write me a long folio letter about three weeks ago - I have never heard since - for they write so seldom that a long time passes between & I suffer all the unpleasantness of suspence - but I always hope the best - and so I hope I shall soon have a confirmation of the last good account

The damp of Upton has I am sure disagreed with them all - & besides that both the natural dulness of the place - and all the sad recollections & painful impressions that it must daily revive - are in themselves enough to make a person of her age ill

Sally her little red headed maid had a fever some time ago - & every one was ill - but they are all well now - Edward, the last little thing is a fine creature & can say several words - little Louisa is alas decidedly the same state as poor Fanny - Robert appears to be declinng fast -but is still alive. My mother & Lou - if my mother is well enough - will leave Upton early in March & travel northwards - They intend to spend a few days at Dr Butler's - & then they are to go to Gaybrook & visit there, & then to Edgeworthtown - They will pack up all the goods they have at Upton, as there is some chance of William's leaving the place at May - & Mrs St Lawrence has promised to keep Louisa's nice Pet Fox - till she has someplace to put it in. Sally is going to be married to a very decent well conducted young man who is Gardener to a gentleman near Brandon & has been attached to her these two years - but she is not to leave my Mothers for a year after her marriage -

Febt 28 The Edgeworths are all well - except poor Lucy who has been very indifferent or late - & I begin now to feel that there is no certain hope of her recovery with which I had been still flattering myself Poor thing she was for some months better - but for the last few weeks she has they say been very indifferent - but they have not mentioned particulars - it must lower her spirits patient as she is to find herself thus slipping down the hill again whenever she has made any little advance. Sophy has had sore eyes most of the winter, and says in a note I had lately from her that many days she has been obliged to be idle. Notwithstanding this, Harriet writes to me that Sop; is in great beauty - Harriet is well in looks & health I hear - her school is going well too - but she does not give it so much of her time as she liked

Nan is uncommonly well - & in good beauty. - William is perfectly well - He has been in Ireland now several months and has continues as well as possible

He has not been much at home - he spent some weeks very happily at the Observation and has been a great deal with Mr Nimmo, who is employed in Connaught & in Kerry in public works, to improve the country, and to give work to the people - He has been very good natured to Wm - I wish poor Wm had some employment of his own - but I hope he will in time - It is a great satisfaction that he continues so well even when he has anxiety of not having any thing to do; he is grown fat they say & is remarkably handsome -Honora is I believe well, for no letters have mentioned any thing to the contrary - but those Etown people when they got a frank always put off writing till just near the Post hour - so then they scribble off hurried letters & do not tell me half what I want to know - I heard lately from H herself she gave me one extract from a letter of Sneyd's & I will give one of it to you- He & Mrs E are now at Munich the capital or Bavaria - Mrs E's health has been better of late; Honora says his letter was very cheerful & agreeable

Sneyd had been presented to the King & Queen, & had been most affably received here are his own words "The Queen stood talking tome a full quarter of an hour & it is astonishing the number of subjects, that were mentioned in that short time - She spoke of Maria, her works,

asked about my Father & Mother - then enquired where I had travelled - spoke of France
Switzerland & Italy - of the King of England's intended marriage with Lady Frances Conyngham -
said that the Princess Esterhazy had told her that the King paid no attention to Lady F C -
inquired particularly about Harriette's health- where she lodged &c two or three times the King
came up to her, & put in a word - at last with the utmost politeness He carried me off to show
me an admirable picture of Wilkie's The Queen brought a candle to throw more light on it -
When I took it out of her Majesty's hand the King held it himself & pointed out the Humour of
piece, which was the reading of a testament - He then took me to another corner of the room
to shew me a Moreland - When I have the pleasure of seeing you at dinner you will have a
better light for the pictures." They bowed to Mr Taylor & me, & were going when they turned
back to invite me to their ball for the next evening. - I had told all this to Harriette & drunk tea -
when I heard a noise in the street (a very unusual thing here) & went to the window - when I
saw all the Sky behind the dark Palace apposite to us, lighted up, & columns of smoke,
apparently issuing from the further side of it - but the danger was not as near as for a moment I
apprehend - it was the New Theatre, near a quarter of a mile off that was burning - the Sky
looked as I am sure it must when vesuvius is in Eruption. When we passed the corner of the
Prince Eugenie's palace we saw the flames rising over the royal residence in terrific fury - The
sparks rose like rockets, & fell a black shower all round us -the theatre was full when the fire
began - but one life has been lost, & that by the falling of a beam, when they were attempting
to distinguish the flames - but that was impossible - Almost all the water was frozen - & the
little Engines could throw was inefficent - Some of those very pictures I had been admiring an
hour before - the diamonds - & the papers of value - were sent out of the residence - The old
King put on his uniform to superintend the Soldiers who were summoned by the beat of drum
from all parts - The Queen ran about the Corridors distracted - The alarm bells sounded all night
- but order was admirably resumed - & when the flames raged most furiously, the streets were
as still & silent as ordinary midnight. - All people who went out were compelled to assist in
carrying water - this made the Majority keep their houses

Being convinced at midnight that the fire had not communicated to the King's residence, we
went to bed & I to sleep no so Harriette who shewed astonishing collectedness during this
alarm - The fire still continues but is kept very much under - one theatre is destroyed - & the
Italian opera house which connects it with the royal residence is burning but by tearing down
the most combustible parts they hope to save it & break off the communication" Here ends the
extract from Sneyd's - it has taken up much of my letter, but I was sure it would interest you my
dearest Fanny - I was up just at 6 this morning & wrote from where the date is & then went
before 8 to dress - & now breakfast having long been over - & Bess & I having read Italian
together, & I having read my Aristo to myself - here I am seated - after again dressing the poor
abscess - at a quarter before 12 o'clock to continue my talk to my best & dearest, I will finish
the Es before I go on - Lovell is at home now & uncommonly well & his school in fine order - he
is a very busy magistrate - so that he does not give up every day to the school now as he used. -
He has made a little band as some of his boys who were musical & Sophy says they play
wonderfully well - some of the bad days this winter they had them to play in the staircase & it
sounded very well - they lay their music books on the long hall table - when the evenings are
fine, they play on the roads near the town, & many of the labourers come after their work is

done, perhaps a mile or two to hear them - Maria E is still at Black Castle & has been there since November! an immense visit - & now she has got Young Fan with her - so she is very happy - you are quite the fashion with her; - all she has heard of you & your excellent mind & of your admirable letters has interested & pleased her so much that she has written about you to Lady Bathurst - & intends to keep up her ladyships interest for you by repeated communications - I saw a letter from Lady B - in which she did indeed express herself really interested for you by the way - I am afraid I told you this before - but there is no harm in repeating what must give you pleasure old Fanny is very well - & as busy as ever with her garden, pruning her fruit trees & routing about - poor Aunt Mary is pretty well, but seemed to feel the cold of the winter very much. - Indeed throughout all parts of Europe as well as these islands - the winter has been more severe than for many many years - in Scotland the paper mentions large flocks of hundreds of sheep, & their shepherds as missing - & it is supposed they perished in the snow - In Ireland they have nothing like it since 1814 - Here we had long continued very hard frost - & exceedingly cold - but very little snow. Since Feby began there has been very little frost but continual rain & storm - I dont think Spring flowers - or leaf buds are at all more forward here than with us & as to the fields they are brown, & very unlike the verdure of poor distracted Ireland - Ireland is now in a worse state than ever - for Lord Wellesley would not allow the dressing of King William on the 5th of Novr - The Orange people were so angry they got up a riot at the play house one night his Excellency was there & there was a battle & a rattle thrown - some say - at him - The rioters were taken & behold the Grand Jury would not find the bills - The Attorney Gen^l (Mr Plunkett) forced a 2d trial in a way which is called Ex officio - & after much speaking against the offenders by Mr P - & for them by Mr North - behold the Jury never could agree about the verdict - & after being kept ever so long shut up - were dismissed & there ended the affair - Mr P is much laughed at by many - & the Orangemen so far from being put down are rendered more violent than ever & are rapidly encreasing - & are all openly wishing L W to be removed - at the Beefsteak club - lately - one toast was - The Exports of Ireland - & may the first be those who would subvert the Constitution - Sir Charles Vernon- Mr Gore - & Capt Stanhope all belonging to the Castle were there, & joined in the toast & its reiterated plaudits - Next day, behold they all received their dismissal - poor Sir Charles had a fit it is said - at this shock - & they say he will recover the loss of his place & of his dear little cottage - Every thing is in such a violent state, that there is no knowing when it will end - I hope some one has sent you Newspapers - I have been enquiring through Francis, the best way to send them - & he has got permission from the same friend in Lord Bathurst's office who forwards my letters, to send 4 newspapers every month - I have therefore desired our dear Captain to select the best weekly papers & to send it regularly - & I hope you may get it safe & that it may amuse you & dear Tom - He said he could not send more than 4 in each packet I beg you will tell me if you get the letters safely that I send in Ld Bs packet - & whether they cost you much - I am in a state of great impatience to hear from you or of you my dear friends - a longer time has elapsed than there was between any of your former letters - & I cannot help having a hundred fears & anxieties about your having been able to resist the very great cold my dear Fanny - & about the children who were so indifferent, though better - when you wrote to Aunt Susannovr 28 which is the last account of any kind, we have had you - Sometimes I take it into my head that in your impatience to cross the Lake you set out before the Ice was firm enough - & that Oh! My dear Child I cannot write such a shocking fear - God forbid that such a horrid horrid thing shd happen

- Oh no - I hope it is only that your letter has been delayed, & that no illness - nor misfortune nor any shocking thing has prevented you from writing. Your last letter to me, finished Novr 25 was most delightful - so full of tenderness & sympathy & true kindness - indeed I am sure you have often often wished yourself now & then near us & able to soothe & comfort us - but my dear love as to your thinking it was selfish of you to leave us & marry - is a very dull fancy & I could not help laughing & crying at once at it - No no - 3 of one family are surely enough for our vocation - What a wife would have been lost, had you remained in the Singular Noun state - Heaven forbid that you not had opportunity to exercise all those admirable qualities & virtues with which God has gifted you - In the choice you have made, you have been so fortunate as to secure your own happiness - and you have had more trials already to shew your excellence than most people have - & Thank God you have fulfilled all our anxious hopes Oh! May Heaven graciously preserve you to us, & continue to give your steady strength of mind & of body. - Your letters are the greatest delight & comfort to us dear - I thank you much for telling me of the birds & plants & c - all those things are very interesting to me - & make me feel as if I knew better what you are about - & I dare say you will tell me many little things that may be of use to me in a little book I am thinking of setting about soon for young people - I have just finished a little story for the poor in the style of James Risbly - I began New Years day & after various interruptions of letters, & finishing books in a hurry I finished it yesterday - Last Tuesday Anna drank tea out - & I read Part 1st of it to Bess - & quite beyond my hopes she was pleased with it - Oh dear Fanny you were with us - the first time I ventured to read out one of my stories I could not help feeling disappointed all the time I was reading it that you were not here now - such nonsense!

This time 2 years ago you were with us, & every feel of the air & sound & smell brings to my mind that time - & your little visit of last year too was not forgotten for also it came to my mind but too strongly - & for alas it came to my mind but too strongly - & on that day - the anniversary of the stormy day you left us - Oh how I thought over all the past - & all you have gone through & have done & have seen since - but I ought to tell you something besides my own cogitations - Spain & France are going to War, & it is thought England must take part - but I hope this will not be the case - & I truly hope the Americans will be at peace - The appearance of things begins to mend a little - corn of all kinds has had a little rise - & the new chancellor of the Exchequer has proposed to take off all the assessed taxes in Ireland - & to diminish very much the tax on Distilling - duty I believe I should call it - both in Ird & Scotland; I think this will do more for the peace & improvement of the country than anything -

I suppose Catherine has told you of the very unexpected death of the poor Bishop of Meath of a mortification in the bowels - he had an illness of but 2 days - so that the shock to all the family was very great - he made Dr Fisher tell him honestly if there was danger - very great Fisher said - The Bishop was silent, & little shocked for a few minutes - then recovered himself - made friend Butler write letters on business - signed all leases & papers that were ready - Sent for Gerrard who had not paid rent & said to him I have not signed your lease Mr Gerrard because your rent is not paid - Will you promise to pay Mr Obeirne after I have gone - if you will, I will sign your lease - he promised - so the poor Bp signed it - he was very uneasy about a deed he had

ordered to be prepared to prevent Lewis from spending his fortune - it had not come & he was very anxious to sign it.

The shock brought on terrible spasms on poor Mrs OB - but they are all pretty well now - that is as well in health as they can be after such a shock - He was 84 - He died with 50,000 - has left 20,000 to Mrs OB 10,000 to each of the girls - 5000 to Lewis. - How fortunate Mr Brabazon was to get the living of Painstown before this happened. - The Ruxtons will have great loss of the poor Obeirnes - nothing is known yet of the new Bishop - Ruxtons are all pretty well now - but have had illness all winter - poor Sophy had a bad attack on her chest - They have been much grieved by the death of poor Townley Filgate a very amiable clergyman - & he & his wife were the happiest & most contented nice little couple - Sir James & Lady Foulis are still at Bloomsbury at Mr Barnewalls - I dont know how long to stay - They speak of going to pay a visit soon to the Brabazons Leonora Brabazon has been very bilious all the winter - but is better - she is preparing now to remove from Clonard to Painstown, & I dare say the fuss will be of use to her - Philip was at his Examn about 3 weeks ago - he was taken in for the classical premium & fought hard for it - They say it ought to have been his - but Dr Elington chose to give it to a pupil of his own - Speaking of the College brings Mr Singer to my mind. I see by the paper that his lady has just produced a daughter - He was talking a great deal of you lately to Anne Lyne who met him at Mrs Arabian's at dinner - & he spoke most highly of you - He said that he knew a person a friend of Tom's who had not liked you much when he first knew you - but from the time of your husbands misfortunes, your character opened to him & he thinks you now the first woman in the world - The Lynes are all well - so are the Cottage girls except Harriet who is very delicate has cough & side pain - but has been relieved a little by blister & medication - Dr Duncan Percival say there is no danger. The Hamiltons are all well - withstanding the severity of this winter - Mrs H has got through it remarkably well. I hear from Bell very often & in every letter she enquires most affectionately for you - & desires me to tell you how warmly interested they all feel for you - & how much they rejoice that the land & place you have got, is such as you & Tom like. The Wallaces are well & always are interested about you - The weather has been so bad, we have met but seldom - your friend Mr Lindsay is much attached to you - he is now our constant visitor, coming every 2 day with a Belfast newspaper to Bess - & if he meets Anne or me out walking he is sure to turn & join us - he is a great gossip - but never knows anything he tells, clearly - & he mixes every here & there - "and all that" - & "altogether" - he is much annoyed at the badness of the butter here, & the dearness of Potatoes - & that the fields are not green like Ireland - and he is moreover very indignant at Lady Donegal for interfering in some Ball the Gentlemen in the neighbourhood of Belfast are to give to the Ladies - & he complains to us about it very often - he says Lady Donegal & Mrs Vaughn have done everything they possibly could to draw Wm Wallace into marrying Miss Vernon but he would not - He is improving Malone very much - Hill Wallace is in France - Mr Lindsay says he never saw any one so improved as Harriet Sturrock since her visit to England - she is grown so handsome & besides that her manners are much more affable - she has lost the proud high manner she used to have. - Lady Stewart now Lady Londonderry wanted her very much to live with her always - but her Mother would not consent - We have got acquainted with an English lady a Mrs Cheseldon & her friend Miss Boughton - They first lodged in this house - but we did not know them till they went next door - Anne drank tea there - there was no one else - it was not very pleasant - We

have lately become known to Miss Hughes sister to your Uncle Mun's agent - She is I suppose 60 - or 55 - she looks very brisk & fresh - seems very good natured talks a great deal very quick - & has taken me particularly under her protection because she had know Fanny E a little - when they lived here in 1782 so she considers me as an old acquaintance - Through her we have also become acquainted with a very nice old lady - a Mrs Travell - She is 84 - her mind is perfect, very strong & very active - her eye is as bright & animated as yours - She has been always very literary - & is beloved by all who know her & she has 17 nieces who are she says the best nieces that ever were - They are always some one or other with her. Now this lady is aunt to a certain Mrs Whalley who lodged in the house with us 20 years ago at Bristol - & whom I dare say you may remember our speaking of as being very agreeable - Mrs Whalley had 2 daughters there - 2 Miss Buxtons - the eldest married & died - & left 2 children - the 2d Jane Buxton who was about 12 or 13 at that time - is still unmarried, & devoted to her sister's children - Miss Buxton was here 3 months this winter - with Mrs Travell - how very provoking that I did not know it - she is now away - but is to be next week here again & I shall be very glad indeed to see her - how changed she will find me - wrinkled pale & faded - I am to drink tea with Mrs Travell on the 6th to meet her - I find too that her mother that Mrs Whalley I liked so much, was here in summer for 2 months - & we never met - perhaps we met 50 times, but 20 years make a thick veil

I shall have great pleasure in meeting these old acquaintances - at any rate I am very glad indeed to know such a nice warm hearted sensible old lady as Mrs Travell -

Some mistake has been made about me, & she was told I was not the Miss B who had been in the house with Miss Buxton - and when she discovered that I was her very person - She exclaimed "Oh! I am so glad! then you are my own Miss Beaufort that I have so often heard of - So that I feel as if you were my own old friend - Anne likes her very much - She has come here twice to see Bess & each time Bess has been out in the chair & they have not met. There is one great drawback however on the pleasure of conversing with her - She has a paralytic affection in her organs of speech which makes her articulation very indistinct & difficult to understand - without great attention - I am afraid Bess will not be able to understand her well - Anne & I do very tolerably - You would be surprised to see how stout & active she is - she walks a great deal - We continue to like the Miss Whynates very much of whom I told you - [] Mr Broadhurst is not yet married [] Bess has been reading Southey's history of the Peninsular War, & is much delighted with it - She is now reading the Life of Marie Antoinette - We are reading out a nice sort of book called Body & Soul in which there are different sketches of stories of people who all come to consult a Dr Freeman - an excellent rational clergyman of sound doctrine & amiable manners - There are one or two touches in painting his character that resemble a little my dear Father -

If I can I will send it to you - I have not got your list of commissions - I hope I shall have that if we go to London which I hope we shall - I may pick up nice things there for you - I have not heard anything lately of any of Tom's friends - except that Mr Stewart has got another farm - & that the new curate of Drum is going to live at Wilmont which is fitting up for him - the Berrys are in a ruined state - There has been an Auction at Middleton - & Mr & Mrs J Berry are to live at Drumcree either in the house with Mr Smyth or some say - in the house which Mrs Smyth had

built for a Jointure house- She you know is dead. We have lately read a very odd little book called the Confessions of an English opium eater - it seems as if it was true - & is really very interesting - he brought himself to take the most astonishing quantity of it - at first the affects were delightful - but after a few years - it had the most shocking affect on his nerves, & on his stomach - Tell that to Tom as a warning for I know he is a great taker of opium. Tell Tom I expect some commissions from him as well as you - tell him we feel great delight in his being so well pleased with his land - and that some time or other I am determined to go & visit you & him in your Loghouse - Ah dearest Fanny you hold out such a blessed hope that you will yet come & see us - in two years - God grant it - Oh such happiness dear dear Fanny I won't let myself think too much of it - Now adieu I have been writing all day & I believe I have said everything & about everybody - Anne is well & very fat -

I am well & strong & quite fat - but ugly & wrinkly & muddy & have the toothache a little always - We shall be here for some months still - you may direct here till I tell you where we go or what we shall do with ourselves. - I hope we shall go to London. We have not heard of the Maynes this long time. Yesterday we heard from Mary Sutton. they seem determined to come here in Spring - Sutton has been bilious all the rest well Robt Noble has had a fever but is well - Foley & Peggy are going on as well as possible & always look very happy when we tell them we have heard from you - Peggy begs I will give her love to Miss Anna Maria & the children - Dear Fanny I hope we shall soon know that they are well or that you have no anxiety - & that you are well & not frozen to death

I think you might put your lines closer & make your tails of your letters shorter You put 2 fs in afraid - your account of dear A M gives us all great pleasure - I mean before she was ill - what you say of her usefulness []

dear Fanny in attending to her manners as well as the more important parts of education - what ever her future fate may be, it will in any case be an advantage to her an inexpressible one to have polished pleasing manners Now God bless you all from my heart & all our hearts we send you & Tom & children our hearty blessing & tender love - & I am you know my beloved child Every your own

H B

Sidney Fortescue but indifferent

[Addressed to

Thos Stewart Esqre

Cobourg

Newcastle District

Upper Canada]

Letters 100-149

[original letter includes a diagram of the floor plan of Frances Stewart's house]

Douro May 7, 1823

Though I cannot send this letter perhaps for a week or two yet I must make a beginning this morning to shew that this day which gave me my dear Harriet, has not passed unnoticed. Oh may you be spared to your fondly attached friends in happiness & prosperity for many years - I must try to follow your example & write closer & smaller as my store of paper is diminishing fast. A good deal of my best folio paper was injured by wet & I have been obliged to share the rest with the Reids

May 18. This good WhitSundy my dearly beloved Harriet I must scribble a little more having read all my Sunday course & walked 2 miles & dined & read a little more. This house is still in a very rough & unfinished state. I believe I mentioned that our chimney was only half built at the time the house was erected: & that we shall be obliged to pull all that down that has been done as the frost prevented the mortar from binding properly. Our boards for flooring were obliged to be laid down in their rough state to season. So that they are quite loose, & from the heat of the fire in the winter, & the Sun now they have separated from each other in some places. Tom does not intend to take down the chimney till Autumn or perhaps Spring, for you must know that cellars are absolutely necessary to keep provisions vegetables &c in during our hot summer & cold Winters, & he wishes to make one job of it, & sink the cellar & build the chimney together. He also intends if possible to have a well in the Cellar all these operations will make us very comfortable, but will be rather expensive here when labourers wages are so high. So if we cannot do it in Autumn we will try in Spring & after that we will plaster the walls, lay the floors properly, & paper & carpet our little sitting room which at present is a bedroom. We shall then remove our bed ec into the inside room which is now a kind of lumber store room where we keep everything, bread, butter, milk, delf, & glasses at one end: at the other end, chests full of clothes & house linen & all sorts of things. In this little store room we are obliged to put any stranger to sleep, but the children & Betty the maid sleep in the room with us still in Cots. So you see my dear Harriet we must bear a good deal of inconvenience, but the hope of having everything made comfortable by degrees is a cordial that keeps up my spirits & reconciles us to everything. I wish I could give you a plan of the room in which we all eat & sit & sleep. I will try & perhaps you may be able to form some idea of it. No 1 is the door from the hall that is to be but at present the kitchen. #2 is the chimney. 3 & 4 are bookshelves which fill up all that side of the room except the door into our tiny repository. Under the shelves at No 3 we have a sofa made of the cots which the children & Betty occupy at night. Francis can tell you what nice Sofas can be made of the cots on shipboard; it is covered with crimson calico & looks very nice. At No 4 there is another sofa not quite so nice. It is made of a long box with a cot mattress upon it, & makes a very good seat; just over this seat are two shelves, occupied by Rees Encyclopedia, Dictionaries, Atlases & other books of reference, so I can sit here & reach to any volume I want. At 5 is a window to the north which is most delightful in winter as it is so warm

& cheerful & pleasant; now too as I have a green blind which throws a delightful shade over this my little study. At 6 are 4 little narrow shelves for the childrens books & toys & underneath stands a mahogany chest of drawers which perhaps you may remember seeing in Tom's dressing room at Wilmont. The upper drawer contains looking glass & razors & all sorts of dressing implements. There are four smaller drawers which he has most generously given to me for keeping gimcracks in. This is quite a pretty piece of furniture as it is neatly made & has brass handles & black mouldings & goes by the name of my work table. At 7 are 3 little shelves before which hangs a curtain; on the under shelf stands my basin & jug ec on the next my dressing box, & on the upper the childrens combs & brushes. All concealed by the curtain except when in use. At No 8 is a broad board supported on feet, which you may either call a table or shelf; here I keep my work baskets & boxes ec which you know are not a few. 9 is the bedstead which is boarded up at the foot, & looks more like a closet than a bed. I have hung sheets all round the inside to hide the boards & logs & make it look very neat - outside are buff calico curtains looped back. 10 is a window to the west at which stands a large deal table which is to travel into the kitchen whenever we can get a better in its place. the walls between the window & the door is covered with Maps amongst them the loved one of the diocese of Meath. The map of Canada hangs on the boards at the foot of the bed over No 8. I forgot to mention 4 stools & a sort of oblong box with a cushion, which also serves for a seat. All our dressing apparatus is carefully put by after being used; the bed settled & the rooms swept before breakfast & I open all the windows to purify the air before & after meals. I assure you except for the bed it has no appearance of being so completely a dormitory. Betty gets up at ½ past 4 washes Bessy, makes up the kitchen fire & puts on the kettle. Then comes back & dresses Anna Maria & Ellen settles up the cots in the sofa form I have described. Then goes to milk the Cow. If fine the children play out of doors. At ½ past 5 Tom gets up & soon as he goes out I rise from my downey pillow, generally before 6. A cord is fastened to the foot of my bed & the other end to one of the book shelves, on which I can draw a curtain across, & make a nice little dressing room. The dotted represents the cord. When my toilet is completed I unhook the cord & conceal the curtain amongst the drapery at the foot of the bed - by this time my good little Betty has breakfast laid and generally ready to sit down to. She saves me all trouble by her activity, & I have not even the teacups to wash except on Mondays when her washing hurries her a little. She breakfasts & dines at the table with us when we are alone, & with the children when any one is here, for she is so young & modest & decent that I don't like letting her stay with the workmen in the kitchen. We are almost always at breakfast at 7, dine at 12, tea & mens supper at 8, bed at 10 or 11. On Sundays all is an hour earlier, & we have prayers in the kitchen & a chapter in the bible before bedtime. In the middle of the day we have prayers in our own room. We have had some charming weather this last week & the trees have at last become green in a most astonishingly short time: We could perceive the difference in the Verdure between evening & the next morning. They are now most beautiful. On Monday last the 19th they began to open: it was a very hot day at ½ past 4 in the morng. The Thermometer was up to 64, at 10 at 82, at 1 at the north side of the house 90, in the evening 67. We had thunder & lightening on Tuesday. We have planted potatoes & Indian corn, & have melons & cucumbers up & also several vegetables. I am making a little flower garden at the south end of the house, & have mignonette in a box at the window

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[Extracts from F S

Dated Douro May 7 * 19. 1823

M N No 16

To Miss Beaufort]

Blucker Lodge Cheltenham August 1 1823

My dearest Fanny

We left London on Wednesday the 9th of July make a very pretty drive by Richmond & Kingston & through Windsor Park to Windsor, stopped there for two or three hours, saw the Castle and dined - The road was through a very rich country frequently crossing the Thames. - The Park at Windsor is magnificent & we drove for 3 miles I am sure through it - The castle equalled all my expectations in its outward appearance - it is indeed a stately royal place & stands so well on a bold eminence that it adds much to its effect - There is a broad terrace round two sides from whence there is a very extensive view - St Georges chapel is in beautiful Gothic - not quite so much ornamented as Henry VII chapel at Westminster & therefore it suits my taste more - We went through the suite of State rooms, I forget how many - They look old & faded now, but I hear the King is going to put them in proper reception order - There are several pictures some of them good - among others is one of Mrs Delaney - which is much more pleasing than the profile the Hamiltons have - We did not see the apartments the late King occupied - They are never shown without special order. After dinner we set out, & having crossed the Thames on a float very like our old acquaintance of the Inny - we drove by a very pretty winding road through open fields to Maidenhead bridge - a dear little spot where I should have much liked to have staid - changed horses & went on to Henley where we got at 9 - & slept - Next morning set out at ten - & by Oxford, Witney, North Leach where we dined arrived at Cheltenham at eight & regaled ourselves with tea at the Royal hotel where we slept. Next day, Ann & I hunted about driving 3 horses for a dwelling & at last found this house which suits us very well: it is in an airy gay situation very wisely furnished - Just at the other end nearly from where we lived before - we pay 6 guineas a week! - & consider it reasonable!

Here we have been three weeks this day - & I dont think we have had 4 real fine days in all that time - such windy cold rainy weather or at least showery - I have not seen since the summer I was at poor Wilmont - & it is just like what we had there. However we continue to get on very well & I know not when we shall tear ourselves from this place.

Since we came here dear Fanny we have had the delight of reading your letter to Aunt Sutton of May 5 -, yours to Anne & me of May 28 - & your last to myself of June 8 - all most delightful to us - & for your kindness never were correspondents more gratified - I really think with wonder of your being so good in giving up your time but indeed it is not wasted, never were hearts more grateful than ours are - nor more touched by the tender affection of your letters - Alas my dear child how many privations, how many little hardships you have to struggle with & with what equanimity & cheerfulness you bear them - indeed not only we, your partial friends as you call us, but all who hear of your situation in admiration or you - all your little details of your log house & your one room & your contrivances are excessively interesting - & very satisfactory only they make one a little sad now & then - I gave the letter to the Suttons as they

wanted to make extracts from it - of your letter of June 8 I was so treacherous, as not to tell them, as they had read that of May I thought they could not be uneasy for some time yet - and as there were one or two little sly things in it of Maria E - I thought it would not be fair either to you or her to show it to anyone but ourselves. Dear Fanny I do not think it weakness in you to be gratified at Maria's approbation - I like much your being alive to it - & that you have not got into the nonchalante independence of a Forest life - My dearest I am sorry that so much of your poor little property was spoiled & that the poor little brats clothes were among them - I hope none of your books suffered -. I am greatly vexed that I did not send you some neat walking shoes from London I was thinking of it & the doubt I was in about the fitting prevented me - I cannot tell you how I long to hear of the safe arrival or my box - in that I trust you will find some things that will be useful to you & the children - I reproach myself every day for omitting arrow root & flower seeds - Arrow root particularly - I am really much vexed at it - The Nicholson by which the box was sent, sailed from Liverpool I believe the 3rd week in June - at least the letter from the person there to whom Mr Wilson wrote, said that it was ready to sail with the first tide - Now my dear Fanny I must tell you that I am requesting much - of certain nonsense I said in my last London letter of a certain little Fancy which I thought Bess had, that Francis wanted to promote me in the Mercantile way - I am sorry I bothered you with it because it is so foolish for a person of my age to mind such things & because now that we [] London it is of course nothing - & indeed Francis too wise ever to have had such a plan - & so there it is - & you must think no more of it - I had the toothache so much in town it made me feverish & made me write stuff - since I came back here I have cleaned my teeth with an infusion of tobacco, in which I dip my brush - & I have never had the toothache -. I fagged so much in town that I was quite thin & raglike when I came back - but I am not fat & in great beauty again. - All your Sutton friends look very well, Cat in great glee - they live very near us - Mrs Palmer & Mr P & Wilfrid are coming - & Edwin Stock & his son are come so there is a fine set of them - The accounts of the 2 Miss Kirkpatrick's are not particularly suited to English ears - Mrs Travell & Mrs Whalley have untied the party & some of them met in at ten at Mrs Travell's on Saturday evening - Mrs Whalley thinks them all pleasing but is most inclined to Aunt Sutton & Catharine - who she says is a nice animated, lively pleasing girl - She is greatly interested about you & wishes much she had known you - she made me some bits of your letters, dear Fanny, pray forgive me, but indeed I am so vain of you I cannot 'hedge liking' to make you known - she is very pleased & must have some later ones. She said "How very well she writes, & what a well regulated mind & excellent principles she seems to have" - Poor Mrs Whalley's sight is so bad she cannot read more than a few minutes, nor employ herself in any way but knitting or talking - I go there every evening about half past 6 - & read to her about an hour - sometimes I stay to tea, & sometimes come home - She is very fond of us all & admires Bess's manners very much, she says they are quite elegant - She is particularly fond of me, & calls me Dear, when she speaks to me - quite in what I thought was the Irish fashion - I am reading Leanora to her, wh we both forgot, & she is much delighted with the beauty of the writing & thinks much of it very useful - Mrs Travell enters into the story with great warmth & interest - I dont know how long we are to be here, but I dare say a month still - Bess & Anne are so fond of this place - I am a little tired of it & would rather go to some new place now - I hope we shall got to Leamington, & we intend to take Birmingham in our way home, where we are to be shewed every thing by a friend Francis's & of the Wilsons - But I should like to set out sooner - for money is very scarce - &

besides I am getting the Swiss disorder & long to be at Merrion St & have my dear Mother & Louisa with us. My dear Ma is as well as can be - & Louisa is I believe well too & seems gayer - I have not heard from William this month so that I can tell nothing of him but that he is trying to borrow money, & can get none. I have heard no report of Emma's going to increase the family, so I hope she is not - on the 21st July Alicia produced a stout squalling boy, after being ill not 2 hours - She & it are as well as possible - & she has plenty of milk for it - I dont know yet what she will call it - you know she has particular fancies about names - likes to have multifluous in sound, & not common - She always speaks of Tom with very great interest & kindness - she thought him uncommonly pleasing - I am afraid by your not mentioning the Observors till your last letter that you have not got them before - but I hope you will have them Francis sends 4 regularly every month - latterly he has sent different papers that Tom may see which he likes best - & you must tell me which you prefer & then that shall be sent regularly - I will try to get some old Belfast papers from Miss Wallace, but I see very little of her of late - They are all in great vexation about Mr Hill Wallace who lately performed a little prank of running away from Paris with a married lady of bad character - I was surprised at his doing so, for he looks very dull & quiet - The Scottish chief I should have thought more likely - but he seems to be going on very well. He was here in Spring when we were in town so we did not see him - he is now in Italy. Alicia Smythe is married to Mr Gibbons, your auld acquaintance Terry Peggy - Miss Wallace is quite outrageous at her, for not making a handsome settlement of an Annuity on Mrs J Stewart - I hear that Mrs Stewart had got another farm - & is living at Lough Park - it is said that Isabella Sturrock is going to be married to Mr Darling - said to be a very good match for her - I have not seen Mr Lindsay since I heard it - But now I must tell you of the marriage of an old friend of yours - Charlotte Howse - to an officer but I cannot recollect his name at this instant - the history is however remarkably smart, almost dandyish - he met her very often, & was very much delighted with her musical talents - He always paid her great attention but she had so very humble an idea of herself, that it never occurred to her that he love her - When he was ordered away he took so very particular leave of her that she was quite surprised. His regiment went to Ceylon - After several months came a letter to her from him to say that he was offered a very fine situation there, but his accepting depended on her - for that if she would not go out with him - he would give it up & come back, as he could not live without her. So she bought all her Trousseau & she & her old Mother set sail & arrived safe & sound at Ceylon where she was married - who would have thought she could inspire such a passion!

Maria E, Harriet, Sophy & Wm are I believe still in Scotland I have not heard from them this long time - I long to hear all that particulars of the Sugar making & of the Potash - but I want to know why you burnt all your trees at once, instead of keeping it for fire wood; I see in the newspaper that Tobacco is beginning to be cultivated in Upper Canada - so I suppose you will have some soon. I shall be very anxious to hear of the success of all your crops - but will the produce of ten acres be enough to support your family. O my dear friends for Heaven's sake do lay in a store - for after reading Capt Franklin's journey to the mouth of the Coppermine river & all the miseries he & his companions under went I have a horror of your being in want of food through the winter - they were often for days together without any food but a Lichen that they gathered in the rocks & it generally disagreed with their stomachs. His book is very interesting, but it is a great quarto with several plates so that it is very expensive. I wish I could have sent you some

more books in my box - Quentin Durward particularly - I hope you will be able soon to join your book society - it would be such a comfort to you - & I hope most excessively that you & Tom will be able to make your cellar & finish your chimney this year - but indeed if you cannot do both - I think you ought to finish the chimney & make it & the room as comfortable & as safe as you can before winter - recollect my dear friends what a long & dreary winter of many months you will have - & I beseech you to provide in time for it.

I hear that some one has got a patent for a mode of keeping meat quite fresh during a long voyage of Richd Garrant who is gone to New Holland writes that both meat & c[] were preserved perfectly well & a great pleasure to them in their voyage - if I can learn anything about it in my next letter I will tell you, for I think it might be useful to you. I made Francis enquire about the Tin dishes & he writes to me that he has enquired in several shops - 2 dishes of 20 inches & 4do smaller wd cost £1 14s, 6 covers to fit £1 5s, tea kettles 7s 6p £2..16..6

He adds that he "would recommend the dishes to be of Pewter, which resist rust, and which are much easier set to rights if they should perchance meet with bruises and which I may add never wear out - they would be however double the price" - It appears however that the Pewter would be the best economy in every respect - so I hope you will be able to have them sent in the next cargo - Now I think of it let me say that I beg you will always mention in every letter little article that occurs to you that you may think of - because I will keep a list of all these little things & shall pick them up by degrees just as they offer themselves - you & my dear little A M - shall certainly have a little magnifying glass of some kind or other - Her dear inquiring mind deserves encouragement & assistance

Lovell & Fanny have both wanted us to go to Etown till 31 is ready for us - this came today so I dont know what answer we shall give - you had better continue to direct to Manchester St till we are actually in Ireland once more my dearly beloved. Dearest Fanny you may depend on my propriety about your letters - but they are really charming & do so interest & amuse us, as I cannot describe to you - all your particulars your sophas your dressing room your little study all are delightful & shew what a mind you have -

I am sure you deserve to be happy & to be blest with such a companion as your is. May God bless you both & your children

H B

The pleasure you experience My dearest Fanny from receiving letters from the old world we enjoy from your communications from the New Hemisphere and a considerable alleviation it is to the pains of distance & absence to hear so frequently from one so dear to us all as you are - even if we did not love your so much your letters would be interesting & [] from the new situation in which you are placed & the new circumstance that concerns you is so very interesting to us - you may imagine the happiness it gives us to hear you are well & happy - content & cheerful even tho' we feel intense regret for the privations & inconveniences - & many very hardships - you encounter with such patience & resolution - If the general esteem &

determination of all those who know & all those who hear of you can reward you in any degree - you may rest assured you have that recompense - I can well imagine the delight you felt on receiving our beloved Bess letter - at a time when all your anxiety was alive about her - indeed her recovery after so severe & so extraordinary an illness to us who saw her in all stages of it - was indeed more than we could incur more sanguine moments sometime ago have expected - she was able to go through very great fatigue in London without injury - & though she complains of being weak on her limbs - yet she is able to take very good walks - though not as long as she could do - forty summers ago - she does not make allowance - for her illness she has had or the lapse of years - not that I would have you think she is not in highest degree grateful to Providence for her health & comfort she ever enjoys & which if indeed the flattering prospect you hold out of paying us a visit in the course of two or three years - I trust you will be an eye witness of yourself. She met with an unpleasant overturn in one of the wheel chairs - (in which she took such delight all the winter) a few days ago - Her own favourite chairman happened to be engaged that day - [] morning was wet - but clearing up about the middle of the day we persuaded her to go out - the road she chose was rather dirty & to avoid the mud in the middle of the road the chairman went on a Bathway which sloped a little to one side - she either did not hear him - or a crooked motion of the chair made her rest her weight on the shelving side - which upset it - I was just going out to walk when I met her coming home - & thinking she looked pale & not as gay & cheerful as she usually does in her chair I returned home - we did not immediately know what had happened - till Harriet perceived on her mud on her veil & bonnet - She then said she believed she had been contused & complained of being sick - It happened Dr Boricagan [] was visiting someone next door - I ran out to beg he would come to see her which he did - as she said she was not hurt & we perceived no scratch or bruise - He said that what had occurred would not signify - Harriet had before given her a little Hartshorn & she desired her to take a little brandy & water - As however her sickishness continued we thought it would be satisfactory to send for Mr Seager in case bleeding might be necessary - we had the comfort of his confirming what Dr Boricagan said - that no bad effects need be apprehended - & that the sickishness arose from bile being up by the shock of the Fall - He did not think bleeding was necessary - ordered her medicine & to have her head sponged [] times a day with vinegar - He called the two next days & still was confirmed in the opinion - no bad consequences would arise from it - though naturally she must be very much shaken - by such a fall - tho' not seriously injured - she had a small bruise on one temple - & her elbow grew black next day so she came down with more force than she was aware of herself from being [] by the fall - She has been out since in her own chair - & with the man she is used to - who is very careful - it would have been a great pity - if this had given her a dislike to those chairs from which she has experienced such health & such enjoyment - we are most thankful this accident - which might have been so [] has not been of any bad consequences - how little we can tell what may befall us in the moments of our greatest security - and how sharply does all the most trifling incidents of our lives make us feel that we are such poor helpless creatures - without the all supporting power of God.

Every one perceives that Bess grew fatter while in London - Harriet fagged herself with too long walks but she is regaining her good looks - & her health is very good - I was a little [] then & had a cold - which brought on a weakness in my eyes - particularly one of them from [] age hd -

but a small blister behind my ear & some ointment & use by Mr Seagers direction - had done me good & will I dare say in a little time quite remove this unpleasant feeling - My health is now perfectly good -

Your acct of the surveyer was most entertaining must have been no small plague in your dwelling. I wish you were nearer that nice Mrs Rubidge & had some good society.

Farewell my dearest child always give my kindest love to Tom - Kiss the dear babes for me & ever believe me with kind love & esteem your affecn friend

A M Nangle

[Addressed to

Thos A Stewart Esqr

Douro Cottage

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Finished Aug 4

All quite well]

[78-008/1/6 #102](#)

Douro 24th Octr 1823

My dearest sister

Since I recd your last letter of June to which dear Aunt Sutton & Bessy added their mites, I have often intended writing to you, but for the last fortnight or three weeks our whole attention & time have been engaged so as to prevent us from acting or thinking on any other subject - Our lovely little Bessy - it has pleased the Almighty to take her heavenly little soul to himself - She was a most engaging, dear child, & engaged the heart of any one who ever saw her, But - "The Lord gave & the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord". I hope I can say this with true sincerety & resignation - her illness was the dysentry, & was brought on by having eaten many improper things, for she always had a way of picking up things & eating them, but as I have written a minute details of her illness to A: Nangle I need not go over the painful account again, as I know you will see it. A short time ago Tom had fixed upon a very pretty retired spot near this house for the situation of a little Chapel he is going to build & near it a spot which he intended to enclose for a burying ground. How little did we then think this our blooming, laughing Cherub would be the first of its occupants - but it has been, & tho' it is a most bitter, bitter, time, I trust we may be enabled to see it in a proper point of view. I know it has been sent us in Mercy - & that it may be for our good is our constant prayer.

We cannot doubt but it is right - Her dear remains were deposited in that spot; it is near the river to which there is a pretty sloping bank, the place of interment is in a grove of Hemlock trees, the foliage of which is quite suited, as they are dark, & solemn looking - The Hemlock is a kind of pine, something like the Spruce Fir, or between that & the Cedar of Lebanon, they grow about a Hund feet high, & are I think very beautiful trees. Between four of these Hemlocks which form a natural canopy above, lies the body of our darling little Angel. The funeral procession had a pleasing tho' sad appearance, passing thro' the dark Forest, it consisted of every individual of our Family, & all the Reids. Tom & I attended, as it gave us painful pleasure, & our two dear little remaining children - they all & their little cousins walked together, as all were equally fond of our darling Infant. Even our labourers shed tears over her little grave, as she made every body fond of her. Tom is gong to have a little Head-stone put for her with simply her name

Here lies

Little Bessy Stewart

Died 20th Octr 1823

Ages 1 year & 11 months

My dearest Catherine I fear I have dwelt too long on this subject, but I know you will forgive me, & make some allowance for a Mother's weakness, & partiality, but no one could help feeling partial to such a child.

Your friend Mr Fetherstone paid us a short visit about three weeks ago, & you may guess how delighted we were to see a Person who had so lately been at Clongill. Indeed I am sure I must have teized him most terribly asking so many questions, for I was not aware until some days after he left us how "harrowing to his feelings" it was to speak of some of the Clongill family, but he wrote Tom a note saying how much he was pleased with our little settlement, & at the end made an apology for his not having been more communicative to me on the subject which must have been the most interesting to me - We like him very much, & only regretted that our accommodations were so bad, & fear he found them very uncomfortable but he was excessively goodhumoured & seemed to wish to prevent us from putting ourselves to any inconvenience. He (accidently I suppose) left a very nice poem here, which belongs more rightfully to a fair Lady at Clongill I fancy. - If I had time, & room, & spirits just now, I should write it out here, but I have none of the three - When Mr F was taking leave of Tom at the end of our Avenue, he put a letter into his hand which Tom could not open till he was gone, it was an inclosure of a Bank Note for 100 Dollars, £25, for the Stewart Settlement at the same time wishing us success & prosperity. This very handsome donation from one who was a perfect stranger, we can only consider in a gratifying point of view. Tom intends to appropriate this little Sum, along with as much more as he can collect, for building our little Church. He has written to request Mr Mathias will try if the Church Missionary Society will contribute towards it & if he could add to our little fund by a few private subscriptions. We are in a most deplorable way for a place of worship, & Tom is determined if he cannot raise more money by subscriptions to erect a very small one with Mr F's gift as far as it goes, for we cannot spend our Sabbaths without meeting for worship in some place for the purpose. If you ever see your friend Mr F: pray thank him for us, & tell him that we think a Church will be of most public utility to our Colony. We did not know where a letter would find him or Tom would have written directly to himself

Sat 25th I am most impatiently looking out for more letters from my dear friends & perhaps we may have them tonight as our friend Mr Bethune sent us word a day or two ago, that he would be here today, & I think it probably he will bring a budget of letters. I am glad he is coming now particularly as I think his Society will give dear Tom's thoughts a new turn. This has been a sad stroke to us both, to him in particular. She was his greatest favourite & made herself dear to him by so many sweet little winnings ways, but he is supported by that surest of all supports - Religion, which Which he feels in his heart now most fervently, & his conversation is delightful to my mind, & soothing to my heart. Thank God I am very well in health, & I find it best to employ myself as actively as I can. Sitting working indeed is too trying yet - for she was my constant & dear little companion but I am again running on again too long on this subject - I am longing to hear how dear Uncle Sutton is after the painful trial he suffered attending the decline of his brother. I feel truly for him & all the friends of this excellent & worthy Lady, but to her what a happy change it must be. I expect your next will give me a detail of your proceedings at Cheltenham & how our darling Aunt Sue like the dissipation.

My own dear Kate my mind is in a state of stupor & my ideas are so confined that I cannot write. I cannot bear collecting thoughts yet, but I will write soon again. In the mean time & for ever believe me my dear, dear, Kate,

Yours truly & fondly

attached Sister

F Stewart

Give my love to all with you that you know I love & to all my dear friends at Allenstown -

[No 24

M.N.

Extracts from F.S.

Dated Oct 27th 1823

To Miss Browne]

31 Merrion St Dublin November 23d 1823

I think I cannot close this Sunday Evening better, than by beginning a folio to my dear Fanny - So having dismissed the tea tray - & men[ding my] pen, here am I seated in my old place at the tea table - doing what I love of all t[hings] - writing to my excellent & admirable child - Some one in a letter to me lately, said they th[ought] if any thing could make me proud, I must be proud of you - so I am not pou[d] - I am satisfied & delighted with you, and I am grateful indeed to Heaven for [] blessed you with such a disposition & such strength of mind & cheerful conte[nance] It scarcely seems a month yet, since I dispatched my first folio from [] house - Now I begin another. I am most happy to say that our Bess [] wonderfully well - her spirits appetite & sleep are all good - her looks as [] one, & her spirit & animation - she is the first down to breakfast in the morning - is able to take a good walk every day, & to join in whatever is going on - & sits up till 11 reading & working & looking quite brisk. - A few days after I wrote last to you, my mother & Francis & Louisa came to us. I think on Monday the 3d - Fanny Edgworth who had been bathing at Dunleavy came here also - to stay in the day & was to sleep at Mr Thos Edgworths house in town - then she got a bed at Richmond Rectory house in Merrion Square - but behold the house was let at last - so it ended in her staying here & to prevent Francis's lying on the chairs - I put Fan in my place in Louisa's bed in my Mother's room - & I contrived without Francis ever discovering it, to sleep on a Mattress in Bess's room. While we so full we were in a little sort of hurry, every day between visitors & company - & going about every day with Francis whenever he wanted to walk to see anything. One day the Brinkleys dined here without any other company - They were all exceedingly agreeable, & seemed to enjoy the day very much - They are all so fond of Francis & admire him so much. He & the Dr had a great deal of scientific conversation, but besides that Dr B talked very agreeably on many other more common subjects. Another day, we had Aunt Mary & Honoria on their way to England! & William E. who came to town to escort them to Burkeley Lodge today - After all this social gaiety at home, we are now a very small party - Francis left us on Wednesday 12th. Anne went to Painstown to the Brabazons the following Monday, & on tuesday Fan left us, so we are now my Mother & Louisa Bess & I - My Mother seems to have recovered very much since she came here - & was able to walk a good deal & seemed very well, but the other day she hit her leg against a box. - & it has gathered & is very like a sore boil & the leg a good deal inflamed - She has a constant poultice on it & it is a great deal better today - but the weather is so uncommonly mild & fine for the latter end of Novr that it is a very great pity she is quite confined to the house. Louisa looks ill - She is miserable pale & looks all crinkled up - & not half as animated as she used - her headache are troublesome, but she has not had many since she came here - I hope we may be able to give her a little gaiety & amusement of some kind for I think she is always the better for it. - Last Wednesday the 19th we went my dear Fanny by invitation to breakfast at Mr Mathias's - to meet the Honble Dr Stewart of whom you have heard so much - The good Canada Missionary - Mr Stewart & the Mathiases were very kind & very anxious that we should meet him, that he might be able to tell you he had really seen us - and that he may be the better able to do so - We all wrote down our names & gave him the

paper for you - Mrs Frood & Mrs Peebles & a tribe of young Bellinghams who were always making a whispering - & a pale woman in black whose name I never heard - Altogether we completely filled a long table - hospitably covered with various good materials for breakfast.

We were all introduced to Dr S me as your friends - & then Mr Mathias gave me a second introduction as your most particular friend - Dr Stewart has a very ugly countenance at first & does not at first reception look gracious - but when he got into conversation he improved much & his countenance grew quite animated & intelligent. - He is a very plain uneffected sort of a straight forward man -; I am pretty sure he is of the evangelical party, at least in a degree, but I am sure he is moderate, & rather cautious, & desirous to keep fair with all parties. I observed that he totally avoided all cant, and all peculiar expressions, and when Mr Mathias talked of Christian minded people - & Evangelical people Dr Stewart never said those words - but - Oh yes a very good religious man, - or a very good well conducted man &c - He seems much interested about Canada - but very fair & candid about it - telling with openness all its demerits as well as advantages & anxious that people should not attempt to go out as Settlers to uncleared land unless they are capable of bearing as you & Tom have, with courage and Heart all the various difficulties & privations which must attend them for the first year or two. He told Mrs Frood not to think of it unless she felt that she was equal to all that - Mrs F said she would prefer a place already cleared & built on & near a town so that she could have some Society - that you can easily have for money he said - & in such a situation you may do very [] & will be no worse than in a farm at home - but for the management of new [] uncleared, it will never do to live away from the land - in a village [] seems to be interested about all Mrs Stewart's Douro friends - and says he will [] go to see you - he is to return to Canada from England, next April or May; [] to see you in the course of the Summer - if not next Summer however, he will [] go the following one - but if he cannot go next year to you, he will at any [] send you the paper on which are written our names. He gives no hope [] your have a clergyman established - because there are several other [] of much longer standing, where there are Churches erected, still without [] - from a difficulty it appears of paying the Salary. He did [] propose to Mr Hare a young clergyman who is ready to become a missionary [] small salary - but Mr Hare having consulted the lady he is to [] that he could not accept this small salary. I mentioned to Dr Stewart [] clergyman about 18 miles from you, who you hope [] times to officiate for you - He said he approved of that - & that he knows the man, who is a Mr Thompson & is a very good man. It is frequently the case that one Pastor has two townships to attend, until the inhabitants become numerous.

I told him that in some of your letters you had named a plan of erecting a sort of Loghouse Chapel to be a temporary place of worship till you could have a better real one built - but he entirely disapproves of that idea - He says what he always advises new settlers to do, is to erect a school house - This is certainly the best preparation for a Church, for the children will learn there to prepare themselves to benefit by having a church - They will learn some good habits & discipline - and then if you should have a visit from a clergyman, the Schoolhouse will answer perfectly well as a chapel & you can have service in that very easily - until you have a proper church built for he thinks it a very bad plan to build a temporary place of worship -

Novr 25 My dear Fanny I grew so shockingly sleepy yesterday evening when I was writing this between dinner & tea, that I fear that some of it is quite illegible - and indeed it seems a great shame to grow sleepy writing to you my dearest child. Now, I will go on with Dr Stewart. He told us that some years ago he set a subscription on foot in England for the purpose of building Churches in Canada; he collected two hundred pounds by small subscriptions - & with that sum he assisted the building of 20 churches - The way in which he assisted is this - he insists on a great deal of the church being built before he supplies money, that he may be sure it will be applied to that purpose - He conditions with the inhabitants of the Settlement that they shall supply Stone & Tinker - Then he comes when it is pretty far advanced, and he gives nails, tools, furniture for it, & all such articles as the country does not produce. For this purpose a hundred pound is sufficient. Well my dear, he is now beginning to collect a new subscription for this same purpose & he says he has done very little about in Ireland, because we Irish are so poor now [] hopes to have a good collection in England - and he assures us that if we should do so he can secure to us that any money we collect, shall be separately appropriated to erecting a Church at Douro - He is to send us some of his printed Subscription papers, & we must all do our best to get them well filled for if possible dear Fanny you may be sure we will all try to make a collection for this good purpose, since we are assured it will be devoted to our dear friends. Dr Stewart gave your friend Mr Macawley of Cobourg a very high character; - There is a Church now erecting at a place about 7 miles from Cobourg - I forgot its name - and he says he does not think that a clergyman can be appointed for it yet for some time and he supposes Mr Macawley will have to officiate there. He says you will every year find your comforts increase & your difficulties diminish - & that you will be soon very tolerably comfortable - it is only among the new settlers that it is common to let the cattle run wild - but all those established a year or two have cow houses & hen houses. I mentioned that the insects crawled in to the house between the opens of the Logs - & that I feared it would be so till you were able to plaster the house within & without, but Dr Stewart said you might make it very comfortable by filling all the chinks with mud - & that it is always done immediately after the building of the house - he says it makes them much more comfortable & besides, will keep out the troublesome insects. I enquired if he could tell me any books that treat of the Natural history of Canada - or the botany - he knew nothing about them at all - & said oh its just like the Natural history of any other country - There is some book on it said he, in England - some conversations or some such thing by a lady - when he said this Mrs Froid looked over to me & said in a half voice "Yes Dialogues on Botany" to Louisa's diversion. - I believe I have told you most of the Breakfast history now - it was just after ten when we drove about visiting & shopping all the rest of the day & got home just at 5 o'clock.

26th Mrs Stewart & Mrs Froid were here today - & very kindly brought us a map of Canada thinking we might like to see exactly your situation as well as they can guess it - & also a great pile of missionary magazines & things of that sort - so you see I am preparing to be one of the Godly There is a terrible spirit of controversy in Ireland now - Those foo[] miracles which really were not worth thinking about, people have written [] so seriously that is quite ridiculous & have preached about too. Ano[ther] that there is every Wednesday Evening a sermon in St James's Church & St George's alternately, upon error of the Church of Rome. I he[ar] the Churches are crowded by the lower orders & many who are evide[ntly] Catholics, and that

several priests are present at these sermons - [] too that Some priests have been closeted with our Archbishop - & are [] become Protestants if they could be secured any provision - it [] that in all parts of Ireland Catholics are daily becoming protestants - ho[] I know not, but I cannot but fear that the invitation that already [] between the two people will be terribly encreased by the zealous [] think ill judged exertions of Mrs Burke & Mrs Daly & some others - [] present I think Ireland is not much disturbed - but I hear w[] very troublesome winter - However all the people about him are very attached to him & Emma & messages have been sent to him frequently to assure him that he will never be attacked. He has just been able to pay his Landlord all arrears of rent due for Upton - & has some hopes of getting rid of the place - I wish he could, but that is too good I am afraid to hope for - He speaks of coming soon to this country & will bring Billy I believe to Etown School - They are all well now - Fanny had some kind of Chicken pock& was very feverish - but is able to be out again now. Poor Lucy is in a very melancholy state - suffering very much latterly from an inward gathering - There is evidently a tumour inside at one side of the stomach - it is now advancing more rapidly than it did for some time - it is continually fomented every hour, & linseed meal poultices applied but here is no appearance of it coming forward on the outside - it must therefore break within - if the discharge fortunately get into the intestines or the Bladder all may do well, but if not, the Surgeon says it will cause suffocation; - Even supposing that it should be carried off properly it seems very doubtful that She can have strength to bear such a discharge as it must be; She has very much lost her appetite & She is already become a perfect sketch. So that I can scarcely let myself hope that she will outlive this crisis - it is awful to think in what a moment the life of this dear creature may be closed - Never was a mind in a happier state if truly pious resignation & calmness - her religious feelings are very warm and very sincere and her mind is well ordered & happy. They are quite uncertain as to the period at which the Tumour may break & terminate all their hopes and fears - it may be immediately - or it may not be for many weeks. When the Tumour is pressed it gives her great pain in the back; and also in her eye. - Her whole inside seems disordered poor soul. Her Mother Harriet & Sophy sit up by turns, two every night so that third night, one, has a whole nights sleep - I hear that Harriet looks the worst - Old Fanny keeps up astonishly in looks & exertion. You[ng] Fan recovered her health very much at Dunleavy - & is in excellent looks - she is now gone home. Since I wrote last to you Aunt Mary & Honoria changed their minds again & in consequence of the letter they had poor Burkeley Lodge - & left there on their way to England last week - They were both pretty well - Francis waited in town, because he thought Aunt Mary wanted him to escort her, but Wm E took a sudden fancy of going - so then we had Francis with us a day or two longer - he staid an additional day to celebrate my dear mother's birthday the 11th on which she was 85 - She is very tolerably well now but for the little sore on her leg which I mentioned I believe at the beginning of this; but that is to be well in a few days I hope for she has at last taken some advice for it.-

Wm E seems very well & has got some employment which makes him happy - Sneyd is coming over directly to see his friends here - I had a letter the other day from him from Brussels to which place they had just come. Mrs E had been better during the Journey than for a long time before - & they had both enjoyed the whole of it very much - Mrs E continue pretty well - he will leave her there & will come over very soon - I believe Mr Broadhurst will go & stay with her

while Sneyd is away. Sneyd was quite satisfied about Honora's & my refusal of his invitation to spend the winter with them on the Continent. Pakenham is gone to the Charter hou[se the] same school in London that little Francis is at - both going on as well as possible - Pakenham [has] risen 4 or 5 forms since he went - & Frs is in the highest form, - Sophy E was greatly admired in Scotland - She and Harriet enjoyed the excursion very much - & Maria particularly. - I believe Maria will go to London next Spring - & I am sorry for it - fo[r the] company will not be half as much prized as it was, if she makes it so common - [] the girls were so dissipated & so anxious to go every where & see & do every thing, [] rather laughed at them - at least they wondered. I wish some of those girls [] married, but pretty & engaging as they are, I fear they are going to share the [] their respected Aunts! - I was at the Botanic garden last week [] Mr McKay of your Cardinal flowers. - he seemed quite surprised at the doub[] so have all to whom I have mentioned it - We are all very curious to see it, & [] beautiful flowers - but I hope you have dried some of every kind - even [] like our own, that we may examine them - pray save any bulbous roots [] & pray dry for us 3 specimens of every flower - if you dry them w[] you, it will be a treasure to us botanists. - Mr McKay has lent me Pursh's Flora of North America - The descriptions are all in botanical latin, which wd be a bother to you to make out or I would buy the book & send it next spring - but I intend to translate for you the descriptions of all those of Upper Canada & that will save your some trouble & time - which last is very precious to you my dear & excellent useful creature - I will also send you some extract also from Kalms travels in Caroline. - It makes me admire you more & more & more every day to see that you keep your elegant & civilized tastes in the midst of your present hard working life - & I assure you my dearest Fanny every time we get one of your delightful letters - we feel more & more your kindness in writing in the midst of so much real business - All the parts of your letters that we read to our friends delight [] I sent an extract to Etown from your last, in wh you mentions dear Anna Maria's usefulness - [] all much pleased with it - it is now gone to Berkeley lodge - Aunt Mary wished much [] some to read to Mrs & Miss Sneyd who she says are quite interested about you - I am [] no letter from you now every evening - & am sorry it has not come time enough to be [] in this. - I request you will tell me in your next letter every thing you can [] that you will want out next year - for please the fates I will send them off in time from [] I will depend on myself & not on any faithless man. I am sure now you will never [] I sent by Liverpool - & am in great grief - there are so many things that would have []ful & that you wanted - and yet Dr Stewart says they communication between Liverpool [] is as easy as from Dublin to Liverpool & that things go as safely.

[] I answered all your questions about old women & servants in my last - All [] are as usual - Margaret is greatly gratified at your inquiring about her - [] bothered & stupid - We are so completely our old selves that I cannot [] spired at it - it is like the woman who in a crowd at a fire lost her shoe & was pushed on [] the crowd pushed her back again, & her foot got into its own shoe! - I enclose you [] others seed we got at Cheltenham - & in my next letter I will send you some [] flower seed - I delight in your little garden & Scarlet runners & mignonette [] interested for you as if you were her sister - I hope you will write to her - She has [been rather] better of late - We intend to try & persuade her to come to town when Anne is coming home - I hope she may for I know it will do her good - & be such a pleasure to Louisa & to us all. Louisa is very pale & headachy. Mary Pool is still out of place - but she has the pleasure of having a baby

to nurse her last child has lived - & is 2 months old - it is the least little white delicate creature you ever saw. Alicia's last baby - Morris William B is coming on very well - Emma is not in that predicament at present that you are in - & I hope has done. Oh how anxious I shall be to hear of you my beloved - I hope & pray - may I beseech you to go to Cobourg for that time indeed it is your duty to your husband & your children for you are every thing to them. I am sure dear Tom will make you - pray dont conceal from him our anxiety that you should do so - All your Allenstown friends are in town now - The whole tribe 8 in number for Robt & little Mun have joined them - Most of them were here the evening they arrived - Your uncle was here today looking very well - he paid us money for which we were starving nearly. They are able to be here to tea tonight Oh how I wish you could see Bess how well & alive & bright she is - but please God - you will yet perhaps in your promised visit - which perhaps in his infinite goodness he may permit it.

Sidney Fortescue has received such benefit from Dr Brownes prescription that she is suddenly become almost quite well - no longer confined to her sofa - She is able to walk & almost run up stairs, & down - & only feels the annoyance of a headach now & then

Miss Walker & Miss Cooper are the same way - poor Miss C is always imagining that whispers are in her ears & in the middle of what she is saying - suddenly exclaims about the whispers she hears - She thinks God is angry with her as she will not go to Church! - The Maynes are very well - Aunt M: & Maria are gone for the winter to a boarding house near the Rock called Temple Hotel

How very long my dear Fanny our letters are in reaching you - it seems wonderful that when [] wrote in September you had not received mine of may - before this I hope you have - Mother & I came here the 3d of November, & she has been very well since she came her breathing [] than at Etown where she had been very far from well - She hurt her leg some time ago [] & grew very sore, but she is better now & she has an Apothecary to doctor it who is said to be very skillful [] legs & such-like; He promised that she shall be well in three or four days - We were much delighted [] []esses looks strength & spirits, & with Harriets strength recovered activity & her improved spirits, had [] apointed as her looks; though they are much better than when she went to England [] much fatter - she generally very cheerful but her old disorder of slepiness is often very [] We are just now in a state of peculiar anxiety about poor Lucy E - whose tumour we [] is at last advancing rapidly, if this breaks so as to find a vent either in or externally & [] has strength for it, it will they say carry off the old back disease - but it may break [] vent & then instant suffocation maybe the consequence - and at any rate she []ve strength to bear the discharge; it is now a sort of suspension between life & death [] awful - She is quite prepared to go, is quite resigned to either but would almost rather [] & her mind is perfectly calm, clear & cheerful, viewing the affliction that have [] as blessings, which have taken her from a life of carelessness to one of serious []ling improvement - All Wm Bs family are now well & we hope soon to see him [] bringing to school at Lovells - poor little Billy still lives on but a perfect skeleton - I have not heard lately from my poor Allotts but when I did they were better - my nice kind Sophy Rutherford (Stewart that was) writes often to me & the Edgeworths tell me is liked & loved by all the Scotch who know her - I cannot recollect any

more particulars that you know - so will end by hoping that you will be very prudent & not over exert yourself but spare now that you may recover the quicker at Cobourg, where of course you must go, as wolves or Indians or the as wild Reids would be the only help in your forest - pray dear take care of yourself think how much depends upon your health, & how many receive help & satisfaction from you - retain then this great happiness to them & you as far as in you lies & always love you affect Louisa

Louisa wrote to you in May & indeed she has not forgotten you I wish you would get the Pioneers to read there is so much of North Amca in it, you would be much interested - I long to know how you like Margt Lindsay - I wish I could send you things often to you that you might have new books for your little bites of reading but however I am glad you & Tom have such a nice collection of real worthy books - I am glad you are refreshing your memory with Bigland's letters - I am very glad you get the English papers regularly now - I want much to know which of all those that Frs sends Tom likes best - He sent variety on purpose that Tom might choose you ask what your letters cost - very little - about a penny more than a London letter I think I hear that the Bishop of Meath is quite charmed with Catherines pleasing countenance & thinks her even prettier than Bessy. The Hamilton & []

God bless you my Ever dear Fanny I must stop now and once more I must tell you You are beloved by us all

H B

Anne forgot to leave me the 2d part of the bill & I fear it will be too late for the mail.

Address to

Thos A Stewart Esqre

Douro Cottage

Cobourg

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Douro 18th Decr 1823

My dearest Bess

It is now within a few days of being 2 months since we received the last dispatches from Cobourg or any packets from home - so you may imagine the state of extreme anxiety in which we now are & the impatience with which we daily watch for the arrival of some messenger with glad tidings - I hope they may be truly glad tidings - & that the next letter may contain as good & delightful accounts of our dear friends, as the former letters have - The reason of our being so completely shut out from the world just at present is the state of the roads, lakes, & rivers. The snow on the roads & the ice on the lake, not being hard enough for sleighing - & on some parts of the river being too thick to allow boats to pass - so that only horse or foot messengers could travel - & on some parts of the river being too thick to allow boats to pass - so that only horse or foot messengers could travel - & but few of them like to come so far at this time of year thro' the deep snow. However we suppose that by this time the roads & lakes are become passable, & on Sat. next Tom intends to go to Cobourg to lay in a fresh store of provisions - We have at last got a road nearly finished between this & Mr Rubidges, so that we shall be nearer society than we have yet been since our sojourn in the great woods - & our distance from Cobourg will be only 26 miles instead of near 40. This in winter can be travelled in about 4 or 5 hours with great ease. Tom sent 5 men today from this & there were 4 at work before & we expect that tomorrow eveng this long wished for road will be completed - I have now to announce to you another piece of news & through you to my various other friends, - at Clongill etc etc as I am not sure of having time to finish more than this one letter. - Well then be it known to my Friends & the public - that on Sat mornng Decr 13th at a quarter before 2 in the morn - the lady of Thos Alexr Stewart, Esqr - produced a fine fat daughter after an illness of about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour!!! And that Mother & babe are going as well as possible - She had a Femme sage of great skill an old Highlander - who staid in the house & who managed both mamma & infant with every care & attention. The most anxious freinds could wish - Tom is to invite Mr McCauley to come to baptise my infant & perhaps may bring him home with him from Cobourg on Friday sennight - I had fixed long that if this child was not a boy, it should be called Harriet or Catharine but since the death of our dear Bessy I requested that this child should be called after her so she is to be Bessy - We are, both just as well pleased that it is a girl, tho' some months ago - I am sure Tom would have much preferred a boy, but now we all love this little Bessy - who has been given to us to fill up the blank left by that dearest & sweetest - I dont see any likeness to her in this one yet - nor to any of our other children - She has a high nose - & is fat & long - This is all I can tell you yet as she is only 5 days old - I hope when I next write to be able to tell you how I like our neighbour Mrs Rubidge, who I am sure will come here very soon, as she has sent me several very civil messages of regret at not having it in her power to come here. Tom spent a night there in the summer & said she was a lady like woman & had been very handsome. I could not resist beginning a letter to send by Tom on Sat. - but you see how

prudent I am in having taken a small sheet - so I knew if I began on a long one I could not help finishing it - & it would have tempted me to write too much -

19th Decr. We are once more surrounded by a white world & I suppose we shall not see the ground again till the beginning of April. The snow began about a fortnight ago & tho' we have not had a great deal yet it is enough to give a wintery sameness to every place - I think it is not more than 4 inches deep but probably we shall have some more - There have been some very hard frost - one day the therr was down to 2 & several days it has been down so low as 4 or 6 but I was able to walk out every day before my confinement & without feeling the cold disagreeable - Tom had a long walk made for me with ashes which prevented me from slipping & enabled me to take two or 3 walks every day - as I had no gig or car to shake me this time - shanks mare did just as well. In one of your letters you or Harriet asked how we succeeded in our soap & candle manufacturing. We have succeeded admirably. Our soap is excellent tho' the colour of almost all the homemade soap in this country is very dark which makes it not look as nice as our old country soap, the process is very simple - We first fix a Barrel on a stand - there is a little hole & plug in the bottom of the Barrel; - then some sticks are laid across like bars, in the Barrel & some straw laid loosely on the sticks - then the Barrel is filled up with ashes - which are well pressed down, & made a little hollow in the middle. Water is then poured on as long as they will soak it up - & then completely filled with water, the plug is drawn out & the lye is let to run off into a vessel placed to receive it. when the lye is strong enough to support an egg it is fit for making soap - then some grease is put into a large boiler, & some lye poured - & they are boiled together - as it boils up a little more lye is added, people learn by experience the exact quantity of lye that a given quantity of grease requires - When sufficiently boiled, a quantity of salt (proportioned to the quantity of soap you are to make) is added. This hardens the soap & separates it from the super-abundant lye, which falls to the bottom of the boiler - it is then left till the next day to cool & harden -- & then it is cut into wedges & laid by in a dry place to grow quite hard. It is fit for use in a month, but the longer it is kept the better; in this way we are constantly supplied with excellent washing soap without any expense but the salt, & that is but a trifle. Our ashes are always ready & the grease is stored up every day - bits of old fat & greasy skin of meat & bones & skimmerings - all are put into the soap & the lye extracts the fat part, while the bones, skins & dirt either come off in the scum or sink to the bottom of the boiler. I have given you this history in length as I know you wish to be acquainted with our "Cottage Economy" here in some further I will tell you about our Making Pumpkin molasses. We have made very good candles too - we only make mold candles as the dipt are not we think, as useful & profitable - & in this country people dont use candles nearly as much as at home, as the fires are so bright that they give quite light enough for many purposes & the Birch & Cedar bark, make a most brilliant blaze which we often use instead of candle-light in the kitchen. The Reids are all very well & Mr R quite recovered from the ague. Their chimneys are at last finished & they are very busy laying their floors. At this season very little work out of doors can go on - so Tom has been carpenter & made me a nice little deal table at which I am now writing. Deal is the only wood we can get at present as our friend Mr Scot the miler never had any nice seasoned timber - & indeed both his saw mill & grist mill are so constantly our of order that they are almost useless. Tom has made some nice frames & benches for the kitchen & airers & horses of all sizes & a good little bed for our workers & several little conveniences - which tho'

trifling & homely in appearance add greatly to our comfort. We have bought ½ a dozn common chairs which have been lying at Mrs Bethunes these 2 months waiting a conveyance but I hope to have them when Tom returns & they will give our little room a much nicer air. I assure you we are very happy & very comfortable. Our stock is increasing for Tom is to buy another cow at Cobourg - & our present one will calve in Spring - you see we are growing quite rich [] F S

Our road is finished! & Tom goes tomorrow 19th Decr -

[Extracts from F. S.

Douro Decr 18th & 19th 1823

To Mrs E. Waller

Recd March 21st

M.N. No 27]

78-008/1/6 #105

Coburg - Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Saturday 14th December 1822

My dearest Aunt and darling Uncle [Maria]

I am sure you have heard all about us & our proceedings from Clongill & Merrion Street - but you cannot hear from any creature how often I think of you all, nor how sincerely I love you - You may guess how impatiently I watch for the arrival of English mails - but this month has hitherto been blank - & no letter we have received since the 5th November - when I had one from dear Kate dated 17th Augt mentioning the intended trip to Cheltenham & also one from Harriet telling of the safe arrival there, & giving so very indifferent an account of our beloved Bess that I am miserable for the next letter from what Harriet said I much fear she was not able to return to Ireland before Winter - it must have been disagreeable as well as inconvenient in every way wintering at Cheltenham-

I dispatched a long letter to Catharine from Montreal. Ditto to Bessy from York - a short letter to Catharine from York - and a long one to Aunt Sue from this all which I hope reached Clongill long ago so of course you know that we have long reason to hope for success in our undertakings here - so far we have succeeded to the full extent of our wishes and expectations - & our prospects look well as far as we can see - there are certain "Settlement duties" such as clearing a stated number of acres - & making roads, which must be done within two years - which (on so large a tract of land) will be rather expensive - but when these are performed - & the Government fees paid, we shall have only our own wants & comforts to satisfy - & I expect to enjoy more comfort than we have had yet since our Marriage - the first two years after Emigration are the worst because of being obliged to buy all sorts of provisions - as well as having to build and clear land & pay Govt fees & perform settlement duties - all which are greater in proportion as the number of acres is greater - but we are reasonably well off - for the land is remarkably good - & the situation itself the most wholesome in Canada as well as beautiful it is a new township which is not yet surveyed, & we are the very first settlers in it - but we have neighbours very near us - not any of our own class however nearer than 6 or 7 miles- there are a great many farmers from England & Scotland in the two adjoining townships & there is a Flour Mill & Distillery within three miles of our Loghouse - so that we are not like our curious countryman Col. Talbot 180 miles from any European - I regret that we have not become acquainted with this oddity - but indeed I am rejoiced that we are not settled in his District - which tho' fine land is so far back that I should indeed have felt in banishment - here we are between Kingston and York - & in a very few years a public road will pass close to our land from Kingston to Simcoe - which will be a great advantage to us - there is a constant intercourse between this village & the settlers up there - & we can have frequent opportunities

both in summer and winter of receiving letters &c from this place which will be our post town - altho' 35 miles from us - about 6 miles from us there is a family of whom every one speaks with the highest terms - & I expect to have a great deal of pleasure in the society of Mrs Rubidge - every one says she is a most charming woman & a perfect gentelwoman - since our arrival here we have met with great civility & attention from everybody - indeed I never met with kinder or more truly friendly people - Mr McCauley our own clergyman is a most excellent young man - he is Canadian & was educated by Dr Strachan - but went to Oxford to study there & take his degree - & is a very well educated & I believe a clean man but very diffident - he has 5 or 6 young men who live with him as pupils - & he is most active in doing good in every possible way - when Tom & Mr Reid came first here to explore & visit Douro you know poor Tom was taken ill - he was at an uncomfortable inn - but our good friend Mr McCauley sent his waggon for him & had him removed to his house, where he had every comfort & attention that could be - he had a very severe bilious attack with a high fever - & was so ill that the Doctor visited him twice a day for some time but I never heard this till lately as he never told me how ill he had been - he is now perfectly well again & only impatient to get to our own house - but we must wait patiently till the snow comes & till the Sleighing begins as no waggon can run on the roads in their present state - We were to have gone a month ago but we were prevented by poor little Anna Maria's being ill with I believe a worm fever - She is now a great deal better & able to walk out - but looks miserable pale & thin - however I trust the bracing winter weather will bring back her chubby cheeks & strength - Ellen is a going Lioness & as rosy & stout as possible & very bold - Bessy is grown very fat & strong - she can very well when she has anything to hold by - & is very amusing for she imitates everything she either sees done or hears & she is a great coaxer but very passionate - in this little bill of health - I suppose you would be very mad if I did not mention my own ladyship - so I must add to it that I am perfectly well now - & have quite regained my strength - indeed I find the frosty weather agrees remarkably well with me - & I have never yet felt it as cold as I have often been at home - tho' in reality the air is much colder than it ever was in dear little Ireland - this morning the thermometer was down to 8 - & a few days ago it was 10 - between these two days we had some very warm delightful weather - so warm that on the 12th of Decr we breakfasted with the window open - from really finding the room too hot - the weather had been very changeable - all this Autumn & winter & there has been more rain than ever was known before in this country - we have had some snow too - I generally contrive to walk a little every day - & when the roads & fields are too wet I walk up & down our little court by the door - The country about here is very thickly inhabited for three or four miles on every side & there are a great number of half-pay officers both Naval & Military who have brought their families here - so that civilization - is very fast spreading - & this nice little town is increasing in a wonderfully rapid manner - Since we came here in the beginning of Octr 5 houses have been built & are now inhabited - & there are 3 more building now - & in this village which is not larger than your Greta or Gretagh there are three very extensive shops or stores - a post office a Cabinet Maker - Shoemakers tailors - butchers, Smiths Carpenters who all carry on their respective businesses besides we have the Sheriffs & two Inns - & two schools so you see what a busy little spot it must be - We have been visited by two or three families - but as we dont like to hire a Waggon we dont keep up very great intercourse beyond a walking distance - Mr McCauley & Mr & Mrs Henry & Mr Bethune who all live about a mile or a mile & a ½ off are our principal friends & we go there very often & find them friendly and pleasant.

15th Decr Sunday evening - Tom has gone to dine with Mr McCauley who carried him off after church - I was too lazy to accompany him - so here I am seated in my odious little den of a parlour which however is very snug this cold evening - thermometer 12 - but we have got a Stove - which heats the room - delightfully & sitting at the far end of the room we are as warm as near the stove - the heat spreads so equally all over the room - which is not the case with a fire - for at a fire your face may be nearly roasted when your back is freezing - in our kitchen we burn very great fires indeed sometimes - & we keep on a good fire there all night - notwithstanding this one night last week - & last night too indeed water in a pail at the opposite side of the kitchen was frozen over & our kitchen is not more than 10 feet across but we take good care to keep ourselves warm - & we all wear flannel next our skin - How often do we talk of all our friends & how often do I wish to know what you are all doing - If there could be some kind of glass to see how you all go on, how delightful it wd be- but I try to prevent myself from regretting what cannot be helped - & try to look forward with a hope that we may be allowed the happiness of meeting again in four or five years - in the meantime I must turn my mind to the many blessings I enjoy - & be thankful for them - & surely few have more reason to feel grateful to the Almighty than I have - who have so many sources of happiness - & tho' I have been surrounded by adversity in many of our connections, & had had some trials ourselves, yet I cannot say I have met with real misfortune - for even in the midst of these trials I have seen good arise - the greatest trial I connect with was leaving my friends - but I believe in my heart it was the best thing we could do - & I am sure it was a right thing to do & this alone even could reconcile me to it - I must now feel rejoiced for I see every reason to hope that we shall be very comfortable & quite independent - []

& we need not entirely give up Society - for a year or two we may enjoy & amuse ourselves as much as we please - I wish some of your idle boys James or Wm wd come over next summer & pay us a visit. I am sure they would like it & they could give you a good report of us - I almost come to the end of my paper long before I have said half what I want to tell you - but now I must end - as I cannot cross this for I am sure you find it quite hard enough to read without it - Adieu then my dear dear friends give our fond love to your fireside & to Clongill & ever believe me your affecte child & sister - Fras Stewart

[F.S. dated Decr 14 1822

Recd April 23

No 9

Halifax

Mrs Waller

Allanstown

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Navan

Ireland]

[Vol. 2]

[78-008/1/6 #106](#)

[fragment re "Indians";

no transcription]

[78-008/1/6 #107](#)

[to Fanny from S. Noble;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/6 #108](#)

[to Fanny, [1823];

no transcription]

[78-008/1/6 #109](#)

[to Fanny from her mother, April 11 [1823];

no transcription]

[78-008/1/6 #110](#)

[to Fanny from her mother, 1823;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/6 #111](#)

[Extracts from Frances Stewart dated Douro, April 5th & 7th 1823; to Mrs Waller;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/6 #112](#)

[to my dear children, May 15, 1823;

no transcription]

Jan 1 1824

This first day of the year I must write to my beloved Fanny although there is already a large collection of letters prepared for the packet - but I must tell my dear dear friend that I have grieved in my heart for your affliction & thought continually of the agony of my dear Fanny under her first severe affliction - and oh how often I wished that I could be with you & try to console you & to be a companion to you and sympathize with you my most admirable dear Fanny. I pray daily for your comfort & happiness - and this day in particular do I pray that the new year may be one of comfort & health to you - & that chequered as it must be to all of us with affliction or at least anxiety, still I hope the bright part may predominate - and that on the whole you my Fanny may have some comforts & blessings to enjoy. And if sorrow does visit any of us oh may we follow your bright example and submit ourselves to the will of God with that pious & humble Resignation that you do my dear love - nothing can be more touching than your resignation - & your letters. - It is the will of God that You should be tried in the fire of Adversity - He knows what you are able to bear & that as God is purified by fire so your excellences will be made more steady & more beautiful both for your own eternal happiness & for the advantage of all who will imitate you - my sweet child if I could but know that you are well & that you have borne up under your affliction I should be happy - if I was but sure that you would be at Cobourg & near a skillful person at the time of your confinement it would be the greatest relief to my anxiety - but you must not scold me for being anxious or fanciful - for indeed I keep down all those foolish things & have very few fanciful anxieties about you, indeed dear - only just were I sure of your being at Cobourg I should be quite happy

I could fill this sheet in telling you how much I lament your loss - but it would be wrong not to try & amuse your mind with other ideas than those which of all your efforts you have dwelt on so much - in your lonely abode where so little occurs to divide your attention. - And long before this reaches you you will I trust in God be the happy Mother of a little interesting baby who will occupy all your cares & thoughts & will soon endear itself to you - & from its being born in winter in your country you have the better grounds to hope that it will be strong & able to endure the opposite temperatures of your country. Every day I regret something that I neglected to send you in the box - Arrow root - & a sucking bottle for the child I wish particularly had gone - Though indeed I am in despair about the box & very much inclined to fear that you will never have it.

Bess has written such a letter to you that I am sure she has left little for me to say or tell you - except as to her health which continues good in spite of the winter - & though the Abscess has been for some weeks entirely closed & all discharge has ceased - I suppose the ever flowing bile has gone some other way - She has had a slight cold but does not signify, & she walks a good deal every tolerable day - indeed too much, for she tires herself - in general her spirits are good - & we have on the whole got very well through I may say half the winter months - As to winter weather we have scarcely had any except storms - This day is very wet & there is a violent

storm, & we are engaged to go in the evening to Liss Letablue - The Christmas has been too warm & damp - & I believe the season is rather unhealthy - on Christmas day the Therm was 56 at eleven o'clock - & Sunday the 28th it was 55 at four o'clock in the day - This will give you an idea of the mildness that we have hitherto enjoyed - Anne returned a week before Christmas - & is re-instated in her own bed - & I have once more established myself in my own room - where I feel come-times very desolate without a companion - & more than ever feel the want of my own dear Child. - When I look on your little empty bed & think how far you are from me - & when I think of all my comforts there - my tables & curtains & luxuries - & picture myself in your desolate forest - the wind blowing in at every chink - & so many discomforts that you never complain of but that I know you have - I feel shamed of all my enjoyments & I feel my heart sink within me at the idea of the cold & dreary winter you are suffering, you who were cherished in ease & comfort - & for whom I would give up mine were it possible

Your account of Mr Fetherstones handsome donation for the Douro Church delighted us all - I am happy to say several subscriptions have been collected here exclusively for the Douro Church - The Mathias have got near £40. The Suttons have got some too - & I hope besides our own little subscriptions to be able to collect some so that by the time your uncle Sutton sends you his next remittance, I think we shall have a good sum to add to it - pray do not stint it in size for I hope you will have enough to accomplish it with the help of the Society. - As to your commissions you may depend on my doing them for you in time this year, & sending out the box early enough to be sure of its getting in time - & if your next letter comes in & that there any more commissions in them I dare say I shall have quite time enough - I sent you two three bits of palm Soap in the box - I wish you had them.

My dear Fanny do not think I have been unmindful of what you said about the fees - & applying to Ly Bathurst - Maria never misses an opportunity of exerting herself for her friends - & without being asked to do it she wrote to Lady B - months have passed without any answers - & as I foresaw from the delay, that it would be unfavourable - I did not like to give you misery of suspense - The answer is come at last, & is as I feared - Ly Bathurst says she did not take even the 2d refusal - but insisted on a minute investigation to find even a loop-hole wh might be made into a precedent - but all in vain - it never has been the case that fees were remitted and I fancy what has caused your mistake was, that half pay officers are allowed so many hundred acres according to their rank, without fees - but it is only half pay officers - Ly Bs latter is really very good natured. Maria in her enthusiasm of kindness asked me if there was anything else she could solicit for you - but I told her I did not at present know of anything but wd boldly apply to her when I do - I expressed much gratitude wh indeed I feel for her promptness of her exertion for you - & she says in reply - "Maria says you are the most grateful person she ever met with but one & that she thinks you are too much obliged to her for doing what is a great pleasure to herself - for she loves poor dear Fanny Stewart for her own sake as well as because she belongs to you - & she loves her still more for her merit wh has shone out in all her trials, brighter & brighter" - All your Etown friends deeply feel for you my dear in any trial. Poor Lucy has been better for this fortnight & suffered less pain. Honora broke one of her miserable front teeth - & went directly to Francis & Alicia - she travelled in the Litchfield coach with only a servant to attend her - The dentist filed in three of the front teeth & pivoted in new ones - it

was done in 4 ½ hours & less painful than she expected - Just as she was well - Sneyd arrived & carried her home to B. Lodge - she wd rather have staid a fortnight longer with F & Alicia who were extremely kind to her. Aunt Mary is pretty well - but suffers from a pain in the joint at the back of the neck, from stooping they say - Sophy R is in much better health than ever was she was in Town in Octr & I am in hopes will get thro the winter well

She has a cure for the dysentry wh never has failed with her - but it is odious - it is manure of a pig melted down in Beer - She has tried it when the patient was quite given over and always succeeded - I asked her for the proportions but have not got them. She wrote me a very kind note full of tenderness about you

Dear Fanny tell me if you feel storms much in your abode - I think it must roar through the boundless forest, in a tremendous & awful manner - my thoughts often dwell on you & your Forest

My dearest Fanny adieu - you have the kindest love of my Mother & Louisa - & of the Hamiltons who love you warmly - and I am evermore your attached friend & Mother & Moone

H Beaufort

Sidney Fortescue continues well & was able to walk 2 miles the other day

Mrs Stewart & Mathias & Alec all well - Anne & I were at Mrs Hannas Examn which gratified her

F S continued Feb 1824

[] Here every Monday to wash - So you see I am very well off - only that I feel it very awkward to make poor little Mary do all Betty's work - & I know it must be very inconvenient to Maria to give her to me - it must continue too so many months, before any of your little girls can be sent to me - but both Mr Reid & Maria are very good natured - & assure me they are really glad Mary should be here. She cooks & cleans the kitchen, & washes all the eating utensils - I bake & make the beds & sweep the 2 rooms, wh my care of the little bantling & my constant supply of Needlework, fill up every moment of my day, & at this moment I am sitting up waiting for my bread to be baked, & taking advantage of the silent midnight hour to write to you my dear - I generally read while I am nursing the child, the only time I now have to read - some times I get a good deal of time for this indulgence - as she had not yet taken any other nourishment than what I can afford her, & consequently sucks pretty often. I have plenty of milk & she thrives finely upon it, & is strong & fat, & sleeps very well in general. She has been my bedfellow since her birth - & I have taken the entire care of her since she was a week old - it seemed very odd to me at first - & trembled every day when I was washing and dressing such a tiny creature, but now I am become quite expert, & I am very proud of my child, for she is firm & strong & very lively - which is proof of her having a good nurse; she was vaccinated on Sunday when our little Dr paid us a visit - he improves on acquaintance very much & we like him better every time we see him. Now I have told you truly all I do & you must not be uneasy about me, for I do nothing that can hurt or fatigue me & constant occupation is good for me. The Boy whom we brought with us was bad & idle & impudent - & at last ran away - but in a month he came back, & is now much better, & improved in many ways. He carries all the water for cooking & washing - cleans the pots ec ec & makes up the fires - & when we want assistance in lifting any heavy thing, he & his master are always near & always willing to help us.

My dear friends every day I find more & more how useful all your nice present s are to me - I did not half thank you for that chest full of treasures, & every thing was, & is, & will be useful & agreeable - The long cloth & gingham were just in time for the young stranger who has frocks of the pink gingham & shifts of the long cloth. - Tom admires my Bombazine & stuff very much - you thought of so many little things you dear friends. Even the linen covering of the box, & the linen which was laid inside & which preserved all so well from damp, was very useful as it made some strong rubbers - & good rubbering of any sort of linen or Calico are not to be had near this or in Cobourg - Ah my dear friends how kindly you recollect every thing - even the nice little box which contains the cotton is an indulgence of one of my foibles as know my old love for boxes or baskets of all sizes.

The books are a wonderful comfort not only to us but to many others - Mr Rubidge & Dr Hutchison have borrowed many of them -

Wedy night Feby 5 ¼ before 12 - T A S goes tomorrow & will take this. I wrote the former part of it when I was nearly asleep - I fear the substance will not make amends for the trouble of reading.

Our winter has on the whole been remarkably mild so far - We have had very cold nights once or twice - but till within this week nothing like last winter - & have had a great deal of thawing weather, very unusual here - & not so pleasant I think as the clear frosty weather - however I think we shall have it really Canadian - for the Thermr has not been many degrees above zero this week - & is now 16 below it - but the days are sunny & pleasant & we have fine fires. We have got two cows, both to calve so we shall have plenty of milk & butter in Spring - There is no danger of our being exposed to the miseries described by Capt Franklin in this "most deplorable of all climates" as he calls it - I envy you all those interesting books - & having time to read them. Oh I am become a famous Tailor - I have just made up a nice pair of Frize pantaloons for Tom - & I am to make him a waistcoat of the same material - & I think he will then be a complete Paddy Hart - he is so fond of this frize that he is determined to have a whole suit - & it is very comfortable in this climate - I think next year we must try to get out a piece or two & also some good linen sheeting & blankets if possible - I must now bid you Good night you all my ever dearly loved Mammias, prays your own old child

F Stewart

78-008/1/7 #115

March 20th 1824

My dearest Fanny

We have been for this long time most particularly anxious for letters from you, & I think the longest stop we ever had was unfortunately just at the time we most wished to hear. We saw the account of one Vessel obliged to put into Gaspian Bay for the Winter another lost off Newfoundland just as we feared our treasures had gone to the bottom, letters have begun to pour in. Yours to Maria, begun Holy Eve, arrived here the 10th of March, we just gobbled it up & ordered a Boy to set out to Clongill, rolled it up & wrote on the outside "Good news, letter from Fanny". Back came the messenger, on the outside of the packet he brought was written "Better news still". And behold there was a real treasure, a copy of your letter with an account of the birth of your dear child, but my dear, we really could hardly help laughing at your beginning your letter so composed telling of common occurrences, & then nearly at the bottom of the page, comes a paragraph of how the lady of T A Stewart Esq had a Daughter! Really it put me in mind of a history of some travellers in some hot country, who missed one of their females for an hour, but she came up at last with a Bairn in her arms, whose birth had delayed her. Well to be serious, we are all most thankful to Providence that has given you the great blessing of being so well on such occasions; a blessing so peculiarly desirable in a distant Country, far from Medical advice or the numerous friends & attendants that might be commanded at home. I thought that event was not to have taken place so soon, & Maria & I had been making up a very few little things for the dear Stranger, but tho' I did make them for a child of some months old, I begin to fear they will be rather small now. However they must just go, for Harriet is making up her box now, & I have an opportunity of sending to Dublin; if I lost this I might not have another I also made two caps for your little maid, as I thought perhaps it might please the poor creature to be remembered by any one far off, & I do feel much interested about her, & wish I was able to get any thing better for her. I hope you may succeed in having another sent out to help you: people are unwilling to part with their children, as they suppose they shall never see them again, therefore I think some friendless young Person, or Orphan would be the only chance. In my small parcel, is a cap which did belong to John, & he wore it two or three times. I hope you will excuse my sending that, it is useless here, & perhaps may not be quite so to you. It has pretty work on it, done by myself, so will be a little sort of keepsake & if she could but have had it for a Christening cap, perhaps her dear Mother might have thought it became her, & that would have been quite enough. Mun once lately was at home in vacation & stayed a good while with sore eyes, so he could not read, & he began knitting a pair of little Stockes for you my dear. Aunt Sue who was here at the time proposed he & she engaging in a joint piece of work, a blanket, for which she had the worsted, & he did a great deal of it, & when he went to school she finished it. We hope your dear babe will sleep particularly well when that is laid over her. I hope all our letters have arrived safe to you. I suppose they will all come together about this time. I have my poor John at home again, with the Hooping Cough, which tho' he has it very favourably, has weakened him much, because he

had so much illness this year. Only he is very clever, & very diligent, he could never get thro' school, he has so many interruptions. We cannot find out how he got this complaint for no other boy at School had it. Maria never has had it & we sent her for one week to Clongill, & now she is in the House, but kept out of the room from him & I have no doubt but that she will be very safe, I have so often seen people in the House, & not take that complaint. If she does, however, it will be well over. I suppose you will be free from all those vile infectious disorders. I hope you will be able however to get Cow Pock infection. I would never neglect that; particularly, as you could do it yourself, if you had infection. I think it is best taken on points on quills. I got it from Engd for Maria who had it most completely indeed on small pointed quills, rolled in bladder, & was desired to have the skin of her arm cut with as little bloodshed as possible, & the quills rubbed up & down under the skin.

I cannot feel pleased at your sitting up writting at a table only five days after the birth of your child, & that you had written a few lines in bed it would have been all that prudence would permit, & certainly I have known such terrible illness proceed from cold taken after confinements, that I never feel satisfied at my friends running any risks. - Of course Harriet has told you of Sophy's marriage & how she bought such beautiful things for her, & how every one likes Mr Barry Fox, etc We have a suspicion that Mary Jane Bo[] is to be married to an Officer that is quartered near Clovis of Mr Nicholl, but indeed it is hardly right to mention it, for it may not be true, so say nothing of it in any letter, & if it is to be you will hear of course. I hope, my dearest dear friend that this dear child may be a comfort & blessing to you & keep your mind occupied, & far from any melancholy ideas. It is delightful to hear of the improvements you are making to your comforts & convenience every day, your crops doing so well ec ec. The account of soap making was very curious indeed. I suppose you have men to help in that business. Adieu, my beloved Fanny, this letter probably will not reach you till several post letters have gone first, that will come to you sooner. Believe me with the truest affection Ever & Ever yr conscience & fond Aunt & Mother Maria Waller Affectn love from all here to dear Tom & the bairns

April 2d I had no opportunity of sending this out the time I wrote the first part, so I can tell you that my dear John is mending fast, rides out every day, & does not whoop at present only coughs like a severe cold, & that not often. I think a patent medicine, Boches Embrocation, was of more use than any thing, but he had it very favourable; all the rest of us are well. Robt very happy at Kinsegard, his Church ready to be consecrated whenever the Bp pleases, School House built, & a very handsome one, & well attended by 70 scholars! Luckily the Priest is an old man & a farmer & takes things quietly, or that would not be, for they not only read the Bible, but are examined in it. Think what a crime & yet escape punishment! Our little School here is very flourishing & Mrs Wildman, stout still, tho' 84. Maria has all those scholars very tolerably instructed, tho' we dare not absolutely give the Scripture to be read by the Holy Romans.

I have added to my small bundle two aprons for Betty, of a course Linen that our people here are very fond of wearing instead of check, sometimes. Not knowing her size I left the bottoms not hemmed. I wish I had materials for better articles than those sent, my dear. I shall be most anxious to hear about your Church, & if the Clergy man is certainly going [] as you hoped. I am

sure Kate has told you of our dear Mrs Pakenham being well & having another Son. You never saw any Being more interested about you than she is & longs to see you. Adieu my dearest. God bless you all

prays

M Waller

Clongill April 25, 1824

As the time for dispatch of the Canadian packet draws near I sit down with delight to chat to my love & dearest of Sisters, tho' I have not quite wakened after the Clongill Hunt Ball which took place two nights ago - & ever since we have been in a fuss with morning visitors - But to begin in proper order - 3 of the Kirkpatrick's viz Anna, Mary & Alexander to whom the members had given tickets accompanied us on Wednesday night to Kells when two hundred & 30 precious souls assembled at 11 o'clock when Lord Bectine & Miss Alexander led off with the "Fox Hunters Jig" & then we quadrilled on & on & on until 5 o'clock in the morning only stopping for supper Numbers of strangers were there amongst them your old acquaintance Bessy Dallas to whom I was introduced - She is a pleasing mannered gentlewomanlike person, but looks a little affected - at least so the Lords of the Creation said - There were two very nice little Miss Mitchells greatly admired - their mother had been a Miss Blundell, & their father was or is, brother to your friend Mr Blaney Mitchell - Lady Bectine looked most lovely, really one could not help staring at her. but her beauty seems to be every thing. Mrs Colonel Blacker, & her very nice pleasant looking sister Miss Ferguson came with the Alexanders - Mr Reynel, Mr John Wynne, & Mr J Thompson of Rathnally came with the Allenstowns - Several of our own County people were obliged to stay away for different causes - Mrs Tisdall because she had a 10th child a few days before - The Garnetts because Charlotte was not well - Richard Rothwell & the Ardee Ruxtons because young Mr Upton, their cousin had died the day before, Mrs Arthur Pollack because she has been very ill for the last month - & the Wilsons were in Dublin. - It was a very pleasant Ball indeed & nothing could be kinder or more attractive than all the Gentlemen of the Hunt from "The Deacon my Father" down to the youngest - Next morning we all slept till twelve then as soon as breakfast was over up drove two Gigs - Mr Reynell & William Waller, in one - Mr Wynne & Mr Thompson in the other - They were all very pleasant & we had a fine chat about the Ball. Both Mr Reynell & Wynne are extremely pleasant & amiable young Men, with out any conceit or Dandyism - & Thompson is just middling as to that. Mr Renell is of Killyman, & Mr Wynne is son to Mr Henry Wynne, & nephew to the great Owen Wynne, - Well, they staid for two hours & half & we were addled & sleepy for the rest of the day - Next day yesterday, up drove our dear favorite Mr Pakenham & Miss Alexandra Bessy & I went on to Mountainstown with Miss A to pay a visit - When we returned we found Richard Rothwell here, & then up rode the Archdeacon & Mr Booth - the Curate of Kells - so I think we have been in a fuss & now is the only quiet time I can get for my love & heart's darling my own Fanny. Miss Eliza Alexander is still abroad with the Staple's - & enjoying it all as much as possible - Miss A: very kindly let us one of her Journal letters - a delightful one - begun at Calais, & ended at the Hague - It was written just as she speaks, which is with great energy & Liveliness - & she seems to have excellent use of her eyes, & superior understanding - they went to Brussels to see Lady Clomenty, who is a sister to Mr Staple's, visited the field of Waterloo from that, & walked all over it notwithstanding desperate rain, which Eliza said she did not regret as it made it more like the Glorious day & she picked up a Bullet - They had a weary walk thro' the ploughed field of Waterloo & she says that "Waterloo Mud is not one bit better or pleasanter than Irish" - They went to the Hague to visit

Lady Ormonde, another sister of Mr Staples's where they were to spend a fortnight. She says all the young Ladies at the Hague, at parties Whist & whoever does not know this game has a most defective Education -

Sophy Fox was at Black Castle for a few days on her way to Dublin & to England, but we did not know she had been there until after she had gone for which we were sorry as we should like to have seen her, & her Caro - I hear she is in great beauty now, & that Captn Fox is a Dandy in figure, but pleasing in Manner -

26th A note came yesterday from Mrs Tisdall, to beg of Aunts Sutton & Susan to stand sponsors for her little girl which is to be called Charlotte after Mrs Guise, so I suppose we are to have a grand christening some day this week - Oh Fanny I'd give any thing you know my sweetest of Mrs Pakenham's - She is one of those people that make me in love with goodness - She seems to be amiable & religious in her heart & soul - she is such a treasure in this country, & such a pleasure to Maria Noble of whom she sees a great deal - John is well as to the Hooping Cough, but it has left a weakness, which makes us all rather uneasy, but I trust that as the weather improves he will gain strength - Poor Mrs Netterville Gerrard still has her big before, but no more sign of her getting rid of it then she had 4 months ago when she first reported it. It is the subject of discussion at all the Meetings in this county let them be about Roads or Sessions or what, no matter, poor Mrs G furnishes conversation at all - It must be very distressing - I met a nice girl at the Ball Miss Thomasina Jephson - a cousin of Emily's - She told me that poor Emily has lost her old Grandmother & is come to Ireland to live with her Uncle - some Mr Smith of the South. This was all she could tell me about her - The Nicholsons are all in Dublin still - John & Christopher & William Somerville all going to the Continent again & Christopher going into the Army as soon as he can get a Commission - the rest of the family are going to Cheltenham for the health of both Anna Maria & little Gilbert who are both billious. The Suttons speak of going also this year - & the Bishop's people also, there will be a fine jolly gathering of Irish there this year. Poor Mrs Montray is coming over next week to the Archdeacon's.

Murtagh is going to meet her. His attention & kindness to her has raised him in the opinion of every one I think, but [] none but a sausage could be any thing else to her. The poor A:D: looks very ill, & his teeth all seem to be loose & are dancing Quadrilles in his mouth. - I think the Archdeaconry is likely to go without a Mistress in his time at all events, for if all the on dits are true, he has been unfortunate in his applications to the fair Sex. 1824 is to be the most marrying year that has ever come yet. I never knew of so many weddings as are & are to be this year - since old Allitia Maria Smythe of Barbaville is going to be married amongst the rest to some Mr Hale - this is Ball news - her brother Tiger Smythe was there & he looks very old & weatherbeaten, but he is a great beau, & great partner of Bessy Sutton's - It is said that Mr & Mrs J Gibbons are only so so, as to happiness, that neither of them was liked the others but that Mrs Berry persuaded them both, that they were just the thing for each other & never rested until she made them marry - Alicia's health is very delicate, & she & he are very bad for an heir & they cannot have one -

26 There have been several robberies in this country of late - only think of poor Mr & Mrs Wenty Shields, last week robbers got into their house, & into their own bed-room where they were both in bed, & took away their keys & opened their drawers & took several things & neither one nor t'other knew a word of it till next morning, when Mr Shields discovered that he had - no brushes, &c &c &c to put on! - It really was ridiculus - Ever so much plate and other things were taken also, - The Suttons are to go to Coolmine next week, & we suppose to Allenstown, where I have not been staying since Christmas - Robert Noble was at home for the Ball, & is just the same looking kind of little fellow as when you saw him - . Mun has taken a great fit of growing, but his eyes are very delicate & he is poor looking, but very good excellent little fellow. James is greatly improved & he is such an unaffected light hearted young man & at the same time so steady & prudent, that every one must like him - he is much more popular than William, who is getting quite the same dapper look of an old Batchelor, I think - I never saw Maria look so well as she did the other night at the ball - She nicely dressed, & in great spirits for her. Her manner is getting much more free & disengaged in her manner to Gentlemen than she used to be which is a great advantage. There is a glorious puff in to days paper about the ball which I will copy here for you as it is about your own old people. We suspect that the Archdeacon is the Author. See how grand we are.

"Clongill Hunt"

The Gentlemen of the Clongill Hunt entertained their numerous friends with a splendid Ball & Supper at Kells on Wednesday last. The rooms, which were brilliantly illuminated were most tastefully & elegantly fitted up & ornamented with a variety of beautiful plants & flowers; & in the Orchestra which represented an Alcove, the trees & shrubs which composed it were so judiciously arranged that they really appeared growing on the spot. The rooms were thrown open at 9 o'clock & before 11 they contained all the rank beauty & fashions of the Counties of Meath Westmeath Louth & Cavan. The Company were received at the door by the Stewards, & ushered into the Ball-room which had a most pleasing & novel effect. Quadrills commenced at 11 & were continued with encreasing spirit until two o'clock when the Supper rooms were thrown open. The Supper (by Mr Kearns of the Kildare St Club) was in his very best style & laid for 250 - it consisted of every delicacy & luxury it was possible to procure - the Wines were of the very first vintage & quality, & the Ices & ornamental confectionary, by Mr Nunnay gave the toute ensemble a magnificent effect - After supper the merry dance was resumed & continued unabated vigor until 6 o'clock when tea, Coffee &c was handed round. Nothing could exceed the harmony & splendour of the entire entertainment - The Stewards seemed to vie with each other in their attentions to their numerous friends & the company separated at a very early hour delighted with the evening & wishing that the members of the Hunt might enjoy many good seasons - have plenty of Foxes - & that the hounds should continue to maintain that character in the sporting world which they have merited. - !!! []

They should not have left out Miss Alexander & her Fox-hunter Jig - Now Mia Cara I'm sure you are tired of Balls. Neither Aunt Susan or Bessy will write this time they say but Aunt Susan bids me tell you with her blessing & love that she sent up £3..14..0 to Harriet to lay out in whatever

she thought would be most acceptable to you & Tom, & she hopes you will like it (whatever it may be) for her sake. -

My hand is quite tired & this maun sang to day as it will be too late - so my dearest with love love love & blessing & kisses to you & Tom & the 3 darlings ever & ever & ever love your truly fond & affectionate sister

C Browne

Write & write as often & as particular, & as long letters as ever you can dear dear love -

My dearest Fanny. My epistles to you are always about money matters, as bad as if I was a Merchant, & you my mercantile correspondent; but Sutton thinks it necessary to have the subject mentioned in every letter for fear of delay as to the bills arrival. Mr Blacker's business is not yet finally arranged, nor does he choose to pay your interest till the principal sum is also paid, but Sutton fearing it might put our dear Tom to inconvenience, if the May mail went without your money, had it happily in his power to advance it. He has written to Tom, enclosing the bill which Alexr K was to negociate through your friend Johnson and I hope you will receive it along with this letter, & lose no time in acknowledging its arrival. £25 of the money went from your Meath friends to help the Douro Church, & Bess Waller gave Alexander their little collection & add to it: but the particulars are all in the letter to Tom. We are beginning to sigh for more news of you, for we have heard nothing of you since the letter to Harriet announcing the birth of the dear babe. to return to money matters, which I am afraid of neglecting, it was given to Harriet for you, & we have all put some triffle into her box to remind you of us. I pray Heaven to continue to bless you & your dear children all your hopes can anticipate. Adieu my most beloved Fanny faithfully your friend. M S

Clongill Rectory June 20th 1824.

Well my dearest dear, the greatest & I hope the happiest event in our dear sister Bessy's life has taken place - Last Thursday the 17th was her day & there is every chance of its being a blessed one to them both, for dear Richard seems to be every thing that heart could wish, he is a kind & tender, cheerful & unaffected, in his manner, & is so sensible & reasonable, sweet tempered & religious, that her ticket in the grand lottery, must prove a prize. We have known Richard a long time, & for the last two years, I have wished with all my heart that he might one day become the dearest friend of my dear Bessy, & I had settled it all so regularly in my own mind that he would one day be the husband of Bessy, that had either of them chosen otherwise, I should have seen the downfall of my Castle, with very great disgruntlement. Well I suppose I must give you the length & breadth of the day Grandiose order. Mrs Kirkpatrick & Alex-gander dear Anne, & Miss Catherine, came here on Wednesday evening - & next morning we eat our own good private breakfast at 9 o'clock, before the Philistines came upon us - The poor little bride-elect looked very pale, & was very easy about her breakfast, - & then we went to dress - & then the Wallers came & brought Mrs Pakenham who was staying in Allenstown - Every one else assembled at Kilshine Church, the "every one" was Mr & Mrs R Rothwell of Berford, the Arch Hall & Summerseat Garnetts, Mr & Mrs James Butler, 2 Miss Radcliffs sisters to Mrs R Rothwell, Mr Charles Rothwell, old Mrs Pollock & Mrs Arthur - The two latter were obliged to be axed because of propriety. The Church was justily ornamented with Roses & White Lichnades, (the last of the Sextoness) & every one & every thing looked nice & clean - Uncle Sims was the operator & was nervous enough. Both Richard & Bessy answered most distinctly, & there were only very few tears shed, & most of these were by poor Charlotte Garnett, who is expecting to be principal performer in a like ceremony soon - Bessy was agitated, but did not tremble half as much as you did in St Peter's, one fine frosty 17th December, where I am sure you were not cold, - Bessy's dress was a rich figured Silk gown & bonnet of the same material, with a lovely plume of feathers & indeed she looked extremely well & very pretty also - After all was over we all trundled off home here & sat down to a grand sort of luncheon breakfast. There were two long tables, one for the Married folk, the other for the Bachelors & Spinsters, in the middle of the first table sat the magnificent Cake on a silver Salver. After breakfast the Cake was cut, & the Gloves distributed, & I hear I performed my Character of Bridesmaid to admiration, & thus us had such cutting of cake, & Ribbons, & sticking of pins - Oh la! & Oh dear & O my Gracious! At about 3 o'clock, the people were all fairly off & then we had time to subside a wee bit & pud dud the bride who was to go to her ain house in the evening, accompanied by kind sweet good little Isabella Butler, who had disposed of her Caro at Arch-Hall, for that night & another. Sun or Moon did not see Bessy until Saturday evening, when just as we were sitting down to tea, up drove the Carriage, & here she is, & here he is, & here they are to stay, & accompany us to England - for which place we are to set out on Wednesday next the 23d please god - All the gither as my dear little Anna Maria used to say - We are to go via Liverpool, see all its Lions go on then to Buxton see the Wonders of the Peak & proceed to Leamington where we are to stay if the Waters agree with Uncle Sutton as well Cheltenham - if not, why we shall go there - bag &

baggage. - Leamington is a lovely neighborhood within 2 miles of Warwick Castle & 4 of Kennilworth. - I suppose please God I shall be able to give a full history of them in my next letter

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22d June - I am now writing in the midst of most grand confusion, every one packing & Tormy very busy taking down the Curtains - I will write however thro thick & thin & finish this at Coolmine where we are to go tomorrow, & sail on Friday for Liverpool - The Nicholsons called that way about a fortnight ago, & were enchanted with it. - they are now at Cheltenham, so are the Alexanders & this all right you know, for John may now conveniently make up his matters with Eliza A: - I should be sorry that She gave herself to so uncertain & unsteady a being. - You say in your last letter that it is curious I should now be so well acquainted with your likeness Mrs Robert Alexander, by my dear, all the time, I never have seen or spoken to her since we both met her at Wilmont. She has only paid one visit at Ardbraccan for about 10 days, & during that time one of our horses were lame, so we cold not go see her, & she was nursing & could not go long drives, but the pleasant looking Archdeacon of Down came here, & spoke of you & Tom a great deal - He is grown very large & bids fair to arrive at his father's size - He spoke of the Johnsons of Ballymacash particularly of your old protege & my old friend Matthew who he says is a very fine young man, & excessively improved - Our poor dear little Mun Noble, who I told you in my last had been brought home from school very ill - Well the poor dear fellow still continues in a most precarious state, tho' Byron says he thinks he may set over this attack, yet his Constitution is so very very delicate, that he has great fear for him - He is a very interesting sweet boy, & I trust may be spared - He is grown very tall suddenly which I fear is a bad sign - My dear dear precious Aunt Susan is to stay at Allenstown, at least to make it her headquarters during our absence, but Mrs Young Mrs Tisdall, & Mrs Kirkpatrick have all begged for a little of her company - I never knew so popular a person as she is with grave & gay & young & old - Your two little maidens the McVities are to go to town on Friday next poor things to prepare for their long Voyage, I shall be so anxious until I hear they are safe at Quebec, & then safe at Douro - they wish very much themselves to go, & are prepared to like their new Master & Mistress. -

[] John Brinkley is going to be married directly, to some Miss Stevens, of the Achoss questionless - but really I dont know what Miss Stevens, but so it is, or is to be. My dear dear Fanny I must leave this letter now with Bessy to add to & it must go to Harriet tomorrow without fail - I wanted the dear Mamsey to write a line but she says to give you Tom, & the Children, her love & blessing, & to tell you she will write next time - Bessy is going to an Hotel in Dublin with her Caro, she will not face the dozens of cousins at Coolmine until her return from Engd - God bless you all my loves prays your affectionate sister

C Browne

Gresham's Hotel Sackville Street

June 24, 1824

My ever loved & dearest Fanny, Only think of your old friend Bessy having become an old grand Matron since she wrote to you last! Little did she then think that as Bessy Sutton, it was the last time she would ever address you! Ah dear Fan, I cannot tell you how deeply I felt the part of your last letter to Kate, in which you speak of me & Mr F you say "whenever she does make a choice, may she draw a prize in that Lottery!" When that letter came, my choice was made & I trust in God's goodness that your prayers may have been heard, my kind sister, & that I may have indeed drawn a prize in this the most important event of my life. As far as human eyes can see, I do think that no one ever began life with brighter prospects & as every day develops some amiable trait in the character of my dear Benedict which till now lay hid, I cannot help wondering at my own good fortune, & blessing the kind Providence that directed me to such a choice. I do not believe that any affair of the kind was ever so easily settled before - not a dissenting voice on either side, & all concluded in little more than six weeks from the day the important question was asked! One cause for thankfulness I am sure my own darling Fanny will sympathize in, & that is that I am still to have the blessing of my beloved Mamma's example & advice & still continue under the dear maternal wing, though removed a wee bit from the parent nest. As dear Harriet said the other day in a letter, "Mary M has not lost a daughter, but gained a son." & a kind, affectionate, warm hearted son I am sure he will prove to both parents. - For a very long time this business has been in his head. I will not say heart, & many people suspected it, nay settled all about it, before I dreamt of such a thing, or he had spoken a word. - I wish Charlotte Garnett's little affair with William Roper was as happily settled, as there have been many little unpleasant delays & puts off, but they I hope are all at an end, & I think her knot will be tied early in August which will probably bring us home before the rest of the party, as my Good Man is Trustee to her marriage Settlements, & it will be necessary for him to be present at the gluing. I think we shall have a delightful excursion if weather & all other things favor us as much as usual - I have long wished to see the beauties of Derbyshire & shall now enjoy them doubly, having got a second self to enjoy them with now. Tomorrow evening the miseries of the passage begin, & I trust that some time in the course of Saturday morning we shall reach Liverpool, there to remain a day or two to recruit, & see the many Lions of that flourishing city. Though I am here in cog. I could not help taking a peep at my dear Merion St friends today, who have shewn the kindest interest in all my little concerns - I never saw them looking better, & as for Harriet she looked quite beautiful, her dear little kind face lit up with benevolent pleasure, at seeing all our happy looks. - Aunt Bess seemed extremely well & in good spirits, & as for Aunt Beaufort she is quite a miracle - so alert, so cheerful. so gay, & her faculties all so surprisingly perfect for her time of life. - I am sure you will be sorry to receive so bad an account of poor dear Mun Noble as this letter contains - Indeed I greatly fear there is very little hope of his recovery, & a sad sad blow it will be to his fond family to lose him, though they have all been making up their minds for the separation for some time, particularly his poor mother, who never indulged in any false hopes about him, or placed much dependence on his frequent & transitory amendments. Yet still when Death comes, it is always awful, though in his case it is disarmed of many of its terrors from the uniformly Religious turn of his mind. Poor dear affectionate Maria has suffered greatly about him, & looks ill & anxious - I trust her precious health may not be injured by the close confinement - She is a dear kind little affectionate love, & is in great delight at all that has happened, my Caro having always been a favorite with her, & for a long time the person she had laid out for me. Oh dear Fan, how you

would love my dear sister Isabella if you knew her many excellencies! Every time I see her I am more & more convinced of her real worth, & of the blessing her friendship & affection will be to me - She spent two days with me at Rockfield, & a dearer or kinder little sister never was anyone blessed with. - I like my new abode very much - the house is most comfortable, & the garden without exception the prettiest in the whole Co. of Meath. Richard is extremely fond of it, & has spared no pains in rendering it both useful and ornamental. - My dearest Fanny I must stop scribbling now, & you will say it is full time, for I have tormented you long enough with my nonsense - You will however excuse my head & heart being occupied too much with one subject to write or think much on any other. Give my most affectionate love to my dear Tom, to my darling A M & Elly, & a kiss to my own little namesake Bessy - Will you soon let me have the inexpressible happiness of a letter to my ain self from your dear paw?

God bless you & all you love prays yr fond & affecte sister

E Rothwell

from M S

I must add a line to say God bless my own dearest Fanny: My Bessy is as happy as fond affection can make her, and I know you & my dear Tom will add your blessing to that of her other friends. The Mary which takes out your girls, takes in its Shipletter bag, an epistle from Sutton to Tom, enclosing a triplicate of the bill which went by the mail of Novr. The copy by that of December - God grant it may have reached you safe. it also encloses a copy of the bill for 76 add. which went by the mail of the first of June 1824. We all long for further accounts & pray you to write often - Heaven bless my Fanny & her dear Husband & children

prays your ever affectn

M S

Addressed to

Mrs Thomas A. Stewart

Villa Nova Douro

Drumcondra Terrace Oct 26 - 1824

My dear Loves

As I have a great deal to say I take a large sheet of paper - & yet perhaps I may find before I have finished that all my stock is cut - however as much of my letter will be filled with questions - & an empty brain can ask them possibly I may to the end of this great sheet - I do not know whether you have yet heard of our dear Mothers indisposition - which precludes her from writing to you - it has now continued for so long a time that I think some one must have mentioned it to you - she had a paralytic stroke the end of last June - but she is now sweetly tempered, but gradually growing weaker - her mind has greatly wandered - but does not now except occasionally I wrote to you soon after this occurred - but the letter is still in my writing desk - as I found Mr Mangin was in England & I could not get a frank - you may suppose how much attendance my poor dear Mother requires when I tell you I am obliged to keep three people souly for her - one sits up every night & frequently two when she is quite allert & her affections are entirely fixed on her God & Saviour, & she longs to be with him, indeed there is nothing to attach her to this world - or any of us - I wonder why any one wishes her long life - one may desire to live for one's children's sake, to see their principles formed - but what else can make life dear to us - for what is this life? surely only one source of sorry & trouble after another - friends are sick, as one - wickedness prevails around us - hourly & every kind of distress follow - & what bright spot relieves this dismal darkness? nothing in this world - tis only when by faith we can pierce through the dark cloud - & enter "within the veil" - that there is any relief to a mind which in any degree reasons aright - passion in some shape or other may engage the mind for a time - love of mercy - love of Jesus &c &c &c - but when this exertion is over the mind reverts upon itself - & becomes lower than before except Divine Grace support it - & lead it from Earth to Heaven - you may rejoice my dear friends that you are so distant from this distracted country Light & darkness are now oppresing each other more strongly here, than perhaps they have ever done anywhere since the days of Martin Luther - in fact - in Kilkenny - in Loughrea & several other places the meetings for the Bible & Missionary Societies have been interrupted by an armed mob - headed by priests - the Archbishop of Tuam was all but dragged out of the chair - happily Mathias was ill, & not able to go there - to Loughrea - Mr J H Singer make a stand against them in Cork & Kilkenny - a meeting in Waterford was concluded favorably - but in this day's paper there is a notice given & the R C's in the neighbourhood to attend a meeting there in one of their Chapels to consider of the best means of opposing the Anti-catholic Bible society which had been held there - the Papists are joined by all the Infidel Protestants wherever they go - & the aim of both is to put down the Bible - the R C's say it is opposed to the Catholic religion - the Infidels to common sense - & good morals - so between them they try to destroy that which God in his goodness has given to the world - & in His Providence wonderfully preserved - but the cause of God must eventually prevail - "He that is [] is much stronger than all who can be against us - & tho Satan - the Priests & the Infidels do all they can - the God of Heaven & Earth will do much more I trust we may all be kept from an

unchristian spirit - Let the work be the Lord's & we - I mean real protestants - only His instruments - it is a time which calls for much prayer - I wish you would have a little meeting with us - & all Christians over the world - on the 1st Monday of each month, for the general spread of the Gospel - that at London for this is the Evening between 7 & 9 o'clock - every where they try to have it at the same time - I have been considering at what time you ought to have a meeting that you might be occupied in the same manner at the same time - I think it should be about six hours earlier from us to 3 - in your day - though this be a working time - could you not give up one hour, or even half an hour a month - do dear try - read a little from the Bible applicable to the increase of divine knowledge - sing a hymn on the same subject - if you happen to have any late missionary accounts read a little & pray for a blessing on Missionary exertions - O my dear Loves how do I wish you had a Clergyman - Mr Hare has given you up I believe entirely - he has no hope of being appointed there is a good man - a Clergyman - Mr Robinson who was frequently assists Matthias at Bethesder - he has gotten an appointment as Chaplain at Van Dieman land - but is unwilling to go so far - a few days since he breakfasted here - when I spoke of you he turned a listening ear & said he would rather go to Canada - than to Van Diemen's land - I told him I could give him no hope of being appointed as Champlain - but he seemed almost to prefer even going out to keep a school, & procure some land - in the hope of being regularly appointed after - I promised I therefore to ask questions for him - so attend to them & answer as soon as you can - his family consist of a wife & two children - both very young - He wishes to know in case he should give up his first plan - & go to Canada - whether you would advise him to go alone first & then return for his family - what would be the expense of going out & what money would enable him to settle there how much land he ought to take - & what fees &c &c he must pay - & what probability of succeeding as a school master - he is a clever man & a good & rather eloquent preacher - I greatly wish he may go to you - tell me every thing he ought to know & as soon as you can - it is possible after all he may be on his way to Van Diemens before your letter arrives - but as he possibly may not - & as even if he be - another may be willing to go who is similarly circumstanced - you ought to write as fully as you can - Now my dear Fanny as before this your two little maids are certainly with you the business of housekeeping & a great many Acetera's will require less of your attention - Therefore I am hoping for a long letter & beg of you to tell me some things very particularly - Tom I know has explained the Quarries, & observed the nature of the soil, but you had too much to do to attend to them & besides we wished to know so much about your comforts that we did not care much for any thing else, but now will you tell me what kinds of stones - minerals, & any fossil substance you have - & what kind of soil you have observed - & what fish the river produces - will you likewise tell me what plants & flowers grow about you - I think you mentioned that Anna Maria found a Double Lobelia - will you likewise inform us what kinds of birds inhabit your woods - I think I already know the trees - Is there any danger of your clearing going on so rapidly - & so completely - that in a short time 3 or 4 trees together will be quite a rarity - I have heard that my Grandfather remembered all the neighbourhood of Ballydrain as thick with trees as I suppose Douro is - & now you know there are none except those planted by Gentlemen on their grounds - you will be surprised to know that Mina & her girls are gone to France - it was necessary she should make some exertion, & her friends approved of this plan as the best - Stewart is Father in an amiable family, pursues his College studies with much credit - Sarah has just added another member to the family - a fine healthy girl - both well - dear Lydia

spent some days with my Mother since her illness - she is a dear kind darling Matron - Anne Sturrock & Harriet are in Town, daily waiting for Isabella's confinement - Mr Darling has gotten a very good situation - they have very fine apartments - Mrs Waller, Miss Nangle & Mathias's not - Miss Beaufort was here lately - I never saw them all look so well - I hope in a few months you will have Doctr Stewart to visit you - he expects to find you all most agreeable creatures - so don't disappoint him - if he do see you try dear to keep him at least for one night - & interest him about you so that may be glad to attend every facility to your getting a Clergyman - if Mr Robinson go & commense school & [] somewhere as he can, would not Doctr S be willing to appoint him as soon as possible - as the regular Parson - I enclose a letter from Anne Peebles written at the time I began my letter, which I could not send an account of Mr Mangins absence - when you next write you may direct to Alexr Mangin Esqr & & - Dublin Castle, & enclose our letter to him, he promises to have them sent to us safely - My paper warns me that I must soon conclude - & dare I part with dear friends without speaking of our [] which are so abundant - perhaps trials & afflictions are not the least - & that my poor dear John might see the hand of God in his continued trials - but I see no hope - let us pray - "whatsoever ye ask in my name" - what a positive promise - shall we not trust God's word - how angry we feel if one word he doubted - yet we dare to doubt the word of God - "Lord increase our faith" this is every thing in time - it unites it with eternity - & what a moment is our existance here - a shadow - a vapour yet on this shadow - this vapour hand "everlasting things" - & what a happiness when those who love the Lord in sincerity enter in Eternal joys to be for ever with the Lord - & with the Spirit of the just made perfect" - with dear dear friends gone before - a sweet amiable lovely girl - an intimate friend of my precious Anna's entered into Eternity a few days since - rejoicing in the prospect of Eternal happiness - with her Saviour, & in the society of those she had loved here - among the rest my ever beloved child - & what a place must Heaven be - tis worth giving up all here for - & what a blessed Saviour is Jesus the friend of Sinners - may we all cling to this in all our troubles - in all our enjoyments - ever may we "Feel with Jesus" - & this not in words merely but with our warmest affections - I must cease - will you tell Maria with my love I had intended to write to her - but now have not time - say to her my Mother intended the things she said here as a present - will you give our love to all those young people - particularly my old friend Anna - which we ever remember with affection -

I have sat up writing after every one else is gone to bed -it is the only time I have to myself - but as this letter must be at the Castle early tomorrow I must send the packet tonight - so my dear loves farewell - do not forget to remember me most affecty to Mr Reid - be assured of the sincere affection of your sister

A Mathias

When you write I wish you would describe the whole appearance of the river you sit on - what furniture - etc etc - Have you a carpet - or do you make as Louisa Elizabeth did - what chairs & tables - sofa - etc etc - the more minute the description the more we shall see if we are with you -

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Dear loves let us hear from you soon a letter from any or all of you gives joy to all your friends here & causes several visits among us -

A M

Ashford July 25 1825

You will be surprised at the date of this letter my dearest Fanny - and probably your knowledge of Irish Geography will not discover to you where we are - Be it known then to you my child that the little village of Ashford is in the Co. of Wicklow close to Miss Erberry's place of Inchin [] past near Rosanna, about a mile & a half from Neworthbridge - places which you once saw - for you my beloved were with us when we visited part of the country formerly - I believe ten years ago - for I think it was in 1815 - I will not say I wish you were still one of us - for indeed I do not wish that you should be one of the husbandless Sisterhood instead of an admirable & charming wife & mother as you are - No - however contented I may make myself with my own single lot I do not ever wish to see others left in the same forlorn state - but I do indeed & with all my heart wish that it now in your power to be with us at this moment at every moment - that no more obstacle existed than some few dozens of miles. Well - let us still hope the best - while we bend with cheerful resignation to the will of the Disposer of events - surely we may still admit a little cheerful ray of hope to brighten us in our journey onward - A hope - that sometime now this transient world we shall be together again - Oh if it now the will of God, to bring you back my dear friends - never never more to go - Oh what extacy

When we are going about here - in walking in Rosanna, how often do I think of you my love who were our companion here & saw some of these pretty places with us. - We have the upper part of a two story cottage - which is in a sequestered spot - on the banks of a winding river that comes from the Devil's Glen - it turns off just at the house & runs in front - & we have the object of a bridge - & hills woody, & yellow with the ripening corn & very neat pretty cottages - & a great deal of wood - unluckily a road comes at each side of the house - & then the noise is rather troublesome early in the morning when the turf cars come rattling by. - The upper part of the house just answers for us - a sitting room of tolerable size, with an east & a south window - a large bedroom with 2 beds with a south & an east window & a little room with a west window that just suits me - & in it there is a closet which holds our books & our linen trunk - we were obliged to bring linen Plate & spoons & knives & forks which was rather a plague. The house was much praised to us, & the people too as being such nice people - but the house is miserable old dirty all furnished place full of dust & a great abundance of fleas - & the people are good sort of dirty people - they have a parcel of Cod squeezed into the lower part of the house I cannot guess how - but they do not molest us - The place is pretty - so beautiful & so rural that it makes Bess [] for much of the inconveniences - but indeed we are wonderfully comfortable on the whole - & having brought stores of books with us [] - & having had the most heavenly weather - we have gone on very well - poor old St Swithin make an odd mistake this year, for tho' it rained on that fatal day, it never has rained one drop since - it has been the finest weather only too hot - We came here July 13th - I was sorry to leave Dublin just at that time for the next day the great Sir Walter Scott was to arrive - & as we had got a letter acquainted with his son & his wife - I thought it was throwing away money to stay on the very small chance of meeting him - I was sorry to come - but we did & I am sure it was such

tremendous hot weather that if we had staid in town it would have made her ill - at least I comfort myself for leaving town by this idea - but indeed it was a pity to turn ones back on all chance of meeting him - which I do think between the Brinkleys & young Walter & his wife who are quartered in town we might have continued - but it is one of those little minor trials of life that come to give one a little gentle discipline & [] of me to [I can save by teaching us to control ourselves, - He was at the seven churches last Monday - a party of people from this house saw him there - & he came as he is continued to scramble up into the place that is called St Kevin's bed. - If we had had the luck to be there that day how nice it would have been! not the fate, are [] - on Saturday he was at the Devil's glen I hear; & I am sure [] got a glimpse of him as the carriage drove by this house - we had been out in the car all day & had that moment come in - I went to the window hearing a carriage - but I exclaimed Oh! here! a little too loud, for I believe he heard me - he instantly turned away his face - but I saw the turn of his cheek & his white jaw - & I think it seemed like his bust that is all I shall see of him I believe. - But I shall hear much of him from others - He & his daughter Miss Scott - his son in law Mr Lochart - young Walter & his wife - are all to go to town on Friday the 29th - Where they are to have Mr Johnson to meet them. - After that Sir Walter goes to Killarney, & there is some idea of Mama & Harriet E joining the party - but it is not decided yet.

July 28. Well my darling child, we have been sporting thro' the county on a ramble since I began this folio. As the weather was so favourable we determined to scheme our most distant excursion - & having engaged a chaise from Newrathbridge to be here at eight on Tuesday morning, we have [] & at breakfast - & having cars - fully locked up all our goods - & hidden in the bottom of the great trunk our store of money - we set out at 9 oclock in a tolerable hack, noisy, but roomy & rattled away to Avondale - 8 miles from this - & just about a mile beyond Rathdrum - The view from the road for some time is lovely - you look forward down to a woody glen through which Avonmore winds beautifully - We then got to Avondale gatehouse - during young Parnell's minority a Mr Bruin has it, who does not care for its location & will not permit people to drive through. We sent the carriage round - & set out to walk. The gate [] came a little easy & then [] us we could not go wrong, she left us - & we walked & walked & walked & sat & walked, & came to many a winding & many a sudden turn which we thought might be the end of the walk - & a most scene it is - but instead of one mile I am sure it is at least [] - & any little shade from the burning sun of July - & a very rough stony ruddy road to walk on - Bess so tired & worried that it could not but lessen the delight of the scene - I walked on a good way before them for some time to try if I could discover where the gate to the high road was - I felt as if I was in America; except that the road was too good for that - It was a fine forest scene with high bare wild hills beyond the river - many ancient trees around me - not a sound even of a bird - nothing save the grasshoppers - & now & then in the distant parts I heard the woodman's axe. It seemed so odd to be alone there & wandering about - I sat on a stone & should have enjoyed the scene only that Bess was so overwhelmed with fatigue & heat after some minutes she & Anna & Foley came & we crawled on & on till we met a woodman who told us we were still half a mile from the gate - This goal of wishes we at last reached - it was past one - we had been more than two hours walking in the sun. Our plan was to have seen both Avondale & Castle Hamond the same day, but after such fatigue - it would have killed Bess outright to have done this - so I proposed the driving on to the Wooden Bridge in which we

were to sleep - securing our beds - & resting, & then seeing at our leisure next day all we missed - This plan was agreed to - Just outside Avondale gate is the first meeting of the waters where the Avonmore & Avonbeg meet - celebrated you know by Moore - from that begins the vale of Avoca - as the rivers when they join, from the Avoca Hotel - but we heard that which is called the Wooden Bridge Inn, under Tinock na moel hill, was superior - it is scarcely 5 miles from Avondale - we got there just after 2 - were shown into an airy drawing room not 10 feet square, but it had 2 large windows open -The whole house clean & airy & fresh -The beds were very nice - numbers of little, very small bedrooms - we secured 2 beds for Bess and Anna - & a little one near them for myself - ordered dinner at 4 - & settled ourselves very happily - Bess lying on the sofa, Anna Sketching the view from the window, & I reading to them a tale called "The Carders" - one of a set of Tales, called "Today in Ireland". The Inn is really delightful - & the view from it magnificent - for we see back into a fine glen we have just passed through - & tomorrow into that which leads to Cirklow - & sideways into another leading to the Gold mines - On each side for miles there are the most grand & very magnificent heights - wooded from top to bottom - Here and there beautiful green low banks with separated trees - & all dotted with neat comfortable looking cottages. [] is wide, large, & grand - quite in a different style from that which we have from the house. This view is closer & nearer to you, yet more various - & much more busy & animated - Both are lovely - the air there is much fresher & more open & I am sure more wholesome in warm weather, as soon as our month is finished here, which I think will be about the eighth of August - I think we shall go there for a week or ten days - but it will be much more expensive than this place, unfortunately. But to continue - our dinner was excellent - the finest tender roast chicken - white trout & vegetables - all clean & good & I assure you early as dinner was we played away at it. After dinner Anna went on with her drawing & Bess took a little sleep [] & at half passed [] we went out to walk a ¼ mile to the 2d meeting of the waters which I think is prettier than the first -for the Avoca & Aughrim river which meet there are finer - The whole scene is much grander - but I am not sure till I look again at it but the first is the sweetest scene - There was a little path winding thro' the woods, down to the meeting. We went down, & sat on a bank for a long time musing on the scene & inhaling the sweetest air that ever was - Then we walked about here & there till it was time for tea - at which we had excellent country like cream & butter - we read & worked & went to bed at half past ten - having first engaged the jaunting car of the Inn to take us the next day to see places opposite - Bess slept delightfully tho' the room was over the kitchen & the Inn rather full & noisy - we breakfasted early - and at nine set out on the car - From the vale of Avoca, into the vale of Arklow - the road is most excellent, it is the mail coach now to Wexford - & is most lovely running for miles on the side of a high woody bank & having the view of the river & opposite woods & [] First we stopped at Glenart Castle, which is Ld [] but is inhabited by his son Capt Proby - it is built by way of a castle, but rather low - however there are some very nice rooms within - it stands on sort of a terrace, which has been turned into a garden - so that entirely round the house there is a sort of platform of very neat flowers garden - with flowers of all kinds & pretty shrubs in beds of various forms - an arcade covered with vines leads from the entrance of the garden to the hall door - against the house are all manner of pretty things.

The view is mostly wood scenery with one or two distant mountains. Neither the steward or housekeeper would take any money. From there we drove about 3 miles to the town of Arklow

which is but a poor one crossed the bridge & got to the opposite side of the river - & after two or three miles we arrived at Shelton Abbey - Lord Wicklow's seat - The grounds & woods are very extensive The house is very handsome, built like an Ancient Abbey - in very good taste - but it is so low a situation there is very little view from it - At one side of the house there was formerly an old kitchen garden - but the present Lord who built the Abbey too - has made that in to a beautiful little lawn with groups of various Evergreens - such as Lanntrim - Rhododendrum & [] next the house an immense broad terrace of ground walk & then that lawn, with a row of Fuchias & Myrtle covered with profusion of flowers along the edge of the walk - There is a very pretty flower garden - & next is a little arcade, made of slight posts at intervals & sticks bent & nailed to those posts & all filled up between with a crossing of small branches - Roses & vines & clematis were planted along each side are trained up & running through & all over the top make a nice little shady walk. The cross bars are very slight little branches - I think it might be a pleasant thing for you to have in your garden in the very hot weather. I have made a little sketch just to give you an idea of it - for your wild vines would cover it very prettily - There is such another on Mrs Proby's garden covered mostly with vines the ends of the little cross bars are left sticking out as I marked. We drove through Shelton to Bally & there we walked a quarter of a mile to a spot where a beautiful view bursts on you suddenly - a magnificent one it is - of the river & wood & sea & mountains & Arklow - from this we drove thro' the grounds for near two miles & then home, having been nearly ten miles I believe - We then at 3 ate a hearty luncheon & set out on our return - stopped at Castle Howard to see that it is a very pretty Castle newly built & very beautiful views from it - & arrived here at 7, just in time to rest & settle ourselves & take saline draughts & prepare for tea at near 9 -

July 29 - I was up this morning at half past five - & a lovely morning it was - the view from my window along the river is so pretty in the early morning - All yesterday we all felt fagged & tired - neither Bess nor Anna had slept well & the heat yesterday was insufferable but today we are all quite refreshed - They slept well & we have just been taking an airing in the car - Mrs Anndale our landlady has a very grand car & 2 horses & we have had several very nice drives.

I never knew so hot & dry a July as this - Thermr sometimes 85 in the shade & in the sun 122 - I am sure it must be nearly equal to your heat - oh my dearest I wish I could see you this instant in a peep thru a magic glass & know whether you are safe, & have recovered well & how the baby is.

I see the poor Bp of Quebec is dead - it is said that Dr Stewart was to succeed him - if so it will I hope be advantageous to your church affairs that he has been interested for you - I fear that death of the Bp will prevent Dr Stewart from visiting you - your packet to me of April to Bess of May & to Clongill of May 29 have all arrived safely & it is most comfortable, to have heard down to so late a date - but I am in deep anxiety to hear again. Bess heard this day from my mother's kin very well & likes Glintown very much - she & Louisa have a large 2 bedded room & Louisa has a little dressing room beside with a wardrobe in it - The place beautiful The Baby better but has been indifferent. Francis & his family have been at Margate - at least his family have, & he now & then went there in the steam boat for a day or two recreation. The Foxes &

Fan arrived the end of June - Fan staid at Margate with her uncle & aunt to bathe & Barry & Sop: went to Catton Lady Farnham's Catton belongs to our useful friend Wilmot Horton.

I believe I told you in my last of the death, or at least of the illness of Mrs Sanderson - She was Barry's favourite sister, & her illness, at least the latter part of it was so rapid - that it was a sad shock to them, to hear when they arrived at Paris that she was past all hope - I don't know when they will be in Ireland - soon I believe - When I wrote last I told you of poor Mr Ruxton's illness & danger - & afterwards sent a little note stuffed into a letter to Mr Bellingham to tell you that he was dead - but I believe that was not in time for the mail of that month - you may suppose what affliction the death of one so dear to her family caused on the whole I think poor Mrs Ruxton has borne it better than could have been expected & poor dear Sophey too. I had to get all their mourning for them - I hear that Richard & Bess have been as kind as possible & have persuaded Mrs Ruxton to continue to live at Black Castle & still to be mistress of the house & to manage as formerly - Rich & Bess to continue to live as they have done paying so much - I am very happy that the girls & poor Mrs R are to continue there, for I think it would have broken their hearts to have gone to live elsewhere. Mrs Ruxton's income will be very comfortable I hear - Maria E. is soon to go for a visit - at present she did not wish to have her quite yet. Sir Walter Scott goes there any day E town - and I suppose if she goes with him to Trellinay - for Aunt will be ready for her against she returns - of Suttons & Wallers I say nothing as Catherine of course tells you of them. Leanora Brabazon is quite stout & well at present, & I don't think we have any anxiety now of that kind - poor Fan is the person I am most anxious about for I hear she is dreadfully thin & pale & emaciated - however I expect much benefit from her bathing -

General & Mrs Dillon & a pretty little niece & Miss Mills live near this & have visited & been very kind & attentive - They invited us to dine but we could not go then & they hope to have us some other day - The Genl has a great large old wild wall garden there that is his hobby horse & he took us all round it the other day & we visited every tree & potatoe crop - etc & he told how he saved his seed, & at last he stopped & said See! - See there! - behold there were 2 cabbage plants tied up for going to seed!!! - however he gave us some artichokes, which was one good thing. The Hamiltons are all at Bally Orran now, Mrs Ennis place near Ennis Kerry & we are gong there tomorrow after a very early breakfast to spend a long day, eat early dinner & come home in the evening. Yesterday evening when we were walking we met by chance Lady Crofton & her little daughter Anne who had the small pox for the 2d or 3d time - She is staying Inchinappa which belonged to the Miss Erberrys - one of whom married Henry Crofton. We are going to drink tea with Lady C this evening. I was just now interrupted in my scribbling by seeing a gig & jaunting car stop at the door - I heard people enquire for us but could not imagine who they were - till in walked Mrs Brinkley & Sally & Mr & Mrs Mat Brinkley & a Mr Hodder a Cork man, I wish they had all come some other time for it interrupted me sadly in this letter - but is it not curious how acquaintences meet unexpectedly in such odd places & yet such things in the world are always thought improbable.

I am very glad that poor unfortunate Mrs Rubidge lent you so many entertaining books my dear Fanny. I hope you will not use your eyes too soon after lying-in - Oh what a sad accident Mrs

Rubidge has had - Oh dear Fanny be careful of yourself & do not tumble into your cellar my dear child I shudder when I think of all the dangers you are exposed to - We are all greatly grieved for your ox - it is a most serious loss indeed - & at the blight of Caterpillars which I fear had done you a great deal of mischief - my dear friend how many trials of your patience Providence sends you. They are all for your own good I trust - but they are very disappointing & dispiriting - But at last I hope & trust all will turn out well - I met with a great sage lately in one of Mrs Montague's letters that I thought you would like & copied it - "I do not think it advisable to quarrel with Hope, though one knows he is an Imposter; for in ordinary life he sells pleasant dreams at reasonable rates - those that traffic with him for [] must pay a great sum on bad security."

So I will not quarrel with hope - but still try to think that Fortune will yet befriend us - that you will become more comfortable & successful & that again even here below we shall be together my beloved.

Lady Fowlis is in town now & spoke of going to Engd; Her box was sent at the same time with mine - They sailed in the Hugh July 10th & it has had such favourable weather that I hope & think it will soon arrive safely - I wrote to the people at Quebec & Montreal that you mentioned also to Mr Bethune of Cobourg to appraise them all that there were 2 boxes directed to Mr S.

The day before I left town Bentham the printer at last sent me the little story I told you of my having written while at Cheltenham. I will send it in this to you - or at least part if not all & I shall long to know if you like it dear. I enclose you now also Mr Nicholl's directions for the mode of using the Sulphate of Quinine - a little bottle of which containing 2 drachms I sent you in the box, as equal to 1 lb. Peruvian bark - Dr Chaque appraises highly of it. How fortunate you have been to escape all the illness that has been around you. May God preserve you all.

I think you now wise to change A M's book - children grow tired of the same book, when they have not been bright & very often a new book rouses their intellects I dare say teaching her to write would improve her in reading - No money has been sent me for Bellingham - I am very glad he is so kind & attentive & that he laughs & talks nonsense - a little nonsense helps one on so much in life - I am delighted that you have made a garden & I long to hear that your chimney is done - for goodness sake do not delay doing it my dear Tom - just before we left town we went to Dun[] but Mrs M: was out & we could not see poor Mrs S - but they assured me she was better. All the rest of the family well - I am sorry the Jan mail has been lost. Mr S said he would enquire about it - He also told me long ago that he would do his best to make more interest for Tom with the Canadian Company & I am sure spoke of going soon for a short visit to Paris he is invited there by his friend Mr South the Astronomer who is there now. Lyons all well gone to Greemont I think. Bess could have written to you in this but she was writing to Mrs Ruxton - then out in the car & then interrupted by the Bs.

Dear kind Fanny, thank you for my sweet little birthday note - I was well & happy on that day.

I am delighted that [] is a pleasure to you dear & that the little bit of a dictionary is of use - I hope you have had no return of your rheumatism & I entreat you not to use your eyes much as they are weak. Give my love to Tom & your very dear little darlings - God bless you my ever beloved Fanny your own Moonie.

Recollections of my dear Mother

When attacked in June 1824 by a trying and severe illness she said "I prayed to the Lord frequently to rouse me from a dead and Stupid State, and to fill my heart with love to him - but had I known he would have chosen to answer my prayer in this manner, I fear I should not have offered it up sincerely - now I trust I can say from my heart Lord Thy will be done" - She had a deep sense of the evil of Sin, and particularly of the sinfulness of her own heart - She delighted to hear the word of God read - & to have the Children of God pray with her -

After some time her disease which was Paralysis made her rather impatient as we were assured it always does - but in May 1825 she had a second attack, and from that time she generally was exceedingly happy

Whilst her mind wandered on every subject connected with this life - on the subject of religion she was clear and collected - One day as we were all surrounding her bed - prayer had been offered up for her in which she joined fervently - with a look as if she had herself called she said "I am summoned I can wait no longer - May God bless you" -

Then with the only hand she had power to move, lifted up in a solemn manner, & her eyes raised she said My Blessing and the blessing of the Lord be with you my dear children - Give yourselves to God live in love - live together - I must go - but be sure you give love to all my dear kind friends She then named several "but you know them all" she said "tell them I prayed for them with my last breath"

Dear Mathias! - my friend and Spiritual Father May God bless you and your Congregation - If you preach after I am gone chuse for a Text the last verse of 2nd Corinthians it ends with Amen - My life has been all Amen - I prayed earnestly to the Lord, but my prayer was that I might be restored to health and be useful to my fellow creatures - God set aside all my plans - he knew better" - At another time she said - Pray to the Lord for my family that they may all go to Heaven, and meet me there - indeed it could not be Heaven without them

One day when the Storm was violent, the wind driving the rain against the window she said "that Storm is like the world - but here I have peace - for here is Jesus" - Another time she said to me "Is it not strange that I have not slept either day or night for several days - yet I have no pain either of body or mind - I lie awake at night when all around me is still - I lie quiet in the day that I may be undisturbed with my Saviour - Night and day Jesus is ever present with me" - Though our dear Mother wandered much yet all her wanderings proved she was constantly activated by the love of God and Man -

[Written in pencil: Mrs Stewart who died July 1825]

Allenstown July 26 1826

Once more my beloved Fanny am I at poor old Allenstown - this is the first time I have ever written to you from this dear place since you went to the New World - for I have not been here to stay since melancholy 1821 - This place is doubly dear to me for it not only saw my infancy but yours my own dear child - & we are both linked to it & to one another by all the feelings of early pleasures & by each having had the same friends to watch over our own childhood & teach us all the good feelings of love & gratitude to the kindest of parents - How my dear Uncle used to delight in you - Alas how little could he foresee what the lot in the world would be of the dear little merry playfull Brown Fanny - but it will in the end prove my beloved child to have been a happy trial for you - painful & difficult as many a hard thing you have gone through, must be, to suffer, you will find that being gifted as you are with superior strength of mind, it was right that you should through trials work our your eternal happiness - it is only by this idea that I can ever find any comfort whatever for your fate - but when I feel most inclined to discontent & lamentation then I awaken to the conviction that a crown of glory hereafter awaits those who have been tried & come out well from the furnace of adversity - & that this world & its miseries will pass away while future joy & happiness through Christ will never face - I cannot even look out of the window here without thinking of you - & of you in the happy time of careless youth - so it is no wonder dear Fanny if the contrast should make more than ever sad & melancholy about you - but it shall not make me fill my paper with regrets & destroy your serenity by my folly - for alas we require all our exertions to keep away evil & folly, from our hearts - & we may both renew too much perhaps our saddest feelings - dear dear Fanny you were my own little girl when you were here & many a walk we took together under the hedge of the lawn - or in the Shrubberys performing the circular exercise & all my other strange vagarities - but do you the dancing masters have adopted that very thing - & I really seen one making his pupils exercise their arms, in different ways just as I used to persuade you to do - well but I must tell you about the last short month we continued at poor dear Black Castle till Decr 19th - so that we were there for 4 weeks - Mrs Ruxton was wonderfully well & in astonishingly cheerful spirits - but poor Sophy had several attacks of sudden apprehension & bad breathing while I was there - & is indeed in a very bad state of health - & for the last ten days poor Bess Fitzherbert was laid up in a bilious fever - so that latterly we had a good deal of anxiety - & fearing that at such a time we might be rather in the way we wanted to come here sooner - but they would not hear of it & would not let us come till the very last day we could. Bess Fitzherbert is now recovering exceedingly well & will I am sure be better than she had been for a good while - for several weeks she had complained of lassitude & weakness in her back - bad appetite & had inflamed eyes, all these were caused I believe by a collection of bile which she is now relieved from. The last plan, which seemed quite determined on, before she grew ill, was to go abroad in August & winter at Rome - & stay away about a year altogether - Richard found the hot weather agree with him - & his mother being so remarkable well now it encouraged him to venture to go - in that case she will remain at Black Castle of course - but now I dont know what difference this unexpected fever may cause. The Brabazons dined at

Black Castle one day soon after we went there - Leonora is remarkably well now - I saw the Pakenhams 2 or 3 times, & we went to see Mrs P one day - she is very pleasing indeed but reserved - She does not seem much enclined to us I think - & I believe considers as reprobates Mr P continues a great favorite here - but do you know (I will just say it is a whisper) I think he has still a very high manner & rather takes upon him more than a Christian clergyman ought - it is much more easy to talk of being "Christian minded" - & religious minded than to have Christian humility in reality - The reality of religion - which shines in the life & conduct, is certainly to be preferred to all the talk that can be about doctrine wh is now so much discussed - I am very glad dearest that you did not misunderstand me - for I do not think any curate can have too much Love of God & of his Son; - but I think one may have a great deal too much of the exclusiveness & party spirit of religion - These I consider the ostentation & outward show - but not the feeling of the humble heart - & I think many well meaning good people are led unawares into too much of this custom of talking of doctrine, without attending enough to school their hearts - but you do the latter - & the effect is seen in your life my beloved good excellent creature -

Bess Ruxton or Fitzherbert rather is become one of the eminent - & she & some others are I think a little imprudent in their mode of going on, & in their zeal to promote Bible reading & Bible subscription forget what a different thing it is to manage here & to obtain amongst the Catholics now that they are more than ever on the watch about conversation

Oh by the by I wish you could see the Irish papers with the accounts of all our odious & riotous election - I dare say Aunt Sutton will keep them for you - The Priests have interfered & have carried every thing with so high a hand, that though they have succeeded in many counties in putting out the old members & getting in their own friends, yet I think it will in the end, as they will find be very injurious to their interests - Since they have shewn how completely they can influence & terrify the poor voters, it will induce people to put an end to the 40 shilling freeholders - or at least if they cannot be done away at once - Landlords it is thought will as much as possible avoid giving leases [] in some countries there have been a great struggle indeed - in the Co Louth a man who was son of a Chandler has been brought in by the people - & it was a very doubtful thing for a long time between Lislie Foster & Mr Fortescue of Stephenstown - Mr Foster got in with only a majority of 5 votes -

While we were at Black Castle the Bp & Mrs Alexander were there two or three times & have since been here - Lady [] was there too, a very conversible woman easy in her manners & ready to enter into conversation with you at once - but a little manierie - indeed face & figure & manner all are so like poor little Mrs Major Waller that she reminds me greatly of her - We saw poor wretched Mrs Barry continually. She comes almost every day to Black Castle - She is tormented by Gout in her stomach & various things & fullness of blood - & she stuffs to the greatest degree with meat & wine & porter, & then obliged to have a dozen leeches on her once or twice a week - He I only saw at Church - fortunately I was not in company with him, for I never feel in charity with him - he is devoid of all principle & showed that but too plainly in the deceitful way in which he treated my dear father. I was at church three times & indeed it was very painful to me - but it would not have been right to stay away on account of any private

feelings - but when I looked at the beautiful church designed by my beloved Father - & when I recollected how sadly every thing is changed since the time when I used to think it such an indulgence to go to Navan Church & hear my Father preach, when I thought over past times, & that the very tones of his voice seemed still in my memory it is no wonder that going there was painful to me This country & the inhabitants are indeed so much changed that one might scarce know it if set down here by chance - & among the poorer people, the old have died - & those whom I know as children are now grown out of my memory & do not even remember me - Anne Murray's death I have already told you of I believe - Mary Toole has been living there these 2 years - she could not get a place & grew very poor - Luke is out of place too - we have given her some washing to do which I believe she was very glad to get - She came to see us - it was the first time she had ever been here since she came to her father's - She says her little boy Andrew, is a very fine stout fellow always well - she has no more - Frances Hodges was here, she is more comfortable now than she has been for years - for she has a cow - & her eldest son has been got into Wilson's hospital - Harriet her eldest daughter is at the school as maid & will earn something - poor Frances really looks better than I ever saw her - & not half so squalid as she used. Mary Smith was here & is wonderfully active & stout considering she is past eighty - Mrs Wildman was here too & seems might well - Philip came, & looks exactly as he used ten years ago - quite fresh & fat & has his teeth too - he is very happy at Foleys having married Peggy & has invited her down to pay him a visit -

He hears lately of his son in New York - & was told that he made so much money by laboring work, that he has now got a horse & car of his own for which he gave £40

Biddy is very happy & so is Cathy. - We have also seen poor Cullen the carpenter who is very well, & has got a new workshop in the new range of offices, which of course make him very happy - Molly Stanley came here yesterday & was delighted to see us - Musha I loved you all as if you were my sister & better too for they died away from me - She was doating I heard; but I assure you she remembered to ask for my Mother & every one she ought to ask for. She was rejoiced when I told her we had heard lately from you - & she was particularly anxious to know if you were in a country where there were wicked wild beasts & whether they were likely to eat you up & she asked that over & over - if they would eat you up - the poor dear child - her daughters are very comfortable now - & one of Mary Clarke's daughters is now married very well & settled in Navan. Anne Bellew came up today too to see us - she borrowed a car from Flood & the Suttons coachman drove her - she had her youngest daughter little Judy about 7 years old - a very pretty nice little girl, who can read very well & sew a hem - she had hemmed the frock on her exceedingly well - Anne looks remarkably well & is very happy - & likes her mistress particularly; she says she is a sweet good woman at first she was very much afraid of her master, but she finds now that he is not so difficult to please as she had been told. She had never been here since the time she left to go & live with my mother, so that she did not remember this place very well - & was very glad to walk all about it, in spite of the heat -

We are all longing to hear from you again, & to know if you have been as much oppressed by the heat as you were lat year - it is just as warm here this summer as it was last - & there is I think a greater scarcity of water - & a greater fear as to the crops - The months of April & May

were so uncommonly dry that it set them all wrong - we had however last week some heavy refreshing rain, & though our hot wasting dry weather has returned, all crops look better & the foolish panic people had is beginning to die away - The weather is lovely in itself & the fields & trees look lovely & the whole country looks rich & beautiful. But the fruit is not very good in general for it was ripened too soon before it was rightly filled - & though ripe it is sour & poor. Wheat is as yet the only good crop - The Potatoes are very backward - & the oats in general poor & short & the flax bad - but the rain has been of use and I think in a short time all the misery - or else - it is vain to struggle against sleep so as it is 12 o'clock I will bid you night

Friday morning - I am now quite awake my dearest Fanny, this lovely lovely morning - all night there was a thick fog but it is now clearing off - and there is the prettiest mixture of sunshine & mist & long shadows which I see from the old red room window where I have a little table established & write whenever I can.

Bess received your packet finished May 13 - The day before we left Black Castle - She will thank you herself for her part - and I must tell you that your dear dear little birthday note went to the bottom of my heart - how kind you are my own dear to think at all, in the midst hurry & anxiety of all kinds, of your poor old Moome's birth day - Many & many a one have I passed - & I am fast advancing towards old age - but I assure you I look remarkably well considering - & every one seems surprised not to see me look older - tho' to my own eyes appear hundreds of wrinkles which mark the quick progress of life. We are all as you may guess my dear Fanny most sorry to hear of your having suffered so dreadfully from that horrid torture of a sore breast - dear creature you did not want that to increase your torments - I am very sorry you did not try if possible to continue nursing for I am told that when there is a sore breast it should still be sucked in spite of the torture, because if you cease to draw it, it will never have milk in it afterwards - however perhaps this is an old womans story - & indeed I dont wish you should again require milk in it - My poor dear how you suffered too from vexation at nursing Willy - You mention to Catherine having had an intention of getting to you for him a woman who had been with Mrs Mitchell - & it seems the greatest pity that you did not try & get her there, though sooner than you had intended - sure if she is good-natured she would have gone to you - You will indeed in a very sad state, & where there is so much to be done, it was a great deal inconvenience to you. - It is a comfort to all your loving friends here to think that you had books to interest & amuse you, and your nice little Musical thing which must have been indeed a delight to you I wish you had a great deal more little pleasures within your reach - The Box has at last sailed - I think about the middle of July - I believe, in a vessel called the John & James - but I have not heard yet from Mr Darling through whom I begged him to write to me. Your letter of commissions never arrived - & having waited to the very last I then got the things by guess as well as I could - & several things which I suppose you had ordered, & which in another letter you bid me not mind - were sent by your friends - as Candlesticks, trays, one set of fire irons, & knives & forks & spoons - I shall be most anxious now to hear of the arrival of this box and its travelling companion - another longer box & more valuable - I do hope they may get safe - I am greatly afraid I have omitted several things which I ought to have sent - for being still in expectation of your letter, and not being able to guess from your letters exactly the articles you most wanted, I am sure I have managed it all very badly & forgotten several things which

ought to have gone at any rate I am glad they have sailed - After the box was all nailed & sewed up I recollected different things which ought to have been in - & I tried the chance of a safe journey for a little psalm book Bess was anxious to send you for your church - This I sent by a Mr Burford who is gone to Perth - I directed it to you to the care of Dr Reade Perth & hope it may be safe - He is a friend of Mr & Mrs Way & is gone with a large family to settle there - his son had already been there for a year or two & advised his father to come to him - One of the Maddens who married a Mr Tims; & her sister, are gone out to Up. Canada too - & are to settle on the north shore of Lake Ontario - The Maddens are unlucky people for they are too fond of pleasure - I am sorry you are likely to lose your merry good natured Sidney Bellingham - I thank him for the map over & over, it is so satisfactory to have it - the reason I do not see the New town in it was that I always took it into my head that it was at the same side of the river with you - & now my mind is full of a hundred fears & fancies about your having to cross that river at nights - I wish your bridge was built & hope it will be a good of stone - I am rejoiced you have got a clergyman, & hope indeed he & his wife may be comfort to you - I am sorry Tom thinks him like Dominie Thompson - but perhaps that was only just some little thing in his manner - & that in spite of that he may be a good enlightened clergyman & well informed companion - & he may be a useful quiet good creature though I dare say but homely - I long to hear numerous particulars about them - & to know that you have had the comfort of being at service - public church service again - & the still greater one of receiving the sacrament - Oh indeed - I hope he will be a comfort to you & a reasonable moderate man. - Dear Fanny have you Newcome's catechism. I hope you have taught it to the little girls - Anna Maria will soon be old enough to learn the Church Catechism too - I sent over a few little books for these dear children, & indeed I am growing very anxious to hear that they can read well & then write - you say nothing of arithmetic - but that is a thing that you can so easily teach a little bit of at odd moments that I hope you have - whatever they are to be hereafter, whether in Canada or in their own country, arithmetic will be material service to them - I am very sorry your hurry so much interferes with your teaching of them - but could you not continue to fix on even half an hour at a regular time to instruct them - I long to hear that Anna Maria can read well - for she ought now to be able both to read for her own pleasure, & also so as to entertain you when you are at work - perhaps the idea of that would be a stimulus to her if you mention it properly - but indeed you should consider the children have a little regular & uninterrupted time to teach them

I cannot tell you how sorry I am at Ann McVity's being in such a suffering state - & at your little Dr being away just then - but I trust that before this time he is returned & that all she going on well & recovering - What odious conversation those Reades have I don't wonder it disgusts you - & I admire Mr Robinson for shewing his disapprobation of it - and talking to you while it was all going on - it is one mark of a really well bred gentleman to repress that sort of conversation in Ladies company - & indeed Tom ought to set his face against it - & teach those vulgar apothecary people better manners - nasty creatures - it is the lowest style of wit - & is very disgusting. Your own Reid people seem to be not much in Mr Robinson's parties - or amongst you - tell me more about them - & whether any of the girls are ever with you - one ought to have been with you when you had that torturing boil - I am sorry we sent that gown to Mary Reid for I don't believe she is half as good natured as she ought to be - well - now don't be angry as I am sure you are at this instant as I can't help abusing them a little - but I will leave them &

tell you that we have been a week here now - dining about paying visits - & so many people coming that I never get on well in the day with anything - your Uncle was so good as to hire horses each day for the assizes to leave the good old blacks to us - they are brightened up greatly & do not crawl half as slowly as they used - we paid a long comfortable visit one day at Rochfield & found all well & gay & little Helen thriving nicely & her Ma in great beauty - We went one morning to Ardraccon - I never had been there since the poor O'Beirne's left it - & did seem very odd to me to see a quite new set of people & all so different - They seem good natured but very inferior to the former set - The former Bishop was so agreeable & so polished - and poor Mrs OB had so much heart & warmth about her - & Miss OB tho' cold was much more ladylike in her manner than Miss Alexander - who talks an immensity & yet says little I think - As to James Alexr he is nearly a fool I imagine - some say he is deranged but indeed I am glad he did not continue his attention to Kate - for he does not seem any way desirable for her -

This house goes on just in the old way in many respects & all those grown up men are as good children as when they were little boys - William is very silent in general - & in the evening he sits always in a corner neither reading or speaking - James & John read a little in the evening which are but short, for we go to tea at past 9 - & to bed at half past ten - John is to go next month to Mr Dickinson to read with him & live with him as his pupil for some time - he lives in Baggot St so we shall have John very near us & shall see him often I hope - he is of a very serious disposition & grave manner in general, but has now and then a good deal of dry humor - James poor fellow is a gay creature & has wonderful spirits, though he feels bitterly the vexation of being kept idling all his best life here - he is now 26! What a pity! - Robt came here for 2 days & was very lively & pleasant - he has more conversation than the others & more cultivation - & is the picture of happiness - wh arises from the useful active life he leads - Maria is very gentle & quiet & slow in all her movements - so that I don't believe any thing could put her in a hurry - but she is very much improved in many respects - & has a good deal of pleasing quiet conversation, & at present seems very moderate in her opinions & not much tending to extremes, as well as I can gather from what she says - but you know I am not apt to talk to people about their peculiar opinions & in general I think it best to avoid all those sort of discussions

You did not tell me if you liked Wilson's sermons - I have sent you a little vol: of Closis sermons on the liturgy & hope by next year to have his lectures on the Pentateuch ready for you as I hear much of them - I thought I had sent you the Stories by author of Mary & her Mother - & am sorry I did not hear in time that wished for them - but I will get them & have them ready in case I should hear of any opportunity - I wish you would not delay sending your commissions till Christmas - for those are the letters that come most slowly - begin earlier to send them - & then in two or three succeeding letters repeat the list, & then I shall be sure to be in time with all your things - You must give Mr Bethune a great charge about the Boxes - for the large contains what will be ruined by being knocked about or much jolted - do you know what it is - what do you think of a Pi for! - sent by good little Maria - in the other chest you will find a store of wires - & a little sheet of directions for tuning which has been lately published - Oh how I do hope it may arrive safe & be a great great pleasure & comfort to you - Maria has got a very sweet soft one that makes lessons sound much than they used to do on the common harsh Pi, fors. -

We read out in the mornings the life of Dr Clarke the traveller & walk a very little when there is shades late in the day we have not got to the school yet it is so deadly hot - but I hate complaining of the heat - every thing is so beautiful - so rich & vivid & glowing is the face of nature - Ah my dear child perhaps you will yet look again at it with us in comfort & happiness - God grant it -

My Mother has had 2 or 3 severe bilious attacks this summer but recovers well between, & is now thank God pretty well - Francis is now with her, he has been sent over by the Mining Compy to wh he belongs - & went from Cork last week to Killarney & Valencia to meet Wm E - & look at the State Quarries &c. - I believe he is now again at Glyntown & will be in Dublin about the 5th or 6th - I am to go to Edgeworthstown to meet him & be there at the time of the Wedding which is to be about the 2d week in August - & I don't know yet whether Francis will come this way & take me up - I hope he will - if not I do not intend to try & get across the country & F E will send to meet me - I do not intend to stay long - it will depend chiefly [] Poor Harriet I hope she will be happy in [] - She has taken nearly 2 years to consider of it - he is good & agreeable & well informed - but some how I dont feel quite satisfied - I think such a charming creature as Harriet ought to have a better match - his living is only 600 a year - but his uncle old John Rothwell intends to settle on him 500 pr an which will be a good addition - None of her suitors are very happy about it - but indeed I ought not to say that - & for goodness sake do not breath a hint of it in any of your Clongill or Etown letters - Aunt Mary & Honora have been on a visit at Cloonagh with Sophy Fox, from whom I heard the other day - & she says a little obstinate cough Honora had went away entirely while there & she has promised to go again in Autumn - Aunt Mary goes to England when Francis returns I hope you have heard before this that Maria had a very favorable answer from Ld B: relative to the military road - so I hope that little employment at least will be obtained - The land company have some disagreement with Government - so I fear nothing will be done in that Quarter at present - & as to the Postmaster Genl ship that seems entirely beyond our hopes at present dearest Fanny - if there had been any hope from her doing so I would have asked Maria E to apply - but as I knew & was informed there was no hope in Ld B quarter I did not ask her - because it would be most imprudent to waste her interest unnecessarily - when I see Francis I shall learn as much as I can about Tom's being appointed superintendent of Emigrants - which you allude to - I fear it was in some last letter for I did not hear of it before - I will consult Francis about it - I think in all Tom's application he ought to apply also to Sir Peregrine who has expressed himself so kindly about you both & as anxious to assist him, as far as he can - so that it would be well to apply to him too - that would be an assistance to [] application made in London - I hope to hear soon [] the Bishop has visited you - & that you will like a good creature give a very particular account of all he said & did - & I hope you will quite win his heart You are very good my dear Fanny to think of all those nice curiosities you mention sending by old Dr Connin - I am sure what ever you select or find will be very interesting to me & very valuable - in the course of the summer any little plants that come easily in the way you may dry - or save seeds for me - but pray do not over worry or fatigue yourself - my dear creature for me - I am very glad Francis was able to recover the postage for you - I will apply to him about Kates letter - & am indeed greatly vexed at a 2d

being charged - I am sure I hope this one may not - I will send a little gentle hint on the subject to Wilmot-Horton

Aunt Mayne is wonderfully well considering the loss she has had - she is to stay for the present with Margaret at Black rock - & remove into town in winter to be near us - poor Anne has been near 2 months expecting to lie in - & now they begin to fear it is like the first odd thing that ailed her & that there is no child. She is very wretched & low - Mrs C M Fox getting much better in health & rather more alive - Mrs F Ruxton has got a nice little boy - so she has 2 now -

Foley & Peggy were married on the 9th Peggy Caffray & Mary Foley went up to the Wedding which I hear was mighty pleasant - we ordered a fine Cake for them & they had Mr Murphy the fat old cook - Mr & Mrs Nash & the Hamiltons servant at it - I heard they had a very handsome dinner & the bride was elegantly dressed - that was McDonoughs account to Mary Hamilton - Peggy sent the first slice of her Cake to the Hamiltons. Poor Mrs H has a cough & suffers from the hot weather - the rest are well - Lynes well - They have let Greenmount till November - I told you in my last about Lady Foulis & B Dallas intention of going to Paris - I believe I have []

[78-008/1/7 #122](#)

Douro - 2d August 1826

My dearest Maria

I cannot yet find out, how I felt on first reading your last note I had such a mixture of feelings - surprise, joy & gratitude!! but I know that when the tumult had a little subsided gratitude remained alone - no - delight & gratitude remained in my heart for your kind thoughtfulness in wishing to send me your dear old Piano - upon which you & I have together played so many favorite pieces of music - Ah yes my dear Maria it will be to me the most truly valuable & delightful - it will beguile many a solitary hour if I pass more years in Canada & will draw many many tears from my heart & eyes when its sweet sound & touch & even the sight of it, will bring to my very sight - (Alas! my minds eye) so many dearly dearly loved friends - so many happy goneby hours - I hope it is now on this side of the Atlantic, but its perils are only beginning - for in its travels from Quebec here, it is are more exposed to dangers than during its passage - however I hope as it is so well packed up & as we have given many charges to Mr Bethune to have it taken care of - it may reach us safely - & Oh how careful I shall be of it - for this country is fatal very often to Piano's or any good furniture even - the extreme heat & dryness warps the wood & so opens the joints, & even cracks the wood - but I will try to preserve it by every means - & indeed if I think there is the smallest chance of our returning home next year I will be philosopher enough not to open it here - but to keep it well put up as it comes to travel back again - but I am beginning to fear that my hopes & wishes as to going next year were too silly to be accomplished - I was ill & certainly very feverish & very miserable when I wrote those letters which I have since been much ashamed of for they exposed my weakness so glaringly - & weak & foolish I was - & am still for I still wish to return home more than anything else in the world - but I am not so wildly impatient - & I see how nearly impossible & impudent it wd be to think of going so soon as next year for several reasons - but I know that we & all belonging to us are in the hands of one who knows what is best - We know not ourselves what we ought to do - so let us pray for his support & direction in every thing - & resign all to him -

I am glad you have got such a nice new Piano & wish I could hear your sweet finger exercised upon it - I have only once had the pleasure of hearing music since I left home - & that was one evening in Cobourg 2 years ago - I did indeed enjoy it - but how much more shall I enjoy hearing you - & talking & listening to you - I have many many subjects ready - various things which I cannot write - for I generally write in such flying moments here & so much noise & bustle all around me that I cannot give my undivided attention to what I am writing Enough to express fully my thoughts - & so I must just wait my darling till we are permitted an opportunity of conversing peaceably & quietly at my own best loved of places - sweet old Allenstown - Often & often do I think of you my dear Maria - How much real good you may do to your fellow creatures - & to yourself - I find that a sad disadvantage in this county - it makes people so very selfish - for the business is so constant, & unnecessary attention - to it so necessary that it takes

entire possession of mind & heart & really makes one forget other duties most dreadfully - I regret many things & chiefly that I scarcely can have even one half hour for serious reading - I am forgetting everything I knew & not gaining any new ideas - except upon housekeeping - indeed I pine for quietness & leisure - [line crossed out here & indecipherable] - but really tho' we have lived alone, we have not had retirement, in its agreeable sense - we have lost the advantages which must be derived from intercourse with our fellow tenants here below - & we have not gained any of the sweets of retired life -

I always liked it but for the 1st two years of my residence in Ireland I particularly enjoyed quiet intercourse with sensible people - but my dear - I do enjoy & delight in cheerfulness - surely there is nothing wrong in indulging the flow of good spirits if one is blest with them - I think great cheerfulness & lively animation is quite consistant with sincere religion - & I think that lovely & cheerful intercourse with each other is not only right but actually necessary to preserve us from sinking into simple selfishness & apathy- You have learned before this that we have got a very excellent pious clergyman who sincerely wishes to do good - he keeps the Govt School & also the Sunday school, which is well attended - & every sunday his Congregation is encreasing - I think there were 74 people there the last sunday - Mr Armour is extremely active in visiting the people, & giving them good advice - & is gaining so much influence over them that it is quite delightful - One man near this who heard about Toms intention of having a church built 2 years ago - said - that he would sooner give assistance to pull down a church than to build it" - this same man has been at church the two last sundays - I rejoice to hear that Mrs Pakenham & her nice little boys are so well - She seems indeed to be a most valuable friend - Yesterday I received a letter from John Bennet - who lived with Mr P - poor creature he had been shipwrecked & lost every thing he possessed except his life & his wife - he wrote to tell me that he & his wife were living with a gentleman at Halifax - he as footman she as Cook - but expressing great anxiety to come & live amongst his countrymen - but nobody in this neighborhood ever thinks of keeping inside manservants - as he says he wishes to hire in that capicity - I only know two places at Cobourg where there are manservants - & even there they work out of doors too when necessary - I am going to answer his letter immediately - there is no land now remaining []

[78-008/1/7 #123](#)

[] bother you, - my dear dear aunt Susan is very stout thank God & sends you a mushy note in this - Mrs Tisdall wanted her & me to go to Charlesfort on Friday next to spend the day & night, but aunt S wd not go & I did not wish to go then - Mrs & Miss Mitford are there now, & both Mother & daughter trying to outvie one another as to Conceit - it is quite sickening, & as I am sometimes bilious you know I might have to take a double dose of mustard seed after being in their company - The Merrion St ladies & aunt Waller have all just been here all well & stout & now my life & love God bless & keep you & your dear little ones belonging to you is the prayer of Your attached & affectionate sister

C Browne. -

[Written on the back:

Catherine Sepr - 1826

Address:

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

Cobourg

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Written in pencil in another hand:

Kay, written by G Aunt Kirkpatrick before her marriage]

Jany 24 1827

I have safely received your packet of the 19th which I will forward carefully in my next Canada letters. A few days ago I received also the packet which Miss Wilson sent in Novr last I believe by some private hand; where it has been all this time I cannot imagine, but I beg you will be so good as to express to her my thanks for her note. I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from Fanny last week, and did indeed think of writing to tell you, but I was laid up for some days by a severe cold which interrupted all my good intentions. October 30 was the date - The weather had grown cold, & she says it was something like the approach of winter - The Thermometer having been two mornings as low as 16 or 17 -! She was at that time tormented by pain & Rheumatism in her head, but was otherwise well I believe. They were extremely busy altering the house, & had been for a week or two in the midst of dirt & confusion - but the house will she says be much more comfortable than it ever was before - & more convenient in many respects, & she seems very happy at the improvements

Mr Stewart's ague had I hope gone away for this year, as he had not shaken for some time

He had not of course received any of my letters relative to his affairs here - and I cannot at all guess what he writes to be done, till I hear again from him which I hope I may soon; but at this time of year letters come very slowly. I had no idea till I heard from Mr Thomson that the amount of debt on his property was as great as it is was indeed it makes me very unhappy.

As to making any arrangements of his affairs it is impossible to proceed rapidly when he is at such a distance, and the whole of the affairs so much enveloped in confusion as they appear to be -.

Fanny mentions that an interesting circumstance had occurred at Peterborough about three weeks before she wrote.

Thirty five Indians men & women & children came to church there, behaved extremely well during the service & were very attentive & anxious to understand it. After it was over they came forward with their primers and cards of letters requesting the ladies & Gentlemen to instruct them, & seeming really very desiring to be taught. They were converted to Christianity in the course of the summer by a country man of their own who had been taught by an English missionary; and though continually drunk before, have since their conversion become quite sober & well mannered.

Fanny likes very much the clergyman who is now at Peterborough - Mr Armour - he is a very zealous and very mild good man, & has already induced many to go regularly to church who seemed at first obstinately determined to neglect it. His wife is very kind & friendly & very tender kind nurse - Fanny finds great comfort in her friendship - & as she was so kind as to go

frequently & sit part of the day with her & help to nurse Tom when she was ill; I am in great hopes that she will go to her when she is confined & save her from much of the uncomfortableness that she suffered in her last confinement. I am sorry to say that about next month poor Fanny is to add another Canadian to her large family

I hope it may be a boy, as the fine little fellow she has is too precious a treasure. I think her spirits seemed altogether better than in some of her former letters. She said she had received a psalm book which I sent her in round about way, just in time, when she & the Reids & a neighboring gentleman had agreed to sing together in church every Sunday - & to meet for the purpose of practising every Saturday evening at her house - She says that on the whole they "make a very pretty noise in church" - I wish we could look with certainty to any time for the return of these dear friends - but unless we could be sure of some suitable employment for Mr Stewart, how could we encourage them to come home, knowing that they could not live on the small income here. and to procure any kind of employment seems impossible - I beg my kind remembrances to Miss Wilson & also to Mrs E Johnson & Mr Stewarts family & am my dear Madam your much obliged & faithful

H Beaufort

Should you see Mr Thompson pray be so kind as to tell him I am not well, but hope to answer him by tomorrow if possible

I forwarded in a former packet to Fanny the joint letter of Miss Wilson & her brother which they were so good as to allow me.

[Addressed to

Mrs Wilson

Maryville

Belfast

Postmarked

24JA24

1827]

Merrion St July 28 1827

What! Still at Merrion St! I hear you exclaim - Yes indeed my dearest Fanny here we are though the summer is nearly over; still living in this deserted city - and all very well - & not a whit the worse for it. The summer is by no means steadily hot, though it takes fits of it now & then - but there is a good deal of wind which keeps the air fresh - and there is more rain that is quite agreeable. I mentioned I believe in my letter sent by Liverpool, that Dr Marsh had ordered Draught for Bess - for the only ailment she has now, a pain over one eye early in the morning which was very annoying to her. - She takes one Draught at 12 - & drives out in a jaunting car - drives at 3 O'clock & takes another draught between 5 & 6 & drives out again! - I believe the medicine is of use to her - but I am very certain the drives are, being so much out in the air is of the greatest use to her - but it does to be sure make one a little idle - tho' not so much so as you might imagine - because by a little management one can get a good deal into the day after all. This car life is of the greatest use to Anne - for besides the air which is I believe excellent for every mortal, it forces her to save here eyes & let them idle a great deal.

My Mother & Lou go on pretty well at Kilmashagne, & they think my mother is better for change of air - We went there the other day & dined at three with them & had a delightful drive home at half past seven - & then I worked in the garden till past eight - how often I think of you my own darling old child when I am at that wearisome business which you used to make so pleasant when you were my partner & companion.

My Mother & Louisa came in on tuesday morning to see Sophy Ruxton who came about a tooth - suffered so much she was obliged after having been with Maclean, to lie down & she was good for nothing the whole day - so we made them stay Wedy - She went again to Maclean - & just the same happened - & they saw but little of her - Thursday it rained comfortably the whole day, so that there could be no doubt as to staying - & sophy was much better - and yesterday we persuaded them to stay to dinner, & then go home to tea - Thursday was so fine this was a beautiful plan - but just as they set out the evening grew very damp & mizzly - nothing very bad & it is not quite an hour's drive. It is pleasant to have them so near as we can meet so often - indeed I wish they were not to go to Cork this winter at all - for I know they are much happier here - particularly in the winter months - I need scarcely tell you that I am quite well - but I am & am as strong as an Old lioness I assure you

Yesterday morning in the nicest time came a Wilmot-Horton when we were all together after breakfast - it was finished May 24 - your own dear & blessed birthday my beloved Fanny - a day most precious as your own dear self is - The first thing that appeared was a letter for Sophy R - which I was happy to present to her - I beg you will tell Tom that I am most particularly obliged for his letter which is most satisfactory - but I must write to himself & thank him. It was very interesting to all my audience, but particularly Sophy who is such an experienced farmer. I shall be full of very great impatience for your next letter my dearest Fanny - both to know what Mr

Galt has done for him - & how he is - I lament that pain very much & fear the journey to York must have been very distressing - I hope if there is any good physician or surgeon there, he will consult him while he is there. Oh I know you will write as soon as you can & will tell us every sort of particular of Mr Galt & his conduct - & of poor Tom himself. I can't imagine why Mr Galt should change so much - & yet there seems to be a change - but perhaps it is only the effect of the hurry of business, & that when Tom is with him all may be made smooth again - - Maria E & Francis have been so anxious about this that they will be most disappointed if nothing comes at last of Mr Galt - but Francis in his last letter says that to his great disappointment the Direction of the Canada Company will not be appointed this year - which spoils his schemes - I do not know what his schemes are - but I imagine he would have tried to be one of the Directors himself - which would have been a most favorable circumstance. Perhaps next year this may be. He is Director of so many different companys that I dont know how he continues to have a thought for anything else - but he does find time for all kinds of things - science & usefulness - & kindness to his friends - In the midst of all his occupations he is taking the trouble of reading over carefully, my little book - of whose fate I have nothing yet to tell you my dearest - but if it to be published at all, I hope I shall have it ready to send you next year - I am much afraid that it will be but a flat thing - and that even you partial as you are expect nothing good of it. -

My dear Fanny do not ever imagine for a moment that I think you indifferent about any thing concerning us - that is indeed the greatest of all mistakes - for I never never did - & when I say that you made no remark on such a thing - or never asked about so & so, you are not at all to suppose that I doubt your interest or am impatient at your not mentioning it - Sometimes in writing one forgets how long a time must pass before the answer comes - & one expects an answer on a remark long before it can arrive - so pray dont mind those foolish things that I say - Our letters frequently cross each other on the way - which is another reason that I seem to say you have not answered; But answer or no answer - & [] and indeed my dearest Fanny - it never entered one or our noodles to think you had grown indifferent to any of our little concerns -full well we know how it delights you to know all even the smallest little circumstance belonging to us, & indeed dear when I omit them; it is not intentionally, but from that being which seems to pursue me whatever I am about - & which is all caused I am sure by some want of method in myself

You ask about the abscess - it is in Status quo - always open, but in general discharging very little - some odd times it takes a caper and produces a quantity of deep yellow stuff - so much even as to run down in a stream - & then does not for months again - but it is much more desirable that the bile should go downwards through the bowels, naturally - than come in any other way. Bess is quite free from cough - & I am in hope the Quinine & Quassia which she takes & the car drives if she will but persevere in them will strengthen her greatly

Honora comes here next week on her way to England with Sneyd - I hope to goodness he will let her come back before winter for she is better at Etown than any where in winter - & indeed I do not like that she who is so delicate should live much with people so unhealthy as Sneyd & Mrs E - Sneyd looks uncommonly well now - but a vast deal older - he looks like an old man of fifty I think - & tho' in very tolerable health for him - yet he is obliged to guard against cold &

fatigue & over excitement - just like a sick girl. Mrs E is at Horrowgate & was rather better, but has been very indifferent since he left her - indeed I think it is foolish of her to write every day & tell him how ill she is because he left her - & how many spasms she has &c - They have some idea again of taking place in Co. Wicklow they think a little of Mr Knox's beautiful cottage at Rostrevor - but I am much inclined to their going abroad again -

Indeed people who are accustomed to live on the continent for a few years, acquire such a taste for the sort of society they meet there - & the facility of it, that they do not get on well in these dull stay at home countries, where people have plenty of home employment & do not want everlasting vanity. This puts me in mind of poor Mrs Smyth of Gaybrook who is so fond of rambling - that I do think she wd have been delighted to have had a good excuse for going abroad again - but affairs are now all changed - & they will once more reside at Gaybrook, at least a good deal - Ralph of whose horrid habits of drinking & extravagance I am sure I told you at last grew so bad that Apoplectic fits were quite a common thing to him - & between them & drinking morning noon & night, & anxiety & fear of being sent to Jail - he was quite wrong in his head for the last two months - about a fortnight since - he was attacked again by these fits & had 7 in one day poor creature - & then lay insensible from Monday to Sunday night when he died - his mother had never heard of his illness till Saturday late in the day when she instantly set out - & reached Gaybrook in the middle of Saturday night - Robt arrived too - there was great fear that he had made a will leaving Gaybrook & everything to His wife & her brother Mr Capel - the will never had been perfected so it comes to Robt without dispute or difficulty - & his widow has her good jointure of £800 per an - His debts were very great so that it will be years before amiable Robert can do anything with the property but pay off his brothers debts which he has very amiably tho' not very prudently taken on himself - Mrs Smythe is come back I hear to Glen Southwell but - I have heard no more particulars yet - except Mrs Ralph & she are on very good terms - & Mrs Ralph is to go to Paris to her mother

This is some of the last paper I sent you - & I am vexed to find that it lets the ink through so much I am afraid you will find it a great bother

Maria has just published a little vol of plays that the children used to act - & I sent it in the box of seeds along with those you wished for by the author of Dimallan [Miss Kennedy] - & a few others that I took a fancy to - I sent a very small quantity of seeds, because your letter was so late in arriving that the seed will not get to you till Autumn & they will not be so good next spring as those saved this year a little box of which I will send you in the very first Quebec vessel - Simpson says that he supplies several people in Canada & that is the way he manages - Should the frosts not have begun he advised you to try sowing half the early Hotspun pea - some of the Spinach & the Early York & flat Dutch Cabbage in Autumn - but he is afraid the long continued snow will be too much for them - He recommends to sow salt along with the seeds in the ground, which will help to preserve the young plants from the caterpillars [by the way you doubled the t in that word in your last letters] - and he strongly recommends the sprinkling of the seedlings with Lime & the earth about them which he thinks you would find very advantageous - I hope you have kept some of these caterpillars & that you will observe by that means what it is that produces them - besides we want to know here very particularly what

they are & all the particulars of the description of the creature in every stage - it is indeed a cruel torment to have them come thus & destroy your nice young plants & undo all that poor Tom has labored at - Sophy Ruxton advised you to try the effect of smoke of burning sulphur - if placed so that the wind will blow smoke against the caterpillars she thinks it will have a very good effect. And for Bugs - she says you will find the use of essence of Pennyroyal very effectual - note it on yourself & your clothes & your bed in short wherever you are infested by bugs - I wish I had known this in time to have sent you some, but I will remember it against next year's box - in the meantime perhaps your Dr can give you some

We have promised to pay a short visit in Septr to Etown - and we are to go to Cloonagh to the Barry Fox first for a little visit on our way to Etown - & either before or afterwards I dont know yet, to Harriet Butler - It is very inconvenient that Fanny has fixed the latter part of September for going to her - for that will put our Trim visit into October & leave us very little fine weather for the country - for we cannot pay a very long visit to Cloonagh & therefore cannot leave town till we can make all the visits hook nicely together. We have not been bidden by any of our Meath friends this year. Sophy & Barry came over from Engd a fortnight ago - He is very well & grown quite strong - Maxwell a very nice little coaxing engaging creature as ever you saw, with fine black eyes - very like Mrs Ruxton - he is very pretty as an infant - but I think his mouth will be ugly when he grows up - They are all at Etown now to meet Sneyd who is there - on Monday he goes to Trim - The Butlers came to town on Monday & came here that evening - & dined here next day - indeed Mr B gave Harriet to us in the morning so that we had her very comfortably to ourselves all Tuesday - Wedy we had her part or the morning - & at three they left town - She looks well but thin - Mr B looks wretchedly - & has been very unwell - he looks wan & swallow & his lips all white. The famous Dr Brewster of Edinburgh has been in Ireland lately & seems very much pleased with it - he met Wm E at Belfast, & went with him across the country to Etown - but he had first of all been among the Belfast people or in the neighborhood rather - for Mr Legge took him about to show him antiquities, & the remains of a Vitrified fort about 6 miles from Belfast - just like what they have in Scotland - which no one ever yet has accounted for - the stones of many are half run to glass by the heat applied & cemented by it so as to like great stones & glass all run together like stones stiking in glass - He was also at Ballydraine at Mr Younghusbands, & is quite charmed with Miss Younghusband who is tall & handsome & accomplished & agreeable & heiress to a fine property - Dr B wants William E very much to fall in love with her - her being very tall - & a botanist seem the greatest objections on William's part - he is much engaged laying out new roads about Belfast - & is a great deal with Mr Legge who always speaks with great friendship of you & Tom - & of Mr J Stewart too with great mildness & moderation - William will I believe be ["very much" crossed out] occupied also about a new road at the Garron point - Ly Antrims husband wants him very much to go to Clenam & lay out a new line of road to avoid the hill - & I wish he may because I know he will do it with taste Poor fellow he looks ill & is too much exposed to cold I think - I must write to Tom

I hear all the Waller young men are greatly improved by their travels

Francis & all his people well - he will tell you how to direct - but your packets came very safe - Wm & all at Glynton middling - he is very rheumatick - & Emma hurt herself falling - The poor Bp of Cork very indifferent

Aunt Mayne very ill -

Hamilton well & all in the country so is every creature This is a very hot an very windy day Thermr 75 - Dr Brewster wants that all over the world every where some one should on the 17th July keep an hourly acct of the Thermr for 24 hours - I had a mind to offer it to him from Canada - but I thought it would be troublesome to you or Tom to sit up all night -

Dr B came to town an Sunday, & was here every evening for 3 evenings - he is very pleasing agreeable man - We had the Surgeon Genl to meet him - one night - & Dr Macartney another

Now dear I must stop I am so bothered by people speaking to me - I wish I could in reality embrace you as I do in mind & heart - for evermore you are my most dear beloved Fanny

Anne is better altogether I think in health & strength - but her eye will I much fear never recover - she is very cheerful

The evening before the Hams went away I read them a parcel of your letters - last night I read some to S R

Bessy Dallas' match is put off on acct of her health - wh is very indifferent they do not come over this year

God bless you my dearest old darling child

Your ever affecte Moome

Douro 19th August 1827

My dear Honora

As I learned by Harriets last letter that you were to leave home soon for France I dare say it may be many months before you receive this - but I was so completely conscience stricken by your letter that I can no longer delay making my confession and acknowledging that I am the negligent and ungrateful person - not so in reality however - merely in appearance - I did my dear friend receive your long & kind letter last year & I also received that of Feby 14th 1827 - my not telling you sooner of their arrival & thanking you for them was caused by my feeling that our life so very monotonous could not afford matter to make a long letter interesting - & I did not like to return a short one for your charming folios - now however events on your side of the world have caused some change in my plans about long & short letters - & you see I am writing a short letter because its contents may be very old - & you may have heard a great deal about us from some of your other correspondents before you can read this - I hope you may enjoy your trip to Paris more than you expected - Your reason for fearing to go amused me a little - for I can scarcely conceive that you who have always lived so much in literary society & along with people to whom French is as familiar as their native tongue - should so much fear visiting a country, where every one goes & which appears now so much in every ones power to visit - but be this as it may I am glad you have gone - for I am quite sure you must have found it delightful - I am very sorry that poor Mrs E has suffered so very much from illness - & hope that Harrowgate may have been of use to her pray give her my kindness remembrance to her & my affectionate love to my dear Sneyd - tell him I have read the Life of Lonpensier with extreme interest - how very kind of Sneyd to think of his poor old playfellow - & how gratifying it is to me to receive so many & such constant proofs of attachment from my dear friends -

I dare say as you passed thro' England you visited Aunt Mary - & how much the pleasure of your visit to her must have been increased by her solitude during the absence of Mr Mrs & Miss Sneyd - my dear ever kind & considerate Aunt Mary, who has been so has been so to me ever since I was little Fanny Browne - pray give my tender love to her & thank her again for her handsome & useful presents - what an admirable bread knife - & what a nice butter knife! - they are both quite ornamental as well as very useful at our breakfast & tea table - Our home made loaves are a different shape from what you have I dare say seen at home - for we bake in what is here called a Bake Kettle or Dutch oven - & our loaves are like great huge cakes - more than loaves - so that a strong broad knife for cutting them adds considerably to the ease & expedition with which I may perform that operation - so necessary every morn & evening for a parcel of impatient little animals called children.

You my dearest Gosilrac Crow friend have also been kindly considerate for our comfort - what a nice large thick hearth-rug! Our sparkling wooden fires made me afraid of its beauty being too soon spoiled, as we have not yet had a fender so that I have but seldom used it - however by

Aunt Bess's good nature & generosity we shall enjoy its comfort this winter - for I hear she is actually sending out a Fender - The Alphabet is a never ending source of amusement to little Bessy & William the former particularly, 3 ½ years old, who knows most of the letters - The Battledores & shuttlecocks were a new & delightful recreation for your young friends Anna & Ellen - as well as many older people, last winter our rooms are much too small & low for playing it within doors - but on some of our calm clear days when the snow was so firmly encrusted with ice as to allow people to walk on it without sinking - they used to play outside - & as such never had been seen in this part of the world before, many young English children who had left home infants or little children were quite surprised at this new amusement - I cannot tell you with what increased interest I have lately re-read a great part of Capt Halls Journal which you sent me the year before last - for we have really seen & conversed with him - & had the pleasure of & honour of having him & Mrs Hall in this house; - I have so many resources & pleasures now that I am never at a loss for employment & amusement - indeed that I never was in my life yet, it is a feeling I only can conceive from description my great want here is time to indulge myself in any of my favourite pursuits - & a lively agreeable lady like companion - to converse with sometimes - these I hope I shall have in time - the first I hope is not far distant - for when my nursing little Francis is able to take care of himself - & requires less watching I shall be able to do much more than I have since his birth - for having no Nursery or Nurse I am I may say at all hours of the day & night engaged a good deal with him - he is however one of the most easily managed dear little fat infants I ever saw - & dark hair & when his cap is off is exceptionly like a person who perhaps you may have seen sometime or other - Mr Smythe of Benison Lodge - this same man was cousin german to my father & I am in hopes my little Franky may be like his Grandpapa - here he comes as hungry as can be - so I must stop & satisfy his appetite - and now I must end my long Epistle by assuring you my dear Honora that you possess the sincere affection of your old friend & companion

Fanny Stewart

I send you a few of our wild White Violets in return for your nice nosegay of Violets & Primroses last year - Oh the colour of them was reviving to my eyes - but alas! - the smell was gone - Our wild Violets smell more like pansies - they are very sweet, but not the sweet odour of your purple garden Violets

[78-008/1/7 #127](#)

Quebec 8th of October 1827 -

My dear Aunt Fanny

I this morning had the pleasure of securing your much esteemed Letter of the 21st September which I am sorry at receiving it having put you to an unnecessary expense in Postage as you may always send my letters under cover to Capt. Fitzgerald Depy Adjut Genl Office of this City such at least was the permission granted to me by Colonel Foster & it only remains for you to take advantage of it whenever you feel inclined to drop me a few lines - We have dates from England up to the first of September - no important news cross the finest ever know - but I am sorry to say I have had bad news from this place failures are beginning to take place again here - Stuart Calcoff & Co of Montreal failed a few days since also Mr Davis of Quebec not for large amounts - in fact it is very difficult to say who he may or may not be safe at this moment for I fear it is but fore-runner of many others such I hope however is not the case & indeed if there was about £300 a year added to Your income with some more & better polished Society I would then consider your case of mind & actual happiness equal to a Merchant of £30000 Capital who speculates as to my own part I am indifferent what may turn up so as my friends are safe because my friends I trust will remain safe. There are many things in your last Letter 21st September I intend answering you full particularly the prices of Spirits & Teas, Calicoes &c of the first & indeed generally I have not a good knowledge of the prices of Articles but intended to devote some time this winter to that purpose however I shall give you every information at present. Spirits is generally understood here to mean Rum not reduced Sells from 3/6d & 5/-d p Gallon we sold some "Leeward Island" at 3/6d the other day - Teas common Breakfast 4/5 & 5/0d 2 lb but then the quality is much superior to you Peterboro' best - Linen Black from 1/- & 4/-d p yd brown hollands from 10d & 1/- p yd Common bleached Linen runs from ¼ & 4/6d p yd this last I could purchase to considerable advantage as Mr Hamilton is so large an importer of the article that is known from his G-Hamilton by the cognomen of Linen Hamilton - Soap is also an article of our Import 4d & 4 ½ p lb is the usual price Calicoes we receive large consignments but really the quality sent out for the Canadian Market is very inferior the generally run from 4d & 1/-d p yd however so much depends on the article bought the manner of payment the quantity in market or expected & the actual consumption that I cannot give a fixed rate. Comforters woolens, we received a consignment of they sold 20/-d p dozen but they were handsome white double ones of Conamara Socks invoiced to us & 3/-d p dozen lbs - are selling at 5/- p dozen by - I took a dozen not of course paying for them but I wore a pair out in 4 days - being made of the refuse wool they do not stand - Some beautiful 4/4 wd Superfine amber Crd Chintz Muslin in pieces of 24 yds each sold for 1/11d p yd but it was really beautiful - Plate furniture Calicoes of a common kind sells at -/ ½ p yd in 28 yd pieces - but taking a piece of any of those things for you I would wait until the article was sold & pay for at lowest price - for as the lent from home because the demand for them has ceased and as Mr Hamilton sells on Comn for the Manufacturers I would not consider myself behaving in an unfair manner to any party & besides I must look always to my own friends interest in the first place, berona Hncfs of

Muslin 4/4 wd Sold for 6/- p dozen. We received 16 Cases of Cottens from the house of John Bell Co of Belfast the printed Calicoes are selling from -/- & 10 p yd Some of our Mull Muslin 5/4 wd fit for making frills being white & thin sold the other day some at 6d p yd and some at 10d p yd of the identical same kind - there is a system which is getting into practice very much of selling by auction - it is more kept up by the Canadian Shopkeepers who are always buying a trifle but keep constantly at it and as their shops contain everything from a needle to an Anchor it becomes necessary you should have a general assortment to please the lads - There were some very fine Donegall Socks & stockings of ours offered to day at one of the auction rooms I took one dozen famous Socks at 9/- the dozen much cheaper than you could possible knit them & indeed in my humble opinion I think it is a great waste of your time knitting socks & stockings unless as I know you do before the candles come in the Evening. There are some famous warm Stockings for children which are selling for 1/ p or 12/ p dozen I often think that they would do nicely for your wild ones & really when you consider the time taking up knitting one pair & the actual cost of wool it is much cheaper than they ought to be - when Merchants as anxious to close Sales of any article of which they have nearly sold all bargains are to be had to day a few dozen of those thick woolen caps the French are so fond of wearing & of which an inferior degree are sold in Peterboro' at 2/6 each were sold to day at 3/- p dozen thus on the article there wd be a difference of Eleven hundred p between this & your flattering village - I know I have written an amazing deal of nonsense in this long letter but you must of course pardon it for Scolding is absurd and flinging a tin impossible however I know it will occupy your mind & ideas for a considerable period to decipher some & comprehend other parts of this my letter - There is one more subject to which I should like to call your attention and give you every information on in my power I mean the drawing of you money for you are of course aware that Sterling on being converted into Currency increases 1/9th but upon this addition of 1/9th there is another addition which is called the Premium in a bill or the Exchange now this varies much from 6Pc to 8 ½ Pct as it depends on many causes but one difference is always made that is 2 Pct more is given for a bill on London above a bill in Dublin there is also a difference of two Pct between Quebec & New York or in plain language you would receive 11 Pct Premium for your bill by selling it in New York when you would receive but 9 Pct Prime in Quebec however I would not advise any change from your present manner unless you had some much steadier agent than I happen to have the name of and indeed I should not like to do anything further than buy a few things for my friends until I am some years hence thinking of beginning on mine own account - I may fairly say I have written enough of botheration However I cannot nor will not without giving you some tolerable idear of our ways & means, views &c - There is no part of Canada not expecting the more beautiful river & country round Niagara where a more Splendid or really magnificent view of a highly cultivated Country with beautiful hills cover'd to the top with trees resting behind a noble body of water fine Shipping & in fact every desideration of a fine view & where with the Camera obscura you have a most exquisite minature -

Colonel Foster had a very fine camera with which I enjoyed myself very much while with him but that with many other pleasing things has fled with him but I shall not repine as I have many things to make me happy such as a kind friend in Mr H- &c he is getting more familiar & enters more into my private affairs. I was very near being sent to Montreal some time since to collect a debt due him but other causes wh have rendered it useless so did not go

16th October - You may not perceive but I have been a fortnight about the long letter & intended to have given some useful news but am afraid I have failed - Your much esteemed "as Merchants Day" came to hand informing of the forwarding of my box but without the useful news, of the whole case consigned which I must expect from you soon - By yours I perceive Nancy Bailey is living with you - My really private advice to you is to get rid of her as she is a confirmed drinker - So I have from undoubted authority Colonel Foster whom nothing but conviction wd have made him say so Say not one word of this to any but T.A.S. - You ask me to give particulars of myself &c - I shall do so in the next page to the fullest extent in my power therefore I must conclude this very long & tedious "on your part" letter by begging you will send me down without delay the particulars concerning my box to whom consigned in Kingston, Montreal &c. - if you had sent it before it would have been of Service to me as Mr Hamiltons Brother is at Kingston & would act Agent for me - There are some things I feel I have forgotten to mention but at some future time I shall give them - My health continues improving and I am in hopes will continue so - remember me kindly to all my friends in Ireland and tell Miss K that I have not been so very foolish in giving up a farming life, as She considered me by one of her letters to you in the Spring - but I forgive her and all my other enemies in that Quarter - Colonel F - repeatedly appologised for not writing & truly he had not time - You will have time to send Mr H a letter to Miss B - as he does not depart for Six weeks - I shall write Miss B- by our vessel going to Dublin; if I secure any news from your quarter worthy of notice before the departure of aforesaid vessel - I have but one request to make of you that regardless of what I have before mentioned you will write me frequently & if not too troublesome in the "French Language -

I believe this is page number Ten - you may be well astonished as I cannot write every week I think it much better as I am sending by a free opportunity to Send a long one the oppoy is some case papers going for Mr Reids Signature. When you send a letter or letters write plenty of news for its better for me to do without the pleasure of your letters for Say 3 weeks at a time & secure fat packets than infringe on Capt Fitzs kindness - this is for yr information alone, though on Second thought its no expense & but little trouble to write often of course plenty in them - Our household affairs are these a Woman who acts as housekeeper & Cook & a boy two very neat rooms & well furnished for letting & dining rooms - Our table expenses are about 12/- p diem five young men & two servts house rent £100 p annum he keeps no horse now as he is going home The total of his House Expenses are about £1-0-0 a day I rise at Six go into the office or some of the Public places & try to find out the news Breakfast at Seven lunch at 1 o'clock Our Breakfast consists of some hot meat tea Coffee & a lunch of Bread butter cheese & wine - dinner at five Sit & take one or two glasses of wine down to the office till tea at 7 - after tea, down to the office till nine ten Eleven & even till 2 o'clock then take a tumbler & into bed. I have here given a Sketch of our bussiest times now or Shortly hence there will be nothing done or next to nothing Mr Hamilton came in a few minutes since with a likeness which he got taken to day by that Paper Cutter "Master Hanks", he wants me to get mine taken but I'm Swithering The Expense is I believe 2/6 or 5/- & I therefore think I shall not if however I do I shall send it to you as the friend who feels most deeply & sincerely interested for my welfare & happiness - as I now have plenty of time to myself I am fully determined as you may see to write a love letter -

You enquire by todays letter if I have many friends here fortunately I have not as I did not deliver my letters personally on arrival here - I am most anxious therefore to get myself introduced to some of the Most respectable people of this Town - I have written to Edward to requested Colonel Foster to State in plain terms to him, the necessity of good Introductions - You will I know wonder why Colonel Foster did not Introduce me - the fact is he saw no company & therefore had no means of Introducing me - I shall not consider myself demanding a favor of you if I say I should thank you for one or two good ones if you could procure them without its being awkward to you but I believe it would be an unfair request so shall entirely to your own better sense to decide. I often think of the pleasure I shall experience in meeting some of yr friends when I go home & tell them such humdrum stories of yr parts and affairs - particularly Miss Catherine who I hope is married or soon to be so - Probably she might fancy Jimmy Hamilton as he handsome active Enterprising & well supported only let her have her fortune well secured as the Merchants life is almost a lottery if fond of speculating which Master Jimmy is though as far as I have seen always guided by good appearances & sound causes & moreover he always joins with some well established Merchant - now ["now" crossed out] - Yesterday they Bought a small vessel bound for Dublin; but in conjunction with another merchant, "what a famous opportunity for sending home something" - must close for this Evening by observing that a vessel has been wrecked in the Gulph going home She was called the "Brothers" but not the one that Colonel Foster went home it being called the "Two Brothers" - I before mentioned the failure of the Sneyds in Dublin they were Lumber Merchants not the wine merchants - a large transport Setting off missed Stays, & ran ashore on point Levi - the new Steam boat the John Molson 150 horse power is now runing She comes from Montreal in 16 hours in calm weather; She is a most beautiful model & very capacious - October 19th - The weather is become very cold so much so that Snow has fallen, but not lain. The Stoves are in great requisition & in my opinion cheap - a neat small one 10\$ and pipes 1/6 & 1/8 each -

[insert chart here]

I have here given you for private information the prices at which goods consigned us this year have been sold at Auctioneers you probably cannot judge of them not knowing the quality from my description -

Now I may fairly conclude wishing you the comforts I enjoy, also happiness & peace of mind

Ever yours affectionately

Sydney Robert Bellingham The last letter

Mrs T A Stewart

Douro

Upper Canada

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

8 October 1827

78-008/1/7 #128

Laidstown near Drumcree County Westmeath

23 May 1827-

My dear Tom

It is not long since Anna M wrote a joint letter to you which I suppose you will shortly receive, that being the New season of the year & the communication clear - Since writing that, we have had some unpleasant reports from Canada or a tendency towards rebellion, in that quarter in consequence of law enforces against aliens - We have been very uneasy of your accounts, but I think our alarm has been greater than there was cause for & a hint of disaffection once taken root in Canada we may bid farewell to any permanent coherence to this Country for the Americans will be on the alert to fan the flame -

Write the moment you receive this & let us know the state of affairs & direct you letter as above, for Drumcree has been a Post Town [6 days in the week] for 6 or 7 years back - Have had a letter from Anna Mathias, on the subject of family affairs & I am glad although she & Mathias have taken the management of [] out of Wilson's hands who has behaved towards them in a most shamefully negligent manner, to their manifest & serious loss - You are aware that Sara has administered to My Mothers Will & that she & A Mathias with the assistance of James Frod are managing the business hitherto there has been a great clashing of interests parties pulling different ways by which no one wuld come at their rights; when last in Dublin, I pointed out that all those Properties enjoyed by my Mother were subject to the claims of all my Fathers children, & that untill they were laid no one else could touch them & Assignees are aware of that. Very [] or foolish Blayney Mitchel to reissue the rents for them. She in her true character paid them over to the Assignees; they are aware & have confessed they have no right to them so long as my Fathers childrens claims are unsatisfied; & they have at that moment above £1000 in their hands which they dare not touch knowing that they may be called upon for it; and in fact the whole of these Properties from the cause I have started are now unclaimed by any one - I at the same time pointed out, that all the Parties [my Father's children] who have a claim on these properties would go hand in hand, that they would very shortly be able to substantiate these claims; they have taken my advice with the sole exception of Mitchell & matters are in a fair way of being brought to a [] ble termination; as part of your Property was made liable these claims by my Fathers Will; there is every reason to think indeed almost certain, that these enjoyed by my Mother together with Tennis's land by me, will be sufficent to pay them all without touching upon yours; & if these claims are satisfied the Assignees can have no claim on yours - & it will of course be the wish of all to save you - but it is I understand from the Tilly necessary to make you a Party in Business, & also that you should appoint a Person with a Power of Attorney to act for you & I have been requested by Anne & Sara to write to explain matters which I take I have been sucessful in doing; in fact these Properties are in the extraordinary predicament of being unclaimed by any one or rather were so till I pointed them

out - Tilly will draw out a Letter of Attorney to go to you with a blank for the name - I will take this opportunity of recommending you to nominate someone, that has the entent of the family at heart & who will go hand in hand with them & if you approve of Alexr Wilson, I think it would gratify them all he is indolent, but he is friendly & sincere - or if you did not like him, perhaps Edwd Johnson would be to your wishes, but be assured I only mention these two not for the purpose of dictating, but merely to point out those most eligible & who at the same time would assist in forwarding the views of the family would take care that nothing would be done prejudicial to you - At all events whoever you appoint do it the moment you receive the instrument & return it as soon as possible for every day incurs new expenses & numerous difficulties besides the loss of interest - I take this opportunity of [] you that had it not been for the rascally conduct of Mathias & Hill Rowan, there would have been £2000 recovered by my Mothers Excrs, which has now gone into the pockets of Rowans Nephews & Nieces Geo Stewarts Sons being dead - There is also 2 or £300 in hand of my Mothers recovered as Lakefield Rent which will enable her Excrs to contest her claims - You have before this reaches you heard of the days of Ministry - that Canning has formed one & brought in all the old Whigs with exception of Lord Grey - & that all the high Church fath are in the dumps at it - I see your friend Mr Robinson has arrived from Canada & as his relation remains in the administration & has been made a Peer - I hope it may be of some use to you - Lord Bathurst is out -

Our Election is not yet decided & there is a Commission sitting at present in Mullin as Robt Smythe from being 16 or 17 votes behind his oponent Mr Truite is now 28 ahead & expects to [] of 60 or 70 more bad Votes whether he will [] or not. I dont know

Anna who is delicate all through the winter goes to Ballymacnol on Friday next. I take her as far as Dublin - I think the change of air will be a great service to her - Our poor old friend at Dremcree is still alive, but that is almost all I can say - & we may expect very soon his decease - it will be a great loss to us, he was always kind & affectionate -

Young Tom Smythe [the Parson] has set off for America given up his perpetual Care - & report says, but I hope without truth, that he has taken a servant girl with him - keep this however to yourself - it is possible you may see him before summer is over - We have no kind of intercourse with that family - their conduct to Anna who they were so fond of has been shameful & on this there is but one opinion - but I do not blame poor old Tom Smythe - it is his family - & you know his interest is quite done - Anna desires me to remember her with the sincerest affection to you Fanny & love to the young things - remember us also to the Reids who I hear are doing well. As to ourselves, we have plenty to do with little profit; moreover I can make out a livelyhood I shall be content & as to poor Anna not withstanding her poor health she takes the rough & smooth with chearfulness - Adieu dear Tom ever your sincerely attached & affectionate brother

J Stewart

Douro 3d June 1828

My ever dear Cousin

I don't know how long it is since I last wrote to you, but I think it seems a great while. For many many months the Ministerial changes, have sadly interfered with my enclosing privileges, & have been the cause of my not writing to my dear friends but my thoughts were still at Liberty & I think if possible have been with you oftener than ever - for you are connected with every thing that occupies my mind - about six weeks ago your last precious letter reached us, a sad one it was - & caused us many tears - but my dear dear friends - Tho we must weep, we also rejoice - That dear Soul has gone to Everlasting Glory - What a scene of trial & affliction has she been taken from Oh what an inconceivable scene she is now witnessing - What an example she had left!! - She has gone to that Saviour who came for her - to that God, who gave his beloved Son for her, & for us - Yes for us, vile & weak & miserable as we are, He died for us, & we even for me, tho I am the most unworthy of all these creatures - I do in my heart feel how little I desire all these mercies - How can such a great being condescend to guide & govern me that His mercy has increased & is increasing, He gives me His grace which draws my heart & Mind to Him & to His word - Oh how can I love Him enough, & learn to please Him as I ought to do - or how can I study His word even enough. Ever in this life is short - our ever is but a moment compared with His Ever. His kingdom last forever - my best endeavours are nothing - So mixed up with dirt so divided - That heart which ought to belong entirely to its Saviour - & its God - how it is divided with the treasures of this world Oh may His holy Spirit enter my heart - purify strengthen it - for without Him what a mass of confusion & wickedness it contains Thank God - of late He had given me a much clearer view of the state of my own heart, than I ever before had I always loved or thought I loved Him, - but I loved myself too much - I never really felt my total insufficiency till lately. May He still continue to open my eyes - to give me that entire love for him, & dependence on Him - which will lead me to call upon Him & to pray "without ceasing" & to study His Word - When we shall find His promises - may we bring forth the fruit - How very little do I yet know - nothing I may say. His love is immeasurable - boundless - one but endeavours to serve Him our poor attempts - & yet we are encouraged to hope & trust that He will not dispise them - The more we try the more He will assist us - Let us Pray - & study his word where we shall find His Promises & His answers - Where we shall find Light - for how totally dark are our own poor minds. - What are our best Philosophers & all their publications all dark & ignorant - Oh let us try & pray & use every means He gives us - & still after all how short we come - Oh may our eyes be opened - May we attain that eternal Light - Whose Glory shines forever, & where our knowledge can only attain Perfection - & His Praise be perfect - I could write sheets & volumes, my darling & Beloved friends - I know you feel & understand what I feel, & I can write to you with more freedom & tell you the state of my mind better than to almost anyone else. I owe much to you my best & dearest Mrs Wilson. The great Director of all things employed you & my own dear Mother Mrs Stewart as the means of first opening my eyes, & directing my thoughts where they ought to be - I was very unhappy & awfully sinful

some time ago - I set my heart too much on my friends in this world - & pined for them - & wickedly thought I never would have enjoyment without their society - How Mercifully He dealt with me in whose hands I am - He gave me his Grace to feel that I valued them too much - I forgot Him my best friend - He made me to feel the insufficiency of worldly comfort in trials - He did try me & moved me that His words & grace - can alone support & instruct & that friends tho sweet company are but secondary comfort - that their advice sometimes leads one into doubts - but "His help is True" - I am here separated from you all - & often have been placed in very trying situations - & I found my foolish heart regretting those friends from whom I could procure advice - at last I felt the power of His free Grace & Mercy - & flew to Him to shew me my way -

To Him alone can we apply for direction - with any hope of success - My heart is fixed - Oh may He keep it & strengthen it - for it wants strength - Dear dear friends my darling Mrs Wilson - my sweet Mary your prayers for me have been heard - pray still & join me in prayer for an increase of His love -

What would I not give to see you & talk to you - If He sees fit He will permit it - I leave my dearest desires in His care. Who knows what is best - who I know loves me who is my Father - I do hope He may permit us to meet - but I dont see that it would at present be our duty to return home. You know Toms affairs have been placed in the care & management of Mr J. Darling - We cannot see the result it may bring us an independence & restore our family to some of the property they lost, at present we could not live at home independently, here we can & have great blessings. Our farm is doing better - our children are becoming useful, & their minds opening, my dear Tom enjoys good health this year. No ague has appeared yet. May the Lord incline the heart of my dear Tom to that Wisdom which never faileth & may He preserve him by being overcome by the thoughts & cares of this life - Your letters do him much good - more than any other persons - for he loves you so dearly - so do we all.

The Reids are going on well & are always busy - Poor Marys health very delicate - She has a good deal to struggle with - for their means are small at present - he says his expectations are good - I hope he will love her, for she is a good & amiable girl - give our love to dear Mrs Black to whom I wrote 3 months ago, but I could never send the letter so I burned it, her letters used to be amiable, now they are nearly trivial. Give our affectionate love to dear Mrs Sturrock & Harriet about whom we are very anxious I will write to Mrs Sturrock when I know where she is settled. give our affectionate love to dear Mary and Alex ec & write soon to your own affectionate cousin

F Stewart

Tell me something of Betty Taylor is she good or bad - or at service - We had a letter lately from poor dear John & Anna - I am glad they are improving in health. I say nothing of the Indians, as I wrote about them to Anna Mathias - you can hear all from her - Forgive this letter all about my own thoughts - you asked me to write my thoughts Last Saturday it was 6 years since we saw you at White Abbey -

from Mrs Wilsons letter sent to us to read and return to her She loved the writer too much to part with her letter as long as she lives "I will always keep this beside me to read & study - it shows us so plainly what my darling Mother was - she made no show of religion - but felt a little degree - & came out full in her firm consistant life - bearing up under all trials & difficulties to the last day of her life - when she even at that advanced age of 78 had much to bear that would have crushed many a one down down her spirit rose above - all to her Saviour who stood by her to the last & supported her for an endless Eternity oh that word Eternity how great - I trust each of my dear children may read this when I am gone as I know how deeply they adore her memory -

Bessie Brown

Goodwood

Mrs Wilson

Maryville

Belfast

78-008/1/7 #130

Maryville 13 Feby 1829

My Dearest Loving Friend

One letter only have I written within this year & you are every day & many many times a day in my thoughts, & my dear Tom, I have great pleasure in thinking on him - I pray my darling Fanny that you may be all nursing Fathers & nursing Mothers to the Church from Maria & Mr Reid & the children I trust may be all the children of God by adoption

I am now reading a very sweet little book called "Hints Xian experience" & the christians duty with respect to it" - it goes to shew that christian experience is that of joy & peace - all that falls short of that is short of the design of a kind provider - if the experience of a christian comes short - that is not Xtian experience - this must be the assurance that Dr Malan speaks about - that stumbles so many people in short it is not our own feelings we are to depend upon - but the attributes the promise of God they are our security nothing of our own fromes which are always fluctuating - He alone is stable is sure - when we are favoured dearest Fanny with a sight into that eternal world what a change is it, from darkness to light from the power of Satan to that of God - I often think how presumptuous I am in taking that blessed name with my poluted lips - Oh what wonderful mercy that he allows us to call him Father in his covenant engagement with his son - Oh may we make a good profession - & never disgrace that profession - we have great encouragement not in ourselves neither in the example of others - but in the encouraging declarations of our God himself "come unto me" "call upon me" "he that waiteth on the Lord" in the 25 psalm I think it is so many that encouragement are held out - one wd think in ones that we cou'd never forsake him who is so good so forgiving to us - but that every forgiveness leads us to presume - our safest & happiest plan is to ask him according to his permission & come to him for direction - there we shall never be disappointed - it is a wonderful effect the submitting ourselves to his guidance has in taking off a burthen every time we go to him in a stress to ask direction to ask advice, there we come away lightened, knowing that he is able to direct & to help. I don't say we always feel that relief - but always when we go in good earnest. I pray God keep you & me & yours & mine I have just read over a little note or yours dated 1 April - last since which I had your sweet letter of June which I answered about 2 August - in your note you ask if Mr McKnights mother is living. I called at her house directly after on my way to Carrickfergus & found her alive & well. Betty Taylor I hear no mention of hearing about her unless I shoo'd make a piece of business about it - but I shall try to know by the time I write please God - another question was about the old West Indian Uncle - he is living dear old man I know him by character tho I never saw him. The youngest Thomson who was called for him went over, it suited him as he cou'd be better spared & he had used himself to boating & being from home for months observing the building of pleasure boats &c. A yatch club was got up in Belfast lough in competition with one in Glasgow. The Thomsons were prime movers of it & they say a great improvement is observable in the pilot boat in the lough - so Gordon Thomson is boating & riding & keeping up the ball in St Vincents - Robert Thomson alone at Jennymount

except his old aunt - John & his wife have removed to Low-wood about 2 miles farther down the shore - we dined with them there lately - I hear nothing of Tom's affairs except a good attorney who Mrs Mathias wrote to by Alexr wou'd go & introduce him to some one that cou'd inform him of Tom's affairs - by the time Alexr recd the letter which came enclosed to one to Mrs Black & got himself dressed & off to town he found that he had had an interview with John Thomson & was himself gone off towards Derry - what the result was he cou'd not learn nor ever heard more - he was a Mr McCredie from the neighborhood of Bath Island & married I think to a niece of Revd Mr Tygh the good old man - I think either I wrote of Alexr did to ask Tom had he owed the years rent I think it was to Lord Donnegale - some mistake in the way of making out the Census something about the rents - called a clerical mistake - however it is discovered that by Ld D & his son making out a joint deed acknowledging their knowledge of this error it may suffice - a Cotton manufacture has three years of Wilmont & is taking the very heart out of it - if there is any left in it the trees are sometime indeed often visited by the poor or rather mischievous for firing - you said John Darley has undertaken your affairs but I understand it is but partially in his power - & he is not an active person so dear knows how it may go with you my precious friend - here we are creeping along not living much better than you are, only we are in the way of seeing the neighbors sometime - we have a [] for a few good religious friends once a quarter or so - when alone a little bit does us - now since my sweet Son is a different character Mary & I can make more fun with in many ways & one is that we do not study to keep him pleased by giving him such great things as he wou'd be likely to meet with when asked abroad - in short we let him baby house - he never takes wine or punch but when health requires it as a cordial - we have nothing in the shape of a man servant or person about the yard or stables except laborors - our school Mistress who is very respectable looking attends & we have a very decent Cook of a kind of factotem - & a little orphan girl at 12 yr old bringing her up to be a servant, at present she is a kind of slow - we are very comfortable thanks God - We got £15 from the county for educating the poor of Ireland to help to fit up our school house with Iron slates &c & we have 40 Scholars every day taught upon this plan which is an improvement upon Bell & Lancaster plan at least a modification of it - we have 40 Sunday scholars from three till five & [] - in the week Alex has an adult class, then we have teaching wh for a class for singing sacred music among the scholars - we have prayers in the school house at ½ past nine before the school assembles when the laborours & their wives who come with their breakfast hear the scriptures read & Scotts commentary altogether half an hour - Alexr is chaplain & I must say that the neighbors are coming much more about preaching & I trust about their Souls than formerly - I trust there is a Sti[] when, wise men & good say there is such a moral & religious change working in the lower class as to cause less fear of political commotion - again I am sometime tempted to think it is well for you that have escaped all that appears before us - we know who observes all things - again a very religious clergyman this a Mr Potts says that a scourge is coming upon protestants & in short persecution such as the simpions foretells - oh for faith dearest friends - pray pray

Dear Mr Black is poorly I am sorry to say - George and Mary Johnson & Edward & their little son are on a visit at their Father now George has a curacy away among the Mountains near Cushendall at a new settlement attempting by a Gentleman to colonize that part - he is a sweet steady nature & doing so gently & modestly all in his power - I pray God to enlighten more &

more his eyes into divine truths - Johnny is preparing for college & is very amiable & very steady & comfort to them all Ellen Letitia play duetts nicely together Ellen rides a nice horse of Dr Johnsons once belonging to Mr Darling - H Sherroch has been very delicate all summer they came to Belfast in Novr they have a pleasant house Miss Hameth has had a bad rheumatic fever but is thank God getting well again in tolerably good spirits and keeps us wonderfully tho' they take plenty of crying to themselves about poor dear Isabella - the child is fine little girl of 4 years & ½ old & can almost read she has both her Fathers & Mothers good sense - Arabella is tolerably well. - Alexr & Mary join me in most hearty love to you two dear more better loved by us than you dear selves I hope this may reach yr good cousin in safety & that she can forward it to you farewell dear

Your faithful friend J:W:

[Addressed to:

Mrs T A Stewart

care of Miss Beaufort

31 Merrion Street

Dublin

Postmarked: 19 FEB

1829]

78-008/1/7 #131

6th April 1829

My dearest Honora

When I learned that our dear and valuable Aunt Mary had returned to Ireland my first thought was about you - for I know how very much it much encrease your happiness to have her once more with you - and I intended then to have written to congratulate you on her being once more with you - but various & endless are my obstacles to any employment which requires quietness, and some times I am almost in despair about being able to do any thing but nurse or fuss a little about the children or housekeeping - then when I have time I write in such a hurry that I have no comfort - Even not I scribble with John sleeping on my Arm - & the three next making all sorts of noises in the room as the weather is too wet & cold to dispose of them out of doors - we have had a most unusually long & severe winter - It did not begin till after Christmas - for all Novr & Decr were delightful - but then it became extremely cold & for a month I don't think the therr rose above 20 - added to which we had high Northwest winds & but very few sunny days - Now tho' we have nearly reached the second week of April the weather is truly cold & blustery - No appearance of Spring any where -

How different from Ireland I dare say your Daffodils & Narcissus are all in high beauty - as well as the other sweet & beautiful flowers which make their appearance at this sweet season, but which till June when every thing comes at once, but soon droop & fade from the heat & dryness - so that the only time of year we have any pretty flowers in our gardens [~~"are"~~ is between June & September, by which time all are gone to seed & beginning to grow brown & withered - I for this reason am not half as fond of my flower gardens in days or yore Indeed all my pursuits are so completely changed that I scarcely can help thinking I have [~~"not"~~ been changed by some Evil Fairy - for no people could be so totally different as Fanny Browne of Dublin & Fanny Stewart of Douro - Except that my dear friends are the same - & equally fond & tender Oh this makes me know most exquisitely that I am Fanny Browne still -

But though my employments are of necessity so much changed my tastes are the same - & I still enjoy reading - music &c &c as much as I did 20 years ago - In walking I admire just as much as ever the works of Nature - altho I have not much time for walking I wish much dear Honora to hear from you again, it seems so very long since I have had a letter from you - You may perhaps think that I don't deserve it - and I know that I have not written to you for many months -no - not even to thank you for the nice & valuable addition you sent to our Library - which I assure you have contributed very much to our entertainment during the dark days we have had this winter - & have helped to keep away low spirits which will sometimes come in spite of all our efforts to keep them at a proper distance - Letters are also delightful restoratives & always have a very instantaneous effect tho' I must say my pleasure is always blinded with a good deal of apprehension on first breaking the seals I hope soon to see one of your fine folios make its appearance - you have much to tell me about all the different branches into which your family

is now divided - So pray indulge me soon - begin at the root & tell me about Home & all its inmates - & about all you like to tell me of what you do, say & think - for nothing of that sort can be uninteresting then - about Fanny Wilson - H Butler - Sophy Fox & her little nice Young Foxes - Sneyd and his rib - my dear William - who I do & always will love with affection - which like every impression imbibed in early life lasts long & increases by age I do think - for I have seen so very little of him since our childhood that my love of him must be just the old love I had for my dear playfellow, strengthened & encreased by years - It is curious that just as I left Ireland, he should be employed on the very spot I may say where we lived - & that he shd know so many of our friends & acquaintances there - I cannot tell you any news because I dont know any which can interest you - nor have I any anecdotes to relate, never having passed so tiresome or dull a winter - we have had few visitors & those we had were no way agreeable - indeed I am rather disgusted with our neighbors than otherwise -however we have so many resources within ourselves that I find myself independent of society -

Now adieu, with kindest love to my ever loved Aunt Mary believe your ever affectionate friend

F Stewart

78-008/1/7 #132

My dearest Honora

When my last letters left this I intended to write in this next packet to you, and tho' I had but little hope at that time from Harriet's former account, yet I did not expect the termination would have arrived so soon - it has been mercifully hastened, tho' we must all wish to preserve a beloved friend - yet in this case where hope was nearly gone, how much pain & miserable hopeless watching were you & the dear sufferer himself spared

Dearest Thomas - before you receive this, I hope you may in some degree have recovered from the effects of such a loss - it is not at first that we feel most - I am & must for some time be most anxious to hear from you - & if you can it would & does at all times give me unspeakable pleasure to receive letters from you, one of my earliest friends - You now alone remain - for you & my own dear William were always connected in my recollection & affection - he was indeed a brother & loved to the last & ever will be in my heart - I feel that I am only renewing your pain by writing so & yet I can scarcely help it, for can perhaps conceive more how I feel than most other people in the world - & this is for your self alone -

Every former scene comes so forcibly to my mind - but I must not indulge myself - indeed I fear I may have said too much - & perhaps injured you - but if I have I trust to your affection for some allowance ["for my being so far from you all which makes me" crossed out] I will not say any more - I must however dear Thomas thank you for the pretty seals which are just what I set my wishes on - & which I shall love for your sake - I am most anxious to hear how you all have been - & how your poor dear Mother is - & poor Sophy Fox whose situation was rather critical - in short no creature can wish more or feel or think more about you all than Your ever affectionate old friend

Fanny Stewart

Harriet enclosed me dear kind Aunt Marys note - with my love & warmest thanks will you tell her that the pretty Muffatees shall be distributed exactly as she wished; when I wrote to him I did not know she had sent then & now I cannot write to him but pray will you give her my most grateful love & affection - I think they could not have been better disposed - as suiting each member of our little party

[Addressed to Miss Honora Edgeworth

Edgeworth Town

1829]

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[The seal on the letter well preserved - black wax and the seal itself is a side-ways oval with a shamrock in the middle and around the top "Erin Favour Win"]

[78-008/1/7 #133](#)

[to Fanny, March 31 1824;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/7 #134](#)

[to Fanny from M. Waller, 1824;

no transcription]

[78-008/1/7 #135](#)

[from Moome, July 20, 1827;

no transcription]

78-008/2/8 #136

Mountjoy Street, January 25, 30

I told you my own dear Fanny that it was probable the February mail might bring you good tidings of our Kate; And thank God the surmise was just. On the 5th of this month she gave us a little grandson, and she is now so well that she was up at 8 o'clock this morning and in the breakfast room as soon as any one. Notwithstanding that she is not now in her first youth, and that she was very large, she did not suffer much though she told Doctor Labatt she was very sure no person ever was so bad before - her little boy was very delicate for the first few days, but since he got plenty of good food from his mother he has improved much, and I trust in God he may yet be a stout fellow.

Well says Kate a little after his birth; if I live a thousand years I'll never have another child - Well ma'am said the Doctor, you & your nursetender may settle that between you by & by -, he was much amused with her I assure you - I hope you may have yet the letter George wrote with this good news, & sent by Liverpool & New York, as he knew you would wish not to have time last in having it. - Your dear letter written on the 20th of October was a very great pleasure as it was written in an unusual view of cheerfulness, as well as that to Harriet of the same date.

The anticipation of seeing you here is delightful and I fondly trust I may hope with humble confidence in the event, & amongst your many friends, for of all you had when you left us I think none are lost, & certainly your admirable conduct since, has gained you many more.

I have written to Mrs Warner for the information you desire relative to Mr Chatterton and I bid him let me have her reply before Saturday if possible. If Anna Maria was a few years older I should think he was smiling at her but I conclude she is not yet, even of the American age to marry. She has made her debut in the world certainly, by her visit to Mrs Rubidge & her adventurous travels. How safe the two girls explored the wild wilderness, and how much better than they could have gone the same length in civilized Ireland, or even in more happy England - Civilized I should not call it, for I think we are growing more than barbarians & retrograding daily. - Did you get the pippins of pears I kept for you? I have a heap of Hawes too at Clonghill on a loft to send you with the next box. Tell me if I can do any thing more for you my own dear Fanny - Have you now plenty of mills, or are you ever distressed for flour? I have often thought that a steel mill would be a very useful article, and one within the reach of your friends to attain. If you would like the little presents from Clongill & Rochfield to be turned to that account, say so my love, or point out fully in what we could serve you. Not living on the spot to purchase little assistances to your comfort obliges us often to send the money to Harriet to dispose of as she thinks best. A kinder agent you could not have. She will herself tell you of all their healths. All good but that of poor Bess. A severe cold has made her look sadly delicate of late. - I have my dear Kate tomorrow (the 21st) and she shall copy Mr Warners reply to your query if it comes in time - May God bless you my dear love & direct you in all things, & bless your husband & your dear Children. ever to you & them a faithful friend

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

M S

Your letter to George & Kate via N. York has come

Mrs T A Stewart

Douro, Cobourg

Upper Canada

78-008/2/8 #137

Rochfield, Feb 20, 1830

My dear Fanny

Another month has passed over our heads and the time for preparing our Canada Letter has again come round. My last was written from the lodgings of our dear Kate in Dublin where I left her, thanks to God, well and happy with her little boy thriving upon the good food she has to give him. Since that time she has been out frequently, and has removed bag & baggage to Coolmine for the present and is to join us at the little Rec of Clonghill in about ten days. From there I hope their next removal will be to some good curacy, as George is impatient to be again employed in his Master's service.

Our dear Kate had a most providential escape since I left her: her cap took fire by holding a candle in her hand while she stirred the fire with the other. She had so little presence of mind as to run out of the room: happily George had more of that useful quality & meeting her on the stairs whipped off his coat & threw it over her head. Her hair was a good deal singed, & she had a few small burns on her neck but altogether has much reason to be thankful.

After all this was over she said, "Perhaps something is on fire above." & when George ran up he found a chair on fire, within about a foot of the bed curtains! It is well we have an arm above us to protect us from danger! - The fashionable caps now worn are so broad in the borders, & so staring out from the head, one is not aware of the near approach they make to the candle. Your Aunt Waller is the only person I know who keeps to the little tight head of former times, and as for the sleeves you may judge what they are when five yards or silk is put into some of them! This is no exaggerated picture of a fine lady's sleeve I assure you, but as to the heads they surpass my skill in drawing.

We have just heard that Lady Powerscourt [the young widow] with her daughter & niece were all seized with the smallpox at Brussels. They only escaped being sent to an Hospital by having a sentinel placed at the door to prevent any person from going in or out except the Physician, & ultimately had £1000 to pay for painting, papering, purifying & new furnishing the house they lodged in - I think this was a fine tax upon the absentees.

Feb 23d Many circumstances have prevented my finishing this letter but it is still in time for the March post. Your Uncle has been employed in your service, communicating with Mr McCredy the attorney, and with his brother trustee, Mr Francis Hamilton, has just in a long answer to the bill pending in chancery. I hope all the cogitations may end in advantage to you & your little ones, my dear Tom & Fanny; I mean the arrangements about settling accounts with Thompson and regaining the broad lands that ought to be Toms. Harriet Beaufort is working hard & a more zealous & indefatigable friend no one ever was blessed with

I find my dear Kate has been obliged to get a nurse for her little one - when I left her she appeared to have a sufficiency of milk, but I suppose the fright of the burning has affected her - She is very well now, & I trust her little delicate plant may be spared to her - if not God will provide for it better than she could - Bessy intended to write, but Richard, who takes this to Town, goes a day sooner than she had calculated upon - & I fear it will not allow her time - She & all of us join in love & blessing to you & yours & none more ardently than your affec,

M S

[Addressed to:

Mrs Stewart

Douro

Upper Canada]

78-008/2/8 #138

From Mrs Warner, relative to Mr Chatterton

"I have asked Mr Warner respecting Mr C. He says he cannot recollect any young man of that name, but he knows that Chatterton, who lost his life in assisting to extinguish a fire in Bath, left a family - This Mr C was a clever industrious Engine maker & plumber in Bath where he had long resided. He married a parishoner of Mr Warner's when he was curate of St Jame's, the daughter of Mr Dover who kept the Lamb Inn.

Mr Warner knew both Mrs Chatterton & her father to be very respectable persons, but he is not aware of having seen any of Mrs Chatterton's children, nor has he ever heard what became of them. So far my husband - to which I add that if the Canadian settler, happened to have been placed in Mr Crutwells printing office, it is possible he may have seen Mr Warner there, though Mr Warner never observed him or heard his name mentioned" []

This dear Fanny is all I can learn about your Protege. - I wish I could have sent it sooner such as it is. - I hope your boy will be with you as soon as this letter -

Kate is still as inmate of the Rectory, but I fear I am to lose her tomorrow as she goes to curatize at Blessington amongst the mountains of Wicklow. It appears to be only a tempory settlement, there being a hitch about their Recotr Mr Walter Burgh being allowed to keep the parish with that of Naas, though they are within 5 miles of each other, The Primate refusing every one applying for a faculty to hold two livings Catharine is looking extremely well, having grown fat, & her boy, once such little skin of a crature is a lovely fine fellow, as firm as a ball of wax. I trust in God he may be spared to be a blessing to her & his good excellent Father - The good news of Mr Reids consenting to come over to settle accounts has reached us. May this be the fore runner of your return to your own country my beloved Fanny, & may God direct & prosper all you do; My kind love to Tom, & a kiss & a blessing to all my dear little ones from their affectionate

M S

[Clonghill Rectory Apl 26th 1830]

78-008/2/8 #139

Clonghill Rectory

Apr 27 - 30

My dear Sir

I send you per the May Mail a Bill on Quebec for fifty four Pds. Brits. as per acct on the other side of this, which I hope you will receive in good time.

We have had very stormy weather this Spring which has done much damage to the shipping I hear.

The Newry, of Newry, bound for Quebec, with Emigrants, I grieve to say was lost on the Welsh coast last week & many lives were lost.

I am suffering much from Gouty pains flying about me. My hands and feet are very painful this day.

With most affectionate love to Fanny & the children Believe me very sincerely

YrsThoss Sutton

[insert chart here]

78-008/2/8 #140

Clonghill Rectory, Friday, May 28 1830

The end of the month having arrived I prepare my usual dispatch to my very dear Fanny. I hope she & all her household may be as well as I wish them & that our very wet & cold spring has not extended its influence across the Atlantic to give ague there as well as here. The poor here think my Quinine some charm, as it stops that complaint immediately in a dose of 8 G at once, after an emetic. While I am on the subject of medicine, I must tell you that the old Allenstown recipe of one grain of Hippo & one of Ginger every two hours cured two cases of dysentery lately, which were considered helpless by Physicians -

Since Kate has been no longer one of our household we seem to hear of you much seldomer than formerly, and are at the moment most anxious for tidings of one we love so much. Harriet & Sutton have frequent communications on the subject of your affairs. He wants to know if he will appropriate your September interest to pay Mr Reids expenses home, but he will not without your order - May God grant that the journey may produce the good effects we hope for & that something may be done to allow you to return to your native country with comfort - Our Kate has been very happy in their temporary residence at Blessington. I fear they are about having it, which I am sorry for. Bessy & her four weans are here & she joins in every kind affectionate wish to you & Tom & the young group. May God bless all belonging to you my Fanny & have happiness in store for you in his own way & in his own time, - Ever your affec.

M S

Do not omit to mention the arrival of every bill. Be so good as to have Flood's letter conveyed by some safe method - I suppose the post if there is one -

[Addressed to

Mrs T A Stewart Douro

To the care of Miss Beaufort

31 Merrion St Dublin

May 1830]

Rochfield June 25, 1830

My dear Fanny,

It seems a length of time since I had the great pleasure of conversing with you on paper, or the still quieter happiness of receiving a letter from your dear hand but we have heard frequently of each other, & as we both now mothers of large families, we must be content I suppose to correspond seldomer than we used to do. For my own part I find the day much too short for all I wish to do, & at the end of it, find many things undone which I intended to have accomplished. You, my darling, must find this still more than I, as you have six & 3 quarters to provide for instead of four pickninnies, which I find quite enough to give me plenty of employment & if it pleased God so to order it, I should be quite content not to have any more, but His will be done! Except that I think Richard would like to have a little boy, I should never wish to exceed my little quartello of girls, who every day become more companionable & a greater comfort to me. Mary is grown very good, & is very rational for her age [past 5] & reads so as to amuse herself very well. She can read and understand parts of the New Testament, & takes great pleasure in it, & Miss Edgeworth's Frank affords her great delight as a book of amusement. Helena too, is improving in her larning, but, from not being so forward as Mary, she takes less pleasure in it. They are two very dear little girls, tho' I say it & hope some day or other you will judge of them yourself. Bessy is a dear little good - humoured fat lump of 2 years & half, & an especial favourite with Grandpapa, whose company she prefers to that of all the world besides, but indeed fond as he is of her, & of all the children, he never spoils any of them, which is a great comfort. My little darling Isabelle is the dearest little coax you ever saw just beginning to toddle about & so fat that she falls at every step. She is just 14 months old, has left off her caps, & has pretty fair hair, blue eyes, & a skin as white as paper. This sounds pretty, but I think none of my children are so, but very healthy & good-humoured looking. Thank God they are all as well as health could wish them dear Papa also. He has been, & is still very busy improving & beautifying this place, which will be very pretty by the time you see it for there was much to be done to it, which he never could accomplish when he has such a quantity of land in his own hands, now he has let all his land, except what is immediately about the house & has only enough left to give him occupation & amusement without anxiety or fatigue. Our dear parents have just returned to us from the wilds of Connaught where Papa went to attend the Visitation of Killalla, & Mama to see a number of old friends. They have not been in that country for 26 years, and consequently saw many changes, but her friends she found warm & affectionate as ever, & delighted to have her amongst them again in that far away land where one is as completely separated from their relations as if they were in America. With the good kind Burroweses she spent a pleasant time, for they are a delightful family & so united & happy in each other, it is quite a pleasure to witness it & there she saw many of her old haunts about Fort Robert where I used to gambol when a child - We have had the pleasure of dear Kate & George's company this last week in this house, accompanied by their very fine boy, & dear Anne K who was a favourite of mine. Master Alexander Thomas is really a magnificent boy, & is

the fattest creature I ever saw. Kate has been very fortunate in the woman she got as a nurse, & she certainly does him every justice. Kate looks as well as possible, & is not a little proud of her son, which is very natural. George seems in very good health now, & looks much better than he did. I wish he had a good permanent curacy, or better still a good living, but that will come, I hope, all in good time. They were very sorry to give up Blessington, which seems to have a most desirably circumstanced Curacy, but as they could get no residence, it was impossible for them to keep it. - Both Richard's sisters well & often enquire for you. Isabella lives almost at Burn Church, with her husband's kind father & mother, Dr & Mrs Butler, who have been true & most affectionate Parents to her. She had a dreadful illness last year from which there was little or no apparent hope of recovery, but thanks God, she was restored to us, & has had better health since than she had for some years previous. - About two months ago she lay in a little girl, so she had now 6 children & like yourself, has three boys & three girls.

Marianne Garnett has 7 - 4 boys & 3 girls. They have all gone to live in England for the education of their children, & are now very comfortably settled at Cheltenham, which Marianne likes as a residence very much. Richard & I are thinking of taking a short ramble to Scotland this summer, as I am free from the cares of nursing, & as Grandmama promises to take care of my chicks in my absence. There is some necessary painting & papering to be to our house, & as we must leave home, we think it is a good opportunity, & I am very anxious that Richard should see Scotland, as he has never yet visited it. - I hope we may have fine weather for our trip, but as yet we have had no summer, nothing but cold & storm, & yesterday was Midsummer's Day. I wonder what sort of weather you have had in Canada. - Robert & John Noble are going off to the Lakes of Cumberland!! There's an event in the Allen's town family. William & James are growing fast into musty old Bachelors, & never stir from Allentown. Dear Maria the same sweet affectionate being she always was, & in much better spirits & looking better than she did some time ago. - The Tisdalls all settled again at Charlesfort, after two years sojourn at Cloutay. Mrs Tisdall is far handsomer, & looks very nearly as young as her two elder daughters! She is really a wonderful looking woman. - Dear old Mrs Montray had a frightful attack of dysentery, which brought her to the verge of the grave, but is now recovering her strength, though slowly She never fails to enquire most affectionately for you & all belonging to you. I must conclude now my darling Fan, after blinding you with my scrawl. Give my love & Richard's to Tom, & Richd charges me to give a large share to you & give a kiss for me to each of the darling children. Adieu my dear love, & write when you can to your ever fondly attached, E Rothwell

[Addressed:

For Mrs T A Stewart, Douro

Miss Beaufort

Post Office

Wicklow

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

June 1830]

Clonghill Rectory July 28, 1830

Your letter of the 9th of May blessed my eyes a short time ago, my loved Fanny, and a great pleasure it was for it said you were well again, and that all was well in your household. Your letter contained an epistle from Flood the Irish settler in Hamilton district which his brother came here to receive & read with tears of delight. One fact amused me much, he says 'no one need come here who can't keep from the whiskey, for it is to be got for 1/6 a gallon trousers are all the fashion' He says he has 100 acres of land, & sheep & cows etc. - I am sorry my dear Fanny that my letters have appeared shorter of late than usual. I was not aware of it, but I hope to be a better correspondent for the future. Bessy wrote to you by the last month I know what appeared a very long letter, and whenever she has time I know she takes great delight in writing to you. She & Richard have been waiting for the last three weeks for something like summer to commence their trip to Scotland but we have had winter rains, and storms till the last week. Now indeed the heat is tremendous, & the corn turning at last & the fruit ripening, and our dear pair are this day at sea I imagine. They left Rochfield yesterday morning at 7 intending to get all the way to Belfast, & as a steam boat leaves that port every day now for Grunock & Glasgow I hope they are fairly embarked by this time. They mean to visit a portion of the Highlands, take the round by Inverary, Lock Lomond & Loch Katrine, Loch Tay, Dunkald, & as far as Blair Athol. Spend a little time at Edinburgh where Bessy is not forgotten by her friends we made in 1821 when we visited that interesting country. I have all the 4 childies at Clonghill, & God grant I may be enabled to deliver them up safe & sound to their dear Parents on their return.

I feel some disappointed in some degree my dear Fanny at your declining the offer of the steel mill, or rather I suppose at your not wanting it, and yet I should be glad of your having so far advanced in the comforts & conveniences of civilized life as to have your wants so supplied -The poor of this country are in deep distress: old potatoes not to be had, the new not come in, at least not those they have, & meal 2/9 a stone, last week, 3/- this. - no work to be had from the farmers; only for subscriptions made in most of the parishes I do think numbers would starve. Richard has sunk a river on Rochfield which will do himself good by draining & has given support to 46 men far above 6 weeks; independent of his own labourers. They finished their work by coming at 4 in the morning the day before the Rothwells set off, & they & all the rest who wanted it got a dinner, to the number of 100, besides about 50 children. They all marched to the barn in their best clothes, with a Piper at their head, eat their beef, bacon & cabbage, with sufficient appetite. All turned out to put the finish to the hay, while some women staid to sweep out the barn. Then a merry dance & a barrel of beer concluded the evening & they all separated quietly at about 3 o'clock with three cheers for the Master & three more for the Mistress who looked quite delighted at seeing their people so happy - Adieu my own Fanny may God bless & preserve you & yours & may every child added to the number be additional blessing. My kind love to dear Tom in which Sutton joins your affec

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

M S

Kate very well & her lovely boy

[Addressed to Miss Beaufort

Post Office

Wicklow

for F Stewart

Douro

Dr H. I C U

for this []

Rochfield Nov 20, 1830

I hope that some of your correspondents, my ever beloved Fanny, have told you that I was at Cheltenham when the two last parcels were despatched, and far away from the possibility of enclosing even a "little bit of a letter", as you in your sauciness call, my elaborate productions. Indeed my dear love, I am always glad of an opportunity of caressing one of your dear letters, which are valuable and delightful to me even when they do contain a "wee bit scolding" like the last. Tom's promised news of you via New York has not yet arrived, but news has come, for all that, of the arrival of a fourth son, and of your safe and happy recovery for which mercy I am thankful to the Giver of all good. May these little olive branches prove a blessing to you & their good father, and may they reward the care & anxiety they cause. This news came in a letter from Stafford Kirkpatrick to his mother, in which he speaks [] of all at Douro, when his visit appears to have given him much pleasure. He is delighted with you all and says the manners or your girls are very pleasing, and no one could suspect from them that they had only lived in the woods - My last letter to you my dear Fanny went by the September mail. At that time your dear Uncle was very poor in health and lost his strength to such a degree as made me quite uneasy about him. I was in hopes the return of the Rothwells from Scotland would have cheered him, & so it did, but the illness & lassitude remained and after spending one fortnight in the enjoyment of their society at Clonghill, we set off once more in search of health to Cheltenham, our never failing resource, and thanks to God it has not failed now for he has come back with health Strength & spirits all improved. We arrived in Dublin late on Friday evening the 5th from Howth, after a stormy passage from Holyhead, and imagine the delight of finding Richard & Bessy there to meet us, without the least expectation of such a pleasure awaiting us.

The dear Merrion Street trio had flown to Trim, to try the effect of change of air for removing poor Aunt Bess's obstinate cough, and also to get her out of the way of witnessing the suffering & the death of poor Elinor, which latter took place the day after they left Town. I saw them on my way to England though I spent but one morning in Town, & sailed at 3 o'clock. Harriet and Anne looked well, particularly the former, who is a wonderfully youthful looking person; & really, when her pretty clear colour visits her cheeks, & lights up her blue eyes, no one would suspect that half a century had passed over her head.

I had the pleasure of our dear Kates company that day also till we set out. She is very happy with that dear excellent husband Heaven had sent her, whose character & principles rise in estimation every day he is known. The child is a noble creature, strong as a young Hercules, and not unlike the pictures of that Hero when an infant. Or course every one will write you an account of an offer of Mr Robert Alexander to George, of a peculiarly valuable curacy in the co. of Antrim. Mr R A was once your Archdeacon & lived at Hillsborough, but exchanged that parish for Cloghill near Ballymena, that he might live at Portglenons his Father's fine new House, and attends his parish also. He appeared a gay & rather careless sort of man, but the deep affliction

of losing his wife & being left with eleven children to take care of has been sanctified to him, for he has become a serious & conscientious minister of the gospel, and Georges character alone without any previous acquaintance has made him eager to obtain his valuable assistance in taking care of the flock committed to his charge. Kate seems pleased at the idea of a settled home, but to regret her pretty quiet Blessington much, when George has recovered his health, & when he is understood & idolized. - when at Cheltenham I saw a good deal of your old friend Eliza Wallace. She is very unlike the Eliza Wallace who pleased the good taste of a certain gentleman once on a time. She is much too masculine a character now and too self sufficient to please any of the Lords of the Creation - She built to houses about two years ago. One of she & her mother & sister inhabit, and the other she lets. - She has another house formerly called Bathlodge, which you may recollect Aunt Bess once inhabited. She thought this rather small for enlarged ideas, and too far from the road, for it had a little garden in front; so down she pulled Bathlodge even with the ground, and a much larger edifice has sprung up in its stead, with the garden behind instead of before, and at a due distance from the flags - This was all done this spring & summer, and before we left Cheltenham she was as busy as a bee furnishing the rooms, and I dare say before Christmas it will be inhabited. " plenty of workmen, plenty of money" does wonders, & a busy bustling indefatigable person to set all in motion:

We were invited to breakfast by Miss Wallace once and met some very agreeable people there mostly members of the Reformation society of which Miss Wallace is a strenuous supporter, and she thinks their exertions will make Protestants of all the Cats in process of time. [no so do I] We had Archdeacon & Mrs Digby: the latter the express image of poor Mrs John Stewart, in face & person, & manner; like what she was I mean some twenty years ago. We had Captain Gordon the great champion of Reformation, and a Mr Armstrong another. - There were a party of 16 & we were all mighty agreeable and discussed Reformation topics and sallyluns, and Robbie's and green tea, etc, etc.

Your Uncle has been every day hoping Uncle Mun would send over your cash in time to go by this mail but no sign of it yet. If it comes in any decent time it shall go to Harriet still.

I do wish you could have that here to make a little store for a rainy day, and live upon your own resources in Canada if possible, as was your idea once. By Staffords account Douro must be very comfortable; its situation he says is beautiful and the village of Peterboro delightful. Well, now this in not a bit of a letter, and if I have told you the same news you have heard from others, I can only say blame yourself. - A letter from Kate just come announces the arrival of your letter with three lines of codicil from Tom, saying you are to call the young fellow a botheration of four names Chas Edw Lewis Casimir! surely this is only one of Tom's jokes. - answer me with a detail of all that most interests you, dearest Fanny in the home department: your self first - your husband, your children, your servants, and all that concerns you.

Tell me if you ever got the hawes I sent to Harriet for you, and if they are growing, and if the Laurel berries which went formerly ever grew. or if you have been able to nourish up any evergreens.

I saw the death of Mr Smyth of Benison Lodge in the paper lately, which must have been a great release as he was either doating or out of his reason for many months. - I write this from the midst all the dear children of Rochfield. Our own poor little home is such a lonely nest since the total reduction of your party there that Richard & Bessy do not let us inhabit it during the gloomy month of November, and to say the truth, I am nothing loath to be among so many I love - about the beginning of January too my services will be wanting to Bessy, a boy, a boy this time by all means. - May God bless & preserve you my loved Fanny & all belongs to you prays your Uncle kind love affecte & faithful

M Sutton

Rochfield, November 20, 1830

My own dearest Fanny

We have just heard through Stafford Kirkpatrick of your safety, & of the birth of your fourth son; & most sincerely do I congratulate my sweet sister on this addition to her little flock, & most heartily pray that this little stranger may live to be a blessing and comfort to both his dear Parents. We are anxiously looking out for the arrival of Tom's promised letter by New York, but alas! it has not yet made its appearance, & indeed I long very much for further accounts of you my darling, as I am not half satisfied with Stafford's version, though it was a great pleasure to hear the good news of you so much sooner than we should otherwise have done. He is delighted with Douro & all its inhabitants, & with the kindness he received there. His letter was dated Sept. 30 & he said you were then quite recovered, which I trust was the case. - In a letter written shortly before your confinement to Mama, & dated Aug 25 you complained of my not having written to you lately, my own darling sister, but I am sure you must have received a letter from me soon after, as I am almost certain I wrote to you not long before we went to Scotland, I think by the July mail. It grieved me to the heart to find that you, my fondly-loved Fanny, seemed to attribute my silence to forgetfulness or want of affection, & believe me, a more undeserved suspicion never entered the of any mortal for never did sister love another with warmer or more unabated affection than I at all times & in all places feel for you, my dearest early companion & "mine own familiar friend", but indeed my love, I am often deterred from writing to you by the fear of preventing others, whose letters I know are much more valuable & interesting than mine can be, & you know we cannot now send you such nice fat packets as we could in dear Wilmot Horton's time, when we might enclose as much as we liked. However at all hazards, I am determined to take a long sheet this time & have room to chat to my very own sister, & as the paper is thin I hope that Harriet will not find our packet too fat for her frank. I must now tell you that we are all, thank God as well as possible, & enjoying very much being restored to the society of our dear Parents, from whom we have been unusually separated during the summer & autumn, first, by our visit to Scotland which occupied two months & then by theirs to England which last for nearly two more & from which they have only just returned. Dear Papa was very poorly indeed when he set out, but thanks to the Gracious Giver of all Good, the Physician at Cheltenham, Mr Seager, has been the instrument; under His Mercy in restoring our dear Parent to far greater ease & comfort, & I trust he has by this excursion laid in a stock of strength for the winter. My dearest Richard is in excellent health, & my four darlings as stout & blooming as health could desire. They are indeed a nice wholesome looking little set, & though not the least pretty, look just what they are - goodhumoured, healthy, & happy. Mary is growing very tall, & large in proportions, & is rather forward in learning for her age. "Going on six", as she says herself Helena is very anxious to improve herself, & get up to her sister; she is very persevering, & reads very decently for 4 years & a half old; is of a gentle disposition, & has not as high spirits as Mary, which makes her easier to manage. Little Bessy is a favourite with the whole house, she has so many engaging

little ways, & is so comical, but indeed I must say she is not at all spoiled. She is very healthy now thank God, & I trust may be preserved this winter from that horrible croup, which has attacked her two years running, just at this season. I believe our having been twice so near to losing her, has endeared her to us peculiarly, but they are all loved, & as such we should be ready to relinquish them when our Heavenly Father chuses to call them back to Himself, however painful to poor erring human nature. Indeed we have great cause for Gratitude that we have as yet been spared this severe trial & that our darlings are all so healthy. Our youngest, little Isabella is the dearest little coaxing love you ever saw, & very entertaining, for though she will not be two years old till April, she attempts to say every thing she hears from the others, which makes her a most amusing little plaything. She is very fair with blue eyes & light hair, a snub nose, & a very goodhumoured smiling little countenance. Now my dearest Fanny dont call me a foolish old Mama, taking up so much of my paper with a history of my pickaninnies, but remember that you asked me for home details, so have brought it on yourself. - Nov 21. This day a letter came from Kate, saying that she had received your letter, with Tom's little addition, but my dear, is it possible you have given you boy such a set of names, or was Tom only quizzing? - I long to know further particulars, & hope we shall soon hear again.

Richard & I spent a very delightful time in dear bonnie Scotland, which certainly is the pleasantest country I ever was in, I will not even except England, for what with romantic beauty of scenery, hospitality & kindness among the rich, & industry, intelligence, & contentment among the poor, it certainly appears to me rank very high as a country, & at the present awful crisis, when disturbances rage all over Europe, & when even England does not escape the general turmoil, Scotland remains peaceable, quiet, & happy.

Well, to begin & give you a little outline of our tour, which began & ended so pleasantly; Richard & I set out from this house on the 27th of July, in Papa's nice little open carriage with post horses, & in the midst of the only hot week we had the entire summer. Having left all care behind us, & consigned our precious bairns to very safe hands at the dear Rectory of Clongill, we travelled quite independently & I am sure were very often taken for a newly-married couple, going on their first tour of pleasure. We went from this to Belfast the first day, a long journey, but we accomplished it easily, the roads & posting ever so good. We admired extremely the drive from Dundalk to Newry, & Ravensdale was in the highest beauty. In going from Lisburn to Belfast, I was strongly reminded of you, my own dear Fanny, for the last time I took that drive, we met you, Tom, & dear little Anna Maria sitting between you in the gig - Besides, all places along the road brought you forcibly to my recollection; Mr Williamson's with its nice pretty bleach green, Mr Curtis's, & poor deserted Wilmont, which is plainly seen to the right of the road, with its noble woods. We took up our abode for that night at the Royal Hotel in Donegal Place, a splendid & most comfortable house, which formerly belonged to the Marquis of Donegall, & which is admirably suited for a great hotel. It is reckoned the best in Belfast, & is quieter, more comfortable, & less expensive than the Donegall Arms. A man of the name of Kearns keeps it, & is civility itself. - As the steam packet for Glasgow did not sail till 8 in the evening of the following day, we had time to walk about, & admire the numerous handsome buildings and splendid shops in this busy Town. We had a fine and smooth passage to Grenock; & a most lovely sail up the Clyde to Glasgow, where we remained for three days,

seeing a great deal that was interesting, & much of the scenery so accurately described in Rob Roy. From thence by Dumbarton to Loch Lomond, on which we embarked in a nice Steam boat, sending the carriage by land to Torbay, a sweet spot which I dare say Tom knows. This steam boat took us & many other tourists round every part of this most lovely lake, & truly delighted were we with its varied & enchanting scenery. Proceeding through the Valley of Glencree to Cairndow, we arrived next day at Inverary, where Richard was greatly pleased with the Duke of Argyle's Park & Castle, & magnificent woods, but it is a deserted place for its owner has never seen it for four years! More's the pity it should be thrown away on him! - This part of our tour, & along the banks of Loch Awe to Dalmally & Tynedrum (pray get out your map of Scotland) was well known to me, but all new to Richard. At the latter place we struck off the beaten track commonly pursued by tourists, & reached [] a mere Cabin, in the midst of wilds, where upon our asking for breakfast after a hungry drive of 14 miles, we were asked in return if we had brought bread with us, as they had none! This was rather a melancholy sound to travellers whose appetites were sharpened by the keen mountain air, however the poor people were most anxious to do what they could for our accommodation, & the Gude-wife immediately commenced the operation of making us some scones a thin kind of cake made of flour & water, & which she baked in an iron pot, hung over a peat fire, made in the very middle of her kitchen floor, to the no small astonishment of our Irish servant. The gude-man caught us some nice wee trout in a lake close by, & with these ingredients & the assistance of some fresh eggs, we contrived to make as hearty a breakfast as ever we did in our lives, & the goodwill & kindness with which it was accompanied by our goodnatured host & hostess were a very agreeable addition.

We then proceeded through the Black Forest & over the Black Mountains, all Black & dreary enough to the Kings House, where Lord Breadalbane has a great preserve for the Red Deer, which run wild over the mountain in great number but we were not so fortunate as to see any of them. Here we entered that grand magnificent & sublime Valley, the Pass of Glencoe, the scene of the horrible & bloody massacre of olden times, & a fit scene it is for such a deed of darkness, for a wilder spot cannot be imagined, nature in her rudest dress, & most sportive mood, my here be seen in the fullest perfection; huge mountains towering over your head with terrific grandeur, masses of rock threatening the traveller with destruction every step he advances roaring & foaming waterfalls thundering down every revine; add to which, that for five miles we never saw the sign of a human creature, or a trace of cultivation & you will have some faint & inadequate idea of the sublime & awful wildness of Glencoe, to which no pen could possible do justice, no, not even that of Sir Walter Scott himself; - You will think I am gone mad, but it is only on the subject of Scotland, I assure you that the mania seizes me; I am very tame on every other but I must hasten to bring my tale to a conclusion, & get you out of Glencoe, which is rather a bleak station for winter quarters, Well we proceeded by beautiful Lock Leven & Loch Eil, to Fort William, & there we saw that most stupendous work of man's ingenuity, the Caledonia Canal; by Loch Laggan, another beautiful lake, to Dalwinny, Dalnacaudoh, & Blair Athol, to Dunkeld, where the Duke of Athol has a splendid place but the venerable old man is since dead, & has left his vast possessions to others. - From there, by the "Birks of Aberfeldie" to Kenmore & Taymouth, Lord Breadalbane's lovely place on the banks of Loch Tay; to Callander & Loch Katrine, & all the beautiful scenery of the Trossacks, so ably &

accurately described by Sir Walter that no other is necessary, to Stirling, Falkirk, Linlithgow, Edinburgh. Here we spent a happy fortnight enjoying the delightful society of my friends the Humes, of whom I am sure you have heard us speak, & to whom Mrs O'Beirne introduced us nine years ago when we were in Edinburgh. The Miss Humes received me with the affection of sisters, & a mutual liking took place between them & my dear husband, with whom they both fell in love, & he with them, & yet I was not jealous!! Their dear old father, the Baron is still alive, & as pleasant cheerful & friendly as ever. At their house we met some of the best society that Edinburgh afforded & very delightfully did our time pass in this most beautiful & interesting of cities. After a fortnight which flew but too rapidly, we were obliged to turn our faces homewards, & returned by a line of country quite new to me, by Melrose, Abbotsford, Jedburgh, Hawick, Lockerby, Dumfries, etc. etc. to Port Patrick; crossed to Donaghada in two hours & half; proceed to Belfast & reached Clongill next day; where we had the happiness of finding all our treasures well after our very delightful & most prosperous excursion. Now dearest Fanny, I fear I have wearied & blinded you by my travels so I will for the present release you, but hope soon to write to you again - Pray, pray let me hear from you soon after you get this to say you forgive me, for I shall not be happy till you do. Adieu now my own precious Fanny. Give my kindest love to Tom, & A M & Ellen, & a kiss to all the little Canadians, & ever love as she loves you your own fondly attached & most affecte sister,

E Rothwell

Richard desires his love to you. Mrs Montray is very well, & always asks for you with warm affection. -

Rochfield December 28 1830

This morning's post, my dearest Fanny, brought me the welcome sight of your dear letter of the 10th Sept & most truly do I thank you my sweet sister for your giving up any of your precious time to me & indeed I can say with truth that among all your correspondents, not one of them can value your more precious letters more than I do. Richard & I fell particularly obliged & gratified at your having named us as sponsors for your dear boy, & pray that the dear little fellow may live to be a blessing & comfort to both his dear Parents I long to know what names my godchild is to enjoy as I cannot consent to his having that long rigmarole that Tom gave in his short scrap in Kate's letter. I suppose it was only one of the tricks of poor old Sir John just to punish us. - Stafford's letter is still the latest account of you my dearest Fan, with his history of Douro & the kind reception he met with from its inhabitants, with all of whom he was greatly delighted. I can well imagine how pleased you must have been to see one who could give you so many home details, but he is rather a dry person so I hope you plied him well with questions. - Thomas seems to be going most prosperously, & to be very happy with his wee wife; I have not heard of any little Helens or Thomases making their appearance in that quarter yet. Francis is still Papa's curate at Clongill, & a most zealous & active & useful clergyman he is, & has his heart lost full in his sacred profession. He lodges in Kells, but spends a good deal of his time here, which we are glad to prevail on him to do whenever we can. - You complain of my silence still dear Fan, & I begin to think some of my letters must have been lost, but at all events, long before this you must have got one from me, & there is another on its way to you, as I wrote you a huge folio by the last mail. I am only afraid of writing too much, & tiring you with my scribbles, but this time I was determined to write, as I am certain I shall not be in Writing order when the next mail is dispatched. I am very anxious to know what the little animal will be, & cannot help wishing it to be a boy, but of this I am certain, that whatever comes, it will be for the best, & my dearest Richard is just as content with, & fond of his little girls, as if they were four boys, indeed perhaps more so. There cannot be a fonder father or one more beloved, but he never spoils them, & indeed I must say they have great spirits. Think of Richard Isabella, & Marianne having 17 children between them! & in another month if it please God to spare them, the number will be increased to 19 as Marianne is on the point of adding an 8th to her flock. She & her family are living now at Cheltenham for the education of her children, & also on the principle of economy, which with such a tribe of young ones is a very necessary consideration; so they have a very lovely set of children, but their oldest boy, & the flower of the flock, is, as you probably know, quite deaf & dumb, & they have placed him at Claremount, where he is going on extremely well, under the judicious management of Dr Orpere. Providentially, now none of the other children are similarly affected, as is so often the case when there is one, for example in poor Wm Beaufort's family, & I heard the other day the extraordinary fact, that there is now living in the south of Ireland a gentleman who has eleven children, & that every one of them is deaf & dumb!! This was mentioned at a meeting at Kells for the juvenile branch of the Claremont Institution, & Robert Noble advocated its cause most warmly & with considerable eloquence. - Isabella Butler lives principally at Dr Butler's near Kilkenny & had a

6th little one last summer; her health is very delicate, & she suffers intense enquires for you with much interest. - Charlotte Roper has just recovered from one of her dreadful illness, which always bring her to death's door; she is attacked by one of them whenever she is in the family way, & never gets at all better till she miscarries, & her sufferings from violent sickness & spasms in her stomach, are quite frightful to witness. This time she was taken ill at Arch Hall, & was for four months confined to her bed, & poor Mrs Garnett was nearly worn out attending her, & so was Bessy. - She never brought more than one child to perfection, her eldest, & she is a fine little thing; but she has made five attempts & they were all near costing her her life. - She is greatly improved mind & manners & I hear makes an excellent Clergyman's wife. - Your friend the Deacon, alias Murtagh is as brisk as a bee, & often asks for "his old friend Mrs Stooart". He bursts away merrily with his pack of little Beagles every day he can, but now the frost has set in with such severity that the Nimrods are all in the dumps. - he & the Wallers must bear the misfortune as well as they can. We had a grand charity Sermon at Kells the Sunday before Xmas, preached by Mr Pakenham for the purpose of buying blankets & bedding for 300 poor creatures who are in want of them at this severe season. Lady Headfort & her very amiable nice daughter Miss Dalton offered to sing the anthem, & also the Te Deum & Jubilate, assisted by Mr Ed Bligh's fine voice, & this attraction added to Mr Pakenham's fame as a preacher, drew a very crowded congregation & there was nearly £48 collected for the charity: 4 ladies were the Collectors, viz. Mrs Napier, Lady Headfort, Mrs Bligh & Mrs Nicholson, each attended by a gentleman, holding his hat to receive the contents of the plate at the door of each seat. - The Anthem was beautifully sung & Miss Dalton's voice sounded delightfully sweet. It was a great fuss altogether, & some ladies fainted with the heat, tho' it was the 19th of Decr. - I suppose you have heard from Allenstown of Mr Pakenham's having had a 4th son: I am sorry it was not a girl, which she much wished for, but she is following Lady Longford's example who had 6 boys before she had her three daughters, who were joyfully welcomed when they did arrive. I never see your old favourite Mrs Longfield now; she lives at such a great distance from this, but she had just recovered a very bad fever when I last heard of her, in which she was attended by your friend Dr. Blackwell, who lives at Ardee. She has I think, eleven children, not less certainly, & her oldest girl Fanny, is quite a woman, & much taller than her mother. Mrs Young is very well, & asks for you with much affection. Mr & Mrs Blennerhasset Thompson live at Philipstown in the winters, & in Kerry in the summers, & have one child, a pickanniny boy. The John Nicholsons are at Balrath now for xmas; - she is a sweet creature; he a great O S T; they have three very fine children & another coming. Mrs Nicholson senr gets on extremely well with the whole family, Anna Maria included, & is much liked in the country. She is very happy in a dear little healthy baby, the image of old [] I am sure you must be tired & blinded with my scribble my own darling Fan, so I will release you, only begging you will write to me whenever you can, & never attribute my not writing to want of affection. Adieu now my own love, & & may God bless & preserve you & yours. Richard sends his love to you, & give mine to Tom, & all the darlings weans, & a kiss to my godchild, & believe me ever with the [] & warmest affection, your own fond sister

Merrion St Febr 21 1833

My dearest Fanny

I am sure you have written before this - but the last letter I had from you was that by N York of Novr 17 - & I am most anxious to hear again from or of you - Truly the little babe must be more than a month old by this time - but I have not heard of it yet - Mr Reids letter of Jany 3 to Mr McCready I have read - I trust you were all well when he wrote - but not one word does he say of your well being - for which, considering all the circumstances I am much inclined to quarrel with him. God preserve you my beloved friend to us all - & particularly to your dear children - I cannot help having ill forbodings - but I have often had them before & yet found that our Merciful God had brought you safely thro' the hour of trial & of danger - but I know I am lowspirited now and disposed to see every thing in a melancholy light & it is impossible while suffering under our affection - not to dread another - Every thing public & private looks black - gloomy - and I am forced though it grieves me to give you pain dear Fanny - to write to you what will grieve you both on your account & on that of all your poor friends here - particularly Louisa. I hope you have received my letter of Feby 3 - in which I told you that for some days my dear mother had had a severe cold which seemed obstinate; - Dr March from the first said it was very serious - & seemed alarmed for her - but she had so often recovered from severe illness that I allowed my hopes to continue till almost the last. But the Dr said that besides infavorable symptoms - there was what never was the case before - a total failure of the energy which used to support my dear mother in all her former attacks. From the beginning of this influenza she seemed to give herself up - & she reportedly said she knew she was going to follow poor Mrs St Lawrence. - Some days she appeared better - then again came troublesome cough & loads of phlegm - which indeed choked up her lungs so much that the air could not get rightly o them - & for the last three or four days one could scarcely hear what she said in such a whisper

On Saturday the 9th she seemed to improve, towards the latter part of the day particularly - & in the evening she looked so much better & seemed so much alive to every thing & cheerful & quite gay that it was impossible not to be cheered - & to hope

In the course of the night she grew very restless and uneasy - & evidently more towards morning - Louisa had come down at four & I was with her - giving her whine ["whine" crossed out] wine whey from time to time - Before 7 she began to get up - for she had never kept her bed a moment - and being very anxious to do so I helped her on with her shift - When seeming tired with the exertion she leaned back - & seemed after that to dose constantly - breathing very hard - & yet harder & rougher & then interruptedly till dear Fanny before nine she ceased to breathe - I began to be alarmed before 8 about her manner of breathing & I called Louisa - but she never noticed us or spoke after that - and it was without a struggle she expired. Her mind had been well prepared for that awful moment - & I assure you my dear Fanny nothing

could be more happy than the tranquil pious & resigned manner in which she received her approaching end. She spoke of it several times - & while she seemed to look forward to her removal from suffering & illness - she looked back with warm gratitude on all the blessings she had been blessed with during her long life

Ever thinking more of them than of any of the misfortunes which had affected her - & thanking God for the goodness & allowing her to have fine good & affectionate children. But tho' she had so spoken & tho' we knew the Dr had little hope - we had never thought of the sad moment as being so near! - & may think dearest Fanny how we felt - particularly poor dear Louisa when we saw our beloved Mother lying a lifeless body in so short a time since she had been speaking - And though so great an age - it seemed to us that she was cut off in vigour of mind already - So well in body one short fortnight before - it was exactly the Sunday fortnight that she had got that cold at Church - & it was on Sunday Feb 10 that she was taken from us - & a bitter bitter grief it is my dearest Fanny to lose such a parent - & that we hoped to be all comfortable & happy together - and she seemed so stout & well & so bright & so animated & alive - who could ever have thought that just at that time the blow would fall! but it was the Will of God who knows best when to afflict us - and we are resigned & obedient - & surely we ought to be, & are, grateful that she did not suffer lingering torturing pain or sink under the infirmities of age & the loss of faculties while still on earth

You dearest Fanny who love her so dearly & who are loved so much by her - & who were as another child to her - you will grieve with us & for us - Alas Alas when I look at my dear Bess, when I know how she suffers - & how she has been gradually declining - & how broken down she is - I cannot but look with dread to fresh grief & sorrow - But God is good - & perhaps in mercy to us he will not yet deprive us of this last remaining parent & tender friend. I ought not to make you melancholy & thus anticipate so much madness - but after all - it would be madness not to prepare ourselves - and though it may please God still to preserve her to us - yet we must not be shocked should he in his infinite wisdom see fit to take her from us - but oh what a change it will be to me -!

But do not think from this letter that our dear Bess is any way particularly ill - She is going on just as usual as to as to health suffering much some nights from her head - & then at other times she has to good nights - She has of course been very nervous of late as you will readily suppose & greatly cut down by this sad affliction - but I trust as the weather improves she will revive. She was out three times last week to take the air & was refreshed by it. - I forgot to tell you that when poor Fanny E found by our letters how ill my dear Mother was - she resolved to come up - & did arrive on Monday the 11th - poor thing little thinking that all was over - oh I know well how to feel for her - considering all circumstances she bore it better than I cd have hoped - but she exerted herself for Bess's sake - & was the greatest comfort & assistance to us - She staid with us till last Tuesday last - & a week of her is at all times agreeable but was so now particularly - when she continued to mimic Bess & make conversation to interest Louisa. I mentioned in my last letter that Wm was gone to London on a deputation from the Clergy to the King - when he heard of my Mothers illness he wanted to come back even supposing he was to return to London - but we wrote to beg he wd not - & the event shewed that he could not

have been here in time - I believe it was better for him to be where he was forced by business to exertion - but he was a sad loss to us - in every way, his presence wd have been a comfort to my Mother & to all of us - The blow has fallen heavy on both him & Francis - most severely on poor Francis who always yields so much to his feelings - He has however the comfort of having seen her this last Autumn - so well & so fond of him - & he must feel happy that he had sent her his picture wh she wished so much to have. - The very morning of my dear Mother's death kind Bess came up to my room to Louisa who was sitting there - & kindly begged her to consider this house as her home - This was of the greatest kindness - kindness she could have shewed her - or shewed to me - & poor Louisa is very grateful - She can go to her friends & be with them as much as she likes but she will have the comfort of feeling that as long as our dear Bess is spared to us she has a home to come to - I only regret that my dear Mother had not the satisfaction of knowing it. Alicia wrote in the kindest way to invite Louisa to visit her now - but she cd not yet enjoy it - or indeed be equal to it - Fanny Wilson comes over in May - & when she returns probably Lou will accompany her to London - at least we think perhaps it may be so - but who can foresee what may happen on these horrid times - when the destruction of the State & of the Church seem coming fast upon us - So that we may think who are taken are removed from the Evil days that are coming.

I hope the Newspapers continue to go regularly - very unfortunately one or two of the most important speeches have been on Supplements to the Newspaper & they will not let them go as they are not stamped - did you ever read any thing like Ld Althorpe's bill for Church Reform? - Think of cutting off ten Bishops at once - & what is still worse - taxing the income of all the clergy in such an enormous degree I think you will soon be well supplied with clergy in Canada for I am sure ministers will flee from the tyranny & injustice here - worse indeed I may say - for everything we hear - & every measure of govt shews plainly that it is their intention to put down the protestant church in Ired - & to let the Cats be established Church here - the consequence will be that many will leave Ireland - perhaps indeed will be forced to do so - it seems as if the very dreadful time of wrath foretold in the Revelations was now coming - all we can do is to look forward with faithful hope to the time when the great last struggle will be over - & the happy time of universal peace will come - but who among us will be alive to see that blessed time - When the Lion & the Lamb shall lie down together

OConnell has been making a most violent speech in the house against Martial law in Ired - wh I will send if I get it to night -

I saw Mr McCready yesterday - he has written to Mr Reid - but hopes Mr R has written again to him or to me - He is very anxious about having a survey & valuation of the Property - as we cannot tell what to do till we [] that - Give me leave to get it done as quickly as you can reply if you have not already I am very anxious that Thomson shd not swallow it all up - Mr McCredy does not think Mr Reids valuation sufficient nor do I -

Feb 22 This morning dearest Fanny brought me Tom's most welcome letter - with the happy news of your safety - for so far at least - & the birth of another little boy - I am glad it is a boy

for they are better for Canada life than girls - I long to hear again & most truly & gratefully so I thank God for your safety my dearest beloved Fanny

How weak I was to have such fear about you - Oh may God continue to preserve you to your good husband & children - & give you health & happiness - I beg you will tell me how your asthma is - I am in hopes it will be relieved now - Pray take care of yourself in Spring - that is a trying time

I am happy to find that you have at last received the letter about the money for the Saw mill - & that it is not too late to be useful to Tom - & I trust all will be most profitable - I hope he will remember his promise of writing soon to me again, with more details - i.e. as he goes on with the work - it will be very interesting to learn the progress of it - & very satisfactory to the person who sent the money for whom I am going now to copy a part of Tom's letter I hope he will be quite sure of the person he contracts with - that it may be well done - What wonderful profit on firewood - I thought it sd cost nothing and now my dear friends Adieu

Anne & I are well - so are all at Allenstown Rockfield Agohill - & Hastings where the Suttons are now

God bless you Every your affectte & attached old Moome.

[Address:Via New York

paid

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

Peterborough

near Cobourg

New Castle District

Upper Canada

Forward

Post marked:

Paid

FE22

1833

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Quebec

AP27

1833]

Merrion Street May 24 1833

This day dearest Fanny shall not slip away from me till I have told you what you already know well my beloved - that the day is a precious one to me & to all who know you - who love you and who delight in having such a dear and excellent & valuable friend as you my darling child - Oh! may God bless this day - and continue to permit it to be a source of happiness to us and all with whom you are closely united - Oh may it please God to grant you health and comfort - and to continue to you the power of enjoyment of whatever little blessing and comfort you have. - And many - I am sure you have because you have that truly heartfelt religion which enables you to make happiness to yourself in performing all your various duties - and gives you the means of bearing up cheerfully under the weight of difficulty & privation and annoyance of various kinds - I should rather say preserve you to that power that you have hitherto had of bearing up so wonderfully under privation and distress & all kinds of difficulty. That has proved my dearest Fanny the just essence of Religion which fills your heart - which guides & influences your conduct - by the fruit we are known - & surely that is true dearest for your piety & spiritual real religion is shown forth daily in your life. You see by this, that I have at last heard from you - my dearest Fanny after very great anxiety I had the comfort of getting your letter yesterday dated March 26 - When you wrote Jan'y - 26 your cough was so bad - & you were so lately recovered from your confinement that I grew very uneasy indeed about many fears about you - & much anxiety - till Tom's letter to Mr McCredy which came nearly 3 weeks ago mentioned that all were well - and indeed it was a very great relief to me - but oh how I do long to hear again - I have still much anxiety dearest Fanny about you - for I see by your letter that you are not well - & that you suffer from that oppression on your chest - but you have said so very little of yourself that it makes me fear that you did not like to tell me how ill you felt when you wrote - Do tell me or let Anna write or some one directly by N York & let me know the whole truth - perhaps prescriptions might be sent that would relieve you - Have you still a cough - have you pain in chest or side or any where? Oh tell me - & how does nursing the little baby agree with you - troublesome little fellow I wish he had not come for I am sure he is & has been a great plague to you - but please God he will yet be one of your comforts & blessings. May God in his Mercy preserve you to him & all your bairns - and grant them the happiness of having their dear and excellent Mothers care for many & many a year to come - may they have the blessing & the comfort of seeing you still with them in good old age - my Fanny - and may you have many many returns of this day in comfort & increasing excellence & energy & health - & may Heaven grant me the blessing of seeing you yet - If I continue on the face of the Earth

My beloved Fanny I don't like to have you say or think that you are grown "dull" & "dead" & "stupid" etc. - No indeed you are not - but you have a great deal to do - & to think of - & to labour at during the day - & my only wonder is how you have always continued to get through so much & to write so kindly & so constantly & so much - Oh what a treasure your letters are to me - & to all of us - The delightful letters & overflowings of your heart for ten years do not let your spirits sink & for God's sake do preserve your health - all you can do in the day is nothing

in comparison to the duty of preserving your health by a due & regular portion of exercise & air
- Oh! do - what a precious life yours is my own dear child -

Tell Tom Mr McCredy got his letter & is doing all he can about the sale - There is the claim of the Sisters in Dunany now coming on - & we shall see when that is settled what there will be to care about - if they succeed it will make a vast difference in the value of the whole - but I hope it will now be settled one way or other - which will be a great satisfaction

You have sent me no Commissions! - Thinking you would want something tho' I had not heard - I kept fifteen pounds of your money - so if you have any wants, write directly on receiving this by N. York & I shall be able to send off things before it be too late

I sent a small bundle of trifles - by people of Mr Mitchells - and I shall send a small box at any rate before I leave town - by Liverpool to Sidney Bellingham for you - and I can send another afterwards if you send me commissions - I am sure you want flannel - Maria sent you an entertaining book by Mrs Trollope in the last parcel

In my last packet I sent No 1 of the money letters & on the 1st of June I hope to send off my next packet & in it No 2 of the letters - if I do not get any kind of commission tell me if I shall send the money to you in a Dft - or bill - or how - I have not heard yet whether Tom has drawn for the hundred pounds that has been so long lying at the house of Palmer & Co. for him - I hope Tom will not be too venturesome about the mill if the site is not as favourable as he had imagined perhaps it is only throwing money into the river - and there is always great hazard when you join with another - so pray Tom beware beware -

We are going on pretty well. Bess' nights vary sometimes good - often very painful - but on the whole she is pretty well - & better I think than some months ago - She has escaped influenza thank God, as yet which falls very heavy on the old - though not a mortal disease but it leaves the most dreadful weakness & langour behind it - Louisa has had it twice - or at least 2 feverish attacks - & is greatly weakened & her back very painful - & her stomach frequently.

She walked out yesterday for a short time - but was much tired - I hope however she will gradually regain strength - Anne very well I had the Influenza in the form of a great cough & oppression but am now quite well - cured by the application of a blister that was very severe, to my chest. -

Fanny Wilson & Sneyd arrived on Wedy before I was up - stayed yesterday - & gone to Etown this day - She is very thin but is pretty well - Sneyd is remarkably well now - looks fat - & not agitated or excited - Lucy still at Cloone - She is better tho not well - All well in Co Meath & at Cloghill Wm B still in London very busy trying to work out some little changes in the horrid church robbery bill - He is at Francis's - Francis is well but Alice is very poorly - the children all well & good & well disposed -

Comfortable letters from F E & Pakenham. Sneyd has been expecting a letter from you - & I told him you had been intending to write to him

We are much pressed to go to Allenstown & Rochfield & I believe we shall go A first - no time yet fixed for leaving town - The poor Lynes are very miserable have not yet recovered poor Nancy's death - Mary very ill -They have let both house & cottage at Greenmont & are going to Wales for the summer - for a little change of scene - Poor Bess Hamilton is very ill - I fear in a Dropsy which is always miserable & hopeless - she suffers much & seems declining rapidly

I forwarded all your letters & notes dearest Fanny - & having a voracious appetite I long to hear again from you - I have not time to read over or answer all you say about your religion - but I know I wish I were half as good religious as you are - Has Mrs Ls left you & settled - I am sorry you have got more people with you & I do wish you were not burdened by guests - & cd get well - My love do get well & don't be inclined to think your mind dull Keep it still alive dear & do not deaden it by the idea it is dull & that you are not as bright as you used to be - It helps to dull the mind if we settle to ourselves that we are fit for nothing - If God in his goodness preserves your health surely dear your mind will be bright too - & you who have for eleven long years struggled through so much will not now sink under the weight of cares business when you have more prosperity - & good useful children to help you - & have still my love the same Heavenly father to support you - and to help your endeavors

No indeed I never thought you a methodist dearest You never in any way letter said a word of what Mr Reid said of us all on his return - & if you were satisfied with his account of us

Now I must send this - May God bless you & this day and preserve you my own most beloved child & friend to your dear family & friends & to your poor old & very fond & attached

Moonie

May you my dearest Fanny see as many returns of this day as you can do in health & happiness neither of which I am sorry to say seemed the order of the day when you last wrote. I pray God it may be nothing more than the effect of an ill recovered confinement which I wish may soon give way & that my Fannys next letters which we all long for may be more like her own dr self I write the present in the most oppressively hot weather of which I feel the effects in this hot town very much indeed, poor nervous being as I am - but I look forward to better things when a little money enables us to leave town to breathe the fresh air & see our friends, but till it comes - & for some time, there is little hope in such bad times - we must bide at home - & be thankful to have a comfortable house & many many more comforts than we deserve we are all pretty well thank God & love Dearly my own dr Child & so Good bye

E Waller

my dearly beloved Fanny may God bless you & many many returns of this day be guided again in health & happiness ever believe me yr true friend

A M Nangle

once more I must add my blessing dearest Fanny & tell you how dear you are to me.

[Addressed to

Mr T A Stewart

Douro

Peterborough

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

via New York

single

May 24]

78-008/2/8 #148

Douro Nov 16, 1833

Our mill is going on prosperously. We are only to have the saw mill now & the Grist mill is to be added & the Dam finished in summer when the water is low. Scott says he will engage them to be the best mills in the District. - The foundations of the Dam is completed which was the heaviest work - and the Carpenters are now preparing wooden patterns of the Wheels which are to be sent to the foundry at Rochester to have metal castings made from them. There are 2 other Carpenters morticing the great Beams for the building & it is to be raised in a few days - We have a blacksmith at work & it is a source of great pleasure to the young things to go to the forge. They never saw a Smith at work before & their delight at seeing a horse shod was amusing to us. The workmen are quite civil men. One poor man who had his leg broke some time ago, is very useful to me as he darns stockings & is glad to have something to do. The wood for the wheels had all to be boiled & dried at a fire to harden & season it before they began to turn the models of the wheens. Decr 20 - The mill is half up, it has been delayed by severe weather & sickness & accidents among the men but a few hours now will put up all the frame.

There is an Indian encampment about a mile from us in the woods near Mr Reids & we are beginning to get acquainted with them. They are terribly shy & so much afraid of our Dogs & Turkey Cocks that we can seldom get them to come near. - They go to Mr Reids frequently & are much delighted with looking at prints or maps. Every Sunday 7 or 8 Indians Squaws sit round the parlour table there, looking at them. - I went to the Wigwam one day where 4 or 5 India families live. The hut was not more than 10 feet long & about 6 or 7 wide. Of an oval shape, made of poles covered with Bark of Birch. The floor was made merely of branches of white Cedar spread over the ground. Deer skins and blankets were laid over & on them they sit on the day & sleep by night. There was a fire at each end & a pole across from one to the other near the roof; where they had bits of inside parts of deer hung up to dry in the smoke. - One Squaw who had an infant only a few weeks old, was making a very nice little frock of dark cotton for it - quite neatly & putting green braid on the little band round the top; She wore a thimble & held her needle quite nicely - another was preparing a deer skin for moccasins, another was making a pair, an old Squaw making a Basket - an old Indian whose name is Squire Martin was making a pair of Snow Shoes & his son a boy of 18 or 19 - helping him. The young man (called) Jim Bigman was our interpreter as he spoke English tolerably well. Four Squaws & a boy came to me today with Baskets - & sat for a long time at the Kitchen fire. I shewed them some Beads I had in ancient days on a gown. The Squaws laughed & seemed much pleased & promised to bring me some more baskets for them. I want to tempt them here. - There is one very nice girl among them called Charlotte McCue. Her father is a white man.

I am much better in health than I was 2 years past. The children all well & improving much tho' sadly uncultivated. Mr S. is gone for the 1st time to York to take his Seat in the legislature Assembly

78-008/2/8 #149

Mr. Sutton

Exeter April 21 - 1834

My Dear Stewart

I have been informed by my nephew Thos Kirkpatrick, that it would be more advantageous for you to draw a Bill half yearly payable in Dublin for the amount of your Interest, then sending you Bills as heretofore payable in Quebec. - Should you approve of this method, as soon after you hear from me that I have received your interest & inform you of the amount in my hands, you are at liberty to draw upon Alexr Kirkpatrick Esq 68 Eccles St. Dublin for the same. You are now at liberty to draw for Fifty Eight Pounds two shillings & two pence which with Sixteen Pounds paid to Miss Beaufort for Fanny commissions, is the exact amount of your half years Interest payable by Mr Waller to the 11 March, & the Bank Interest to January last. - I should think you had better draw your Bill 14 days after Sight, as Kirkpatrick may not always be on the spot to answer the demand.

You are aware that my brother Trustee Mr Frs Hamilton is dead. I do not know whether his executors have any right now to interfere in trust. I should think not.

I am delighted at the continued good accounts which we have of you & dear Fanny & all belonging to you. I have not a moment to add more

Ever yrs most affectionately

Thos Sutton

My dearest Fanny, I am delighted to be able to add a line to this business letter of our mankind as it is a long time since any direct communication has passed between us. My wandering life prevents my sending my letters for while away from Ireland, and I cannot think of deminishing your cash by paying postage for what Harriet & Catharine & Betsy & Maria may have told you. Sutton & I left all our dear children last October; we remained at Cheltenham till April 3 when we took a flight into Devonshire for a few weeks. We are now on our way back from a very lovely spot called Torquay, and about the middle of May I trust we shall be at dear Rochfield once more. Betsy in her last letter desired me to tell you that poor Clemina Kelly's son has removed from Peterboro to a merchants in York. She said she wrote to ask your kind notice of him if it came your way. You must remember Clemina (Martley) whose married life has been a scene of suffering. A large family of girls, a worthless Husband, & the smallest means to live upon, wretched health, & continued anxiety principally about her only boy who has been sent to Canada to keep him out of bad associates in Dublin - Your Uncle is tolerably well as he always is when moving about. We are drawing home in hopes of some of the million granted for the

relief of the Clergy, but not yet paid to any! We have put in a claim at a great sacrifice, on the principal of half a loaf, etc.

Do you remember Marianne Garnett, Richard Rothwell's sister. I saw her at Dawlish a few days ago. Her eldest boy now 13, is deaf & mute, and has always been an object of particular attachment perhaps on that account. He is a very amiable boy, intelligent & affectionate - but it has pleased the Lord of late to afflict him with a complaint on the head which occasions him intense pain. A pressure on the brain causing inflammation. His life is in great danger in these attacks & the physicians give no hope of his recovery though he may live & linger some time. Is it not a grievous state to be in? She has a perfectly religious mind & sees it in the proper light, & the boy is quite resigned to die.

Thomas K. & his pleasing wife are to sail from Liverpool to New York in the Napoleon, on the 24th & probably go in the vessel with this letter. Alexander's permission only came this day or Sutton would have written before. I think Wm Waller is so punctual a paymaster it may now be done easily, if it puts money in your good husband's pocket - Give him my love, & the same to all my dear young nieces & nephews whom I pray God to bless. I have not been without news of you frequently through Harriet, who is truly kind. Dear excellent Harriet, what a useful & active life she leads! - Thomas K says they will go & see you, and are prepared to like you all much. Mr Hagerman to be married this day to Miss Merry, a Cheltenham girl of fortune, fashion & figure. Adieu my own dear Fanny. Ever your affecte Aunt

M. Sutton

Letters 150-199

78-008/2/8 #150

Oct 19. 34

[] Stevenson's mill goes on well & he has great business; but I rejoice that Tom has no share in it - for it is thought there will be great difficulty after some years in procuring Logs.

However by that time they will have the Flour mill (which is to be added) to keep them going. Mr S. seems to be quite satisfied - & Tom thinks he has made a very good bargain - as after some time the rent is to increase - so I hope he has.

I fear, dear Harriet you think I am terrible harrassed & worried with all I have to do - but do you know I never spent such an idle summer, & I never feel oppressed now by my needle work as I used to do - one thing goes on quietly after another & we never seem in a fuss - and indeed we are very happy & comfortable. I have two maids, one, the old one who has been with me 4 years; she does not over fatigue herself, but still gets through her regular routine, milking, baking, cooking, washing - cleaning all part of the house adjacent to & belonging to the kitchen; and also the man servants room which is over it - & occasionally attending to Charles - & spinning wool in spare hours.

The other maid, a tidy little girl of 16, cleans all the rooms - lays out tables at meal times - clean knives, candle sticks etc., washes up cups & glasses - irons all the clothes - & nurses Charles if she is at a loss for employment, but this does not often happen - She is a very nice good tempered modest little girl & I hope she may not grow foolish; her brother is our labourer which makes her happy

Novr 4 I have been very busy preparing winter clothing for Tom etc. trousers for him & the 3 older boys - off a web of cloth manufactured from our own wool - which Tom wish theyd be made at home - I cut them out on Monday & they were finished by Saturday -

So they are all very comfortable & warm with good thick trowsers & strong little socks all from our own sheep - & most of the worsted for knitting spun in our own house as well as knit by our own fingers

You will think that I am making a boast of our industry - but I really do not intend it so I know you are interested in all we do - & therefore tell you these little things. But I assure you I walk every day - Thank God I can say that I think we are one of the healthiest families in the world

Dublin June 11, 1835

Thank God, dearest Fanny, I once more address you from our dear native land. Seven months we have been away, and only returned just in time to witness the last days of our poor sister Mrs Kirkpatrick -

Surely the angel of death has been at work amongst us, and in almost every house of late - of the Stock family four of the numbers have been taken - Edwin, Arthur, Charles & Lucius within two years. Our dearly loved Bess Waller & John Noble & now Mrs Kirkpatrick! I suppose your neighbour Stafford will have heard the sad news of his mother's death before this reaches you, but there was all that can soften such a loss to her family for she died in the full & blessed hope of a happy eternity through her Saviour's merits alone. - We left this last October, taking Anne Kirkpatrick and little Bessy Rothwell with us to Cheltenham. The latter was perfectly well while there & I was in great delight at bringing her home in such good health & good looks, little dreaming of the anxious moments awaiting us, for the dear child became seriously ill on our arrival in Dublin & for some days seemed fluctuating between death & life, but thanks to the Lord she has been spared to us - but to us a little longer. This cause has kept us from leaving Town and obliged us to summon Richard & Bessy and their trusty Nurse, & to take a house for the time being, leaving the rest of the poor children at Rockfield under the care of their governess.

And now before I come to the little account between your husband & mine by which he will perceive that he may draw on A. Kirkpatrick forthwith for £ 41:15:9

Thos A. Stewart, Esq. in acct with Revd T. Sutton

By half years interest from Wm Waller dec. 11th March 1835

£ 59:10:9

By one years interest at the Bank to 11th July 1835

£ 29:2:10

Contra

To balance due T. Sutton from last account

£ 0:17:10

To cash paid Harriet Beaufort for commissions

£ 46:0:0

A Bill to be drawn on Alexr Kirkpatrick

£ 41:15:9

E.E. £ 88:13:7

June 11, 1835

There now the business part is over except one more little affair. Mr McCready the attorney has had T. Stewart's property in the North surveyed as no doubt Harriet has told you. The Surveyer's demand is £ 40, which Mr McCready says he thinks might be reduced to £ 20 if it was promptly tendered. Sutton will not pay anything whatever without Tom's express orders - Our little Bess's complaint was inflammation of the pleura, or membrane covering the lungs. She was bled & blistered & starved and is thin & bleached but children soon pull up lost flesh & colour in the pure country air. You are very happy dear Fanny in having your flock so healthy and so hardy. I long to hear from yourself how you go on & your numerous family - Bessy's little 7 are like a little flock of chickens running after her -

We just saw Harriet & Louisa once or twice before they sailed to pay their long promised visit to Francis. They both looked well, though their deep mourning was unbecoming to their thin faces, and poor Harriet had suffered lately from erisipelas - I have no doubt their life in London will be pleasant to all parties if they have but health to enjoy it - I heard from our dear Kate a few days ago. George was happily enabled to attend the dying bed of his poor mother, and with the rest of her children to minister to her comforts. Kate was alone during this time for a fortnight, but seems to have screwed her courage up to the necessity of the care, as she made no complaints, poor dear Kate, I wish we had her nearer to us - I am glad you are so much pleased with Mrs Stafford K. Her sister is pleasing & gentle-woman like in manners also.

We have been kept in Dublin now nearly three weeks and you may think how delighted we are at the permission to go to the country tomorrow with our very precious little Bess, who is to fatten up on a little good country fare of buttermilk, stirabout, and asses milk - Bessy the mother desires me to give her kind love to you - her boy is nearly a year old now & she is still a very good nurse to him. He is a healthy fellow & prettier than the girls - Adieu my dearest Fanny, Yr Uncle joins in kind love to you & Tom & in wishing every blessing may be the portion of both of you & your dear children

Ever your affec.

M.S.

[Addressed:

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Via New York

Thos A Stewart Esqre

Douro

Peterboro

Upper Canada

To the care

of M.J. Baring

Brothers & Co.

Liverpool

Postmarked

June 30 1835

Kingston Up-Can

July 25]

Rockfield August 9, 1835

Your letter dated June 30 reached me this morning, my very dear Fanny and I have an opportunity of sending this tomorrow to Dublin, I lose not a moment in replying to your anxious enquiries respecting your Allenstown friends. I am truly sorry to find you have suffered so much anxiety owing to the irregularity of your packets; but I must scold you a little for letting your affectionate heart dwell upon gloomy anticipation. We are all now well thanks to the Giver of all good, and we all love you and delight to think of you, our dear excellent Fanny. I wrote to you about the 13th of June, on our arrival in Dublin, & by Sutton's desire allowing your good husband to draw on AC for £ 41:15:9 and sending the particulars of the account between us. I hope you received it in good time as it was directed to the care of the Liverpool merchants who never fail to ship the Coolmine letters carefully, but I repeat the mention of the sum lest anything should have delayed the letter. That also gave an account of the death of our dear & valued sister, Mrs Kirkpatrick; and of the severe illness of my precious young charge, little Bessy Rothwell, that thanks to God, terminated favourably, and she is now extremely well & strong & able to run & jump & play like the rest of the group, who are all blooming with health and happiness -

Your Aunt Waller is a pattern of resigned submission to Heaven's will. She is cheerful & much as formerly in manner, but it is plain that her thoughts are continuously with her loved John, her chief delight is in talking of him; of his early piety & his devoted love to his Saviour, and of her conviction that he was received at once through that blessed master into the regions of eternal glory, her eyes sparkle at the delightful thought of soon following this dear son, which she says is the course of nature cannot be long delayed. But she may mistake! Mrs Montrey thought so when the grave closed over her only one, & yet she lives to say "grief does not kill" -

Mr Tisdall is another who has gone to his rest, & who now sleeps in Jesus; he died about 3 weeks on the day his son attained his 19th year. This son is very promising. I trust will be a blessing to the rest. The marriage of Harriet Tisdall with young Chaloner of Kingsford, 2d son of Mrs Cole Hamilton, is a happy circumstance. Bessy received your letter also this morning relative to poor Clemena's unhappy son. What a sad thorn he is in her heart! Though she knows not half his depravity I dare say he was an apt scholar, but so made his uncle Francis Martley his school master in vice. This wretched Francis, whom you may remember a very promising boy, fell into all kinds of excesses by the bad company he met in Dublin, and died a martyr to dissipation at the age of 32 but not before mercy had been shown to his sinful soul; he died a sincere penitent. He married some person much beneath him & has left two or three children. I fear James is a worthless character also, but John & Henry are most estimable - I see by this day's paper the death of a young person on whom I always looked with much interest. I will copy the paragraph: "On the 4th instant aged 18, Frances Maria Johnson only child of the late Thomas Johnson of Ballymacash, co. Antrim, Esq" - you must know that her mother has been a widow again for some years, with a second family. The same paper has the marriage of Letitia

Adelaide, daughter of George Black, Esq. of Stranmillis, to Henry Thompson, Esq. of Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin. If you received my letter written in June, dearest, you must perceive that the detention of your money was unavoidable owing to the large order sent to Harriet in the Spring. What remained after her taking £ 46 was not worth transmitting but I hope your wants were supplied with in a few days after the date of your letter as I sent mine from Dublin on the 13th. William is indeed an excellent paymaster, and show a degree of cleverness & punctuality in money matters which his poor father never possessed. If his life is spared the estate will be free from debt in some years; an event which appeared totally impossible at the time it became his. The poor fellow looks very thin and serious. John's death was taken much to heart by him, & more still by James, but the good spirits of the latter still prevail - God grant the impression, the example may not be soon effaced - Robert is the delight of his heart & her boy Wm Henry a fine fat merry stump but "nae Beauty". Mr Joseph Palmer whom he engaged as curate has been obliged to leave on account of ill health. Alas! where is John's like to be found! You know of course that Harriet & Louisa are with Francis still in London, seeing all the Lions & wonders of that Babylon - Maria had a letter last week from Louisa giving an account of some of their doings, and mentioning a plan they had in contemplation of taking a skylarking expedition up the Rhine for a fortnight or so - I hope they may do so, for poor Francis wants a little relaxation as much as anyone: his close application to business, & want of exercise hurting his health. I am sure Harriet will write you a particular account of all they see & do - (now go to the crossing, Bessy claiming my flaps) You, dearest, & to Tom Stewart, & love & blessing to your dear children from their old Aunt. Ever believe me, my own loved child, your affecte M S

A great colony of Battersbys are gone to Gore & the London districts. Three of them to their cousins Miss Joneses - One remains however in Dublin - They are sons of Leslie Batersby who was married to Miss Palmer - You may recollect Mrs Edw Batersby also, who used to amuse you so much in this country - She & her husband & three sons have all gone off too - somewhere near the Grand River - Blakeney (Aunt Waller's nephew) to Cayuga - A whole family of Armstrongs went on the faith of Radcliffe's letters from Canada - found all was not [] etc., rose & came home - Bessy has been so occupied she could not find a moment to write - but she will write a satisfactory letter when she can send it to Harriet to enclose.

[Addressed:

To America by New York

Thomas Alexr Stewart Esqre

Douro

Peterboro

Upper Canada

Care of

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

M Baring

Brothers & Co

Liverpool

Postmarked

Aug 12 1835

Kingston Up-Can

Ship Sep 23]

5 Royl Canal Terrace 23rd December - 35

My dear Robt - You are doubtless aware, ere this, of the change of mind that was the consequence of a dangerous illness I had last Sept - as to Canada - upon my recovery, reflecting more deeply upon the subject I became persuaded that emigrating wd not in the scale of human probabilities, make as much for the welfare of myself & family, as my remaining here might do - and I renounce the intention, tho' with considerable reluctance - I have now cast the die - by taking a house in Village about 4 miles form Baltinglass Co Wicklow & 40 from Dublin - where I look forwd to remove to in Apl. about a fortnight ago Tom & Anna arrived - very well - & only one of the children unwell - but she is since better. Their passage was short but 19 days. They are at the house of his Father, as we had not a bed to offer - Tom appears very unsettled in his way - & I cannot but think matters in Canada wd be still worse with him than they are had he not availed himself of yr advise, & been profited by yr assistance - he speaks very gratefully of yr friendship & I trust his conduct in every respect towards you will tally with his profession & acknowledgets - He allowed some days to pass over here, before informing me of the exact state of his affairs. I see that he is much involved in consequence of Spectations & Bills; as far as Martha & you are implicated with him in Bills, I beg you'll freely & fully let me know; his situation is such that I can not decline letting him have an additional £ 200 on Anna's acct, but this sum be assured shall not be handed over to him until I'm certain that neither Martha or you will suffer any loss by him - so after this plain & fixed determination on my part, shd any thing unpleasant hereafter arise I cannot hold myself culpable - It is doubtful whether a Situation in this Country will be found for Tom - in this case he must return to Peterboro', and where he may still make his way by not being in a haste to be rich & by avoiding Debts & Bills. Blay purposes going out in Apl but whether to stay or not, is uncertain - Shd Tom not go out again B. Wd scarcely remain, nor indeed in this view as I favourable myself to his remaining; so great & numerous are the temptations there from the love of Drink & idle Compy &c. that his situation wd prove I fear too perilous; on his return to settle matters, he'll much need yr advice, & you'll still add to that thankfulness & gratitude I already bear towards you by taking as interest in his Affairs. I have given him any Property I paid for there & will also enable him to clear off what's due - so that he'll be free to act according to circumstances - T. Armstrong says that the last payt made by him to T. Harvey on my Acct was the last half of £ 42 (the Anl sum agreed upon) & the receipt was left by him with Dr Hutcheson - I'll trouble to ask the Doctor whether he has it & be sure to let me know - I told Tom that could not send a London Bill for yr use until March - but wd readily accept any Bill from you. I pay due attention to it so do as most convenient to yrself in this matter. I do not know whether Mr McCready has stopped the ultimate execution of the Chancellor's Decree for a sale of the Stewart Property, on the ground of Tom Stewart's supposed claim; if Tom heard the amt of the different Costs, it wd cool him a little about going to Law - I shd think myself, that he is too late incoming forwd - but certainly had John's Assignee announced at Mrs s-ts death, his claim on it. Tom's right was plain & indeed so plain that Mrs Mathias who will probably get £ 9000 additional by her Brothers being passed by - Shd in Equity restore that Sum either to Tom or the Legatees, who wd have been

secured on that Property has J.S. stood his ground but a few months longer - but his religious Lady is not likely to cut this part - I got a letter from Martha a few days ago wh troubled my mind a good deal until I called on Tom A. to explain the matter. She wrote about - Iwd be glad to have yr opinion on the matter - in his acct of Debts one item is 25 as a kind of joint debt to the Bank incurred by him & Martha - Is this correct? -

I rejoice to learn that you made such a progress to clearing so much of yr land, and I trust your latter days will be smoothed by peace and an ample supply of all necessary comforts - I am by no means so strong or hardy as I was before I had the Fever - so that a garden will probably be enough to occupy my leisure time at my new Residence - There are almost a Doz. families in the Village - & it's neighbourhood who meet on that 1st day of the week in the Primitive mode, & this circumstance chiefly induces me to pitch my Tent there. Alas my dear Robt - what a wretched matter human Life & all its accompaniments wd be, were it not for the good - the living hope, the xtian has in believing solely & Exclusively in the Attonement more by the Son of God as the one thing needful for a sinner who can thus go in his way rejoicing in that abundant mercy that sought his & by wh he is kept - Give mine & Lydia's Sincere & affecte love to Maria & to John & all yr family - Tell Martha that I have left the subject she wrote about to yr inspection, & assure her that I have been trying to serve her with Mrs Hoare, from when I think it likely, in my pressing mattes, relative to Martha's wants, that I shall receive a sum of money to remit to her - Shd you - maria or John need any thing particularly - I entreat with all Sincerety you'll let me know & by Blayy I trust to attend to your wishes - Now farewell - Write soon& believe me dear robt yr sincere & affece Blayy Mitchell

[Addressed

By Ship

via Liverpool

Robt Reid Esqr

D Griffith

5..12..1

Peterboro

Upr CANADA

Kingston

Feb 16

New York

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PAID

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1833]

[78-008/2/9 #154 Travels continued](#)

You say dear Fanny that I stopped at my arrival at Ems. At Ems we had rooms in the same hotel with Fanny Wilson The Hotel de Russie a very large house - There are several there - Ems is in 2 parts - first the village of a few small streets & one long one - The Church is there too - then as the road goes near the river the houses cease at the river side of it - & there is only one row of houses at the hill side of the road - with high hills mostly covered with vineyards rising up close behind the houses from where the lodging houses begin - on to the end of it all is almost half a mile long - All that part is called Bad Ems - for bad means bath & that part of the town has been gradually built for people coming to drink & bath in the water - Some of the houses are very large particularly the Kur-Haus - which means care house - it was one of the first built & has 350 beds in it - & a great number of baths in little separate rooms - & in that house is the pump room - & the places where the different springs are drunk being there. It is a very long & handsome room with groined roof - at one side is the hottest spring wh is strong of sulphur - & a woman stands behind a sort of circular counter on which are glasses - & to wh the drinkers go - she turns a cock in a pump & fills a glass - At one end of that long room is a very small one - there you find another spring - There is a little flight of steps at bottom of wh stands a young woman who turn a cock & fills your glass which she hands up stretching up a sort of counter like the other. - All along each side & end of the pump room are little shops - as it were - a table on wh are laid out the goods to be sold - & beside which generally sits the person who sells - books in some - millinary - haberdashery - hardware - & Jewellery - China Glass &c. - people walk between the glasses -

Now I will tell you a whole day's occupation from which you may have a good notion of every day - All up very early - so as to be in the pump room at 7 - drink one glass & walked $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour - another glass & then walked & came home - breakfast soon after eight - then Frs went to the Post Office & we all sat down to our reading or letters or Journals & (or mending clothes perhaps) with great vigour - I forgot to say that at breakfast we had very good coffee - of wh we disposed of 2 great coffee pots - & a large jug of boiling milk - & huge dish of rolls & toasts of bread - Some in rings some in tortuous knots - some in snakes - Sometimes we walked out a little - but in general it was too hot - a little before one - we settled our selves - I put on a better cap & frill & washed hands - & down we all went to Fanny Wilsons drawing room at one as soon as the bell rang - & then the 2 parties went down stairs together to dinner - we always dined at the table d'hote - the style & order of eating. I think I did mention in my former chapter - the room was long & with a return to it - & in the full season there is a great number at dinner - but I think we were seldom more than 40 or 50 - Early as the hour was we continued to dine mighty well - the table was long & narrow - & we were placed comfortably opposite one another half at one, & half at the other - dinner lasted always an hour - sometimes more - at dinner

Then we all went back to our respective sitting rooms & occupations - & having finished letters - & rested - & waited for the heat to be less - We all sailed out to walk & ramble about - at 4 or 5 - according to fancy early or late -

There are various vallies branching into one another - & hills some bare, some wooded - & little roads very bad in general - & wild paths - & pretty villages so that we had variety of wild walks - besides which on the hill at the opposite side - beyond the river & a green flat ground - rose a very high pointed hill which was well planted up to the top - & through which several grand walks had been made - These are called after the names of the duchess of Nassau - one was called Louisaweg - another Margarettaweg - weg means way or road - & is pronounced as spelled with v - veg. - There are silver mines in the neighbourhood to wh we walked one evening - & saw the process - which shall be for a separate chapter - we returned home about half past seven or so all excessively hungry - when oceans of coffee & huge dishes of rolls in a very short time disappeared. We had a very small sitting room for ourselves - Fanny Wilson & the Beddoes had a larger one - a story lower (I thought we should have some time spent the evenings with her - but we never did - I believe she thought the children would be noisy or troublesome - but it was rather odd - but when we went out to walk we were always together, she on her donkey & Mrs Beddoes on hers - and sometimes Francis had a couple of donkeys for us to ride & tie when he thought we shd be tired - but I hate riding on a donkey) - After tea - or rather, coffee, was over there was not very long till bed time Francis read prayers - & then before ten he & every one but the two old ladies decamped before ten as they had to be up so early - Lou & I always staid till eleven & sometimes later! wicked old women! - we had a very nice little room with 2 beds in it - N.B. All the beds I saw every where in this region - or almost all - were sofa beds without curatins or canopy - & the blankets were made of Cotton very thick & soft & light - all cotton

One evening we got 2 carriages into which the 2 parties all packed - & drove off to the town of Nassau which is a beautiful spot - a very picturesque old town - a wooded mount on which are the ruins of an ancient castle belonging to the Dukes - There are nice walks all about the hill too - & there is over the river a very nice little suspension bridge. Some of the old houses have a great deal of handsome carving on them - for I should have told you this all the cottages - & old houses are like the English cottages exactly frame work with plaster & mason work between - high pitched roofs - & usually 2 stories high - one or two that I looked into looked very comfortable within. The evening was delightful the drive beautiful & everyone happy - We all enjoyed it very much - along the sides of the roads were apple & pear trees covered with fruit - no fences in general - sometime are open paling painted of the colours of the sovereign - so -

It was so late in the season that the company were daily leaving Ems - wh was no loss to us as we only cared for our own dear selves. - Fanny Wilson & the Beddoes left it on Thursday the 10th and on Tuesday the 15th we left it having been just a fortnight exactly there - I felt sorry to leave it we were so pleasant & had such delightful walks & scrambles every evening but Francis's time was so limited that he thought he could not spare more for Ems - particularly as Louisa did not think she received much benefit from drinking the waters & bathing in them - So on Tuesday at eight oclock we set out in 2 carriages - & travelling through the town of Nassau went by a beautiful road as far as Schwalbach Langan where we dined - I think you have a book called the Bubbles of the brunners in wh you find that place mentioned - there is a spa there which many people find very useful - having dined there, we set forward again & we arrived about four I think - or near five indeed at Wisbaden - the capital city of the duchy of Nassau - a

very white dazzling town - all the new part is handsome - we saw the ruins of a very large Church which had been lately built - & the very day it opened for Service - the walls gave way & down it fell - no one was killed I believe - it looked very odd to see such fresh wall in ruins - They seemed to have been very ill built - I forgot to tell you we stopped at a very good hotel at the entrance of the city - kept by a brother of the master of the hotel de Russie - & having bespoke beds & coffee & excellent beds - by the way I ought to have told, that about some miles from Schwalbach that day we stopped in a little village to feed the horses or rather water them - & for Francis who had been walking for some time to join us - Louisa & Sophy & Emily who were the party in one carriage - got out to walk about & look at an old church- having let themselves out - the driver never perceived their absence - & when his horses were watered away he drove the empty carriage - never hearing me bawling to him - & no one at first understanding me he was let go on a good way before any one stopped him - At last Frs came - & sent some one after him - & sent for Louisa &c. & crammed them all into our carriage till we could overtake the empty one - a pleasant adventure!

Well - all that - was on Tuesday 15th, Wedy we were all up very early- dressed before 7 & got a cup of Coffee - & then all sallied out to see as much as we could - then returned to breakfast - after wh we went out again this was very ill managed for it was horribly hot - & the hotel being at the end of the town we had so far to go always to it that it added to our fatigue - The most remarkable thing we saw was a great reservoir or sistern in wh a spring was bubbling up & so hot that I could not bear to keep my hand in it an instant - There is a magnificent hotel there for people who come to drink the waters & there is a square in which there is a very handsome broad gravel walk along each side of it - & this walk is planted with a row of oriental Plantinus - very handsome fine old trees on each side of the walk - no others - but all the other public walks there - & wherever we went in these towns had rows at each side of a kind of accacia very like a pole & a mop on the top - They are grafted I fancy to make them grow in that manner - but no body seemed to know exactly what kind it was - but all said they never blossomed. A little before one we returned to the hotel & had a luncheon of Fruit & biscuits & light wine & then all bundled into one carriage & drove to Mayence - wh is I think about 9 miles off - The country open the whole way - rows of apple trees with rosy fruit at each side of the road - or else vineyards - with very low tufts of vines - looking as they did every where - Raspberry bushes - We drove up to the Place of Biberisch the residence of the Duke of Nassau to look at its appearance, but could not stop to do more - It is about 4 miles I think from Wisbaden. As soon as we arrived at Mayence secured rooms & ordered dinner at L'Hotel de L'Europe & then sallied forth to see & do as much as possible - (& more) - spent ever so long in a famous Music shop - where I bought the little pieces I sent you - & where I would have bought much more but I had no money - it is remarkably cheap there - saw the fine Cathedral & dome which rises up over the end of the church- wh had suffered many times in the wars - No city has suffered more - for it is just in the gangway from Germany into the western part of the continent - there being a bridge of boats there - which we crossed - and an immense garrison - It is now actually in the dominion of the King of Prussia - nevertheless the garrison consists of army belonging to 3 different powers - according to agreement - viz - Austrians - white & pale blue - coats very long petticoats - Prussians, very dark - and Bavarians - I think - They would not let us into the Citadel - nor walk on the heights of the fortifications at all - but we contrived to

see a good deal - & as we looked at fortifications at many other places - I can picture an attack & seige to my mind's eye very distinctly.

Having walked about till we were nearly dead & climbed up to the top of 2 towers - (& I had a pain in my breast & a pain in my foot all the time) we got back to the hotel & dinner near eight - & found the Wildmans whom I am sure I mentioned in my former letter - had arrived that evening also at the same hotel -

To bed very early - bad beds - feverish night - noise more in the town - none of us slept well - up at 4 - all off a little after 5 in the Steamer - setting forward on the voyage down the river - I should have liked much to spend another day at Mayence - a place so famous in European history & which indeed bears the marks of many a siege & good tattering - and we were all very sorry not to goon to Heidelberg - but time - which controls our fancies sometimes in spite of us - would not allow us to do that - & also visit the other places we wished - Well the steamer steamed - & in due time we breakfasted - we saw the sun rise, rather gravely over the vineclad banks - wh soon after became misty - We saw the Palace of Biberich again being quite close to the river with fine old Elm trees between it and the river - we saw thick rain coming on - and that not a bit of the banks of the Rhine that we were to pass that day was by far the most beautiful - Col. Wildman proposed that we should all - his party & ours - land at Bingen a town we should pass about half past eight - & wait there for next morning's steamer - & past eight - & wait there for next morning's steamer - & if it shd clear up we shd not lose out time or there was plenty to see in the neighbourhood. Francis put it to the vote among his party (wh is usually his way - beginning with the youngest - wh is a great advantage to me as I see by the time it comes to me, the oldest, how the inclinations go of the rest of the set) - We were all delighted to stop - as nothing could be more tantalising than to be on the Rhine & have its beauties obscured.

The hotel at Bingen was a very odd sort of wild place - but there were a great many rooms in it - so at least we were all accommodated - & we got one very good salon amongst us - we had our books & our work & plenty to talk - Col. Wildman draws beautifully in pencil - so he finished a sketch he had made. The rain stopped for a time & Francis & I walked out a little & I wished greatly to go a little way up the vally of the Nah wh is famous for its beauty - but he thought it too wet for me so we came back - & he made a sketch too - we all went down to the Table d'hote - but had not a very good dinner - everything was so oil & nasty - There was a white cloth spread all along the table that just came to the edge - & then down the middle of the table the whole way there was laid a red & black drugget, or rather I fancy coarse cotton twilled - about 18 inches broad - very ugly - those tables are always long & narrow like supper tables at balls - & always - every where there is a napkin for each person; in the poorest cottage each person I understand has a napkin - & lays it folded up - so as to do many days - At Ems ours were changed on Thursday & Sunday - we rolled them up & put them into a sort of ring about 2 inches broad - I assumed - at different patterns, by wh each person knows their own - There was a very noisy set of people there mostly men -

About 2 - the weather took up a little - & we all determined to go & see the castle of Rheinfels - a boat was ordered - & with all the cloaks and umbrellas in the world - we packed in. There was a cold wind in our teeth & still a little rain which drizzled our faces - but it was better to make a little exertion than kick our heels at the hotel - We boated about 5 miles - & as we went with the stream we did it vey quickly - & landed under a beautiful rock - very picturesque - & intermixed here & there were oak bushes & brambles - we ascended by a winding zigzag graveled road winding through these magnificent rocks - & at last arrived at the castle - which stands well within a green terrace at one side - guarded by high embattled wall - on wh are a few guns - This castle is an old one repaired & made habitable by Prince Frederick of Prussia - The Salon is hung with weapons & arms of olden times as well as modern shields &c. But I think Francis was not quite satisfied with the style or the taste in wh it is done - The eating room very plain wainscoated with oak - We saw the young Prince with his Governess - but the Pcess his mother was so old they wd not let us stairs to the upper story so we neither saw them nor the fine view from the battlements of the tower which we heard much of - When we came away the evening had improved & we had the wind in our backs - but there we were going against the stream which was a very hard pull - There was another old castle & ruin on the other side of the river to which we want to have gone up - but it was surrounded by vineyards - & from the time the Grapes begin to ripen no strangers are allowed to go to the Castle at all - so we boated back to Bingen the rowers finding it very hard work - & then we wandered about there - looking at ruins of the town built by Germanicus & others - all the party went up to the top of it except me as my breast was rather bad Frs advised me not -

Just as it became dark we got back to the hotel & made ourselves very happy with Coffee & bread & butter - & then to bed early - all were up early to have breakfast before the Steamer came about half past eight - when the whole party embarked - well satisfied at having delayed for a day - for the weather was delightful & the sun bright - & no wind - some staid all day on deck except just at dinner time - This was the finest part of the Rhine & we passed several beautiful spots - but alas we were going with the stream - & darted too quickly by them - However we were all much charmed - tho' the heights were scarcely ever as high & grand as I had imagined - some spots are delightful - & from Bingen to Bonn there is a succession of beauty - We knew already from Coblentz to Cologne - but it was interesting to see it all again with fresh eyes - I am writing in such a hurry that I cannot recollect the names of the most lovely & favourite parts - but perhaps I may give them in an appendix hereafter - going down the river the voyage is made in one day, wh occupies two days going up - because of the force of the current - so we arrived at Cologne just as the evening was closing in - having left the Wildmans at Coblents because there was some of their luggage they thought had been forgotten at Bingen.

When we arrived at Cologne & landed - we hurried over the well remembered bridge of boats to Beutz - to the Belvue hotel which I described in my former letter & having settled about beds soon regaled ourselves with Coffee & rolls - & listened as long as we could keep the windows open to the delightful musical tones of the bells of Cologne which came to us sweetly across the water. Francis had determined to go home by land which we were all much delighted at - as the remaining part of the voyage was uninteresting, & that there was so much in Flanders &ct

to see - So everything was settled for us to set out next morning Saturday the 19th Septr from Cologne to Aix la Chapelle & then we went to bed - & there I must close this Chapter for I must go & dress for dinner - the dressing bell has rung - & it is 6 pm and tonight I must pack up so adieu - my next packet I hope I may promise, shall contain the remainder - This will keep you pretty busy if you have maps to look at - God bless you all - dearest Fanny finished June 30, 1836

[Addressed to

Mrs Stewart

Honoble T A Stewart

Douro]

78-008/2/9 #155

18 Piccadilly

Manchester 27th March 1837

My dearest Aunt Fanny

It was with great pleasure I received your and Anna's kind and affectionate letters, you cannot think with what pleasure we received a letter from Canada. I had about despaired of hearing from you again. No I have only heard from you once since we left, Blayney had a joint one from you and Ellen. He never heard of C. Dunlop's arrival. I had letters from Eliza & Anna Reid just before yours by Belfast, I have a strong affection for you all. I will never forget you and the Reids kindness and love and think of you far more than any other friends (except my own immediate family). I may truly say the same for Tom & Blayney. I wish I could see you and tell you all I have to say. I hear I got a new cousin. What is his or her name. I suspect as much - tell me all about yourself. You ask how Irish air agreed with us, very luckily I was as glad to leave it as I had been to get to it. I was very unwell with a pain in my side then and very weak. I was blistered and bled two or three times & am better but not now so well & hearty as when in Peterboro. The children are only now getting stout. They had measles (I thought Lydia had them in Peterboro) colds without ceasing, baby is very weak in her limbs. She suffered much with her teeth. She speaks very well. Nanny is the shortest very like Tom's youngest sister. She is a little thing. My mother was fondest of her. Liddy is grown very tall and thin. She is a clever child. I was obliged to take her from school being unwell; but will soon go again. She has a good deal of affection still she remembers you all and often speaks of you; she staid a good deal with Ellen and got fond of dancing and music. She is not the least shy before strangers. I intend letting her stay with Ellen for some time. Harriet will be like Liddy and now Aunt Fanny I have told you all about the children and I am afraid I will tire you. I must try and tell you some news; first, William Mathias is to be married to a Miss Corry of the co. Cavan - a national Daughter. There are three sisters so you see how enough Aunt M did not like it first but gave in, Uncle M. is quite childish; they are a good deal come down in their whares; John has got a son. The family live with his father. The Peebles were well when I first saw them. I met Uncle Froom once or twice. Charlotte was to be married one day this year but like Isabella is always just off until they are old women; her swain had a Clerkship in the Bank and just when they were going to be married it was taken away. He has got another in Longford I think; They are neither of them too young to marry; I see Mr Black's death in the paper age 74. I dont know anything about them. I hear Mary Wilson is grown old and stingy. Mrs Thompson (L Black that was) is travelling - her health is back. Her husband is a Dublin gentleman a Wine merchant. John married a granddaughter of old Mr Lindsay of Durn. I am trying to tell you all the news but I am now quite out of the way of hearing any. I think Uncle Froom might have contrived to send Aunt Fowlis a little more than I and my father had to write to him for that; he used to say people who murmur frin selfish, but they are the same every where. My father and mother are settled very snugly in Wicklow; they have a very nice house & large garden and land & Jaunting car with

horse; poor Blain's death was a great trial I don't think they will every completely recover. It was so sudden. He had grown quite strong and fat, yet 13 hours carried him off; I was with them at the time. It seemed to be cholera. My poor mother looks older than either Aunt Reid or Fowlis if it had not been on their account I don't think we would have remained here for I much prefer America but I could not bear leaving them as parting would have been worse than at first. Blayney and Tom were both anxious to return. B. still thinks of it; but my father since he had the fever cannot bear it. We are now living in England in this great town and very comfortably settled for the present but I leave that for Tom to tell; tell William Reid I do not forget Canadian friends or ever will; is Mrs Smith living? are the Hollands still in Peterboro? I am very anxious for our box to arrive particularly that I might have our spoons and house linen. I hope we will meet in this world again; let me hear soon. I would gladly pay postage for the pleasure of a letter. You must excuse this letter as you know I am a bad scribe and with most regards believe me dearest Aunt Fanny your truly affectionate niece

Anna Armstrong.

27 March 1837

My dear Mrs Stewart

I am sure you & our other kind transatlantic friends will be a little surprised to hear we are settled here since November through Interest and friends I became partner on the Wholesale blown Glass Business and connected with the first manufacture in this country & it is rather a strange coincidence that our house in Peterboro was glazed with Glass the Manufacture of the House with which I am engaged. My Partnership is for 14 years and the only objection I had was thoughts of Canada, however on duly considering my family & the advantages offered I signed the deed & from what experience I have had I have every reason to be very thankful as a very comfortable house is provided for us with means of educating the children; when Rose returned to Canada I told her to tell you we should follow which was my intention had not the circumstances occurred. I have left Blayney very prosperous for a young beginner in the Coal Trade in Dublin. As your partner paid since enabled to freight 4 or five vessels regularly from England which he still continued to do & I hope he will give up all idea of settling in Canada while he prospers in Ireland. He is greatly grown & improved in appearance & as steady sober as a judge, his father & mother are greatly attached to him & most desirous to have their only son near them. Many a long winter evening, Anna Blayney & I spent in our lodgings talking of our kind friends in Canada. I trust we shall be spared to make some money & visit you all before we part for ever. I little thought I was not destined to return or should have seen you & Mr Stewart & family before I left but I was so unhappy I could not bear to see anyone. It was indeed most galling to me to be requested to leave as I did. However as I was not guilty of a dishonest act my mind is at rest. I have given up all to pay my just debts & if what I have left is not sufficient I hope to be able one day to pay any balance, will you be so kind as to tell Mr Reid who has proved one of the most sincere friends I ever knew that I shall write him shortly & that I have not any letter from him since I came but saw his to Blayney lately abts Mr Harvey. You will remember me most affecty to him Mrs Reid & every member of their family personally,

also Mr & Mrs Strickland, Dr & Mrs Hutchison & the Armours & if it is not too much trouble I will thank you to answer the following questions in your next letter as I have nothing to communicate further to interest you but am most anxious to hear all the news of Peterboro, if you would send us a Peterboro or Cobourg paper occasionally I should feel very much obliged & return the complement - Did Mr Hall recover the am't of damages awarded him from Ferguson & Duffy? Has Mr Armstrong returned & what of his family? is Mr Duffy living in his house next the river & is he in his business? Is Dan'l Griffiths brewery or distillery in operation? & his store open? Who are working the Carding Mill? Are the Lamberts there yet? Is McDonnell still your M.P? How does Major Shairp go on & is Dr Easton still in town? Are the apple trees the Vines Glass House & fuscias in my old place to the fore, How did the Scotchman succeed on Mr Stewart's farm? Is Mr Thompson the owner of Haunts Mill? Who has Mr Hall's mile at Buckhorn Lake? Are the Mills better for the public since Mr [Fortus] is finished? Is the new Bridge finished & of what distance? Is Douro bridge rebuilt? Are the Ords settled in Otonabee? Are Ferguson & Holland making fortunes in their stones? Is the Doctor'd House habitable? Have those subscribing paid? Has he any real intention of returning to Scotland? Are the churches finished & Scobill to the fore? Is McDonnell in his stone house? Is the forwarding Co. still in being? Is your Bank & Newspaper successful? Is there any boat on Rice Lake & Obonabee? Is the Rail Road to Cobourg yet begun? How does Mr Shaw's steam mill & Bedfords brewery go on, the former was a Bankrupt of Cork! Is Nickson still to the fore? Is Tupper still in Cavan & has his suit against Dr. Griffith commenced? What is Hunter's occupation now? Has Lawford a store yet? Are Nicols & Hartwell still to the fore? Is Mr Bethune still on the limits & any likelihood of his settling his affairs? Has Wm Reid completed his studies & got a wife? What is M O Burnie doing? Is Mr Evans making a fortune of his share? I must say well done Wolseley! Is Mr Stewart's Hen House occupied? Is Col Brown holding out still? Is Mr Flood on his farm? Are Stephenson & Langty working the Mile yet? Is Benson doing well? Was any money granted for the Otonabee? Do you see the Armours etc. etc.

I fear I have asked too many questions but you will excuse our great curiosity & I am sure William Reid will assist you to answer any that you cannot - I hope Mrs Fowlis is getting over her difficulties and bearing up well - please to let Mr Reid see this letter that he may know how we are & tell him to write to me. I sent him some papers which I hope he received - I find the Parliamentary interference with the Lower Province will cause some serious trouble & disadvantage to both provinces. I shall be glad to hear of your separate district - I suppose the Gents of the back township are not very flourishing now. Is old Smart still on terms with his family - I suppose you heard of Wm Mathias losing his curacy. He was too fixed in his own estimation to know us. He is more to be pitied than dispised. I like Dr & Mrs Peebles & Miss Bellingham very much. They are very nice people & most kind & think highly of you & yours. I hope Canada has not suffered from the fatal Influenza. We have had here. I lost several friends & amongst them a kind & affectionate brother. Anna joins me in requesting you will write soon to us & I hope you will remember me affectionately to Mr Stewart, Anna Maria, Ellen, Bessy & the boys and believe me with most sincere wishes for the welfare & happiness of your family & Mr Reid's. Yours most sincerely

T H Armstrong

P.S. Anna is better but looks thin & delicate. I wish she had her Canada health here.

[Addressed:

Via New York

Mrs Stewart

Peterbr Douro

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Ahoghill Glebe Decr 8th 1837

My dearest friends at Allenstown, I received your last letter upon Mr Alexanders wedding day just as we returned from disposing of the young Couple - It was a rich day, as I also got a most kind one from our beloved aunt Sutton, & we likewise found our friend Charles Wolesley in possession of the drawing room, who brought a set of letters from dear Fanny, Anna Maria, & Ellen dated 28th September, a letter from brother Stafford, & some paper called "The Church" published in Peterborough, of which Fanny says she has sent several by post to Allenstown Rockfield Maryville & here, none of which I believe have ever been received by any of us - Fanny had just heard of dear William's sudden call, in a letter from you my ever dearest Aunt, & of course she wrote in a low, & very thoughtful manner for as she says she always felt for him as if he had been a favourite brother, as well as warm friend & old Companion. She expresses her gratitude to you for writing to her so soon & so full an account in the most affectionate manner - I will just copy part of what she says in reference to the sad event "My dearest aunt & Maria wrote me all particulars in the most calm & satisfactory manner, so considerate & so thoughtful, for they always knew he was my favourite Cousin, & indeed more a brother to me than a Cousin, but many years have gone by since I bid adieu to him & to you all, as each friend leaves this world I always think perhaps our meeting may be nearer than any one knows - Oh how distance & space dwindled to a span when we look forward to Eternity - & how dreadful would be the prospect of it to us if it was not for the blessed assurance of Salvation for Sinners by the Redeemer's blood - & then if we let our minds rest on the Abundant & neverending Mercies of our Lord, to us so unworthy of any thing but Condemnation how humbled must we be & what a sweet peace that brings to our souls - our Lord will not leave one to perish if we will only Look to Him & Lean on Him, & leave all we have in His keeping" - My dear George's beautiful books instruct us & are I trust blessing to us & many for we dont keep them for our selves alone, we lend them to others - How many kind friends have I. Mrs Wilson was the first after dear Mrs Stewart of Lakefield who endeavoured to enlarge my views on religious subjects, & this dear excellent friend never has ceased to send us annually some sweet tracts & useful books for ourselves our children from neighbours, & they are accompanied I know by fervent prayers - Dear Mary Wilson - but you know her now, & value her, no body can know either of them, without learning something their first object in life is the Glory of God, & to be of use to their fellow Mortals - Both for Soul & Body. Mrs Wilson & Mary - Aunt Waller & Maria are two pairs of my friends always classed together in my mind - I think you wd admire your little niece & namesake. She is so engaging & sweet looking, & the merriest little thing I ever saw. The four eldest boys go to school in peterboro every day where there is now a very excellent Schoolmaster - it is a long way for them to walk & sometimes the road thro' the woods knee deep in mud - & there is a very dangerous bridge without battlements or any thing to keep them from tumbling over - but they are from their earliest years accustomed to taking care of themselves, & their younger brothers, & tho' they are of course often rash & thoughtless yet when they are accustomed to a place of that kind, they can run across with less danger than

others can walk it & thank God they meet with very few accidents tho' they are left to themselves as soon as they are able to go alone -

Little Henry set off one day lately, & wandered up to Mr Reid's by himself - & might have been lost to us if one of the young men had not seen him & carried him into the house & he was so tired poor little fellow that when Fanny Reid took him in her arms to bring him home he fell asleep tho she did all she could to keep him awake, for it made him twice as heavy - I did not know any thing of it till he came home for I was upstairs nursing Kate - & after some time, not having seen or heard Henry for some time I sent Ellen to the Yards & gardens & shrubberies to search for him. She was just coming back in the greatest fright when in came Fanny Reid, carrying our poor sleeping boy in her arms! Providence surely guarded this dear Infant - I intend sometime or other if all goes well to take a flight to Kingston to see the Thos. Kirks. I have taken a most particular fancy to Mrs K. & Thos." - This is nearly all that I need copy I think - The girls letters are very nice & affectionate & well expressed & well written - Mr Wolseley brought a Parcel directed for Mary Rothwell from little Bessy Stewart - I will forward it by the first opportunity to Dublin & so to Meath - Mr Wolseley gives a most pleasing account of them all but says little Bessy is a beautiful little girl with eyes just like her Mother's, & a nice pretty high nose - He says it is the report of the County, that Miss Stewart is engaged to her Cousin Mr Wm Reid but he does not believe it & I am sure I hope it is not the case for many reasons. There were letters from Helen Kirkpatrick lately & in it she says "I think James Borrowes a promising young man - & I hear he has tallent to get him on in his profession. & I trust he has steadiness to keep him from bad company" - This may be pleasant news to Catherine Noble of her brother - any little good intelligence of friends at a distance is pleasant. You mentioned in your last letter something about a Map of Doctor Beauforts divided into Counties & if there is one similar to that got by Richard Rothwell to be had, George would be very glad to purchase it - Let us know about it in your next & now my own dearest Maria I must bid you good night - Give our best love to you dear Mother & James Robt & Catherine - & let Bessy know of this letter when she returns from Castle Killy - Ever & ever yr own C E K - & write soon - I wish James wd come & see us - sure he might come for a few days at least -

[on one of the flaps:Wms death

Henry lost & found

Addressed to:

Miss Noble

Allenstown

Navan

Co Meath

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Post marked:

Drogheda

DE 11

1837

Lurgan

DE 10

1837

Antrim

DE 10

1837

Ballymena

DE 9

1837

NAVAN

DE 11

1837]

[the red sealing wax is in perfect condition: a 'fat' rectangle of a forearm & hand (R) holding a dagger pointing upward, surmounted by a motto I MAKE SICKER (KIRKPATRICK)]

78-008/2/9 #157

30 Jan'y 1838

My dear Aunt Fanny

I am your debtor for two letters which I have not answered. but knowing how seldom letters reach those who they are sent to by private hands, I have lately thought it quite useless to write except by Post. I have great doubts that this will ever reach you. I sent it to T. Armstrong, who hopes to get it sent to London to Capt Beaufort. I feel your kindness in still remembering me by letter very much, and I often blame myself very much for not showing you more attention when with you but I trust I may yet have it in my power. Anna And T. Armstrong are very comfortable in Manchester. I suppose you often hear from them. I never hear any thing of our Belfast Friends so I suppose you know more about them than I do. The Peebles have received a great blow from a Mr Black that was married to the Drs sister having Forged Bills on the Bank and also robbed almost all his Friends; there was a large reward offered for him but he escaped to the States, and there is some chance of your seeing him. His character bad independent of Forgery, so you can be on your guard. George Ca[] is in Dublin and is very intimate with the Peebles. Mr Jameson is getting ready to return to Canada. He is bringing the Machinery for the Distillery and a great lot other things. I hope my Uncle Tom is well and that he is enjoying himself Sleighing. I hope yet to have another drive with him - I suppose Willy and Frank have grown big boys. Put the Doctor in mind of me. Anna Maria will soon be changing her name by all accounts. Anna sent me a letter of hers to read which gave me great pleasure. Ellen seems to have forgot me but she was a great favourite of mine and I will never forget her. Poor wee Bessy. You know she always [] to me so give her my best love. My father has written a long letter to you requesting upon receipt of this that you will write us an account of our land and what you would advise us to do with it. My uncle could give us very good advise. I would like to put the whole into the hands of Mr. Kirkpatrick and when he found out how Harvey had been paid and what terms he had received then we could remit Mr Kirkpatrick the Balance to pay him, and he could get the Deed from Harvey. Uncle Reid has all our papers belonging to both to Tom Armstrong and me, and he had never given me or Tom any account since we sent him them by Evans, and now my dear Aunt I have only one request to make - and that is that you will write to me by post when you get this. Give my affect love to all in your house and the Reids, particularly Wm and accept the same my dear Aunt from your afft Nephew

Blayney Mitchell

Somerset Place Feby 1 1838

My dearest Fanny I always think that I shall begin my next letter in better time - but still I go on every time in the same way - deferring it to the last day or two so if it is hurried then - at least you have it as fresh as it is possible - Well my dear I am [] has actually come to an end & I have not yet fixed any time for going home home! I am quite undecided yet, where that home shall be - it depends on many circumstances besides my will - as far as that is concerned my mind is made up - for I feel that in Francis' present situation I may be of more use here than I can be to poor Anne or any one by living at poor 31. However I cannot yet come to a total decision on the Subject so I will say no more now. I say this much because I have told you my thoughts & feelings about it all along my dear - I only wish that I had made this decision in regard to poor Francis this time last year instead of worrying him & myself by refusing to make his house my home - But what is done cannot be undone - I dare say it is all for the best - as I have not yet imparted my inclination to anyone concerned, do not mention them in your letters to any one but myself It is too difficult a business to communicate - to make it known lightly.

I am much better than when I wrote last - & think my chest is growing much stronger - I am grown regaining too some of the plumpness I had lost during my travels - but I think my looks have altered more in the last year than they had in proportion before - my face has become so wrinkled & odious. Louisa is on the whole remarkably well - but her stomach is always more or less uneasy - & the long walks we are obliged to take sometimes - & the situation of this place - so near the river she imagines disagrees with her - but I think she is just as at Merrion St - which she is not fond of either - I am longing to come to a settlement of all my affairs & every body's - which I fear cannot be till I am in Ireland but if I find that it can - perhaps I may settle to stay here a month or two longer now in short dearest I know not what I am to do so continue to direct to me here till I tell you otherwise and do dear write soon for I am yearning for a letter from you - but I know you were well up to the 27th of Novr - as there have been letters of that date telling of the birth of his little girl & your kindness to his wife - & I am sure nursing & attending her must have occupied you very much & interfered with your writing so I can understand very well that you cannot be at home to write - & abroad nursing the sick, at the same moment. The letters of your dear girls came to me last week - & very nice & kind letters they are - Very good & what you may well be satisfied with - I think you & Tom are happy in your children my dear Fanny - They are a fine lot I am sure - They are all so good & well disposed without blemish of mind or body & active & healthy - what a comfort that is to you my love - & to me too

Oh! the clocks have all struck one - So good night & good morning - I must now into bed - if this is found out - I shall be scolded by Miss Louisa - & by my dear Master too - You know in days of yore I used to be called his Slave - & so I am still if it may be called slavery, to wish to oblige so dear & so kind a friend - who certainly never unreasonable in his demands - and to whose tenderness & affection it is but due to try to please him in small as well as large things. I only

regret - & that I do continually that I am not more companionable - & more suited to such a mind.

Thursday 2d - Gut morgen (german for good morning & pronounced goot morghen) my dear child - breakfast is now finished - The dear Hydrogr is gone off to his office and I am now seated at the large table in the dressing room listening to M. Baraza in French & German, to the three girls. They are all three different - Sophy has the best person - & best ear in music - & best eye for drawing - Rosa is rather quicker in understanding humour & wit - but Sophy has more to say - Neither of them have a good memory. Rosa has the greater portion of tenderness in her nature. Emily is the brightest minded of all - and full of wit & drollery - very playful & very independent & liking to have her own way & excessively well - and by far the pleasantest notwithstanding her being wayward. She has a great deal of observation and puts things together in an instant - but is not fond of regular reasoning. I believe they like really to have us here - & like us - as well as they can like Irish people - but I do not think they are inclined to defer much to our judgement - which must very much prevent our being of the use to them that we might otherwise. If Francis was to marry again, I do not know how it would be - but I doubt that they would like it well. But this is not a bit what I was going to say - for I intended to tell you that after I sent my last letter I was at the two dances in this row where the young people figured away with great spirit & enjoyment - They are not out yet so it is only now & then that they have such sport - Since that -they were at another dance - a very pleasant one I believe, with Louisa, at Sir John Franklin's - Lady F. is a very pleasing obliging woman with a good deal of conversation & rather pretty - He does not look by any means like a man who had been starved. They have always agreeable people at their house - & Lou said the evening was pleasant. I had no wish to go - & as she & the girls & Augustus & Thomas went - I thought that quite enough - so I had the pleasure of staying at home with my Captain - Another evening they all went to the play with Mr Wilson - & I staid very happily at home with Frs - He wanted me very much to go but I had no wish - & no feeling of pleasure in the idea of it - for my mind was very full of all that had happened & that I had felt of anxiety or of grief, January twelve-month - Louisa was very much amused. I staid up till they came which was not till after 12 - and then made tea for them & stuffed them which they found very comfortable - They all enjoy any little pleasure very much - poor little things - We have had a good many large dinners here - some of them very pleasant - particularly our last party which was not very large - only 5 Gentlemen - among these was a very intelligent young man Capt Washington who had been in the north of Africa - and a Capt Edie who had been in South Africa for a good while - a military Captain - from the Co Tyrone I think but till he went home lately - he had been away for 12 years - He went from the Cape, with a Dr Smith who was sent by the Geographical Socy to make an expedition into the interior of South Africa - They were however obliged to go rather to the Eastward for want of water. They visited a nation called the Amazonlaks who extend beyond Delagoa & Dr Smith & Capt Edie went on without them 2 or 3 days journey to the Kraal where the kind of the Amazonlaks lived - He received them very graciously - but all their arms were taken from them - The people are very warlike & never happy unless at war - They have regular regiments - very well disciplined - and they are most exact about the uniform being in perfect order - by far than our own Military - Capt Edie was so obliging as to bring the uniform to shew us - & he put it on that evening & came up dressed in it - to tea - it consisted of a sort of cloak

going all round back shoulders & breast - of Buffalo's tales nicely prepared & arranged - drawn in round his neck & reaching down to nearly his elbows - The same material again - makes a sort of Kilt like the highland dress - drawn in round his hips - & hanging down to his knees - & then a third one covering his legs from knee to feet - each separately - with the appearance of a claw over each foot - Round the neck a stiff collar of Brass - & the same substance from the hand half way up to the elbow - like the old gauntlet - The cap comes down very low on the forehead - with a roll of fur round the head which protects it from their weapons - but by covering the brow spoils the expression of the countenance - There are three insecure plumes of feathers stuck in it - They are like Cock-tail feathers - only very much longer - (more than half a yard) - They are the tail of an African bird named the widow bird - At the back there was a large tassel of short feathers - with a red one at the top of it - This last is the distinguishing mark of Chief - Their only weapon is a short spear called an Assagaya - The King & Capt Edie had an argument as to the excellence of the Assagaya or his arms - on the latter he looked very contemptuously - because he said that wet must spoil the powder - & that it was impossible to take aim in the dark - Edie defended fire arms - & particularly the double percussion Gun - He had it tried in his presense & therefore permitted it to be brought to Capt Edie - who then rathed as to its failure - for the copper caps were a little rusted which he feared might prevent their firing off - The King desired a slave to stand as a mark to be shot at - & looked very indignant at the idea when Capt Edie remonstrated about the slave being wounded - That the life of a slave should be put into competition with his will

The shields they use are about 4 feet long made of Buffalo hide stretched on wooden frame, with a slip of wood going lengthways down the back of it - Capt E. placed the slave so as to hold the shield pretty high above his head - & taking aim at it, had the pleasure of shooting thro' it without really hurting the man, tho' he fell from the effect of the air or fright - at the 2d shot, wh actually split the back slip of wood - The King looked vexed at the Success of the Gun - but Capt E. discovered afterwards that had it fouled a party were to have set off immediately to massacre all there of the Expedition who had remained at Delagoa - Capt Edie has brought home a variety of seeds & bulbs - many of which he has given to the two Dublin Bot. Gardens & while there, had the pleasure of seeing them all germinating - One Lily has a bulb of 2 feet diamr - & flowers in proportion! - He continually mentioned the Gum Arabic tree which grows throughout Africa in great profusion- & when the seeds were well dried he washed them over with mulled Gum which preserved them from damp &c. - He has brought several heaths too - so that if all grow he will have deserved well of the botanical world - is as he says - many of his plants are as yet quite strangers in these countries. This young Captain is really very entertaining & I wish I could tell you all the things he told us; amongst others - he said those amazonlaks had never seen a horse till he went there - & they were much astonished - The King made great inquiries as to the discipline of our troops - & cour mode of fighting - & then insisted on Capt Edies changing different bodies of his infantry on horseback to shew the manner of doing so - but the horse was not at all pleased at the exhibition - for he was frightened at the buffalo dress - & Edie was very near being thrown - which could have been very disgraceful - Parliament is to meet next Thursday - & we are all to go to see the Procession as the King is to go in person - Every body expects a very stormy session - & some think that the ministry will be forced to go out - but I send you so many papers you will see all the news - & all

the politics there - and the history of OConnell & all his manoeuvres - Some say that the English are disgusted with him - & that even the ministry are growing ashamed of him. You never say anything of politics in your letters which is very prudent of you - but still I should like to know if there is the same discontented spirit in yours that there is in the lower province. I heard from Anne a few days ago - she assures me she is very well - & Mr B. & Lenora as kind & attentive as possible & all the young people - and my dear Sophy Ruxton is better. She has been very unwell all the winter - and just before Christmas had a very severe attack which alarmed everyone - Richard & Bess were to have gone to Gaybrooke for the Xmas party there - but put it off for a week - When they did go they were all very well & gay having a large party in the house. Anne wishes much to [] you & desires me to tell you so - as she cannot easily continue to send it to me for my packet - but as soon as I go to Dublin I will send it then. Since I wrote last they have all been in great anxiety at Etown - for Sophy Fox took Influenza there with her - & besides being in bed herself for some days - & the children too - Every one of the party except Harriet Butler took it - but poor dear Aunt Mary in particular who became so feverish & her chest so oppressed that Honora wrote for Dr Brown to go down from town - & for two days he thought there was scarcely any degree of hope - A blister on her chest relieved it & she began to mend & has done so gradually - Her lungs are quite free now & the only thing she suffers from much now is the progress of a new sore in the leg that was the well leg. This if it goes on - & suppurates profusely will save her life - as long as wholesome discharge runs from it we may hope that it will prevent the advance of any dangerous illness.

Poor Honora has been suffering very much about her - but exerting herself & keeping up her spirits & doing everything she could in the most admirable manner - Till that last illness of Aunt Mary's - Harriet Butler never had seen her in my nightcap! But now she even consents to let Barry into her room in her dishabille - The children are very much improved I hear & dear little Waller is as good & as nice as ever - Fanny Wilson is better than when I wrote last & I have very good accounts of Lucy who is very much improved in strength. Poor Sneyd is still in the same place - sometimes appearing almost quite well - then ill again - but not very bad - Letters lately from Pakenham who was going on very well - he sent over some very pretty drawings of flowers - I heard lately from Bell Hamilton who sent her & their love to you. She always enquires much for you - my dear Fanny - They have been in great grief for their cook - who was formerly little Mary that you may remember there - She was married to their Butler - & a most faithful useful servant having been 29 years in their house The Lynes are well - and Mary gradually growing a little better - James & his wife left there now & gone to a house of their own & he is the greatest loss to them all - They were so fond of him - & he was so cheerful - He is gone to live in Molesworth St - Cornelius & his wife & little girl - & another coming - all going on as well & happily as possible. Louisa had a letter from William a few days ago - They are all well & comfortable at Ruchmond - Willy doing his duty well, as curate at Kinsale & much approved of as a preacher - He preached one day at Glamis for his father who was much pleased with him - both matters & manners. Francis tho' quite deaf & dumb is going on exceedingly well at Mathematics which he delights in - he has a great wish to be an Engineer & is a most delightful creature - every morning wet or dry he goes off at 7 O'clock to Cork to take his lesson - Johnny has entered College very well - and is now going to his first examinations - it is a pity they happen before I go back as his father is to come to town with him. Now I have told

you of every one - except my dear Francis himself who is certainly better than he was & in better spirits too -

My dearest Fanny if I was to go on for another sheet I am sure I should never fill it - but as it is late & that this odious writing must tire your eyes I will bid you good night my own dear & loved child

I long to hear that your affairs are growing more comfortable - I have heard nothing more of your affairs but when I go over I shall then be able to tell you about the Mathias of whom I have not been able to learn any thing though I wrote to Mr M - God bless you dearest Fanny & Tom & all the children & give you health & happiness pray your affectionate Moome

[original with variations; another letter on back of original not transcribed]

Feby 24th

My own dear Fanny

On getting your dear letters Mama said she would write her page immediately, though so long before it need go & since that we have a joyful piece of news for you which therefore falls to my share to tell. Our dear Jas is going to be married to Julia Tisdall. She is the eldest of Mr T-s daughter, truly pious & sensible, with a sweet temper, quiet domestic tastes, very pretty, and very pleasing & lively in her manner. In short if we had been looking for a wife for him and had the choice of all our acquaintances, she is the one we should have chosen. We have been old friends & near neighbours always & she was our favourite of the whole family. You may suppose we have studied her closely of late and the more we did so, the more we all saw to love & like. Mama bids me say she is quite delighted about it. She has little or no money but what is that in comparison to the rest, & Jas is prudent & she is not one who likes expense or would lead him into it so that he will be able to go on paying off and soon he will have plenty. We all wished him very much to marry soon & I am sure nothing is so improving to any man as an amiable sensible wife and as he is 38 next July it was High Time for him to get on if he did not mean to be an old batchelor. I know she will never have any cause to repent for any one who could not live happily with him must be inclined to be unhappy any where. All her family liked him Always and are quite happy about Julia & her being so close to her brother & altogether it is all pleasant. No time is fixed for the wedding or anything of the sort arranged yet, nor have we formed any plans. They seem to wish us to remain so probably we shall for a time, but we think generally speaking it is happier for people to have their house to themselves & not have it taken up with Mama's and sisters. This however is only our idea, and if they wish it, there could be no people we should be happier with. So now I have told you all about us my dearest and I must not conclude without saying that poor old Betty is quite well in health & able to walk with a stick tho' lame. She is in great delight about "Master Jas & Miss Julia" for the Tisdalls were all old friends of hers and she was nursery maid to Julia's Father and looked on by them as a faithful, old servant as we do. - I will subscribe to "The Church" so you may set me down at once and if I can get others I will The Pakms are in France, all well & I hope will return next summer. The Suttons well in Cheltenham and the Rothwells all well and have taken old Mrs Balfour's house in Palace Row for 3 months from the 12th of March as they are going to build bedrooms, and back stairs, and enlarge the dining parlour & sundry fine things at Rockfield - What a nice little letter Ellen wrote to Mama. It is quite pleasant to face a little acquaintance with one of your children. God bless you my dearest. I trust you are now at peace. Ever your affect

M. Noble

78-008/2/9 #160

Gloucester Place March 15 38

If you would just imagine England in a state of rebellion or smothered flames of insurrection my dearest Fanny - and think how very anxious you would be to hear from me! - in short put yourself in my place - your conscience would sting you (I hope) for having been so long without writing - I expected to have two or three New York letters - & every packet from thence would bring me a very satisfactory letter from my own dear child - And alas! I have still been each time cruelly disappointed - and not I only but all your numerous friends who are continually applying to me for intelligence of you & your house. Your letter of Decr 18 to Mary Sutton is the latest news we have had from you - though Mr Rubidge has had letters up to Jan'y 19 - a note from him says all are well - so I hope I may believe that to be the case with you my dear - & all your large family - I sometimes fear that Tom might be laid up from over fatigue in all his exertions during that dreadful time of alarm - but were that the case I think Mr R: would have heard it - At all events do write to me by N York as soon as you receive this - and give me a very full & very particular account of every thing both public & private at all relating to yourselves or the state of your country - and now having relieved my wrath at your not having written by the quickest means of sending a letter I will proceed to tell you all I can to amuse & instruct you - and as one of the most interesting things I have to tell you that the hundred pounds left you by poor Anne - has been paid to me for you & is now in George Thompson's hands - minus the legacy duty & your share of the expenses of the Probate of the will - which

Legacy duty 1:3 100

Probate fee 1:5 3:8

3:8 96:12 due

And now the question is - what is to be done with it? If Tom does not want it in Canada I will try to place it here in whatever may be most profitable - Perhaps I might be able to buy a Share in the St. Katherine docks Stock - which brings now about five per cent - and it thought likely to increase - but if Tom was likely to draw for it soon it would not be worth while to put it in there

-

Answer me then dear as soon as you can - for at present the money is idle in G. Thompson's hands - for you at least - but I dare say turned to good advantage by him - I must tell you before I finish with money business that - Mrs Waller, Maria, Bessy Rothwell have sent me amongst them ten pounds to lay out in whatever I think will be most acceptable so now I am going to read over all your letters that I may guess at those things that will give the greatest pleasure & comfort to you my dear - Sutton had not yet sent me the money for your com'n - but I expect it soon now - & I have so very few from you this year that I expect to have them ready in a Giffey Business done - I will now tell you a great piece of news! which has been already written to you

in the packet of this month - but as you may perhaps receive this sooner I will take the liberty of telling you of it - because I know it will give you great satisfaction & pleasure - James Nobel Waller is going to give you a cousin and make himself and all his family happy by a very amiable nice little wife - July Tisdall had accepted of him and the affair is settling as quickly as possible - I have a few lines from him this morning with some money which he sent me - in which he says he hopes that next week I shall have a new cousin - very rapid indeed - if all the preparations and Settlement & all can be completed so soon -

She is very much liked by Mrs W. and Maria - quiet and moderate in all her tastes and very retired - They have pressed Mrs W. & Maria to live at Allenstown - but when Maria wrote to me they had not quite decided & seemed inclined to be guided by circumstances - Julia has but little money - but they dont seem to mind that - & James expects very soon to clear himself from all embarrassments. He had made a nice bookroom of the pantry - or rather of my uncle's old closet - wh will indeed be a great improvement - The books will not know themselves when relieved from their long imprisonment - He bought a fine open carriage to I hear - Poor Maria writes in such joy about it as is quite delightful - She has had many afflictions within these few years - and but little that was very joyful - so I do hope this may be indeed a lasting happiness to them all - I am quite delighted at it

Miss Mary Kirkpatrick too is going to be married to Mr Rutherford - brother of Mrs A. Kirkpatrick - a widower with several children - but one they all like - so they are pleased at it. The Rothwells are gone bag & baggage to Dublin for 3 months - and have got a large house at the corner of Rutland Square - next Betheside - They are going to make great alterations & improvements at Rockfield House & will take advantage of the opportunity, to have masters for the children. They are all very happy at the match Tommy Rothwell is going to make - Miss F Vesey daughter to the late Arthur Vesey - & niece of Ld De Vesce - Miss Fanny Vesey about 2 years younger than Thos no money - but very amiable & charming. The Fitzherberts are very fond of her & delighted at the match - and Thos & his wife are to live at Black Castle. The Veseys are living at Brussels & Thos went there under pretense of skating - & made his proposal & was accepted - all the family are as happy as his - I wish I had another to fill this sheet but I have not at present any more among our friends - So now I must go & take a walk - & then finish this as tomorrow is the 16th by the way Mr Rubidge is to dine here tomorrow - with all the Bennetts & some gentlemen among them whom is I believe Capt Hall. We have all continued well the whole winter and though we had uncommonly severe frost in Jany - some of us suffered by it - indeed I think Francis was benefited rather by it. On the 20th of Jany which was our coldest night the thermr at this home was at zero - but in other parts of London it was below it - at the Horticulture Socy's gardens at Chiswick it was below zero 7° - in Hereforshire it was 9° below it. The last week of Feby they had a very uncommonly severe fall of snow in Dublin & for some miles on the road - Mrs Rothwell was snowed up in Dublin where the streets were nearly impassable - one narrow passage for carts was cut through Sackville St - & no room to pass a high wall of snow at each side - & when he did get away from town - he found there was just space cleared on the road for the coaches to pass - & that the snow up to the coach windows at each side. Louisa is still at Gaybrook but goes I believe this week to Etown - She went with Mrs Smythe the beginning of March to Leixlip Castle that she might do some business in town - both

of her own & mine - & I have not heard from her since her return to Gaybrook & am a little anxious lest she should have caught cold. Maria E has been at Trim for some weeks - & when she returns home Margt Ruxton is to accompany her to pay them a visit at Etown - She is better I hear and recovering her spirits I am told. All at Etown are well - a very small All indeed - Aunt Mary - Fanny E and poor Honora make all the small party. The Butlers are well & their dear little charges the 3 Fox children. Poor Fanny Wilson is but very indifferent - some days suffering much - then again a little better again - but quite unable to return to town as she had hoped by Xmas - so Mr Wilson is going to let his house & will come to stay here - next week - Augustus too is coming home after half a years absence - half the time at Clifton & the last 3 months - or more at Richmond gaining instruction, in his profession - which is that of clergyman - I believe he will be home today or tomorrow - as he intended to sail on Monday for Milford - indeed he might have been here now if he had sailed the day he said - He has had several offers of curaciss so he will not be at a loss for a nomination if he is ordained. On Wedy last we had a letter from Calcutta dated Dec 20 - informing us of the safe arrival of young Francis B. - he arrived on Novr 28 - & was settled at the house of a cousin Mr Reid - he eats with him - but has his own separate establishment - 2 horses & 2 grooms a running foot man & valet de chambre - a washer man - & a taylor & an interpreter - & more I believe that I forget - he is now in the college at Calcutta which is an indispensable step - & soon as he gets out of that he will be appointed I suppose - if he answers well - to some district as a writer or assistant - There was a letter to him from Pakenham which informed him that we were living here - curious - that his first intelligence of us should be from one of the remotest parts of India. Pakenham was very well -

Francis & Rosa E - are going on well at Clewar near Windsor very happy - Rosa is a nice good sensible creature & the boy a very remarkable fine stout healthy child - unfortunately they are so far from town that I can seldom see them. In my last letter I believe I told you of some dinners we had had here - which were pleasant enough - The girls are improving very much in manner & in mind too indeed which is opening very much - I think most people like their manners & they converse with wonderful ease -

I like much all you tell me of your girls - good dear girls how much they do that is useful - their time is so well employed & they are so attentive to you & so anxious to do well that I love them in my heart - Oh! when shall I ever see them! I fear they will be married & little old women before I can go & see them - as to going with Mr Rubidge I cannot now dear Fanny I forget whether I told you the H Hamilton was in London for some weeks lately - he only left it last Tuesday - I was glad to do what I could for him - Francis was so kind as to ask him to dinner twice - He seems to have been very happy - & he is gone home quite quite at ease about his sister's pensions. You know a Committee is now over handling all the pensions putting an end to those wh are unmerited & unjustly given to the rich - A friend told him that he might be quite easy about his sister - & I suppose we may alient [] poor Louisa's also. I am going to make a great purchase of the lease - or rather perpetuity of Balrath Boyne from the Ecclesiastical commissioners to wh Wm Curry has advised me

I have been drawing - from a coloured lithograph a gigantic flower named Victoria Regina - it is like a huge water lily - but still it differs in some respects & makes a new genus I believe - It is like a very immense double water lily about 16 inches diamr. The calyx a very deep crimson - it is a water plant - & found in great abundance in the river Berbice in Guayana in S. America - I will send you a trace of it if I can in my next packet - Your last letter to me dear Fanny was written in better spirits & you seemed more comfortable - & it was quite delightful to me to find that you like all my companions so well - I only wish I cd have sent you everything made up - but this year now that I have your patterns - I hope to have more things made up to save you trouble - I will send if possible all the things you have mentioned - There was a Levee yesterday & Capt Hall says the Queen looked very pretty & gracious

You will see by the papers that Ld Glenelg has not suffered by the censure Sir Wm M [] proposed - & ministers are still in their places - to the satisfaction of the Whigs & the mortification of the Conservatives.

My dearest Fanny I am quite well & stout though not very bright in my looks - which are not very amiable - but rather in character for an old woman of my age Now I must stop - but oh yes, I must add that I could not resist copying the part of a letter of yours about your first visit to Etown - & all your feelings about them - Poor Honora & old Fanny write most kindly about you & seem so particularly happy at your strong & gratifying expression of happiness in the affection of your husband & children

Adieu my beloved dearest child - ever you own old & attached Moonie - Heaven bless you

[Addressed to:

Mrs T A Stewart

Peterborough

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Single

via New York

March 15

by Liverpool]

[78-008/2/9 #161](#)

Queen's Coronation

June 23

1838

My dear Mrs Waller

I thank you heartily for your kindness in writing to so idle & dilatory a creature as I am about writing - & for telling me so many interesting things - Oh such a blot I have made - & it is so late that I cannot begin another note.

By this time I hope poor Fanny's box of treasures is in Canada - I hope you may like the way I laid out your money for her - I think she will never receive my winter packets since she has not yet - one vessel was lost I know - considering the many years she has been there it is only wonderful how few of our letters have been lost - Though sometimes much delayed - I am going to write to her by N York to tell her all I can of the Coronation which I had not time to say enough about in my Packet. I was just in then so much occupied & dragged about to one place or another - and various exhibitions - I dont know whether you heard that I had the pleasure of being present at the Coronation - I thought I should only have seen the Procession but a ticket came unexpectedly - and we drew lots for it - the lot fell to me - I got up at half past two - & dressed in every thing as if going to a ball - turban etc. - breakfasted - & was off by half past three a young lady came under my care - & Willy Palmer who had been given a ticket for the same Gallery was our escort - The young lady was a stranger to me but a friend had asked me to take her. We got in a little after five, having stood at the door in a covered passage for a long time - & you would have been surprised to see the number of ladies dressed so nicely as if for an evening party - walking with bare heads at 4 O'clock in the morning

I was amused in the Abbey looking about - observing people coming in & very beautiful did it look & magnificent - and when eleven o'clock came I was quite surprised to find how quickly 6 hours had passed

Then all the bustle began - The Queen walked in very gracefully - her train held by 8 maids of Honour - all nice looking creatures dressed in white satin a string of pearls in the front of the head & a wreath of blush roses round the back of it - I did not see the ceremonies performed at the Altar - wh I had wished to see as they are so ancient but I saw the enthronization - and the receiving the homage of the peers & bishops - and saw the Queen step forward very gracefully to give her hand to Ld Rollo when he stumbled & was helped up the steps to the throne

The sermon I hear was beautiful - but I did not hear a word - I sat in the north transept and the Bishop's back was turned to me - I heard the sermon better as I knew it all - but the

communion, when the Queen received the sacrament I did not hear - & very few I believe - but it was rather indecent & very unpleasant to hear corks drawing outside the Galleries during the sermon - There were tables of refreshment permitted there unluckily. I dont think the new anthem was much liked - but I am no judge you know so I can only repeat like a parrot what others say. The carriage had come back here to take the rest of the party to the club houses to see the Procession & as I knew it must be very late getting to the Abby I did not wait for it - we got out at 5 and depositing the young lady with her friends near that - Mr Palmer & I walked most of the way home - The day was very fine - not sunny in general - but a beautiful gleam shone on the queen as she was enthroned & looked so fine shining through those fine old windows in that ancient building which has witnessed the coronation of so many Sovereigns - and which stands in sublime & graceful beauty reproaching the English for not half admiring it - We had a cold dinner that day that the Servants might see as much as possible - [we always have on Sunday] - The carriage did not come till 8 oc the horses were sent to be fed & then at near ten we all drove out to see the Illuminations - some streets were so crowded we were stopped very long in some spots - in one, an hour & half I believe - when I fell fast asleep - We did not get home till near 2 - & by the time I was settled in bed I had been just 24 hours up!

Hard work for sightseeing you will say - but it is not likely such a thing may happen again in my life or if it should age & infirmity might prevent me from seeing it - & thank God I am very well now & well able to bear fatigue than these young creatures with me -

I intend to have written more but I must stop it is so late - & I am so hot - & my frank is so full - Besides I know I must very soon again write to you my dear friend

I Hope if Maria has time not otherwise she will write to me from Scotland -

Now Good by dear Mrs Waller

Ever yours affects H B

I was glad to see in the Mail the birth of the little Tisdall

I am sorry Mrs Hopkins is so ill

Gloucester Place Aug 31 1838

My dearest Fanny

I could not immediately answer your letter of July 20 - because I could not take upon myself to consent to the plan you proposed without having advice from Mr Sutton or from some lawyer I received his answer yesterday but was unavoidable forced to postpone writing this day. I was so busy & obliged to be out so much that I could not contrive a moment to write - Now however I hope for a quiet hour & without further delay I will give you & dear Anna the pleasure of knowing that - I do not object to raising to lend Mr Stewart the five hundred pounds left by my dear Bess to you first & in remainder to Anna. Mr Sutton agrees to it - & Francis approves to my giving my consent - which I will do Provided that Mr Stewart gives me the fullest security for its payment if he sells any land besides a Mortgage on the Douro property. Mr Stafford Kirkpatrick will of course draw up all these papers in perfect form of law for you know my dear friends that besides the necessity of securing this money to its rightful owners I must take every care not to get into a scrape about it myself - as I might be called over the coals hereafter when Anna marries

Mr K: will draw up a proper paper for you my dear Fanny & Anna, to sign in order to justify me for allowing you to raise it - As I lend the money however - and expect to have it repaid again to me, I make it a point [remember] that the mortgage shall be made to me - That is one of the conditions my dear friends on which I lend the money and which I am advised by a man of business & friend whom I have consulted about it here - The Mortgage on Douro - & whatever papers are drawn up relative to this money - are all to be between Mr Stewart & myself as Exr for in fact I venture to lend the money and must therefore my dear friends see to its security. I will immediately give notice about the money which will not be ready for some months - and when I receive all the law papers from Mr Stafford K. I will transmit the money -or pay it according to your order in this country.

Remember that this £500 is Irish currency and that you will not receive five hundred pd British - As you are anxious to pay Mr G: Kirkpatrick you will of course direct his money which you will specify - to be paid at once to him in Ireland - & you will say distinctly whether there is any other sum to be paid before that balance be transmitted to you.

I would also remind Mr Stewart that if it should be the will of God to deprive dear Anna of her beloved mamma before the money is repaid to me - he will be bound to pay her the regular interest - or me for her.

I mention this to prevent any cause of discontent of disagreement hereafter between father & daughter - which would be very painful in every point of view

I am sure that Mr Stafford K. is so good a lawyer that he will understand how every thing should be properly drawn up - and when the papers are sent to me I will then submit them to a lawyer here that I may be quite secure that all is right

I hope dear Fanny that Mr Stewart's mind will be quite relieved from all anxiety now & I entreat that this money may be applied entirely to the payment of all his debts which I understand from your letter it is sufficient to clear - I am sure it will make you dear Fanny & your good little daughter very happy to accomplish this - & I hope it will be productive of happiness & comfort to the whole family []

I wrote lately to you dearest Fanny & told you that our Sophy here - Francis's eldest daughter is going to be married to Willy Palmer as you know I believe as a College lad. He is very amiable excellent clergyman & seems very fond of Sophy whom he thinks nearly perfection - They are to be married she thinks some time in Oct - but we are not quite sure when. Louisa must stay 7 weeks at Harrowgate to have any hope of its being of any use to her - & then she wishes much to pay a visit to Mr Palmer at Durham - which will put the wedding rather later in the Year I fear than they expect - Willy is in a hurry - & so is his father, who was here this week for a few days - the first time of his seeing Sophy who has not got well acquainted with him yet - & is frightened by the stiffness & gravity of his manner - but I hear he likes her & is quite pleased with his son's choice - Poor young creature that she is - to embark in all the cares of married life [] I do feel very anxious about her - just before marriage every thing looks so smiling and bright - & so soon afterwards as many clouds are sure to overcast the brilliant sunshine of early love. On the whole it is better not to marry perhaps but enjoy single blessedness - but you do not agree with me in that I know dear Fanny - Thank heaven Frs was to have sailed tomorrow with Fanny Wilson from Bristol to Dublin - but she is laid up with so miserable a cold & Mumps & bilious attack that she is unable to stir - & will scarcely be able to sail even Thursday when the next steamer goes - I think they will be forced to defer it to the 8th

We are going to the Seaside - I believe to Walton on the Naze on the coast of Essex - the most projecting point - a quiet little unfashionable place just what we wish for but I fear not very pretty. We are to go in a Steamer I am sorry to say - a voyage of 8 or 9 hours which I do not at all like - but it is much cheaper than posting. You shall have in due time a history of my journey or voyage there - & of the place - and all that I collect to amuse you - and I hope by this time you have got the box & the maps on which you can trace our course. Maria Noble is come back from Scotland and I have not heard from her yet - I can say no more for post hour is come but that I liked dear Anna's little letter very much

God bless you my beloved Fanny & all your house

Ever Your Affect H Beaufort

[addressed: via N York paid by Portsmouth

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Mrs T.A. Stewart

Peterboro

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Aug 31

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SHIP LETTER

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[The wax seal intact - a very florid F B]

46 Pembroke Square Kensington August 31st 1838

My dear Fanny

You will be surprised to see my letter from this - but to account for my visiting England I must tell you that our dear William was obliged to leave India from bad health on leave of absence & he & Fanny came to pay us a visit when dear Wm persuaded me to return with them for a few weeks & your Aunt gave [though she must I flatter myself] miss me a little however as Lucan House family are with me I feel satisfied that she will be paid every attention - & dear Jane feels happy that I am under Dear Williams care & I have every confidence in his doing whatever may be most likely to cure my face - if that means fails it will not be his fault - I am paid every attention by all here. My Wm & Fanny so affectionate. He has a dear Baby two months old - & guess his wife is very kind to me - I have told you in former letters that he had three children by his former wife a fine promising Boy about 12 a girl Emily 11 - & Nicholas a dear boy of 7 - I am sorry to say that dear Wm must return to India. Your Aunt Rachel Jane & all our Lucan friends liked him much. He could only stay in Ireland ten days - his health is improved thank God - We called on Miss Beaufort & heard a pleasing account of you & she kindly came here & told us she could forward a letter if I sent it this day - so I am hurried - & have scarcely time to say that I forgot a long letter I tried to send you & came after such hurry - Your Aunt Jane is very well & all friends at Lucan considering the sever shock of Dear John LaTouche's death - an unspeakable loss he is to his family & friends - pray God bless you & family thank Anna Maria for her letter - I answered it in the one I left at home - I am much pleased with all I hear of your family & wish you could be near us - Remember me most affectly to all and believe my dear Fanny your affece
Aunt R Browne

Remember us to Mrs Flood

Dear William & Fanny desire me to remember their affecte to you -

xxx At Mud Lake we took boat and had some hours rowing rather monotonous, though the islands and little points and the Bays were pretty; but it grew tiresome and we grew hungrey and were glad after Eleven Miles of boating to stop at a place called Betty Mckues to have Luncheon we sat on the grass and had cold Fowl, Hare and bread and then Melons and apples and wine. Our party consisted of Mr Wallis, Mr and Mrs Kirkpatrick and Miss Fisher Mrs Hagerman a Youngish widow and Miss Woodford a visitor from New Brunswick who was with the Kirkpatricks. About 3 O'Clock we got into a large boat at a place called Bobcageon and there had a beautiful passage up Sturgeon Lake and saw a most glorious sunset; after which the shades of Evening closed quickly over us and for a long time there was nothing to be seen but the black woods on each side of us till a light appearing shewed us we were opposite an inhabited house. This Mr Walls told us was his neighbour Mr Langton; Tom blew his bugle, and after sometime, we heard oars and a call and found that Mr Langton had come out in his canoe to welcome us to the Lakes - After some talking he bade us good night and we pursued our way quietly and silently for we were all tired and sleepy, we did not reach Fenelon till half past ten o'clock, but were refreshed at finding ourselves at Mr Wallis's very comfortable house, very nicely furnished and everything quite in nice style. We were shewn to our respective rooms to take off our Muffling and then a very short afterwards were ushered into the dining room, where was a most excellent supper laid out, to which we did ample justice, and soon after, retired to rest; by which time it was past one o'clock and we had been up that morning at four o'clock and were to be up betime next time, after a sound and refreshing sleep, we awoke early and were cheered by bright sun and a nice breeze xxx but I will give the account of this day amusement to Bess Rothwell in whose debt I am deeply involved and I am sure she will tell you all. Suffice it now to say that we got home on Sunday night; and I was so much better that I was able to walk two miles of the road from Mud Lake to Peterboro' and afterwards from Peterboro' home here. However I got cold that night, which soon brought me back to this old sofa, and now I am once more regaining and hope by care and attention and also the approach of bracing weather not to have another attack for sometime xxx

[part of the manuscript written on blue paper]

Oct 6th 1838

My dearest Sister

xxxx I have written to Harriet and Bessy in this packet and they will tell you that on the 12th Sept T.A.S. Ellen and I set off to amuse ourselves along with the S. Kirkpatrick's and some of their Kingston visitors. We spent three days very pleasantly with their friend Mr Wallis at Fenelon Falls, 42 miles from Peterboro - I was advised to try the affect of change of air, as I had not been well, so off we all set. I have given an account of our travels and the first days amusements to H.B. and B.R. So I will proceed to say that Friday morning after Breakfast we sat enjoying the cool breeze for sometime and then receiving from Mr and Miss Langton and some others who live out there, Ellen and I went with Tom and a young gentleman T.W. Boyd to see the Waterfall which is very pretty only 25 feet, but all across the River and even now when the water is very low it looked beautiful. There is an open passage across the river under the falls. I went near it but the spray rose like a mist and I was afraid of the damp. Ellen and her Papa went on a good deal farther but it was so damp they did not like to stay long. After we returned to the house there was various amusements for the Public men running in socks - climbing up a greased pole foot-races &c &c &c which brought out many spectators but I was so heated and tired after my dissipations to which I have been for years so little accustomed that I preferred staying in the house where I sat very quietly reading woodstock. Mr W. having a very good library. Ellen sat out all day, at 4 oclock we dined and after dinner Ellen & I lay down to rest whilst the rest of the Ladies went out to walk. There was to be a ball there that evening and Tom and Mr Wallis were as busy as bees decorating the Hall and stairs with oak boughs and lamps which they did with great taste and ornamenting the drawing room and chalking the floor; about nine o'clock I found the other Ladies were ready. Mrs S.F.K. was mistress of ceremonies which I was very glad as I was afraid Mr W. would have asked me as I am his oldest acquaintance and also, was the oldest matron in this room, but very fortunately he never asked me so I just kept myself quite quiet and enjoyed very much looking on at all the flirtations and all the sets made by some of the young ladies at our worthy host who is a most pleasing gentlemanlike young man in manner and appearance has a beautiful place there a very comfortable house and £700 a year into the bargain - The company soon assembled There were twenty two young ladies besides a crowd of beaux as fine looking and as handsome a set of young gentlemen as you could wish to see chiefly Scotch and Irish, they danced away merrily - supper at 12 oclock then dancing again and between times interludes of music, as Mr W had borrowed a piano from his friend Mrs Hamilton - We had some sweet songs and duets and then dancing again till absolutely the sun was shining - my poor old head was aching [no wonder] so I went to bed an hour before the party broke up - but my room being over the drawing room and the sun shining brightly through the white curtains, you may suppose I could not sleep. I dont think any body slept much for at breakfast every one seemed dull and sleepy. I was ill and obliged to go and lie down till I was summoned to the boat, as that day we were to return home. Miss Fisher begged hard to stay till Monday but Stafford had business at home so it was

determined we were to go, Mr Langton had promised the night before to come with his boat, to take Tom Ellen and me to see his mother and sister who lived about two miles from Mr Wallis's so we set off and left the rest preparing to start also we were to pay our visit to the Langtons and come back to catch Mr Wallis boat as it came down. Mr L is very pleasing and gentlemanlike who has a beautiful place on Sturgeon Lake; his sister is a great favourite of mine. She is not very young but very ladylike sweet and gentle, his mother and Aunt live together. She is a widow, her sister an old maid, but both very old just like some of our old people at home. We paid them a visit of about half an hour when Mr L took us to meet the "Victoria". Our friend Mr L took his leave, Mr Wallis Mr Garbut MR Durnford and several of the gentlemen came down with us the first sixteen miles. My head ached so I could hardly look up, the sun on the water so dazzling. Ellen too was dull and tired as sitting up two nights running and being excited and routed about all day in the burning sun was what neither of us could bear as well as those who were more accustomed to it. We had most enchanting weather not a cloud in the sky and every place looked rich and lovely -

At Bobcaygeon we changed to a smaller boat and took leave of Mr Wallis &c and had a very quiet passage down from that to Mud Lake. We got to Mud Lake near sun set all very hot and tired, soon after we proceeded home and found our children all well and hearty under dear steady Annas care so there ends -

[parts of the manuscript written on blue paper]

78-008/2/9 #166

[piece of a letter from the middle of a page]

injured as I feared at first they would be - We have been so busy, so busy, making "up shirts & shifts! - about a week ago I had the happiness of receiving your fine folio by N York telling all about the Coronation - it did me a great deal of good for I was very ill & feverish that day - & it amused me, though I was not able to read it all at once - nor have I yet been able to read it to the poor damsels & Papa - as I feel much talking or attempting to read hurts me & sets me a coughing - I am careful I assure you for it neither agreeable or profitable to have those illnesses so often it is not asthma altogether now - the last two attacks have been more inflammatory & make me uneasy. I want to get some of the famous Irish Carragen Moss - & I think you could procure some & send it by any opportunity that may occur, or and nice Lozenges wh would be a comfort. I have a good deal of time for reading lately - & have been much pleased with Miss Sinclair's book "Modern Accomplishments" wh Mrs C S E sent me - tell her I have read it with much pleasure & think it a very useful interesting book and thank her again for thinking of me. Mrs Haycock lent me Woodstock wh I had never read - & since I finished it I have been reading over the history of Engd of that time - James Charles Cromwell - to speak my memory []

Happy Christmas & Years - I am very happy indeed to hear an improved account of Sutton from Bessy - & to find that Bessy is quite well - when you write, will you thank her from me for the latter you forwarded to me - Frs & Ho &c join in kind wishes with ever you affectte H.B.

I dont know where Mr Townsend is now []

[addressed: Septr 1838

Mrs G Kirkpatrick

care of Mrs Sutton

Cambray Place Cheltenham

Post mark

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DE - 23

1838]

The vessel the box is gone in

July 2, 1839

Still here dearest Fanny - notwithstanding all my intentions to be off! - but as to plans I am grown tired almost of forming them, for they never by any chance are executed - either circumstances or the plans of other people oblige me to give them up - My last change was I believe after I sent off my letter to you - for my plan had been to stay here quietly while all the rest of the party went to Oxford for the Commemoration - & get all my packing done - but of your box and of my own things - but it happened that the Oxford people or rather to speak more properly the Heads of Houses there - i.e. the heads of the Colleges settled that as Francis was going there he shd be paid the compliment of being made a Dr of Civil Law & however inappropriate such a compliment may appear to a sailor - it is considered a mark of great consideration to bestow on them an Oxford Degree - The desire of seeing him receive this & being present at the affair induced me to determine to go at once with the rest instead of paying my visit to the Palmers after it was over - I therefore made every exertion to finish your box & had the satisfaction of having it all done, & sewed up in its case by Saturday evening - though from their not finding a ship it has not yet sailed. The Palmers left us on Saty the 8th at one - and so on Monday we all were to go in Frs chaise Louisa & I settled to send our things by the Van on Saty - luckily on Saty I went out at eleven to look for something it came into my head to add to your things - & on enquiry found the Van went before two instead of four - so L & I had to pack up all our duds & think of every thing we cd be likely to want & a great deal of dress, as we must go full dressed to the general meeting at the Theatre - All were ready in time - & every thing was favourable to our schemes - on Sunday Louisa Rosa & I made an attempt to get into the Chapel Royal at St. James & that we might hear the celebrated Dr Hook preach but we could not gain admittance - & after losing a great deal of time there we were obliged to go to St. James Church & come in the middle of service - On Monday the 12th having eaten a hurried luncheon we left this before one - to go to the Railway - Honora & Emily inside & Francis & Rosa on the driving seat - Louisa & I in the back seat - at the Railway Francis Lou & I got one of the carriages of the train & the rest remained in the inside of their own - we went to near Maidenhead & should have arrived there in less than an hour I believe - only that by some mistake the train got on the wrong line which lost us twenty five minutes - They had horses ready at the place where the train stops [not being yet finished farther] & from thence we posted on to Oxford where we arrived at eight oclock - just in time for tea - very hungry & very ready to do ample justice to their bread & butter - and were very kindly welcomed by Sophy & William - The house is a very nice one - cheerful & comfortable - & good sized rooms - & there is a nice little garden at the back with a walk round it - and pretty little flower beds scattered in the grass - We were all very ready to go to bed - & no one will ever be made to sit up too late there for they are so mighty regular & always as soon as ten comes, they have prayers & then go off directly - Well to continue my history

On Tuesday we settled our clothes - & rested - and sat quietly till near 2, when we all, ten in number [for there were two Miss Palmers there - not relatives - but friends] when we all, dressed in nicest morning dress - set out to Magdalen College - which is generally called Maudlin - where there was on that day a public dinner given by the Fellows to their friends - Another Wm Palmer the brother of those two young ladies, is a Fellow there, & had invited us all - We sat, five one side & five on the other, just opposite each other - very little attention I must say was shewn to us - & it was quite a scramble - entre nous - but I would not say so elsewhere - It was long before we got wherewithal to dine upon & the moment we had at all dined our gentleman announced that it was time to go to the Concert, in order to secure good places - for it begins at four - So up we all jumped - and all the party but Frs & myself hurried off to the Theatre to be regaled with Music - He & I went to the Botanic Garden There Happened to be a Horticulture Show - & I saw several pretty plants - and all the prize plants - and it was very pleasing to see that in garden flowers, & in vegetables - there were prizes for the Cottagers - and wonderfully fine Stock Gilliflower they had brought in from their gardens - & we saw quantities at every little Cottage garden about the country, and in Sophys garden - it seemed to grow particularly well in that country - by the way I will send you some seed Well after walking about & looking at the classifications of the garden - we returned to Mr Palmers - & after Francis had rested, he dressed to go & dine out at Dr Bucklands where at a late dinner he was to meet numerous Stars - He went off at past seven - & I walked up & down the garden enjoying the lovely Evening till some time after Eight - I was reading all the time - but did not sit down because I was afraid of spoiling my nice gown by the roughness of a garden chair - [it was an olive satinet - a white silk bonnet & white silk figured Handf] I then went to dress myself & was just finished when they all came home delighted with their music of course & very ready for tea &c

We had it at the dinner table as we were so many & Cakes & bread & Ice & oranges &c, all very quickly disappeared - two or three friends dropped in - All talking about tickets for the Theatre for next morning - for even at that late hour sufficient had not been obtained for our large party - & there was so much difficulty in procuring them that there was great fear that all our party could not go - The Warden of Wadham a very important person at the head of Wadham College - was so mighty unwilling to give them - keeping them I suppose for his own friends - The poor Miss Palmers were obliging & said they could not think of going when we did not - as we ought of course to see Capt B. given his degree - The next morning we breakfasted at Eight oclock - & all dressed as nicely as possible - set out a little past 9 for the Theatre tho' the door was not to be opened till ten - We were first & got up against the door where we had to stand $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour - & well squeezed up by the crowd we were - A Fellow stood outside the door to take care none went in without tickets - & another inside - They were called Pro Proctors. An uncle of the Miss Ps had called in the morning & advised them to come with us to the door, as before it was opened he might procure tickets - & if not he wd take them into the Area which is all the middle part of the house - like the pit in a play house and so it happened, as he had expected for just before the door was opened a messenger came asking for the Miss Ps who were with Mr W.P. & handed the tickets over the railing - This made us all very happy - as they had been so very considerate & obliging to us. The whole of this crowd we stood in was of ladies - for as no gentlemen were to sit with them, none were allowed to stand at the outside -

At last much to the relief of us all - particularly those who cannot stand long - the door was opened & we got in time enough to secure the places wh the pro proctor had recommended for seeing best the procession, & the faces of the new Drs that were to be - There were seats purposely for the wives of Drs - but some how nobody had thought of getting a ticket for her - we all sat together very happily - I was going to make a scratch here of the Theatre - but will do a better one with my compasses that I cd have with my pen - we sat behind the Vice - Chancellor, above him - so we saw every very well - the whole of the Gallery we were in - consisting of several rows all round, & at the end - was filled with ladies - a fine sight - Every creature dressed beautifully - & many very handsome faces indeed.

All the Oxford Gentlemen seemed to think it a most beautiful sight - such a collection of ladies - Below us on each side of the Vice Chancellors chair saw the Drs & then their wives - all the area full of men - All upper Gallery, over ours - filled as full as it cd stuff with under Graduates - At last came the grand Procession of the Vice Chancellor & all the Drs all in scarlet robes - The Vice Chancellor read a long latin history of its being a Commemoration of the Founders of all the Colleges - & when that was finished - in came another Procession of the new Drs to be - Ld Rippen foremost - there were 9 I think altogether - Among them Sir John Herchel & Capt Smyth were friends of Francis's - We saw them all walk up the space cleared in the middle of the Area for them - Francis & the other officers were obliged to be in full Uniform & had their cloaks over it - but loosely so as to shew the Epauettes - The V Chancellor - first read a short latin thing naming one - then Dr Phillamore read in Latin all that could be said or collected relative to the person - to shew his claim to the dignity -

Then the Vice Chancellor read something about him in Latin expressing that the University conferred on him the degree of Dr of Civil Law - & when that was finished the person bowed to the V.C. & walking up the seats took his place among the Doctors - Francis looked remarkably well - & was indeed set off by the others most of whom were very plain or ugly - He looked so wonderfully fresh - that it was quite delightful - and though it bothered him, the whole affair of being made a DCL yet he could not but be sensible of the Compliment - & he looked happy & bright - Some of the Drs were greatly clapped, particularly Wordsworth the poet who was received indeed with the most unbounded applause. Before the V.C. had come in the under Graduates had amused themselves calling out the names of remarkable people & either hissing & groaning, or clapping them according to their politics. When the Queen Dowager was named the feeling for her was universal through the building not a man that did not clap - & again & again. This most tremendous clapping took place - while at her name many fair ladies waved their Handkerchiefs - The Queen of course had been named first & there was a good clap for her - but nothing like either in Strength of length that for Qu Adelaide - The ministers were every one hiss'd & groaned at when named - All Conservative leaders of course much clapped - then there was a great clap to the blue bonnets - another for the pink bonnets another for the white - & then all the bonnets & all the ladies & then done all over again - and I am sure their hands must have smarted well before the day was over. After all the Doctor making was finished - Mr Keeble in a place something like a pulpit projecting from the Gallery - read a long Latin oration, wh you will guess was perfectly uninteresting to us - something that I was

interested by observing the countenances of people - & I expected more sensibility of countenance.

After his oration - there was a long Latin prize poem read - & after that an essay on Taste in English - which was 50 minutes long - & though it contained many good ideas - & seemed very clever - yet it was tiresome because it was so difficult to keep up our attention to it or to hear it well. After that was finished an English prize poem was going to be read - but we all agreed that the heat was too much to be borne any longer & came away - Frs did see that we came away for he sat just before nearly under us, and afterwards of a lady fainting & not seeing us when he looked for us he was a little afraid that Honora had fainted - We went from the Theatre to friends of the Palmers - Mr & Mrs R. Greswell - from whom we had had before we arrived at Oxford an invitation to dine at half past two - Francis joined us there as soon as he could leave the Theatre - It was a very nice cold dinner - with cakes & all nice things - & as we had breakfasted so early & were exhausted by heat & fatigue, I assure you we did ample justice to Mrs Greswells hospitality which was very welcome to us - The moment we had satisfied ourselves - it was time to go to the Concert which was to begin at 4 in the Theatre we had so lately left - Mr Palmer Louisa Emily & the 2 Miss Palmers were the party - as all the rest found themselves unequal to the fatigue - We quiet stay at homes went home - the day being very hot - undressed & rested and Honora lay down & fell asleep - and a little after six, we all went out again - much refreshed & finding the Evg very fresh & pleasant - We walked into various College gardens - some of which are pretty indeed - & in all of them very fine magnificent trees - Horse chesnut & Elm & Oak - & Platims - besides that white blossoming Accacia or Robinis - We loitered so long at Magdalen College in Addison's Walk that a shower came on - but did us no harm. We visited the Chapel there wh is beautiful - but quite modern in the building & only in imitation of the ancient one - We returned to tea - just a little before the Concert party came home - & all sat down as on the previous evenings to tea at the dinner table - & were regaled with nice glasses of Raspberry Ice. In the Evg came a note to Frs from Dr Danberry inviting Frs & party to go next morning at ten to see his dried plants - & his garden - Oh no that is wrong. We all went to bed gladly after the labours of the day -

Thursday there was to be another concert at 12 - but none of the party chose to go except Louisa & she gave it up - The morning was very wet - but it cleared up - till rain came on again - Mr Palmer of Maudlin dined with us - & Mr & Mrs Greswell came to tea - it was that Evg we had the note from Dr D: above mentioned - and so next morning - Friday - Frs Honora Louisa Rosa & I went in a Fly, for it was heavy rain, to the Bot. Garden. There we looked at dried plants & drawings of many years back by different botanists - & at his Conservatory which was close to the house - but into the garden it was impossible to go from the rain - The Fly forsook us & we waited a long time for it - then it cleared up just to let us walk home - It was at the far end of Oxford from where the Palmers live. The carriage was then ordered, & Frs & Honora set out for London leaving the rest of the party there. I offered to procure Canadian plants - or give him some of mine - but he had got a very extensive collection & did not think it likely I cd procure any thing more - so I made no further offer. He shewd us some volumes of plants - among which I saw several of those your dear Girls sent me - & did not see some of the most curious - he had some of the dark colored flowers with three petals - & every thing & I thought I should

have remembered its proper name for you but Alas at this instant I do not remember it - He gave his card to me saying that any day I shewed it at the gate - the Gardens wd admit me to the locked up part of the garden - but afterwards when I did go - the Gardener had not the key - so I only got into the outer - general garden - & not into the experimental one as it is called - & I never cd go again because of course every day while we were at Oxford Sophy & Mr P formed their own plans for taking us about - & I cd not put them out of their way by going to a place they had no call to - After F & H left us - it was settled we should dine at 4 - & then go about in the Evening - so every Evg till the weather grew wet we went to two or three Colleges & their chapels - all were well worth seeing & very interesting indeed - & very delightful it was to see them - but to tell you a secret - the seeing so many one after another - rather made a little confusion in my head - & some of them now, I dont know distinctly which is made - One day we went to the Bodleian libry only a part of which is shewn - & a long gallery of pictures, of which some were very ancient - some few good - many very indifferent - I think - The first Sunday we were there - we divided in the morning & went to different Churches - & indeed in some degree the 2d Sunday too - I twice heard the famous Mr Newman preach & read prayers - but perhaps no account of him has reached your remote world - He & some others divines at Oxford - Dr Pusey particularly have some peculiar opinions - & are much inclined to some of the papistical observations though they declare themselves opposed to the Papists - They keep all Saints days & their vigils & fast days - & I believe - at least it is said that Mr Newman & some others do penances - but I am not sure so keep that to yourself - They have been this long time publishing things that are called Oxford tracts among which there are several odd opinions hinted at or put forward - They & The Evangelical party are quite opposed to each other - The Oxford people such High Church that they do not consider that any one belongs rightly to the Christian fold, who does not belong to the Church of Engd []

Presbyterians & all dissenters & Methodists of every kind they scarcely allow to be Xians - I think at least so far as I can gather - but they are very reserved in communicating any knowledge or opinions on Religious Subjects - so it is very difficult for one like me - not initiated to say exactly. All I know is - it is a very unfortunate thing for Religion - as it completely separated the religions of each party & prevents that uniting together which ought to be without regard to petty differences of opinion, as all truly religious Christians looking to Christ as their Founder & as their Redeemer ought to judge of each to each other with Christian charity & mildness - & think only how best to bring all into one fold in which we are told our Good Shepherd will collect his sheep from all people & kindred & nations &c. One of the odd things these people are restoring to the state of former times - is having gigantic candles on the Communion table just like a popish chapel - & no reading in the churches such as you were accustomed to - but instead of that a little sort of desk table at which they kneel with their back to the people & face to the Altar & the Bible rests on another stand - with an Eagle to support the book - These are little things but they all tell more or less in regard to popery.

But I have so many other things to say that I will not touch any more on this difficult subject - After Frs & Ho left us - we remained still a large party as the Miss Ps - Rosa Emily & ourselves were all there still - We went about a great deal to different Colleges & their Gardens - but the weather grew rainy & that was a sad interruption to our goings about - on Thursday the 25th

however the day was very delightful - & fit day made on purpose for our pleasure - so it were - for it was one fine day in the midst of many showery ones - & that day Mr P: louisa, Emily, one Miss Palmer & I went to Blenheim about 7 miles from Oxford in a one horse fly. We drove thro' the town of Woodstock up to the back gate which leads through the office to the Castle - The great yard & offices at each side looked quite deserted & melancholy - for you must know the Duke of Marlborough is very much embarrassed - His debts are enormus - & his creditors have possession of all the place - They allow him about four thousand pound a year - and having no power there except in his garden which is beautiful - he can do nothing else but idle & attend to this garden - He is a man of very bad character & conduct - his wife is able to live away from him & nobody visits him as he has a vile companion. The home is not shewn till 2 oclock, & as we were there even after one, we drove about the Park first - there is on a height in front of the Castle a large high pillar - on the pedestal of wh are long inscriptions on each of the 4 sides, about the duke & Queen Anne's favour to him; but we did not stop to read them - We drove through very pretty grounds - little hills & dales - Quantities of large trees scattered oak, in particular - I never saw such stems & such charming magnificent Oak as there in the Park - The drive was very delightful round it - unfortunately we could not get a ticket for seeing the private garden - which I wished much to get into for the Duke is a great Botanist & florist - the only good thing about him & indeed the taste seems a very inconsistant one with such a disposition as his - We could only see a little of it from the Liby window. When we returned from the drive we entered the house - The Hall is very magnificent & double cube - i.e. as high as it is wide - indeed it seems to go up to the top of the house - near the top is a row of large windows - as well as huge windows below - the ceiling & walls are painted & there are a few Busts - I really cannot recollect how many rooms we went into - We found a crowd of people, 30 I dare say who had come for the same purpose as ourselves & the person who shews them holding forth so we followed the crowd - There are some few very good pictures - but generally speaking I was much disappointed in them. The rooms are not as large as might have been expected from the size of the house but there are several of them - & at one place where they had the doors of all the rooms opened, so that we could see from one side to another completely through the house, & there the showman told us the length was 430 feet - The Library is very handsome - very much more than a hundred feet long - & looking into the gardens where I saw many pretty roses in blossom. In several of the rooms are very large pieces of Tapestry - & very fine indeed - the colors still bright - the proportions wonderfully good & really making very good pictures - They represent the various remarkable battles of the Duke - & in each, there is in the foreground three or four of the principal officers on Horseback - whose likenesses are meant to be preserved. When the people who had come in before us came round to the place where they had begun, the showman then came with us to the place where we had joined them - when we had seen all those rooms we walked about till the Carriage was ready - The Elm trees are very fine - but the appearance of the foliage was quite grey & surprised us very much - at this time of the summer when it ought to look so fresh & rich! - Upon looking more fully at the trees & looking at the leaves between it & the light, we found that every leaf was in a state of network- so eaten by insects - or spoiled by some blight - that they have a most extraordinary appearance - not the least bit like summer every leaf just as full of holes as this sketch [sketch of leaf drawn here] - it seemed to be the case with every Elm there - & with a few only of the oaks - I observed afterwards in our drive back to Oxford that there were trees on the roadside

in were in the same state - & the same in our journey to town I observed it in our journey back to town that in one part for some way the trees had the same appearance - so that I suppose it was caused by the blight that it was said had a few weeks before gone across the country - We had taken a nice basket of biscuits & Strawberries with us - wh saved us from famishing - We got back to Oxford by 5 OC

The next day Wedy - I got up very early & packed up all my things - so that I had the day to do what I liked - & we went about paying a few visits and idling about in the evening Ld & Ly Adare who came to Oxford that day came to tea - That morning the poor Miss Palmers had been much shocked by hearing of the death of Their Aunt - who had been nursing her daughter in a scarlet fever - had taken it (I suppose some days before) but only complained of feeling ill on Friday so slightly that the physician scarcely attended to it - Next day she died! - The poor daughter had since died. On Thursday morning at 9 ½ the Blenheim Coach came to the door for us & Lou & I set off on our journey back to London - We had only one other person a very quiet female - and had a very prosperous journey - arrived here at four - & found the small party here very well & very happy - Frs & Honora had almost a second honeymoon - & I think our return must have been a sad interruption - but it was necessary to return or we should never get back to Ireland - or get away - Since our return we have been visiting shopping & dawdling about - but we have not yet begun to pack -

This day Wedy 3d we are to have a great dinner party - and when that affair is over I then hope to get a large chest I am going to pack up into a little room at the back of the hall - & pack up all my books & everything I want to send in it, direct to Dublin.

Honora is amazingly well & strong - & able to do more than I thought she would - taking long walks with Frs - & able to go like anyone else out to dinner or visit or Evgs - & coming every morning to read to him from 7 to 8 - So you see I should have no opportunity of doing much for him now - were I to remain here - Indeed it would be very tantalizing to me who had been so much with him while I have been living here - Except early in the morning when I still continue to come to the library as soon as I can get my clothes on - I should see nothing of him but at mealtimes - So that it is no wonder I like to rise early when I may have a little bit of him - Then I go back to Ireland - I shall I am sure feel a great change from London society - even the little of it I have been in - for Dublin is quite changed - and besides I know I shall find it difficult to make my little income stretch to the little pleasures & indulgencies I should like to give poor Louisa - but still I think it right to have a house of my own as I can - & right to have my sister to live with me and share in the same comforts I have - instead of her living by herself in some skimping way - as she would have done if I had consented to make this my home - And I am sure I shall be happier in every way - I hope in a few months to have my affairs settled if it please God to permit me to live so long - then I shall be better able to arrange my expenses & see how I can manage - but till all the arrangements about my purchase of my lease, are completed I really cannot tell even what my income may be - every thing is at sixes & sevens & if I died just now my Exr would find it very troublesome to arrange all - You ask what is my income? I can only say that it would have been at the very utmost £270 per an- had I received it all, wh I never did the Rents were so indifferently paid - What it will be now I know not - but less I fear as I shall have

to pay interest for a large portion of a Mortgage of £1050 wh I was obliged to give to the Commissioners for the purchase of this same lease. So that you see dear Fanny I shall have nothing like the means that dear Bess had for supporting our little establishment - And I confess with all my determination to have a house of our own - & be independent - I often feel frightened at thinking whether we shall at all be able to keep out of debt & make both ends meet - in Ired - particularly - for though it is a much cheaper for living - all our habits have been so hospitable that it seems very doubtful how we shall be able to resist being so - but we shall try at all events - If possible I will write to you by N. York just before I leave London - which I think of doing about the 16th or 17th which will be this day fortnight - if I can possibly do so - I have nearly determined to go in my own carriage instead of selling it here for nothing - I should like to take it to Ireland & keep it - or if I did sell, I know I sd get more for it there - on the other hand the journey will be much more expensive - and there is a great difficulty in managing a journey in one's own carriage where there is neither Servant nor Gentleman to see to everything - & I feel a little frightened at the idea - We mean to go by the Railway to Manchester - whether in coach or chaise - & then travel with horses instead of Steam from thence to Harrogate - You will be sorry dear Fanny to hear of the death of poor Foley - he had been rather unwell for sometime - but was very suddenly seized with a sort of apoplectic fit which changed to brain fever - in a few hours he was no more - This was brought on I hear by drinking - His shop was going well - but that selling of Spirits is dreadful - & people become so accustomed to them, sipping & sipping that they know not where or how to control themselves - & so the habit grows - poor Peggy I am very unhappy about - & I dont know what will become of her poor children. She has changed sadly in her ways! - and now she wants me to lend her of her own money fifty pounds & promises to repay it in Novr - but that I am sure she never will - it is all very melancholy

I told you in my last I believe about poor Fan Wilson. She is progressing very well - & increasing in size & every thing very promising - she is much less suffering than she was - & we are in hopes her health will be very much better if this child comes to perfection - She is now gone to a place at Hammersmith for a change of air - she was removed on Monday & bore it well I hear - Harriet Butler is with her now - & next month her Mother will come to her when H. returns home - The little Foxes are with their Father now at Annamore & will return to her then. All well at Etown - Rosa E as you will see by the paper has just had a little daughter - with a Spanish face & will I trust recover well - Maria quite well again & leg healed & Lucy wonderfully active - I believe I told you already of her going to a ball at Longford & dancing without any bad consequence -

[78-008/2/9 #168](#)

[Miss Beaufort;

receipt, June 3, 1839;

no transcription]

[78-008/2/9 #169](#)

[to Miss Beaufort;

receipt, April 16, 1839;

no transcription]

78-008/2/10 #170

[Hatch St.

April 9, 1840

My dearest Fanny]

The Bearer of this letter Thos Colyer by name is a young man who lived as Clerk with poor Foley for some time and served him faithfully and very affectionately for he shews still a very great interest in every thing concerning the Foleys; and when little Johnny Foley was here lately, he was so much touched at seeing Johnny, & the child so glad to see him, that is speaks well for his heart at least. He has been for some time living with a respectable grocer in Baggot St of the name of Ryan - but has now taken a dislike to the Grocery line to go to Canada where he has some relations already - and where he intends if possible to set up in the Cloth line - and as he has a friend in Upper Canada who is a taylor it probably be very profitable to him. He thinks of going to Peterboro' I understand and has requested me to give him a letter to you - which I do readily because I believe him to be a young man of good character - and without putting yourself out of your way, you may safely recommend him to any friends who will deal with him - but I do not want you to quit any person you already deal with for him - but only just to recommend him & speak for his character. He will tell you that Lou & I are very well & I assure you my dear that we are very snug in our nice little house - of which I hope to send you a plan by Mr Kirkpatrick or else in the box which I am sending out - with little contributions in it from many friends. We are going the beginning of next week to Etown to stay till the beginning of May - but a short visit you will say - The case is that Honora & Fanny are both coming over to Etown in May (early) - and they want our visit to be paid first; - besides that Francis & Rosa are going very soon to Italy to see Rosa's sister who is very ill - & they wish us to be there before they go away. It is rather inconvenient to go just now - but however we cannot help it as they are so urgent. Poor dear Aunt Mary has been very ill of Influenza - & I think they were alarmed about her - but she is better & will throw it off I think & trust - The rest are well. Poor old Mr Keating is dead - a Mr Robibson has been appointed in his place - whom they all know & like much - & wished should come here. We shall return to town from Etown & remain here probably for some time - as I do not think William & Emma can be ready for our promised visit sooner than Autumn if even then; - they have not yet got into their house - they have had so much to do to make it comfortable & fit for them. I hear it is a beautiful place and that they like it more & more every day - Wm is remarkably well. He has had so much exercise going back & forward constantly- superintending all that was doing there - the name of the place was Castle Jane - but it is now called by its Irish name of Pulcarrah (very ugly). Mrs Waller & Maria have just spent a week with us & are now gone to the Suttons in Mountjoy Square - He was very ill Sunday night but quite well enough on Tuesday to have them so they went that day from us - and have cheered up poor Sutton & have done him good. Dear Bessy had not been well after her return to Rockfield - but the last accounts were better a great deal - Mrs W & Maria seemed very happy with us & were so kind as to be contented with our little homely way of living - &

the attendance of a maid only! - Now darling Fanny I have filled my paper & must say Adieu - I will soon write to you by post - in the meantime May God bless & perserve you & all your home - prays your most affectionate H. Beaufort

I have sent little John Foley to an agricultural school in Donegal wh is under the superintendance of a Capt. Kennedy. I will write very soon by N York.

[78-008/2/10 #171](#)

9 Hatch St. May 5, 1840

My darling child

I have been obliged to delay to this last moment my intended letter to you by this mail - because I was forced to wait for the return of Mr. R. Jameson from Liverpool. He is a most obliging man & very satisfactory - and now my dearest I must tell you what he has been doing for me - He has been sending off a box for me - to Montreal along with a box of his own - and I lose no time in giving you notice that Tom may write immediately & take all necessary steps - Mr Jameson altered the direction I put on it to Mr Dunlop - and instead of that he has forwarded the box directed to T.A. Stewart Esqr - to Messr H & S Jones forwarding agents at Montreal & Prescott - by the Coeur de Lion Robinson Master from Liverpool to sail probably the 6th or 7th of May. That is all copied exactly from the paper which he wrote down for me - and most anxiously do I hope it may have a safe journey & arrive in better time than the last box. As soon as you hear any thing of it pray let me know - for all the friends who joined in that little volunteer Box will be eager to hear of its safety.

There is a list as usual at the top of the Box - a copy of which I sent to Mr Jameson - and another copy of which I give you here - as it will be satisfactory.

Linen Drapery £ 8 11s

Hardware 15s

Stationary 1 1s

Books 2

Hosiery 2

Haberdashery 1

£15 7

That is a general account - hereafter I will in some future letter give you the particular accounts of the manner in which I disposed of the several sums which were entrusted to me to lay out for your advantage but I am dropping asleep now -

This sleep is a great plague my dear Fanny when it forces its company upon me - however at other times he may be; he certainly visits me too frequently sometimes I yield & give in to him for a quarter of an hour but at other times I cannot but struggle against him. But I sat down too soon after dinner & that always over-powers me.

I must now explain to you about the box. Upon your saying in your Decr letter that Tom could not let you send any Commissions this year, & that you must therefore do or try to do without calico & flannel & gown; - it came into every body's head - I.E. Mine & Marias Mrs Wallers & Aunt Suttons that we might send some things over to you. I had determined that if no one else sent any thing I would at least if I could scrape up money for it, send you a piece of good Calico - So then Aunt Sutton took that charge on herself - & James Waller - very kindly indeed, and Mrs W. & Maria all gave me money to lay out on what ever I thought you wanted most - but unfortunately I had very little grounds on which to build any guesses, after those few things you hinted at - so I can only hope that you find them useful to yourself & the large family A piece of shirting - a little cheaper some 4d calico - Printed muslin gowns - (one of which different from the others for yourself) - and some Flannel both coarse and fine - also a doz & half Cotton stockings wh I tried to get wide & long to fit your tall daughters & yourself - There are also 4 dresses of Mousseline de Laine which should be lined all through to make them warm enough - you can either line them with the cheap or if you have old gowns perhaps they might answer the purpose. Your Aunt Sutton's piece of shirting is a large piece down at the bottom, She has sent you also a parcel of Tablecloths which I am sure you will be glad to have. They are all sewed up in a parcel so that I could not put them as flat in the box as I could wish.

I mentioned to you some time ago, I think I had 4 large cloths that I intended to send you - but I am sorry to say you will find but one of them. I could not get the other things & them all in - & was obliged to unpack the box & do it over again - It was of less consequence as Mary's parcel - and I sent you one as a pledge the 3 others should follow. In the bottom are lots of old Quty Reviews and Christian Examiners which Mrs Pakenham took a fancy of getting rid of & thought they might be acceptable to you & Tom - & asked if I thought them worth sending - & thinkings in them that would be entertaining to you all - I accepted them for you - I have also sent you some old home books which were of no use to me & might be to some of your flock - I wish I could have sent more new ones - but my means are so limited this year dear Fanny that I could do scarcely anything I wished - I have only sent you & the girls one or two new books - & I have sent you a new collar - the largest of those that are sent - the others are from Louisa for the dear girls - I sent you two little morning caps such as are a good deal worn here - & some quilling to put border - which you will put under the edge of the cap - & then add strings at the corners - the old pattern I used to send is no longer worn by anyone. I wish I could have had some knowledge of your wants as to shoes & of your various measures - for your letters to Bessy was lost - & I believe there was no duplicate of that - I sent you a very pretty book of butterflies - a volume that I happened to have which may amuse you now & then to look at - And I do hope dearest Fanny that I have guessed rightly as to the articles that might be useful to you - I sent also a good deal of Stationary & a Jar of Ink which will be very black I think - when it grows thick in the open bottle add a small quantity of Beer or Porter to it - or else Vinegar. Now I have given you a long chapter on the box & I must turn to something else.

Stafford K: sailed on the 25th for N York & I sent a huge letter by him - & a packet of Lozenges - (there are some in the box too) and two little books - no, only one I believe letters on the Miracles. I sent you Tales from the Rectory, by a young man of the name of Collier who wishes to settle in Canada in business - but would like to get into some mercantile house before he sets up for himself - He has a good character here & you may safely recommend him - he lived as clerk with poor Foley for some time.

Mr Robt Jameson was here today & sat some time & was very pleasant & agreeable - & talked away about Canada without being questioned & dug at - I find he is going to settle at Liverpool very soon - So he promised to take charge of my boxes when he is there & it will be a great comfort indeed to have a friend to depend on. Well now I have to tell you we are very well - & our house much admired by every one - it looks so bright & sunny & clean & we have at present such a lovely view of mountains in front & of gardens full of fruit trees in blossom at the back - We are pretty well settled - but have no manservant - perhaps by next winter we may be able to afford it - but till all my bills are paid I cannot venture on any expense I can possibly avoid - The housemaid is a good sort of girl not very bright - Poor Mary Toole faithful & good & willing to do all she can - & her niece who is about 13 - a very good quiet little girl very handy at needlework & helping me to dress - the most stayed little regular thing - & indeed very useful - Mary's son died while I was in Engd - I believe his brother Jimmy is going to America but whether to the States or Canada I do not know.

I believe it was the day after I sent my letter, that we dined with the [Sacks] to meet the HHs who were there now - & the next day Lou & I went over the water to pay several visits and in particular to the Suttons with whom we sat a good while till he began to moan & grow fidgetty & then we came away - Bessy has gradually recovered & very steadily is now driving out once more in the open carriage & looking better I hear than before her illness - I dont recollect any thing particular after that till the 28th when we went with the Hamiltons to the grand Royal Flower Show - where there was an immense crowd - people paid 2d at the door; and there was £ 230 received. The flowers were beautiful & a great variety of them - of Auriculas particularly - I think among all your wild flowers you have never found any of the Primula tribe cowslip primrose or Auricula. On that Evening in spite of the fatigue of the morning we went to tea at the Miss Featherstones to meet Sir George & Lady F - indeed as to the morning - I did not mind the crowd a bit - the only tiresome thing was the perpetual hurry & fuss the Hamiltons were all in - between fear of crowd & hear & one bother & another - & Louisa & I were sorry to be hurried away quite so soon from the flowers & the Company - It was such a bright day & every thing looked so pretty - Besides the plants in the Rotunda wh were placed on a stand halfway round like a horseshoe there were 2 tents in the gardens filled with flowers - & people had the pleasure of walking about - it was altogether a gay & cheerful sight - a show of bonnets & beauties as well as flowers - The evening was pleasant enough - I met there Mrs Westby who I have not seen since my return - She is grown very old & has nearly lost the use of one leg from Rheumatism - She does not go out much into the world now - & Louisa Westby who used to be a fine dashing bright looking creature - has lost her colour & is all sallow & pale & quite

melancholy looking & has lost a front tooth. Mrs Moore who was the youngest seems very well & happy & prosperous -

Next day we sat an hour I believe with old Mrs Litton - who was so glad to have a visit at last & was in such good spirits for talking that she held me tight all the time - She is quite blind & so deaf that one must speak close into one ear - but her mind seems quite clear & as bright as ever & all her feelings - & her enjoyment of books & of conversation - She was very glad to hear you were well & had such a good nice family. She lives with Mrs Gabbett who looks as old as her mother with a long thin nutcracker face - & no teeth

On Thursday we ordered an inside or box car as it is called & drove to Clonkeagh to visit Hannah Gerrard who seems pretty well & was very glad to see us - we paid her a long visit which she rewarded with luncheon & a great bunch of Jonquils - & then we went to the Cottage & sat there a long time & walked in their garden & got another nosegay there. Poor Bess Gerrard looks wretchedly ill & old - & has lost some of her front teeth - Maria looks always the same! Hannah McC - pretty well - poor little Octavia but indifferent - all very kind & glad to see us & all enquiring about you - Mrs Bate was there - looking very old indeed.

Fanny Dallas I heard there is very well & is just now at her cousin Mr Wood at Milverton - his son is going to be married to a daughter of Edward Taylor who lives near Bealbriggen - She is to be at the wedding - & I have some hope to see her poor thing. She has still her little nephew with her - Mr Donovan will not be at any expense for him & is I believe very disagreeable - Anne Lyne & all her little party are coming back to town and are expected to land this night or early tomoorw - they were to come in the Steamer from Falmouth - I hear they are all pretty well & in tolerable spirits - but my next letter will tell you more about them than I can in this one. We see very little of the Jas Lynes tho' so very near us - She is always in the nursery & scarcely ever sees visitors - She had 4 girls - John Lyne looks very ill & I think will fall quite into a decline. he is quite different from the rest - so fond of all kinds of pleasure & dissipation -

The Miss Wests are in town now & every body is inviting them - we went to the Sack's on Saty to meet them - & to the John Littons last night for the same - & are invited for Thursday to the Gabbetts for the same but happily are engaged at home for Miss Strickland who is town is to drink tea that evening - & very stupid it will be to her - I am sure - tomorrow evening we are to tea at the Hamiltons & on Tuesday the 12th we are to be at a grand party there - & I must have the Wests here some Evening - James Waller was here today - he had just come up - & was going to Clontarf where Julia is at present staying - he seems to think seriously of adding a little to the house - & a bow to the old drawing room - Louisa has been drawing plans - an architect also - & he is to come again tomorrow to consult Louisa about them - I hope you [] the Evg mail nightly pray tell me if you do not - I think we shall go to Etown the beginning of June at least I hope so - while the roses are in bloom. Louisa is unwilling to stir I think she is so new fangled with the house & so happy setting her things & continuing to find places for all her port-folios & &c - so I will go without her - I think the Wilsons are to be over about Sunday next - & will stay a day in town & go to Trim - when Lestock returns Honora will return with him I believe to her poor lonely generous husband. Dear Fanny you may well imagine what a change it is to me to

be here in a house of my own from being companion to my dear brother so long living there for him - now for myself chiefly Sophy Palmer is to be confined in July Honora will go & take care of her - & in the end of summer she & Frs & the 2 girls will come over I believe to Etown. It is time now at the very tail of my letter, to tell you that I received on Friday the 24th your packet finished the 3d Feby for which dearest I thank you heartily - I grieve to find you had had a bad attack of asthma but then I do rejoice that you were nearly well again - I trust you are careful not to expose yourself again to the changes from hot rooms to your very cold air - Has any one ever sent you the recipe for tonohpaper (Touchpaper,) - I sent you one lately which I hope you will try but what a fool I am not to have sent you the materials! What a horrid fright you must have had about the Fire & your little wild boys - Master John particularly my dear Fanny I am longing to hear of your getting into the newer rooms that you mention - are they log or frame - what wd it cost to add two more rooms to those - so as to be able to get rid of the old bad home entirely? Tell me that - I sent you some flute & violin music for your boys - & I intended to have sent some songs - dear old things I thought you wd like to have but I had not room for them

Mrs Young is very ill & paralytic - & wretched. Mrs Philpotts came over to her lately - & has just been confined - Mrs R. Thompson is dead - she had a dropsy dear Fanny your letter was most interesting & I long for more - alas alas for the packets - no more of them - If any one is coming over I hope Ellen will send me a great bundle to her Journal - but I am sorry to say someone else has done what I wanted so long ago a Naturalists journal of Canada - Well I must stop God bless you my own beloved dearest Fanny and all your dear family prays your own ever attached old Moome

A letter from Honora this morning Wedy 6th says Aunt Mary was to go down last night to the Liby

Poor Mrs Lambert slipped as she was sitting down one morning - fell & broke the little bone of the hip joint but she is doing as well as possible quite cheerfully sitting in her own chair reading & working - and will soon be able to move about with a stick - They brought her bed down to the back drg room. She looks very well - My last note from Aunt Sutton said that though Sutton had had a good deal of pain all the week - it was not anything to make her uneasy

[Addressed:

By Liverpool

ship

via N York paid

20

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

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May 6

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Ahoghill Glebe, June 12, 1840

As I wrote to dear Ellen by the Halifax Mail of the 1st of the month what what I could not help being a hurried letter, when our friends from Coolmine were with us, I begin in time, what I intend shall be a long comfortable epistle to you, my own darling sister, to go by the Halifax Mail of the 19th; so you see, I am like Miss Jessie Betterworth "laying myself out entirely for goodness" in the writing way at all events - Yours of April 22d only arrived in Ballymena yesterday June 10th. Pourquoi was it such a length of time on its way? Thanks be to Our Father, it contained good news of you all, when it did come. The Lord is very merciful to us, May His Grace enable us to serve him & glorify him with the Health & Blessing he gives us - & to use them in serving him with all our hearts - I had a great treat in a visit of nearly a fortnight from our dear Maria Noble; it was very nearly 8 years since I had last seen her, & then it was but a press of one morning during 2 days I spent at Rockfield before my Georgy was a year & half old, so I may almost say nearly 12 years since I had seen her. I told Ellen, how she came, with Alexander, Mary Anne, & Anna Kirkpatrick - We had the most lovely weather & every thing prospered while they were here - They went to the Causeway & George accompanied them, while I remained at home with my sons - They are enchanted with our farm at Craigs, & with the scite we have chosen for the house - You will see by my letter to Ellen how we altered our minds about the first plan, the Cottage - It would have cost almost as much as a better house, so George thought it best to get a proper plan from Mr Lanyon, the County Engineer, & the best Architect in Belfast. I send a sort of plan of one story, in Ellen's letter - but I will draw at my leisure the Elevations, & the Bedroom story. (It will be only a Ground & Bedroom story just the 2) - The Ground plan story - as you will see, has the parlour, Drawing room, Study, a small bedroom, Pantry, & Storeroom & Hall on it - The Kitchen is beyond the Storeroom, & in a Return, as well as Larder, Scullery, & Washhouse shower Water Closet. Over this are 5 Bedrooms, & a Servant Maid's room over the Kitchen. 3 of the Bedrooms would be very good, 2 others very small - but the Maid's room would be a very good one, over the Kitchen - There will be no Rending room Story at all - but there is to be a Cavity of eighteen inches between the ground & the Rafters of the floor, 6 of which are to be filled up with dry Stones such as they make roads of, & hot liquid Lime to be poured in amongst them (called Grouting) which grows perfectly hard & dry, & from that, there is to be a space of 12 inches from that to the Rafters - so we hope that this will prevent both Damp & Mice or Rats - George has contracted with a Builder for £ 756, - & every thing except Grates & Chimney pieces, is to be done for this, painting & all - Of course we have had to borrow the money, for which we shall have to pay Interest of 5 per cent - so we must just spend as little as we can, until we get it paid up by degrees - We intend to devote ½ the yearly income of Craigs Parish this will be about £ 100 pr An to pay up the Principal, & so reduce the Interest every year, as well as pay off so much of the debt - It will be a great Comfort not to be afraid of improving or making comfortable, as must always be the case in a hired house - I am sure George has sunk here since he lived here now for nearly 11 years a great deal of money that he cannot have any return for - Just as the Land is getting into some sort of order, he has to give it up; Well, I am sure it is all for the best, & we

must only try to pay off the debt as fast as ever we can, for neither of us will feel easy, until we are clear again - We are both very prudent, without I hope being either stingy or mean, & I do not think we are bad managers either - We shall I think be able to live more reasonably as well as more comfortable at Hazelbank than we do now at least after the first 2 years, if we are spared; The house will be smaller, & more compact, & fewer Servants will do, in it. It is the size of this present house that is expensive, & likewise its being so much out of order that it makes double dust & double trouble, & as the Kitchen Grate is tumbling down actually, it takes nearly trebble turf to make a fire in it as the Servants will fill up the great Cavern from end to end - then, the places are all so far one from another, & the yards so out of order, & dirty, that the Cook here, has no Sinecure of her Situation, particularly as we are obliged to have a great many fown, good meat is so hard to be got in Ballymena twice in the year The only alteration I see in our dear Maria is that she is gray - a little in the front of her hair, not in the back - Her skin tho more healthy looking is not so delicate as before, but she is the same dear darling affectionate Creature as ever - Dear Anne K. remained behind the party intending to remain here for the summer, but alas when the Coolmines got home they found poor dear Lydia in her bed & Blistered & bled, with influenza - so Anne is to leave us today, as she fears that poor Cathne might have to exert herself too much in Lydia's illness - you may have some idea how very very sorry we are to lose the company of our dear sister Anne, as well as for the cause of it - She will be a terrible loss to me, as George is really away each day from breakfast till dinner - Uncle Sutton is actually moved out to Kingstown! Only to think of it! his Constitution is most wonderful; - I hear my dear Aunt is looking very much altered indeed. Oh just to think of her constant observations of Suffering in her dearest earthly friend & of hopeless suffering, which no human means can mitigate - even Anodynes fail now at times - It must be dreadful - but he has the strongest faith & great great patience, & is just waiting the Lord's own good time to get out of this suffering world into the Glory awaiting him - I must send this today as it is the 16th Remember dearest Sister this is the 2d letter I have sent within this month to Douro - Tell Bessy to write to me sometime & never never do any of you say that you have nothing but Home news to tell me - Since that is what I like best, & I am sure with a Witness I have set you the example in this - God Bless & keep you all dears, ever & ever love your fondly attached & affectionate sister

C.K.

78-008/2/10 #173

Vicarage Trim July 6 1840

My dearest Fanny

Mrs Lucas gave me the above letter or bill of Exchange several weeks ago to forward to you & write in, but I had just before she came sent off a long letter to you my dearest - and I postponed writing till I could give you some further information relative to your box - for I dont believe it sailed at the time I wrote to you it would - Mr Robt Jameson undertook to send it from Liverpool - & since that I sent him another box a small narrow long one to forward - but I have never heard from him since though he promised he would let me know all about the time they had sailed and by what vessel I have waited & waited to hear - and now I do not like to delay this Bill any longer - and so I determined to do my best to send it off this day - I shall probably be able to tell you of all your kin in this country as the Robt Nobles & Maria are to come this day to pay us a visit. After fixing numerous days in my own mind & being still prevented by some bother or other - we actually did get out of town on Tuesday the 30th June - setting out from Bolton St at 8 - we arrived here before 12 - an awkward hour to arrive as the day always seems unsettled - however we spent much of it walking about the garden & admiring the varieties of Roses which are in profusion - on the walls & scattered about - bushes of all kinds - I never saw roses in greater perfection of beauty but alas there have been since that, such quantities of Rain that they are very battered - though still charming. After I wrote last to you - the 8th of June I think I dont know anything very particular that happened - except drinking Tea at Mrs Warrens which (I believe was since) was a very uncommon circumstance & evenings at the Hamilton Schoales & Lynes - We spent 2 Evenings at poor Anne Lynes - They are tolerably cheerful but anxious & uneasy about John Lyne who is certainly not well & has been unwell for some time; Dr Stokes has ordered him to travel in Germany now - & to winter at Rome - but I fear wherever he is - he will be too fond of company and dissipation which has a bad effect on his Constitution - he is too fond of pleasure.

On June 17 Lucy E came to us for a few days - in order to choose a Piano for herself - which she intends to get at a moderate price - However kind generous Aunt Mary resolved to give it to her - as she had been long intending to do so - & she sent the commission to Louisa - They had a great deal of amusement I suppose in trying them - & they fixed on one they were delighted with - & since Lucy went home it has arrived & is placed in the Library between the Fire & the bow - against the wall near where the barometer used to be - & I hear that the whole family are delighted with the tone. I was most agreeably surprised at Lucy's being so well - & so strong while with us - & enjoying herself so very much - She seemed as happy as possible - & not nervous or easily excited - & since she went home she does not seem to have been the worse of that little week of amusement - She had come here & had rested for a day - then Mr B. carried her to town - & returned same day - & Harriet came for her on the 22d - ate luncheon & returned - leaving us at 4 ½

Both Mr B & Harriet were much pleased with our house - & Lucy was quite charmed & seemed very happy in it - On Friday the 26th - Louisa & I went by railway to Kingstown to see the Suttons - Oh I forgot the day before Bessy & Cathne Brabazon breakfasted with us and stayed all morning, till three when Bessy went by Wicklow Caravan to Delgany to Margt Ruxton with whom she is to stay for 2 months - & Catherine returned to her Mother who is lodging in Sidney Avenue - a short avenue between Merrion & Carysfort Avenues - You will see it in the map of the environs of Dublin - Well on Friday we stopped at the Black Rock & walked up to see Leonora, & sat an hour with her & then went on in another train to Kingston - & found the Suttons (even he) had driven out - so we paid another visit & walked about and then returned found they had come home - it was the first day he had tried driving out - & in Besseys nice easy carriage - it did not give him much pain. It was very warm & fine - & he enjoyed it.

They have a very nice cheerful house - 2 Roley Place close down to the harbour and lying on his sofa at the window he sees the Sea in all its beauty, & all the vessels large & small - that are gliding or flitting about there - it is a cheerful & a lovely view it is - a man was with him about business - so we first ate luncheon in the parlour with Mary & Bessy & little Bessy - & then went up to the Drg room to Sutton - but from the time we went up - Such numbers of visitors came that it was the greatest plague, as we could not have any quiet sociable chat - one Set after another - ' at last poor Sutton seemed quite tired - the heat of the room was over-powering as the Sun was on it

At three we left them - though they asked us to stay to dinner - but I am sure it would have been a great bore to them - & we were to drink tea early with Anne Lyne - We had a very prosperous journey back - just 20 minutes form Kingstown to Dublin - Bessy looked better than I expected - & seemed to have gained strength a good deal laterly - as we were coming away Mr R. gave us a very kind invitation to Rockfield - which I dare say we shall accept in the latter part of the summer - but that will depend on the movements of Francis & his little set who are to come to Ireland some time in autumn & I must be in town then - & Louisa wishes to be there too - Indeed she was very unwilling to leave Town - & would have lingered on if I had let her for weeks longer - she is so happy to feel that she has a home, & will no longer lead a wandering life - that she did not like to be unsettled but I was very anxious to come while it was real summer - while roses were in bloom & birds singing which they are delightfully - Thrushes & blackbirds particularly - Harriet I am sorry to say has a cough this some time past & though the strongest in Constitution of all poor old Fanny's daughters I cannot help being a little uneasy about her - She seems chilly - wh is very unusual for her - but Louisa has been doctoring her with a recipe of hers which seems useful already to her - & is simple - so I will write it here for you dearest Fanny. 10 drops of Antimonial wine and 6 drops of Sal volatile dropped on Sugar - taken frequently in the day - but never on an empty stomach - at night you may double the quantity of Antimonial wine - going to bed - This may be useful to yourself my own child - or to some of your young creatures - of course to a child you would not give so may drops - and now I am going to give up a Recipe that Emma sent me in her last letter for you - she says John, who is so very asthmatic finds benefit from it - but it must be perservered in [For the Asthma - from Emma] ¼ oz. of Elecamane and ¼ oz of Patent Ginger moistened with Barbadoes tar, sufficient

to make pills - the pills to be pretty large - five or six to be taken in the course of the day for two months or three months.

But if dear Fanny there should be a little one coming - the cause of all these plagy attacks of Asthma - take care that this medicine is a safe one - it might cause something wrong for all I know - so pray ask Dr Hutchinson about it first - If you are in that way again - By the by you never mention the Hutchinsons now - & you did interest me about them - The day before I left Town I paid a long visit to Mrs R. D'Olier - Her looks & Spirits are improved I think - She is very handsome & pleasing - & enquired very affectionately about you & Tom & every one of the young people - Elizabeth I saw for the first time - she has a very pleasing countenance - and seemed very affectionate to you all - but in particular to Bessy who seems to have been her own dear friend - she would like very much to hear from her - so when you have an opportunity - I hope Bessy will write a nice long letter to Elizabeth - it would be a pity not to pursue the intimacy so happily begun - Indeed I do hope my dearest Fanny now that I have a house of my own - that I shall have a visit from time to time, from one or other of Your dear girls - Last year I was so unsettled & knew so little what I was going to do that I could say nothing about it - but now my dear beloved child - that I have a home and a comfortable one, I flatter myself that I can have my dear Grand daughters sometime with me - and I think a visit would be useful to them & that they are such rational sensible girls that - though very different in many respects from their mode of life in the Backwoods - it would not make them discontented with it to be with me - & to see a little of the old Country - Oh how I wish you my own dearest could tear yourself from all those little plagues of young Children who keep you tied at home - next year if I do not go to visit you - I expect you to send one of your dear girls to me - If you find a safe companion for her - when you answer this tell me if it will be possible - & how it could be managed. To return to Mrs D'Olier - I sent in the first box the little memoir of the last days of Mr Richd D'Olier wh I promised you - Dont forget to give me a nice message to read to her - Mrs Wollesley is better a little - but very delicate still -

I once told you the story of the Book wh I cd not get published - but you never told me what you thought of it - part was about Canada you know - I am as I mentioned before going to try very hard at some book now - to earn a great deal of money - as I have got much into debt - between all my various expenses of House & furniture &c. - & been obliged to borrow money - but hope to work myself clear in the world - I am going to try some sort of book for young people about a little girl who I want to make very interesting & not unnatural. Scene chiefly in Ireland. I received the letter in wh you gave me a commission for the paid stuff - long after the box had been dispatched - but I got it, as nearly as I could like what you described - 40 yards at 1/6 - and also the 2 new Cocks for the Teakettle - 10' - The amount of all three pounds ten - and packed in a box I got made on purpose just to fit it - had it sewed up in Linen - and gave it to Mr Jameson the day he was to sail for Liverpool so tho' he has not written to me, I hope he has sent it off long before this

I received your last letter dearest on Saty morning here & wish you had sent it off sooner as I might have been able to add to the things in that box at least some shawls for winter - & now I shall have no other opportunity this year I fear - but as the cheap cotton shawls of the kind we

used to get they are out of the world - none to be found now but there are other kinds that would do - & I will be on the watch for them - unluckily I have not always money just ready to snap up a bargain - But your order for shoes never came - do let me know it & all the length & soles & kinds - & I may be preparing them against Spring - So do you allow for growth in your measures. I found a good cheap shoemaker lately - an honest man whose shoes I am told wear Uncommonly long & well - a pair of strong walking shoes about your size he only charges 4/6 for - So tell me what you want & I can have them to send by an early ship - I wish you would send me some seed of the Duckfoot & some roots of Asphodel - I am quite ashamed of forgetting the Primrose ribbon - next year I will - I am going to make a memorandum of that now and of all the things you mentioned in your letters

Mrs Waller & Maria & Robt & Mrs Noble have just come - all very well & send kind love - Mrs Noble & Maria going on Wedy to pay a visit of some days to Mrs West - Mrs Waller stays at Athboy to take care of Robert. Oh do tell me who were the offers that dear girls have had - I must stop - God bless you my dear child Evermore yours most affectly & lovingly H B

[Addressed:

By Liverpool

1 1 via New York

9 paid

1 10 ship packet letter

Mrs T.A. Stewart

Douro

Peterborough

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

July 6

stamped:

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Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

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78-008/2/10 #174

Edgeworthtown July 30, 1840

Dearest Fanny not having been able to obtain any exact account of the sailing of the Boxes when I wrote last - I am forced to write again sooner than I ought in prudence, however much I may like a good excuse for a letter to my dearest child - I heard the other day from Mr Jameson- who sent me the above receipt which he advised to send to you - & so I am following his good advice - & before I go to any other subject I will copy for you what he mentions of the other box, which I sent off in a great hurry - & which I find did not leave Liverpool for many weeks after. The Coeur de Lion for Montreal sailed from Liverpool on June 12 or 14th - and the Young Queen in which the box went, containing 40 yards of Plaid Stuff - sailed on the 16th July - and I do hope you may receive both safely my darling child - & that the Plaid may satisfy you - as I could not find any of the exact pattern you described I thought it better to get as nearly the description as I could - for in every shop they assured me the article you mention is not exactly to be had anywhere and I shall be most anxious to hear directly of the arrival of both boxes, and also whether the things I invented as being most wanted are acceptable to you & what you like. Your Uncle Sutton had paid me for the Stuff - & also the new spouts for your tea-kettle - which I desired to be of the best quality - They were each 5d - & the man said he was sure they would fit any kettle - I hope so - The Stuff was 1/6 a yard - I could not find any that was cheaper - in most shops they asked more for it - I got it at the Irish Woolen Warehouse in Castle Street - you [5 inches are missing from the top of the page where a receipt has been cut off]

[] I wrote to you from Trim the 6th of July - and now my dearest I am once more writing from poor dear Etown where I am glad indeed to find myself one more - after four years absence - the place & every one here like myself looks much older - The great storm destroyed many of the most precious trees and laid bare the poor Dingle so as to alter its character completely - & on the other hand in some places the Laurels & trees have become quite over-grown

The weather is now growing fine & I am in hopes will be now sufficiently settled to bring on the Harvest which is very promising in fullness & in luxuriance - but wants sun very much - If the wet weather continues it will be very mischievous but every one ought as yet to hope the best & not be despond - Assured as we ought all to feel that the Almighty disposes of all who careth even for the Sparrow - will not let us be reduced to beggary & misery without good reason - Certainly many suffered severely by the failure of the Crops last year - Gentry not receiving their rents & therefore unable to pay their trades people - & they of much distressed - And every one more or less We staid at Trim 3 weeks - went there on the 30th - & left it on the 22nd July - & during that time we had but two entirely days. A plan had been formed, of going to Tara as I mentioned in my last from Trim - to see the remains of the Royal Palace of the oldest of olden times - & of the great hall with eight doors - but there never was weather sufficiently good for such an expedition - nor any to dry the ground enough to allow us to walk about - Some how or other I contrived to get cold while I was at Trim & I have had a bothering cough for some time - but it is much better now - & indeed not worth naming except as part of my life

& adventures & to account for not having been able - from prudence - to go out & about as much as I should like -

Harriet Butler had a cough when we went to Trim, which had stuck by her for a long time - however it is gone now - and her looks much improved - She devotes her whole time to the education of the little Foxes - & very nice little girls they both are

Fanny E. looks pretty well but she has lost the fresh look she had for years which gave her such a youthful appearance - She has never looked the same as before since she lost dear little Sophy. Maria looks pretty well - & seems in very good spirits - but one of her eyes is swelled & inflamed - & looks much less than the other. She is writing something - but I dont know what - no one has read it - I hope dear Anna & Ellen & Bessy amuse themselves frequently with Maria's works. They cannot read them without improvement to mind & manners - If they read attentively - It is a long time now since I had any letters from your dear girls - I know you cannot conveniently pay the inland postage of their letters - But I think there are frequently opportunities by friends coming to the old country -and so wish that one or other of them would always have a letter going on & then when any friend is coming - they might just seal it up in a hurry - While writing - they would put in any little thing of any kind that they liked - for whatever they write will be very interesting to me & I should be very sorry to think that I was to lost their letters - poor dear Girls - Your friends here are beginning to wish them married - but I should be sorry they were thrown away. However my dear, they must not be too hard to please - for I am afraid there are no men scarcely in your present country half nice enough or good enough for my dear girls so Mrs D'Olier says - She heard the report about young Reid but contradicted it being sure there could be no truth in it - and indeed I do hope they will do better than make such a choice as that. I am longing for another letter from you, and very anxious to know about your crops this year - I hope you may have no such horrible Hail storm this year as that last summer - & that every thing may thrive. I am anxious also to know if you have removed yet into the new part of the house which you mentioned in one of your letters, the plan of fitting up for yourselves & Girls - I wish very much you could afford to add two log rooms to what you already have - which I think would not cost much (tell me how much)

I fear the seeds I sent this year will be too late to be sown - and indeed I dont believe that would have produced well - all the flower seeds seem so very bad this year. If I can manage it any way I will send you a fresh set early next year, if they ripen well this autumn - Tell me all the kinds of Roses you have in your garden - & what you all wish for - And be sure you tell me what Tom & all wise people thick of the Union of the two Canadas - it seems to me a very doubtful Measure. I am sorry Mr Wade is gone to live so much nearer you - dear Fanny - take care - & be on your guard - For yourself & daughters - he is unprincipled & plausible. Poor dear Aunt Mary is much bent - body, neck, & even face - much more so than when I last saw her - She comes down with her maids assistance every day after luncheon - & sits in an armchair in the bow window & nets & people either talk or read to her -or indeed frequently drops asleep which I feel somewhat inclined to at present though only 4 ½ - This day is lovely & they are drawing home the hay - & every thing is bright & pretty - Lucy is exceedingly kind & attentive & devoted to Aunt Mary - & Fanny talks a great deal to her - reads also to her. They all sit at a small table

which is placed at corner of the Liby table - & the reader is close at her Ear - They have been reading the life of Princess Daschkow lately published. Do you remember Miss Wilmot's returning from Russia after having been some years with the Princess Daschkow - I am afraid you were too young then to remember it - She has had the M.S. ever since - & from some particular reason never published it till this year - it is so very entertaining

I heard on Tuesday from Maria Noble - all well at Allenstown but pinched in room as they are adding to the house - it will improve the Drawing room but it is a pity since he is making an addition, not to go a little more expense & make it such as would give good bedrooms instead of little bits or rooms

The Suttons & Bessy going on well at Kingstown. I have not heard this month of our Cork friends so I can only hope they are well - All at Gloucester Place very well - but only think of my writing so much without telling you of the birth of Sophia Palmer's little girl - The nicest little babe in the world & most intelligent looking Honora says - who seems as proud as a real grandmother. Willy Palmer says the eyes are like his Mothers - so they are as happy as possible - it is to be called Helen after Mrs Palmer -

Lucy is very well & Fanny Wilson astonishingly improved, walking & sitting like any one else - and able to take long drives. I believe I had read your last letter dearest Fanny before I wrote last however I may as well thank you once again for you dear & kind Birthday wished dear child - Frs & Rosa are still in Italy - their fine boy Willy is with them - but the baby is here - She is dark & very like her Mother - She is a year old but does not speak a word yet - Now adieu my very dear beloved friend - ever most dear to the heart of your attached Moone

Love to Tom & all the young people

Your Aunt Sutton did not remember having sent you any nor where she got it

Lou & all your old friends of this house send their most affect love to you They wish to hear about the girls but I have not been able to read them any bits of your letters yet

The Christening is to be some time in August I hear - in Sepr I believe Honora & her two Girls will come here - Frs will afterwards join them & make a little Tour but nothing settled yet

The distress every where in Ireland is quite dreadful

[addressed:

By Liverpool via N York

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

Peterboro

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

July 39 By Private ship

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78-008/2/10 #175

Kingstown October 17, 1840

My dearest Fanny

I am commissioned by my good man to prepare for sending you your half years account and I gladly accept the offer, as my scruples respecting the postage you must now pay for every letter restrains my pen from being taken up, as formerly, upon trifling occasions. We as individuals, have gained much by the new regulations, only paying a penny for each letter we write, & each letter we receive, within the bound of half an ounce - but your pleasures are sadly curtailed by it, my Fan, which is a matter of serious regret. As I now confine myself to two letters a year I must endeavour to write close & stuff them well. Harriet gave a very nice account of you all, you dear parents and children, just received from Mrs xxx whom you rescued from her brute husband - (I cant think of her name at this moment) It was very satisfactory also to see Mrs Woodward, who in one short visit, seemed to have taken very accurate note of you & your girls. She said your house was extremely neat, & had an air of comfort & even elegance not often met with; the books were not lost upon her. She is a bustling stirring body, & she says she hopes to pay America another visit in process of time.

Well, I take it, you have been made acquainted with the events relating to George & our dear Kate, by Harriet or by Kate herself - how Mr Alexander, the Rector of Portglenome, Craigs & Ahoghill (all forming one parish) is dead - immediately the parishioners, who one & all idolize George, sent the strongest testimony possible in his favour to the Lord Lieutt praying him to bestow the living on the curate George K. who had done the whole duty for a long time. This was signed by all classes, dissenters, papists, & all - & several whigs & radicals to boot - The event of all this is that the parish is divided into 3 moderate livings, each made independent benefices - Craigs is alloted to George, and will add better than £ 200 per an to his income p a new church is partly built there & a glebe house must be forthwith begun - Ahoghill, with its fine house & Glebe, go to a Mr Tyrrell, a politician & Government supporter - I anxiously hope he may also be a man of true religion & follow up all the good our dear George has done in that locality - I have told all this though I dare say others may have also done the same. Now go to the 3d page & I will leave this for the pounds, shillings & pence

1840 The Revd Thomas Sutton's account

July 8 To half a years interest of

Recd in money in the funds

October to half a years interest

from J. Waller

£ s p

14 11 5

59 10 9

£ 74 2 2

The bill to be drawn for 62-12-2

with Thos A Stewart, Esq.

July 14 By cash to H.B. for things bought for F. Stewart

Oct 10 By one years interest on debt of £ 200

By cash in hand of T. Sutton

for the next bill

Also cash sent by Miss Bellingham

for Mre Foullis £ 2

3 10 0

10 0 0

60 12 2

£74 2 2

This place had agreed remarkably well with my dear invalid, who thank God is very different from what he was last winter, when we knew not the hour it might have been the Lords will to take him from us. He still suffers much, and all human appearance must suffer pain while he lives, but he has intervals of ease & his strength & his looks & his appetite have all improved - about the 2d or 3d November we purpose removing to Dublin - he, being quite unequal to the journey to Rockfield where the affection of our dear children would fain have us. Harriet & Louisa have found us a house near them the late Mrs Jocelyn's, 16 Fitzwilliam Square (direct there) being old fashioned, & rather shabby in point of furniture, - we have got it on reasonable terms, and I trust it may prove comfortable to my dear husband, who is my first object in this life - Ever since we have been at Kingstown we have had some of the dear Rothwells with us, bathing, under God's blessing, has been of the greatest use to Bessy; and agreed well with all

her children who came to us two at a time till all had their turn - I wish your children & Bessy's might have grown up in friendship together, but the Lord has willed it otherwise - Harriet has sent us £ 2 which Miss Bellingham gave her to convey to Mrs Foulis through your name - Your Uncle will not confuse his accounts with it, but let the bill drawn now include it - He will give none of your money to anyone without an order from you or Mr Stewart, so if you want any paid here let him have your directions in black & white.- The Coolmine family complain much of Stafford & Thomas for not writing to them, I fear their sister Catherine is in a very alarming state of health a cold & pleurisy have taken such a hold upon her that the medical men look very grave upon it. The rest of the family are well - So are they at Rockfield, Allenstown & Athboy vicarage - The respective mistresses of the two last names expect each a shoot from the parent tree before Xmas - so does not the lady of Rockfield, for which "God be praised" - now as I am too old & blind for cross writing, I will say adieu when you write tell us all & every thing of your dear self, husband & children - no lack of subjects when your own home contains all I want to hear of - Heaven bless all it contains is your dear Uncles wish as well as that of your ever affectte M. Sutton

[addressed:

By N. York

The Honble

Thomas A Stewart

Douro

Peterborough

Upper Canada

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per first ship

to New York

post paid

stamped

SHIP LETTER

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

KINGSTON

1840

LIVERPOOL

NEW YORK

SHIP

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1840]

78-008/2/10 #176

Hatch St Oct 25, 1840

My own dearest Fanny - I had been longing & longing so anxiously for a letter - & was beginning to have foolish uneasiness about you - when to my very great joy & relief came your letter of Sept 2 which I received on the 16th of this month - and heartily delighted a grateful I am dearest to find that you & all your dear family are well - The account you give me is very cheering and so also is that in your letter of the 17th to Rockfield, which Mary Sutton was so kind as to send me. You have been indeed a long time without writing - but knowing how much it cost you to send letters - I thought you were waiting till you could tell me of the arrival of the box - but at last I began to be afraid you were ill - so you may think how great a comfort it is to know that you are well - & all of you; - to know that you received the box - It seems wonderful to think of the number of years we have been sending boxes to you - & that every one has safely reached you. I long to hear now that you have got the little one also - in time to make up the plaid dressed for your little boys - I wish I could have added to either cargo as I should have liked, from myself - but poverty increases, & I begin to think I shall never have any money ever again at my command - so I now do little more than forward to you what others in their abundance can give. But even that source - is something as I am glad even to do that much for my child & that it is a great pleasure to think that I am ministering to your comforts. I shall be very glad to know whether I hit upon the right things to send to you & whether the Stockings are large enough - and also if you want shoes sent out - I have found a very good honest shoemaker & reasonable in prices & if you could give me measures I could get a set of shoes made - to be ready to go out in spring - but you must say how much money you will lay out on them. While about business - I must mention first of all, that with the money sent you just now by your Uncle are two pounds - for Mrs Foulis from Fanny Bellingham - the 2ndly I propose to you in my last letter of Sept 15 that Sutton shd pay £ 10 here to Mrs Lucas - & you keep her ten pound - which I thought a simple method of managing the affair - Mrs Lucas is quite satisfied with whatever way I may settle it; but your uncle declared he could not do that without a special order from you & Tom - & that if you send the order he will pay her in January - will you then be so good as to send it soon - that I may be able to settle it all satisfactorily to all parties. I took a car at last & went to Lucan on Sept 22d & spent a long morning there - for I arrived at Mrs Lucas before 12oc- & between my visits to them & your Aunts I staid till past four. I was very glad indeed to make acquaintance with your friend Mrs Flood - & to hear from her so many little particulars about you dear beloved Fanny - & all your family - The most pleasing accounts certainly she did give me of you all - & more particularly, of the happiness - the affection & union of the whole family - all so affectionate & kind to each other - & each so amiable though so different in character. (You see I am as much plagued by my pen as you are - This ink grows like a puddle so thick - I must put some water to it but now it is time to go to prayers - for it is half pst ten) Mrs Flood described you all - & her account of you was better than I had expected from your own account of yourself - By the way - I hope that Master Stafford K. does not forget that he is to replace the likenesses he lost so very provokingly - But to return to Mrs F. she spoke of you & Mr Stewart & the whole family with much affection - &

gratitude - particularly of you dear - who did so much for her - She frequently mentioned how kind you had been to her but she never alluded at all to Mr Flood's conduct or the reasons why you had done so much for her - & I liked her the better for her reserve - for though we quickly got very tolerably acquainted, still I was a stranger to her. When she was out of the room Mrs Lucas told me that Mrs F. had had a very artful letter from Mr Flood - she said that he had insinuated horrible things about Mrs F's character - & conduct - but whether in that letter or not, I am not quite clear - for the poor old bothering woman put in so many parentheses, so many apologies into all she says that besides confusing the scene, she never gets to the end of the thing she originally began - & tho' she was anxious to say all this before her niece came down - yet she spent 2/3 of the time in apologies about taking my time & gratitude towards you - But the chief part of what she said - & desired me to write to you, - is that - Mrs Lucas is very desirous to have a sort of declaration in regard to Mrs Flood's conduct, drawn up and signed by Mr Stewart & Mr S. Kirkpatrick & any other respectable people whose judgement wd be of any weight - Whether this wd be of any use you & Tom can best tell - but it would at least gratify the poor old lady - She seems rather afraid Mr F. will persuade her to return to live with him - She would I think be a great fool to return to such a savage. As to Mr Wade's opinion of the matter I would not give much for it - and what he says or thinks of you my dear good creature is of little consequence - You know a person like him would of course be all on the other side - as for appearance sake he wd wish whatever his conduct might be to have his wife stay.

Let me know soon what you decide on doing about this declaration or certificate I may call it - You had best send for Mr Stafford K - to talk it over with him - & I think you said there was some other Magistrate who advised Mrs Floods leaving when he turned her out of the house - I wrote as soon as I got your letter to Mrs Flood to tell her of it - & in her answer received yesterday she desired me to tell you that she & the children are well - "I may add happy - the children have not one moment of sickness since our arrival here - tell her also she must write to me - but this I am in hopes she has already done - I fell for Mrs Alex Thorpe - the winds are so unfavourable this time of year - between letters & money & myself, poor Mrs Stewart will have had more trouble than we are all worth - it was strange it should so happen this was the first year any thing had been sent out to me. Do not think about the delay of my Aunt's money - I only consider dear Mrs Stewart who has had so much to do for me, I even think that nervousness on my account brought on an attack of Asthma while I was with her in June. I have been picturing them all to myself sitting out in the shade - particularly Mrs S. & Bessy who was her constant companion. Their climate is certainly very delightful. I hope you may one day breathe the same air with them, tell Mrs S. how faithfully I have endeavoured to plead her cause in behalf of a visit from you to Auburn where you will be sure of meeting kind & warm hearts - Tell Mrs S. I had a letter from my husband dated August 12th - he mentioned the death of Mr McDonnell's child & having seen Mrs Stewart at the time of its being interred" -

That is the end of her message to you - but she tells me that she & your Aunts had been one morning in Town since I was there & they came in so late that they were too much hurried to call here though they had promised me they would - They were so afraid of not being in time for Lucan House dinner. Aunt Jane had come solely to get a pair of shoes - a search which occupied most of their time - & unsuccessfully for she had not got them after all. The day I was

at Lucan poor Mrs Lucas gave me an excellent luncheon of cold chicken & cold beef &c. & when I went on to your Aunts they had fruit &c for me so as I could not stuff all in they put apples & pears & nuts into a towel & forced them upon me - to take home - They bring them away in the evenings from the desert at Lucan & often give them to the little school boys - for you know the school for the sons of the Clergy which was at Etown for a few years is now established in the house that was the Spa Hotel at Lucan - & succeeding well - though not as healthy I think as when it was at Etown -

There is another school established there

Oct 31 - I found upon enquiry at the Post office that the Halifax mails go but once a month - & that this would not go till Novr - so I did not finish it as there was no use in its lying in the post office so long before - The last accounts I had of Sutton - which is several days ago - he was tolerably well - it was a remarkably good day for him - but all his evenings are painful & suffering till he takes the Morphine - which as yet still possesses its influence over him - & by that means he sleeps a few hours at the beginning of the night which is a great matter to him - & keeps up his strength. They have taken No 16 at the East side of Fitzwilliam Square a house Mrs John Jocelyn had & wh now belongs to Mrs Bourke. It is a cheerful one with east & west sun- & a bed in the back drawingroom wh is a great convenience - because going up & down is so troublesome & now if he does not like visitors he can easily retire to his own room. They are to come in for good on Tuesday the 3rd - I heard Mary was to be there today, to take up the things - & when it cleared up at 4 o c I went to see her & ask about Sutton - but she had not come - The morning was very bad - completely wet, foggy, & odious till between 3 & 4 when it cleared & I was able to get a little walk on the flags - but now it is raining & blowing as much as ever - at near Six - I am dressed for dinner & am scribbling as hard as I can - because I grow sleepy if I write after dinner - I am afraid I shall not have much time to write tomorrow - for besides being Sunday which is in itself an objection, we expect by the Bristol Steamboat - both Lucy Edgeworth and Jeannie Brabazon. Lucy I believe I told you went to Engd immediately after Frs Honora & their little girls arrived at Etown - not in order to consult Mr King about pains she had in her hands - but to get him to do something to her teeth which were in a bad way. He advised her to go to the Sea - & she went to Fanny Wilson who was at West Cowes in the isle of Wight - she had been for some weeks with her & is very much the better for it - improved in strength & not complaining as much as before of little aches & pains that were coming in the right hand - Jeannie Brabazon has been most of the Summer in Engd with Archdeacon & Mrs Disney. She has twice fixed on days to come back - but two different Saturdays she has put off coming -

Sunday Evg Novr 1 - I am obliged by various causes to write by slow degrees - & I could not finish last night - So now being as yet awake & not being able to go to church I will give you a little touch of my penmanship & tell you first of all that last evening just as I had done tea I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from dear Anna - dated Sept 30th - but the Peterboro date outside was Oct 3 - so that the letter has come in 27 days which is delightfully quick - Pray kiss my dear Anna for me & give her my thanks for her nice affectte letter - I will answer her very soon - but as yet the Halifax packets leave this but once a month - this is what they tell me at

the Post office - where I went a few days ago to enquire all about it. I am always delighted to hear from your dear girls - & felt very sorry when the stopping of the packets of letters interrupted my correspondence with them - but the expense was too much I know for you to pay - I was wanting to put into one of my letters a little note to her but I was afraid of asking - I am afraid my troublesome enemy is come sure enough - it came - & I took a little sleep & am now I hope awake for the Evg

Jeannie Brabazon has not arrived today - but Lucy did - just as I was putting the tea in the teapot for breakfast she had a very delightful passage. We left her to lie down when we went to Church at the Asylum. We heard a great character of the poor Dean of St Patricks from Caesar Otway in his sermon - No one was ever more universally & deservedly regretted - he was so charitable - so active - so useful & so mild - You will see a great deal about him in the Evg Mail which I will send tomorrow - I wish I knew whether they will charge more than 2 ½ d for a double letter if it does not go beyond the weight. - I congratulate you dearest on the reduction of the postage - & myself as I shall I trust hear the more frequently from you - & I cannot tell you how anxious I feel - & uneasy, about you when many weeks pass without a letter from you to me or somebody. I wish you would send me a plan of your new House - I am happy to hear that you have begun it - & shall hope to hear all the particulars of the putting it together & erecting it & everything about it from you or one of your girls - but pray send me the plan - & add to it the 2 rooms you have already - & where they are to be connected with the new erection; and I hope you have placed it so as to have a good view of the River &c. as I shall be quite disappointed when I got to you if there is not. There are two or three beautiful creeping plants that if it be possible to get seeds of for you - I will, against the new house & trellis are ready for them - but except by seeds I dont know how it is possible to send them to you - parcels & boxes are so long going to you. I am so happy that the things I sent by guess were just what you all wanted - I hope soon to hear the particulars from yourself - & long to know if the stockings fitted - They were cheap as to price, if they wear well - & if you send over any Commissions this year - it will be wise to get some more if you can spare money for them

I hope my own Tablecloth - wh I dare say you remember of old at Merrion St - fitted your table - I hope to send the rest of them next box in Spring - I want to hear of your getting the 2d box in time

I am very sorry I assure you not to have seen Mr Falkner - And very much disappointed that he did not see more of the Gloucester Place people - but you must know he never gave them his address. When Rosa saw him the day he called he told her he was going to Bath - that when he came back from Bath - he would be at Hempstead - but would call again then & tell her where he was & where to send parcels for him - So she got ready 2 parcels & kept them there for ever so long - till at last thinking he must have left England - I got them over & put them in my box. She liked him & they would all have liked to see more of him - I wished so much to see him

We dined a fortnight ago at Clonskeagh Castle to meet poor dear Catharine Hamilton who has lately come over for a time - to visit all her friends - she spent some weeks with Mrs David [Peter] Thompson in the South - & then came for a very short time to G.T. - from where she

went to see different friends - She looks surprisingly well considering the life of anxiety she has had for some years - for Mr Hamilton has you know been more or less deranged this long time - they are now living at Torquay in a very nice little place - & he is sufficiently manageable to be allowed to remain with her - She has a Keeper who acts as Servant - & who has great command over him - Catherine was exceedingly affectionate & kind & glad to see Louisa & me. She told me a great deal about her eldest daughter who is almost grownup now, & a very nice sensible girl with an enquiring mind - fond of Mathematics & Geology a remarkable arithmetician & botanist &c. She had a Tutor who teaches her all those things

Francis & his party have returned to London. They only spent one day here on their way. Rosa was ill all the time she was at Etown but is much better now - Honora - well & seems very happy but anxious - & she is sometimes hurried - The life is very different from her former one. Sophia Palmer & her baby & husband all going on well - Wm & Emma & their family all well - & at last pretty well settled in the place they have taken Pulcarragh House - but much vexed by a new road wh was made directly thro' the prettiest part of the lawn - dividing their orchard - quite spoiling the place. The have been also vexed at Edward not returning this term to Durham College he is idle but clever - I don't know what they will do with him. Poor dumb Francis the most perservering & diligent creature went back to Durham & passed his Examinations very well - he has but 8 months to finish his college course & will then be ready to be employed by an Engineer - but I fear it will be very difficult to obtain employment for him in consequence of his infirmity - Willy is going on well at Brinny wh his father gave up to him - he is a very Zealous good clergyman - John still in the north of Engd - attending post office business. The girls all well - none of them married alas! - all of them well educated & calculated to make excellent wives - but they have no fortune - & indeed have very little opportunity of being known they mix so little with people - I should be sorry they were to marry some poor man inferior in education or in any way unsuited to them - just for the sake of being married, or from the idea that it wd relieve their father & mother from the expenses of clothing & supporting them - it is a plausible reason - but bad in reality - for such a match is sure to entail of the poor Parents they imagine they are relieving the weight & care of all the grand children - besides though I wish young people to marry & be settled comfortably - I think it more important not to be in such a hurry as to marry without a suitable provision - I don't mean grand settlements but sufficient to ensure them from being a burden on their friends - and to enable them to settle themselves tolerably

F E is well Aunt Mary had had a cold but is better - Frs E has returned from Italy and will be a great comfort to her all the winter when they will be a very small family for Maria is going to London in about 3 weeks - After she goes I will do so, & then perhaps come to Etown or else stay here alone - but I hope she will not stay here for besides being solitary which she does not mind - it is more economical for us both to be from home at once - & that I study now - till I get out of debt - which I am sorry to say I am not now

The Lynes are all well & have very good accounts of John who has been in the Pyrenees & is now going to winter in Rome - he is much better & stronger. I have not seen them so bright & cheerful this long time - They drank tea with us on Thursday last - just [] with ourselves - & asked much about you & sent love over & over - Kate is going to make a little collection of shells

for Anna - which she intends to send her from herself - & will I am sure be glad to sent them
Hamiltons are well - Mr H came back quite well from Harrowgate & Buxton - All at Rostrevar
still; in their letters desire kindest love to you -

Aunt Sutton I believe wrote to you all the particulars of G Kirkpatrick's little living - it was a pity
Govt would not let him have Ahoghill where the congregation were so attached to him - It was
very crass - however he likes the Craigs very much & McNeil the principal person in the parish is
a great friend of him - The Tythes are well paid by these people. Kate is very lazy about writing -
how different you are my own dear excellent creature who have a thousand times more to do!
- Poor Miss Cath: K is in a bad state of health - & not much hope of her I hear - Poor old Miss
Susan Colville is dead - she was in a miserable way for a long time - & suffered much latterly -
Her sisters were with her in her last illness - Margt Colville sent me a China vase with a bunch of
wax flowers in it as a little memorial of her - it had belonged to her - & wrote me a very pretty
note with it

The Bp: of Meath is dead - he has left Miss Alexr his house in Gt George St - furniture Plate &c &
70£ a year - she went through a great deal & was really worn out - she was an excellent
daughter. We called last week on Mrs Peebles & Fanny Bellm, & sat some time very pleasantly -
all well & Wm going on well at Howth the house he built there on speculation have been very
successful - & he is now enlarging his own - His little brother is going to enter College. I called
on Mrs J Stewart since we came to town but she was confined to her room by a cold - I had a
note from her since - & I wrote to her after I heard last from you - but it is near one O Clock me
eyes are tired & I must go to bed.

Monday - Though the Barr has fallen still lower, it is fair this morning - & not foggy - What a
charming summer you have had my dear people - & how very delightful sitting in your woods &
reading - Oh, how glad I shall be if ever I am able please God to get to see you - indeed I do
hope I may - but it well be long before I shall have been able to lay up any money for such a
project - At all events I must try to get my book finished - & sold, wh is the most doubtful point -
but I flatter myself Murray will take it - as Bertha has succeeded so well. It is now in the 4th
Edition - You ask me about it - but I have not room now to say much about it - There is a young
lady - who likes to be told interesting fact of any kind - or anecdote - & who had frequent
conversations on some point either Religious or natural history or common history - or any
reasonable thing not much known already - any of the facts you collect or observations any of
you make may be useful to me - but send them soon - for I intend to write very hard all winter. I
want Anna to send me the size of the Mud Turtle she describes. And I beg you to tell me all
about the Plaster of Paris wh Mrs Flood tells me was put on your land last year to manure it. For
subjects of Religious discussion I have as yet taken the early prophecy of our Lord scattered
thro' the old Test. and what that is done. I am going to take all those places in the New Test.
when Christ alluded to his own Divinity. I should be extremely oblgd to you if you can suggest
any nice subject that has not been much discussed now. Pray answer this

Louisa is pretty well not very, I think she has worked too much at the garden at wh she had
been very busy - we have got it dressed up very nicely & contributions of plants from every

friend besides buying some - but that is rather too expensive a part of the pleasure - She had taken the garden quite to herself wh is much the best plan - as it is so small, but in a plan can be followed in it - & she lays out the arrangements of it as she fancies - & it interests her even tho' it may tire her - & I am sure pleases her - & as yet every thing has grown wonderfully - far better than they had at poor 31 -Except a few things wh grew you my remember so well. I wish I cd have taken some of them with me - I long to hear from you all your Excitement terminates who is appointed to be Sheriff &c. - Pray tell me how to direct mail now that your district is divided - God grant peace & comfort to you all - I am quite well - Mrs Waller & Maria are soon to be in Dublin with the Suttons - I can say no more but my love & blessing to you all from ever your own loving Moome

Your old friend Dr Singer is now a Senior fellow - Mrs O'Beirne has been in Engd all the summer with the Miss Cosgroves & is now in London. I dont know whether she comes over this winter yet - Poor Mrs Cse is very indifferent & Sneyd very poorly - I don't know how she lives poor soul She is seldom able to write - he writes for her when with her

Are yellow Dogtooth violets plenty with you? - I wish you would save some seed of it for me & any other pretty things. adieu dearest ever your H.B.

did Collier ever send you a little parcel from me containing "Tales of the Rectory"?

[addressed

packetBy Halifax

Quebec

Nov 30

1840

UC

Mrs T.A. Stewart

Peterboro'

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

paid 1 shilling

PAID

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

NO 2

1840

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78-008/2/10 #177

Mare ville December 1840

My own darling [dearest] Fanny

A thousand thanks for your most welcome latter dated the 17 Oct. it is a comfort to think how soon a letter may now arrive from yr country. How Thankful should we be that yrs contains good acts of yr dear household. We heard from Mrs Kirkpatrick, who was here the 1st week in Nov that you had passed this summer in better health than usual which gave us true pleasure. May the Lord long continue to bless you & yours. Your kindness to the poor Brownes will I trust be returned in blessings on your heads - what a sudden termination to poor Williams short life but if the Lord had chosen him for his own All is well now. This time last year we all suffered great anxiety about George Black who returned from France in a brain fever supposed to have been brought on by a stroke of the sun but the Lord graciously restored him to perfect health of Body & Mind & it does not seem to have left any painful impression on his mind & altho we felt deeply afflicted at the time how little do we abound in thanks giving & praise! It was just at the same time dear Edward Johnson died - his end was very peachful & happy. he seemed to fell the full meaning of this text wh he repeated constantly, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him might not perish but have everlasting life" he often called Mary to his bedside & said "Oh love just think, God so loved the world" When the Drs offered him Medicine he said "if you choose, but I would rather have my texts" - at another time he said "Jesus is precious, what would death be without a saviour. The blood of Jesus Christ clenseth us from all Sin" & the day he died he made the Governess hold up his hands two or three times while he repeated "into Thine hands I commit my Spirit; Thou hast redeemed me O Lord of truth" - "Sorrow not as those who have no hope" and many other such texts were repeated by him to comfort his Sorrowing widow he often prayed God to bless his "widow children" & took leave of them all some days before he died - Some months before, he could not bear the thought of leaving Mary & her 6 children but latterly he had no fear He told me the Aug. before to thank Mrs Darling for her kindness while he lived with he " She knows what trouble is but I never did for goodness & Love had followed him all My life." - he then told me where to find the Key of the Vault at Derryaghey Church as he said he did not like to tell Mary; he wished for no ostentation at his funeral - he spoke so calmly & cheerfully that it made us all feel quite composed, no one could express any thing but thanksgiving it seemed to be so plainly the effects of Grace in his heart as he had felt so differently in the prospect of death some months before - he wept & said he hoped he would be spared to Mary & the Children as he thought they wd do so badly without him - but when I heard him bid Tommy good bye he said "Well Tommy the Lord bless you" that is all I have to say to you "The Lord bless you" He was such a gay lighthearted youth when you remember him but his health had been declining almost imperceptibly for several years - It is curious that his dear sisters second boy is like him & her eldest like poor Thomas Johnson if you ever saw him - We were greatly pleased with our Visit to Ahoghill this summer The Boys are very nice creatures - so far forward in every way - You have hear by this time that we have not the happiness of having Mr K & yr Sister in Malone

nor have we any other Minister yet. They are pleased at having got part of their own old parish & Mr K was the principle person in getting the Church at Craigs built last year so that it is quite a child of his own.

We are much obliged to you for Mentioning the Reids so particularly we feared we had offended them by the last parcel we sent. Give our affect love to them & to your own 10 children as well as to their Papa - Alexr is happy Papa & husband & our dear children are very strong & hearty - the little girl was very delicate last year but this year thank God she is as well as possible & the Boy has never had a days sickness in his happy little existance of 12 months. The Sturrocks, that is my Aunt S. Harriet Read her husband & two Babes are in the act of removing to Belfast all quite well. Aunt Black George & his wife & Son and Helena inhabit Stranmillis - Ellen & Edward Clarke & their son 15 College Sqre Belfast - John Black & his wife still live in Bourdens - Mary Johnson is at Kingstown near her sister Letitia Thompson in Dublin - They met Lidia Mitchell & 3 of her daughters in the Street lately, we had not heard of dear Lidia for a long time & never hear from her - We hear of the Mathiases thro Mrs John Stewart & Mrs Johnson Ellen Mathias or Mrs Wheler had been very ill but is better - Mary Clarke & Kate Bellingham live near Wm at Howth. Wm is doing very well. We never hear from Froods. I believe they are living at James place. The Younghusbands have returned to Ireland Martha and J. Hull bought Wt - Ida near Dromore & Wm Y. lives with them. Mrs Will Younghusband died the same week with E Johnson. he was never! concerned about sending a clergyman to her. Miss Richardson who lives at poor dear Lakefield has given £ 100 towards building our Malone Church - she makes good use of her money & has plenty to spend - Lakefield is kept in nice order but poor Wilmont is crumbling down. The new house Mr Montgomery has built at Ballydrain is very handsome. We sometimes see Mrs Wallace Legg. She seems to be a nice & unaffected little woman. She is delicate at present but I hope there will soon be an Heir to Malone. Mrs Wallace & her daughters Mrs Temple & John Lindsey still live in Cheltenham. Mrs Wallace is a surprising old Lady at her age able to walk in the Garden &c &c I thought her very like my Mother when I last saw her. She & Mrs Younghusband are about 86! My Mother is 66 - She & my Aunt Black often walk into Belfast & enjoy excellent health thank God - Their Grandchildren as well as my Aunt Sturrock are great comforts.

I must say fare well my own darling Fanny. Shall we ever see yr dear face & those of your children, If not in this life let us earnestly desire to meet in a better & more glorious state where there will be no more tears

Ever yrs attached M I Wilson

We all send our most loving love to dear Tom - he has our heartfelt wishes and prayers

[addressed:

prepd

Mrs Stewart

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Douro Monday 14th Decr 1840

My dearest Harriet -

I have at last the pleasure of telling you that the little box with the Tarten has arrived after all our fears & frights as to its safety - it has been sadly delayed somewhere for Edward saw it in Montreal at the beginning of October & as he was not returning immediately he desired them to send it on under charge of the public forwarders & expected to have heard of it having arrives here long before he did - but it never came till last Thursday - however it is all safe & dry & in good order & just the thing we wanted & every body likes & admires it & we are up to our chins in work, preparing dresses for all our boys - each of the six are to have little tunics, or coats & trousers - with black belts & blue caps - & Kate is to have a frock & cloak of it too - & Tom says he must have a coat too - but it will look horrid & we all want to prevail on him not - but he seems determined - Well my dear On Wednesday last a rich post came in & brought a long letter from you & another from Catherine, by the new Halifax route. They were dated 3d Nov & we got them 8th Decr so you see that was very nice - They reached Halifax in 14 days - but the tedious part is between that & this.

I am writing with a pen made of those nice quills you sent in the box which are I assure you treasures - but from some cause I can't discover, I cannot write at all decently - The pen looks plausible enough - and the ink is that which you sent me - properly diluted to prevent it from thickening too much but I cannot write you see - so I must try a steel pen - but they cramp my hand however I will write small & close & give you I am afraid a little more trouble to read it - I am glad that you & Mrs Flood have met - & I hope you may often meet for I think the more you see of her the more you will find in her character that is estimable - we only knew her well latterly for poor dear little soul - she was always under such restraint before that we could not half know her best qualities - fear of exposing her brute of a husband, & her own sorrows - made her so extremely reserved that people considered her quite an oddity - but we had the more reason afterwards to admire her for the very reserve & apparent coldness to many who wished to be her friends - Tom thinks it is better not to have that declaration or certificate drawn up which you mentioned Mrs Lucas was desirous of having - He does not think it would so any good for of course Mrs Flood's friends never could or would believe any such fabrication as she thinks he has set afloat - & what matter for the opinion of strangers - however Tom will consult Stafford & Doctor Hutchison, & Mr Sanford who are all her friends & equally acquainted with her & aware of her trials & provocations & if they think it prudent to have such a document written he will have it done - but he thinks it should not be done hastily - as if Mr Flood heard of it it might irritate him afresh - & do more harm than good - Tell Mrs Lucas that if we could see the least good likely to arise from it - we never would hesitate - but we have already done so much - & have been blamed so much for interfering between man & wife that we are cautious of doing more -

Wednesday Dec 16th 12 oclock day - Just as I had got so far on Monday Evening in came Mr Haycock & Frederick - & as Tom had just gone out I was obliged to sit do civilities all evening - & yesterday being a busy day from beginning to end I never could write till now - so here I am & I must return to Mrs Flood - I expect to see Dr Hutchison today & I will speak to him about her - & perhaps have some more to say - if I don't see him I will write again - I don't myself see what use it would be - I don't understand what Mrs Lucas meant - whether it was the stories Mr Flood told here - before Mrs Flood left this, that she alludes to - or whether he has written home stories about her - if she means anything he has said here - no certificate is necessary - for not one person of respectability believe anything he says against her - he is disliked so much - if he has been writing home, it seems to me equally useless to contradict stories which of course his own friends would never believe - & does Mrs Lucas wish to have this certificate sent home to her? - for we don't understand exactly you see - I wrote Mrs Flood a few days ago - but of course did not hint at this at all - as I had the message from Mrs Lucas & not from her - You did not tell me half enough of what she said about us - particularly about Ellen, who was her favourite - & who she used to call "her better judgement bag" - because Ellen used to help her to cut & make up things & arrange & pack up - She had a fancy to have Ellen married to her brother in law Mr William Flood - but she had never expected that for none of us like the name or connection tho Ellen liked Mr F. very well as an acquaintance -

Here again I have been interrupted by two sleigh-loads of visitors Mrs Miss & Mr J. Forbes - Mr Dixie to whom Miss F is going to be married Mrs Thos Lortye - Mrs George Hall - months have passed since we had so many visitors as have come within the last few days - 2 causes have brought them - 1st sleighing has begun & the roads are in tolerable order now & 2nd many friends have called to enquire about poor Edward - who lately met with an accident which alarmed us greatly & might have been very serious, but most providently has turned out not so bad - A gun went off accidentally and wounded him - in his shoulder - he bled most profusely - indeed frightfully - so that he was as I thought lifeless when brought home - & for some hours we feared he never could live - but miraculously the Dr says, no vital part was touched - tho' the space was inconceivably small between the wound & a great artery on one side & a muscle on the other which was only grazed but which would have injured the use of his arm - tho still wan & weak & suffering a good deal of pain - but we all have reason to feel thankful that the life of our poor excellent friend has been spared - he is such a useful upright honourable young man - so perfectly free from vice of every kind - & so attached to Tom & indeed to all our family - he has been so long with us & is so very trustworthy - he is quite like one of our family - & is generally supposed by strangers to be my nephew - as his name is the same as mine was - Tom is going to give or rather has given him the promise of 100 acres of land - which he was to have had two years ago - but still Tom has not been able to arrange it - indeed he is so useful I don't know how in the world we shall do without him - but he is now old enough to feel anxious to settle - & I have no doubt he will be one of the most successful settlers here - for he is industrious - & steady - experienced - & is able to do so many different things which will save him laying out money - he is a first rate carpenter as well as farmer & a good enough saddler to be able to make all sorts of harness than he is a shoemaker - which has served him a good deal here - He was to have begun to put the frame for our new building together & got all the boards ready to raise & finish it in spring - but this wound will I fear put an end to that - we get

on very slowly as all poor folks must do - Our labourers who come excavating were obliged to stop 'go home & dig potatoes' - & a few days after they returned the frost let in so severely as to end their labours for this season as the ground was as hard as iron -

Thursday 17th Another interruption came - up drove the Kirkpatricks & old Mrs Lortye then came dressing Edward's arm - then up came another cutter - Mr & Mrs Rodger a nice dear little couple - they paid but a short visit - at least only 4 years married - he is the Presbyterian minister at Peterboro - a well educated & exceedingly pleasing person - very mild & quiet - but cheerful & even sunny sometimes & one that all who know must love - Mrs Rodger just what a clergyman's wife should be - she too has had a very good education & is rational & pleasing - as well as conversible & they seem so happy together that it is delightful to be admitted into their little domestic circle - They are bot Scotch & I like their way of speaking too - the Scotch accent is not broad enough to be vulgar - as some have it -

This time 24 years my dear Harriet I was a bride - and driving along the road to Drogheda - it is a long time to look back to - a good proof I have around me - my ten children all drank our health today - & Tom is in better spirits than I have seen him for months - he is enjoying it so much - & indeed though I may have had trials yet I have had unbounded blessings which more than balance them - I have seen a good deal of life here tho so secluded - & the more I see of others the more reason I have to be thankful for domestic peace & happiness - we are indeed a happy & united family & the only thing that ever clouds it is seeing dear Tom castdown by anxiety & care - & this anxiety & care chiefly on my account - so it is his love for me which causes it - he is going tomorrow to Cobourg for a day with Stafford K - to some meeting about Emigration & I think it will do him good - he has been so very little from home of late - I often wonder how he bears the sameness of the life he leads here - passing month without ever leaving home except to church or seeing anyone except when the Haycocks come -

I was near forgetting to tell you about the Plaster of Paris it has been found that sprinkling or dusting Plaster of Paris over plants - or fields - will improve their vegetation - not by enriching the ground but by drawing or causing moisture on the plant - Tom dusted his oats & pease in this way last summer & all the spots where he used it - the luxuriance was visible - also some apple trees - he used the Plaster on one side of some trees & that side was greener & the fruit larger than on the others - there is story told that a gentleman who was bald - was dusting a tree in this way & some of the P of P fell on his head - & made his hair grow - but you may believe it if you can - another story is of a Yankee woman who had a very old worn Broom, & she told her servant to take some Plaster of Paris & dust it on the Broom to make it grow new!! - So much for nonsense. Ellen is going to send you the rest of her journal in the form of a large letter - but at present she is so busy making up the boys clothes she has not a moment - as Papa says they must be ready for church on Sunday - my time is divided between attending Edward - who is still helpless - as his arm is disabled - dressing his arm 3 times a day - writing - & cutting out the work for the girls to do - I am going this evening to walk to drink tea at the Reids -they are just going on as usual - growing old & the young ones growing old too - John is quite grey - & a curious little old bachelor - Mr Z Alkman has been at Toronto & I suppose will soon pay us another visit - I don't think he is quite as cordial with us as he used for we rather discourage

poor Henry's advances - I think they wished for a connection- but he has fallen off so much of late years that we could not like it - he is a good young man now - but is stupid & dirty & careless in his habits & persons & seems to have sunk in the esteem of his friends - I find I must now send this to the post & love to all my own dear friends who are kind enough to care about me - to all my own dear & near relatives & to the dear kind Hamiltons Lynes & all - I hope you are - my love to poor Catherine Hamilton & do so too to [Anna] Wade

I have never got any letter from Aunt Sutton about money at all. Oh yes pray ask Uncle Sutton to pay Mrs Flood £ 10 - on our acct. at the Marie Fosberry & the Gerrards, Mrs [] Thompsons & all - and now my own dear Moonie Adieu - Ever your own child F S

I wrote to Lou last month - this day month began a letter to you -

[addressed:

By the first Halifax packet

Miss Beaufort

9 Hatch Street

Dublin]

[78-008/2/10 #179](#)

[] anything but right I admired very much & think him a man of very strong sense - there for I dont think he would allow such things - Our poor dear sister Cathne Kirkpatrick is very ill. I fear in Consumption & I believe her Lungs are affected - however unless the Staffords have heard of this dont say that I said it, for it might go back to Coolmine, & perhaps be thought wrong - Oh I hope I shall very soon hear from some of you about poor Edward, & others too I am greatly interested

[addressed:

MORE TO PAY

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

care of Thos A: Stewart

Douro

Peterborough

Upper Canada

PAID

post marked:

BALLYMENA

JA 30

1841

PAID

JA 31 M

1841

PAID AT BALLYMENA]

[The crest on the sealing wax is that of the Kirkpatricks; the latter is evidently only the middle third of a letter from Catherine Browne Kirkpatrick]

78-008/2/10 #180

[] this winter, only Ellen & I went as some of the children had the measles which prevented Anna from going; we were to return to Mrs Wolseleys to sleep, but it turned out a dreadful night, so we danced till daylight & came to Mrs Wolseley's for breakfast.

We have all had the measles, six of us have just recovered, we have only been out of the house once or twice.

Thank you dear H: for so kindly asking if there is any little thing that I wish for - None of us can ever forget your kindness to us, nor do we require keepsakes to prove your recollection now & I hope you will write me one in return - I never wrote such a long one before - I promise to leave room - So now dearest believe me your sincere & attached friend

Bessie Lydia Stewart

Bessy has written you a long history of her life & adventures - I don't think I ever told you of her visit to Stoney Lake - because she begged me to leave it for her to write to you. They had a great escape & I have great reason to feel thankful, for neither of the lads had much knowledge of managing Canoes & besides they were ignorant of the intricate navigation amongst those rocks & islands - added to which they spent the night in wet clothing & without any covering except branches as they had gone in Summer dresses - without even Shawls - they did not catch the slightest cold which was miraculous. I suppose the Hemlock boughs preserved them from it - as it is a fact that even when they are dripping wet you may sleep on them - without taking cold; there is some virtue in their aromatic which it is said warms the body & preserve from cold. People obliged to sleep out in the woods - even on the snow or in rain - take Hemlock boughs - & cut off the tops which have small stalks & can make a soft & comfortable bed of them - & when without blankets cover them selves with the branches. Hemlock tea is often used when real tea cannot be procured & is a fine thing for colds -

[] Today we have been forced to take the rags off & leave the floor bare - in 8 months the whole had gone to nothing but shreds & threads - & our sixpound too - is it not provoking - but we will wait now & not have another till we are in our new house. This day March 1st we are drawing the squared timber for the frame - the Shingles are in the Yard, & paid for too - so far so good. Anna received your fine long letter on Feby 2 & will answer it soon - Ever F S March 10

I suppose you have got Bessy's folio which will tell you her adventures - This dear child is improving a good deal. I think you wd love her greatly if you knew her. They have all got over the measles finally & are able to go out as usual, but we had a troublesome business when there was so many ill at once - our accommodations are so bad, & we are so circumscribed in dimensions - My girls have got up their spirits completely - Ellen & Bessy are in wonderful spirits. They have been out at 2 pic nic parties & in the evenings at dances & one evening we had two or three here. Mrs Haycock sent word that she & her daughter were coming to spend

the Evg quietly with me - so Anna wished to introduce her friend Jane Ferguson to Helen Haycock - & Ellen went into town with Papa to bring her to tea. At the Post Office they met two beaux Edd Athill & Charles Forbes & Miss Ennis & brought them all for Tea - so we had quite a party all in a moment & by surprise - 2 young Haycock men & our own Browns & Ivan O'Beirne made plenty of beaux & they were all as merry as could be - after tea came In Capt B[] & his 2 sons. Edd Brown played the fiddle & they all danced. Ellen Reid was here too. At ten o'clock we had Sandwiches Cakes e& - after wh they danced more & sang songs - at ½ past one they all went to their respective homes - & all said it was the pleasantest evg - they had spent this winter - there were 7 young ladies & 9 young Gentlemen - old & young 23

On Sunday last - Tom Edwd bessy & I went to Church at Mr Wolseley's it turned out a miserable day of constant snow - we dined with our kind friends the Wolseleys & drank tea with the Crawfords who live about half way they are from Banbridge - very respectable people - we sat there till past eight & then came home - snowing as hard as ever & the roads so deep & heavy that we cd not go faster than a walk. Bessy & I fell asleep - Every one here distracted about the Election which is to come on next Monday. I feel quite anxious about it all - much fighting is expected & some bloodshed & violence feared - God preserve my dear husband & friends from danger -

Your last letter was a perfect feast it told me so much about all my friends - Oh give my love to them all

Ever your own child F.S

[] So you see dear Harriet how happy we are & how happily the summer passed. Mama & I walked after tea if Anna & Ellen could not join us. We drank tea one evening in Mamma's seat, & we carried up the cups and all the things required, and had Raspberries & cream. Papa & Mama were quite surprised when we brought them up to it, to see every thing so nice, the boys made a rough table & some long forms to sit on, & the Reids joined us, & after tea we walked till dark.

We very often have little dances among ourselves & play different games. We are all as happy as we can possibly be, I often wish you were here to join in our plays. I have not known dear Mamma to be so well as she has been both summer & winter, for years; Papa is very well & in good spirits. I often wish we had some pleasant neighbour at the Mill, we missed the Haycocks so much when they went to the Plains, but they have left that & are now living about five miles from this, we see the young men very often. they have hardly got settled yet. I am glad dear Mrs Flood & the children are so well. We missed them very much - particularly little Henrietta. She was my favourite & when I went to my seat I always took her with me. It was a happy thing for Mrs Flood to get away from that abominable man; she is a dear little woman - I have good reason to be fond of her - she always has been particularly kind to me just like a mother. I never can forget her kindness to me when I was staying with her in the woods we used to be together a great deal when they were living in the little cottage here - I often said my lessons to her - & spent the evening with her when Mr F was away amusing himself.

Now I will tell you of an excursion I had up to Stoney Lake with Mrs Wolseley which I think will amuse you so I shall give you a minute detail of the whole day with the Wolseleys. [] Papa allowed me to go with Mrs W. to see the Lakes as I had so much about them, so Mr O'Beirne and Robt Browne (who lives here) were to take us up in Canoes. We set off on our voyage one very fine morning about six - & promised Mr W. to return in the evening - Mrs W. Ivan O'Bierne & myself in one canoe, & Robt Brown with our baskets of provisions in a smaller one. About six miles from Mr W's we came to Young's Mills where the water became so rapid that it was necessary to land & walk, & to have the canoes carried past the Mill dam. This delayed us about half an hour. We enjoyed ourselves & admired the scenery very much. No one can form an idea of the beauty of those lakes, till they see them. - at least I could not. Stoney Lake is beyond description but I shall say more by & by about the scenery, when I finish the account of our voyage. About 2 o'clock, it grew very cloudy & threatened a thunderstorm but we went on. At last the rain grew very heavy & we got out of the canoes []

[] fate if my poor things. When we left the [] plenty of time to come home, & we landed on two or three islands to admire the Lake Y look at the Springs, for we were very thirsty & sometimes we saw water tumbling down the side of a rock and the gentlemen landed to get a drink - but to their great disappointment found it was only rain water running off the rocks; we went on a great way & at last it began to grow dark, & we were all thinking what we should do, for there were sunken rocks which made it exceedingly dangerous to venture on in the dark in our slender canoes, and on the other hand, Mrs Wolseley was anxious to get home as Mr W. was not very well that day & as she was uneasy at staying from home at night, however our fear of some danger overcame any other feeling and we determined to land again. It was nearly dark, we tried to light a fire, but the wood was so wet it would not burn, & out went the fire to our great dismay - however that was not a time to grow low spirited - They brought up the Canoes out of the water, & chopped some boughs of Hemlock - we luckily landed on a very fine rock flat & smooth - & Mrs W. & I spread the branches upon it as they were chopped.

We put one Canoe at our heads & the other at our feet & down we sat to pass the time as well as we could, not to sleep though; we talked & told stories & sang songs till daylight, and every now & then a great Bull frog joined in for the Chorus and you cannot think what a pleasant night we spent after all - we kept up our hearts wonderfully. The next day was so fine it made up for all the rain the day before.

We found out that our watch was nearly 2 hours too slow and that was what had put us all wrong about coming home at Young's. There is nothing very pretty about Clear Lake except Sandy Point, but near the head of it you get a view of Stoney Lake. The immense rocks at a distance just like a town - some of the rocks rise perpendicularly on top []

[written across letter:

Feby 28th - 41]

[78-008/2/10 #181](#)

[April 16, 1841]

As the first of the month draws near my dear Sister, I must begin my epistle to you, & who can say I am not regular in writing since I found out I could write without costing you a heap of money - I really did feel heartless about it when I never heard from you - You said some harsh things in your last letter to me, but "its no matter Ma'am" we will let them pass, & not send any more "reproaches" on either side I trust across the Atlantic, only one thing I must say in self defence that I do not "let my mind dwell on these little suspicions of imaginary unkindness from my friends" - I do say (with I trust true thankfulness to Him who watches over me) that I have very few of the Sorrows of human life - Some I have had however, but I never was one who made much moan about any thing, so I pass for being quite exempt - My very great warmth makes me as lively to wrongs as I am to kindness but what ever it is, it comes out at once, & I am no brooder over my friends' faults of misdemeanours towards me, I assure you - So here is an end of it, all I hope is, that sometime or other both you & your girls will know what I really am, - that I do most truly, & sincerely, & affectionately, love you all in my heart - I have written most regularly every month since December. I was in hopes I should have been able to tell you that our house was begun, but tho' I really do think it will be so; (please God) in a week or two now it is only so far advanced at present as Lime Stone, Sand & Timbers & Bricks being laid down there - The plan I sent you a sketch of in my last, is one that we dont altogether approve - so George has bespoken another & by next month I hope I may send you a sketch of it - I long to see the plan of yours & have begged of Harriet to send it to me or bring it if she comes soon - our poor dear Uncle Sutton is much in the same way he was, before the alarming turn his illness took in Feby. He had an Hiccup for 48 hours last week which frightened them all, & exhausted him greatly but he is in the same state of constant & often most severe pain, but his mind is clear & patience never forsake him - I hear constantly from my dear Aunt - which is a real comfort. I cannot fathom Henriette Kirkpatrick's stand off way to you - Are you sure that she has no cause for it? It seems so ungrateful & capricious of her, to one who was so truly kind as you were to her - At best, it is silly to go on so. I know your neighbours the Rs are no favourites with them, (not indeed with any, according to G. Wolseley's account) could they, or the Wades or any body have been making mischief do you think - If I were in your place I know I would just either speak to Stafford about it or write to her, & tell her that I had observed her altered manner & that she must have some cause for it, & that I begged of her to tell me as I was ignorant of any cause of it." This would be open & above board - This is the very way I acted when a neighbour of mine acted much in a like manner - I took an opportunity of speaking to her about it, & then it came out that a great mischief in the next parish, had repeated something I had said, & not at all in the way I had said it & with many pretty additions, & thus had been almost unknowingly, the cause of separating us, only that I had asked her honestly about it - I then spoke to the other Lady, severely enough certainly, & told her that when ever again she took upon her to repeat my speeches I begged that she would either do so correctly or leave it altogether alone, which wd be much the best way of the two, - Oh its unknown the mischief Gossip & Tattleing do - if I were you too, I would either bring or send the Girls to see

her, & show her in every way that you would go even more than $\frac{1}{2}$ way. - You know, that if neither you or the girls ever go to see her, how should she keep going to you - I myself do think that some body has been making mischief between you, or something of that kind.

April 15th Dear Fanny, I could not manage to get this finished before the first of the month, so I have it please God by the Mail of the 19th. Harriet sent me extracts from your Jany letter, in which you mentioned a letter of Decr last being charged double - I did not intend it should & am very very sorry, & I will take care for the future that they shall not be liable to it. We have a weighing Machine for letters here now, which I rather think we had not then - H: sent me the plan of the house you are building, it seems extremely nice indeed only I dont think you should have your bedroom at the North side of the house - We have only got a sketch of the plan of our's from Mr Lanyon, the architect, but such as it is, I will send it to you, & when I get the right one I will draw it for you - There is a most beautiful view down the river towards the South side to which our bedroom will look - there will not be an underground story at all to our's, being that the ground partially rises at the back, & it would be difficult & very expensive to get it sufficiently excavated - The bedroom story on this one will have 2 large bedrooms & 3 small ones & a dressing room or little study over the Hall & 2 servants rooms over the Kitchen - there will be 3 fronts or rather 3 sides without offices to mar the view - It will be about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour walk from our little Church, towards which the north front will look - the West front will face the road, & pretty cultivated peaceful common sort of a view - but the south view is indeed lovely - oh that you & your dear girls & Tom, might see it one of these days - Well, who knows? our dear little friend & governess Miss Garland has left us, & I miss her most terribly indeed both as a Companion, for myself & teacher of the boys - I think we will get a Tutor before long, if we can get a nice person in every sense of the word - This will be a most expensive year to us. We had to pay £ 2220 for the farm of 18 acres - & I am sure our house & little place, offices & all, by the time it is done will cost £ 800 or £ 700 of this we shall have to borrow I am sure, but we must pay it back by installments as fast as we can, by giving $\frac{1}{2}$ the Income of the parish (that will be about yearly) to pay it up so that in this way 5 years or so will I trust see us clear of the World again - I will not

[] to put more than this $\frac{1}{2}$ sheet of thin paper over the sheet for fear of your being charged double postage again dear Fanny - That letter that was charged so much have gone as a single letter at this side of the Atlantic as I certainly did not pay double postage here for any letters to you - If I had found it so I never would have sent it to you - God bless & keep you dearest Fanny, I hope I shall very soon hear again from you -

Give a thousand loves to all your flock & to Tom, & ever & ever believe me your fondly attached sister C E K

I dont mention dear Uncle Sutton as I heard my aunt is writing by this Mail

[Addressed:By HalifaxPost paid

MORE

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

TO

PAY

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

(Douro)

Peterborough

Newcastle District

Upper Canada

Stamped:

BALLYMENA

PENNY POST

BALLYMENA

AP 16

1841

BALLYMENA

AP 17

1841

BALLYMENA

AP 18

1841

PAID AT

BALLYMENA

PAID

AP 18

1841]

78-008/2/10 #182

Toronto April 27, 1841

My dear Robert

I am most happy to say that I duly received your welcome epistle a few days ago for which I thank you. I hope you will continue to write to me now and then. I feel much pleasure in hearing from you I assure. I have found out who the person is who so basely scandalised my character but I cannot follow your advice in regard to calling the individual out inasmuch as it happens to be a woman and that no other than Mrs Savage the foul wretch if she begins any of her tricks with me I am [] off I am determined I wont stand it and I told Savage so but he tells me not to mind it as his wife is a downright fool or not I am not so humbugged by her that I have made up my mind to the various lies which she has put into circulation I cannot now tell you it would take up all my paper but I will tell you soon when I come down when that will be I cannot exactly say but have patience and wait and I dare say you will see me soon only dont come and cudgel me if you please as I dont understand the art of self defense very well. The Bitch hates me I am sure for reasons best known to herself for I am sure I have done nothing to offend her that I know of but never mind it will soon be over. That is one consolation I know but if she dares to say anything more about me I must take steps to bring her to her senses. If you could only hear I like to come and see you I am sure you would alter your mind about cudgeling me and but you know I am not my own bos so I cannot leave just as I like. I would have been down long ago if I could have left with any kind of decency. I wish you would ask Edward to tell me in his next letter whether he has seen anything about his land yet whether he is fixed upon any particular part or not because I hope he intends commencing in the fall on his own hook I will be able to give him about 10 or 15 pounds if that will be of any use to him and if I find I can manage to give him more of course I will do it but you see I dont get such great wages after all I intend to strike for more in a short time and then I can give Ned much more than I have said - I am glad to hear that Wm Reid has met with a lady that suits him but I am sorry to say that I dont think I can repair his box. It is too far gone and wore out so you [] tell him it will take me [] to fix it which I cannot afford [] away for nothing so he must give his [] heart something else. The McCords of [] about you and Edward. He would be delighted to see either of you. Mrs Beekman also enquires after you. I go there very often and like her better than any one in Toronto. She is I truly believe my true friend and so is her husband. Old Christie I never see scarcely. I dont like him at all the old Spitfire. I have been removing to a new boarding house this week about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile up Yonge St. a most delightful walk and they are nice people I assure you. I wish I could come and spend a few days with me. I should enjoy it exceedingly but I am afraid it is in vain wishing in this respect but never mind Bob Dear we will as you say enjoy each others company the more when we get together which I hope will be before long when I come down I am going to bring a nice clock with me for Edwards house. I have got it cheap and it will be very useful. I hope Mr Stewarts clock & watch go well and also Neds. Let me know if you please for I like to know that my work turns our well if there is anything you want Robert I wish you would tell me and I will get it for you [] Now I suppose I must stop. I will comply with

the request of the lady and send a different seal every time I write. We have plenty of all kinds here and I will use them, and now Good bye My Darling I am yours for Ever Templeton Brown

[Addressed:

Mr Robert Brown

Care of T.A. Stewart Esq.

Peterborough Douro

post marked:

Toronto

AP 30

1841]

78-008/2/10 #183

Riverlawn - Cootehill

Co Cavan

Aug 13 1841

My Dear Mrs Stewart

You will probably be surprised about the 13 of September by receiving a letter in an unknown hand and apparently from an unknown person viz. the letter I am now writing - Your surprise may be a little, though hardly much diminished when I make you aware of my personal identity.

You probably remember, a long time since, a certain Reverend George Brabazon, quondam Curate of Navan and more quondam still married to a lady who once rejoiced in the Maiden, the very Maiden name of Heyland - If the friction of subsequent Events have not entirely effaced from your recollection the small occurrence of five and twenty or nearly 30 years ago, you may still perhaps find there, on minute search, some faint and feeble traces of an Ugly and disagreeable urchin, son of the fore-going George Brabazon who bore the hideous name of Philip - This same urchin has since that time by the lapse of years ripened (I can hardly say improved) into a man; He has duly become, in orderly succession, a Whelp, a Puppy, a Hound, a Manniken, a Collegian, a Graduate AB - ICD as a Deacon, a Priest, a Curate, in due course of Events hitherto so favourably consequent expects to be a Bishop - and now "Ecce Homo"! Here I am writing to my Cousin in Canada, of whom I have one, and but one Vanishing trace in my Memory to wit - that I was deputed by poor Aunt Bess, to make you hold up your head when walking which Charge I generally tried to carry into effect by some whole some, but I believe by no means gentle castigations applied to the back of your neck -

Sic transit - Gloria - excuse Latin; Perhaps Scotch will answer better - "Let bygones be bygones" now for transactions.

Will you excuse my making a request of you, the execution of which will certainly be a source of obligation to me and may probably be a means of invaluable advantage to a person for whom I feel deeply interested.

A young Man, by name, Andrew Higinbotham, left this about four years ago, and went to Canada. He first went to Hamilton and there entered employment, in a Medical Capacity, of a Mr or Doctor Layton, who resided there. He subsequently as I am informed, went to the Village of Brantford, and has purchased I am told the second establishment of his employer, from him which was in that Village. The fact is this - Previously to his departure hence, a matrimonial engagement was entered into with a most amiable young lady, whom I highly esteem - and by

whose request I make the following enquiries - trusting to your kindness to answer them, and implicitly confiding to your discretion in so delicate a Matter -

In the course of this Autumn he is expected over here, with the view of carrying the above engagement into effect - and not wishing entirely to depend upon his statement of his Means of supporting my dear friend and parishoner in comfort as his wife, at a distance of 3500 miles from every friend she has - it has occurred to me that it might be perhaps in your power to corroborate or contradict his statement - his assertion is that he is possessed of most extensive practice - has a large Medical Establishment in Brantford and to crown all, has accumulated 3000 Dollars - This in less than 4 years by a Young Man who went out without means seems rather miraculous. It may however be true. We should be very glad to find it so - but as an imposition before marriage in so important a point would not be a favorable augury - I am aware that Brantford is some distance from Peterborough and that a difficulty of coming at the truth may in consequence arise. Even so however I have conjectured that a Medical Man is likely to be known in Canada at a considerable distance, as they are probably not numerous or that there may be a traffic or other Communication between Brantford and Peterboro or that perhaps you may have friends or acquaintance in the former town, of whom you might kindly make the requisite enquiry - There are three especial points on which above all information would be most desirable. Has he or is he generally supposed to have the above account of property? Is he supposed to be at all or at least considerably in debt? And dear Mrs Stewart is he of good and exceptionable Character of course including not only ability, but steadiness morality and general Rectitude? Do you think I might confide a dear friend, and a rather delicate female brought up with all the conveniencies and most of the comforts, (say all) of Life, safely, to his care among the Suns and Snows of Canada.

You may depend upon my never letting it be known that I acquired from you any information with which you may kindly favor or procure for me as an Eight Year Ministry has taught me the valuable lesson of keeping a close mouth - I need not I am sure even offer a hint of the necessity of keeping these enquiries or at least the origin of them, from Mr Higinbotham himself, as it would probably hurt his feelings to suppose that any statement of his required verification and might ultimately upset the entire arrangement - Which if really desirable I should regret for the young lady's sake - I trust My dear Cousin when you consider the responsibility in some degree accepted of by me, in accepting so important a confidence as this, you will excuse the anxiety which has induced me to apply to you and Mr Stewart - and will as far as without inconvenience you can, assist me in the business of Enquiry. Of course as soon as you can I should be most anxious to hear, but would rather delay a little than leave any doubt, as there is not sufficient time for a second communication -

I trust that your own affairs are prospering and that you are happy - I know your preliminary difficulties were very considerable, but hope that the seed and labor there bestowed are now bearing the abundant fruit of content peace and independence,

I met Mr Reid from your neighborhood some years ago in old Merrion St - When I had some idea of becoming a Canadian Settler Myself - (By the way, Very little would bring me there still) I

hope he is well and happy; pray commend me to him - and also to your husband and family, though them I have never seen - And believe with Many apologies for the perhaps unreasonable request herein contained,

Your very affectionate Cousin Philip Brabazon

Direction:

Revd Ph: Brabazon

Cootehill

Co Cavan

Ireland

Harriet Beaufort is at Edgeworthtown and well

Louisa is at Harrowgate

Wm Beaufort at Glamuire - and well

My family all tolerably well

Doctor Layton would probably give information if he could be reached or could with safety be asked.

[Addressed:

Mrs T.A. Stewart

Douro

Peterboro

Canada

By Halifax

Per ship from Halifax

Post marked:

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[The wax seal is intact black wax oblong with script writing 'Ann']

78-008/2/10 #184

Ahoghill Glebe Oct 12

The time for dispatching my letter for the 1st of this month passed over in some unaccountable way - so I will just have to go by the 19th & now my own Fanny I must thank you or yours of the 25th of August received upon the 4th of Octr by me. Oh that sad wicked man C Wade! We heard the Castrophe from Coolmine about a week before. I wonder how his unfortunate wife can go after him - his example must be bad for his wretched Children - so depraved a being I have seldom heard of as him I think - you know he was said to have run away with his Governess when he was living at Chefstown long ago so the miserable wife has had a heavy handful of him for a long long time - those Wades are a strange seesaw set some of them, unfortunate Mrs Tighe for instance, - What are the Temporalities of the living of Peterboro: as in other words What is the Income of the Clergyman? how is he paid? I was desired to ask you by a Clergyman a neighbour of our's, a Mr Boyes, I dare say Tom knows who he is - he is some relation of Mr Watson's of Brookhill & of the skeltons (Fanny dear do you remember the poor "Skin of a Creature") Well this Mr Boyes is a most well meaning & painstaking Clergyman, but sometimes his zeal gets the better of his knowledge - but he certainly does a great deal of good I believe - If he received an encouraging account he wd apply for Peterboro', for he is very badly off here poor man - He has 5 young little attoms of Children & almost 6th & but £ 80 per An in the wide world to support them - so would you tell me about it when you next write -

You ask dear how we spend our time here. Well, I will tell you, & I am sure I would tell you any thing in the world that you would like to know - In the first place then I must tell you that we have given up for the present the plan of taking other boys to educate but we have got a resident Tutor for our own dear boys, a Mr Ormsby, very highly recommended to us, & as far as I have seen of him I like him very much. We get up generally at $\frac{1}{2}$ 6 - & are dressed about 7 - George then takes Georgy into his Study to hear him say his prayers & give him Scripture Instruction. Alexr is from 7 till 8 with Mr Ormsby in the Dining room which is their schoolroom - at 8 we breakfast, after which we have family prayers & George & I Alexr Georgey & Mr. O. read verse about of a Chap. in the old Testament. (We are in the book of Psalms now) & George explains it afterwards - at 9 Georgy goes to Mr O - & Alexr goes with his Papa, to his Study, & gets his Scripture Instruction for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour & then goes into the Schoolroom & he & Georgy remain there until about $\frac{1}{2}$ 11 - Then Mr Ormsby drills them for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour, out if fine - in, if wet - At 12 if fine we either drive or walk or the boys & their Papa, or Alexr & Mr Ormsby take a ride - They have from 11 till 3, to do what they like. at 3 they go into school again & remain until 4 when they decamp to dress for dinner - after this business they have to pass inspection by Mr Ormsby, & then they sit in the drawing room with us until dinner at $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 - after dinner the boys go into the drawing room & play at what they like until 6 o'clock (it is now too dark to go out) & at 6 they go again into the Schoolroom & remain until 7, when tea is ready, & the boys have from that, until 9 their bed hour to themselves & generally either make boxes of cards or play chess or German Tactics, or read or not - whatever they like - Now I will mend my pen & tell you what George & I do generally. I am generally dressed at about 7, then, I go & see

that all the Windows of the bedrooms are open & beds turned down to air & freshen particularly the Servant room and they have a particular objection to air & cleanliness without good looking after - Sometimes I have to make bread for breakfast such as a fadge or Soda Cake if we happen to run short of bread, then it takes me busy from that till 8 at which time I make breakfast - & while the Tea is drawing I read what ever book I happen to be about - which at present - happens to be "The Life of Wesley" - After breakfast we have family prayers & after that I generally write any letters or notes, order dinner for Parlour & Kitchen, (The Servants dine at 1) & at 12 am ready to drive or walk either of which I think it my duty to do each day - Most of my drives are to Craigs, for I have but few neighbours - Upon these drives we usually leave home about 11 - little Georgy & I on the car, as George mostly rides early & Alexr follows the Car on his little White Pony "Lilly" & rides home with his papa - We bring luncheon in a basket, & eat it in some of our new rooms sitting on the Carpenter's Chests, or whatever we find - We have 5 miles to go from this to Craigs - I often wish we were living as near our new building as you are - there is a great deal doing there now - & every room in the house has either Carpenters, plasterers, or people setting Grates & Chimney pieces Some of the bedrooms have got the 2d Coat of Plastering - Then there are Stucco-men at work at the outside, doing all that thing round the Hall door, & dressing room window with Roma Cement - (I am taking for granted, that you have got the Elevation which I sent in August in a letter to Bessy). Then we have Labourers levelling at the back of the house, where the ground rises & filling up at the front, where the ground falls. Levelling ditches, making drains, filling up drains marking out the Garden, which must be renched &c, above all we shall have to make an Avenue - for which, George is employing some of the Children of his Labourers, in breaking stones by Task work - I was upstairs for the first time in the new house a day or two ago, & I was greatly pleased with the bedroom Story - We have 4 very good bedrooms & 2 small ones upstairs besides the Hydraulic Apartments consisting of the W.C. (saving your favour) & a little room beyond it containing a plunge & shower bath with pipes for hot & cold water, brought from the Kitchen Boiler.

The Pantry is under these appartments, which is an Excessence adjoining the Kitchen, at the back of the Kitchen fireplace - There is a little fireplace in the Bathroom. You ask do I sew much - why no, but I cut out & arrange all the work of the house, & the parlour Servant sews, so does the Housemaid - & when I have a Hurry, I take in a Workwoman by the Month - Now soon, I shall have to get Curtains altered, & dyed, & bed ticks washed, & soaped or neated & filled, & Quilts mended, & curtains of beds mended & repaired, before we move - so I shall have to get a woman in then - I sew coarse things myself or things that dont require any good sight or much nicety - I never was a very neat worker & tho' my sight is not bad yet I cannot see things near me as well as I used to do - but my distant sight is as good as ever thank God - I have had "Ellen Walsingham" & like it greatly ind. Poor dear Uncle Sutton is just in the same state only weaker each week yet they dont seem to see any near prospect of a release - Bessy is to be confined about the end of this month & poor Aunt S. cannot be with her! But she will have Him who is better than Mother or Sister or anyone & who never slumbers or sleeps - Cathne Kirkpatrick has been with her sister Mary, for some time for the benefit of the Sea air but her Cough is now very bad & she is to go back to Coolmine today I believe - Poor Mary drew a sad lot for her - the old man she married has been for the last year quite childish & very irritable tho' I hear he is

not at all so to her - but it must be dreadful to have him as he is Well, she did it with her eyes open (marrying him I mean) for no one wished her to sacrifice herself as she did - He is very rich I hear but he made no great settlement on Mary - Dont say anything of this to the Staffs for fear as you say it might go back again God Bless you dearest Sister. Love from all to all from George the boys & all from your ever & ever attached sister CEK

[Addressed:

Via Halifax

POST PAID

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart

(Douro)

PeterboroughCanada

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[the seal is red wax with a round stamp of an Irish setter pointing]

78-008/2/10 #185

[to Francis Browne Stewart from Catherine E. Browne Kirkpatrick]

[] & give with just the Cold Air off it to them. These 2 cows are kept in a stable & just let out for about ½ an hour - they are curried like horses & kept perfectly clean - get Turnip tops & hay to eat during the day are taken out to drink water or twice a day - Well, these 2 cows at present give me 8 quarts each at a Meal. I churn 3 times a week - Monday - Wednesday & Friday - 2 ½ [] crocks each time, from which I generally have 5 lb. of Butter at each Churning - The Milk is just put up for Churning in Crocks as it comes from the Cow - some people you know only churn the Cream, but I with only two cows could not afford this so milk is just Churned - I have a very bad, damp, cold, Dairy here, as ever was - tell me how you manage & how much Milk you have. Oh, & beg of one of the girls to tell me how they make their bread & tea cakes & I wish Georgie or Charley would write to my Georgy & John & Frank to Alexr - when they had an opportunity, but I won't give up your letters, or the girls, for the chits - Was it not too bad of Ivan O'Beirne not to come near one of us! I doubt he is a bit of an O:D:T: which of the girls he is for - & nice kind Ed Brown, I hope one of them are for him - I am sure he would make them very happy - tell me all about every thing dear dear Sister. What made you say all that about your letters being overcharged - I dont think I even said any thing about any of yrs being so - What I might have said that Harriet scolded me for sending a double letter to you once - but if I did it was only charged single here for I always pay to Liverpool - this was all dear - Oh do dear people some one soon write & I trust you will have better news to tell of the health of Auburn - I must draw this long epistle to a conclusion

30th Novr

No account of our poor Uncle so I cannot give you any later news of him - God bless you dearest Fanny ever love fm affect sister CEK

[Addressed:

Via Halifax

Post Paid

Mrs Thos Alexr Stewart (Douro)

Peterborough

Canada

Novr 30th

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

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(the seal red wax circle with the Kirkpatrick crest)

Ahoghill Glebe

Decr 31st 41 -

I had intended to have a long letter going on my dearest Sister, but the household duties belonging to Christmas & tho' I have 3 Servants yet they are very unlicked stupid things, & I have to stand by, & do a great deal myself - or else the things may go anyway at all - then this house is going very much out of order, & it is really very difficult to do any thing well - It will make us enjoy dear Craigs all the more when we go to it - You will probably be moving about the same time with us, or perhaps the long continuation of frost will prevent your plastering being done soon enough - There was hot Lime put in ours or rather I should say the last Coats were used when quite hot which made it dry much quicker

Poor dear Uncle Sutton is still lingering between Life & Death - I had a few lines from my poor dear Aunt yesterday, written in very low spirits, but in a most delightful Spirit - Oh indeed it will be a great release, whenever the Lord sees fit to take him to Glory - Richard Rothwell is with him now, & will bring him to Rockfield whenever all is over - The day before my poor Aunt wrote - the Doctor thought that the end would take place in a few hours, for he could not feel the slightest pulse, for ever so long but to all their astonishment the dear Sutton revived again, & was able to speak again - It is a trial for my aunt! As I hear every day, I shall be able to give you another account before I close this perhaps - 9 o'clock - evening, the only letter I got today was just the same account as yesterdays! Perhaps Harriet will be able to give you later news - I hope my love, that the Colds mentioned in you last letters to Harriet, are well, & that you are all well my dear dear Sister - George & the boys never were so free from colds as this year I think, & George never was so much in the open air in all weathers as now - He also & the boys too, never wear Night-Caps now - & we all sleep with our doors open all night - I trust that attack of the asthma is gone off with you dear Fanny. I was quite disappointed at hearing of a return of it, but please God it was only an attempt at it - Poor Mary Rutherford's husband is in a most melancholy state. He has had 3 paralytic Strokes, & is almost in a state of Lethargy, scarcely taking notice of any thing or any body - When he is taken, there will poor Mary be just where she was before marriage 7 years ago, after having added a great deal of anxiety & care to herself during that time - I have never seen poor Mary since 2 days after she married, she has been quite lost to us, but she is as affectionate & kind I am sure as ever - I have had a very heavy cold, & this added to all I had to do makes me a little bewildered, & even since I began this I have had 150 interruptions -

New year's day- Many many happy returns of the season to you all, my own dear dear people - We have all great cause for thankfulness for the past - & I trust may praise God, & take courage for the future - You once asked me what way I dress generally & what sort of Caps & frills &c I favor - Indeed dear I dress as plainly as possible both from choice & also that I wish now to save in all superfluties until our debt is paid up - I generally wear Cashmere Stuff gowns, just made

high. In the mornings I generally wear white muslin Pelisses trimmed with a narrow frill or narrow edging - In the evenings I generally wear the same dress. In winter when we are alone & put on a lighter kind of Cape - My Caps are simplicity itself - I never bought more than 4 Caps since I was married, & for the last 8 years I have made them myself - If I ever could be near Harriet - when she is sending you a Chest I could send you 2 or 3 Caps made up by you as well as me - I never wear flowers which are now so common that even the quietest people wear them but George does not even like to see them on any one he has any say to - I trim my Caps with either blue, pink or pale straw Colour ribbon but with very little of it, just as quiet & simple as possible - Every thing is & about our house partakes of this simplicity - for instance the handles of our new doors at Craigs, & the Knobbs on the Window shutters, are of plain Ebony, not of brass at all. They look very neat & nice indeed - Our present drawing room Window Curtains will when dipped do for the Study at Craigs - the drawing room Carpet here, will just fit the dining parlour there, & it is very good tho in constant use for 5 years - Our present parlour Carpet, is "done" as the Northerners say, & no shame for it, it was an elderly Carpet (Common Kidder minster) when we came here, & we have had it in constant use now for 11 years wanting one month - so if we can, we must get a new Carpet for Craigs drawing room, & if we find it not prudent we will not - The parlour Curtains here were quite old when we came here 11 years ago, but they are surprisingly good, & will do rightly for the new parlour - The Bedrooms will do with alterations in Window & Bedcurtains &c. I have just heard that Mr Ormsby is going into Ballymena & will take this for me so I will stop now my own dear love of a Sister. My cold is not so bad today - God bless you & wish soon & with true & sincere love to dear brother Tom & my dear nieces & nephews ever believe me your fondly attached sister C E K

Remember me to Ed Brown & tell Ivan O'Beirne that he might have strained a point & come to see us -

Dear Fanny

It is indeed more than time that I shd take up my pen - I beg you'll pardon this my apparent forgetfulness of you - for believe me, it was not real - both thro' the Spring & Summer yr claims upon my attention & affection, were still present in my mind - but a course of events - joined I must admit - to my own rather procrastinating habits - involve me in the present inconsistency of conduct - then, you referred to it in yr last favr with such gentleness, that I felt much more blameworthy, than had your language bordered on reproach; but the truth is that I flattered myself in the notion of being previledged to lye by a little as I had succeeded in getting Sophia & Jane to come forwd with their plans - This however was a false ground for me to take, and the result has been, what is not very creditable to me as a correspondent - as to my not sending the Manchester Guardian, this arose, be assured, from the impossibility that I found to dispatch the papers in the time [after publication] proscribed by Law: they reach me irregularly - & I saw that it wd be only throwing them away to send them to a Post Office when past their date - but I may remedy this disappointment a little, by looking thro' a number of them, I still have & selecting such as contain any useful & entertaining articles - make them up in a little packet for Miss Beaufort to forward to you - I shall get one or two little books of Poetry for the gratification of Anna Maria & Ellen - whilst the other members of the Family will I trust yet receive some small memorials - like the present - of their unknown connexion - The anxious & long-protracted subject of Tilly's Costs of our woeful chancery suit I succeeded in getting legally adjusted last July - he gave me on the settlet & getting all the money decreed to us as Legatees - [about £ 750] a Doucher of £ 50 - the possession of which extra sum, affording me the means of gratifying the Girls by making an Excursion to Edinbr - Accordingly we set out on 1st July proceeded via Belfast to Glasgow & on to Leith - where an old friend, a Mercht expected us - here we enjoyed ourselves for four or five days - the Girls delighted with Edinbr & its scenery - when after visiting the Duke of Buccleuch's at Dalkeith & other beautiful places near it - the day being cold & showery - Jane became on the following day very unwell - confined to bed - & under a Physician's care - this however - thro' the goodness of God - did not continue more than a fortnight - it was an attack of billious fever - occasioned - I believe - by over-excitement & making too free with Scotch ale & cheese. This illness so deranged our plans of seeing sights - & spun out our visit so very near the bounds of delicacy, that we set out on our return - having both curiosity & taste but partially gratified - I limited the expence of the jaunt to £ 25 & we had not a shillg left - We crossed the Channel with Mrs Black of Stranmillis & she made mention of your sister to Lydia - She was on her way with Helena B. in the hope of change of air in the Isle of Bute being of service to her - We have determined [please God] in spending the winter months in Dublin with our Daughter Ellen - Mr Bagot has a good house & very large Garden h: Rathminus & as they have no children I may enjoy more time & quiet for reading thro' the winter than sundry occupations here admit of - I wish on Sophia & Jane's acc't - that you could manage as that Miss Beaufort wd unconstrainedly - make an occasional movement to induce the Girls to participate in the advantages wh polished society such as hers certainly affords - Lydia & I could not but feel grateful to you dear Fanny - did you [all feelings of delicacy being

consulted] bring this about - on going to Dublin, the first week of Novr as we hope I wd call upon her myself rather short in time as to Post here - so must hurry on - but in my Dublin retirement you have a chance of a more collectively written letter. Blay: is about writing, I hope he'll make ample amends for the deficiencies of this in giving all news - So farewell - To Tom & yourself Lydia sends her hearty love whilst the affecte wishes of all here and for the happiness of those under yr roof tree ever affectn dear Fan Wm. B. Mitchell

[addressed: Via Halifax

Mrs Thos A. Stewart

Auburn Cottage

Peterboro'

Upr Canada

Post marked BALTINGLAS

SEPT 2 1843

Peterboro UC

Sept 26 1843]

78-008/2/10 #188

Auburn Octr 5th 1843

My dear Aunt

As Anna has written an Account of her excursion to Harriet I think I must tell you of mine - The Bishop held a confirmation in Peterboro Sep. 7th, and I went to Mr Taylor's to assist my dear friend Mrs T. in the preparation necessary for his Lordships visit. She asked me to accompany her up the Lakes next day, as she was going to Mr Fidler's the Clergyman of Fenelon. I accepted if Papa & Mama allowed - when I came home they did allow me to go & at 10 next morning I went down to join Mrs Taylor. This was on Friday & we expected to return the following Thursday - We left Mud Lake at one o'clock very much too late. We sailed off in a small boat at the rate of 7 miles per hour but it was very dangerous to go at such a rate, so we had 4 oar men & went on. We had a heavy shower of rain, which gave us an uncomfortable, chilly damp feel & it was one at night when we got into the Parsonage. A part of the way had been very dangerous, as the wind shifted to a strong head wind, & really the men and oars seemed like play work. The waves rose tremendously high - the boat made scarcely any progress - but there was something in it all. The Moon was beautifully bright except when intercepted by black flying clouds. We had splendid scenery for by the moon light we saw each side of the Lakes distinctly - We were sick & tired when we landed - but the next morning we were quite rested and walked about admiring everything - for nature is in everything so perfect there, man had only to go & live there & enjoy it. There is everything for use and enjoyment, ornament & pleasure.

Oh the bed of petractions is beyond description I cannot yet think of them without wishing that I could have carried them all off home with me. I saw some perfect petrified mushrooms, but I cannot describe the many, many beautiful things of the kind which lie there in a bed of limestone, just opposite Mr Wallaces House. - It is such a beautiful place in its solitary grandeur. - Mrs Taylor & I walked & rode on horseback every day - paying visits to some friends who live there. &c. - Greatly enjoying ourselves though much tired every night, but still a feeling of fearing losing the opportunity of seeing scenes so well worth all we had come through roused us every morning from our slumbers early, & even made us regret when darkness compelled us to come in. However I had twice to give up & go to bed, stooping & removing large pieces of stone &c. - was too much for me. Thursday the day fixed for our going home turned out a dreadfully wet day. It was one continued pour, so we could not stir.

Happily I had put up some scraps of Hexagon quilt I was making & to these we set to work. Mr Taylor drew mathematical patterns for me as he used to see his Mother work & thus we were so busy a set we almost forgot the heavy rain. Mr Fiddlers kindness to us all was very great. Poor man his 2d wife died last Spring. He has three children. The poor man was so anxious for fear we should be uncomfortable that we were sorry for the delay, but we hoped the next day might be better - but next day came and still the downright storm & rain. At Breakfast we

looked at each other and said nothing - but tried to make the best of it. Think of Mrs Taylor having left 4 little Boys at home with only Servants! I am sure you can sympathise with her anxiety at being kept away! Well Saturday looked very bad, but did not decidedly rain, so we set off & were on the Water by eight & had just seated ourselves up in our shawls & cloaks, with an awning up we went on for an hour -then the wind sprang up cleared away the clouds & the sun once more cheered us on our way. The wind continued to rise & became very boisterous & the waves dashed over us & wet us through & through. For a time we were amused by watching every 3d wave jump in. Mrs Taylor had her eldest child with her - nine years old - & she began to cry at being completely soaked. When she stood up even her under clothes dripped. I was nearly as bad but we kept up our spirits as well as we could & laughed at everything we could find to laugh at in & admired the Splendid scenery which nothing can exceed the beauty of - We made very slow progress - day was gone & evening fast coming on. We were obliged to get out of the Boat for an hour, to get it through the locks & a beautiful warm sun shone & we walked the whole time, & thus grew warm & dry - When we got into the Boat again we were much more comfortable. Dark night came on & we grew drowsy. We might have been home much sooner but the Boatmen were slow stupid creatures & when spoken to grew sulky, so we could only let them take their own way - At last we were landed & happy we were I can assure. Our clothes felt like poultices so heavy from wet & hot from sitting so long. It was 9 oClock & we were 8 miles from Peterboro. When we got to the Inn we found that the Horse which had been sent up for us, had been turned out to grass as it was so late they had given us up. Here was a long delay catching it by lantern light in a large field. We were very hungry as we only had a little luncheon at 2 oc. thinking we should have been in time home for a nice warm supper. At last Jack was caught & with thankful hearts we all stepped into the waggon, bidding adieu to Mud Lake. We reached Peterboro at eleven, and after some delightful hot tea &c., we bathed our feet & off to our beds & so ended our excursion which after all we enjoyed much. Mrs Taylor has charming spirits & makes the best of everything, which is after all much the happiest way - what we saw was well worth all we went through - You will see by this I am no longer an Invalid & almost free from every pain and ache - petrefactions, shells & plants - Oh it is a wonderful place, everything there so new, so beautiful & to think how many years all this was unseen by any human creature! I had seen it 5 years before but the oftener it is seen the more there is to wonder at & admire. -

[78-008/2/10 #189](#)

26 Feb. 1844

Mr dear Beaufort

Mr Chatterton's plan of Paddle Wheel is one of a great many which we have examined, with oblique paddles - floats - some of these have been tried, very similar to Mr Chatterton's, and have not been found to produce any good effect, while its complication & increase [] [compound with common wheels] form a specific objection.

The experiments are about the most conclusive I have had to examine and Mr LLOYD who has just examined it with Mr Chatterton and discussed the matter for an hour, agrees with me in thinking that there is nothing about it to justify any expense being incurred in experiments upon it. I have however told Mr Chatterton that is Mr Napier, [who is now building 3 iron vessels for the Admiralty, and also constructing their Engines] will recommend the plan, then their Lordships will be ready to receive his testimony, and to give due weight to it. But I do not think he will do so.

Yrs faithfully

E W Parry

78-008/2/10 #190

A strong solution of Salt Peter [] well & when the [] thing is effected, a piece of this set in life it has given me so much relief that I was [] to tell you of it in this letter had not M Wilson by accident mentioned what she did - about a fortnight ago a friend of mine Mrs Sparrow wrote to me from Cheltenham about it & enclosed me some of the papers to try - a little son of hers [a Boy of only 10 years old] is strange to say effected exactly the same way I am - talking of Cheltenham reminds me of poor Eliza Wallace. She is making herself terribly remarkable by a mania. She had lately taken up & plunged with that violent energy she does into everything she undertakes - I am sorry, as all her real friends must be, and among the not good. Little Mrs A Binne [of Newry formerly] who you know. It is a very strange thing & we can have no doubts there is some power in our human frame of imparting some influence to that of another human creature that produces a heavy sleep or trance - if this were all it would be no harm, but it is sufficiently [] feel but it is carried to such an absurd extreme as to become quite profane for it is affected by many that while in this mesmoric trance the person can tell what is passing many miles off, what people are thinking of etc., etc., in that they become prophetic & work miracles & poor E W & many others I am told believe this [worse that absurd for I consider it sinful] nonsense - you know this was formerly called animal magnetism & it seems mesmeric was the name of the Discoverer & from him it is now called - ask Doctr Hutchison & Hay about it. I don't say they can tell you all that is said were I to tell you all dear poor Eliza has told me about it would fill this letter & only provoke you - as it does me.

She has quarreled with me because I could not be of her opinion - well - I hope it has not made its way to Upper Canada - with love to Tom & all the Bairns believe me affally

your A S

March the 18th

P S I believe I forgot to say when speaking of "D'Aubigné's History of the Reformation" that he has as yet only published 3 Vols or parts as he calls them - all this translated & you have []

D'Aubligné promises to finish it on a 4th Part, as soon as it is published here & you shall have it the first opportunity after - Don't forget to give me your opinion of his style - & what you think of women in her social etc., etc.,

[addressed: Mrs Stewart

Auburn

Peterboro

Upper Canada

via Halifax]

78-008/2/10 #191

Hatch St. April 16, 1844

Dearest Fanny I intend to write a very short letter this time - I am so busy trying to get on with the magnus opus - so first & foremost I tell you that the 2 boxes are gone in the Wm Fisher a fine new vessel into which Mr Jamieson has put them - They are consigned as usual to Messr Jones of Montreal & I am sure I hope they may not be delayed very long for I have worked very hard to send them off that you & dear "Nan" may have all your treasures as soon as you possibly can -

I have got the sketch of Auburn dear Fanny & thank you heartily it is really exceedingly pretty - and has been very greatly admired by all those who have seen it - Miss Wilson brought it with her a few weeks ago - just as I was beginning to despair about it & to fear it was lost - She got some friend to copy it for her. I saw her lately & she told me that Mr Gordon Thomson give a very favourable account of your whole family & says that their manners are so good - & that they are all so nice & so amiable - (I heard also from another quarter that Ed Brown is serving his seven years for Bessy - as Jacob did for Rachel - but I think he is serving twice seven years as I am sure he has completed the first seven long ago) But be that as it may - it is very comforting & delightful dearest child to have such cheerful pleasant accounts of you all - & to hear that you have had little asthma or none, for the last six months - & that are all so happy & so cheerful - & all in such good spirits. And I am glad dear Ellen is rewarded for her fine decision by seeing how much it pleases both you & the dear Papa - Your account of her is altogether very pleasing - Her being so much improved in every way - & in health - is such a comfort - each acting on the other - better health preventing irritation - & a calm mind causing better health - then all reacting one upon the other - and indeed I am sure it is very much for happiness as well, for she never would have been happy - and he has showed such insensitivity that his affection was not very strong. In due time when there has been a god long interval - & that people may not think her light or changeable I hope she may find some amiable man to suit her taste & that of her Papa & you & now with that good wish I will go to bed - as it is twelve.

Your letter of 13th & 15th arrived the day after I began this - I am sorry to say it is too late for the Boxes - for in your letter you expressed a great wish that the box should be sent early this year - so I was very anxious to get it off - & vexed that it now not of by the first of the ships Mr Jamieson recommended to me - it was at Liverpool before Easter - & from Mr Jamieson's last letter I think must have sailed before this.

17th Wedy mornng. How time does gallop on! it seems like no time since the 1st - and now here we are beyond the middle of the month already; - My letter of the 1st told you all particulars of the Boxes - I am fearful about the smaller box it is so slight - pray remember all of you, in all your inquiries for them, always to mention 2 Boxes. I have reported a hundred times that I finished the box so soon & for as it happened another week would have answered as well & then I should not have forgotten or omitted the things that to my great shame I did forget - but

at any rate I should not have had it open so long as your letter now of yesterday. I am sorry above all things that I did not know sooner that you wanted Blue quill - I will try and send you some - Louisa thinks it will die if sent in a letter - but I will go this morning & ask Nicholls & if he thinks a box of it could go safely I will send it in this.

Perhaps I may hear of some one going who could take that at least - it is so small - I want to send some seed in this also - Primrose seed - so I believe the quill should wait till next letter - as by that time I might hear of some one going to Canada by whom I could send a little gallipot of blue quill - I will try to do the best I can

Give my love to Tom & tell him not to be angry with me about getting money from Aunt Sutton for the Blinds. I had spent all, & more than had been given me by all the contributing friends - and had no more - even my own & as he seemed anxious for the blinds, & that it is certainly the greatest comfort to the eyes to have where the sun is so bright & not as with you - I thought it better not to miss the opportunity by a little backwarding on my part - from the fear of his disapproving of it - Nothing ventured, nothing have! and so I was to have money at any rate from M Sutton for Capt Portlaid's book it was as good to get a little more - the book was 24 shillings - & I will tell you about the blinds when I send my particular acct to you - but I cannot continue time for it today I know I shall be so hurried - for it will take some time to write copies & all my accts - & tell you about. I am sorry I mentioned the pain in my leg - for it is quite gone this good while - & it is only when I have walked a great deal that I feel it at all - & I seldom walk too much for Louisa cannot walk a great deal without feeling it very much in her back & we are very often are obliged to take a covered car - when I could walk rightly well - as to a Hackney coach there has not been any in Dublin these six years! Louisa has looked much better of late - & is so - certainly improved on coming to town - I think the change from the dry brousing air of Scarborough to the close damp air of Co. Langford & closeness of Maria's room too - must have disagreed very much with her. We have both escaped all Influenza or any other bad thing - I believe being out in the air, in part of every day have been a great preservative.

We have been very quiet since I wrote last - Passion week had that good effect on people - they are quietly at home On Easter Sunday we went to the morning Service at St Patrick's which is like a quiet county church at that time of day - & much pleasanter than the Anglican for the Sacrement.

Poor Dr Singer has preached but once these eight months he has suffered so much from gout - I saw him there one day, & he only read the lesson - & never has been able to come since - The gout had got to his knees the last time I heard of him - His elder daughter is in a miserable state - I thought for a long time that she was in a consumption but I learned the other day her head is at times quite wrong - sometimes seems quite sane - but every now & then becomes quite deranged - Dr R Graves has been this long time attending her - I fear it is a hopeless affair - He & Mrs S. were very kind to Louisa at Harrowgate - & I would have tried to drive out to see them when I came back to Town - only they have had so much illness I thought it was no time for a visit from a person they know so little - Their living so far out of town as Mr Anville is a ban to any great intercourse with poor people like me. - I have been every day hoping to manage to

get out to Sandymount to see poor Mrs Mathias that I might tell you in this letter of any visit - but I never could - I hear that she is well & quite resigned - indeed Ellen was so ill & suffering for a long time her friends ought to rejoice at her release - Mrs Stewart has had two or three notes from Mrs Mathias since that event. She consented to stay at Mr Wheeler till May - & I believe will go then to live with John Mathias - I hear he gets no business & is in the greatest distress & I heard the other day from a shopkeeper indeed who happened to speak of him that he drank terribly - so no wonder people do not employ him - I fear his wife is not kind to Mrs Mathias

One day last week we had a pleasant visit from Mrs Peebles & Fanny B. who looked very ill porr thing - so as Mrs Waller & Maria now coming to Town I invited them to meet them at Tea on Monday last - Moone also - I persuaded Mrs Peebles to bring both her daughters - for a general one stays at home to take care of the younger children - but her daughter Fanny is a great big girl of 12 - & I begged her to let her take charge of them for the Evg - so she did - I like both her girls very much. They are very sensible & unaffected & pleasing - They have both beautiful eyes but Eliza the eldest had too full a clumsy face - very like hr father & too red a skin. Sara is very fair & pale & very pretty indeed - but as to Mrs Peebles I declare no one would know she was their mother - She looks as young as they do - & much handsomer - I saw the 3 faces all together looking at a drawing - the hair of all in ringlets - parted at the top - & her face & hair looked as fresh & youthful as any of them - tho' she has had such a heap of children. Poor Fanny B. looks ill & was some time ago very ill she says but she has such spirits - & such ardour of mind about the Irish Socy - & Irish Beader and Irish Antiquities, that it helps I believe to support her strength at the time of any exertion - though it I fear will her out - She is a great favourite with Maria Noble - So I hope they were all very happy; Yesterday Aunt Sutton & little Bessy came up in the early coach - & joined Mrs W. & Maria at their lodgings. They never got very good in Leeson St not far down - about 3 minutes walk from this - the only unpleasant part & it is but slight, is that they have to cross the street from this - but they are so well placed they can get to Mrs Blakney without crossing at all - she lives in Fitz Wm Square next door but one to Sacks - & this makes Maria's mind easy about her mother when she goes off to Mrs Blakney's - Bess R. is to have a singing master - but both she & her G. Mamma have brought colds with them.

The Sacks are all well - & as happy as possible now, they have got the St H's with them - they arrived last week & high health. The Sacks are always most kind & affectionate to us all & always about you & so interested about you & fond of you dear Fanny. I read them the history of the wedding - & you would be amused if you knew how often I have read it to different friends - Monday last I read it to Mrs Stewart to whom I had had promised to read it long ago - but she was very poorly for a long time & could not have me - She was greatly delighted with the account & with every particular of dear Anna's happenings - & the description of the house etc., _ & several times she said - "How well Fanny writes! - & how well she educated her daughters - far beyond all the accomplishments that can be acquired in the useful education she has given them - & the taste of literature & improving their minds - Every day makes me think less & less of the value of accomplishments" - I am excessively happy dear Fanny, at Anna's having received such kind leteers from Dr Hay's mother & sisters - it is so happy for her to be received to the family in that way - & to feel that all his friends are well disposed towards

her - This is delightful - & the present token is very nice also - & I am sure I wish that my own dear good Anna should be rightfully valued & loved. There is a Scotch lady in Dublin now - a Miss Lamont - not of Perthshire, but of very good family - She is a friend of Anne Lynes & she asked her the other day if she knew the Hays of Perthshire - "Do you mean of Seggieden" & she - "Yes - I know a great deal about them - & I know they are most excellent people - & that Mrs Hay & her daughters live at the prettiest cottage at Killikonkey" - Another thing as pleasing, happened lately _ Mrs D Dolier asked Mr Nairn the minister of the Scottish Church near her - & his wife if they knew the Hays - "Oh yes I have know them for years" said she - "I knew them when children & have often had Tommy on my lap when a child" - These little things all confirm every thing that is pleasing of Dr Hay - I hope the time may come yet - before I am quite old & bothered & doating & blind & deaf - that I may see dear Anna & him here - but I will not waste my moments now building castles - All the guest houses have been altered & I fancy this must go to as earlier hour that it was

Mary Noble came a little while ago - just as we had done breakfast to invite one of us to go to the Sunday school meeting - Louisa was engaged to the garden where she wanted to work before the sun comes to it - & I was better engaged at my Canada letter - so Maria sent her love to you & bid me say she had quite forgotten the mid month mail or she would have written. She was at the Jew meeting yesterday & I heard a great deal of facts - extremely interesting - one was that 3,000 Jews were baptised in the last year - I am sure she will write all to you in some time - I shall send the paper - but I am quite disappointed at your not getting the papers more regularly - Being daily you ought to have heaps of them - I think you should keep an account for a month of what comes & then let me know, the dates of those that have not come - as soon as I have any exact dates to mention & ground my complaint in I will complain to the Postmaster - but I think they are lost in the Halifax or Peterborough Post Office - Do I direct them rightly? I send 5 papers today - & have put Colbourne District on; in hopes of making them more secure - one of them containing the lecture of the Slath - which I was at last week - some of which is very interesting - more so probably, in reading, than listening to, for Mr Ball is not a good lecturer by any means -

We expect Maria E. here about the 26th on her way home - We thought she was to go by Belfast & Armagh & that we should not have her here - however that plan is altered which I am very glad of, as now we shall have one day at least of her - & it will be very pleasant to hear some of the heaps of London things she will have to tell - when she has been at home one week her mother is to set out on her excursion - Pakenham will meet her at Liverpool & take her out of the Packet & escort her to London - I cannot possibly be ready to go with her to London as I once foolishly flattered my self - & indeed I think it better not for they will all be so happy to have her it will be quite enough.

Poor Mr Vansittart I pity her much & the other young widow also - I think you mentioned Mrs V. once before. But you had not mentioned Judge McKeyes before. It is pleasant to know you have nice friendly people near you - but I wish they were a little more literary it is such an advantage to young people - boys particularly to hear such conversation - it rouses and awakens their minds - & makes them love school better because they know that is the first step

to literare of all kinds; and it is most happy for a young man to have the habit of reading - & not just spend his life like one of his oxen between tilling the ground eating & sleeping - I am very glad to hear dear Anna's first entertainment went off so well - her plan is very good I think to have a few sociably now & then - & never a great many. But what a rake you were! to stay up till 4 o'clock for the young people from Mrs Hall's What did they do to amuse themselves all the Evening - did they dance?

I heard that Mrs Hall was not to go to parties at all - But to live very quietly - I am glad young girls were at it - & she is well enough to have many - and I am very happy that Anna has been visited by the best Society - & so she ought.

By the way I thought Kate had sent her the book she wished for & I found out too late that she had not - but Mrs Stewart has sent her something about Woman by a Mrs Sandford - perhaps that is it - when the others are married you will be quite at a loss for the excitement all they cause you - but then you will have to marry Willy by that time - Poor little Kate I am very little acquainted with yet - I am sorry she does not have Dolly - but I hope she can work & read well - I sent her a little book - & wish Id sent more -

Is Mrs Traill a Cat. or a Prot. Everyone says Agnes S. is a Cat. but I do not believe it - as Mrs Traill - I am sorry Anna has lost her as a near neighbour - Do you know some little suspicians have come into my heard about a certain young gentleman who has got a nice new Loghouse - but that is all I'll say now - I think each of your daughters might have two or three husbands if it was but allowable.

My dear Fanny - I do not at all like your present method of dealing with Mr Hall - it will just end as formerly with Mr Bethune - Give my love to Tom & tell him it is too much confidence to repose in a person of that sort - he lets him get hold of all his money & charge of course the very highest price of all the goods he supplied - Every one of your friends & Tom's - will remonstrate about it - He is entirely in the minds of other people whose interest it is to get all they can from him - & keep him always in debt - & always in their power -

I am sorry the box was gone so could not direct it as you & Tom desired - nor send one or two little things you mentioned - I cannot write to any of my dear girls now - I am so hurried & this so late - All well at E town & at po[] Curra & Armagh & London

Sophy P. as well as possible out airing & Baby fine - I heard from C S E that he was writing to you.

Thank God dearest that you are all so well & happy - I do with all my heart May Heaven help you well in mind & body & soul prays your ever loving prosy Moonee

April 17 one P M

[addressed: by Liverpool

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Mrs T. A. Stewart

Auburn

Peterboro

Colbourne District

Canada

by Halifax]

My dear AnnyOun, my dear Crick Crack Cow - my dear friend who preserves to almost grandmotherhood the warm feelings of girlish days, most heartily do Mrs Edgeworth & I thank you for your very kind note - the direction of which was recognized immediately - a letter which you wrote to me some years ago has been preserved carefully - more than one family has been interested by hearing well described account of your own family mode of life - Unhappy circumstances then kept me silent - Now I write at my wife's special request not without my own warm participation in the wish to thank your remembrance & to preserve it. We are much delighted with the marriage of your eldest child & hope that fate will continue to bless the new married pair. You have heard that my Mrs Edgeworth has a decided spine complaint - a very large projection of the back bone - a surgeon from London is now attending her - he comes from London twice a week & has made her quit her bed to which violent pain obliged her to confine herself to be flat on her stomach on a sloping couch & he says it does her good - but she does not say so - & he thinks the projection less but I don't think so - However she is able to have her bed made, & that is a comfort - but her strength is very bad indeed, & you know when the kitchen is out of order the whole house suffers - However she still takes pleasure in reading to herself & hearing me read to her & her mind is so active as ever - Poor Mr King [my brother-in-law] from want of health & want of management has been obliged to give up house-keeping & dear sister Emmalina has very kindly sent me my dear Charlotte's drawings, & these it is a pleasure to look over & with these you are associated - Mrs E is much interested about your housekeeping she is still striving to be a prime housekeeper herself - but there is always some draw back - We have no helper like your eldest - or any one of your flock - Your friend Harriet Beaufort continues our constant correspondence, most kindly for she receives no answer from Mrs E - to whom writing is almost impossible - Pray tell us how near you are to Lake Ontario - we find Cobourg on Capt'n Beaufort's map, but no Peterborough & we cannot locate you exactly - Harriette would be very much obliged to you if you will give her any hint in housekeeping - any discovery you have made - I suppose you have not read Martin Chuzzlewit yet - You have never seen I hope such American misery as he describes - Adieu my dear friend with every kind wish I remain

Yrs Affn

Chs Sneyd Edgeworth

Worton Hall

Isworth London

17 April 1844

[78-008/2/10 #193](#)

Hatch St August 14 1844

Though past midnight I am determined to make a beginning of my letter dearest dear Fanny - and just tell you that I am quite happy & delighted to hear that the boxes have arrived safely - & that you & all concerned like the contents - I am vexed at any damp having got in - & wonder how it could but I suppose it was put in some wet stores - or in the hold of the ship - however it is a great comfort nothing was spoiled I am very glad the shoes fit so well - I am sure I wish I had money enough to send greater plenty of those useful articles. I am disappointed that you had any doubts from whom the things were sent - for I wrote on each little parcel I assure you - & moreover mentioned in some letter too - & told you I think how I was obliged to take some of Mrs Stewart's things out of her parcel it was so large - but hope she will never discover it

I hope no damp had got into the Tin box & its contents & I want to know if the black stock was preserved from damp by the old silk I put it in - I got it after the Tin was sawdered unfortunately but was in hopes my little bag wd preserve it - so tell me - I must go to bed so good night my own dearly loved -

15th Bon jour ma plus chère enfant - It is exactly 6 by the clock which is too fast a little - & having read a little portion of Sacred reading which you know is always my first business I have determined to forsake my present child, to write to my own dear & beloved oldest child. Indeed my present young lady is of a very different disposition from you I must acknowledge so no one can say she is drawn for you. Her temper & ways are more like my own - but then she sings!! There is a lady in the book who tells her little bits of her story or life, (to speak more distinctly) she is married to an officer & is sent to Canada - a long time ago - & her sister who goes to visit her marries & remains there - the Officer's wife returns home - & some of the little curious circumstances that my 3 granddaughters have, and your own self have so good as to write to me from time to time - I am just now doing that part of it - & there will still be time for anything else you are so good as to scribble to me - I see advertised the Naturalists Journal for Canada - but have not seen it - & prefer giving only from your authority, if possible - I had put much of what you told me in the Tale while I told you of some few years ago - but never was published so I think of taking out those parts and introducing them here - Such as shifts & substitutes to wh new settlers in the woods are forced - bits of chips used for Plates, fir branches for bed - Shoots of fir for Tea - & various little things you gave me - a storm - a fog on the Lake - cabin etc - I will not say any thing in the world that can be applied to you - If you have any new & curious things for me to send it soon - & now I will tell you my present plan - but whether I shall be able to execute it Heaven only knows - Louisa & I mean to stay here at present - living as economically as possible - for I never was so poor - till I can bring my book to an end - Then revising and copying out much of it will take time - & indeed I must work very hard for this is now the middle of August - & much time has been wasted as well as money, by visits we have been obliged to pay -

Francis Honora & girls have pretty nearly determined on coming to N: Wales to Abergally for some weeks and my object is to join them there before they leave it & travel with them to London where I think I shall stay the early part of the winter - while I read to them my book & correct it - & if please God I can sell it I shall be more happy than I can express - But as I am very doubtful of it being taken notwithstanding Britten having sold so wide - I do not speak of it to any one - And I beg you will say not a word of it or my plan about it, to Mrs Traill - as things come around so oddly - & some times inconveniently - Oh! my dearest I shall be so happy if it succeeds - if I get a good sum for it - and am able to pay some debts

But I have said enough about that business & now I will tell you our little history; I wrote to you from Green Hills by the mid month mail of July which I dare say you have received by this time - & when I returned I was so hurried I begged Maria Noble who is always most obliging & kind to write instead of me - or I could not bear the thought of your being disappointed my own dearest of a letter from some of us. We were at Green Hill one fortnight exactly - it did not cost much - yet still it was not worth while, for so short a visit & was between Ivnney - gifts to servants & board wages at home - moew expense than if living quietly at home -

However it was the only time they could have us for a length of time, as Mrs Smyth was to go to Anne Bond the week after & Mr Danin was going to make some alterations in the house - The day we left them the 24th - Another set of company was to come - & on the 26th they were to have a grand Bazaar for the benefit of the branches in that Co. of the Deaf & of the Protestant Orphan Socy. The Bazaar turned out very well for they cleared £ 2 - 10 - Before I wrote to you we had come company dinner - The last week there was no company - Every night we played Pope Joan to amuse the boys & Keep Mr Cavendish awake Every morning we drove or walked - & always visited the garden where we stuffed ourselves with cherries gooseberries & currants - We went one day (neither Mrs Smyth nor Kitty) to Croghan Hill, drove as near it as we could - & then walked up - and it was quite astonishing to see how active Mr Cavendish was & how well he scrambled up - When at the top - the haize near so great we could see very little of distant view - I ought to have seen Anna more but could not - If you look for Edenberry in the map - you may suppose Green Hill just a very few miles to the west of that - 4 I believe - & looking directly south to the very borders of that arm of the King's Co. - on the border of Queen's Co. is a little lake called Lough Anna - besides which is Annamore - After we had tried to look with a telescope which the wind prevented us from holding steady - we sat down on the side of the hill & ate a very hearty luncheon of sandwiches currants & gooseberries - & then drove home again - Do you remember Croghan Hill & the Sluice bloom mountains - We used to see both from the Dining room at E town - & Croghan from Allentown - in the front - looking directly over the Deer Park - I believe I told you of our drive to a place called [] where Mr Bor lives who lately married a very pretty nice young woman a Miss Hopkins - grand daughter of old Wm Hopkins who you may remember at Charlesfort ages ago. This man is very rich & has a great place - extensive woods & fields - which may be made very fine place indeed - they were not at home when we called - He is very old looking - & speaks very oddly - & every one is sorry she married him - however she looks very happy - [] call the name Bur - in that country - I should be disposed to call him bore I think - on the 24th Bessy send Lou & me to the Boat which comes within 3 mile of Green Hill & the carriage was to wait for others coming down - It was a very hot

day though every window in the boat was open - it was very hot & very disagreeable & very crowded - & right glad we were to find ourselves at home at six o'clock. The Cavendishes went home the same day - and unfortunately took it into their heads to invite us to go to them last week - & as we could not invent very true excuses; & that they would have thought us very odd - & as we had refused twice before, we judged it better to go - but it is an expensive visit to pay for we were obliged to have a Job carriage from Nark - both to go & return - besides all the doles to all the servants - We went there on Monday 5th & returned on Tuesday the 8th. The weather very good - one day quite wet - However we either walked or drove our every tolerable day - There was an immense flood in the river - after the rain - but it was too muddy - I never yet have been able to see a Salmon leap though I have often watched for it. Do you remember our walking along the opposite side to it one day from the cottage your Aunts then lived in - The bank was quite open & sunny & the trees young, now they are quite overgrown & so thick that you can see nothing till you get quite to the water edge - the seats & walks & grottos are all out of order & look quite ruinous - broken walls & bad paths - & the paths so filthy (as if all the children share those particular paths) that when we walked there the other day with Mr C: we were in danger every minute of treading in some horrid thing - It is I believe 33 years since that day we went from your Aunts.

One morning Kitty took me to see your Aunts - poor Aunt Rachel seems very ill & very low - The pain across her back from hip to hip seemed worse - & whenever she moves is very troublesome - yet she still goes every day to dine at Lucan House, crawling very slowly & sitting down every seat by the way - She says her spirits sink so much when she stays at home that she wd rather undergo the fatigue & that she has been doing this every day for 40 years - it would grieve her to give it up - Her face is worse & the disease seems to be going to her eyes - which looks red & weak - Indeed she is a very pitiable poor creature - Dr Jackson is gone to Engd for 2 months - but he desired her to try warm baths - She is to be in town some day this week, for a few days at Mrs Clinck's - & will try the effect then - I was trying to persuade her to consult a surgeon - It wd have been kind to invite her here - but dear Fanny it was impossible - both on account of my time - every moment now is precious to me - and money - at this moment I have not a penny - & shall be obliged to send this without paying for it wh vexes me - but literally I have not a shilling! a pauper very nearly - Besides the stepstairs up to the spare room wh have been terrible on her back. Aunt Jane waited to dress herself, so she only came down when we were at the door going away -she looks well but old - & goes on about her pets as [moody] - I must go dress for breakfast -

And now 12 o'clock, time I come again to my dear Fanny - to write a little more even though I steal from my particular writing time - but the 18th being on Sunday I am afraid to delay - & must sent this tomorrow to the post I think - I have just sent a note to Mrs Clinck's to enquire if Aunt Rachel is come to town - & I have sent off some notes to Servants that I may speak to them for Lucy who wants several - & I have read the newspaper - We do not keep it now - so I have none to send you which I am sorry for - but I am trying to save now - & indeed there is very little interesting in the Papers now - & very often I never look at them. To continue my history - from your Aunts we visited Mrs Vesey's cottage which has a green house & garden attached to it - both of them in high beauty - The gardens look very gay & pretty - it has such

large beds of each different flower & plant so that you see a mass of each colour - & they are very showy

People might have a much greater variety of flowers - particularly to blossom at this season when Roses & early flowers are gone, but they run on a few that are the fashion & request the beds of them over & over again - We called on Mrs Vesey & Miss Colthurst but they were not at home - & afterwards we visited the clergyman's wife & her sister - he is a son of old Dr Stewart the clergyman - & is married to a Miss Harriot - She & her sister are both so disabled that they are always lying on sofas - & only they look very cheerful & resigned it would be very sad to see the poor sisters always lying - Mrs Stewart drives out tomorrow - but the other never does. There was company to dinner one day at Mr Cavendish's - but only that Mrs Stewart - & Miss Colthurst & her brother Charley who has just got into the army, having earned his commission at Sandhurst - he is very handsome if she were not so fat & so terribly pushed up - the fat lumps literally come up to the collar bones - She has a very pretty nose & sweet mouth - pretty eyes & fair bright complexion - She goes out a good deal & her Grandma likes she should. She is perfectly unaffected & very pleasing - & has a good deal of conversation & liked by all I saw of her - besides, she enquired about you & about Mrs Hay with much interest - I hear she is very steady - & like a mother to her brothers. Sir George is engaged to be married to his cousin Miss Jeffrey who is very handsome & engaging I hear - but is some years older than him. - Another day Mr C: took us to woodlands where Luke White used to live - I think long ago you were with us one day that we drove there with Lucy & Mrs E - but the place is much altered & improved - & Mrs White has made fine gardens & there are 3 windows at the end of Dr S. room - & each is one entire pane from top to bottom - it is beautiful it is so clear - At the outside a great portion is fenced off from the lawn by a low wall on top of which are vases at regular distances - and geraniums or other plants in every vase - Roses against the wall - beds of every shape about among the grass which is kept very smoothly shaven - large baskets here & there filled with Geraniums or Hydrangeas & the whole extending at each side far beyond the end of the house - then we walked about the grounds & went to a spot where there is a very pretty view of the Liffey & of Lucan - When we left the house we came away by a different approach - through a very pretty Glen - with a great variety in it - but part of it very dangerous in the dark or with wicked unmanageable horses.

Lest I should forget I will tell you now that I have written to Mr O'Beirne about sending the money to Ivan - but I don't know how to send it - & I wish you would tell me directly for I forgot to ask you before - if it goes with money it will go into the Gulf of Stafford K: who seems to swallow up all - If I send it to Stafford for Ivan - will he mind about it as they quarrelled - If I get a separate letter of credit for Ivan I know not how best to direct it - I suppose to your care - I am afraid it will make a great delay - if I wait to hear from you - yet I don't know what to do - I wish I had asked you sooner -

There has been a great Cattle Show in Dublin & all the gentlemen in the world of Ireland & many from Engd Have been in Town at it.

If James had called I would have gone with him to walk around - as many ladies did - but the wretch never came - it is in the field that we see from the back of the house - between this & Harcourt St. - exactly where the Cobourg gardens once were - wooden sheds all round - & here & there & Margues besides - We have seen crowds there every day - & have heard perpetual lowing of cattle - & baaing of sheep - A Band playing all the time - the first day very heavy showers - yesterday very fine - Several Nobility -Dublin quite full for this week & all the gentlemen I suppose as happy & busy as possible. Were you not surprised at old Mr Palmer's marrying again - he is only 67 to be sure but I had always thought Willy so completely his object in whom he was so wrapt up that I had no idea he wd ever marry.

I believe they are to live all together - which will be a trial to Sophia I think - having so long ruled in the house & enjoyed so much happiness living as they did -

Now I suppose she will be free from all the house keeping & managing cares - wh is a comfort on the other hand. Louisa & I went to see Mrs P. yesterday - for they are now at his house in Harcourt st. She is very small & squeezey faced - looks more like 40 - but has very nice hair - it is brown - no cap - only a little quilled border tied like a cap with a knot of white ribbon, no cawl - a gown of coquelicot & white striped [bange] & long sash of the same - & a very slight little Houd & covering her neck - a very long necklace of Ivory beads that hung to her belt - broach of Ivory - a little bit of green ribbon round her neck fastened in front with a small Ivory heart at her throat - & the ends with a little Ivory pin. She looked rather odd - seems civil & wish to please - & I hear all his friends who have yet seen, like her very much - She looks gentle & good tempered.

I heard yesterday from Bill Ham: - who has not been strong all the summer but is much better since he consulted Sir Philip Crompton - his back was very weak - he has ordered him to have it spunged first with very hot water & then a can of cold water thrown on it - & then to be very well rubbed for some time - he takes a bitter medicine too - says he feels a different person.

They are all very happy at C[] & all well; they desire me to give you their kindest love -& indeed they are truly interested about you.

I was interrupted by a [parcel] of maids - I am hunting for maids for Lucy who wants a heap of servants - a great bother - I am very glad you like the Tinc - wh Bessy R sent you & the Cup - I think you had better make up the Tinc at home with Bessy [] I dare say she will succeed very well - those inferior dress makers such as you have probably - never make to fit & they waste the material terribly - [] breadths in a gown now - some have 9 - one use of 7 - is that it fades equally & when it wants repair you can take out one. I forget whether I sent a belt - if not you must have it made with a short peak - Louisa sent Anna the pretty striped muslin - I sent her the sprigged one made & the Green Handf I believe - I forget now as the collars but when I write next will tell - she may thank every one I believe - Louisa sent some to the girls I think - & there were some new that I got I believe for you all to divide & arrange as you chose - Mrs James Lyne & her 3 children are near Kingstown all well none poor people. Poor Octavia Fromen has been

very ill these 2 months of Rheumatic fever - they feared it getting into her heart - but the last acct was better -

I have not any more to say I believe - Tell me what has become of Col. Brown & family

I suppose you will write to Honora yourself to tell her of the safe arrival of the things she & Frs sent - carpet - 2 quilts - Looking Glass - lining calico that never fades - your fur cuffs & the Maps which last are you know all finished & corrected by Frs. The Dark Muslin was sent by mrs Waller. They are very fashionable.

The blue & scarfs were mine, the former very comfortable - The prettiest of the old muslins I am afraid will only do for Katy - I am glad Bessy can wear the other at all.

I am delighted the stockings handfs shoes all to rule - I got the note safely that you enclosed to Sneyd.

Mrs E is in a miserable state of suffering from her back - & other diseases besides - but thank God still lives on - her death would probably make a sad change in Francis' projects - for C S E wd marry again I am sure. There were many who would not mind a little touch of insanity.

I am so glad you think the carpet pretty - it was Louisa who chose it for us - pray cover the room & make it comfortable - When you make up the curtains (they were sent by the Rothwells last year) line them with the yellow thing -

Kate K. sent me one pound to lay out a keep sake for Anna - so I chose a seal ring - as Kate did not like a hairbrush.

I wanted to have a Shamrock along with the Thistle but it wd have cost more than the money -

I forgot to tell you the day we went to Leixlip we paid a long visit at Coolmine - all at home & very friendly - we saw the Giraffe too - it moved its neck gracefully & put it in different attitudes on purpose to be admired -

I am very glad dear Johnny has left that horrid store - no profit can make amends for the evils of bad company - If he goes to a store again - pray let it be one where soft goods are sold - & not grocery & wiskey - it is just the ruin of young men - & less gentlemenlike than any other - I will enquire about the book & mr Hunt - When you write to Honora mention it to her yourself - & his No for Regent St is endless Dear Anna - I hope she may get thro' the affair well & be a very happy mamma - but not have 8 sons like the young lady in H -

I am very sorry indeed for the loss of the little mare - a very serious loss to a physician who must go about so much. F E & Pakenham arrive on Friday the 2d in a storm at 6 p m & went on next day to [] - on the Wedy after home to Etown taking Maria with them - She is quite pale & as gay as possible & working so nicely - fancy works

As to selling land at a disadvantage - in order to pay G.K. it would be a sad pity - & as you pay him interest - I can not see how it is such a loss to him - but you know Kate is so fussy about every thing that it makes her sometimes foolish. It is a pity they do not send up Alexr to oust his friends - he is very reserved & shy I hear -

All well at Poula Curra - Charlotte only at Home - Edward going to be employed by Sir John McNeil in the Cashel Railway. Mary Anne in London, Emma at Florence. Fanny & Louisa on a visit

Pakenham is gone to the Continent for 2 months - I believe I told you of the death of poor Anna Lyne's grandson - The only boy & a very fine one - Mrs C. Lyne poor thing bears it with much submission - but it has been a sad blow to them all. They all of Mont St & Mrs C. Lyne gone to a place near Newtown Mt K wh I had [] them

[Addressed:

By Liverpool

Mrs T.A. Stewart

Auburn

Peterboro

Colbourne District

Aug 16 Canada

By Halifax]

[Vol. 4]

78-008/2/10 #194

Albion April 9 1845

My very dear Fanny

I can hardly tell how my mind with one thing or other has been exercised - & yet I must say wonderfully supported - I would have given much to have had you or dear Ellen beside me - strangers altho kind - we could not expect much from them because we could not let them know how we were exactly situated they know we were much tried with poor game but that was all - he is not like the same person since his return - he is now interested about our concern & is trying to get his debts collected & when he has nothing to do he goes out to chop. He is improving I think every day - The Doctor who we at first employed told me it would be some months before he recovered - I trust our good Lord whose child he is will completely recover him - poor Annie & I did not well know what to do - When we were so suddenly left alone & not knowing where our poor wanderer was gone to - It came so suddenly Samuel has been at expense in various ways altho' he does not complain & has gone security to Mr Hull for our goods & his owing poor James - almost ever since my return indeed I may say all last summer James paid very little attention to business when I would speak to him about this he would say I was too worldly minded after the cuttin down of the poles it put us into great confusion - we were obliged to have a constable in the House until we got word to Samuel not that James was any way rude or violent - for he did not know that he was a free man & requested to have his Axe which was given to him & he told them he had done his duty & would do no more until We asked him - Since that he was getting better until the affair of the dog & cat I would have written to you all this at the commencement but dear Anne thought if he recovered which we hoped he would soon begged of me not to say any thing about it - Samuel goes next week to New York & James is going to stay in his place for a week until his return - They have removed to a very comfortable place - if they were wise they would lay by something for old age - Anne had excelled herself in our store & we have lived & do live comfortably I advise her to lay by the profits for herself you will by what we write know we are mercifully dealt with on this head - but we could never have reconciled it to our feeling to have removed to your house when he was so unsettled & we could not think of leaving him in his weak state of mind but I think he will after some time to manage & be capable of attending to a farm. All his trouble was by intense recoiling & feeling too much for the distressed to meet their God - this caused him to cut down their idols & act so queerly but I trust the worst is over - As to the Cow my dear Tom has engaged let Ellen & Allan have it & if she likes to raise the Calf & we may yet want them & if we never do it will not be lost. Will you give my love to Eliza Reid & tell her if she would come & stay with Anna this summer I think it would be of use to her our house is certainly healthy & a free day [] if she will not come some of the others would - Anna has it in her power to make her comfortable & you may all know who are interested for dear James & as how well he is getting - he is going to get a piece of ground to put in potatoes for us these are the very things for him I cannot blame dear Tom for acting as he did when he did not know his situation - he thinks he has brought about quite a change in his Uncle far more than he could to me he did

not like that you should have the trouble of washing two shirts he gave one of his shirts away on the road for a mere trifle & the shirt he bought in Peterboro he gave to old Moor because he had not quite fulfilled his bargain - he is odd & upright in every way & truly devoted - to God & his service & very happy in general - but I have done plaguing you about him & now I have a message for you which is to come over here as soon as you can - there is a German Doctor here who has cured the asthma & indeed has effected great cures of Severe Complaints - I think it would be well for you to try him It would be easy for you to come - people come from Canada to him I no you are a hard case to move but make an exertion & Tom can see the gardens in Rochester I wish I could say something to induce you to come - Anna is writing to our dear Ellen who I told you would find Charles to be a good husband - I intended to have written her instead of troubling but your letter caused me to alter - let us all dear Fanny be truly in earnest to secure a place in Heaven we are exhorted to give all dilligence how good for us often to examine our hearts & pray much for the Holy Spirit to shew us & direct us by His influence to cast our souls on the infinite merits of the great atonement - & feel by so doing that our Sins are forgiven & we reconcile to our offended Father - we may then hope all things shall work for our good - try & comply with my request & come over - & with sincere love to you & dear Tom believe me your affectionate Sister M. Fowlis not forgetting dear Bessy ec ec

I hope you will be able to make this out I think it is full of mistakes - If Cochlin has paid you the money James will thank you to pay Harbour 13 dollars he owes him for Farms

XX

My Dear Child I will not make any apology to you for not writing to you - for you know a little of our troubles but as it is greatly over & I have said all that is necessary for her to know why we changed our intention with regard to Canada - we had a letter written for you when we received yours & your Mothers James told us how comfortable you were - forget not all your feasts times but may they be a means of encreasing your gratitude for the present & improve time for Eternity - much depends on the wife to lead to good & keep up good feelings in the mind be faithful my dear to the divine knowledge you have & that blessing will encrease Anne will give me no more you know dear you promised faithfully to visit us this summer & I am sure your Good man will not be cruel as to prevent you I may say it is the only pleasure I have to look forward to is the prospect of seeing our dear friends try to persuade dear Anna I long to see her baby you know if you do not come this summer you will not be able next - I am glad we get your letter before this went to the post We got it last night I am glad Allan is with you for I really felt uncomfortable when I thought how much my dear Aunt & Bessy had to do that he should add to their troubles I hope you will not let Allan tease spirits I have a great dread of it I hope he has not forgot that portions of a scriptures he learnt he could repeat the ten commandments and 2 or 3 Psalms & Hymns it would be well to make him learn a Verse every day & then repeat them all on Sunday dear Ellen you have had your own troubles with him but the Lord will reward you tho I cannot - I hope you make him useful in doing chores it is the life of such young ones to be kept busy it is one of the greatest comforts I have that my dear boy is away from this place we have got squad of imps in our yard so that it is worse than ever - I am glad Allan does not forget me. I was almost afraid he would be so fond of his adopted Mother

that he would forget he had any other - your friend Mr Warren was here the other day we told him you were married & that we expected you both over this summer he said to tell you you must come up to see him for he thinks a great deal of you Mr Gow & all the folks enquire for you I am afraid your patience may be exhausted before you come to the end of this scrawl, so that I need not tax it far I must wind up.

believe me dear Ellen With love to yourself & Charles

Your ever affectte Cos Anna M Fowlis

You did not tell us what became of your little lamb when you were here

dear Fanny by coming here you will save your expenses by getting shoes & boots for the boys & if you have not got your money over to [] mine M Fowlis

James is so well you would hardly believe it do come & see me

78-008/2/10 #195

Hazelbank July 1st 45 -

I could not write by the first mail last month my own dear darling Fanny, & intended to write by the 19th but - my dear child, by slipped the day unknown'st - I was very very sorry, but I could not help it then, & so I like a wise Woman I determined not to fret about it, - Your two dear Girls appear to have most happy matches, & I often, when sitting alone in the mornings, here, amuse myself by thinking of what they are like, & I think & think on till I begin to wish so much to see, & be acquainted with them all. - Well, we who got the credit of being scatter-pates when young, often [indeed mostly] settle down happy domestic managing little wives & mothers - I suppose the Spirits we had before the cares of the world come on, merge into cheerful energy when we find ourselves responsible, so much of the comfort & credit of a family depend upon the wife & Mother & then we poor merry grigs astonish every one by the Charming beings we turn into, when we settle down - Is it not so my dear Ellen?

We are going on much as usual here; all well, thank God, & peaceful & happy - George was to have gone to Tinstead in Lancashire to stand sponser for his brother Frass little girl but when the time drew near, he found that there were many things to prevent his leaving home - Mr Moore the Boys Tutor was attending his degree Examinations, & Alexr was to accompany his papa - so George would have been left without father brother or Tutor which would not have been good for him at all - Then we have no Man Servant at present - & we have 3 very valuable Horses to be attended to & there was no one to be responsible for, or to mind them then we have just put up an [] Gate which tho' a very simple one of wood & painted Green, cost something & we are intending [if we can] to paper the house which has never been able to be done yet! so, dear George altogether thought it most prudent not to go this Summer - Mr Moore will probably be ordained by September, & will, if we are spared, be nominated to the Curacy of Craigs, so this will allow George more liberty - We are to give him £ 75 per Ann & he is to live here with us & be both Curate & Tutor - We hope if all goes on well, that our dear Alexander will enter College this time twelve-month when he will be 16 & a half - It is rather early for him but he is not to reside in College [only to go up to Examinations] it is no great matter - The two little Girls are so much improved since they came here - it is really curious - They are very pretty - particularly the youngest Josephine, who is beautiful, & one of the very finest children I ever saw - she is just 5 years old - she has beautiful dark eyes, the beautiful soft kind, yet with a lively & very funny expression of countenance - her hair which curls naturally, in the loveliest ringlets is of a beautiful shade of light brown, very uncommon with the very dark eyes - She puts me always in mind of the description of Effy Deans, in the Heart of Mid Lothian - Poor wee things, I hope the likeness will go no further than appearance - Mary Jane is to be sent to the Irish Clergy Daughters School after the Summer Holidays - She is a nice child, but has been too long with artful people -

There has been upwards of £ 1500, collected for the 7 children the Interest of which is only to go to the Mother - She has got a Situation worth £ 30 pr Ann in Cork the Music teaching of the

School for Governesses & the leading of the Singing at the free Church Cork - She went there last week poor Creature I hope indeed that she may succeed, but I have many doubts about it, she is so totally indolent, & fine ladyish - & so extravagant She has got most beautiful & expensive Weeds I hear & yet she has not a shilling of her own.

Tell Ellen that I am so glad she has got a black silk Dress; It is a nice ladylike thing & always ready either for Mourning or Evening - I have a beloved one which I got for Mourning for poor Uncle Sutton, & now it has come to an every day gown - which I put on about 12 o'clock when all my Vulgar Work such as making butter ec ec is over - I wished very much to have been able to have sent dear Ellen & Anna something useful & pretty - but money is not very plentiful & I know how considerate our friends who have plenty of Money are in sending out things - Until we are out of debt to Sister Lydia & Doctor Millan [from whom we borrowed money to build this house] I don't like to spend a penny that I can help - I am dressing Mary & Josephine as economically as possible, & am training them to take care of their Clothes, poor little things, this is quite new to them - our weather here has been very like the Canadian Weather this year - We had a lovely fortnight during which most of the heavy Clover Meadows were cut & Sowed, but for the last week, we have had torrents of rain, accompanied with great wind - You say your joints are getting stiff & you have pains in your bones - Well the only signs of elderliness about me is stiffness after being tired when I first get up from sitting - But you are not nearly so busy about tiring & fatigue things as I am - I assure you that I often after making up 12 lbs of butter make up the feeds for my little pigs & Calves - the fact is that one cannot depend upon the people who we can afford to pay in this country - & if I sit down a while to write or read I am either sent for to the Kitchen, or else find nothing done The people [at least our Servants] have no method at all, & no idea of filling up moments However, I am rewarded for the trouble I take, in seeing every thing succeeding therefore as long as it pleases the Lord to grant me health & strength - I most willingly do it - besides we live so very retired a life here, that I can do these things better than other people - Also, when my dear George is away in the Morning visiting his parishioners ec ec - I mind the Labourers & often have to see things done about the place - this amuses me very much - but I am often very tired after it & then I take a fine sleep on the sofa in the Evenings when everything is done & quiet - & it rests me completely - I really think that if I had led the easy indolent life some do, I would not have been half as healthy as I am - Everybody says how fresh & young I look, & I think this comes from two causes - the continual being out in the air winter & summer, & frequent washing of my skin at least as far as face, neck, hands & feet - I generally take a tepid Bath altogether once in the Week or fortnight which keeps me very comfortable besides - I am grown very large in my figure & am not at all nicely shaped - Then [saving your presence] I suffer dreadfully from Corns, which on the approach of Wet Weather almost lame me - My distant sight is as good as ever it was, but I cannot see things near me well at all - Now for instance, I could read small print at a yard distance but cannot see well to thread my needle or do any neat Work at Night - My hair is wonderfully little grey considering I always wear it plain Madoned & no curls at all - & I am a regular Goody Two Shoes in my dress - & appearance - Now I am sure I have given you a grand description of myself - Our Living is very plain but comfortable - We never scarcely have a pudding or a Pie - We have boiled rice very often to eat with fine Cream & sugar after our one or at the most two dishes of meat & vegetables I am usually up at 6, we breakfast at 8, dine at 3

& drink tea at 6 - these are our general hours, of course circumstances sometimes alter them -
God bless you & yours my dearest Sister - Give our united loves to Tom & the Girls & their
Goodmen Ever your own fondly affectionate sister C E K

I put Boston as I see it on your's I hope this won't be charged double it is under weight here

[addressed:

By Boston

Post Paid

Mrs T. A. Stewart

Auburn

PeterboroCanada West

stamped

PAID

AT BALLYMENA

PAID

JU 3A

A45

BALLYMENA

JY 2

1845

L

JY 4

PETERBORO

JUL 24

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

1845

UC]

[the wax seal is dark red brown rectangle with a script C]

78-008/2/10 #196

Novemr 1st 1845

My own dearly loved Fanny

As the time has come round for the dispatch of the Canada packets, and Mamma is not at home to write you, I think I had better take up the pen, & fulfill my promise of giving you some account of our "Tour of the West", which we all enjoyed as much as any people could do. Mamma went to Dublin last Thursday for a little shopping, to make winter preparations & intends, D.V. visiting a friend at Delgany before she returns, so that she will have the additional pleasure of seeing our darling Tommy while she is there. The dear fellow is well & happy, & is going on as well as possible at school. Helena accompanied her grandmamma, & Bessy is at Summerseat with her kind Aunt Garnett, so we are quite a reduced party. The weather is delightful now, & this is the loveliest first of Novemr that ever was seen, & quite hot. Of course you have heard of the sad failure in the Potato crop in poor Ireland & indeed everywhere, for it seems universal. I hope it is not so bad with you, & that the crops that you mentioned being so burnt up in the summer were not quite spoiled. Well, my dear, to commence my story. We left this house on Monday, the 10th of August, in an open carriage, which was filled by Richard, Mary, Bessy, & my ladyship, & proceeded by Castlepollard to Edgeworthtown, where we were most kindly & hospitably received by Mrs Edgeworth, Francis & his very nice pleasing wife, who is a most interesting person indeed, & her broken English quite pretty. Their five children are very fine creatures, & the eldest boy very intelligent for his age. Miss Edgeworth was at home, & kind & agreeable as ever. The Wilsons & Lucy Robinson were also there, & I was glad to renew my acquaintence with Fanny & Lucy but the Doctor was not there, unfortunately, We left this pleasant house with regret the next morning & pursued our way through a frightful country to Castle Kelly, where we spent a week most delightfully with our kind & pleasant friends the Kellys. I believe you have met Denis Kelly formerly; at least Mama thinks you have, at Mrs Mahon's in Dublin, he is a very handsome man still, & extremely talented & agreeable, & does so much good about him, it is delightful to see it. He has an Adult class who come to him every Sunday morning & with whom he reads the Scriptures in Irish, & all Roman Catholicks, & the good that he is doing, all over his estate, by schools, loan funds, etc., & is quite wonderful. Mrs Kelly is truly a helpmeet for this excellent man, & goes hand in hand with him in all his useful & benevolent undertakings; She is a charming person, & very handsome & accomplished. They have five daughters, & no son, alas! for the property goes to a distant relation, if there is no male heir. From Castle Kelly we pursued our way to Connemara, sleeping at Galway the first night, at a miserably bad hotel, & at Clifden the second, Near Clifden, is Mrs Martin's of Ballinachinch, & Miss Edgeworth had kindly given us an introduction to him, we delivered our letter, & were most hospitably entertained. Miss Martin is an Authoress, & a character certainly, but she was very amusing, & is evidently very clever. She lionized us all over the beauties of Ballinachinch, which is a very pretty place, situated just near the confluence of 3 large & beautiful lakes & in the midst of stupendous mountains. We dined & slept in this hospitable house, & next day pursued our journey from Clifden to Leenaum, a poor little place

at the head of the Killary Harbour. The scenery of this drive is by far the finest in Connemara & reminded us strongly of some of the most beautiful parts of Scotland, especially going along the banks of the lovely Lake Kylemore, which really is as beautiful a thing as I ever saw in any country. We spent that night at a little quiet retired Inn, called Maam, where we were very comfortable. It is near the head of Lough Corrib, and in the heart of the wildest mountains. Next day we proceeded to Cong, which is in Mayo, leaving all the beauties behind us, & getting in to a frightfully ugly country, the fields all covered with a mass of brinestone rock, giving them the appearance of one vast quarry, & scarcely a trace of vegetation to be seen. At Cong we saw a curious Cave, into which we descended by steps about 60 feet. An old hag, who looked like a Sybil, shewed it to us & lighted a torch of Bogwood, shewed us by its blaze the extent of the Cave, which is very considerable. A stream of fine pure water runs through the Cavern, which is the resort of all the women of the neighborhood for beetling their clothes. From Cong we went to Ballinrobe to Westport, & through a flat & very uninteresting country. Westport, however, is a handsome town, & beautifully situated near Clew Bay, with its Archipelago of islands, of which it is said there are 365. We spent two days at Westport, one of them being Sunday, & ever most comfortably lodged in a very good Hotel. Saw Lord Sligo's handsome place, which is close to the Town. On Monday, Sept 1st we left Westport for Achill, which we had long wished to see but it far exceeded our expectations, - A very wild drive brought us to Achill Sound, which we crossed in a boat, about 300 yards from pier to pier, & in winter it is a place very rough, as the currents set in here with great violence. Five miles from this brought us to the Settlement, & indeed it is a wild country, but the mountains are very grand, & lakes abound, but not a tree is to be seen on the whole island, & but little sign or cultivation except about the Settlement, where there were some good crops. We got very comfortable accommodation at the little Inn, though it had only been opened about 5 months. Mr Nangle came to welcome us immediately, & invited us to Tea, & we spent a most agreeable evening & had some sweet singing from him & his daughter. Mrs Nangle is very kind & pleasing, & they are very comfortable now, after going through worse than Christian hardships for the first few years of their residence, & the greatest persecutions. Now the Priest lets them alone, as he finds it a vain attempt to stop the spirit of enquiry, that is spreading so rapidly, & the Sunday before we were there, a young man from the very next door to the Priest, had his recitation in the Church at the Settlement. They have now a congregation of 300, in a place where 11 years ago, when Mr Nangle was there, there was not a single Protestant in the land except his own family. Now there is a neat Church, School for Boys & Girls, Infant School, Orphan Asylum, Dispensary, Post Office, Printing Press, & many comfortable dwellings houses; all looking neat and clean, & well taken care of; schools all prospering, & the blessing of the Lord resting abundantly on this most interesting colony. The Infant School was a beautiful sight, 99 little creatures on the role, & we heard them sing very sweetly & answer questions in Scripture remarkably well. - Mr Nangle is forming a new Settlement, & building a new Church a few miles off, & so great is the interest that is created for this place, that funds seem to come in where they are most wanting. Dr Adams is the excellent Physician to this interesting place, & he is a great blessing to it indeed & a great assistant to Mr Nangle, both in spiritual & temporal matters. I hope I have not wearied you with Achill, but I think you said you liked reading the Achill Herald, & I thought he would like to know all about the Settlement which we left the next day, with very great regret, - That night we spent at Newport, a prettily situated village, on a

tide river, & next day pursued our way to Killaney Glebe, Mr Burrowes's, where we engaged to spend some days. The drive to Castlebar, from that to Ballina is very wild & bleak, but from Ballina to Killaney along the banks of the Moy, 4 miles, is very pretty indeed. The Moy is a fine tide river, & the salmon were jumping in it in a most curious manner. We met with a warm reception from our king friend the Burroweses, & spent a very happy time there. From Killaney we went to Sligo, where we saw Hazelwood, Mr Wynne's lovely place, which has every thing to make it so that wood & water, hill & dale, can bestow, with good task in the improvement of them. Next day we proceeded to a friend's house near Ballyshannon, a Mr Hamilton's & staid there for two or three days, exploring the of Donegal, with which we were greatly pleased. From there we turned our faces towards home, & had a most beautiful drive from Ballyshannon to Enniskillen, along the banks of the Lough Erne, which we enjoyed greatly. Saw Ely Lodge & Castle Coole, Lord Ely's, & Lord Belmore's both splendid places, on the banks of the Lake. Slept that night at Lisnaskea, & next day set off for Home; by Cavan & Virginia, & arrived safely here, without one unpleasant adventure by the way, which surely was a great source of thankfulness, and we had also the loveliest weather, & not a single wet day during the month we were away. We returned on Saturday the 13th of Septemr happy & thankful to be home once more, after our delightful ramble, which has given us many subjects of conversation since, - I hope you are not tired of this long history, my dearest Fanny, & that I have not blinded you by my small, close writing. I will enclose you one of the papers that Richard has got some thousands of printed, to distribute among the people as you might like to see it. It answers perfectly the bad potatoes, & pulling those that are not too far gone, down before the fire to roast, after they are boiled, is a great improvement to them for eating. Adieu, my own dearest Fanny, Richard, Mary & I join in kind love to your dear circle, & hoping you will soon answer this. I remain ever your own fondly old friend, & sister,

E. Rothwell

78-008/2/10 #197

[] half ago - or perhaps less - not two years I think - he purchased a farm about 16 miles off in this township from an Irish Southern Emigrant who had come over in 1825 - & never made much improvement - Our man Irvine Cochrane - set to work before the other people had left the place - as he did not like to turn them out - he let them stay till they had some place to go - he brought home an active wife, who he married just after he left us - he now has had some good wheat sold which enabled him to lay in some comforts & has got cattle & everything he requires - & is going on rapidly - he is a first rate ploughman & farmer - I can tell you of another family - Scotch people who came three years ago - & purchased a farm in Douro from one of those south Irish Emigrants, who had been twenty years doing nothing - Old Waddell the Scotchman had to pay the purchase money by instalments & the second year he cleared £ 100 by his wheat! - he now has a good farm - plenty of everything a good pair of horses & waggin - & has paid all the installments - he has two Sons to help him on the farm - but he is an old man himself & has had some severe attacks of illness - he has two other sons - who live in Peterboro & are going on well - & I believe they have helped their father a little - One is a blacksmith & Ironfounder & Wheelwright - & another a shoe maker - I believe there are three in town - but they are prospering - however I am told they work like Negroes - Amongst our own tenants we have great prosperity - David Porter who rented our farm for 10 years - came here in debt - he owed £ 7 - he had lost his wife, of a lingering illness - Cancer - which had kept them all back & had caused his debt - his children - six in number were young & only one - a boy about 14 [his eldest] at all able to help him - the eldest girl only 12 - & she had the care of all the rest! - Tom charged him no rent the first year & half - as he found the farm bad order - & had no profit at all the first year - but every year after, he paid 7s6p - an acre - he got on by sheer industry - he & his boy alone for at first he could not afford to hire people to help him - & his children at that time could neither save nor earn nor manage - for they were very ignorant & idle - but in a little time he hired a good woman as housekeeper who attended to his children & all the domestic affairs & when she left him he married - & by the time his term with us was over - he was an independent man - he now has a property for which he would not take

£ 1000 - he purchased 100 acres of wild land from Mr Reid adjoining Edward Browns farm - & has all sorts of cattle & sheep & horses & plenty of crops - & not one bad potatoe this year - This mans brother William Porter is another of our best tenants - he also came here without any means to begin with - & Tom charged him no rent the first six months - Ever since that he has paid regularly at the rate of a dollar & half or 7s 6d per acre - he had about 15 acres - & pay his rent in produce - work or firewood, as we require - Tom Martin came here so poor that he was obliged to pledge his bedclothes to pay his expenses coming up & Tom was obliged to lend him a few shillings to go & redeem them - he then hired out - as often as he could - as he had but a small spot of his own to work on having only taken 5 acres - this he cultivated by degrees - & raised some potatoes - & then wheat - & by degrees has got more land - he now has 15 or 16 acres - cultivated - & cows - oxen - sheep - pigs - a comfortable house a good garden - & his wife makes pickles & preserves every year - they have been here 9 years I think - but they are Papists - & very bigoted ones too - tho' they are from the North - We have another Papist

tenant - & he is from Tipperary - he has been only a year here - & took a cleared farm, & he is likely to get on as well as the others - he has a large family of young idle children & an ignorant wife - but works hard himself - Tom charges all his tenants the same rent for land - & built houses for some of them - we have now only four tenants of this kind - as David Porter left this last winter - & our Willy took the farm he had as well as some more - & now has about 200 acres in his own hands & under cultivation - and I hope & trust the same prosperity may attend our dear boys as has been with David Porter -

Saturday Evening - yesterday evening I was interrupted in my writing by a visit from dear Ellen, who we kept all night - & now she is gone to see her Aunt Fowles & I take advantage of her absence to write a little more - You see I have given all the information I can about settlers - as Maria wished to be able to tell anyone that might wish to come out - & as I have no other way of being of use to my poor suffering countrymen and women - I will try to let them know something of this fine country - & I do think all these people that I have mentioned have got on so well, that it might encourage others - wherever Protestant settlers are - they certainly do thrive best - but they must be of sober steady industrious habits - or they cannot get on at all - we see too many sad instances of the contrary - tho' I am happy to say almost all this part of the country is fortunate in having good settlers now - as for the States I don't know much about them - Mrs Fowles lived only in the towns, & had no opportunity of knowing much of the poorer settlers & farmers - but the Irish were hated in the part where she lived - & generally are considered quarrelsome & bad settlers - here we have a mixture of Scotch, English, & Irish - & certainly the Southern Irish Catholics are the worst - everywhere - & often if they so get on for a time do something dishonest which sends them to jail & so to ruin & destruction - We must all work as hard as we can - & spend as little as we can - & save & make all we can & by dint of all we can gain independence, but nothing can be gained otherwise -

As I am writing to you I think I need not write to dear Aunt Sutton but may give her fond love as well as Tom & Bessies - we all thank her for her amusing account of Old Peter - poor old creature I fear he & Betty will feel a sad change this winter, for they had every comfort here & plenty of everything - & at Christmas had a good fat Goose & plum pudding & plum cake too in her own house of her own - can she have that in Ireland? Give my love also to dear Harriet & Louisa - & all the dear friends everywhere who you know I love - Oh I do indeed feel for poor dear Fanny Edgeworth & all that family - Oh it has been a sad stroke - Your account of Poor Rosa interested me extremely - Oh dear Maria do tell me more of her if you can - I did not know Mrs Jemat [?] was such a nice person. She has just come back at the best time I hope I have I feared wearied you saying so much about our poor tenants - but it is a subject upon which I feel great interest - as I am partial to dear Canada - & wish to encourage people to come here - but only a particular class of people ever do well here - hardworking, steady managing people - but spendthrifts drunk - ards & idlers never succeed - we have plenty of them - Thank you for the fine package of Quinine which was most welcome - as we had a few poor lingering invalids - longing for its arrival - & it has cured them now & they are beginning to look less death like - for the Ague is a ghastly looking complaint you know - I hardly expected it so soon indeed you were good to send it off so quickly Give my best love to dear Robt & Catharine - James & Julia & to all

my old friends in your neighbourhood for I love & think of many - Goodbye my own loved Aunt
Ever your own child Fan

[addressed:

Via Boston

Mrs Waller

Allenstown

Kells

Co MeathIreland

stamped:

PETERBORO

DEC 7

1846

UC

COBOURG

DEC 7

1846

KELLS

JA 1

1847]

My dearest Fanny

Another of your most welcome letters is arrived without my saying one word to tell you, tho' often it was in my mind to answer your first - it is very grateful to me to have your nice letter that as if you were sitting beside me, and it is a great comfort that our minds are close together - tho' we cannot approach - it is the happiest circumstance that we are all my valued cousins turned to eternal things that the mind has got the right bent, and that we are much concerned for the soul's welfare that is a precious bond of union - and when I reflect that the time was when I cared little for those things - it is a wonderful thing how it has been put into our hearts to love our Saviour, and strive to obey & honour Him that is a precious precious gift - Oh! so many appear to be travelling the rough road of this world unacquainted with the hand that is so ready to bestow - I am delighted that my sweet Tom has cast in his lot with the people of God & willing to suffer reproach if need be - for we know that He will never leave not forsake us, because He has said His own work He will not leave unfinished, His own work in the soul - what a wonderful thought that we must leave this body & appear before the judgment seat of God - that an eternity is before us - my mind cannot at all reach the thought - & yet thanks be to the Lord I can sometimes feel a confidence in His having brought me out of darkness into His marvellous light, that it imparts a solid comfort to my mind and that is worth worlds - for nothing can do us any good - but that knowledge of Him that is love - that for the love He bore to us, He sent His own son to take our punishment, in our nature - Love to us - brought Him from Heaven for our restoration, and now at this hour is so concerned for unworthy creatures such as we, that at His Father's right hand He intercedes continually - Oh how pleasant is it to know my darling friends that your hearts are lifted up, & striving to enter in at the strait gate - do you know I think the active busy-ness of the concerned of the body & of the things around us does not interfere with the minds concerns - So that we are strongly impressed with eternal realities - but when we have nothing to fill the mind and raise it above the gross & grovelling nature that we possess, then it is lamentable to live so below our priveleges and the kind intentions of our exalted head, who entreats us to follow Him & to know Him, as He wanted & wished us to know Him - We are as much pleased as you are dear friends with the writings of Mr Winslow which you speak of - They are very clear and a help to persons who like me, ready little of other books such easy style (& large print) - simple & experimental that renders that most valuable & suited to my tastes, od which as know how good and pleasant a thing it is to serve the Lord - true religion is to enjoy the Lord in this world - while living here to live in fellowship with Him - such a wonderful & familiar expression that is - yet or more I'm sure it must be realized that is the greatest intention of Our Saviour - how many endearing expressions are used, to make us happy - because He created us for His own glory - that we might reflect back the love His bosom feels for us, he is yearning over us, and uses the cords of love to draw us to Himself - He is omnipotent arm is oft your stay, where you have less advantages than stress, it is then alone we find Him sufficient, an all sufficient help - every trial is to draw the cords tighter to draw us to Himself. How delightful dear dear friends to think that nothing can separate us from the Love of God - How in these trying times, when we hear of desolation,

misery and barbarity, so prevailing - what will arise out of it, God knoweth - Tomorrow we are to have a fast day (Wednesday 24) when all work is to be set aside, & the places of worship open - that is quite a proper thing to own the hand that smites - and to humble ourselves under it. I find it generally felt, & acknowledged the trust the Lord may be entreated - but the state of things is wholly turned upside down - estates yielding £ 1000 a year would be galdly exchanged for £ 100 - Whole villages deserted in the south ot west, many of the inhabitants carried off by disease, the rest wandered away - nothing in the history of our kingdom is recorded at all like it - the newspaper must be read by you now with much interest none can imagine where it may end - how we must anew cast ourselves on the Lord - It is cheering to find the field work going on, our neighbourhood suffers little - but from the upper countries the people flock to Belfast. They are greatly burdened, but by liberal ever sending supplies to other districts for a [] & at work, which is well, Our two good people were to have visited your dear sister & my good husband - but ever as they had a train laid to set out, they have been hindered, it seemed easier to have made several voyages to America - Now your nephews have got houping cough, very mildly so far, your sister seems pleased to have it over - in a few days Emily& Alex again propose going & trust may not be hindered, they will take none of our children that they kindly invited - Mary is invited to Dublin to hear the good things going on at the great meetings of the Bible Missionary Society & will see all her cronies - She is to be with Letitia as the Blacks are on the move. George has got a curacy about 26 miles from here, near Bryansford under the Mourne Mountains a place very much to George's taste amongst simple fishermen, and I do hope it may be continued agreeable to all. We may then hope for a sight of them oftener, and at less expense, their going to Dublin which we could not at all see the good to arise now satisfied over that this result was brought about - at first they praised the climate & every thing about Dublin - but shortly tired of the southerners & are gald to return to the Protestant north so they too were led in a way they knew not. Oh may we all walk in the Lords ways & trust Him - I called in Sept at No 9 Hatch street in hopes of being gratified with a sight of your good friends but they were in the country - they were very good natured the time I saw them before on your accounts my love - of course you were our theme and we each liked the opportunity of talking on that subject - Thank you for giving me an account of Anna Maria - her letters show a steadiness & straightforwardness quite becoming - when she was my acquaintence - I'm glad Ellen is so happy and Bessie I hope may be left with you yet a while - an unmarried daughter is a useful appendage - especially when we grow old - Mrs Black and I are well off as you dear - the grandchildren are an additional joy but a great anxiety in bringing them up to the Lord - but that too is good discipline for our minds - so the good Lord has ordered it - & Harriet Reads Children are nicely trained by their grandmama, must I saw thousand blessings to both of you my precious friends - I am glad of your oppurtunity to [] to dear [] which you will give her - I hope she is recovered & help be spared over her family and am glad Eliza is better and all doing so well, rising up to save their parents trouble & comfort them.

Thank you again darling Fanny for your nice long letter.

With the poor and affection of this family to yours, I remain, your attached cousin,

J. Wilson

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[addressed:

Mrs Stewart

Auburn

Peterboro

Upper Canada

post marked:

Belfast MR 1847

received:

Peterboro U.C. Apr 30 1847]

78-008/2/10 #199

Hearing that a change for the worse had taken place I went on Thursday Sept 2 see my dear Father

As soon as I could venture to see him I went to his room - but perceived a sad change of countenance & appearance - he did not take notice of my approach but pressed my hand when I held his - Towards the afternoon he expressed a wish for prayer - he was extremely restless & thirsty - but had no pain - Mr Roger called to see him which gave him such enjoyment he spoke to him of his firm hope of salvation through Jesus Christ alone - & his entire trust in his Saviour - Mr Roger prayed at his bedside which seemed to ease & compose his mind - The same evening Mr Taylor came but he was so agitated he could scarcely read - which made his visit unsatisfactory - My dearest Father was constantly restless, but always expressed "happiness" - breathing as it were a constant prayer "to be taken when it should be the will of the Almighty" - he wished earnestly to be with his Saviour & through the night he occasionally spoke of his affairs - & gave some directions - Friday 3d - Morning dawned - the sun rose & found us all round his bed - he appeared still sinking - his pulse weak & intermitting - his breathing very irregular - often stopping for several seconds - his voice scarcely audible - his articulation difficult from weakness & from the parched dryness of his mouth & tongue - We could scarcely hear or understand what he said - but every word was precious! - Oh most precious! He gave us fresh & repeated assurances of his perfect happiness & full trust & confidence in his blessed Saviour - His mind seemed enlarged & elevated quite above this world.

By this time Anna Hay had joined the anxious group around the bed of the beloved parent - The dim half closed eye - the twitching & burning hand - told plainly that there was no hope - he did not appear to know Anna when she came but afterwards he spoke to her at different times. In the Evening he spoke to us of the approaching change - & said "I am ready" He called on his dear Saviour to take him - & expressed joy at the prospect of meeting his beloved sister -

He called all his family round him & said I am going! I am going! - he added more but we could not hear it - he requested Uncle Reid to pray - & then asked for some wine & asked Uncle Reid to take some with him for the last time - During the evening he gave many more directions & requested Edward Brown to "Look after his boys - & added - I mean in a religious way -"

About 3 o'clock on Saturday morning an evident change took place he seemed quite exhausted - was restless & asked often what o'clock it was - After daylight he asked if the candle was out - I said it was daylight he answered - "Oh I see a glorious light - I am so happy - so happy" - his lips moved still expressing peace & happiness - He looked at me & said - "is that you Ellen?" I answered "Yes dear Papa" - "Oh my darling child are you happy?" - I said "yes" "Oh" said he "I am happy! Happy!" - through this tedious day he continued tossing & uneasy & very weak - Mrs Taylor came & sat beside him some hours - but he never took notice of her - he could not swallow - nor speak distinctly - if any one came to him that he observed - he said "pray" -

Towards night he again revived - he became stronger & his voice clearer & stronger he again spoke to all - & gave many directions about his funeral - & the pew in church - etc. He spoke to the boys each & all & told Dr Hay to take care of Nana - Again he placed his sons under Edwards care - who he begged to watch over & direct them - he held Edwards hand & called Bessie - & joined their hands - & said "Now you are Man & wife - it is registered in heaven. God bless you both" he then told Mama & Dr Hay - that he wished Edwd & Bessie to be married in a reasonable time - he spoke to Robert & said he wished he had also a good wife for him he thanked all for their kindness & attention to him & spoke to all with deep & pure affection

Some hours after this towards morning he asked Bessie for his Bible - which she had given him on his last Birthday - he told Mama - Bessie Edward & Robert each to put their hand on it & said - "Edward I give this Bible to you & Bessie read it constantly in private devotion & regularly in family worship" - He then asked Bessie to read to him the 27th Psalm - when she came to the last verse he made her read it over several times - he then asked her to read the 25th & 23d Ps & the 4th verse seemed to rest on his mind - he repeated "though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death" - here his memory failed - & Bessie read the verse again - which he asked her to repeat several times - & then he said "Yes Bessie - there is comfort in that"

He then asked us to sing Wesleys hymn "Oh for a thousand tongues to sing" - & said "Oh do sing me to heaven - Sing me into Eternity" - he slept some hours - Sunday morning was cold & dreary - he was restless - I heard him say - "Oh my God - if this is my last hour - do not abandon me - I shall go to my dear Martha - She cannot come to me" - he prayed much for his soul but never for his body -he seemed to have no desire to live - His greatest anxiety had been for his boys - Now he had given them up to an earthly friend & a heavenly Guardian - He was restless again after breakfast - Aunt Reid sat beside him some time & he spoke to her - & then asked for more singing & prayer - James Reid prayed & read a chapter in St Lukes Gospel -

About 4 oclock in the evening he appeared much better - the rain had ceased - a refreshing breeze came in at the window & he spoke & looked about him - & drank some wine - he asked Edward to Shave him & appeared so much more animated that we had hopes some crisis had passed & that he might be spared to us.

After being shaved he asked Edward to kiss him & then kissed us all - Edward was standing beside Bessie - He looked at them & said - "God bless you both - I like to see you together" He then spoke to Charles & me & said "Charles I love you both - you are both to live together & you both must die - live prepared for it come together & bring your children" He then asked for more singing - he could rest quiet unless some one was either praying or singing - When he asked urgently for singing or praying he said he hoped he was not impatient but he wished to enter into eternity with prayer. If his mind turned to worldly matters he felt fearful of being much occupied about life -

He enjoyed the cool of evening & admired the brilliant sunset - we asked if he did not feel better "Oh" he said "dont ask me dont wish me to live" he asked if it was not Sunday - "Oh" he

said "my last Sunday with you my dear children" - Through the night he complained of inward coldness - he drank freely - & took several cups of warm Coffee.

About 5 oclock on Monday morning the 6th Septr Dr Hay was reading prayers - but he did not hear him & said "Will no one pray" but when he found Dr. Hay was reading he took his hand & said "I thank you - God bless you for it - Oh Doctor the path is Glorious - Oh it is Glorious" - he then slept for some time About 8 oclock he turned himself & looked at Mama who was standing beside him. She perceived a great change in his looks his eyes were red & vacant - the hand she held was cold & hard - she tried to warm it & covered it up - he slept peacefully & quietly -

About ½ past 9 his breathing ceased without a sigh or a sob - & his blessed Spirit fled! -

Oh let me die the death of the righteous & let my last end be like his -

Ellen Dunlop

Letters 200-249

My dear Mr Taylor,

I am so desirous & impatient to remove from your mind an impression, which has caused me much sorrow & weighed on my mind so heavily - that I can no longer defer writing a few lines of explanation - in hopes of proving to you that you were misinformed on some points - & I am deeply grieved to find you could allow your mind to be so much thus influenced misled by a report or misrepresentation - On your last visit to my lamented husband on the Friday evening - your agitated manner & some expressions you made use of about "intruding" puzzled us all - & grieved & vexed the dear invalid deeply - he could not understand how the visit of a clergyman at such a time - or at any time could be considered an intrusion - but he was too weak then to seek an explanation - & you made your visit in so hurried a manner there was not time for it - A few days after your note to me confirmed me in the most painful certainty - that you considered you had been slighted by us - & some other clergyman preferred - and summoned to attend the death bed of our venerable & beloved friend - Dear Mr Taylor do believe me this was not the case - on the contrary it was always the nearest wish of his heart to consider & to find you our Spiritual pastor advisor and friend - and his in truth greatest & constant source of regret was that you never came to visit us in this character - On the Sunday afternoon when you came here along with Mr Ferguson - you saw how very ill he was - he was then under the influence of fever - restless & uneasy in body & confused in mind - Still to his latest hour here below his most earnest & first concern was for the Salvation of his immortal Soul - & the Souls of all Mankind His earnest desire & prayer to God was indeed that all might be saved - & his anxiety sincere & fervent prayers were also most particularly offered for you my valued friend - as our clergyman & as a minister of the Gospel of Christ our Saviour

You said in your note to me that another clergyman had noticed his illness - or had offered assistance - and you hinted that advice & assistance had been sought for - from some other clergyman This was not the case - You were the first who heard of his illness - & came to his bedside & he felt happy at seeing you - & he & all of us would have been grateful if you could have come more frequently & given him the comforts of Prayer - Scripture reading - or Serious conversation - which he constantly & urgently cried for during the two or three last days of his life -

Mr Rogers was not in Peterboro till a few days before his death - when Anne Reid called in & asked her uncle if he would like to see him he answered - "Oh yes!" - surely" - he always had a sincere regard for Mr Rogers as a christian minister & friend - & enjoyed his society & conversation most particularly - as it generally turned upon serious subjects - which for the last year interested him more than any other - Mr Rogers did come on Thursday I think - but the dear subject of this letter - was so restless & ill that he could not benefit much by his visit - These are times when the heart seems open to receive the only true & solid consolation that can be given - & naturally withdrawn as much as possible from the trifling vexation of life - &

believe me my own dear friend that it never occurred to us that you could feel hurt at any of us for receiving a visit so kindly paid & so kindly meant - & at such a time -

You were well acquainted with the universal benevolence of his heart - & his wish to promote union amongst Christians of all denominations - he admired Mr Rogers as a Christian - & for this reason he bespoke a pew in addition lately made to the Scotch Church - but he never intended to leave our own church - where he found its devotions as he said - those of "the Catholic Christian Church of England - I think he said this to you - about the last time he spoke distinctly to you - just as you left his bedside - he called it out loud - Forgive me my dear Mr Taylor if I have encroached to far on your time or attention but it was a subject too near my heart to be touched upon lightly

I regret to hear that you are suffering so much from hurting your leg - & that your family are like my own - still afflicted with this tedious & obstinate fever - we have now four invalids - though none of them are very seriously ill - & I hope all in both houses may soon be quite well - I shall be sincerely happy to see you or my dear Mrs Taylor - whenever you can come up - but I know how difficult it is for either her or you to leave home

With every feeling of sincere regard & affection for you & dear Mrs Taylor & your family Believe me dear Mr Taylor

Ever Gratefully

Yours F Stewart

[Addressed:

Revd J C Taylor

Peterboro

20th Sepr 1847]

78-008/2/10 #201

To Miss B.

Sep. 21st 1847

I am sure my dearly loved & loving friends will be anxious abt me & I must not let this mail go without bearing some intelligence of your poor desolate & afflicted child - Tho' I am wrong in using that first term. My heart must be desolate & lonely but I cannot be so in reality when I am surrounded by my dear children all trying who can show me most tender love, consolation & attention & when every one who ever knew us write in showing kindness - but afflicted I must be for no one can know how severe our loss. Thank God I have been & am supported & can see such unbounded love & mercy mixed in the bitter sup that it would be profane & rebellious indeed to allow any repinings to arise in my breast & the height of selfishness to sorrow without rejoicing, for we must all feel certain that his soul which had been ripening for a long time past now attained the Haven where all troubles cease & where sighing & sorrow are unknown. That he is now enjoying a peace which passeth all understanding & on what a change from the years of anguish & misery he has had!! & probably would have had for some time to come - I have long prayed that his poor tortured mind should be relieved but oh how little did I foresee the full & complete relief & release that was so near, or the depth of misery left for us here, but still I feel the hand of the Lord has smitten us & all is well, all is mercy & we must now look forward to the mark set before us of the high calling of God in C.J. At 1st his illness was intermittent fever which however this year has been much more formidable than any other. About the 5th day it became steady fever. He had no head ache or pain, in back or limbs indeed he never had the slightest pain, but after Thursday the fever encreased & his tongue showed it was a worse kind, His mind in general perfectly clear & calm tho' his body restless & sickness of the stomach most exhausting all usual remedies were tried & next week he appeared better - the brown crust peeling off his tongue - but on the 2d wednesday it began to return & the thirst terrible. Towards day break Thursday he grew restless sick & chilly - I sent for the Dr who had only left us a few hours, twitching came on in his limbs - Dr Hay was very anxious & sent for another Dr who did not think the symptoms so bad, ordered Calomel & hippo &c. but he grew worse. He plainly knew then he was leaving us & looked at me saying I am happy! - Happy! Anna & Ellen came & Dr Hay only left us when obliged. Friday he spoke much to us all when able but his throat & tongue were so dry he hardly could & we could only hear by putting our heads close to him but every word was precious for all breathed the most perfect resignation under suffering - & joy - & earnest desire for the safety of the Souls of all round him. He spoke separately to each calling for any absent & did not omit one. He made us read & pray with & for him, he constantly prayed & called for Pr - & enjoyed extempore pr - most as it was the utterance of the heart at the time. Mr Taylor came twice & Mr Roger & Mr Benson. He could not keep his attention fixed for more than a few minutes, but joined his voice in the pr - when it applied to himself or any one for whom he felt particular interest - Friday night he gave Wm & John advice & instruction & placed them under Ed Browns care & asked him to be a friend & advisor to his boys - which poor dear Ed promised with tears & the dear one added - "I mean

religious as well as moral," - many wonderful impressions & touching expressions did we hear - the dear one seemed hovering on the brink of Eternity from Thursday till 9 oC. Monday 6th Sepr when the Spt fled - They were days never to be forgotten - never did any of us witness such scenes - they are awful for the Spt seemed more in Heaven than on Earth but glorious & rejoicing too. I have often heard & read of Triumphant Deaths & read of such scenes - but this was indeed victorious. Death had no sting for him. During these 3 days his breath often stopped so long we though all was over, but there was no struggle or sign of suffering. His tongue was quite black. He made Ellen Bessy & Edwd sing hymns & psalms frequently & took more pleasure in it than anything. He also had psalms &c. read. Mr Reid & Jas often prayed at his bedside & read to him, On Saty night he spoke to Dr Hay & Ed. of many matters, gave solemn directions as to many subjects - his funeral &c. & made Dr Hay write down signed & had it witnessed. He could not bear Ed a moment out of his sight & sent for Robt - & spoke affectionately to him. All belonging to this world seemed as nothing during this time when we were watching his soul passing into Eternity We were elevated above this life. Sunday morning he was quite exhausted & the restlessness of body continued. He asked the 3 "to sing his Soul to Heaven" - He slept heavily for some hours then & I sat & held one hand which was cold & blue. Some flies were about the bed & I touched his hand in trying to wave them off which roused him. A rush of heat came on & he seemed to revive. His voice became stronger & clearer & he again said how happy he was & repeated his entire trust was in his Savrs atonement & he longed to be with him & then added & to join my dear sister. He was able to swallow better & spoke to all, gave Ed a Bible Bessy had given her Papa the year before & begged him to read it frequently in private as well as in family reading.

Asked him to kiss him & showed such love to all as I never saw him show before - Mr Benson came & talked & prayed &c - but hearing hymns sung was his greatest pleasure. In this way, he passed his last Sabth on Earth. Dr Hay Ch Dunlop & Robt Brown sat up the night & all made me lie down as I was worn out not having lain down for a fortnight, at first from asthma & then I could not leave him. I slept so sound I did not hear Ellen get up at 2 & she shut the door & I never wakened till 4 - I then ran to the head of the stairs & heard Dr Hay praying. I dressed quickly & as I went down I heard his voice unusually loud & clear calling out "Oh my Savr - come for me" - This was the last I heard him say - Bessy forced me into the parlour to take a cup of coffee & when I came out he was sleeping & never awoke. He had some pain in the night but not severe. He opened his eyes once, turned himself & looked at me but the eyes were dim & a strange look in them, but he soon slept again. He breathed on quite regularly till it just stopped - I have been quite well except asthma -

[a few extra lines have been added, probably included in the original, as follows:]

caused by the damp, foggy nights. I have been obliged to be about so much. My great pleasure is to think and write of those sweet days of the dying Saint, and to think of him now where he is. But oh, the want!

78-008/2/10 #202

Hazel Bank

Octr 14th .47 -

I was more shocked & grieved, when we received Richr Rothwell's enclosure of Doctor Hay's melancholy letter, than any one can imagine - Oh my own dear Sister we were very fearful as to the result of the illness dear Tom Stewart was suffering under, when you last wrote! Truly & sincerely, so we all sympathize with you, & your beloved children in the severe trial you have had - God comfort you! & he will comfort & support you, for you are one of his children, my dear Fanny - It is dreadful, not to be able to hear more intelligence for such a time - It's now nearly a month since Dr Hay's letter was dated, indeed it is 5 weeks since for his was written upon the 9th of September, & not a word have we heard since - God grants us some good news.

I never remember a time of such anxiety as this last year & half has been - There is a great deal of very bad fever in this Parish at present - May it please the Almighty to keep it from us! -

Miss Garland, who had left Rockfield entirely, has been staying with us, to pay a farewell visit, for the last month - She is a great pleasure, for she is so kind, & so pleasing & so well informed, that it is quite raising to our spirits, to have her - I sometimes get low-spirited enough for it makes one very cowardly in times of sickness to be so far from all our relations as we are - not a being related to us nearer than Meath in Dublin - & indeed except from dear Aunts Waller, & Sutton & my own dear friend Maria Noble - we dont get letter nearly as frequently as we used to do formerly - Bessy Rothwell never never writes now, to me - why I cannot tell - & the Coolmine people are not nearly as regular Correspondents as they were - I do really believe that sometimes insensibly people slide out of intimacy, when others slide in - Lydia Kirkpatrick is gone to spend the winter with Francis & his wife at Lewes in Sussex - Poor Francis was obliged to leave Finstead in Lancashire where he had a delightful congregation & £ 200 per Annn & go off from it - the climate disagreed so much with his wife, & he is now Curate of a Church in Lewes, paying £ 70 - pr Anm for an unfurnished house, & every kind of provision so very expensive & as his means are limited, he finds it hard enough - but his wife is quite strong since she went there, so he has this comfort - I dont think it likely that any of them will come here this winter - Indeed I do not like to ask them to come to such a retired spot as this - Dear kind Anne came to us last winter which was a great comfort at the time I was so low, & so hurried getting every thing for the poor & the sick - The Rothwells are leaving Bellingham which for Aunt Sutton's sake I am rejoiced at, as it was quite too cold for her - She has had a very bad cough for some time & it gives worse in the desparate cold of that place - Dear Aunt Sutton! She is truly kind - She is at Coolmine at present - Our dear Alexr is to go up there in about a fortnight please God for the Examinations - I [] some way, I cannot write or think about anything but the One, that is you me dear beloved Sister - Oh that I could but hear from you & could know that all are well at Auburn - Surely some one will write - Dear Anna & Ellen too, so

near Confinements! If you were but near us, that I could comfort you & [] them! What are you plans, will you remain at Auburn? - I am in a very sober stupid mood, & will only make you think me melancholy, so I may as well stop writing this time - for I have no heart to write, until I know how you are, all of you my darlings - I think Sunday or Monday may bring us some news - God Almighty bless you my dearest Sister, & all you love & ever believe me your truly Affec Sister

C E K

[Addressed:

Mrs Stewart

Auburn

Peterborough

Canada West

BY BOSTON

Post paid]

Barkley Vicarage Novbr 6th - 47

My very dear Sister,

The intelligence from Miss Beaufort of the removal of your truly beloved & most endeared husband & my very dear brother only reached me last week - I was far from being prepared for such a stroke, as the account which was sent me from Ireland was far more favourable than it had been formerly been - being able (as one letter stated) to walk short distances without a stick - For you my very dear Fanny I do feel & if it is any comfort to you now, believe me my heart deeply sympathises with you & for you - Gladly would I prove it were in my power - The many endeared recollections of our happy youthful days occur to my thoughts - but what are those to one who enjoyed the matured feelings of a warm & attached heart - In your sorrow & deparvation, my own feelings are lost, & I do from my heart sorrow with you - but not as those without hope No dear Fanny, the account for a long time past of his state of mind is a comfort that no earthly boon could supply & the account of the dear departed one's last hours is a comfort beyond every thing that can be thought of or conceived - The certainty that he is now in Glory, beyond all the power of any thing to hurt him, safe in the presence of his precious Saviour, enjoying happiness that eye hath not seen or ear heard, nor would enter into his heart to conceive; is a confort & consolation worth ten thousand words But you my beloved Sister have lost a counsellor & comforter - Here you have, but if like him your heart is in Heaven, you will meet to part no more forever - This is consolation which those who know not God are strangers to - Oh then lift up your heart & let us all both old & young seek to be prepared for never ending joys with those who are gone before - I had some how lost hope that we should meet here in this land & that when your dear boys were able to manage the farm by themselves, that you & my dear brother & some of your dear children would be able to come to us for some months - Both my dear husband & myself entertained this hope - but we are short sighted creatures - The Lord has provided better things for our beloved brother - My last letter I fear was too late for my dear Tom to see it - Indeed I fear it must have been written after his removal - This I am very sorry for. If you have had it, you will see my reasons for not having written sooner - I deeply grieve now that I had so long delayed, but I hope you will forgive me & if spared I do hope not to allow so long an interval to pass for the future

9th - Since writing the former part of this letter Miss Beaufort has kindly sent extracts from letters, with the Glorious accounts of my dear Toms triumphant & victorious death - Oh my dear Sister you have joys beyond telling in witnessing such a glorious death & this is a consolation beyond all thought that you are assured of his glorious Entrance into the joys of Heaven - But your loss is indeed great & I can scarcely bear the thought & at times I am quite overcome when I think of your comparitively lonely state - But God will comfort you & you will meet never, never to part - I do not forget my promise respecting his likeness - When my dear Tom asked me for it for you - I replied, so long as you have the original I must be allowed to keep the miniture - I feel now I have no longer any claim to it, & tho' dearly I love to look upon

it, it will be dearer to you & your children & when you tell me how to send it safely I will do so - I shall try to have a copy of it - I am now going to ask you a great favor - I do long to have some account of my dear brothers last illness & also of the latter part of his life - I know I am asking a painful & perhaps too great favor, but if you can gratify me it will be comforting to my dear Children who have always loved & esteemed him tho' personally unknown to them - There are also many friends who knew his character & worth I should wish very much to know what he said to you & his dear children - everything will be cherished by me & will be most valued

I was sorry to hear from Miss Beaufort of the return of sickness in your family - I trust you will be able to send me a better account And now my dear sister excuse this hasty letter Trusting soon to hear from you or some of your dear family & praying that every consolation from above may be fully bestowed upon you I for the present [] with my most affe love to each of your dear children - to dear Maria & Mr Reid I send my most affe love They must deeply feel the loss of such a a friend & brother - Gladly would I hear that there was any hope of our meeting - an abundance of welcome & room you will find under this roof if you should think of coming to England - My dear Husband is now in London or would join with me in affectionate love to you all - He will write to you soon - My only child with me is my dear Mary she loves you all & would rejoice to see you or any of your dear children here - Believe me my very dear Sister your attached C. Hoare

[Addressed:Via Halifax

Mrs StewartAuburn

PeterboroughCanada

stamped:

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NO 16

1847

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COBOURG

DEC 18

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UC

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

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NO 17

H]

78-008/2/10 #204

Auburn Wednesday Evening

5th May - 6 o'clock

My own dear Aunt

Our early tea is over - Bessie had gone to her garden for a little while & I will take the quiet time before all the labourers come in for their supper to tell you that last Friday I had the enjoyment of reading letters from several friends dated 1 April - amongst them was one packet from dear old Allenstown - where I am glad you are all assembled together again - & all well - Julia & the children so much improved in health & strength - this is a happy change for all - & must relieve dear James of much care & anxiety - what dreadful sickness there is now it seems quite as fatal as the starvation - Oh what a state that poor poor place is in!! I really fear the whole air of the island of Ireland will be polluted by the masses of putrifying bodies of animals & also the rotten vegetables - I fear the pestilence may not be confined to those who have suffered from bad food or no food - but that the very air they breath much be loaded with foulness - I sometimes wish all I love there, were safe out here - but then I begin to recollect how very irksome a Canadian life would seem to those who have been accustomed to elegance ease & refinement - how insupportable it would be to those who have lived in a round of amusement of enjoyed intellectual, or scientific society.

What a desolate wilderness it would seem to those who have enjoyed the privileges of Christian conversation & intercourse with the Religious part of the society at home - for alas! we have but little of that here - when I think of all these things I begin to find that I am selfish in wishing anyone to come here - for few of my friends are not well off at home not to make the change felt in some of the three ways I have mentioned - & yet does it not seem a contradiction to say that positively & truly I am as happy here as anybody need wish or expect to be in this world - I will even go farther & say that I do think I am much happier than most people I know anywhere - in the first place I never have anything to do that is the least fatiguing - for my dear kind thoughtful husband never could bear to see me exert myself - & has always endeavoured to save me from the necessity of doing anything that could hurt me - & now my dear children never allow me to do anything but some very trifling part of the household department - & needlework or knitting - not many such thoughtful affectionate husband & children - As for society or amusement I have lost all relish for parties or anything of that sort - & I am never at loss for variety - for every hour there is so much going forward that there is constant change & movement going on - As for religious companionship I have dear Mr Foulis - who is a treasure to us all - & occasionally we have Mr & Mrs Rogers - & they refresh us delightfully - then we have all your letters & Mrs Wilsons & some others which give us a fresh supply of interesting matter every month besides all the books - of which we read a small portion every day - sometimes very small - but no day passes without some serious or improving reading - Now have we not every thing to make us happy? - & we live so retired that we have nothing to do with politics or

Gossip - of fashions - or Keeping up appearances which really in many instances causes much trouble & Plague - we always try to dress neatly & to be clean & to have our tables decently & comfortably laid out - & generally have a very plentiful supply of plain substantial wholesome food - & what more ought we to require - We have now got abundance of Oatmeal which for many years we never had at all & till now it was always very difficult to procure - now there are two good Oat Mills - one of them on our own property - so we can always have it - We have plenty of Indian Meal - & as both are liked - they use Indian Meal porridge for breakfast & the Oatmeal for supper - we have very substantial breakfasts - as soon after six o'clock as all can be assembled - but as some are attending to horses or cattle or pigs or fowl it is not easy to collect all to a moment - then Tom reads a portion of scripture & prayers - after that in come the smoking Sepanne - the nice smiling potatoes - cold meat - Eggs - Toast Bread - butter - 2 large Jugs of Milk - besides the tea pot &c. - all set to work with much energy - according to their taste or fancy - but they don't waste any time after it is over - for all set off to their different employments - & Bessie & Kate carry out all the things - & settle up the room - & I sit at my reading or knitting for a little while - the routine of work tho' simple is not at all monotonous now - & sometimes I can't help wondering how Tom can go on as he does - keeping all going on in so many different departments - & thinking of such an extraordinary variety of different matters - but he never slackens - or tires - tho' he often looks weary & anxious - this is an unusually backward season - and every thing is some weeks later than it ought to be - the ground was so lately covered with deep snow that ploughing could not be done in low ground at all - and consequently we shall have but half the quantity of wheat sown which we otherwise would have put in - however we shall have enough for our own use - tho' none to sell I fear - which is a loss as it will probably bring a good price next year -

Thursday morning - 10 o'clock Good morning my dearest Aunty - here is a most lovely day - warm & bright - the birds & insects & everything seeming to rejoice - the vegetation has commenced & is making rapid progress - the lilacs are all bursting into leaf - the grass growing green - & the forest trees all changing from the stiff wintry grey to a reddish tinge which will soon change to green -

We have had great difficulty in getting into Peterboro for some time past - the bridge was rickety & dangerous all through the winter - but at last gave way to the increasing force of the river which always rises in spring - & it was carried off one day - fortunately no person was on it tho' horses were not able to cross it for a long time - yet people used to walk over - Edward Brown had just come over & was not far on this side when he heard it cracking & going off - There are boats for passengers to get across - but they are not well manned - & the charge is high - Our boat here is not in good order - so we are obliged to borrow one - but these difficulties will soon be over for some means of crossing must be established for the public - Our river has risen unusually high this year - & has overflowed the banks to a great distance - & has partially injured all the Mill dams & races - so that there is great plague about having flour - but it will soon go down - & these injuries will be repaired - My own dear Aunt I think you have been much too generous in your contribution this year for our box commissions - I assure you I feel it is wrong where you have so many calls on your purse so very urgent as they are this miserable year - but as it is done I must only try to express my thankfulness to you - which

indeed I cannot find words for - £ 10 - is quite too much - but I am sure Harriet will lay it out to the best of her judgement - pray tell my dear Maria she need not have said one word about her not sending her usual gift - Oh I am glad she did not - for I do feel I am a continual tax & drain on your purse & heart my ever dear & kind friends - Mrs Hay & Dr Hays sister & cousins are sending out a box to Anna - they [like you] seem to be always thinking of useful things to send - & it is very delightful to find them all so kind to Anna - The good old lady is I find sending out some books too & desired Anna "to choose out one for each of her six brothers & for little Kate" - is not this very great kindness - She writes beautiful advice to Anna - as a mother - & gives her many good hints about early leading little James to know & love the Lord I heard from Mrs Wilson of Maryville that the two Kirkpatrick's had hooping cough - very mildly I hope dear Catharine may not take it I am not sure whether she ever had it - We shall have another mail in a few days & I hope for good accts of all - Surely we have reason to be thankful for generally having pleasant news of my friends -

I am happy to say all my dear children & grandchildren in both families are well - I have just heard that Anna & the children & the little maid were at the opposite side yesterday trying to get over to us - but there was no boat - little Fanny has just got over the weaning most easily & prosperously without any trouble or ever being taken from her Mama except for a few nights when she slept with the maid - She is a most sweet dispositioned gentle infant - she has two teeth I was amused at your sending the old linen for Baby purposes - indeed I believe it will all come into requisition towards the end of the year for I am sure poor Anna is in that way & I suspect Ellen is beginning also - they are rather hasty I think - but I hope the Lord sends them blessings as mine to me - Ellen walked over to see us the day before yesterday - poor dear her heart seems with us still - tho' she has every comfort she can require & the best of husbands & she thinks no one like him - She is very thin - but that does not signify - little Mary is growing more engaging ever day - Ellen says "has sense beyond her age!! She thinks & reasons in her mind" We have all had colds - I have had my usual tedious cough - & found my hippo Lozenges a great comfort - poor Willy has had several attacks of Ague but we generally stop it with Quinine - first giving Calomel & sometimes an Emetic - he looks very thin & washy & is very weak - he has just had a pretty smart attack - & it disheartenes him not to be able to do his share of the work - now when so much is to be done & the season so far advanced - They are sowing a good deal of Oats & pease & Turnips - We will plant a couple acres of potatoes as we have good seed - but expect next time will be worse than the last - Will you thank Aunt Sutton for her kind letter & for all her kindness - about everything on money matters - Oh she is very kind to us - I wrote a fortnight ago in a letter Bessie wrote to Mary Rothwell so I will not write to anyone but you dear Aunt. A few lines I must write to Harriet if you have the goodness to send them on to her - poor dear she wrote to me but I fear it must have hurt her greatly - There is still a great deal of sickness in the country here - principally Ague & bilious fever - all who had it in Autumn have it again now - & many people are kept from attending to their Spring work - which is a serious loss here where all depends on industry - We find the supply of Quinine most useful & will probably require a small supply again during summer - little Flora Macdougall had got Auge again - & old Mrs Reid & James Reid which is a great loss as he is the head worker there he is terribly reduced - poor Dr Hutchinson has had another bad attack of apoplexy - I have not heard for some days - but his life hangs by a cobweb - Dr Hay attends him - I am sorry

poor Mrs Blakeny's recovery is not rapid as was at first hoped - but at her age it could hardly be expected - Tell me how all the Blakenys & Battersbys out here are going on - we never hear of them at all - they are a long way from us - & Many like that west country best - Thank you dear Aunt for sending me those nice Sermons - I suppose the Box is now near starting - poor Harriet must have employed someone to do it for her - I hope she may not have hurt herself for any sake - I am glad she has that nice useful Nanny - My paper says stop & so I must - Give loves in loads to all my dear people beginning at home & extending by Athboy to Rockfield & everywhere - Ever your own fond F Stewart & grateful child -

[addressed:

Via Boston

Mrs Waller

Allenstown

Kells

Co Meath

7 May Ireland

post marked:

PETERBORO

MAY 7

1847

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MY 31

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KELLS

MY 31

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

1847

COBOURG

MAY 8

1847]

Please forward this to aunt Waller - left this Hazel Bank June 9th

Domestic life - most entertaining G.B.

[The seal is red wax - circle with script F S]

78-008/2/10 #205

Auburn 31st May 1848

My dearest Catharine,

Last week I had a great part of a letter written to you - but from low spirits one cause or another I could not manage to finish it in time for Saturdays Mail - & so I have just thrown it into the fire and have taken a fresh sheet to make if possible a better attempt - You will be alarmed at my being in such low spirits - & will naturally fear I have met with some new affliction or got into some fresh trouble - but tho' I have met with a very great loss - it is not so bad as to amount to an affliction - I have lost three members of my family! - My darling Bessie & the two Browns - who have been 15 years as my own sons - & under my care! - and on Wednesday night - or rather on Thursday morning last - Edward carried my sweet Bee off - & neither of them can or will ever be in exactly the same position again in my family circle in affectionate & tender fondness for the poor old Mother they have been with heretofore - On Friday Robert Brown (who remained here after the wedding) drove me over to pay them a visit - & they kept me till the next day & I did enjoy the 24 hours most exceedingly - however I must go back "begin at the beginning" as the children say - They both wished to be married on my Birthday - & so on Wednesday last the 24th the ceremony was performed in our drawing room - by Revd Mr Taylor our clergyman - we had merely our own family & some of our nearest connections here - as we wished it to be very quiet - for at best it must be a melancholy business under my present circumstances - & of course missing the presence of the beloved & tender parent who had given away our two elder daughters - & who had always given the bride the first tender embrace!! - but tho' not with us in body I trust his blessed Spirit watched over us & witnessed the ceremony he had himself directed should be performed in a reasonable time "after" when he so solemnly joined their hands & gave her to him last September - Dr Hay performed the part of a father on the occasion & gave my dear child away - Our party consisted of Mr & Mrs Taylor - Dr Hay & Anna - Eleanor & Charles Dunlop - Edward Brown & his two brothers Templeton & Robert - Anna Falkner who came some days before to spend some time here - & Fanny & Kitty Reid - & our own family circle - all except poor William who was confined to bed with intermitting fever - The ceremony was performed about six o'clock in the evening as we thought having tea soon after would give us some occupation & take off the silence & formality - The little Bride looked simple, innocent & composed - & behaved with more self possession than I expected - for I knew she was "heart full" - she was dressed in a neat simple manner - the dress was a pale colour more blue than Lavender & more Lavender than blue, if you can understand what that can be like - it was very pretty & cool looking - I dont remember the name of the material - it was very soft & nice looking - the body was made with bias folds round the bosom & sleeves & buttons all down the front - on her shoulders she wore a very handsome blond scarf which poor Anna Stewart sent out to Anna Hay - her hair hung in ringlets round her face & neck - having been cut sometime ago, as it came out so much after the Ague - Everyone seems to feel interested about both Edward & Bessie - for both are much liked & loved by all who knew them - Then came tea - Anna & Ellen presided at the teatable at one end

of the room - & pored out tea & coffee which the boys handed about - as the party sat in group in different parts of the room - in the middle was a table with bread & butter - buttered buns - plum cake - little Shrewsbury cakes & some other kind - all made by Bee - Anna Hay & Anna Falkner - The Brides cake was cut up - it too was home made & excellent & nicely iced & ornamented with coloured comfits - it was made by Anna Hay & Bessie - & just as good & rich looking as any bought plum cake - All this kept us busy till candle light - at 9 o'clock we had some nice singing & playing as both Mr & Mrs Taylor are very musical - it was the first time I had heard any music except hymns or psalms which were sung here on Sunday evenings - for above a year & it seemed strange to my ears - & melancholy at first - but it soon went off & I enjoyed it very much. Templeton Brown has a beautiful voice & he & Edward sung together - poor Robert was not able to join having had Ague that morning - these three brothers sing nicely together - Mrs Taylor played on the piano - which is the wonder of everybody - it sounds so well & everyone likes the tone of it so much better than many of the modern ones - poor old thing it goes in & out of tune of its own accord - for I never allow any of the common travelling tuners who often come round here to touch it - for fear of spoiling it - as they do sometimes - & it has not been tuned for six years! - it sometimes gets a little asthmatic like myself in damp weather but recovers when the air is dry & sound quite well again - but it is always very low - below concert pitch - however I suppose you don't understand or care much about that - at all - we had a little supper - cold fowl - & lamb & ham & salad & some tarts - & Raisin-Almonds & Apples - &c. & the Bride and Bridegrooms health were drank - & we left the Gentlemen - after which we heard great cheering and hurrahing - when the gentlemen had chatted some time over their glasses - Edward went to change his dress - & put on a warmer & commoner suit - & then went off to get his Waggon ready - & we all went to help dress up the darling bride & pack up her trunks & parcels - so it was near one o'clock before they started & a lovely night - the moon just above the trees - I never wished more to do anything than I did to go with them - but I thought they would excuse my company just then - & I said nothing No one went with them except old Anna McIntosh an old servant who lived with me many years ago when they were all children - & tho' she lives 18 miles off she always expects to be invited to the weddings - & to attend the Bride - she always stays ten days or so - & goes home with the Nouveau Mariees - She has been at Anna Ellens & Bessies weddings - Bessie has a nice little maid a young girl of 16 who came from Ireland last year - from near Ballymacash - & whose mother died soon after they came to Peterboro - she is a nice girl & I hope may answer very well for Bessie - On Friday morning about 10 O'clock I reached Goodwood which is nearly 3 miles from this & there my own dear children met me with smiles & hearty welcome - it was a happy meeting to us all & I rejoiced to see so much comfort & prosperity in every part of the premises - the clover looks beautiful & green & luxuriant & also the wheat - & the woods are so verdant & fresh & lovely - the house so clean & airy & comfortable - so much neatness & convenience in the arrangements of everything & the laying out of the house & rooms - that it plainly shewed the young proprietor thought much of the wee wifey - when he was planning it all - They would not let me return home till the next morning as the day was warm & the rough road & jolting had given me a little headache - you may suppose how very lonely I felt after I came home - dear Ellen had staid with me for some days before the wedding to keep me company & also to remain here when I went to pay my first visit to those dear ones - but she has her own establishment to take care of & it was necessary she should go home on Saturday morning &

just as I returned -she was setting off home so that I was only in time to say goodbye - Then indeed the house did seem empty & forsaken - Bessies room looked like a deserted birds nest - with garments scattered about - ragged & everything put out of place - the boys rooms too were changed for both the Browns had kept their clothes here - till now, as they had no servant to wash or take care of them or any place to keep them till now that they have got all complete - I have always attended to their clothes & had their washing & sewing done here - ever since they have been with us, so that when their trunks - boxes - brushes &c. & &c were all taken away - it seems a complete emptying of the rooms upstairs - On Sunday too I missed my three dear children terribly - for they were my constant companions in any leisure hours - & were fonder of being with me than any of my sons - we used to walk & talk & sit together Bessie - Ted - Bob & I - & were more like brothers & sisters than Mother & children - All last winter I used to long for Wednesdays & Saturdays - as on those evenings Edwe always came - & he & Bee & I had such sociable evenings - & when I was overcome with low spirits he used always advise & sooth & comfort me - or if I was in any dilemma about the farm or the boys - he always put things right & I felt sure that if he saw anything wrong or neglected about the place he wd see that & put it right - indeed I have always had a feeling of safety & security whenever Edward was with us - for many years back. Now of course I must relinquish much of this - for having an establishment of his own - he cannot be so often here - & not having his little Sweet heart to come to, he will not be so anxious to come over, & having her there, I cannot think of his leaving her - My dear William is exceedingly careful & really shews much discretion & judgement in attending to everything so that in fact - we do not require Edward so much in that way - but not one of my boys are companions so much to my fancy as dear Bessie - Edward & Robert - I think Robert will sometimes come & keep me company - poor fellow he is now very ill with Ague - much reduced - So is my poor William - his fever has turned into Ague, which is not so bad - I am always afraid now of intermitting fever ending in Typhus - it is so weakening - but Ague is not so bad - Quinine seems to have no effect now in stopping Ague - & it is in every house in the country - & you go no where without seeing two or three miserable yellow emaciated creatures crawling about - Williams illness has come at a busy time - & we are obliged to hire people to plough & plant potatoes - which is very expensive - Frank cannot settle his mind to work at home & is trying to push himself forward on his own farm - I cannot blame him as he is 21 - & he wants to be independent - he is a fine active pleasant fellow - very much like his dear Papa in his character & ways - Johnny is a steady hard working lad - but having had Ague for two months - & being naturally of a delicate frame his strength is not equal to much exertion - he has many good points - but is awfully selfish & old bachelorish in his ways - & particularities - Frank is the pleasantest companion of any of the boys - but he scarcely ever is at home - & never seems to care for any of his own family - he is now staying at the Browns - we are obliged to keep Charlie from School which will be a terrible loss to him as we require him to help on the farm - he too is but weakly as he has had Ague & is growing very fast - you see now my dear why I have been low spirited since I lost those three - who were everything to me - I have not yet got a housekeeper - but am in hopes of soon having Ellen Duffield - & she will be a treasure to me - as she is a very excellent housekeeper in every way - & knows practically - all that is to be done in a country house like this - where economy is necessary - she is active & healthy which is another requisite - as I am not myself quite so well able to run about as I once was - We have known the Duffields for many years so she is no stranger

June 1 There was a terrible frost last night which has killed all out India corn - Punkins, Squashes - & all the Plumbs of which there was an immense quantity today we have good fires on it is so cold This day 26 years ago we sailed from Ireland

Auburn Thursday 29th July 1848

My own darling H. Good news, good news, new ink, new ink bottle & many other nice things! - I have the pleasure of telling you that my Box arrived here in safety on Tuesday evening, & all its contents have been examined & admired. And now I must try and express to you & my other dear friends how truly & heartily grateful I am to all who contributed to the valuable contents of that same box - but all I can say seems to come far short of what I wish to say - all seems too cold for my heart is full of love & thankfulness. I have also many messages from those who were so kindly thought of in this most acceptable & well chosen collection of useful & pretty things! - but all seem to centre in my breast - because it is for my sake that you all shew such kindness to my children. As usual the Box was tedious in its passage from Montreal where it arrived on the 16th of June - but having been detained above ten days at Port Hope (only a days journey from this) it did not reach me till 25th July. I had almost given up hopes of having it even so soon - as the Steam boat from Peterboro & Rice Lake had met with an accident. William had gone into Peterboro Tuesday & fortunately took the waggon. Just as he was leaving town he heard the Steam boat bell & though of going to see if it was there.

At the landing place he met Charles Dunlop who did not know that Willy was in town, & was just coming here with my box - was he not kind,

So Willy soon got it on board his waggon & drove off - Edward also had gone to Peterboro that morning & had left Bessie here till he came back - so it happened nicely that she could see the box opened - & take her own share of the goods home with her.

Well, about 9 oclock in the evening, Bessie, Ellen Duffield & I were sitting at work at work at the Drawing room window, when we heard wonderful shouting & cheering on the road - & presently saw two waggons coming along at a tearing rate - I knew the hindmost was Edward's - he & George had gone together & both were dressed in dark clothes - but the foremost waggon had 7 men in it - all without their coats - & one had his hat off - & reared & cheered loudest of all

The horses were galloping at a furious rate, & I concluded they were some of our neighbours who too often return from town drunk & very noisy - But these people turned in & galloped straight up to the yard gate

Henry & Kate ran to open the gate, for they saw before I did who they were & what the cause of the noise was. They flung open the gates & cried out The Box! The Box! - & the first waggon galloped round the house & stopped at the veranda opposite the little parlour window - then I discovered the reason, - but I was nearly breathless with fright for I was sure some accident would happen. I found the three men were Willm - Mr Fowlis & Frank whom they had picked up on the road & he had jumped up on the box - wh made him taller than the rest - the heat &

excitement had made them throw off their coats. The poor horses too were equally excited & tried to run off before they had the box out of the waggon but no one was hurt fortunately. No time was lost in removing the Tarpaulin covering - but we did not take off the lid till Wm & Edward had put their horses as every man is his own groom here - & till John & Charles had come in from the hay field where they were still working. In about 20 minutes all were collected & the box was brought into the parlour & put by the window. Wm opened it & handed out the contents - many ready hands were stretched to receive each article & lay it on the table where Bessie & I were standing to receive them - Shirts, sheets, shoes, parcels, bundles, boxes - all were laid on the table - but not in silence I assure you. You never heard such gabbling & exclaiming - such running & tramping backwards & forwards - But in the midst of all, we all & each, felt bitterly the blank there was! the loss of one who was ever foremost in the pleasure of opening the Dublin box! We could not help feeling a pang in the midst of our joy.

Anna & Ellen too & their husbands were always here before - but this time we could not manage to have them as it is now quite a piece of business to fetch Anna & her 3 chicks & their maid all up - & she cannot leave them at home; and as Ellen has no servant at present she could not come. Bessie however was on this occasion the person most concerned having so large a share in the property. So we decided to proceed without delay

Bessie's sheets, shifts & &c were laid on one end of the sofa, & mine on the other - & all the parcels on the table to be opened. Bessie & Edd were of course much delighted & overflowed with admiration & gratitude - indeed they wd be heartless creatures if they were not - but they have hearts that can feel & appreciate the kindness of such friends. Everything was so nice, good, & beautiful & handsome useful & substantial of their respective kind

It was late as you may suppose when all were taken out & opened but the Browns were obliged to go home, late as it was, as Edward was to be out at his hay field at five in the morning - So we put back the nice bonnet & black silk & scarves & shawl & all the small things of Bee's into the tin box - & put it & the larger articles into the large box - Edward fastened the lid & put it into his waggon - he next put in his little wifey & then drove off. There was so much hurry I only had a sight of Bessie's nice things, but they have invited me to go as soon as I can to spend days with them & look over everything quietly

The beautiful writing case was a most unexpected present & a most useful one indeed. It was a handsome one, & just what they particularly wanted as neither of them had any desk or box to keep papers or writing materials in - & this for both so well - it was indeed very kind of dear Louisa to think of it - I am sure Bessie will write her own thanks for every thing better than I can - I have not seen any of the things which were inside of it yet - Thank dear Lou too for the dress - it is exceedingly pretty & cool & light for summer. The bonnet fits Bessie very well, she says it is the most comfortable fit she ever had it looks nice & the ribbon is very handsome - thank you my dear for that & the other pretty things, the shirt &c &c - But I have only seen them as yet by candlelight

The Black silk seems very nice, & a very good one & I think the material for my dress beautiful - it is soft & fine - I must have it made by a dress maker to do it justice - was the beautiful Shetland scarf for Bessie - it is not on the list

Wm is greatly pleased with his knife & which he says is capital & he is truly thankful for them George has been in quite a fever of expectation about his treasures - & you never saw a boy so delighted as he is - the beautiful box of instruments & the books too! the exact kind he wanted! he says he is quite made up now from the time his books & box were taken out he had no eyes, ears or interest for anything else he sat looking at them & the books & I could hardly get him to bed at half past twelve o'clock I must now come to my own share & thank you dearest for the Books

The numbers of Chambers Miscellany are a delightful addition to our own stock - we have now twenty volumes complete - a nice library - I gave them to Willy as a Birthday present, each year as they came. Kate has been busy reading Uncle Sam's money box - & Henry has taken a fancy to Orlandino - so I think I must give it to him for he is a very good little fellow - & deserves a little present now & then - They all seem to prize any thing sent from home as [peculiar] treasures I have not had time to look into any of them yet - You asked if you had sent me Sir Walter Raleigh's life but it has never come. Thanks for the black stockings - the cotton ones are very nice, & the silk ones quite a luxury - & we can't get any such things here unless we pay extravagantly for them & even then so bad - mere cobwebs - we can only get worsted which are too warm for summer so those are most acceptable & so are the black gloves - & thank you for this nice paper wafers envelopes & the lozenges & the brown stick which I am sure is good for coughs - it is so like old [Danesous] lozenges

Thanks thanks thanks to all dear friends for all - & to Maria Noble too for the nice little knife which I was really in want of - it is hard to meet with good cutlery here. I think I could fill sheet after sheet in thanking my kind friends & saying how much pleased I am with every thing - but I must write my thanks separately to my other friends another day - this is Friday 20th

Yesterday I was annoyed at being interrupted in this Letter - but it was very well for I had your letter in the evening of the 7th of July only 20 days from the date.

I have been very comfortable for some time past as Ellen Duffield saves me all trouble in household affairs - & I have more time for quiet enjoyment - she is no needleworker so she does not assist me in that way - but I have very little work now - compared to former times - Alas! the numbers of those I work for are much decreased - & the quantities of made up things sent out the last two years from home have helped me unspeakably []

78-008/2/10 #207

Mariposa 20th September 1849

My very dear kind friend & Mother

I received your little note & the other &cs last Monday and I now sit down to write you a few lines, though I have not much to say just at present. I had some thoughts of putting off my communication untill next week when I would have been able to write more certainty respecting my own prospects in the world but I have been thinking that if I did you would be imagining that I was ill or something the matter, and I concluded I would just sit down and go at it as I had some spare time. I was much disappointed that McNeil could not bring my box and if I can borrow a light waggon I shall have to come down for it myself next week some time. He brought the parcel which you were so kind as to send, and you may depend I felt grateful to you for all that was in it, and am happy to tell you that I am much better but I was very unwell for some time with this Bowel complaint which is so common. There have been several deaths here occasioned by it which caused me some uneasiness although I was not seriously ill and I went down and stayed awhile with Dr Kellog who dosed me to such good purpose that I am now quite well again only a little weak or - so for which I trust I am sincerely thankful to the giver of all good, I was also, much obliged to you for the Newspaper. I have read some of the speeches contained in them with much satisfaction and I hope profit. I did not take your Medicine as I was just discharged cured when I received them but I shall keep them for a former occasion. The socks, which you sent I have not tried on but I think they look first rate. I am not partial to large socks at any time. I had a letter from Aunt Morrison and a most edifying one it is. The poor Old Woman is in a happy state of mind she says she wants for nothing which this world can give and that instead she sometimes has a mite to spare for others who are blind or otherwise in necessitious circumstances. She says she wants me to write her a few times more and she thinks that will be all as she is now well stricken in years and hopes soon to go to her Fathers house poor Aunt Matty is still alive but unable to write as she cannot see and is otherwise disabled, but she sends a message to all of us and wrote as well as she could on a small slip of paper - dear James will please tell the rest, USA but I shall bring the letter with me when I come down though I must tell you that she sends her kindest love and respects to you and Bessie. I have applied for a Situation and shall know on Saturday whether I am to get it or not and shall be able to tell you all abt it when I come down and I dont think I shall be able to see you again for a good while if I get this situation. I have been shocking dull and lonely since I came back. Thinking on you all and how happy you were and how comfortable. I might have been among you had it not been for my own bad conduct &c. I believe I was very wrong to feel so but I could not help it and I found great comfort reading when I had time. Some of the nice books which I got from you and Templeton - and when I remembered how much better off I was than I deserved and how thankful I ought to be that God who in his infinite spared me through a long career - of sin and folly and brot me at last to see myself a lost and ruined sinner - and led me by his good spirit to fly for refuge to lay hold on the hope set before me in the Gospel [] [Torn] What have I a living man to complain and thank God I believe I am contented

and when I read my dear good old Aunts letter it made me ashamed of myself when I contrasted her holy resignatoin under all her trials and misfortunes with my own discontented & rebellious heart - but I never almost cease thinking on you all. I am with you in my dreams often and I never forget you when I go to my knees and I somberly think that you are perhaps praying for me at the same time. May he give us the true spirit of prayer and make us watchful and keep us Stedfast, immovable always abounding in the works of the Lord. Aunt Morrison is anxious to know about the rest of them. How they come on in spiritual things and I hardly know how to answer the question. I have a good deal that I could say to you my dear friend but I have to take this to the office and to write a few lines to Tempn and it is now ½ past so I shall close and with prayers truly affte Son James Brown

[addressed:

Mrs T.A. Stewart

Douro

Peterboro'

C.W.

4 ½

stamped:

OAKWOOD

SE 21

1849

PETERBORO

SEP21

1849]

[the seal is red wax - a circle, not intact, but with these words plainly visible [] gives us]

Auburn 2d Novr 1849

My beloved Mary

I have been for some weeks thinking of you almost constantly longing to know something of you & still intending to write to you - but waiting from week to week still hoping to hear from some person who could give me any satisfactory account of you - but I have waited to no purpose - So I will write - but what can I say? - How can I express to you what I feel - how deeply I feel for your loss - for I fear the report is but too true - I heard it just in a round about way - by a letter from Miss Johnson of Dundalk to Eliza & then I thought it was but a report - since that other letters have come to Eliza from her sisters - which confirm it - but contained nothing that could satisfy me - & I have had no letter from my sister for a long time - I am more anxious than I can tell you to have every particular & circumstance connected with the whole of your blessed Mothers illness & departure - & your own mind - & your plans & prospects - You are my precious & dear friend. deeply deeply in my heart - & I can & do feel with you & for you - for I know too well how you feel - but I also know the strong support you have - & I am confident you now feel its strength & that you are standing on the same Rock on which She stood - can still hold fast & wait - tho' waves of trouble may surround & dash over you - yet the Rock is firm & cannot be moved - nor will you ever be washed off or shaken, while you hold fast & feel it & lean on it from support - Oh it is a blessed strength that which comes from the LORD - We know in whom we have to trust & we need not - cannot fear - Friends must be separated in this world - even young people - must be snatched from those who love them - but when we see a life of Consistency drawing gradually to a close - An aged Saint ripening for Glory - it is a different sort of sorrow which we feel - for we can only view it as a removal from the troubles of life - a rest from all the miseries of human Nature - & an entrance into an illuminated Palace of Assembled friends - Around the Throne of a Glorious King - a Gracious & Condisceding Friend - & a loving & Tender Father - Oh dearest Mary what a Meeting there was! - I have thought so much of it - the joy & transport of those gone before - How it makes one long to be with them - & to strive to be ready - to flee away - and tho' gone from us here - yet we do not feel them so far away for we are sure that our dear & precious Redeemer is there with them & waits for us too - & has our place prepared for us to go when His good time shall come - & every time we think of Him & read His Holy Word it helps us on & brings us nearer to Him & to those He has taken to His Kingdom -

Dearest Mary I hope you have not suffered in health - I have not been able to hear any thing about you - But I know how you must feel - for you were knit & bound together by the strongest ties - & so you are yet my beloved - the ties broken were merely those of this life - you have still stronger & Everlasting ties which connect you still - & are still drawing you together - I hope when you can you will write to me - I know you will - I long for it - & do tell me about Alexander & his dear wife - I feel very fond of her - & I do beg you will give my most affectionate love to her I know she was loved & valued by your dear dear Mother - & is by you

too & her sweet note to me was so kind it makes me feel better acquainted with her - I am vexed that my sister has never written to me to tell me of you - for she knows how closely attached we have been since I have been acquainted with you my own darling friend & cousin - I am sure Eliza Frood will write to you. She has been waiting for me to write some time - dear Eliza - she is a fine & valuable girl & I love her more & more every day & am most thankful that I have them with me - They are pleasant in the house as companions for my young people & are exceedingly useful too - & most anxious & ready to do anything for me - & very kind & thoughtful - The only thing that I regret is that they don't seem yet to feel the Spiritualism of Religion in their hearts - but I think the great change in their habits & ways of living - has unsettled their minds - Eliza I had supposed was much more Serious - but I think her mind is disturbed very much at present - Her brother James & other family matters weigh []

[] he could extend some of his means of usefulness to our dark & benighted corner of the world. Now very dearest Cousin Adieu May Spiritual & temporal Blessing & Comfort be Yours - In & through Christ our Lord - Your affect cousin

F Stewart

Pray give my love to dear Alix & family -

I hear Mary Johnsons Eldest son is going to be married to Isabella Garnett a niece to Mrs Rothwell - I knew her mother in old times

Dear Fanny

Will you send the enclosed to Ellen & I will thank you - I hope to write to you by next mail - please God Your own CEK

[Written inside a small envelope addressed:

Cullybracken

Ballymena

Paid ½

Mrs Stewart

Auburn

PeterboroughCanada West

Sept 19th

post paid

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SP 21

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stamped:

Ballymena

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PETERBORO

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78-008/2/11 #209

Edgeworthstown

Decr 4, 1850

Nearly a month has run away my very dear Fanny since my last letter to you was sent from Armagh the 7th & though I did intend indeed to write to you from Dublin where we were on the 12th of Novr - I never could manage to do so - between one hurry or other - & was forced to defer till I came here, where you will be glad I am sure to see that we are. We arrived on last Saty - & had the pleasure of finding Fanny looking well - & seemingly really well - & as active as ever - & busy about her work people - & her mind thank God very bright - Indeed we have great reason thankfulness that she has so well got over the severe illness she had last summer - & is so much the same dear active & energetic creature that she ever was

Do no forget in your next, to tell me if my green stamp & blue one carry my letters free to you - You have never answered me - & I cannot help feeling a misgiving in regard to it, though I was assured at the Post Office then heads would answer

Your last letter was most particularly welcome to me dear Fanny as it assured me you were well - & it was indeed a great comfort to me to find that you had improved in strength & health - & now dearest child I hope you will try to keep it up by more regular exercise & air taking - wh - I am sure will help very much to keep those bad attacks that seem to come all over you at times - but I think altogether your illness of last summer hung longer on you than ever before, & shows you how very important it is that you should do all in your power "by way of prevention"

This day is the most lovely of days! I wonder if you have the same! So soft & such a hot sun - & no wind, only a mild & gentle air I have been out for an hour & half round the lawn - & up to the Vicarage to visit Mrs Powell & into town which is a mass of mud - & now having eaten luncheon I am come at 3 oC to write a little more as this must go tomorrow to Dublin without fail, to be in time for the Saturday Mail! F E had a letter from Barry yesterday by which I find he will not visit you till Spring - which will I hope be more convenient to you. I was rejoiced to find by his mentioning him, that George had come back safe from his surveying peregrinations in the remote region he had gone to - by this time he is with you I suppose. I hope we may hear that Frank is quite well - & all the others - what a change it was to you to have only Henry & Kate on Hallow eve! - but I hope they will all assemble at your fire side at Christmas & be sociable

You asked me a very odd question in your last letter - which I will answer now while I think of it - viz - about poor George Tuite He did not marry a papist - nor in any way beneath him - His wife was Miss Wood, daughter of Colonel Wood of Littleton A Gentleman of large fortune in England There had been an angagement or attachment for some years - She had a good fortune - He quitted the army & they usually lived in Engd - but he used to come over now & then to

see his father & his mother & help them to settle accts - & he & his wife latterly spent every year sometime at Sonna on account of Hugh Tuites daughter having no female friend to take care of her - but George died last year & Mrs George resides at a place he had purchased in Engd - Hertfordshire I think - Hugh Tuite was the eldest - had several years ago married Miss Oconnor - a person of good family - but connected with several RC families - for he was brought into Parliament by the RC interest - She was a Protestant however herself - She became quite insane having first got into debt in a most terrible degree - for a long time her friends would not consent to her being placed in an asylum - but she is now in one in Paris - She had 2 Children Joseph & Sarah who are now grown up & are at present in Paris, I believe, where they went to see their unfortunate mother and their aunt her sister Miss Julia OConnor - She turned Cat two or three years ago - & I much fear she will draw them after her

We left the observatory on the 12th Novr & went to Dublin where I was very anxious Sir Henry Marsh wd see Louisas fingers & toes - which when he saw, he pronounced to have the same disorder as her finger wh has been long & obstinately sore. He ordered her a medicine to take 3 times in the day - I could not make out from the prescription what it is - but I am in hopes it is gradually doing her good - he rather wished her to stay in town under his eye - but when she told him we were anxious to be with F E in this dark weather - he agreed at once - he ordered enough of the medicine to answer for half the time - so that she will not be obliged to get it more than once from Dublin while here for we promised to return home soon after Xmas Sir Henry says that disagreeable as the soreness of fingers & toes must be - we may be very glad to see them - for the disorder all arises from the stomach - & if it were not thus out & so annoying - it would most probably be in the coats of her stomach, in ulcers & probably she would be in great danger - The sea sickness seems to have increased the disorder - So as it is out I hope in God that if not cured we shall at least keep it out - Her spirits are better - but they vary just with her health - and indeed I must say that though she is always wanting to be quiet & to have repose - & not to be hurried yet she is always inclined to do too much & even for laying out too much to do at once - We do it one & 2 times & then she tires herself too much - the quiet of home she is always wishing for - but poor dear she forgets that a Dublin life is in itself a constant fuss in some degree - & very different from this country life - where there is only an odd visitor now & then - & no going out in the evening to dinner or parties which are quite out of fashion in the country

The only dissipation here is going to luncheon - & people are invited now to it on a day named, just as if to dinner. This is I think something in the style of your early dinners in Canada - It is just like the way we managed in the Co Meathe at the time of the Defenders - as you will find Mrs Merrien describes - only in time, they went to breakfast - which is []

This day is so dark I can scarcely see - & now luncheon is come up and I must go & eat - It is Louisa's meat dinner - & being too late an hour for meat Sir Hy says but she may eat puddings & tart then I forget half of what I have said here & somehow I seem never to read over as I ought I am glad Dr Hays practice is so much encreased & hope people may learn to pay better. Louisa & F E both send kind love to you dearest & we are all heartily glad that Ellens husband is so much better I hope the next letter will say he is well & that you may be able to tell me that [] Frank is

recovered and is at home under your own care I have looked at your letter and I don't see anything to []

78-008/2/11 #210

Burkly Vicarage Feby 19th 1851

I fear my very dear Fanny that by this time you must have given up all hope of ever hearing from me again

The desire to hear from you should have induced me to have made an exertion to write - Many difficulties however have been in my way, & not but for too very peculiar circumstances I should have written long since. I always feel that my letters can afford but little interest to anyone excepting to those who are immediately interested in passing wants & thus day after day has passed without my being able to bring myself to the feeling that my letter could afford interest to those so fully ["fully" crossed out] ignorant of all that immediately concerns us - Our family circle has diminished almost to nothing & literally I am the only one now at home - Mary is staying with her Brother Wm who occupies a farm in Dulyshia, who almost always requires one of his sisters to be with him - Poor fellow he is struggling with the bad times & is not able to be married to one who I heard is calculated to make him happy but he cannot afford the additional expense which a wife must necessarily create - Ellen with her Father is stopping in Leinster for a few days - to hear Lecture on Egypt, Palastine, & Ninaveh - I am sorry to say that my dear edwd had rather a severe fall from his horse about a fortnight ago - But I trust all damage is over & he is quite getting himself again - His head was not in the least injured but his back came with force to the ground which has crippled him a good deal, but now I thank God he is fast recovering I long to have some tidings of you all - I heard from Mrs O Bene some time ago that two of your sons were settled in the States & doing well. Also that one of the Froods was settled near you, but as this is old news, many more events no doubt have occurred since - Do dear Fanny forgive my silence & let me hear any particulars respecting all of your sons & daughters & of all the Reeds - I heard from B-Mitchell last night He said that Alex & Lydia had been very ill but that she has gone to Dublin for change of air & scene, but she was much better - He proposes going to England in May & wishes to get an introduction to the Library in Oxford in order to search old Anthems & old copies of the Scriptures - We hope to be able to further his wishes - I hope my dear Fanny you will very shortly send me a full account of all my dear relations, known & unknown - Tell my very dear Maria how much I should hearing her once more before we are called out of this present time, but as this is hopeless, may each of us be looking for a long & better meeting, yes a meeting never to part again - At one time of life we must be constantly reminded that each day may be the last - Oh then may we be found ready when our Lord shall call us - How often does my dearest brother's last hour come home to try him & how often do I 'let my last [] be like him" - Give my most afftn love to dearest Maria & R Reid & to all who in my way would think my remembrances of their worth accepting and with my consent prays for you all that the God of [] from His abundant blessings upon you - Believe me my dearest Fanny your most truly attached sister

C Hoare

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Three of the Peebles staid with us at different times last year - We are getting attached to Eliza who seems a most valuable & interesting person, particularly as she is placed at the head of a large family - Sarah did not stay long with us, but Fanny was with us several months & I think is the making of a nice girl - This letter missed the last mail which will account for the two dates - March 6th.

[Addressed to:

Mrs Stewart

Auburn

Peterboro'

Canada

via Halifax]

[78-008/2/11 #211](#)

[Envelope transcription only]

[Addressed to:

Mrs Waller

Allenstown

Bohermeen

Navan

Ireland

Postmarked:

Peterboro July 6 1852]

[on the reverse of the envelope is the following:

Navan Jy 26 1852

Kinston Jy 8 1852

Montreal Jy 9 1852

America Liverpool Jy 25

Port Hope Jy 7 1852]

[The black seal has an English script "F S"]

[The envelope is evidently not meant to belong to the contents as the addressee is the writer of the letter; a transcription of the letter is found in 94-006 Vol. 4, p.880; there is no original at Trent University Archives]

[78-008/2/11 #212](#)

[] quarts of milk every day. She is a most industrious & persevering little animal, and really deserves credit. She has a large party now to provide with food: her own two sons, six feet each I am sure - John and Helen Noble; Lydia Kirkpatrick & Mary Boyes with herself & good husband, making a daily party of eight - Harriet & Louisa are at Major Fox's - there was a rumour of a whole flight of Froods going out to Canada - I left two little books with Harriet to send you by the first opportunity - They are the best method I ever saw of imparting to your children the first principles of the Christian religion - I sent both to you thinking you would dispose of them with Anna or Ellen or wherever you please. They are written by a very dear friend, from her own experience. My next letter will probably tell you the result of Richard's half yearly application to Mr Thompson, after August - and now my child, Adieu. Distribute my kindest love amongst your children & ever believe me your fondly attached

M Sutton

Tell me when you hear from Frank.

[Addressed to:

Mrs Stewart

Douro

Peterboro

Canada West

July 8

Postmarked:

JY 9

1852]

78-008/2/11 #213

Hatch St July 27

1854

My own dear Fanny

On the 17th of this month a Box sailed in the Bosphorus - R.I. Doughty, master - directed as usual to you & consigned to the care of Messrs H Jones & Co - Montreal - To whom I wrote last week to announce the circumstances - and now I shall be most exceedingly anxious to hear of its safe arrival - It is late in the year for it to set out - but the weather is now fine & I trust the Bosphorus which is a first class will make its way expeditiously - after it was nearly packed different delays occurred - and most provokingly - when it was sent from the North wall - they sent it to a different ship agent from the people I always employ - & that caused above a weeks delay - I grew impatient at Carson not having acknowledged it - wrote to him - & then learnt that he had been dayly expecting & enquiring about it in vain - so then I drove of to the various people I had employed & at the Stores at the North Wall I found they had sent it to Messrs Carver - instead of Carson - at Liverpool - Carson recovered & sent it off - & all is right now, & I hope in due time to hear of its safe arrival at Montreal & then at - wherever you order it to - I directed it to Douro as usual - as I was not sure what place to say. It contains old Atheniums of last year & all the Family Friends & Magazines that had come before the mailing of the box - also a very few new little books & several old ones which I stuffed in to fill up & tighten the box which was too large - the first we got was too small, & there was nothing between - among the old books are one or two stories & things you will like I dare say - to help to fill it up I added some yards of not very fine Flannel - as your Aunt Waller had sent fine - & I thought that you can get it now, very good at Peterboro - It would help to keep you warm with additional petticoats - & I sent as usual a little very plain cap dear Fanny - to smarten you up - & I believe scarcely any thing else from myself - for any one except two or three little books - I sent a copy of Lessons & Trials to dear Anna Hay -

Now having done with the Box I must tell you my dearest that I had the great comfort of receiving your letter of June 30, on Tuesday last the 25th - and though you had had a bad attack of asthma after all your wedding bustle & excitement you seemed thank Heaven well when you wrote & cheerful - and it was pleasant to me to see the date - as it showed that though no longer your residence you cd be there again - & all happy & smooth - (I confess I should be glad to hear you had a fixed place of residence which admitted of Dear Kate being with you - it is not fit or right for a young girl like her to be here & there as she can & the end of it will be that she will make some foolish match in order to be settled & have a house of her own) - Your letter was very interesting - & I read a good deal of it to poor Mrs O'Beirne who was on a visit here for ten days - but is now gone home to Newry. We were delighted that Kate had made so happy & pleasant an excursion - had seen so much - & that above all she had had seen Niagara - Enviabile Creature! That is a sight that I am sure she can never forget - it must be so grand & impressive.

How very kind Mr & Mrs Holland were to her - they must be very valuable friends to her & her brothers. - I pity her much for her loss of her Carpet bag - a serious loss indeed, poor dear child - all her useful clothes - I am afraid she had not put a distinct Label on it - They should be always written in a large black hand so as to be easily read. I hope when Kate has time she will write to me & tell me of some of the things & sights she saw - & what her own thoughts about them were. You did not mention whether she is all better - Ellen said she had not been well before she went. I beg she may describe the curious opera she saw.

I suppose she had amused you very much by her histories of all she saw. - How kind & nice it was of her 3 sisters in law to work so much & help so well with her preparations.

I hear that Mrs Brown - (Eliza I believe is coming to Ireland next year - I wonder is it true that they intend it. It was from Mrs Taylor I heard it - when I offered to send any thing in the box for her - she said she would need nothing as they were to come next year to Ire.

I heard yesterday that a neighbor of F.E. whose daughter was lately married is greatly pleased with the book & says the story about Mortimer & his first love is so like that of her son in law & his first love that it might be thought to have been written for them

- my dear Fanny I am so happy that it gave you pleasure - and I must say Farewell my ever beloved - ever more your old & loving attached Moome

[] well settled neighborhood but often we could not get to town in time for early service as it is above 5 miles - so Mr Lloyd consented & seemed pleased to come if Edward could bring him up & take him home - Edward said he would readily do so & he came five Monday Evenings - & we had a really good Congregation - tho' the weather was generally very bad & yet every time some more came - He is a truly & sincerely pious young man - & his heart seems devoted to his - "work" - & His doctrines seem pure - the only difference being in regard to Baptism - & he has never brought it forward in any of his lectures or conversations - On the contrary he said - I dont want to make you Baptists - I want to make Christians - He has been absent now for some weeks - but was at home last Sunday with a bad cold - & I hope he may come sometimes still tho' I am sorry to say he is soon going to leave Peterboro altogether - perhaps it is for some good elsewhere but we all feel sorry to lose one we like so much - he came always for tea & staid all night - & had hymns & sacred music, singing both before & after the meeting - he has a good voice & can sing by note - I wonder if any one else will come in his place -

Good Mr Roger has large congregations in different places & occasional visits - He is a blessing to all who know him & dear Mrs Roger is a help Meet for him in every way but has such a family that it leaves her very little time to give beyond her own house still she does a great deal -

My own love Aunt I have taken up a great deal of your attention & I fear have wearied you with this long letter - Oh say it may find you able to read it - Last night brought me letters from Rockfield - dear Aunt Sutton said she had seen you & that your strength was keeping up wonderfully - Oh may the Lord be near you & support you my own []

78-008/2/11 #215a

[] loved ones as often as they are good enough to write -

Nov. 10 1856 I must tell you something of our wedding - It went off in "first rate" style I assure you - we had a party in the evening of a good many of our relations & connexions & some of Kates young companions - several sent apologies - & even so I think there were between 60 & up people collected together - besides a good many of my Grandchildren & a great many old servants & tenants who were invited to a kitchen party & to witness "Miss Kates wedding" party as she has been a favorite with all who have ever known her - I must say she looked very nice & behaved with the greatest self possession during the ceremony which was performed read by Mr Warren an English Clergyman who is stationed at Lakefield in this Township a Large Settlement about 6 miles north of this place - & which belongs to Mr Strickland - Mr Warren is a pleasing man He seems not to be at all a Puseyite - which is a great comfort - he is a very liberal churchman - tho' not at all careless or slack in attending to his Duties - as far as I know - he has not been in Canada much above a year but I rather like his manner of reading the Service - I have been at his church two or three times his preaching is nothing very lively or deep - but I think very much to be preferred to our Peterboro clergyman Mr Burnham - so that we requested him to officiate at Robert & Kates wedding - & indeed he did read it remarkable well - & I was quite glad we had one who read it so impressively - he is a sort of connexion of our family - as his wife's brother is married to my Greatniece Emma - a daughter of Mr Stricklands - only think of my having had two Grandnieces at Auburn that night both married women & mothers - which makes me a Great Grand Aunt - !!! - but I have digressed sadly []

[page 2 not transcribed]

[] of her heavy duties - I have not been much with her lately & have not seen her for ten days - but I know she is not gaining strength as she ought - poor soul - I fear the exertion is too much for her & we cannot get any nurse to hire for any wages that could assist her in her Charge - She looks dreadfully ill at times - & is very pale now - The little baby is going on nicely & is a very pretty fair creature he is called John Patrick -

Ellen Dunlop is only pretty well - She has almost constantly some pain or ailment which shews there is still something wrong - She looks thin but not at all ill - & she is wonderfully strong & able to go through all her house keeping in a very active way - & to walk to see Anna very often - Dear little Mary is a charming girl - I never saw such a warm hearted affectionate creature as she is - & she is improving greatly in looks as well as in every other way - Ellen & Charles have every comfort about them - they have a sweet pretty place & a most convenient and comfortable house just as much land as affords his occupation & amusement & supplies them with many of the necessaries of life & enough of money to keep them quite independent - Ellen is always complaining of her poverty - & of the difficulty in making "both ends meet" but still I never find any want of every comfort & even luxuries - & tho' their income is nominally only £ 50 a year yet they have other helps which make it out a very good one - Mrs Dunlop sends out

handsome gifts constantly & valuable boxes of clothing every two or three years - so that they hardly ever have to lay out anything on clothing & Ellen is an excellent manager & delights in economising - She makes a good deal by her poultry & dairy too & having no great family they don't require to spend too much She is very like her Aunt Kirkpatrick in many ways - & I often tell her so - She is also like her in having a warm affectionate heart & being perfectly free of from Selfishness -

I am sorry to say my dear daughter Joan is in very poor health - She seems never to have recovered the death of her little infant - & she has had a great deal of trouble about the little boy Willy - who is delicate - he is a very pretty little fellow - but she looks very ill indeed - & is far from well - I have spun out my letter to an unconscionable length - & I fear worn out your patience - but I know how kindly interested you always are about me & mine - Your friend George is well & busy - unfortunately he had some cases in court at the Assizes - & he could not get away to come to Kates wedding - And Cecilia would not leave home - as she thought he might come back from the Assizes cold & with damp clothes & she wd not leave for fear he might neglect himself - she is a good & careful little wife []

[78-008/2/11 #215](#)

Thursday Jan 27

My dearest Fan

I think I must try to write to you today to thank you for your nice long letter that very pretty poem about the old man & his sleeping child or Grandchild I mean - for of course it was one - I am glad you like Poetry & have good taste so as to know the difference between really pretty poetry & only rhymes - for there are many pieces of poetry that are just rhymes, without sense - no pretty ideas in them you know those nice allusions to flowers or other objects give so much beauty to Poetry - this is called Metaphore if you look for it in the Dictionary you can understand it better - it is different from Allegory which is a story made from some imaginary objects - & is something like a sister or cousin to Metaphore - so you see I am writing figuratively now - & giving you so many long words that you will be out of patience before you are half through this long letter - I am sorry I have [] poetry or anecdote to give you to [] stupid & tired & I cannot write decently my hand is so weak - I think it is the change of weather that makes me feel so weak - You have so many friends to write to that you must be kept pretty busy - I had a very nice letter from Edward last week - He is very good about writing - I think you had a pleasant surprise in seeing Lizzie the other day. I am glad she is going to Aunt Dunlop - I hope she will stay there a good while - I think it is dinnertime. So I must shut up & say à Dieu ma chere Grandfille toujours à vous.

F. Stewart

Portrush July 8th 58

Will you not be astonished to see the place I date from, my darling Sister? After 17 years without ever sleeping out of my sweet Hazelbank, here I am in full view of the Wide Atlantic, & surrounded by bare black Rocks! - Every one set upon me & said that the change of air & ec ec would be so good for me, & would brisk me up & that at last I determined to gratify all my friends & so on Monday last to Portrush we came bag & baggage - We have taken the house for the Month of July - It is particularly convenient to our Gentlemen as they can (any day) go by rail to within about 3 miles of Hazelbank, & George has at all events to return every Saturday & stay until Sunday, as there was no one who could take his duty for him even for one Sunday - We have my dear dear Kind sister Lydia with us. She came down from Coolmine on purpose to route me out - we have also little Emily Noble (Johnnie's sister) with us - a sweet little girl of nearly 18 - She is very like the little picture of our mother, so you may imagine She is very pretty. - We have had very rough cold disagreeable weather ever since we came, but I delight in it, & like the fine breezes off the Atlantic & my pains have not been half as bad as they were at home - We left Annie Dugan sole inhabitant of Hazelbank in the day time, & her husband Jimmy sleeps there I could not have attempted to leave home only for the faithful Services of Annie -

Bessy Rothwell Emma & Annie are at Myra Rectory, on a visit to Fanny Brougham, & she says She will come this way home, & pay us a visit here - so this will be very nice; There is an excellent Hotel within about 2 minutes walk of us where they can sleep, & they must just take Pot-Luck with us in the day time -

It seems very strange to me, after the great seclusion of Home, to live in the midst of fashionable people, walking about in every direction in their great Hats or tiny Bonnets & tremendous wide petticoats - hooped out in all sides - the Girls all wear Grey Linen Jackets - & those hideous Hats - I think beauty is very scarce here - I have not seen a notably pretty Girl, since I came - just great ugly bouncing things with loud Voices, & vulgar manners - However, I think them entertaining to look at -

The bride & bridegroom of Allanstown have arrived at home, & are receiving & returning Visits, & going to dinners, & giving them & they have painted & papered poor old Allanstown & are going to new furnish it - Willie & Julia are gone to the Continent with Mr & Mrs Tisdall of Charlesfort, which is a good thing, whilst the others are billing & cooing at Allanstown - Willie Waller is a dear affectionate fellow - He & all are delighted at James's Choice - Oh he had an escape of Mrs Bayley! - I wonder what she thinks of the turn of affairs at Allanstown - Anna seems to be very well suited to James in every way - & the children have known her for such a time that they are quite at home with her -

I am sure I am writing very badly, & almost nonsense for they are talking all about me & settling about where they are to go for a Walk, & there is such a noise & confusion in the Street &

Visitors coming in continually that my brains are addled I am longing for letters from you or Ellen to tell us about the poor dear Children at Auburn What a strange thing of the Traill boy to go to Auburn just shortly after recovering from scarlatine - & poor Frank's Wife & Child, & the Auburn Children & all - I have been looking out most anxiously for letters for a fortnight but no letters for me! - our letters are all sent on here from Hazelbank - where I trust we will all be all safe & well upon the last day of July - I probably will go with George on Saturday the 24th & remain with him there & let the others stay here until the 30th when they must clear out, & leave the House for other Lodgers - Give our big loves to all with you and around you my dearest dear Fanny & ever Believe me your fondly affectionate old Sister

C E K

[78-008/2/12 #217](#)

Tuesday Night 12 oclock

6 Augt 1861

My dearest Louisa

Though so late I must add a few lines to tell you a little incident which took place lately - Kate who is passionately fond of flowers & gardening took me one evening last month to a Nursery near Peterboro to see the varieties of Roses & Peonies &c all in blow - so we walked and wandered about to our hearts content & examined all the Fuschias & other plants in the houses - & were just coming away when the old gardener said - Oh Mrs Brown come here & I will give you a nice flower that smells delightful. So he took us to a little bushy shrub & plucked off some dark colored flowers which certainly did smell "delightful" & I saw it was the old Pimento - or allspice tree - you used to have at Collon - & I had never seen one since those dear old days - so I said I had not seen one of them for 50 years nearly!! - & that I saw it in Ireland - and were you ever in Ireland? said he - I said yes - I had been - Did you ever know a place called Dundalk said he? - Oh yes said I - did you ever hear of a place called Collon - for it was there I last saw the Allspice shrub - Well now - said the old cooney - Sure thats where I lived! - & served my time in Lord Oriel? - Oh yes said I - I once knew him & have often been in his gardens & have seen Rourke too - so the poor old man seemed quite astonished that I had seen or hear of "John Rourke" - and no doubt I do remember him well & you may suppose how many old recollections came to my mind from the poor old Allspice tree & old Rourke - But I must go to bed it has struck One & I am nearly blind - my pen is bad & my hand painful from rheumatism - but my heart love with you dear Louise

Your affect old F. Stewart

78-008/2/12 #218

16 Octr 1861

Edgeworthstown

My dear Fanny

Your old friend and cousin has been long living in the constant intention of writing to you to thank you warmly for the kind anxiety you felt for me & kind pleasure at my recovery - but like all procrastinators I have let time slip by me while I was led from day to day by smaller objects to go on from tomorrow to tomorrow - and in so doing I was doubly idle as I wished to thank you for the nice anecdote of your meeting with one of the poor old Collon gardeners from dear Collon - it was a pleasant little circumstance recalling so much from the days gone by filling my mind & mental eyes with trees & flowers & walks & faces - all so bright in the days of youth & health & activity of both mind & body - days which, although in the passing chequered with anxiety and some painful disappointments, yet always return to mind in sunshine & enjoyment. More of both than I have ever enjoyed since through the many years in which I have been blessed with dear friends much more of prosperity and comfort than I ventured to expect or hope for - years indeed in which I have had very much enjoyment in the love & friendship of many, & in the many tastes & pursuits with which I thank God I have been blessed - And sure I am that the more we cultivate such, we not only add to happiness of life, but also we enlarge the mind and its various powers - It always surprises me to find sensible people seeming to think that these powers are conferred upon us for nothing and useless gifts, and to be left uncultivated - So throwing away flowers & ornaments of life - Moderation must be employed in their use, as indeed it must in all things even the highest - we must never overdo even in the highest objects & pursuits or limit the mind by following a too narrow path even though that path be the highest of all - to that indeed all attainments must be subservient and useful cheerful handmaids - but enough of this I did not mean any of it, but it ran out of my pen & so you will be at the bother of reading it & say how tiresome this old cousin is become - so dear call it Nazareth & let it pass.

We have had very agreeable visits from our people - first Francis from India, whose manners are so pleasing & unaffected, so plain & simple that you would never think that he is considered to be the deepest lawyer in India, & that Lord Canning with-held leave for his coming home till the Physician told him that health & life depended upon change of air & relaxation, saying that he could not do without him - The place Francis holds is something tantamount to our Attorney General, but with the additional labour of the Hindoo & other Indian laws - His wife Mary is a most affection kind person, who gently wins her way by warm sympathy & loving attentions - she is not at all pretty, but very pleasing, the expression of her countenance & her lady like appearance - They left us on a certain wet Monday and had a safe & prosperous journey to Poulacurra where they were greatly liked - and on the next Tuesday came Rosalind & Emily - both in gay spirits, very glad to be again with their kindred, and most kind in telling their

adventures & the small things which are too trifling to put in a "prent book" but are very entertaining to hear, - and they had variety of adventures & countries & people to tell of. They are both very much improved in manners, all stiffness & coldness having evaporated they have ready conversation for every body, & great ease of well bred manner - Emily is much improved in beauty & they both have acquired that air distingue which is so advantageous to those who live at all in the grand mond - they are at present in a very unsettled situation, for as they are to have the care of Francis's children when he and Mary return to India, they wish to live near him, but he has not made up his mind where he will pass the winter months before he returns to the east, and fancy some place very disagreeable to them, and a great way from the friends whose Society they like - They sailed yesterday along with the Walter Brinkleys to Holyhead on their way to London -

Harriet is on the whole well & her leg well, but altogether the last year has told much upon her strength and her looks - she is oldened surprisingly - She is deafer & slower altogether - at present She is in very good spirits & looks, and did not suffer as I feared she would from the anxiety and the fatigue of my illness - I am much better as to strength but still have not benefitted as much by this Country air as it was promised I should. The very bad weather has I am sure been one great cause - so many days had to be spent at the fire - and I think the hours do not suit me as well as our own rather old fashioned hours - here we never are at dinner before a quarter after seven. So Robt Mayne advised me to dine at luncheon which is at 11 ½ and that is too near breakfast & the interval from the early dinner to the great dinner is so long that one is hungry for a second dinner - however I only eat potatoes and pudding, no meat as the medicos say once a day is enough for me - I have had a great disapointment, in the effect of the illness upon my feet gradually has ceased & though not near so bad as before the fever they are gradually growing bad & relapsing into their old state - however I have great reason to be thankful that I have none of those miserable inside deseases which inflict such sufferings on so many poor creatures old & young - I cannot complain as my sight is very good - so that I can read any length of time so am of use in reading out which I generally do & so my time is not wholly lost - Pray give my love to Ellen & Mary Dunlop & my kind regards to Charlotte - adieu say kind things from me to Bessy & your innumble decendants - every yr affect idle

L C B

78-008/2/12 #219

[] nick of time. John was sent over here by the Post Office Authorities about some investigation (happily for us) at Queenstown, so we had him here for a few days; he has gained great credit from the Ministers I believe by the Manner in which he has acquitted himself of this business.

We have at last succeeded in letting our house in Hatch Street to a Mr Edwards who we are told is a most desirable tenant, only however for 6 months, at the rate of £ 12 per month; it will just clear the rent, & taxes; but not leave more than will pay for the painting of the outside of the windows after; however it is very well to have all that off our own pockets.

I hear sometimes from Harriet Butler & Lucy Robinson who seem very happy together. Dr R. is particularly well this year. Maxwell Fox and his wife were at William's house for two days last week, And went away in a most tremendous gale of wind & rain last Friday; she seems a nice amiable lady like very friendly mannered person, and not at all fine, considering she has been brought up in Courts, and is second cousin to our Viceroy Lord Wodehouse.

I found amongst other things in the drawers & boxes at Hatch Street, a little round box in which was a large glass lcket containing a small lock of hair & hair chain, a large ring old fashioned this shape [diamond shape diagram] also contain hair, with the initials MN worked into it, in white beads and engraved on the back "Honble Lucy Moore", & then the day of her birth & of her death in I think 1782. And also a picture of a nice looking man I think a clergyman, with mild blue eyes a nice complexion & powdered hair he looks 34 or 40, but there is no indication whatever as to who he is; then there is a black shageen case, containing two very small miniatures one a lady in a very old fashioned cap and ruffles round her neck, all seeming to be of fine lace, She is not at all pretty, her face short & broad, with dark right & rather thoughtful eyes, & short broad nose, something the shape of Grandmamas & Uncle Francis's, and rather flat pleased look in the mouth hair grey or powdered & turned back; the man in the same case has a powdered wig & peruke, rather large staring eyes, a common nose, and mouth drawn down at the corners, & self satisfied in expression, a purplish coat, with brass buttons, & ornamented waistcoat & tight white neckcloth no names to either of them there is also another of a clergyman in a gown and bands I rather think a Bishop's wig, but no, I believe it is much the same as the one our Great Grandfather is drawn in; a high forehead mild looking hazel eyes, high nose, & long cheeks & face altogether, and a mouth that turns up rather than down at the corners, it is a gentle pleasing face but neither to him is there any name attached, & no one now knows anything about them. I think Aunt Harriet must have forgotten them, as she never mentioned them, nor gave any directions about them. the Clergyman in the gown & bands seem to have been used as a bracelet clasp once Ht B suggests that the lady and gentleman might be Mrs Preston who was a great friend of Aunt Bess's & her husband & that the other good-looking man, might have been a Mr Scott to whom Aunt B was engaged and he died, & she never mentioned his name again but once; but it is all conjecture if any one living now can tell who they are you can I think: O! how pleasant it would be if we could meet and talk about these old time people; that I at least never heard of. I wish I had heard more while those who

could have told me were living; it is such a pity not to put names, or even initials at the back of pictures or locketts or such things, to show in after years who they were. Poor Mrs Rothwell & Bessy have taken a flight to Marseilles to see John off to Melbourne, where he has been []

78-008/2/12 #220

April 18 1866

My dear Fanny

I am so delighted to hear the box arrived safe, I was just calculating that about the end of May I might hear of its arrival, when your announcement of it came; I hope all the things came safe, and that nothing was spoiled by lying so long in the Glasgow warehouse. I did not [] in Dublin as I was advised not till it had arrived at Glasgow, and then I asked over & over for a bill of its freightage and never would get it, so I concluded all would be charged to the Hall & Nichol like a foolish creature I told you in my last, I would send a list and forget to enclose it; but as you have got the things safely it does not matter now. I am glad you like those Allenstown trees. I thought them very pretty, and that they would be more dear to you who knew and loved old Allenstown so much, than to any other person. I found the other day a beautiful little curl of Anna Hay's hair, cut off in 1819, it is such pretty golden looking hair, if you like to have it, I would send it in a letter to you. I hope the little box by Mrs Strickland may soon find its way to you too. I think I mentioned in my last what was sent in that - Charlotte wished to send a book to Ellen in it but we could not get to Cork during the short week John was with us, nor had we due notice of his coming to get one before hand. You did not write to Fanny since she wrote, but of course she knew the fire &c must have put all other things out of your head. I hope you have read Mr Day's sermons and like them. I heard him preach several of them; he is an excellent valuable man. I hope the Fenians will be as little successful in Canada as here not that I think they are put down by any means, they are only keeping quiet till some better opportunity offers, or some able leader turns up. We are present very anxious as the result of the Church separation bill which is to be read tonight I believe a second time. Mr Whitesides speech upon it was admirable.

How Providentially this money will come in for you just when you want it for the new house! And how glad she who left it would be to think she had thus far contributed to your comfort. I suppose Wm will answer you about the sending &c - I have not seen much of him this week as the Annual meetings are going on in Cork, and he has been there all, & every day. I am keeping watch at home with Fanny today as Charlotte & Emma are gone to the Bible Meeting and I am writing in haste while my Mother takes her after dinner nap, but I am afraid I shall not have finished it in time for this day's post;

I found lately a parcel of very old letters one of them addressed to "My dear Niece" and signed Wm Smyth - Barbaville and directed to Mrs Waller Allenstown, it was a letter of condolence on the death of her son James who had died of the affects of the fatigue he underwent at the siege of Calcutta in 1757. Another was from Capt. Latham the commander of his ship the Tiger to beg of Cole Congreve to make known his death to his parents. Another from himself in 1753 when coming from school, asking that the horses might be there to meet him as he was impatient to be at "dear Allenstown" again, and begging that he might have a new coat, another a few years

later from Plymouth where he was waiting for his ship and very lonely & sad, and endorsed in writing almost effaced "My dear child thou wert thy Father's Glory & thy Mother's Hope and now thy Country's loss". he must have been a Brother of Grandmama's and of Aunt Bess I suppose, and that these letters were treasured up by her; they tell a silent but touching tale of early promise blighted, and of parental hopes and affections overturned. You dont say anything in your last letter about your little rheumatick boy & the other sick ones. So I hope all are well.

Helen is a very pretty name I think and to my mind much prettier than Marian, and very suitable to a young lady whose birth was nearly ushered in by a fire. "Like another Helen. fired another Troy" Mother wakes so I must shut up, her love & Fanny's and all of us all your ever affect cousin

M.A. Beaufort

[78-008/2/12 #221](#)

Tuesday 8th June 1869

My dearest Fan

I have been too long in writing to thank you for your two nice long letters which I have been wishing to answer sooner but have not one moment to spare. I am always trying to get on but some way I seem not to advance at all - for the last week I hardly sewed or knitted much I have not felt very well lately & that makes one dull & slow - & this cloudy weather & so many going away so far from us all - and poor Aunt Georgina so ill - altogether coming in one week seems too much for poor old Mother and Grandmother of so many - and I have been thinking so much about them all that I could hardly think of anything pleasant, except that I am sure God knows all & can help all who want his care or help if pray to Him and love Him and Look to Him - & trust Him - & when one thinks of this it seems to take a great load off ones heart - and when I am sitting alone in the hall or in my room, these thoughts keep me from feeling lonely or too melancholy - but I dont know why I am writing all this to you - how pleasant it is to have a fire these cool days and evenings - Have you got the stove out of the hall - I suppose you have long ago - & the carpet on - I wonder when I shall get up there again - I did not like to go when Mother had no girl - as I do so little to help her -

I must stop now as it is past 3 & I suppose you will be soon going

Ever your old Grannie, FS

Thank you for the XL Psalm. Did you ever read the same Psalm in the Church of England Prayer book get Mothers Church of England Prayer book & read the last Psalm XL and tell me which you like best when you compare them - so goodbye again

[Addressed:

Miss Fan Brown]

[78-008/2/12 #222](#)

Wednesday 17th Novr 1869

My dearest darling Fan

I am going to write you a long letter in return for yours which I likes so much and thank you for as much -

I think it is a very good way to read over the chapter of Scripture one has heard in Church - after one comes home - as it fixes it in our mind - I agree with you that that verse is a very beautiful one - How pleasant it is if one's mind is anxious or troubled about any thing to remember that the Lord knows all our sorrows and troubles, and feels for us and with us - more even than our dearest friends can - and we can trust Him without any fear of His forsaking us or deceiving us - this is trusting in the Lord - & if we ask Him in prayers to help us and to give us patience & faith - we will be able to "wait patiently" to see what He will bring for us or how He will help us out of our trouble - Trusting in Him gives us Rest in our mind

I have been thinking a great deal about old times - as it is one of my memorable days - because on this day 65 years ago - when I was a very small bit of a girl my kind old friend Mr Edgeworth took me up in his arms and kissed me Good bye - as he was going away home to his own house - well just then he said "Oh I think I will take you home with me - put on your bonnet & get yourself ready - where are your clothes?" - he ran up stairs to my Aunts room where I was getting ready - & he just took up a bundle of my clothes out of my drawer in his arms & stuffed them into a bag in his carriage & got a stool for me to sit on - & away we drove - there were in the carriage Mr & Mrs Edgeworth - and Miss Beaufort & Charlotte Edgeworth - we had 40 miles to drive - up hills & down hills - & through two or three towns & it was quite dark when they got home - it was quite a mild warm damp day not like today at all - I staid there nearly six months - & came home to my Uncles at Allenstown on the 20th of April 1805 - having gone on the 17th Nov 1804 - Oh it was such a nice happy time - so I always went there every year afterwards for a month or some weeks till I was married 11 years afterwards - & now every one of those who were with me then both at Allenstown & Edgeworthstown are dead & gone - except my old self & one or two cousins who were wee children then - So I think I have made out as long a letter as yours - I send you a little poem, I met with in a newspaper which took my fancy - I hope you may not be quite disgusted and wearied with this letter - Aunt & Uncle Dunlop were here yesterday from about 4 till 10 - I was wishing father & mother had come in too - we played 5 games of whist - Uncle Dunlop & mary Mathias against Molly & me - we got 3 games & they two - So I think I may stop now & am as your ever fondly loving Grandma

F. Stewart

[78-008/2/12 #223](#)

1st Octr 1871

My dear Fan

I think I will send you a nice bit of poetry which I think may be considered & called a hymn - which I have copied out of The Sunday at Home, and I took a notion you would like it, tho' it looks rather long - I like to have some thing to write on Sunday so I also send you a scrap if you intend reading out scraps in the evening - I will (DV) give it to you on your return from church. Is Jessie to come home with you I think she must be getting - sick she so seldom likes being from home - Do you know I am awfully sleepy I have nodded two or three times over this - the house here is always so quiet & still even Dunbar never makes any noise like what other boys do - & dear wee Rolly is too far off to hear the noise - Oh dear I was asleep just when I was writing the words "to hear" in the 4th line back - & I dreamed that some one said "Rolley has gone to Washington to see the President! & to be examined for the new situation" - I was just thinking why he went off so far & did not come to say Goodbye when I awoke - & now I will stop as I have been asleep again - Goodbye dear Ever your own Grannie Oh see all the wee marks where my pen wandered to & had a wee dance to itself tho' it is Sunday - Goodbye dear I am your own fond G once more & for ever F. Stewart

[Addressed to:

Miss F.S. Brown

Sunnyside]

78-008/2/12 #224

Allenstown

April 13

My dearest Fanny,

James desired me to enclose this cheque by this post & so I must write a shorter letter as I am in the midst of a children's party at this moment! not a very propitious moment to write a sane epistle, but you will know how to excuse my mistakes as you will know the position. Catherine, Mary, Helen, Elysie, Graham Craig brought over the two dear little boys this morning - Stewart & Harry Mysie is now in the centre of the group in the hall playing blindman's buff & to judge by the uproar it is very successful. There are two fat little boys here also, grandsons of Mrs Gerrard of Boyne Hill - grand nephews of old Mr Gerrard of Gibbstown - one of whom is such a worshipper of my Florence that from the first he always included her in his prayers "and bless Papa & Mama & Miss Fawence Haller"! Julia & I are going on Friday to Dublin for a week to see the grand doings there in honour of the P. & Princess of Wales. We go with James & the Installation in St Patrick's cathedral - on Saturday Julia & Willie go to a ball given by his Excellency on Monday & there is the Flower Show & also a cattle show - so I hope we shall see enough of Royalty before we leave.

Bessie R. is enjoying her son & daughter in law's company now as well as the baby. She will have some more of the married ones up for the Prince's visit. I hope to see her then. We have splendid weather now and had very hot days in the beginning of the month.

I have been very busy in my garden & made some improvements in the shrubs.

James send his love - "hunting is up", but he and the boys are still taking out the Harriers for an odd day. Jas. looked remarkably well all the season, but now got a cold -

This is the most wretched letter I ever wrote to you.

in haste your afft

A.M. Waller

[Vol. 5]

[78-008/2/12 #225](#)

10 Jany 1872

My dearest Fanny

I have often intended to write you and Jessie to thank you for your nice Christmas presents - indeed I feel vexed & ashamed at not having done so much sooner for I have often looked at both the pretty Edgings - and your nice box which you sent the Chorchet pieces in - All so very neat & nicely done - & I hope to have it all sewn on my new Chemises very soon, as I have had one chemise halfmade for a long time - which I must soon finish as my old ones are going to stripes - they split up the back & sides every time I wear them - so as the days grow longer I hope to be more alive & get more done - if I do not get sick - I am so afraid of getting sick - this is the time of year I generally get one of my bad colds & I think I get one now - it would be sad trouble to everybody - for all seem to have plenty to do - but we must be thankful that when we hear of so much sickness & deaths in so many families - we are all kept so well on both houses - I hope it may long continue so - & that soon we shall all get more settled - So in the meantime we must try & trust in God to guide us all in the right way - and leave all our cares in His hands - Psalm xxxvii - 5 and all will be right - I must now go to tea so goodbye for this time

78-008/2/12 #226

Hazelbank

19th April [72]

My own dear Kate

Your affectionate letter received this morning, delighted us all & I hope to answer it in time for the Cunard Steamer - Oh, how I wish that I knew you, my own own Godchild - you & your brothers & Sisters are the very nearest relatives I have next to my darling Husband & Sons in the World - Well, perhaps even in this world we might meet, & if not I trust in a far better place - You are all very good in writing to the old Irish Auntie, & I prize all your letters, & you cannot please me more, than in telling me all about yourselves, & Children.

This has been a very unhealthy year, from the month of October we have had more cold rain, that I remember - no snow except a slight sprinkling for a day or two & very little frost but just rain & cold damp weather until this month when we have had sunny weather, but cold Easterly wind - some warmth is greatly wanted - However, we have early potatoes [up crossed out], in the garden & the hedges are growing & beans are coming on.

WE have a bed of double tulips & some very pretty auriculas & plenty of primroses, [double white & lilac & yellow] which enliven the flower garden - & look like spring from the windows -

Our dear little baby Grandchild is a great comfort & pleasure to us - He is very large & very healthy - He has 2 of his Eye teeth out & of course he felt stings of pain but no serious illness as some children of his age have & he is out every day that is not damp no matter how cold the wind is - I hope that Alexander's Glebe House may soon be begun, for his present residence is rather far from the church in winter for evening service, but the place they rent at present is a very nice small house, with a good large garden & one or two fields, for which he pays £ 45 per year! - He keepa a coe & a pony & he has a nice little pheaton, - Georgy & his good kind wife live here with us; He has just been appointed Cess Collector of this Barony, which will bring him in about £ 130 a year; He is very thankful for it, to help to, as we Irish say, "to keep the pot boiling" - How are matters fixed, about your precious Mother's affairs? - I heard, that her own fortune, which was in the hands of my cousin James Waller of Allentown, was to go amongst her 4 daughters - How is the town property settled, - & what about poor Auburn that [by all accounts] lovely place? - I feel greatly interested about all & everything -

I hear from Charles that the 3 babies are quite well, & poor Charlotte much better though still suffering from a swelled leg, a common complaint, after some people's confinements, & not dangerous, but very troublesome. The 3 little babies have been christened - my son Alexander is Godfather to the boy, who is named Charles Alexander, one little girl is called "Charlotte" - the other is [I think] called Ellen Elliot - each child has 4 sponserers! My darling Kate - your darling

Mother & I, were so separated when young that I cannot tell much of her early days, - When my dear Mother & Aunt Susan went to England after my father's death, Fanny was taken to Allenstown & I was taken by Uncle & Aunt Sutton; when my Mother found that she was too ill to return to Ireland, she sent for me, but the Allenstown people would not part with Fanny - at my Mother's death, Uncle & Aunt Sutton asked dear Aunt Susan, [who was like a 2nd Mother to me, & promised my Mother never to leave me] to bring me to Ireland & both to live with her & Uncle Sutton.

Fanny lived with old Aunt Bess Waller & Harriet Beaufort at 31 Merrion St., Dublin, & she & I only met for a short, but happy time, when she & Aunt Bess came to Allenstown in the summer time for about a month to eat fruit - & I was at Clonghill with the Suttons, but we were little together - but we loved each other as well, if not better than sisters who were always together: Aunt Susan brought me often to the north of Ireland to see old Aunt Smyth who lived in Lisburn; she was our great aunt & her daughter was Mrs John Stewart of Wilmont your dear Father's eldest brother - You know all about the failure of Mr John Stewart & then me dearly loved sister went to Canada with her husband - we never met again!!!

Our father was Dean of Elphin, & must have died very soon afterwards as I have not the slightest recollectoin of him, or of Elphin or of my Mother going to Bath. I remember my dear Mother in Bath, a beautiful lovely woman, but a great invalid going about in a wheel chair -

I must stop writing now as this letter must go today to catch the Cunard Steamer at Liverpool or at Queenstown. Tell dear Ellen when you see her, that I hope next week [please God] to answer her letter dated March 25th received upon the 11th of this month - Give my love to your dear good husband ' kiss all the dear & young ones, for Aunt Kirkpatrick, & write soon my own dear Child, to your fond Aunt Kate -Uncle & Georgy & Geraldine all unite in Love, so would Alexr & Alicia if they knew I was writing - ever yr affect - Aunt CEK

78-008/2/12 #227

Peterborough July 4th 1878

My dear Herbert,

I hope you are quite well. We are taking the chance to write to you by the Dunlops. It will save money anyway. The pen is pretty soft & I cant write well. Father had to shoot Cosy & old Shefie threw Blacky over the dam & we only have Tiny left. Flora is going to Grafton and I am going to keep her bird for her. Mother made some ginger beer, we have Black Berries ripe and we get three raspberries a day. Do you know Buck the horse doctor. Well wither you know him or not, he poisoned himself. Cecil Stewart was up to stay all night last night and Father Percy Cecil and Cecil went down for a swim last night. Our potatoes are fit to use. They are quite big for their age. Write to me sooner than you can. I had a letter from Fannie last night. How do you like Montreal I cant get a good pen ones too hard and the other is too soft, so please excuse the writing. Have you seen the Rev E F Torrance yet. I suppose you have. I can beat Percy in a hop step and a jump nearly a foot ahead of him. On Sunday evening one of the Fisher's were coming up the avenue & Mungo ran after her & she gave a scream. Mother thinks that he bit her. I can work on Jessie's sewing machine to make dolls and things on it. How many times a day do you say "Ethel" for Edith. How do you like working at warehouse. Is it very hot in Montreal. It is a good bit cooler than it was a few days ago here. Burton can say all our names. He says Papa Mama & wawa and a lot more. He calls himself Ba Ba. The Orange men are putting up arches for the 12th. I cant think of anything more to say except Good-bye. Your loving sister Helen. PS. I was a t a party at the Taylors on Friday. It was Mary Taylors birthday. there were twenty girls there - Helen Brown

There are three archs up in town. there is a double one on Water St. it has a deer & eagle on it. it is at Croft's Hotel I think. I guess I'll stop.

H. Brown

[addressed to:

Mr E.H. Brown

404 St Antoine

Montreal]

78-008/2/12 #228

Sept 4th 1878

My Dear big brother,

Say Herb please tell me if that stamp will do to Sent down - when we get enough, Cec, Bish & I have got about 9 hundred but you ought to have seen Emily Haultain's wedding. She had it in the church & it was crowded. Tom Hay's handkerchief was hanging out of one of the back pockets of his coat & Aunt Dunlop asked if that was where he wore his favor. Aunt Hay is going to give me her bird, it is a little hen but I guess I will get a mate for it. Some of us are going down the river on Friday & the little church up the road a bit will be opened on Friday the Show will be here next week on Wednesday & Thursday. yesterday was fair day & the regatta & the wedding & tomorrow is the circus day. there is a man & woman going to be there & they are each 8 ft. 11 ½ in. high & together weigh half a ton & it takes 5 yds of stuff to make her a dress she must be pretty small dont you think Capt & Mrs Bates is their name. I dont know anything more to say so Good-bye I remain your loving Sister Helen

P.S. Please tell me in your next letter if that stamp will do give my love to everybody but dont keep any for yourself.

Bye Bye

Keep some Love for yourself

P.S. tell Lillie please to write to me for I've written to her but she wont write to me

[78-008/2/12 #229](#)

Novr 24th 1878

My Dear Herbert:

That was a splendid letter you wrote me, and you are a darling to write me such a long one. The other day Percy Ethel and I were going down to John Reids, and I had Burtons carriage with some things init, and the roads were fearfully muddy, and Ethels rubbers came off before she was half way down there, so she and Percy stayed at the side of the road and I went on with the carriage, & coming back one of my rubbers came off & we put Ethel in the carriage & went home. The roads are fearfully muddy. Its so hard to think of anything to say, because I have no mountains to tell you about. I go to write small & the first is, I am in great big ugly writing. Burton talks like the mischief now, the other day I did a sum at the blackboard at school & it is the first one I ever got right at it yet. Poor stupid me, isnt it a pity.

Say Herb you will write me a letter on my birthday wont you. My pulse beat 108 times in a minute. Please tell me some things to say. We had a chicken here & its neck looked as if it was broken but I guess it would be dead if it was dont you.

Percy wanted to make Cecil laugh, so he would throw something at him & say he was a funny old man. I guess I will stop now for I cant think of anything more to say. Good-bye.

I am your everlasting loving sister Helen Brown

P.S. Please forgive the writing and oblige yours truly. Aunt Bee sends her love. She is going to write to you soon. Bye Bye

E H Brown

186 McGill Montreal P.Q.

78-008/2/12 #230

Peterboro

Sept 8th 1878

Good day Herb

I think I will write to you this time. Mother Father Fan Helen Ethel and I and a lot of other people went down to Idyl Wild on Friday morning and came home the same night on the rode home the steamer ran up on a rock and wheel went into smash. It was the Arlington and we were on it too when we were going through Rice Lake we saw the people gathering rice. It will be pretty hard work making out this writing. We have school in the night now we are learning drawing & reading at present. I guess we will learn more after words. I got put into another class at Sunday school just today. Ethel sends a kiss to you. We have snow apples ripe here now. There was a circus here last thursday but none of us went to it. We saw the procession. There was a lot of cages open in the streets. There was one it had snakes boa constrictors and those sort of things and there was a man in with them. he was holding one in his hand and had another one over his shoulder. I dont know what else to say so good bye love to all but keep some for yourself. Dont let it all run away from you I remain your loving brother, Bishop PS. write to me next time Please. There is going to be a show here. Father is going to send some things and mother Helen Fan & Jess. Helen took first prize. Jess took none at all, Fan first and second. Father second for corn, first and second for grapes, second for parsnips, first for carrots, first for dahlias. Stewart only took two 2nds for grapes, his best were not ripe.

bye bye

Herbert Brown

Montreal

78-008/2/12 #231

Dec 5th/78

My Dear Herb

I tried three pens & I cant get a decent one to write with so please excuse the writing. Cecil & I went up to Goodwood yesterday for Percy & Ethel. It is a lovely day. Burton burnt his hand on the stove the other day. Mother and Fannie are both better - Fannie is getting better very slowly. I got a nice pen of my own so I guess that I can write better dont you think so for I do. Dont I write a silly letter -

Cecil & Aunt Bee went to church on thanksgiving day. I was going at first but I did not. Afterwards Lillie said in her letter to Ethel that she was coming up at Xmas at least she would like to she said. I guess that I am going to Mrs James Reid next week to stay a few days. Mother is coming down stairs for tea tonight for the first time, she has been down for tea a long time. I am writing this on the 5th day of December but I do not know when it will go. Mrs James Reid is going to give Burton their blocks. There are about 200. I can do the German text letters but I cant do them very well. Cecil got some box wood to begin his sawing or fret-work or what ever you call it. Aunt Bee took Burton up to Goodwood with her the other day and they came back in the evening. We do not get any eggs at all now. The other day there was a big blue & white cat up in the loft of Mother's hen house and it jumped down among the hens & set them all cackling & I helped them to cackle. I must say goodby HE your loving sister Helen.

P.S. We have boss times in the snow now its pretty deep

P.S. There are 50 stamps in each package except maybe there are a few odd ones. BYEBYE

P.S. Its a fine day BYE BYe

P.S. You are a funny old woman Bye Bye

P.S. Cec. is reading the dog Crusoe bye bye

P.S. Sell all Cecil Scroll work or I will give you a ducking in the snow the next time I see you

H.B. There are exactly 1900 stamps

Herbert Brown Montreal P.Q.

78-008/2/12 #232

Hazelbank, 14 Nov '81

My dear Ellen,

I was very glad to receive your long letter of the 2nd & 3rd of this month that morning. As I mentioned in my last to dear Anna I have not received any letter from Peterborough since July, and I was beginning to be [] at the long silence. It does not happen that letters often go astray, but it is sometimes the case as your last and Anna's have never reached me. Thank you for the particulars you gave about poor Fanny's illness & death. It does seem mysterious to us why it pleased our Heavly Father who ordaineth all things both in heaven & earth, to take away the young & healthy, apparently before their time. But he doeth all things well, and it imparts a useful lesson to their contemporaries in age of the uncertainty of human life & the necessity therefore of being always ready whether the summons may come at midnight, or at the cock crowing, or in the morning. But there is another reason why the young should give themselves for them. His Service, and like that of the world and the devil, is perfect freedom. His ways, those in which His servants walk are ways of peace & [] of peace, and in the very keeping of His commandents there is great reward. There are many sorer afflictions come upon some, than the removal of a relative who has fallen asleep in Jesus. You say that you asked in your last for information about old connexions of the family, that letter never reached me. My last sentence is not correct, for looking over your letters I find one dated 9th Decr 1879, in which you asked some questions about the Stocks. My maternal grandmother was a Stock, a sister of the Bishop of Killala first, and then Waterford. She had but two children, my mother and my Uncle Sutton, who married Mary Noble, sister of Wm Nobel (aftewards Waller) of Allenstown. Only one of the Bishop's sons left a family. Rev Edwin Stock, a son who had a family, and a daughter (Jackson) who had a son. Yet another of the Bishop's sons had two sons - one died young - the other Joseph only died last year but left no family. The Bishop's daughters married Revd W Hy Palmer who left a family. Revd Jas, Burrowes who also left a family. Mr West leaving a son & daughter & William Hill who also left a son & daughters. One married Mr Jones of Kilnacarrick another revd Mr Melville & another to the Honble John Joselin, brother of the then Lord Roden. I need say nothing about the Rothwells, my Uncle Suttons only descendants, but two of the Allenstown young men James for his second wife, and Robert married daughters of Mrs Burrowes, & consequently granddaughter of the Bishop. There was another daughter of the Bishop besides my grandmother. She married Mr Norman - hence the connexion of the Normans. I cannot go into the history of the Beauforts, except that old Mrs B was a sister of old Aunt Bess Waller, sisters of old Wm Waller, Uncle Mun's Uncle. Mrs Beaufort was Mother of Harriet & Louisa &c. It must have been a great mistake of mine if I did not answer that letter before, and I hope you will forgive me as the post does not go until tomorrow I will now lay this by and unless prevented take another sheet tomorrow.

16th It was well that I wrote so far yesterday as I have been engaged all morning with the children as Miss Agnew was not very well this morning, and I partially supplied her place. We

are all thanks to God well both here and at the Rectory. Georgie & Katie are occupied every day with their governess and little Lydia is the playmate of the house, 2 ½ years and a very good & pretty child. Robert [] & Cath Elizth, 1 ½, at the Rectory are very fine & healthy children. If we can manage it we will probably send Georgie to School next summer, but our joint means in this house are not large, and we are obliged to be very economical. I was very glad to hear about your brothers & their belongings. We have great accounts of Manitoba and the adjoining districts. I was glad to hear about Mr Stafford K. I sometimes hear this from my sisters about him. I think one of her two sons is engaged in some of the surveying in the N.W. district. I am sorry to hear that you had such an uncomfortable summer. Here we had a very variable weather and the month of August which is the harvest time in England was very showery so that much damage was done to the ripe wheat. Then the principal crop of oats which was saved tolerably well and a fine crop of potatoes has now been dug. But all the tenants are wild with unreasonable hope about the land bill. I must close now. I hope to write next time to Bessie Brown. I trust the blessings of God is with us all enabling us to serve Him in our generation as bought with the precious blood of His dear Son & supplied daily & hourly with the of the Holy Spirit. All unite in love to you & your household and to Anna, & Bessy and their respective belongings.

As ever your affectionate Uncle

Geo. Kirkpatrick

[78-008/2/12 #233](#)

Peterboro

April 5 19-

My dear Herbert

Your kindness sending the interesting paper [] the much trouble about Mr Bellingham makes me inclined to sit down for a chat reading so much about his life, & exploits reminds me of a part of his history unknown likely to any one now. - he came to Canada in 1825 by the wish of his uncle John Bellingham who was my fathers brother in law - being a younger son of Sir Alan All property & name & title, if any, goes to the elder son, father sent an invitation for this lad to come, if possible take land in the wild's of Douro - he got directions when, landed to push on to Cobourg - see fathers agent Mr Bethune who was asked to receive Sydney, & advise him on wards - reaching Rice Lake he crossed the Lake to Mr Rhubedges in an Indian Canoe - who also shewed him a track to follow - this was only made by workmen coming to work in our deep forest, cutting down & preparing our land - 9 miles from Auburn the lad stepped on - but thoughtlessly took a cow path - & on he went till he found himself lost, - tired & hungry night coming on, he lay down beside a log & fell asleep; waken by the tramp of some beast, - thus this enorsed him from all fatigue. - at day light, wisely he thought of the walk he had left - only a track, winding through great forest trees - he got on his way, - for, on the next day, & came to our expectation, he was an object of weariness - hunger & rags - his fine Irish out fit torn from the brambles he got into - food & rest soon restored him shewed my father what he was - a determined will to work, - & do for himself, at this time 15 years of age & he took up land - 200 acres; Joining our home stead - in time he soon found out this would never do - to work at the trees to be cut down a farm made, & be a lone - representing this to his friends in Ireland, an interest for him was made - he took a situation in Quebec - & from that became the prosperous man we read of - he was well educated - pleasing & kind, never forgot his Douro home & friends comein to see us & always during Mothers life time wrote regularly - married early brought his Bride to see Mother in 1836 - he invited father, Aunt Hay & myself to pay them a visit; he was then living in great St. James Street, Montreal one of the best houses, - he had a Carriage & horses - coachman and a butler, - style for us out of the woods!! - We spent a month with them - he was engaged in merchantlylle - line in partnership with James Wallas late of Peterboro impoters of goods - their large warehouses I remember so well - now we trace him from 1824 to 1836 - no doubt his wife had means - & the desire to live in the style she had been accustomed to enable her to keep it up - at that time while with them he mad a proposal to me to come & live with them, as an adopted to be educated & enter the world of fashion, - under different circumstances I might, O but home was dear to me with all its hardships - my need was there - returning home, Mr Haycock was on the Steamer - father was so pleased with this English gentleman induced him to bring his family & settle near Peterboro - this was my introduction to the Haycock family, - events following - they came & settled a warm friendship began - At that time Ivan O'Beirne came from Ireland father met him as he landed in Montreal -

knowing the family so intimately - as Dr OBeirn Christened me - here was another coming to do; - Ivan went into Mr Kirkpatrick's Law Office - and the final romance ended Uncle A C Dunlop had come in 1835 - his family known to father - so in time all things worked together, I am the wife of my dear old man now a charge to each other -

Yesterday I drove to take a farewell look at the most earnest Christian friend in his coffin - I will ever have, - General Haultain - and so ends Mr Bellingham whose awful Photo would shock any one - himself could he see it, he prided himself on good looks, & a manly look, - I drove five weeks since I was out till yesterday - a terrible scribble -

Uncle got the Star & said he would send it off - [] I will write on it & ask for the notice of the old friend - without the hat - do not put away that patchbag I will in time make your wee wee girlie a better one, I sent it a sample to Mother - your loving old Auntie

E S Dunlop

[On a separate piece of paper:]

This will be a terrible undertaking for you - my leg ached, & I wrote - & fancy the occupation has done me good

78-008/2/13 #234

August 20th, 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop - You will, I fear, have thought me very rude in not answering your nephew's letter ere this. But I must tell you what I have for the last month or six weeks been extremely busy - absent from home fourteen hours every day & not returning till a quarter to ten at night and then tired out.

Now, however, I am comparatively at leisure again, and shall undertake some business with, I hope, satisfaction to you & pleasure to myself.

If you will kindly send me the manuscript of your book I will undertake the whole business of publication following as closely as possible your wishes and letting you know full particulars as regards price, etc., etc. With your permission however I will first show the manuscript to one or two publishers here and ask them if they would like to undertake the risk of publication. They might do this hoping to make a profit out of it. In case I come across a firm willing to do this, will you tell me how many copies you will require for yourself - to give away I mean. If you required a good many, this might be a further inducement to the publishers. You would, of course, benefit by this course of action; for you would only have to pay for such books as you bought and there [I should bargain] at the wholesale rate at which five times that number would be printed. I should be glad, too, if you could send me a description of the kind of book you would like yours to be - I mean as regards paper, type, size, binding, etc. If you should send me a book as a specimen, it would great facilitate my being able to understand exactly what you would like. Choose one out of Mr Dunlops' library; I will be careful to return it unharmed.

I hope both you and Mr Dunlop are in good health and have been able to enjoy the beautiful spring and summer we have this year had.

I myself hope to be in Peterborough in the last week of September, when I shall make a point of calling & telling you all that I shall have been able to achieve about the book between this date and that.

Believe me to be,

Dear Mrs. Dunlop

Yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

78-008/2/13 #235

623 Manning Ave

Toronto

August 25th 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop, - I received your package all safe yesterday, & shall take it to a publisher, whom I know very well, tomorrow morning.

I have not had time to do more than glance at a few pages, but even the little I read made me wish the book could have been brought out by a great firm in a great market - Macmillan & Co. of London & New York, for example. However, I fear that would be a difficult matter to achieve & we must do that best we can in Canada.

If this publisher is unwilling to undertake the risk of publication, I shall go to one of the firms from which I got estimates last year & put the book in hand as soon as possible. There is no need for your presence in Toronto - at all events not yet. I will send you proof sheets to glance through - not to correct, that will be done here & I shall supervise that important matter carefully. The only thing I would rather you yourself determined upon is the style of binding, not a little depends upon this I think, but it is solely a matter of price. The paper, size, etc., will have to be chosen before the work of printing is begun for the plan always adopted is to print the book in batches of 8, 16 or 32 sheets; thus, they will set up in type as much as will fit, say 16 sheets; print 250 copies [for as many as are required] of these, & so on till the whole is folded, cut & bound. I will send you samples of paper, size, type, style of printing, etc. I am sorry to hear you have yourself been suffering. Have you been in Peterborough all summer? I shall be very glad to see the town again & am looking forward to my fortnight's holiday, for I have been, & still am, very hard at work.

With kindest regards to Mr Dunlop. Believe me to be yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

78-008/2/13 #236

Sept. 10th 1889

My dear Mrs Dunlop - The publisher I spoke of I found was in New Brunswick on a holiday. However I applied to his company and was told they rarely publish books now. They offered, however, to print your M.S. I received this estimate on Saturday, but foolishly enough they calculated for an edition of 1000 copies. I saw them this morning about it, & they seem to think 75 or 100 copies a very small order & say it will cost proportionately more. Nevertheless promised me estimates for this number. I also consulted about the publication of your work with another friend of mine; but he declined at once to undertake so small a number. To that both these men from whom I expected low estimates have failed. I shall therefore go to one of the firms I consulted before, taking with me his previous estimate & the MSS. & asking for his final & definite decision. I will send you in a day or two a sample of the paper & type which I have been calculating upon, & you will be able to judge yourself. I have chosen large type to save the eyes of your readers. Please forgive haste. I have more to do by certain dates, examination papers, etc., etc.

Yours sincerely

Arnold Haultain

[78-008/2/13 #237](#)

Sept 11th 1889

T. Arnold Haultain, Esq.,

Public Library, City

Dear Sir,

For an addition of the work estimated on the other day or 75 copies: -

Composition, Presswork and Paper, Small Pica Type would cost \$80.00

100 copies

Composition, Presswork and Paper, Small Pica Type would cost \$85.00

Binding .16 cents per vol.

A small edition in solid long Primer or Brevier type could be got up at less than leaded small Pica, but would not present quite so pleasing an appearance.

Very Truly Yours

A.W. McLachan Secy

[78-008/2/13 #238](#)

September 26th 1889

My dear Mrs Dunlop, - I start for Peterborough tomorrow & hope to arrive on Monday or Tuesday, I am bringing estimates, sample of paper, etc., with me.

I shall call upon you with these as soon after my arrival as possible, & we can have a conversation and settle everything finally in regard to the book.

Believe me to be

Sincerely yours

T. Arnold Haultain

623 Manning Ave

Toronto

[78-008/2/13 #239](#)

[partial transcription]

Peterborough

1st October

Dear Mrs Dunlop

I send you in black and white the results of the enquiries as to the probable expense of publishing the book you were kind enough to consult me about. You will be better able, I think, to compare the figures if they are written than if they were given by word of mouth.

I estimate the M.S. you gave me at one third or the whole book; if this fraction is wrong we shall have to add or subtract a small sum from the total. The figures throughout are rather above than below the probable cost. -

[78-008/2/13 #240](#)

625 Manning Avenue

Toronto

14 October 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop, - I take down and put into the printers hands this morning your MSS. I will ask about payment and also if the work can be completed by Xmas & will send you word. I send you a copy of the title page. Would it not be well to say "Life in the Forests of Canada etc.?" But these details you can settle in consultation with Mr Dunlop. I do not know whether you wish the "compiled and edited etc.", to be retained. If you will return to me the copy of the Title page with any alterations you think fit to make I shall be grateful. I don't think there will any necessity for your coming to Toronto. All that will have to be done will be read through the proof sheets, and these come in every two or three days and continue coming for weeks - till the book is printed. I will keep you acquainted with the progress made. In haste, Believe me to be yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

[78-008/2/13 #241](#)

623 Manning Ave.

Toronto

Oct 23rd 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop - Please excuse a very hurried line in answer to your letter just this moment received - I am on the point of setting out for my office.

The title & preface will be printed last of all, so there is lots of time to choose. I have made the printers promise to let me have the whole edition ready by the first week in December. Forty six pages have already been printed & corrected, & I hope to send you the page proofs [for your revision] in a day or two. Make as few corrections as possible, please for they charge 40 cents an hour extra for these. I have taken the liberty of making a few verbal corrections, a very few. I am thinking of the severe English critics, you know.

You speak of it being a business transaction. I assure you, dear Mrs Dunlop, that it is a "labour of love" in two senses of the phrase: - first I delight in the little trouble for an old & kind friend of my mother & myself, & second I really like the work. I will tell you how you can repay me if you insist on it: - Add a sentence to your preface saying that "My friend Mr Arnold Haultain overworked these pages in their passage through the press", & I shall be amply satisfied.

Will you let me order an edition of 100 at least?

In haste, Yours sincerely T. Arnold Haultain

[78-008/2/13 #242](#)

Dear Mrs Dunlop, - Many thanks for your letter just received. I cannot find out from it, however, whether you have returned what are called the "galley" proofs - those in which the type has not been separated into pages. These I want as soon as possible, please. They are those in which the words "Hants" and "tabmit" occur. I should also like the manuscript returned. To save time (& give the printers no excuse to delay) would you kindly write in the margin of the proofs what the corrections should be and send them addressed as follows

Proofs from Mr. Haultain

Mr Moody

"Week" Office

5 Jordan Street

Toronto

Forgive my writing thus hurriedly

We are getting on famously; more than 200 pages of your M.S. has been printed

My wife sends her love

Ever yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

623 Manning Avenue

Toronto

Wednesday

P.S. But perhaps you have returned these proofs, & they are detained in the Post Office here. In that case I shall get them tomorrow & need not have troubled you with this

T A H

78-008/2/13 #243

Please return all

623 Manning Ave Oct 25 1889

Toronto

Dear Mrs Dunlop - I must content myself with a very brief answer to your kind letter of the 25th. Please forgive all evidence of haste.

You will see that I have after all retained the subtitle "Journals & Letters". Perhaps this had better be used throughout [on the right hand pages] until we come to the Appendix. I have also substituted "Our Forest Home". It lends greater interest to the book I think; & prepares the reader for the narration of domestic details. I believe they have printed off only 75 copies of the first section of 16 pages, so the edition must now be limited to that number. The printers are pushing on unprecedentedly rapidly: I received the first 16 pages this afternoon! I send them on at once to you & hope they will please you. [Do not return them.]

I spoke of notices & reviews for I am sure these will enable you to sell several copies, for the Canadian notices at all events will be, if not laudatory, at least such as will tempt buyers. But this is a matter for your consideration solely, &, after all, not an important one. We will, if you like, limit the complementary copies to the Week & the Mail.

I reserved your full name for the purpose of copyrighting. What would you like on the title page? It is not customary to say "By Mrs Dunlop", but even in this matter there is no rule, & even if there were I strongly believe in following not the multitude but one's own tastes & instincts. I should like also to know whether you would like letters & Journals of the late Frances Stewart, or of Mrs Stewart, or of Mrs. T. Stewart. I will add the sentences you kindly suggest to the preface.

You ask if I see any possibility of a sale. I think if it could be made known in Peterborough, Cobourg, Port Hope, Toronto, etc., it would sell. There are so many well known names - Beverly Robinson, Falkner, Boswell, Boulton, etc., etc., etc., - & all these families ought to & would buy copies. But, this requires advertising, & advertising means money. Perhaps you had better keep to your original idea & limit the edition to your family & rely only on what the Week & the Mail and you & I can do by speaking of it.

I write in the midst of interruptions Yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain.

[78-008/2/13 #244](#)

Oct 25 1889

9:15 P.M.

Dear Mrs Dunlop - The printer tells me he wishes to hurry on, & as this is an excellent sign, and as also I wish to give him no excuse for delay, I shall risk making all corrections myself. I have chosen "Our Forest Home" as the [short - crossed out] title, the rest can be added afterwards, & I am having no sub title for parts I & II. I expect the first 16 pages of the book to be printed off & ready on Monday.

In haste yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

P.S. Please telegraph if you wish me to act in any other manner.

T A H

78-008/2/13 #245

623 Manning Avenue

Toronto

October 25th 1889

My dear Mrs Dunlop - I want to know what the difference is between Part I & Part II. Ought not each part to have a sub-title of its own? As I do not know in what principle you have divided the book into two parts I cannot supply these sub-titles. But perhaps they are not needed.

Yes, I will see that the book is copyrighted in your name. By the way, will you please tell me your full name. I think "A Forest Home: Experiences of Emigrant Life in the Wilds of Canada. From the Letters and Journals of the Late Frances Stewart. Compiled and edited by her daughter, E.S. Dunlop," would be the best title. The phrase "a forest home" is very pretty and significant, and the whole book breathes an atmosphere of home - & of the forest too, we may say. Also it is a nice short title for the outside & back - "A Forest Home". Again, it will save expense to have only eleven letters to print outside in red - worth thinking of.

When I send you the "page proof" I will send your M.S. with them, but this you need not return to me, only the proof sheets, &, if possible, I should like these back by return post, for they will be printed off at once. At the same time let me know finally what number of copies you decided upon.

I can procure for you notices of the book - both before and after publication - in the Empire, Globe Mail, World, & Week, I think, without much trouble; but this means that each of these papers must be presented with a copy. Do you feel inclined to be so liberal, or shall I mention it just one or two papers - say the Week & the Mail?

Yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

78-008/2/13 #246

November 25th 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop - Your book is approaching completion. I read the proof of the Preface this evening, and the Appendices have already been sent to you for correction. I enclose a form of application for copy-right you have merely to sign your name before two witnesses, who also sign their names, and fill up the dates. This application must be accompanied by \$1.50 [a dollar & a half] and you must also send with it two copies of your book. These are the only formalities necessary.

I shall send down [to - crossed out] the books by frieght to you as soon as they are ready. Please count them as soon as you open the package and see that there are 75 copies. If not, please advise me at once.

I hope and trust that very few errors have crept in. Had I thought of it earlier it might have been advantageous to have asked Louis Stewart to glance at the proofs; for he, of course, would have been familiar with the family names, etc. However, in so small an edition, any glaring mistakes you could correct by hand before dispatching. Shall I call you E.L. Dunlop in the title page? The usual rule is, I believe, to use the initials of the woman's own xtian names unless we write Mrs., then the initials of her husband's xtian names are used. Thus, my wife is either "A.M. Haultain" or Amy Mrs. T.A. Haultain Arnold my initials

Yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

623 Manning Avenue

Monday

78-008/2/13 #247

December 3rd 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop, Thank you for your letter of the 29th of November enclosing a bountiful supply of stamps. It was very kind of you to think of sending these, & I accept them gratefully, for my postage costs me no little sum yearly.

The book is printed. The only thing to be done now is the binding. They told me this would take a week, but I advised that there should be as little delay as possible. Your corrections were in time, but I am sorry to say that your name is spelled "Susannah" in the copyright announcement.

I have left out the name of the book in the application for the copyright, which I sent you, but you can fill this in when the books arrive. Do not send off this application till the books reach you, for you have to send two copies with the application for copyright. I gave your address to Mr. Moody & told him to send the books to you by freight. The bill I have ordered to be sent to me; I shall look over it carefully before despatching it to you.

You ask about a second edition. The charges would be just the same, for it would have to be printed all over again just as at first. Each batch of sixteen pages, after they are printed, are "distributed", as it is called, at once, - that is the type is all taken apart again.

The only cases in which the pages are stereotyped but of course this adds considerably to the cost of the first edition.

I write in haste at my office desk.

Believe me to be

Yours very sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain.

[78-008/2/13 #248 \[see #239 for estimates\]](#)

Toronto Decr 9th 1889-

Dear Madam,

We hope to have the 75 copies of "Our Forest Home" ready on Saturday next, which we are instructed by Mr Haultain to send per freight train, addressed to you at Peterboro'. With the books I will enclose proofs & Original MS.

Yrs Obdtly

H. Moody

For a Demy 8vo, full cloth, plain edges

Printing and Binding (including paper)

75 copies \$80.00

250 copies \$105.00

Circulars (500) 3.00

Envelopes .50

Postage (of circulars) 2.50

Freight .50

Postage (of Books) say 5.00

\$95.00 [~~"\$95.00"~~ crossed out]

11.50

In addition to this I have the following estimates: - Messrs. Brough & Carswell will print (not bind) including paper

60 copies for \$55.00

250 copies for \$62.00

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Messrs. Murray & Co will Bind

60 copies for \$12.00

250 copies for 45.00

A gold title (stamped) would cost 2 cents per book extra

Yours sincerely,

Arnold Haultain

78-008/2/13 #249

623 Manning Ave.

Toronto

December 17th 1889

My dear Mrs Dunlop, -

Your kind letter reached me late last night on my return from the office. I was more pleased than I shall take the time to express at finding that you were satisfied with the books. My only regret is that you did not have 250 copies. However, since you will sell every copy you need not lose anything on your venture, & for this too I am thankful. - I have just telephoned to the Presbyterian Printing & Publishing Co. to send me the bill at once. I will send it on as soon as I have looked over it. Do not, please, deprive yourself of a single copy for me: you have few enough as it is only 74, for 2 must go to Ottawa. You must remember, Please be sure that Copyright is obtained. Do you require another application form?

I think by the "proof sheets" you mean the Manuscript, do you not? I will enquire into the reason of this not being sent to you. I was told it was going with the books. The "proof sheets" [those long printed slips] I have. Do you require them? I have kept everything in connection with the book.

I cannot imagine what Miss Wighton referred to, unless something to do with a catalogue of the Library which I had a share in that is all I can think of.

I hope your fall was not serious. It was my first news of it that you gave me. I write in great haste

Yours very sincerely

Arnold Haultain

P.S. I have in my possession the little drawing wh. accompanied the M.S. this I will send with the bill

T A H

Letters 250-277

[78-008/2/13 #250](#)

December 20th 1889

Dear Mrs Dunlop - I thank you very much for the copy of "Our Forest Home" which you were kind enough to send me. I must confess to a certain pleasure in the possession of a book which I helped [even quite insignificantly] to bring to birth, and it will long remind me of a warm friend of my mother's & my own.

I have just discovered that there is a possibility of there being a few unbound sheets left over. I shall make inquiries tomorrow morning & ask the price of putting together & bringing a few more copies - if, that is, my surmises as to extra sheets turn out correct.

I think I made a mistake in saying I had the drawing. I returned it to the Printers. Did you receive it with the rest of the M S?

I hope you have quite recovered from your fall. Please remember me to Mr Dunlop & Miss Dunlop.

Believe me to be

Very sincerely yours

T. Arnold Haultain

[78-008/2/13 #251](#)

My dear Mrs Dunlop -

Mr Moody told me today that he had eight (8) more copies of your book which you could have at 75 cents a copy. I was so sure you would take them that I said he might go on with the work of binding at once. Will you send me a post card, please, saying whether I have done right.

Thank you for the Christmas card you sent us. It is too late to wish you and Mr Dunlop the compliments of the season, but I hope all pleasant things for you.

Believe me to be

Yours sincerely

T. Arnold Haultain

623 Manning Avenue

Toronto

[78-008/2/13 #252](#)

[Letterhead from the Presbyterian Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd]

Jan.20 1890

Dear Madam,

Yours to hand respecting the extra copies of "Our Forest Home". The bookbinder has promised to complete them either tomorrow or the next day (Wednesday) at latest - I am sorry that there are but eight copies left to complete. I will have them made into a parcel & sent to you per Express.

You may expect them to reach you on Thursday

Yours Obdtly

H. Moody

[78-008/2/13 #253](#)

[post card; no transcription]

My dearest Fan

I finished the 2d Chapter of my travels at my arrival at Aix la Chapelle I believe - & now I must complete them in this - & indeed it is a shame that in a whole years time I have not continued to share with you the pleasure I enjoyed & give you at least the one small part of all I saw, that can be contained in a letter - In general I have so many things to say of present affairs that it makes me put off too long the parts wh might amuse you.

On Saturday night you know we arrives at Aix - very weary of our tedious journey - I was not well & feverish & could not sleep - however I was able to go about all next day seeing a great deal of course. I think our first business - was that we went to mass in the fine old Cathedral - part of which was built in the time of Charlemagne - it is handsome - but not as beautiful in my mind as many others that I saw - The Choir is very high & has 5 windows I think - from the top to near the bottom - the length of wh surprises one - The later part of the Church is a galery in separately arched divisions or closets - the walls & the ceiling of each covered with paintings - none very good - There are various things shewed wh were Charlmagne's particularly the chair of state in wh he was crowned - But they do not shew this during service - and unluckily we did not get back to it before the next service began- so we had not the pleasure of seeing our great ancestor's chair - But we saw his tomb which is in the floor of the Circular part immediately before entering the Choir.

Imagine that large grey flag with a narrow border round & only those words - The grandeur & simplicity of which is suitable to so great a Sovereign - It is said that when Napoleon saw that he stood for several minutes looking at it - but never stood on or passed over it - & was quite provoked with his officers for doing so. The city of Aix la Chapelle is very ancient & I felt the more interested in it because the Wallers had lived in it so long - it is a dirty town - & has all sorts of bad smells - the spa has a horrid one & there are several of them which cause the whole air to smell - besides all kinds of dist[]

We dined at the grand public garden where is a walk & drive from that extending a good way - Every body was but that fine evening driving in open carriages round & round or up & down - I dont now which. All the German ladies without cap or bonnet - Their hair very nicely dressed in knots. We went on thru to the new Spa at Mt St Louis & walked up a steep hill to see the view - on our way home we went into the old church of St Nicholas which was all lighted up - & evening service going on - Louisa was anxious to hear the music - but the crowd & heat were intolerable & at last Frs made us come away - we got home to late coffee. Francis went out to get his Passport which he had sent to be vised - & met Col. Wildman who had just arrived but to a different hotel - So he came in to see us - & then it was arranged that we should all set out next morning for Liege or Liecht as it is called in its own country - We walked about first however & tried again to see Carlo's Chair - but service was again going on! - It was market day - & the grande place was stuffed full of people & reminded me of an Irish market such numbers

of women were there in red & blue cloaks - & particularly with handkerchiefs over their heads - of white or generally crimson or blue. That city is at present in the King of Prussia's territories.

We departed about half past eleven - with 3 horses to our carriage which held us all - The country is very pretty some miles & then becomes rather uninteresting - but different from Germany in regard to several things - fences of some kind either ditch or hedge along the road sides - & more appearance sometimes of division into fields - & frequently hedge rows of trees. On quitting the Prussian territory there is a Douaniere or custom house where every traveller is stopped & their goods opened & dragged about - Some acquaintances of ours - Admiral Douglas & his family who had set out 2 hours earlier we found there with all their books about - They had been weighing them - & idea of having all [] of luggage taken down - & opened on the road was tremendous - Fortunately Francis contrived to make a half Frederick D'or look so pleasing to the officer that he contented himself with looking into the top of our Portmanteau & Col Wildman being as lucky we got off with less delay - our two carriages kept together - & we all dined at a very shabby little Inn like a carman's Inn at a village whose name I forgot - The horses go so slowly & stupidly that we did not arrive at Liege till past nine - & then there was a great fuss about beds &c. for some time we could not find Louisa's bag - in which was dressing box & many precious things - You may imagine our distress - She was sure it had dropped off the carriage in the dust. However just as I going to lend her night things - & as Frs was writing back to Aix about it - the bag was discovered in his room where it had been taken in mistake tho' all the rest of the luggage was left in our Salon - This caused a great rout as you may suppose - The Hotel was that of which I sent you a sort of view - built round 3 sides of a large square yard so from my window I saw what people in the opposite side were doing - All the windows wherever we were french opening down the middle like doors. Our sitting room was on the ground floor looking into the grand place - groups of people scattered about & many stopping at the windows to speak or offer their goods to us - we staid all next day - Tuesday 22d at Liege saw 2 fine Churches - pictures - Citadel - Jesuits college, its museum & Botanic garden which was very nice one - & several pretty plants - We saw boring & casting of Cannon & finishing of them - We drove about all day - & had very late dinner. The Wildmans & we dined together in our salon - & all the evening having them with us was rather a bother as it prevented our reading or writing - however we all went early to bed - & next morning were assembled by six to take coffee - & then we set forward for Namur - The road lies the whole way along the Meuse - on its right bank as far as the fortress of Huy - a beautiful spot where there is a small town. We dined at 12 o'clock there very hungry for we had taken very little breakfast - The sketches made some views of Huy - & then we continued our journey & arrived in the city of Namur about 4 ½ - The road from Huy going on the left side of the river - There cannot be a more lovely drive than it is the whole way - such lovely rocks & trees some times in charming groups - at others fringing the rocks & hanging picturesquely out of the fissures - sometimes rich fields & farms & gardens. At Huy we saw a diligence with 6 nuns in it who were travelling to a watering place for their own amusement - nuns not being kept so strictly now as they used to be - This journey was altogether a most delightful one - but the happiness of the day was clouded to me by a fright I had - Frs has a horrid trick of getting out & in of a carriage while it is going on - he did so that day two or three times - & I did not like to tease him by remonstrances but at last - in trying to spring up he slipped & fell & I was sure the wheel had gone over him - & the horror of

such an idea - & of the recollection of poor Mr Knox both whose legs, you know were broken that way - so overwhelmed me that when after I found he was quite safe & that I saw him in the carriage with us I felt the effects the whole day & was unwell & miserable though heartily grateful to Providence - but I was very foolish - beside we walked about a little & looked at the fortifications & saw very little of the town for it grew dark so soon that we had not time - Oh but I forgot to tell you that as we approached Namur that day we had a beautiful view of the city with the bright evening sun shining on it - as it seemed to terminate the beautiful valley of the Meuse - When we went in we had tea & coffee Cakes & eggs (for some) & were all starving - & then we went to bed - it was a bad hotel I think - & nasty rooms & quite close to us an exceedingly loud deep town bell which tolled half the night & very much disturbed Louisa & me - However we all assembled before 6 in the parlour & had Coffee & rolls - being wiser this time than we were the day before - Namur is famous for its Cutlery & several boxes of scissors & such things were brought to us in the evening - but I bought none & was not much tempted - The road from Namur to Brussels by Waterloo is very ugly large open cornfields & high ditch banks - & flat distance - at last we saw at a distance of several miles a Pyramid - This I shall describe hereafter - & then we came to Quatre bras & got out & walked about. Col. Wildman shewing us where different detachments were stationed & all the spots near Quartre bras which you will see named in the accounts of the battle - We spent a long time there - & then mounted our vehicles again & went on to Genappe where we dined about two I believe or near three - & walked about & saw the place where the British Troops made the great charge and drove the French before them - & then we got into the carriages again & drove to the field of Waterloo - a few miles further on - & there Col. Wildman went over all the battle - & shewed us where the armies were stationed and where the Duke of Wellington sat with his watch in his hand for two or three hours watching for Bluchers arrival - He never saw him show anxiety at any time but then - but he was then agitated & very much alarmed about the fate of the battle - he looked every few minutes at his watch saying "Blucher promised to come at eleven!" - It was near three I believe when he did arrive & turned the fortune of the day. Col. W. was at that time aid de camp to Ld Anglesey & rode back & forward continually with orders - he was wounded in the heel - but continued still the whole day long doing his duty - We walked about the Chateau de Hongemont & saw the cottage where Napoleon slept - and saw the Pyramid - which is an artificial mound raised to the memory of the victory & in particular of the Prince of Orange & his prowess & his wounds - on the top of it is a very high stone pedestal & on that is placed a bronze Lion - There are in different parts of the field of Waterloo, obelisks & pillars erected to the memory of officers slain in that destructive battle. We were so long walking about & viewing all the places so interesting to all of us - & to Col. W. particularly - after 20 years having passed away - that we forgot how time was passing & that we still had 18 miles to Brussels - & behold a tremendous shower & lightning in sheets such as I never saw before came on - & the sun set & while we sheltered in the guides cottage the carriages were sent for from the road where they had stopped - & then after holding a council on the subject - it was agreed that instead of going on to Brussels we should only go onto the village of Waterloo 3 miles off - as we drove along, the side of the road & houses were covered with successive sheets of lightning & the rain was in torrents. The Inn was very bad in every way except that we had good coffee - Mrs W. - her sister ["her sister" crossed out] & maid were put into one room, Louisa & her 3 nieces in another - by her own arrangement - for she would not let me stir - I was so

indifferent & she insisted on my having a room or closet within Mrs W's to myself. The Col & the Capt slept on the tables below with mattress & cloaks - & now having settled all in their beds - I will go to mine for it is 12 o'clock. Well here is a calm morning & I will go on as fast as I can notwithstanding poor Louisa's too great generosity & kindness in putting me into that single room I could not sleep - & got up the moment it was light - & guessing it wd be much the same with Frs I dressed quickly - & watched at the window - & very soon just as I expected I saw him come out - It was a lovely morning after all the rain - & stealing through Mrs W.'s room I was soon with him in the street - we took a delightful walk through part of the wood of Soigny which extends for miles from thence in the Brussels direction - it is chiefly oak Y Beech & Chestnut I think - now & then some fine trees - but many drawn up very high & thin - They have cut out a great deal - & make quantities of Charcoal there - we saw great heaps of it - being made - the wood chopped into good sized pieces piled in heaps & covered over with ashes & earth - a great cap of it - & then set fire to within - gradually it becomes charred - quite through - without being burned - & when completely charred makes a very hot fire & no flames - it is used in various manufactories. We go to the hotel at nine just as people were ready for a bad breakfast - Mrs W. & her sister were sick & staid in bed after breakfast we went into the Church - the walls of wh are really covered with monuments to officers killed in the battle - of English Dutch & Prussian - and then went to the house where Col W. had lodged - the old lady was ready to kiss him so delighted was she to see him - & made numerous enquiries about his brother who had been shockingly wounded - Ld Anglesey - both had lodged with her - in her garden we saw on the wall of her house close to the ground where was a little grassy bank an inscription - to tell that Ld Angleseys leg lost on such a day in battle was buried there. We then set off - all but the two sick in bed - in our carriage to visit the field of Waterloo - & went up to the top of the mound from which we could see to a great distance all round - We returned then & when all was ready & that we had a little luncheon of bad cakes - we set forward about 2 for Brussels - much of the road through the wood - deep ditches on each side - & very glad we were that we had not gone the night before - Brussels rather I think disappointed us - I expected a finer city - like many other foreign ones - is surrounded with Boulevards - a drive & walks at each side with rows of trees between each which beautifies a city very much - besides adding to the pleasures of the inhabitants. The grand square or Place is handsome - & there are 4 large hotels in it in which we found it difficult to get rooms - the town just then was so full - The Ws went to the Hotel de Regence - We got a lodging near the Bellevue Hotel - & went to the table d'hote there every day at 5 which was more convenient than one at that season when we wished to have as much daylight as we could.

I saw at that table - where 70 people dined - for there was one table down the whole length of the room & another placed diagonally - I saw Dr Thorpe who proved to be Mr Mathias assistant - & his two daughters & his new wife Lady Pomfret who wd not even wait till her year of widowhood was out to marry him - though her father did all in his power to persuade her - The consequence was that the Pomfret family did not think a woman acting so foolishly could be a proper Guardian or Instructor of her children - so they were taken from her & the fine allowance she would have had - & the Dr had not all the fine income wh the world gave him credit for expecting. We got to Brussels at the close of the five days of rejoicing about all wh you have seen in the Newspapers - There was a fine curious velvet seat & Canopy erected in the

Park for the King - wh unfortunately I did not see by mistake - but it was no great thing - The Park - wh does not deserve the name, is pretty - but is in fact only a square wood with walks made up the middle - There are many of them were wounded at the time of the Bombardment - & the marks of the cannon balls are there with cement put in to preserve from the weather. We spent a long time at a sort of exhibition of the arts & manufacture there - for the benefit of the artillery many of whom were distressed - the whole country is in great poverty - or was then Sunday was a day of perpetual rain - but we went to Church- an English one - The first time since we left Engd - that we had heard our service - except what we read ourselves. - We dined with the Wildmans & Louisa's cold caught at Waterloo grew so bad that she was obliged to lie in bed all Monday - I was much afraid she was getting one of those fevers she had been so subject to of late years - & so was Frs - so we were gloomy all day - & the weather was showery- & we all felt uncomfortable - next day however she was much better & did so much that I wonder she was not quite laid up

Early Tuesday morning Frs & I took a long walk thro' a great part of the town - along the Boulevards - & to the Botanic garden - but we only peeped into it then - & returned by nine to breakfast - after which the Girls & I went first with the Douglas party to see the Palace of the Prince of Orange which had been built for him by the people of the dominions of the King of Holland - The walls done with figured silk in some & cut velvet - & a few very fine pictures - and floors so beautifully inlaid & polished - that no one is allowed to walk across them - only 12 people admitted at once - because there are only 12 prs of slippers - each person is obliged to put them on, & as many are much too large for every one - one goes about shuffling along in a strange way- Mine were 3 times too large - We were only allowed to walk on the border of the floor and once or twice that I stepped off it to look at a picture the man who shewed it was very angry - He hurried us on from one to the other so very uncomfortably - When we returned from that - Frs met us at home with a nice carriage in which Louisa & all of us went to the Botanic garden - & then to a famous Church St Gudules - very old - & handsome - & famous for the carving of the pulpit in oak - Then to the Hotel de Ville a large square of building - used for all the transactions of Government - crowning of Kings &c. - & in it were pictures of Charles 5th & Philip 2d of Spain & the famous duke of Alva &c. very interesting to those who read the history of those times - We all dined early 4 I think at Col. Wildmans - & then went to the French opers - pretty well - all that for a lady who had been in bed the day before - I must finish another time
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78-008/2/14 #255

[partial transcript; original more complete]

[Frances Brown Stewart to Mary I. Wilson]

[] my paper - & sometimes I am obliged to take another piece of paper - When you write pray dear - like a good little friend tell me all you know of that precious & beautiful Saint Mrs Morrison if still living - it is a long time since her nephews have heard from her - the Letters of even those dear old Aunts are prized above Gold - & looked for as treasures they are beautiful specimens indeed of Christian piety & humble submission - it is quite a high priviledge to have such relations & correspondents - The Browns only regret deeply that their own circumstances do not allow them to send more assistance to these dear afflicted relations - By steady and most unflinching industry these dear young men are becoming independent - they keep themselves above want - and out of debt - James is working hard & living very steadily & has a most valuable wife - he has a farm about half a mile from Edward - Edward works as hard as any man can - for you know none of them has anything but their own industry to depend on - they both have good farm - Edward's is his own - James rents his - but wishes to purchase it if he can - Templeton has a farm just between Edward's & James's - but he lives at present in Peterboro - as his farm is not yet under cultivation nor is his house built yet - he & Eliza are longing to get there - but must wait patiently a year or two longer - Robert has a good piece of land of 157 acres - joining Edward's on the other side - but there is no house there yet - & he is not quite ready to begin for himself as he wants to assist Templeton first - they are all so united & attached to each other, they set a good example to all brothers - This has been a wonderfully wet season - the crops did look beautiful but fears are now arising about so much []

My dear Fanny

Sometime ago I promised to write when I should be in the idleness of Harrowgate to you - And so I fully intended - but some way that idleness extends itself to all ones ways of going on, and besides this vile idling it seemed to me that my letter would not go rightly for the ugly conceited squinting Post Master seemed to be quite ignorant of Canada, of mails thither etc., etc. - so thinks I to myself I will wait until I am at Scarborough & then I can tell her of her old friend Francis and so I waited, as was you know but natural & went on waiting till this very last day of our stay here when shame made me not delay until I had returned to Dublin. I spent within two days of seven weeks at Harrowgate in a wee lodging living as economically as I possibly could and besides guzzling waters, walked a deal & read a deal of trash just to divert myself & pass the evening time, which sometimes seemed long & lonely - how ever I had some very kind friends, first Mrs & Miss Hamilton so of them, Mother and sisters of the Mrs H. with whom I travelled to Harrowgate - they were pleasing people & very kind to me, I dined with them and drank tea with them several times - But the family I saw most of were Mr Mrs & Miss Britaine, who spent six weeks at Harrowgate & happily did not lodge very far from me - Mrs B is you know author of a number of little stories characteristic of Irish manners, & much truer than most of that race are, being quite free from exaggeration - he is remarkably agreeable man, & so candid & mild in all his sentiments & so lenient in his judgement of others - I often drank tea with them and Mrs B. used to come & sit & talk with me in a morning - both he and Mrs B. were in bad health, but found Harrowgate of use to them - their daughter is very amiable & pleasing in Manner and conversation, but so tall that she is quite ashamed of herself & drops into a chair the first moment she can get near one - her manners are remarkably gentle and quite unaffected - Miss Mason Mrs Bs sister was with them for a part of the time, she is very lively and excellent Creature who has done a great deal for her country, for she is the Secretary of the Irish Ladies Society and unwearied in her exertions for it - and it is wonderful how much good that Society has done & is doing, indeed I think it is the means by which Ireland will be both civilized and brought into the pale of the English church - in all these troublous times none of the converts have fallen off, or been found mixed up with politics, but in spite of the demagogues and the priests have continued quite Steady - and are rapidly increasing in numbers.

While at Harrowgate I did not go any parties or go to any expense & could not help but lived as quiet as possible that I might be secure of having enough for all my travels - On which I proceeded the last day of September, leaving Harrowgate in the York coach at 8 O'Clock & arriving here at 5 the same day 62 miles - All the way was rich and highly cultivated and well wooded, for 20 miles from York a dead flat of wood & tillage from that on much varied in high ridges of hill & lovely wild copsy valleys between - About Scarborough there is but little wood, but yet it is very pretty, the cliffs are pretty high but all clay of a very tough tenacious kind, so that they only please a distant eye, the near eye sees the paltry clay - below the cliffs there is a very fine sand on which when the tide is out all manner of riding & walking parties go up &

down - The tide when coming in breaks in very grand surf upon this level sand, and when the wind is high rolls in, with magnificent waves in which no boat can live - Since I came there was one storm quite a hurricane, when the whole bay was boiling & streaked with long ridges of foam - there was great anxiety for the Blazer one of Francis's surveying steamers, which had sailed shortly before the storm arose & there were fears she would have to keep out in the German Ocean in order to avoid this dangerous shore, & Capt Washington had his wife & four children aboard, who he was carrying home to Harwich from this - When first I came I was to be shewn many things but procrastination a thief who steals all other things as well as time, put off the sight shewing & then the weather broke - and so - And so, we leave this tomorrow and are to go a round about road of two days to York and from that Francis & his crew sail for my own small nest, where I shall please God arrive safely, though the wind now roaring in the chimney makes me tremble to hear it - Some days much be spent in Hatch Street to have my duds washed, to leave the summer goods & take winter, & to furbish up my ancient things - besides the poor little garden must have its winter quarters, so while there I shall not eat bread of Idleness - Francis you will be glad to hear is very well & on the whole looking very well though years tell upon him a good deal as to his looks - he is cheerful spirits and seems happy, but the gaiety which he formerly was remarkable for, had quite faded away - Honora is very well & strong & seems to enjoy herself very much and to make them all very happy - she is as thin as ever but looks very much stronger & is so, being able for much more exertion than she could formerly have - Of the young people, only Augustus and Emily were here -she is much better from both bathing & riding on horseback, and breathing the bright bracing air of this open place -the great danger is that when the excitement of this mode of life is over, she will greatly feel the want of it and will sink in consequence & become nervous and ill - Rosa remained at Oxford with poor Sophy, who is however much better, & as yet is going on safely in her manufacture. The Palmers are to bring Rosa home soon after their Fathers return and are themselves to stay in town for the winter, which will help to cheer them up - John Beaufort spent a week here after I came and I was rejoiced at having some of his society - he is a very handsome fine young man much taller than you would naturally imagine any Beaufort could be - he goes on very steadily & is much trusted in all delicate affairs of his people. I tell you nothing because I am sure Harriet tells you all about them -

I hope you have received all the Dublin Mails which I lately sent you - if you have, you have seen how the Agitation has been put to open shame & obliged to cry pecavi - if Government has now courage & will to exert the law, we may hope that at last the country will be quiet in a good degree even during O'Connells life & should he happily die or be hanged, we should be probably in perfect peace - even in the midst of all the disturbances, the country has made great progress & were the people let to follow their own industry & improve their farms & houses, the whole country would soon assume another appearance - Now my dear have I not given you a full history of myself and my doings - to go & do likewise - I rejoice to hear from Harriet that you have found your new home so comfortable during the winter & only hope it may continue so in all seasons - give my love to Anna Maria, Ellen etc., etc., and ever continue to love yr affectionate Louisa Beaufort

July 3

Your [N.Y.] letter of Ap. 25 - is the latest I have had from you - but I know you were well in May as I heard from Allentown of your letter to Mrs Waller - & your pleasant account of the little boys - dear Fanny if I could but have gone with Mrs Woodward how nice it would have been! - but I begin to despair of ever getting there - I have done nothing in regard of Mrs Flood whose melancholy history of ill treatment you give me - as at the end you say it is better for you to write yourself to your Aunt - she has returned to town but I have heard nothing of her since - not being able to get so far as to the Smyths to enquire about her, tell me if you wish me, dear, to do anything

I am vexed we have no news yet for you of poor dear Kate - God grant it may be good when it does come - How nicely you have managed about Colours to the Regiment just like things at home! - Tell me if directing my letter to Tom makes any difference in the charging or going free. You may continue to direct to this house till I tell you - for as long as I am unsettled it is the best place

xxx

What a curious dream that was - Yes be on your guard for the dear Young creatures -

I suppose your next will mention the safe return of poor Mr Rubidge - pray give him my kindest regards - I sent you a small packet by Mrs Orde - I have not paid yet for all your things so cannot send your account yet but I will enclose a copy of list which I put in the top of the box wh I consigned as last year to Mr Dunlop. Next packet shall tell you all - I am sorry to say that this year no one but Maria Noble sent me any money to lay out for you so that I could not do all I liked - and I was obliged to be contended with sending Green vails - next year I hope to do something better I am losing the Hatstack & that the Hill is idle - that is bad -

As soon as I seal this I shall remember things to tell you but I cannot delay longer now - you & the dear children may trace in the map coming back from Oxford by the Uxbridge road - coming in by Bays Water -

God bless you my dearest love - Ever Ever you know I am the same to you in my old heart which is still warm though I am old & miserable looking. May Heaven perserve your health dearest Fanny & give you all health happiness & content - & peace Ever your Moonie

11 oc a.m. July 3

[] Canada Education Society formed July 1825 D of Suffolk in the Chair. D of Bedford president, Bp of Salisbury & many Noblemen & Gentlemen vice-Presidents - The object is, to form a Society for promoting Education & Industry in Canada, to train Teachers, & establish schools among the Indians, & Settlers in such parts as are destitute of the means of Instruction. The principle appears from the following regulations "In every school which may receive assistance from us, reading the Scriptures, & some useful, manual labour shall constitute parts of the daily exercises of the pupils: all shall be required to be strict in their moral conduct, & duly observe the Sabbath, attending at such places of Worship as their Parents shall direct. Should this, from distance be impracticable, then on each Lord's Day they shall read & recite those portions of Scripture which are calculated to enforce all relative & social duties of the present life, & point the way to a happy Eternity!! Lord Besley addressed them at the first meeting & said that within 12 years the population of Upper Canada has been doubled, making a total amount of nearly one million souls in the two provinces, & if we include the numerous tribes of Indians extending Westward, it would greatly exceed this number.

In New Zealand they have a Church Missionary Society & Monthly meetings for prayer. The children in the Schools are very quick in learning the behaviour of the Natives surprisingly altered & the desire for instruction become more general, & they are willing to discourse on Religious subjects. A schooner has been built there, for the use of the missionaries, & its launch was attended by thousands of natives, who brought potatoes, pigs, etc etc, to give them victual the Ship. She sailed to port Jackson on a mission & returned safe, to the great joy of the New Zealanders.

South America - in Lima they sell the scriptures & at Truxville they are both sold & lent. Guayaquil an advertisement was put up that a sale of Testaments would last 3 days. Crowds came & they sold 615 for which they received 542 dollars - Guaranda situated on the Andes, population about 14,000. The Governor was pleased at the acct The Missionary Thompson gave of the views of the Bible Society, & allowed Notices to be stuck up of a Sale, few understood Spanish, & they only sold 13, but went on over the mountains to Rio bamba & gave a letter of recommendation to the Governor who bought six for himself, & he sold 36 to others, & the prior of the Convent took 50 to distribute!! On the road to Quito is the Convent of Jacunga. He meant to go further, but was prevailed onto stay. With great fear, & praying all the time in his mind, he offered a Testamt to the Prior. He was much pleased with it, & offered to have a sale of them in the Convent, & in 2 hours they sold 104 copies, they also got tracts called a Brief view of the Bible Society. Bible or Testt were ordered to be sent to them, & they promised to forward their views, & sales!! In Quito 134 copies were sold directly, & more asked for. When a new box arrived, every Friar in the Convent of St Frans bought one, & 80 by the Government, & 200 Bibles, & 200 more Testts were ordered. Quito has 50,000 inhabitants. A Columbian Bible Society is now formed, & the Subscriptions in 1825 were 1380 Dolrs.

[] names Harbridge Revd David T Jones arrived in 1823 Revd W Cockran 1825, & a Master named Garrioc & another, Bunn. They build a Church & mission House etc not far from some of the Factories of Hudson Bay company. When Mr Jones succeeded West, who went home to Engd, he recd support & kindness from the Governor of York Factory, & had the happiness every Sunday to have Crowds of half breeds, & Indians as well as Settlers & they were forced to build a second Church. They had service in both every Sunday; prayer meeting twice a week, & catechism & School teaching every day. He wonders more & more at the success he has. His people seem such sincere Christians. Many from distant places send their children to the School to remain, & send presents to the master for keeping them, & when taught, they return home to teach others, & are mostly very zealous. Intercourse is opened with Exquimaux & Rocky Mountain Indians, & 3 stations fixed on, & the people there say they will have hundreds of Children at the Schools. Nothing shews more the true Christian Spirit of the poor people, than their conduct during a dreadful inundation in May 1826. The snow had been immense in the winter & when melting, raised the River, & tore away their Houses, & crops, & all they possessed. The Church being on high ground They went there in Crowds, & any thing that could be saved was put on a loft. They said they must perish, but it should be "by the Sanctuary" It is the Lord, let him do as seemeth him good. The water increasing, they built a stage & went there, & among them poor Mr Cockran, an example to them all. They had prayer, singing, & preaching, there on the stage surrounded by water, thro' which they could just wade & get off the loft of the Church, which stood, but was flooded, & the windows torn out. May 22d the water much fallen, & Mr Jones went in a boat that came from the Rapids to them, to the Cedar Hills, where many fled for safety. He feared to find them disponding; but no, they recd him with open arms, & said they were ready to join him in praise to Him who inhabiteth Eternity for the preservation of their lives. But J says "I could not but rejoice & say, I have seen thy salvation Oh Lord! He heard from a friend that the Sunday before when the water was increasing, & people flying in all directions, he was paddling along & heard singing & going towards the sound, he & others in the Canoe, saw a party of half breed women on a stage, not 18 inches from the water, singing, undisturbed by the danger - Sun 20th Water falling, & the people spread an awning, & had Service performed & sung, "God is the treasure of my soul, & source of lasting joy - A joy which want shall not impair nor death itself destroy - May 29th He left the people, who said they had thoughts of removing from that settlement, but now determined not to abandon a place favoured with the Gospel, he found his new Church people that he had left, in health & safety, & the poor Church standing, & the provisions on the loft of it safe, but the inside gone to ruin. June 4. Waded thro' swamps to preach at an encampment at some distance, & returning heard singing in a Montreal Canoe, which proved to be Governor Simpson with letters & dispatches from Engd & he assured them of assistance & protection etc []

[78-008/2/14 #259](#)

[re: music chords;

no transcription]

I am equally pleased and gratified my Dear Hariot by your little communication which has entirely done away all disagreeable impressions & removed a weight most painful from my heart - it was I own most sensibly affected - to find myself, as I then feard considered as a Bugbear by one from whom - if I know myself I had every reason to expect a very contrary conduct - Thus I love you Dear Hariot with a warm and sincere affection you cannot doubt - my poor i[n]deavors for yr benefit evince that - more strongly than volms either said or written on a subject - that I expect a return of affection, & a reasonable degree of confidence you cannot think extraordinary - But to pry into your secrets - or force myself an unbidden guest at any of yr little merry makings - with the intimates of yr own age - has ever indeed been as far from my heart as my intentions - therefore what happened yesterday wood not have made the slightest impression on me, had it not been attended with some circumstances, which I am gratified by observing were as evident to yrself - any confidence that is not voluntary is of little value in my estimation & you are yet unacquainted with my character in regard to the affairs of others & any anxiety to dive into foolish matters that occur every day does not constitute any part of it - where I love, I own myself wounded most sensibly by the least appearance of unkindness or distrust - which was the case yesterday - but this is now all over & you are once more & will I trust always be my own Hariot. As to your little Essay - I am much pleased with it & think you have discriminated the two principal characters very well - in some parts the language might be mended & the whole abridg'd with advantage I rejoice & commend you my Dear for doing so much justice to the character of yr Aunt W to whom you owe so large a debt of gratitude & who when we consider her excellent heart & active propensity to benefit others is supperior to most people - her errors arrise in a great measure from her education & an over anxiety to do more good than is possible - for which she will assuredly have a rich reward - tho alas! it has not yet been in this world - I hope you will gratify me by letting me see yr little Essay when completed - which I look upon as a very innocent & useful appropriation of yr leisure, it naturely leads to a knowledge of ourselves of all others the most necessary - a facility of expression & a habit of reflexion - all which are well worth a little pain to acquire - & now my Dr farewell - with this assurance; that the perhaps sometimes I may appear irritable & sometimes capricious - that at all times yr happiness here & hereafter - has been my most sincere & fervent wish - & that to you, I have ever been an affte & steady friend

E W

[Addressed to:

Hariot]

78-008/2/14 #261

March 30th

My ever dearest Fanny

As we going to send up our very small contributions of remembrances for Harriet's box I must write a few lines to put in it tho' I will not attempt to tell you any news, as it will be so long before it arrives that it would of course be old news. I saw some time ago a curious little pattern of socks for infants & it occurred to me that perhaps they might be useful to you as they are so easily made that any little child could knit them. Mun was just at that time prevented from reading by sore eyes so begged to knit a pair which he did. I send one of them open that you may see how it was done. The narrowing at the toe was made by leaving 3 or 4 stitches unknit at the end of every 3rd row. Mun also knit part of a blanket & Aunt Sue finished it when he went to school - for a Cradle; & he sent a great many loves to his dear little Canadian cousin & hoped it might keep her warm in some of the cold nights or days. John wished much to have some little keepsake to send also, to all our cousins & he begs to add a book which was given him by Aunt Sue with their joint loves. It is the Son of a Genius & I think will much please them all; tho' rather too old for them yet I should think. Have you a little book called "Harriet & her cousin". I think it one of the prettiest little books I ever met with & if you have not yet I must send it next time to dear A:M: tho' perhaps she should not read it for some years Pray tell me if you have it. I must now tell you of a book I lately read which I think delighted me more than any I ever read. It is "Serles Horce Solitariae" but tho' it has a latin name dont suppose pray that it is written in that language. It professes to confute all those dreadful people who deny the divinity of our Saviour & the Holy Spr - & does so indeed in a manner which much cleverer people than I am pronounce to be unanswerable. It has also some such beautiful explanations of scripture & particularly of the ceremonial Law that I copied parts of it for myself & then I made a few extracts for you as I thought it was a book likely to please you. I had always looked upon the law in a general way as a type of Christ but it quite opened to me a new & delightful view of the closeness & wonderful beauty of every separate part. I do not suppose others are so ignorant as I was on the subject but still perhaps you may not have seen it quite in the same clear way as he does. Perhaps you had better not say any thing about these little extracts in any of your letters tho' I should be very glad to know what you think of them - But the book is by some people reckoned to be in rather a high stile bordering on Methodistical language & I have there fore never spoken of it but to Mamma & Robt who like it very much - I believe the stile is in some parts very warm but if such a subject did not warm one they must have a cold heart indeed. Our dear friends at Clongill seem to have a great dread of anything Methodistical so I should be particularly sorry they heard anything about it. In binding it up I wisely put the 2nd vol. before the 1st as you will see. I am sure I need not tell you what heartfelt pleasure your last letter with the account of dear little Bessy's birth gave us all; or how warmly we offered up prayers for her being every thing that the fondest or most judicious parent could wish & if ever there were children whose friends have ever reason to hope for them turning out well - yours are they. They have both a good Father & Mother & the Almighty will watch over them & keep

them. Besides dear Fanny surely they have less temptation in that new country & fewer evil examples. When I sit down to write to you I cannot stop tho' I always feel as if I was taking up your time. A thousand thanks for all you gave up to me in writing that fine long entertaining & satisfactory letter which arrived just the same day your account of Bessys birth did. Oh if you could but imagine the happiness it gave for us we had been so long without hearing & the one before almost broke our hearts. Adieu dearest one love one fondly attached

M: Noble

[78-008/2/14 #262](#)

I am in a most terrible fury with you for forgetting a name such an accident never by any chance happens to me in Granite the particles of quartz are generally rounded as if they had been rolled by water they are united by a cement sometimes of quartz and some times of schorl in gneiss the quartz is lye in kind of loasinae united by a cement so [picture] in pudding stone the charge is rounded in Creecias it is sharp! I send the pattern of the poplen - My mother will go when the Everards leave us

Aieu

Yours affec

T.M.

Let us know the day you mean to come that we may not be out of the way

[addressed to Miss F. Browne]

30th

I dont know dear Harriet, when my heart felt more heavy than the day I parted with you & the rest of our friends - and yet, I'm sure I can say with great truth that I can thoroughly acquit myself of any selfish regrets on this occasion that I hope will produce as great a portion of health to the whole & party as I am sure it will satisfaction which I trust will meet no impediment from bad weather or any other circumstance - I thank you my Dear for both your letters which were doubly welcome conveying as they did such good tidings of yr Chere Maman - whose convalescent symptoms may daily increase I pray - I felt more than I can tell poor Wms vexatious disappointment - nothing could possibly be more so - however you will all gain a little of his company by the bargain - Dr Frank was so kind as to carry Belindas letter himself to Lady Ann Mahon where Mrs Waller had dined he met them all at the Door just returning from a walk in the Square - he was much pressed to drink tea but could not as he was just going to Mrs Staffords to take up his little shipmate - Mrs Waller says she accompanied him there merely to enjoy the pleasure of his Company - since she could have it in no other way - speak very highly of him so does poor Anna Maria, who bids me tell his Mother she only wishes he was her own son - indeed it was very kind & thoughtful of him in all his hurry to call there - I felt they have serious thought of going in August to Bristol by Long sea [] and from there thence to Bath - poor Anna Maria has set her heart on it - so perhaps she may find some benefit the Nobles drank tea here the Day you left this & left the Suttons here who have remained ever since but I believe leave us the Eving - we had a grand Let off at ChasFord on Tuesday - where we met the Nicholsons - Newcomes - & the wonderful Sir Piers Commonly called the Mogul Tiger - he is certainly a handsome man - & indeed is not in the least doubt on that point himself. to whom he seems on rather more partial, than he does to even the Holy Virgins - on their Matronly Sisters amongst whom he distributes his favours in equal proportions more so I should think than they approve - for they seem gaping for his notice on every occasion They looked very handsome & were dressed exactly alike all in Virgin White, with little Quaker caps like Bradys Widdow of Resent Days - and had all Lace Cuffs. which looked very genteel & pretty - I was surprised considering Mrs Nobles passion for the Wallers - To see them so considerably neglected by the Newcomes - who never spoke a syllable to them throughout the day except to ask them for a few particular Songs - & to dance a Walse - which the Wallers can never think of without being in a rage at their impertinence & certainly it did seem so, whether they meant it or not - to us they behaved well enough - but kept rather in a select party the whole day - with the Tiger among them to whom they talked in a half whisper - about things that happened in town & laughed loud - & seemed to enjoy themselves very much - but to be completely indifferent to the rest of the Company - Mun was in a rage with them all - & was not sparing of his opinion which he published to the Company in a loud Key - after their departure, notwithstanding poor Mrs Noble was present - they certainly deserved what he said but I could have wished he had postponed it as I'm sure it distressed her - but he was tipsy & could not be silenced - I fear we have a repetition of the same drama hanging over us They must be asked

here, that's poz - but I pray the odious Tiger may have taken his departure before it happens -
he had his vole Hair Cropped & Curl'd just like the Wallers -

78-008/2/14 #264

I have only time to send you a little note my sweet Harriet as wrote so lately - Tis of the less consequence -

I sent you a nice Cradle for the three babes to repose in as I remember to have often seen the Infantine part of yr family obliged to slumber on the ground - so now that I have disposed of these poor Children to my satisfaction I must tell you that I am extremely obliged to my Dr Harriet for yr Dilligence which I have heard off from two or three people - I hope my love you continue your think on to Grand mama & are affectionate & attentive to yr Aunt Waller to whom you owe more than you can ever repay as well as yr Uncle who is so kind to you - never let this out of yr mind, nor be tempted to ingra[ti]tude by any thing or any body - They are yr best friends & be grateful - I sent you a very pretty Sash but could not get any green Sarsnet I like & had yr sash in brown paper - yrs my Dr in great haste but ever most affte

E W

[Addressed to:

Miss H Beaufort]

[78-008/2/14 #265 Record of the Stewart Family](#)

[Collected from various standard works as well as from authenticated family papers - by Henry L. Stewart]

It is only by the research of Modern Antiquarians, that the origin of the Stewart family has been found - in a Norman Gentleman named Allan, contemporary with William the Conqueror; who obtained from the Monarch the Barony of Oswestry in Shropshire, England. - Allan who described himself as the son of Fald, left three sons, the eldest of whom William, became the ancestor of a race of Earls of Arrundel whose titles and Estates at length went, by an Heiress into the Norfolk family. While Walter and Simon the two younger brothers appear to have Emigrated to Scotland, - From Walter are descended the Stewarts: - and from Simon the Boyds, his son Robert having been called Boidh, from his having yellow hair -, Walter was honored by David the first [1126] with the high office of Steward, which embraces a strange variety of duties, from the management of the Royal household, to the collection of the Royal Revenues - and command of the Kings Armies.

Walter obtained from David as a gift the lands of Paisley, Renfrew, Pollock, Cathcart, and others in the same part of the Kingdom: - And in 1160 he founded the Abbey of Paisley, the Monks of which of the Clunie Order came from Wenlock Abbey in Shropshire - a religious house founded by his brother William - Walter died in 1177 - and was interred at Paisley by his son and successor Allen, who died 1204 & was followed by a second Walter, who received from Alexander the 2d, the additional office of Justicier of Scotland. - His successor Alexander commanded the army at the important Battle of Larges in 1263 - and in 1264 he brought the Isle of Man, under subjection to the King of Scotland. Alexander who besides his successor James, had a second son Sir John Stewart of Bonkyll, the Knight of Bonkyll, who fell in his high command at the Battle of Falkirk in 1298, was the Ancestor by his eldest son Alexander, of the Stewarts, Earls of Angus. - By a second Allan: of the Earls Dukes of Lennox.

By a third Son Walter, of the Earls of Galloway, by a fourth son James of the Earls of Athol, Buchan & Traquair and the Lords Lorn & Innermeath - Sir Walter Stewart obtained the Barony of Garlies from John Randolph Earl of Moray by Charter, wherein the Earl denominates Sir Walter his "Uncle" - His son Sir John Stewart of Dalswinton who [according to Rhymen] was made prisoner at the battle of Durham in 1346 - he was likewise one of the hostages for King David Bruce in 1357 - This Sir John left a son Sir Walter of Dalswinton whose daughter and heiress Marion Stewart espoused Sir John Stewart [17th Octr 1396] son of Sir William Stewart of Jedburgh, Sheriff of Teviotdale [said to be of the house of Lennox] and left two sons, Sir William of Dalswinton and Garlies, & John Stewart Provost of Glasgow - Sir William obtained the Estate of Minto in 1429 after much opposition from the Turnbolls the former possessor - he died in the year 1479 and left four sons 1st Andrew, who predeceased his father - 2nd Sir Alexander his successor - 3rd Sir Thomas of Minto ancestor of Lord Blantyre - 4th Walter of Tondegree - Sir Alexander was succeeded by his Grandson Sir Alexr of Garlies who was one of the prisoners taken at the Rout of Solway in November 1542 - and appears to have been

released in 1543 upon giving his son & heir Alexander as hostage. - He married twice, and had issue by his second wife Margaret daughter of Patrick Dunbar Esqre of Cluston - He died in 1570 & was succeeded by his Grandson Sir Alexander by Catherine daughter of William - fourth Lord Herries. He was killed with the Regent Lenox in 1571 - His Grandson Sir Alexander of Garlies married Christianna daughter of Sir William Douglas of Drumbrig - and was succeeded by his eldest Son Sir Alexander [he had two other sons William and John] who after receiving the honor of Knighthood was elevated to the Peerage 19th July 1607 - by the title of Baron of Garlies - and upon the 9th Sept 1623 his Lordship was advanced to the Earldom of Galloway when he was sworn of the Privy Council of James the sixth - He married Grizzle daughter of Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar - he died in 1647 and was succeeded by his only surviving son James 2d Earl of Galloway

Captain William Stewart a brother of the first Earl of Galloway, came to Ireland with Sir Arthur Chichester in 1595. He had a Co in Sir Arthurs Regiment - In the reign of Charles 1st he was sent to the King, then at Edinburgh with an account of affairs - by him were sent commissions for raising five regiments, which he was to deliver to the following persons - Sir Hamilton Montgomery Lord of Ards, Sir William Stewart, Sir James Stewart and Sir James Montgomery - He was killed in Tyrone Woods by a party of rebels and was succeeded in his Irish Estates by his nephew William Stewart - son of Sir John Stewart & grandson of Sir Alexander of Garlies - He built Ballydrain in 1608 - and was killed at Kilkullen Bridge by a party of Roman Catholics in 1641 - His son John Stewart born in 1621 married Anne Wilson daughter of John Wilson Laird of Croglin - he died in 1691 and left 3 children 1st John born 1701 - 2d George Stewart who was lost at sea 1743 - 3d & 4th Margaret and Anne died young of Whooping cough - John Stewart married Jane Legge - daughter of William Legge Esqre of Malone. He died in 1764 - and left 6 children 1st Ellinor who died unmarried 1806 - 2d Thomas of White House and Dunanny Co. Antrim - 3d Martha married to Israel Younghusband - 4th William of Wilmont married to Anne Garner Daughter of Thos Garner Esqre - 5th Alexander George of Windsor & Macedon near Belfast - died unmarried in 1796 - 6th Eliza Anne Stewart married Nathaniel Magee of New Bridge who died without children - & Robert

Thomas married Sara - no children

Martha Younghusband had 2 sons John & William

John married - Miss Harrison and had one daughter Martha married to - Hull Esqre but no children - William married Miss Hull

Robert succeeded his father at Ballydrain and married ["Mary Clarke - daughter of Willm Clarke Esqre" crossed out]

78-008/2/14 #266

[partial transcriptions]

My dear good little girl

You & our dear Cath, being both such excellent children, has absolutely made me a vast deal better, though I cannot say I am much stouter as to my limbs. I will try your kind Dr K only I am told he might kill me in trying to cure me I hope to be much better in Summer. Give kisses 200 to dear Uncle, & loves to dear Aunt & the girls from

Your tired fond Mama AMB

August 14th 1804

Dearest Fanny

Every time I hear from Ireland I am delightfully gratified by an account of your being a very good little girl, but when dear Aunt & Uncle Waller gives me this information I am doubly happy. I am surprised, it does not make me quite well, but one must feel something not quite agreeable or we should be too proud & happy & I would rather become blind & drunk than that you or Kitty should be bad children.

I continue perfectly well except my limbs - which are as bad as ever. I was greatly pleased by all your letters, I am able to judge better of them, as I keep all & see a wonderful improvement. I never hear any good of you that I don't pray for the friends that have made you so. Your sister is very good too, but too idle which is a great fault but I hope she will become sensible. She & I have written many letters to you in hopes of getting a Frank so believe dear F that we think of you & love you every moment. May all blessings attend you my best beloved, & may you be always happy enough to be loved by Uncle & Aunt Waller dear Bess. H B & your Mother at Colon Aunt G & c & c Pray day & night you fond Mama

A Maria

I cannot express my beloved Fanny how happy your dear Aunt Sister & I was made by our long expected Colon packet which arrived the day before yesterday. I beg you will get your Mother to send me her two letters if she finds them for I think she never sent them. They are very interesting to me if year old when written by her & having your name mentioned in them

I am very sorry my best love our kind and dear Uncle thinks it not worth your while to come to Bath this time, but I trust very soon to be better able to enjoy the delight of having you here. You will be so pleased too with all our A-town friends returning this summer.

We are come into this famous city for a short time, for me to try once more the effect of these health restoring waters. Tell you Mother after I try them this time I will take a little of Dr b's - & his wicked air, but I have never heard of any one in my complaint recovering any thing more than very partial benefit & then he is such a dear man. I look forward with hope in our Great God that my darling child & I will yet meet & be happy altogether, but I remember that if not it is His Will. The Good God who has made me the most delighted of Mamas with so good children as you & your Sister. She is very merry & good company. This vacation so we are quite happy & want but you & dear brother Francis to be quite content. Farewell my dearest believe me most fondly your AMB

78-008/2/14 #267

From F.S. to Miss Maria Noble

Douro 27th Oct 1825

xxx We have three times had hopes of a clergyman coming to this place and each time been disappointed. You ask what he could have to live upon here. The clergyman appointed by the Government would have an income yearly of two hundred pounds a year, and if he is the district school master, he will have £130 per an - This situation is to be procured by interest with the Bishop of Quebec and the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign Parts Dr Stewart is the present Bishop and letters of introduction to him would be of great advantage. He has promised to make Douro one of his first appointments so that any one should apply soon. Our church is to be built at the New Town of Horton and the situation is fixed upon. It will be upon a pretty hill from whence is a lovely view of the Otonabee River. Mr Robinson approves of the plan sent us by Mr Kirkpatrick of a neat plain pretty church and if it can be got up for the sum we shall have, it will do very well.

We have had four surveyors laying; out the streets, which have all been named by his excellency the Governor - A few days ago we went to see our new acquaintance the Reads and found them far more comfortable than we found them a month ago. They have got into their log house which though very small is very comfortable After we had returned home and just done dinner we saw some people at the other side of the River a Lady and two Gentlemen. We sent the boat across for them, they found to our surprise, Mr Robinson Dr and Mrs Read who had come to return our visit; They drank tea here at our usual hour between four and five o'clock that they might have the remains of daylight for their walk home, the first half of which is through thick woods, we had a very merry pleasant evening for they are very lively and though our acquaintance is slight we had no formality. We have been greatly interested in the crusaders which a gentleman lent us lately. Nothing can be better described than some of the scenes in the Talisman which are really like a picture or a stage representation xxx

[Extracts bound with ribbon]

F.S. to H. Beaufort

Douro Sept 5th 1825

xxx This house has been like a Hotel for sometime past. This you will wonder at in this remote place where I formerly complained of solitude. First about two months ago came a Capt Stewart from Ireland who brought letters from Mrs Froom, he and his luggage settled themselves here just before my confinement and here he staid six weeks. I think it was rather inconsiderate of him when he found the situation I was in having my monthly nurse in the house and living in such an unfinished cabin with scarcely accommodation for my own family - however poor creature he certainly was not hard to please, but partook of our homely fair and slept in a loft with all sorts of Sundries about him and bore it all good humouredly. He was always ill and talking medicine and obliged to be attended like a lying in lady with his bowls of gruel, and toast and tea travelling up stairs - At last he and Tom agreed that farming would never suit him and Tom advised him to try Merchandize; so he and Mr Bethune have entered into partnership and he is to keep a store just near this at Scott's Mills, which will be a great convenience and advantage to all the back settlers, as they can dispose of any thing they wish to sell and procure what they want to buy as Mr Bethune is to keep it constantly supplied with goods to be sold at Cobourg prices. He is getting a house built and has taken lodgings in Smithtown about two miles from Scotts as he says our early hours "destroy him" and he wished to go where he could have plenty of milk and whey. He comes every day to take away a few of his things in little bundles - Mr Robinson has formed an encampment of sick Emigrants at Scotts and it is quite a gay place, he is a Native of Halifax and is I hear very gentlemanlike: he lives in the midst of his Paddies in a grand tent. They are all in huts round him and every day parties are sent over to their land. Several are placed in this in this township; they are all from the South of Ireland and have hitherto conducted themselves well. They will be settled five or six miles behind us -

There is a Mr and Mrs Armstrong come out. Mr Robinson mentioned them to Tom as pleasant companionable people as he termed it. They arrived the other day when Tom was at the camp; wet to the skin and wearied nearly to death. They had no shelter or fire today themselves, so Tom requested they would come here and he brought them all to remain till their house is ready, which is to be two miles from us. She is an unassuming person who has been in a bettermost syle of life; they have four little boys and a baby of 17 months and a servant maid. all have been living here and will probably remain much longer. They do not give much trouble considering all things. The boys are fine manly fellows -

There is a Mr Smith employed by the Government to place settlers on their land or to locate them as it termed. He is a surveyor and a very agreeable man, he lives at the camp and has

dined and breakfasted here and is one of the most gentlemanlike men I have seen since I left Ireland.

We are soon to have an other neighbour, Dr Read and his family. He has been in this country for some years but went back to Ireland last year and returned with the emigrants; he is appointed by Government to attend those settlers in Douro and is to have a house at Scotts Mills for a year and after that to have land in Douro. Mrs Armstrong says he is a very nice man and a good physician. She is very dressy and Dr Read has brought quantities of fine clothes for her and his children. I'm sure I can't know what she will do with them here, when I have such gay people around me you may expect to hear that I am become quite a dasher.

Col Burke is also coming and is to live at Scotts during the winter so we shall have a village there directly and abundance of Society -

There never was so unhealthy a season as this has been and is - Scarcely a family without illness in some shape, either ague dysentery or lake fever: numbers have died. At Kingston many of the emigrants died: many now are ill at Cobourg and some are ill in our camp. However the hot weather is now over and we have had frost for the last four nights which will cool and purify the air, and drive away noxious vapours

How thankful should we be that we have escaped illness of every kind, neither the Reids nor we have had the least illness, our children are very stout. Bessy recovering her roses: William thriving and growing wonderfully and is a fine stout fellow

Thank you for the mignotte seeds and all the others. I have great fears about them and the Laurels too. Broom we brought out with us, but yours is fresher. I intend to sow some when we have any good place - This year we are annoyed by swarms of fleas such as you couldn't conceive, they crawl on the floors and on the beds, all from the dryness of the season. They are in the woods amongst the dry leaves, earth and dust in great numbers.

My head is quite confused with the bustle we live in after the sameness we had so long - This house is full of comers and goers, chiefly poor settlers. they make much noise and give some trouble occasionally -

27th May 26

A very unpleasant accident happened at Mr Reids last week. John Reid was ferrying over five of the Emigrants two men and three lads one of the boys was very obstinate and ignorant and though John told him he would upset the boat he would not mind him - but went on to change his place put his foot on the gunwale the boat upset and all tumbled into the water in the middle of the rapids - John knew if any of the men could catch hold of him they would, and that if they did they would all perish - so he had presence of mind enough to dive under them so as completely to disengage himself from them - when he rose again he saw one of the men trying to catch a little branch -he knew it could not bear him and he caught him by his hair and swam with him to the bank

The other man escaped also but the three boys were lost Three of the little Reids were standing watching the boat coming over - and when they saw it go down, screamed out and ran to tell their father and mother who were in the house - They expected Mary and Ellen Reid over and were sure they were in that boat - you may have some idea of the agony they suffered for a few moments. No blame can be attached to poor John for he was careful as possible in the management of boats and very expert - but it is at this time of year an arduous undertaking to cross in the rapid part of the River - the boat was carried down a little way past this house where it is now sticking among some logs at the side of the River.

You will wonder why I have been interrupted every two minutes, and now whilst I write Bessy is Jumping on the sofa behind me and catching my shoulders and then springing round me on the table - Willy is creeping about my feet and trying to climb up by holding the leg of the table.

Poor Anne McVitie is worse than ever, tho' I have consulted three physicians, she is ill in one room and the boy Delany in another all last week Ned our other boy was in bed with ague

I was great afraid that Tom was taking it he was ill and feverish and chilly one day - he looks bilious and thin and complains of headache, but he will not yield to my entreaties and take any kind of medicine

God grant us a continuation of good health [] has enjoyed and make me thankful for his mercies - The children are all well and great wild racing creatures, Anna is up to my shoulders, Ellen about a head lower, Bessy very amusing and engaging Willy a great stout laughing fellow.

Give my love to all dear dear friends including the Meath branch

Ever and ever your own old

F Stewart

[Extracts bound with ribbon]

Douro May 27th 1826

I have been in a state of repentance my dearest Harriet ever since my last letter was sent off - for I wrote in rather a disponding humour and am sure you will all be in a state of misery about me thinking that we are very miserable: - but I assure my dearly, loved friends that I am not very miserable I am only sometimes more prone to low spirits than I have been, but I will not yet touch on this subject, I want to express to you how acutely and deeply grateful I feel for all your exertions about the Postmaster Genl - indeed I give you constant trouble and plague, but I hope I shall not do so much longer. I am not at all sanguine about this appointment and have no hope about it - for luck seems to go in particular currents and we are not placed so as to meet any thing which the rapids may carry down the stream - however this does not make me the less sensible of the kindness of those friends who have taken such unwearied means to be useful to us

31st I began this on Sunday night but grew sleepy, - well since I wrote last we have had some variety - Mr Strickland who is clearing within our rather less than a mile of us, and Mr and Mrs Armour -

On Sunday last I went to Church or rather to Peterborough intending to go to church as we heard that Mr Armour was to have service in Mr Robinsons Hall - after being so long, three years and a quarter, without being any place of public worship you may judge of my feelings so I braved the Musquitos which are tremendous this year. When we arrived there, we walked up to the Big House - but behold: we found the doors all shut and locked! we looked in at the windows, but could not see anybody or receive an answer to our repeated knocks. We then went to Mr Armours and found his house also deserted, but there we learned that old Mr Thompson had arrived not having known that the Armours had come and he had the service at a house in Smithtown two miles off. So Mr Armour requested that all the Peterboro' congregation would go to Smithtown, for he thought it right to pay this attention to old Mr Thompson - and we were left in the lurch. I was tired and went and sat for an hour with little Dr Reade, who returned last week ill of the ague: and then I came home quite disappointed at having had my walk for nothing - besides I was affronted at Mr Robinson who had invited us to go to his house and spend the day and should have waited a little while to accompany us to Smithtown or should have given directions to his Servants to admit me if he could not wait - so you see I was huffed, and so I came home, but Tom was obliged to stay for a meeting about school business - he saw Mr and Mrs Armour and seems to like Mrs Armour very much - She is he says, a very sensible clever woman - middle age and rather plain in appearance with a good countenance and good natured manners, she has no maid, a very common misfortune in this country and she is obliged to clean house, cook, wash, and do everything herself, and she had seven children. She scours the floors and scrubs away just as all the people here do everything

herself than hire any of the Emigrants for they are not fit for servants - all the best having lived in the Towns. I envy people who can do all those things - they are so much better suited to this country than useless I am. Tom admires that sort of cleverness so much too, and he feels so much my want of it that I sometimes feel a little melancholy, for I am not half clever enough for a farmers wife; and he has been so much accustomed to very clever English women that he is rather hard to please or very exact. You know I never saw that mode of life at all so that I am very ignorant and if we continue to live in this country I hope I shall improve and shall have now more opportunity of seeing what others do: - for all this time I have been so little from home that I have only heard and have seen but little of the housekeeping of this country and hearsay will never teach that art - indeed latterly I dont know why I feel great deadness over me - not laziness for I like to exert myself when I can but a sort of stupidity and compression of mind which I used not to have at all - perhaps it is old age coming on for you now I have just passed my birthday and have crept into another year. - I have many signs of age about me - so I may begin to doot - Mrs Reid says I am grown like old Aunt Smyth - and she not but in joke

June 1st Yesterday Mr Armour and Dr Reade dined here and indeed I like Mr Armour very much When his countenance brightens he has a look of great benevolence - If I might give an opinion on so slight an acquaintance I should say that he seems a really religious man on the whole I am very agreeably surprised - I have not yet seen Mrs A, having no servant that cares of a family prevent her leaving home - Dr Reade I do like, he is so constantly and unremittingly kind and is always on the watch for any opportunity of obliging us

I must now tell you about Mr Strickland he seems to be twenty three or twenty four he is an everlasting talker but between times he has some drollery and on the whole is rather pleasant, Tom says he talked very agreeably to Mr Armour one day they dined together and showed some informations He gave us a description of an evening which he passed at a Tavern or public house in this country where the Master and Mistress wanted to pass themselves off as very fine folk and he acted their manner and changed their ["their" crossed out] his voice for the man or woman and made himself very diverting indeed - he is good natured and nurses Willy for me. He has just got his Shanty built and is very busy fitting it up - he sleeps here every night - the mosquitos are so numerous that they make sad havoc where they attack him, he comes here every night swollen and blistered all over. Musquitos always like Strangers best and bite them a great deal more than the old settlers in this country. I think the reason must be that the skin is softer - before it has been weather beaten here for I never do see here such delicately skinned females as at home - indeed beauty is very scarce - Mr Strickland lived in Norfolk and came out last year. I dare say he may get on

here as he says he has always been accustomed to hard work but he little knows the work before him - however he has good expectations as to property and hopes to be able in a few years to live at home. I hear of many who say they wish to be at home - but having spent all their capital here either are unable to return or think it better to go on trying a little longer - I do think we are deceived in this country, for one must bear many years of wearying difficulties before they gain comfort or are able to save or make anything - therefore I am now come to the opinion that people could do better at home - and that we perhaps might have done better at

home - unless they mean to make their children actual labourers I dont think people can make anything by farming The land will do one no good, unless it is cultivated and in order to have it cultivated the land holders must either spend a great deal of money or else work hard and make all his family work hard too. This is what the Reids do, but they neglect everything else, in manners learning and appearance they are exactly a labouring family: - this I cannot bear for my poor dear Children

I have thought a great deal on ef ["ef" crossed out] this lately, but my thoughts have not tended to comfort me much for I cannot decide what is best for us to do -

I have no one to consult - for I am afraid of making Tom unhappy by raising doubts in his mind - I suspect he feels as I do, by little things he sometimes says - but he is frequently tired and bothered and I cannot bear to add to his uneasiness, and if he thought I was unhappy, I know it would make him wretched for he loves me most tenderly - his countenance which used to look so placid has how more of care and anxiety and his manners are not as gentle as they were - These are the effects of the disappointment and vexations he has met with and I must regret it greatly but don't know how to mend the matter. Mr Reid says he does not think this kind of farming will ever be profitable for Tom as he cannot work - nor can his children and that he would do better on a small farm and that he makes no doubt Tom will return home in a few years - I don't like talking of it - to anybody but I should like much to have your opinion my dearest friend and Mammy I have often intended to write you about this but was prevented by the fear of giving you pain, but I know it will relieve my mind very much for continually thinking and pondering on a subject and having no creature to talk to about it is too much to bear long - If we go on here as we have done, I know we shall live to the extent of our income, without much comfort and seeing our children vulgar and illerate - if we remove to Peterboro' as every one advices Tom, I don't like that, for we should be in a little gossiping village, - and Tom would perhaps sink into indolence or lose his health besides the expense of building and purchasing, &c &c -

In removing to Cobourg I see fresh expenses - the Society would be better and the children would be better ["be better" crossed out] have the advantage of it but there would be a purchase to make and a house to furnish and we would still be as far from all our friends. If we return home we must spend some money for the passage our income is small - and yet I dare say with good management we might live on a very small scale at least with as many comforts as we have had here, and it would be such a great thing to be near our friends - it would balance many as privations and difficulty. We have the greatest objections in the world to being a burden on the affections of our dear and kind friends and feel this is one reason for not returning home to Gt Britain - that from affection our friends would do too much for us - I now wish and so does Tom that we had taken the advice of our friends and not emigrated so hastily - but it can't be helped now - I argued and reasoned and entreated Tom as much as I could - before we came but his mind was bent on it and nothing would change it and I thought my duty then was to yield - he thought right to come to Canada to try his fortune and he never would have been happy if he had not done so. If we had taken a cleared farm at first we should have got on well and saved an incalculatable deal of disappointment and hardship and I should have

had the pleasure of seeing the children quite in their manners and their minds improved - but Tom did not think it right to separate from Mr Reid's family and for them the woods were the best - but there is no use now in giving way, to useless regrets he did sit ["sit" crossed out] so from kindness of his brothinlaw's family and that was a good motive - I should be sorry to encourage him to go home if I thought he had a prospect of succeeding here, but I see no great prospect of that and I would rather live in a small way near my friends than here when if I want adve I must wait half a year to receive it and in many little dilemmas I could give anything to have a friend like you to consult

I am always happy when I can write my letters at night for then I am with my friends - but work must be done - torn frocks and worn shirts must be mended

Now my dearest Harriet I have given you a plain statement of our case - Tom is I am sure tired of the woods - my puzzle is - is it better to persevere or openly encourage him to stop. I hope now my dear friends you will not mistake me and think me discontented or changeable - let me assure you that I am glad we did come to Canada for Tom thought it right to judge for himself - In all our trials we have been strengthened and supported by the Almighty and I feel perfectly sure and convinced that he never sends us a trial or affliction without good and wise reasons - therefore I do most humbly resign all to His will

Will you answer all this fully and in such manner that I can have no hesitation in shewing to my husband - he generally reads you letters before I do - or else makes me read them to him after he has given them a hasty glance. He is warmly attached to you my dearest Mammy and my happiest moments are when I am sitting reading your letters aloud to him.

Capt Stewart is to set out homewards on the 8th of this month, he has lived almost quite alone till this last month which he has passed at Cobourg - he is remarkably good humoured, I could not help admiring him when it was the fashion to turn him into ridicule and quiz him, he bore it with such gentle-manlike forbearance and good humour - he has behaved with perfect honor in regard to all money matters; tell this to Catherine

Tom has been walking with me to Mr Stricklands and sitting and talking a great deal with me today he says that though this place is pretty the heart never rea [] to it, but that if nothing turns up to add to our income or encourage us to return home - he will go on here - and square his clearing and then stop and go on afterwards on a small scale

78-008/2/14 # 270

[Extracts bound with ribbon,

from Thomas A. Stewart

Douro May 20th 1827]

xxx As you seem unaquainted with somethings in our mode of proceeding I will try to explain them as you take so much interest in all we do. First then, what we call farming on shares is the best for a person in my situation for this reason I am not able to go through the great bodily labour that is necessary nor is my family able to give me any assistance, and indeed I do not wish they should.

I have engaged a man with his family to live on, and work at the farms; to this person I give what stock I think necessary such as oxen, cows sheep and hogs for a certain number of years, say three years. Every year we divide the produce of the land equally, also the increase of the stock, at the same time he is obliged to feed the stock and of his share of the stock and to return the original stock to me at the end of the time. He finds his own seed after the first year; he is also to keep a horse for me and besides the milk and butter he is to keep a Milch cow for the use of my family: he is to keep all the fences in repair and is to build any house necessary for the stock &c &c -

He may also clear any quantity of land he pleases of which he is to have the first year crop: after that I am to have half every year. He is to supply the house with fire wood, this may appear trifle to you, but it is a thing of great consequence here, as we should require a man for at least two months besides feeding him -

Now I suppose I farm by employing and paying men I should require a man all the year to look after my cattle and all other things, that would cost at least £40 a year, and we should have the encumbrance of him in the house. Then in wheat we can raise off new land is 25 bushels to one acre xxxxx Next I suppose I want to clear land, I must pay 16 dollars per acre before I can sow a grain of wheat: this is all cash: now by my present plan I get it cleared for nothing and after the first year I receive half. The more he clears the better for me and of course improves my property - I have now engaged a French man one of the hardest working men I ever saw and his wife is very careful of the young stock - This man is to pay my taxes, and to do all my road labor, so I shall have no occasion to hire any one for farm work yet at the same time I have enough to employ myself fully I have a large garden to mind and I am now planting an orchard xxxxxxxxxxxx

The more the Frenchman does the better for himself and of course me, I can part with him when I please by giving him six months notice and in case he cheats me I have his share of encrease of the stock to make up the deficiency xxxxxx

[78-008/2/14 #271](#)

[Extracts bound with ribbon;

part of a letter written June 1827]

xxx Coming home from Rice Lake Tom stopped to rest and refresh at a place where there was an Indian Wigwam. On going in he found several Indians collected for midday prayer. They were kneeling and held their hands downwards. No one looked up or stirred when he came in: they prayed in their own language: the person who officiated was a lad of about thirteen years He said a sentence which they all answered: this continued some time then he said a prayer: at the end of each answer or response they all said amen. When the worship was over they made up their fire and made signs to Tome and his companions to come and dry their clothes. It was a very wet day. Tome slept out in the woods in wet blankets and without a fire as their punk [tinder of rotten maple] had got wet and they could not light a fire. All their whiskey and provisions ["had been" crossed out] were drunk and eaten as they had been delayed by the breaking of an oar. They got to Peterborough at 7 o'clock in the morning and Tom has not suffered materially by the expedition.

78-008/2/14 #271

[Extracts bound with ribbon]

Douro May 24th 1828

I will not pass this day which brings me to the termination of another year without writing to my dearest friend xxxxxx how much reason have I to be thankful for the many mercies and blessings I enjoy - so many comfort around me which are denied to others of my own rank in life every way more worthy of them, such a kind husband so considerate and so indulgent - such affectionate children, such excellent health and such kind and steady friends: though also I am separated from them yet this separations does not decrease our affections but if possible proves it more: and even that separation is rendered as little painful as possible by our frequent intercourse by letters - Many of my acquaintances here only hear from their friends once or twice a year, and some are surrounded by trials and turmoils of different kinds and along with all - illness - amongst this class is my poor friend - who has beauty and fashionable attractive manners - her company is sought for and admired and she had some old long known friends at - whom she can have to comfort and assist her in any difficulty or sickness - she has a husband who nurses her children ["her children" crossed out] - the infants and will wash and dress them and even let them sleep in his arms if she is ill - To balance all these, her children are noisy and unruly: her house is small and ill managed, her maid lazy and useless so that she is obliged to do almost everything herself - They never have anything comfortable in or about the house and from bad management are frequently with the ["the" crossed out] source of the common comforts of life such as sugar and candles or flour &c &c, but the worst of all is that for half the year they are all ill; sometimes all together with Lake fever or ague - I might give you many other histories of the family trials of many of my acquaintances here, but no need - my heart is grateful for having had a moderate share of these visitations - our house is most comfortable - We have had privations as to food: but within the last year or two we we have improved greatly and now we are never in want of those little articles which constitute a part of our comfort Dear Tom is so provident and so careful that he assists me greatly in my household economy and is in fact a most ["most" crossed out] much better housekeeper than I am. Illness seldom visits us - our farm is doing well and our cattle have all prospered for so far, notwithstanding the nightly visits of a bear who actually came over our style a few nights ago, and past Old Johns house to the pig sty twice or thrice, yet our three litters of pigs have hitherto escaped owing to the Vigilance of the ["of the" crossed out] and activity of the dogs who have succeeded in frightening Mr Bruin off each time. On the first visit old Johns wife went out with a candle having heard the noise of a bear sniffing about the house and there she found him close by sitting up on his hind legs grinning and growling, the dogs keeping him at bay. It was a very dark night so that she was close to him before she was aware and held the candle up to his face to look at him, she said; unfortunately old John was too weak and ill to go out and his sons had slept here, so though she called, it was a good while before any assistance from us could arrive and before it came the bear had scampered off to the woods

Capt Hall seems to be collecting materials for a work on Canada. He sent some queries to Tom relative to this country as a residence for a lady and gentleman unaccustomed to labor: he also requested that both Mr Reid and Tom would write him a detailed account of all our proceedings here. Mr Reid being an actual farmer confined his part to a detail of his chopping clearing and cultivating. Tom and I being "a lady and gentleman unaccustomed to labor" and Tom being obliged to employ laborers he merely gave an account of own adventures and some of the struggles we were obliged to encounter for the first years []

[78-008/2/14 #272](#)

Douro July 6th 1828

xxx When I last wrote to Ireland I was in the midst of preparations and bustle previous to my visits to Cobourg which passed as prosperously and agreeable as my kind friends could make it - Here I am once more in my own dear little quiet home and here is my history

It was arranged that on Tuesday 17th June I should set out in a boat which was going to Rice Lake - having appointed that Mr Bethune should send a waggon there to meet me the same evening - and accordingly we all sallied forth on Tuesday Mrs Strickland who was going to join Mr Strickland who is in Mr Galts employment at Guelph - Sally McVittie who was going to hire with Mrs Falkner - Anna Maria Ellen and myself - Tom came to see us off as he was to stay at home to take care of the youngest children and premises. Anne McVittie to be his assistant. We set out at half past one, being seven hours later than I intended to have been started. Our conveyance was a large flat bottomed boat called in this country a scow it is fifty feet long and is for carrying luggage. We had a cargo of flour eighty barrels to take down but one end of the boat was allotted for our party and we had only our own Trunks and parcels which served as seats I felt very odd when I left Tom, it seemed so forlorn to set out on a journey in this strange land without him and more so for me who for three years and nine months had never been from my own roost, but the principal boatman who was the only one I had anything to do with was a very civil man

Our day was pleasant and the various turns of the river as pretty all wood and water without anything else can be, - but it soon became tiresome. When we reached Rice Lake it was nearly dark, and quite so when we got to the house at the opposite side - but we could distinguish a figure standing in an expecting attitude, and two white horses - which I concluded to be Mr Henrys - We soon found that the person waiting was Mr Bethune, he assisted us all to land, and then as the darkness made it impossible for us to proceed he proposed that we should have tea and try to make ourselves as comfortable there as we could: he had very kindly come himself with Mr Henrys waggon to escort us to Cobourg, and had poor man been waiting all day for us - nothing could be kinder than he was in trying to have us made comfortable at the Ferry House We were all dreadfully tired and my head ached outrageously so when we had finished our supper of bad tea and good bread - bad butter and cold potatoes we began to arrange about beds The house consisted of three rooms - one large kitchen in which we sat - where were two beds, and two tiny close rooms within, one for the man and woman of the house - the other I found had been prepared for Mrs Strickland and me. The bed seemed clean but the room close to a suffocating degree - I found that Mr Bethune should sleep in one of the beds in the kitchen and Sally and the two children in the other, as in this country you must know it is quite common for men and women to sleep in one room. I changed the arrangement Mrs S and I took the two beds in the kitchen and left the room within for Mr Bethune.

The beds looked clean but had a musty old smell and very soon after I lay down the fleas attacked me so smartly that sleep fled -

There were numerous mice and ["and" crossed out] or squirrels began to ["to" crossed out] rummaging amongst pease and Indian corn in a loft above us, so I don't know what time of the morning I went to sleep. - Probably near two - I was soon wakened by heavy rain which rattled on the shingles as loudly as the mice had rattled the pease - There came thunder and lightening and my heart sank at the idea of spending a whole day in that dreary place without a book or anything to assist in passing the weary hours - Long before daylight appeared Mr Bethune went out to catch the horses - it could not have been more than three o'clock and I felt so lazy that it seemed impossible to rouse myself however after some time Mary said she heard Mr Bethune putting the horses to the waggon - we got up and dressed, and then against my will awoke my poor sleeping children but the waggon was waiting - at ten minutes before four we all tumbled in and off we set - the rain had ceased - the sky was clearing and looked promising: the plains, over which our road lay for the first three miles are pretty & quite like a Park - very pretty little hills and hollows through which the road winds - covered with small scrubby oak trees, and brush wood of wilow and wild roses all in blossom. Then quantities of blue lupins pink ladies slippers - wild geraniums and a pretty scarlet flower whose name I don't know - Our drive would have been delightful except that after we left the plains it became hilly or rather lay, almost entirely down hills, some of which were very steep and ugly, and our horses I found had a habit when ever anyone but Mr Henry himself drove them, of being rather unmanageable, this time, one of them chose stops at the top of every hill and stand for some time and if Mr Bethune let her wait quietly for five or ten minutes she went very well after, but of a long one she would stop every three steps and back and attempt to plunge which rather alarmed me, as I am now quite a coward, I am so little accustomed to going in a carriage; at one long crooked steep hill this mare seemed so cross that I begged to get out - which we all did, but I did not do so again it is so troublesome getting in and out of these waggons - some of which have no steps - A little step ladder is always brought from the house for ladies to get in and out, but on the road became so bad for about a mile that Mr Bethune gave me to understand that I might expect an upset in some of the mud holes which were so deep that the horses sink up to their stomachs in mud, but we got on without any accident and reached Mr Henrys at ten minutes after seven before any of the family were up - I was very glad to have time to arrange my dress, for I was covered with mud and the heat and damp and jolting had taken the curl our of my hair - By eight oclock the usual breakfast hour we were all ready and assembled around kind Mr and Mrs Henrys breakfast table, after sitting some time to rest after breakfast I took the children out shopping as I wanted to procure some necessary articles - shoes and gloves, in order to have them appear neat - but I could not find a single pair of ready made shoes to fit them and I was obliged to appear all the intermediate days in miserable old shoes, which was rather vexatious, but it was unavoidable, and there was no use in fretting. It was so long since I had seen them and my appearance so unexpected that none of the people knew me. When I went to Mr Thorpe about business he looked closely at me, till perceiving he did not know me I mentioned Mr Stewarts name and then he shook hands very coridally and insisted upon my going into visit Mrs Thorpe which I did for a few minutes and found her dressed as neatly as usual in her nice drawing room which always looks as clean and nicely settled and ornamented

as if they never used it, but they have no other for sitting or eating in. However they have no children to dirty it and she is one of those neat people who never put any thing out of the way She is extremely civil and stiff - gives very nice parties constantly, does everything herself confectionary - upholstroy needlework and even attends to the shop and does a great deal of business for Mr Thorpe - I found it was nearly one o'clock so I hurried home as fast as possible for I knew it was Mrs Henrys dinner hour and had scarcely time to dress and none to cool myself after dinner we sat quiet it was too hot to go out - some visitors came to call upon me - Mrs Covert and Mr and Mrs Wilcox - Mrs Bethune sent Miss Wilkinson her granddaughter and Mr and Mrs Alex Bethune also Mrs Draper which passed the time till six, Mrs Bethune Miss W and Mrs Draper drank tea and also two very nice little girls of twelve and thirteen Jane and Harriet Rawson with whom I was very glad to have my poor gawkies made acquainted as they are very animated and at the same time nice ladylike children - Next day after breakfast we set out to spend the whole day at Mr Falkners. Three miles from Cobourg - we found poor dear Mrs Falkner looking wretchedly lying on a sofa from which she seemed to rise with some difficulty, she was so weak, they fear she is in a decline but I have since heard that she has been gaining ground so I hope this valuable wife mother and friend may be spared to us a little longer - she had a friend staying with her Mrs Banks, whose family came out last year and to live near Cobourg. She is a fine handsome woman and seems very good natured and has a pretty little girl of twelve years old. Mr Falkner was as agreeable as usual, he had just returned from Niagara and tour through the States with which he seemed highly pleased particularly with the manners of the ladies of Boston, who he says are highly accomplished and cultivated and of retiring delicate manners with which he seemed particularly pleased after being long among the poor Canadian Housekeepers He often speaks with regret of the total want of general conversation at the parties in this country where the gentlemen talk of nothing but cattle and crops mixed with provincial politics and the ladies of servants, housekeeping, nursing and a little local gossip and scandal. I never was so much struck with this myself as during this visit to Cobourg; the same people met almost every evening - the gentlemen always formed a separate party to talk of the approaching elections and of Judge Willis - the Ladies all sat in a row each trying to find out something to say to their next neighbour - We went to these parties at about four or five o'clock and staid till ten or eleven. The heat was most oppressive I think our whole day at Mr Falkners from breakfast time till after tea passed quickly and we had more interchange of ideas than at all the evening parties put together - Well Thursday passed and Friday came - during the morning I kept quiet for the heat was tremendous: at four o'clock we all set out and walked a mile to Mrs Bethunes Senr to tea Her home is the nicest I have seen in this country - we were just (as is usual in this country as is the usual custom here) ["as is usual in this country" crossed out] shown up stairs to a bedroom to take off our bonnets and arrange our dress. This room opened into a very pretty little Boudoir ornamented with all sorts of knicknacks cabinets - paintings flower baskets &c Mrs B was seated in an arm chair nursing her grandchild a pretty little baby of five or six years old ["years old" crossed out] weeks old - very handsomely dressed. - We all then went down to the drawing room where we found the Alexander Bethunes - soon after came the Boswells Coverts and Thorpes - then coffee and tea - Mrs Bethune took me all over her house to show it to me - there are four bedrooms all comfortable and very neatly furnished, handsome callico for windows and beds and pretty paper on the wall neat chests of drawers and dressing tables and good common carpets. The

parlour and drawing room have very handsome paper carpets and suitable furniture. The kitchen is a nice large room, airy and without the appearance of a kitchen except a large fireplace and table - all cooking vessels are kept in presses in a small room outside, where there is a pump. Behind the parlour is Mrs Bethunes little storeroom which is quite a baby house - it is small being scarcely than six feet square - is surrounded on three sides with nice white presses a small green table in the middle and the floor carpeted - I mention all these particulars because such neatness and comfort are so very uncommon in this country and because I have never seen anything here so like a good house in our own dear sweet Country and because here if the house has one good sitting room tolerably neatly furnished they think themselves well off, all the rooms have, in general The bedrooms have only a bed and a few shelves and perhaps a Couple of chairs, which are generally borrowed for parlour use on company occasions - but I saw a great improvement on my last visit to Cobourg

Saturday Evening we had tea drinking at Mrs Drapers Sunday one at Mrs Coverts Tuesday one rather more pleasant at Mrs Thorpes, but dreadfully hot - Wednesday morning I was to set off to Rice Lake but I was wakened early by violent thunder and rain - however by ten o'clock it became fine though very hot still and my dear old friend Mr Henry drove me to Rice Lake himself and put me and all my packages into the boat - now the scow - but a small boat which I hired for the occasion I was really very glad to find my self on my way home though very grateful for the kindness I had met with from so many friends - but particularly the ["the" crossed out] the Henry's and J Bethune who was remarkably attentive. He is in general too much engrossed by business to give up much of his time and thought to Ladies - At Rice Lake we dined on cold meat and bread and Sha[] which kind Mrs Henry supplied us and at one o'clock took boat to proceed that afternoon to Mr Rubidges - eight miles off We landed at a house on the river side where I left my trunks and proceeded with provision basket and bag with night clothes, children cloaks &c to Mr Rubidges a quarter of a mile in the woods and had oh! such a broiling walk! just at five o'clock too - but we met with a kind reception, I never had such a headache nor was more over come with fatigue and heat - We went to walk by moonlight when I would rather have gone to bed - at last bedtime came and we lay down and I soon began to sleep ["sleep" crossed out] dose though Mrs Rubidge with whom I slept continued talking for a long time, at last she perceived I was going off ["off" crossed out] to sleep -

At a little after four I heard Mr Rubidge calling his boys up - and I thought I had better get up too as I intended being in the boat as early as possible against my entreaties Mrs Rubidge would get up too - and we had breakfast and then set out with each our little bundle Before six we were on the water and had a tedious and tremendously hot passage up the river to Peterborough where we landed about five in the evening.

The children had each taken a little sleep which passed some of the tedious hours for them - I rested for a quarter of an hour at Mrs Tupper's in Peterboro' she asked me to lie down and wait for tea - but I felt so ill that I thought if I lay down I must remain there, so determined to push on to poor dear Douro and still dearer Tom and the chicks, and leave all my parcels in Mr Tupper's care we three set off for "home sweet Home" the prospect of being there so soon

actually strengthened me ["me" crossed out] us for our walk and the sight of Tom and his little attendants coming from the garden to meet us was so reviving that every moment we became less tired and after a cup of good tea we were quite gay and well - We found all had gone on prosperously, Tom had written to me to stay till Saturday and therefore did not expect me so soon or he would have met me at Cobourg ["Cobourg" crossed out] Peterboro - but I could stay longer - The children were greatly delighted by these weeks adventures but not so much surprised as I expected -

78-008/2/14 #273

[Extracts bound with ribbon]

To C K

Douro July 19th 1832

I suppose my dear friends have ere' this heard that the long dreaded cholera has at last crossed the Atlantic and has carried off several worthy members of Society: amongst them Mr Campbell Sweeney of Montreal, who from our first arrival in Canada shewed us the most unvarying kindness: in nine hours from having in his usual health, he was a corpse. I am told the deseace has got to York which town is very sickly. In Kingston it has been milder. Mrs Foulis and her daughter are now with us The former is a very delightful person, possessing so much pure Christianity and benevolence no one can know her without loving her. She is exceedingly fond of the children and tho' delicate and infirm bears all their noise with the greatest mildness and sweet temper: Takes care of the little ones and teaches them and is kind and useful in many ways, her eldest son is a merchant her other son a farmer. Her daughter is a great friend of Anna's. We are all perfectly well thank God. Anna improving rapidly

This is such a dry summer everything is turning into dust. There is a sad failure in the crops all through the country. We have lost sixteen lambs within a fortnight, but I comfort myself with thinking we shall have less to feed when fodder will I am sure be very scarce.

As I cannot put more into one enclosure now in my letters I must beg of you to thank Uncle Sutton in Toms name and mine for his letter and the statement of our money matters. We are very sorry he cannot allow us to get the money for the saw mill but it can't be helped. It is a sad loss, as there is no telling the profits of a saw mill just at present but perhaps it is all for the best. It often happens and has happened in our own affairs, that what seemed very hard at the time turns out for our good afterwards, I hope my dear Uncle is better I am sure he has his own trials!

I have sent twenty one yards of flannel cloth to the fulling mill, manufactured from our own wool, it is to be dyed olive to make clothes for the old man and boys for next winter, and we are to have another wool wheel and make our own socks and stockings. This sounds grand, does it not? I am sure you think me very notable xxx

[78-008/2/14 #274](#)

[Extracts bound with ribbon]

To H B July 19th 1832

We have had a nice peaceable pleasant summer, not teased with strangers as formerly there being now two Inns at Peterboro': one of them really a good one and it is constantly filled with fresh inspirations chiefly officers Military and Naval. Peterboro is branching out and spreading wonderfully and is really a very pretty village now that the people are beginning to paint the outside of their houses and have outside blinds painted green. How different it now is from the miserable sketch in Basil Hall's books. I am vexed at his giving such a miserable representation of our Village which even in its infant state, might have looked better had he done it justice Our summer has been generally rather cool, but some days are oppressibley hot and so dry the farmers say the crops are spoiling but they are very discontented people

78-008/2/14 #275

[Extracts bound with ribbon]

May you all my dear friends be preserved in this time of danger and death

We, thank God are well and undisturbed here have no fear of going out night or day and never think of lock or bolt or fastening to doors or windows, which often remain open all night

As to the cholera, I have scarcely any fears about it for my friends, and if it comes here it will then be time enough and we have the blessing of an excellent physician in Dr Hutcheson He says some years ago he had several cases under his care in this district of the real Eastern cholera but it did not spread -

We have had some very hot days and this night ["might] crossed out] night violent Thunder lightning and rain, which will cool and refresh as our garden looks beautiful The plum trees are in such glorious blossom. We have four different kind of wild plums domesticated which make excellent tarts and preserves and look very pretty Anna has been busy all day sowing flower seeds which I hope will make my garden look and smell enchantingly in a few weeks: at present a border of purple dwarf Iris looks most glowing and my cowslips are all in bloom: raised from Irish seed, I believe Allenstown - Ellen does not care for flowers, but has a kitchen garden and pristory which she takes great care of and pleasure in She has Melons and cucumbers apples raised from pippins and a nice nursery of little pear trees from the pippins of Swan egg pear which Aunt Sutton sent us from Rochfield. She and Dr Hutcheson have a great rivalry about peach stones which they sowed at the same time xxx

[78-008/2/14 #276](#)

[to Fanny from her Mother;

no transcription]

[78-008/2/14 #277](#)

[this transcription is not an actual transcription of #277; it is a partial alternate version of #277; another partial alternate version is located after this version]

[manuscript of a family history and letters by Charles Edward Stewart]

Sent to my Mother on the 18 Nov 1871

She died 24th Feby 1872 / C.E.S.

Mrs. Stewart and her elder sister Mrs. Kirkpatrick, the wife of the worthy and respected Rector of Craigs Antrim, were the only surviving Children of the late Very Revd Francis Browne, Dean of Elphin, son of the Revd William Browne, Vicar of St. Andrews, Dublin, and his wife Frances, eldest daughter of the Venerable Francis Hutchinson Archdeacon of Down and Connor, brother of Dr. Samuel Hutchinson Bishop of Killala, who died in 1780. Ancestor of the present Sir Edward S. Hutchinson, Bart., and of Sir John Synge, Bart.

Her Mother was sister of the late Revd Mungo H. Waller, whose family have resided for more than two centuries at Allenstown, Meath. The present possessor of the Estate is James N. Waller Esq. D.L.C. & Grandson of His Grace Archbishop Newcome. Mrs Stewart was born at the Deanry, Elphin; her father who was Bishop Elect of Waterford, died suddenly in 1796, before entering upon the duties of his Episcopate; His widow, who was in declining health removed shortly after with her eldest sister to Clifton [Bath] England, where she died in 1809.

The Hill of Tara - insulated in a widely surrounding plain, was the scene of a terrible slaughter within sight of the residents of Allenstown House from the Attics of which the family watched the contending parties where four hundred on both sides were killed, many of them escaped and wounded taking refuge in the enclosure of Allenstown.

At different periods, Mrs Stewart spent considerable time, with her relatives Mr and Mrs Edgeworth; one visit in 1804 & 1805 she always has spoken of as one of the most charming events of her early life and of the advantages she received from Mr Edgeworths courses of Literary instruction, as it was his custom to call upon the family to hear and judge of all he and his daughter were writing; the tastes for literature was by this means formed and exercised in a large family. Stories of children exercise the judgements of Children and so on in proportion to their respective ages, all giving their opinions and trying their powers of criticism fearlessly and freely. Miss Edgeworth in the [] of all her literary labors, delighted to please those around her. For the amusement of her brothers and sisters she wrote many little plays for their birthdays; in the memoirs of his highly gifted and popular authoress lately published we find Mrs Stewarts name frequently mentioned as taking a part with her cousins in these entertaining and harmless plays at Edgeworthtown.

On the death of Mr Waller she removed from Allenstown with his widow and sister to Dublin and resided with one of the family of her Uncle Dr Beaufort, the father of Mrs Edgeworth, who was so well known to the British public as the author of the best map of Ireland and most valuable memoirs on the Topography Civil and Ecclesiastical State of the Country, he was an Excellent Clergyman and a man of taste and literature. Thus all her early life was passed in the very midst of refinement, talent and Literature.

In 1817, the subject of this narrative married Thos. Alexder Stewart Esq. of Wilmont Antrim whose family (originally from Garlies Wigtownshire) had resided at Ballydraine Co Down from some generations. Owing to serious losses through mismanagement and failure of a near relative and Trustee, who held complete control over considerable Trust and other property of Mr Stewarts, he was forced into several heavy lawsuits in endeavouring to regain his rights so cruelly made away with; this proved to a great extent a fruitless business and he saw that he was not only further involving himself but entailing serious responsibilities on his family. Thus deprived of a Large fortune, he finally made up his mind against the opinions and wishes of his many and attached friends to leave all this cast his lot with his young family in Canada.

On the 1st of June 1822 the good ship "George" sailed from Belfast on board of which were Mr and Mrs Stewart and family, Mr and Mrs Reid and their family, two of three servants and with every imaginable implement, carpenters tools, several tons of hardware, such as nails screws, etc. with every amount of household articles that could be collected together, with a view of commencing a settlement in the back woods. Thus this little band of Pioneers arrived on the 1st August at Quebec after a voyage of nine weeks. They were kindly received by Bishop Mountain the only Protestant Bishop then in Canada. Nothing could exceed the hospitality of this good bishop from whom much valuable information was gained. His death on the 16th June 1825 cast a general gloom over the whole British settlement and so generally beloved and respected was he that the principal Roman Catholic Clergy and City joined in following his remains to the grave. Mrs Stewart remained some days with his Lordships family while preparations were being made for their journey to York [Toronto].

During their progress in open boats from La Chine up the St. Lawrence Mrs Stewart soon began to feel the hardships of a Canadian life; she and her family preferred sleeping on fresh hay, the beds at the inns were so full of vermin, sometimes they even slept on the ground sheltered from the night air by an awning and more than once in their open boats under a heavy dew - She speaks of the farmers with great gratitude when each [time] she stopped at their homes she was received with the kindest hospitality, and her children plentifully supplied with milk and good bread. Throughout her journal and in all her letters, there is the most amiable disposition to make the best of everything and to enjoy whatever little comfort she could find in her situation without looking back on her former very different life.

After remaining some weeks at York negotiating with government for a grant of land, they finally decided upon going into the New Castle District, north of Lake Ontario, with this object they set out in October and settled at Cobourg as a temporary residence while a house was building for them on the land they had obtained.

We here give a few extracts of some of Mrs Stewarts published letters written at this date which are very interesting as descriptions of the Country. The dwellings and mode of travelling and as giving a striking contrast to the present development of these rich and beautiful countries: - She describes her house thus - Cobourg Oct 30th 1822

There are three rooms on the ground floor and four above, but they are so small they are like little closets; we continue however to squeeze into them, and though we shall be here two months, we can easily reconcile ourselves to these little inconveniences. There is a nice grassy place in front of the house it is paled in and the Children can play in it with safety: - that is one great comfort, we found some boards in the barn and Mr Stewart whose old taste as an amateur mechanic are now very useful, has made temporary shelves and tables of them. We have at present neither table chairs nor bedstead, the carriage of these articles was too expensive for us; but we have screws and all things ready to make them when we are settled in our Loghouse, for which I long as ardently as if it was a place - Our bedrooms have no doors, but we hang up blankets, which answer the purpose, Fortunately we have plenty of these, and the air is so dry that we do not suffer from the cold, though the nights are frosty and not a fireplace in the house except in the kitchen. The frost had given the land a grey look, instead of the beautiful orange autumn tints they had before.

Four years ago there were but two houses here; now it is a nice thriving Town with a neat Church, a large School House and some very good shops or stores as they are called; and the houses are in general very neat.

Cobourg Jany 1st 23

We have been detained here longer than we intended; first by the illness of my eldest girl, and next waiting for snow to make the roads fit for travelling; at present they are in such a state of roughness from the hard frost after the heavy rains of last month, that the jolting of either cart or waggon could not be borne. There are no covered carriages here. They are very roughly made with two seats placed across one before the other and have rather an odd appearance for gentlemens carriages.

This New Year's day I hope you are all as well and as happy as I am; and I am sure it will give you pleasure to know my beloved friends that we could indulge ourselves by going to Church on Christmas day, and receiving the Sacrement. Do not imagine that in this banishment, as I fear you still consider it, these duties are neglected; far from it; we have a Church near us, and I thank God the inclination to make use of it.

Loghouse Feby 24th/23

Here we are at last; and though we must bear a good deal of inconvenience for some time, yet we feel all the enjoyment of being really at home.

On Monday morning Feb 10th we left Cobourg. Mr Stewart and I on one seat, with a little girl between us; the maid and the other two children on the seat before us, and our charioteer in front. We had blankets and cloaks to roll about our feet, and a basket of cold meat and bread. Another sleigh carried our bedding, trunks and luggage, besides baskets of poultry and our two dogs.

We travelled twenty miles that day very pleasantly; passing through miles and miles of forest. I was delighted with this new scene, every now and then we came to small clearings with log houses, and generally with a good stock of cattle and poultry.

At four o'clock we reached the inn; and we passed the night there very comfortably sleeping on the floor in the sitting room, where we spread our mattresses and blankets. Next day our road lay through thick woods; indeed it scarcely deserved that name for it was merely a track through the snow where other sleighs had lately passed. We turned backwards and forwards through the crowded trees, and often had showers of snow from the branches which our heads touched. The boughs of the beautiful hemlock pine were so loaded with it, and bent down so low, that we were obliged to lie down to pass under them; and twice we were obliged to stop and cut a passage where trees had fallen across the way. We drove for nine miles through the woods without seeing any habitation, except two Indian huts.

When we arrived at the banks of the river near the Mills, we found that the ice had given away, so that the sleighs could not cross; and the Millers boat could not ply, because there was still a broad border on each side of the river. We sent a man across to beg of our friend Mr [] who was settled there, to send his oxen and sleigh to a part of the River called the little Lake, two miles lower down and we determined to walk across.

This delay was very embarrassing, but our travels were nearly at an end, and that gave us spirits to go forward with vigour through the snow which came above our ankles. The friends who came from the opposite side to meet us, carried the two youngest children; the workmen carried our bedding, and everything else we left at the mill. With this assistance we contrived to cross and being soon packed into the sleigh, we proceeded in the shades of evening to our home, through nearly five miles of wood. Our Loghouse was quite illuminated by the glare of the fires which had been prepared for us, and even had there been no fires we should have been warmed by the joy our friends showed at seeing us here. The house was not quite finished, and we found it rather cold at night; but every day since we have made it more and more comfortable. Our books fill up one side of the parlour and give it a comfortable look; and as it has two windows one to the south and one to the west we have now the delightful warm sun shining in from ten till past five.

This is really a pretty spot - even now, though the ground is covered with snow. The river is broad and rushes by with great noise and rapidity, carrying lumps of ice from the Lake; it widens beautifully and the banks are fringed with fine spreading cedars and lofty hemlock pines.

We have been most prosperous in everything, voyage, journey, and health; and when I look back and think of all we have gone through since you and I parted, I cannot help feeling surprise, mixed with gratitude to that Merciful Being, who has watched over us and protected us all -

Loghouse April 5th

You cannot scarcely conceive, when I saw your handwriting, the thrill of delight it gave me - Your letter was a real feast - I could not sleep that night, from the fulness of my head and heart -

The snow I am told, continues later this year than usual; in some places it was three feet deep, and is still deep though it has gone off rapidly within the last fortnight, as it thaws a little every day, while the sun is hot -

The buds are all swelling, and I have heard one or two new birds of late - but they stay up in the high trees and I have not been able to see them

We have numbers of dear little tomtits, and some sparrows & crows. I used to dispise all these at home; but here I delight in them, they are like old acquaintances, when we first came here, I heard an eagle very often but he has deserted us -

I am surprised at the nice green herbage that is under the snow; by which, and the decayed leaves, it has been preserved from the frost. The children bring in plants every day; The mosses and lichens are all quite new to me - The deep snow has delayed the clearing of our land; next week we are to have five men here to cut down trees, choppers as they are called; we have one at present and it is astonishing with what dexterity and speed he fells the huge hemlock pines, nearly one hundred fee high. It is almost sublime to see them stoop their dark heads slowly, and then fall, very gradually at first, but soon increasing in rapidity - tearing off the neighbouring branches, shaking all the other trees and coming down with a crash that makes the whole forest echo the sound - The Americans from the United States are employed to chop - as they are more expert than people from the old country and can make the trees the precise direction they choose in felling. There are some families here who for the first six months had no food of any kind, except salt pork for breakfast dinner and supper, and without even bread; we have good bread and peas and sometimes turnips with excellent milk - we brought barley and rice with us, and the arrowroot that you gave me is a great comfort to the Children; - I never saw them more healthy creatures -

May 2d

Last week we were busily engaged in burning the fallen trees, which covered the surface of the ground that we had cleared.

The branches were first piled up and burned, then the great stems, which had been cut into pieces about twelve feet long, were drawn together by the oxen, with much labour raised into piles, and set on fire. This was a very dangerous operation, for some of them were very near our wooden house, and the whole surface of the ground is combustible, as for several inches depth it is composed of leaves and bark and looks like a bed of peat earth. When this takes fire the flames rapidly spread and are very difficult to distinguish, but we are now safe. -

The Indians sometimes walk into our house but they are harmless and inoffensive and ask only for whisky which they like better than anything else. They bring baskets and little bowls and dishes made of the bark of the birch tree and are glad to sell them for spirits, flour or pork. They came down the river in their canoes and can paddle them across the rapids just opposite this house, where no European could venture in a boat.

June 5th

Our first spring flowers were hepaticas, which actually carpeted the ground as daisies do at home; they were single but very large, blue, pink and white. We had the pretty yellow dogtooth violets in profusion, then white and crimson lilies, both of them handsome, but with an odious smell. There was another very elegant plant with leaf like frumitory, the root a collection of reddish bulbs and the flowers something like a butterfly orchid. - We have now an abundance of yellow, white and purple violets, but the white only have a sweet smell. There is also a beautiful yellow ladies slipper and numerous other flowers which I may describe some other time. Our shrubs are leatherwood, cranberry, dogberry, Alpine honey suckle without scent and syringa. The trees are [], maple, oak, beech, cedar, hemlock pine, hickory and lime. The oak grows tall and straight in these forests. I spend what time I can spare in examining the trees and plants that are new to me - We have a great deal of the moss or rather tillandsis about which you inquired; it hangs from almost every tree, and we saw it in quantities along the banks of the St. Lawrence before we reached Quebec. The Captain of our vessel told us it was used in the States to stuff beds, and that he had carried some home to his wife for that purpose. -

July 1st

I must give you a sketch of the manner in which we pass our time. Mr Stewart goes out at five and returns to breakfast at seven; he then works at his farm space till twelve, when dinner is ready, after which he rests sometimes, and again works till eight, when I summon him to coffee

Household cares and preparations occupy me all the morning and teaching the Children, and working for them the rest of the day - after they go to bed I have a nice hour for reading or writing.

It is the custom for ladies in this country to dress in the morning very plainly, and suited to the hard work in which we must all take part; after dinner they put on silk gowns and smart caps and either go out to pay visits or stay at home to receive them. But we live in such perfect solitude in these woods, that we have no neighbours to go to, or to expect here. We are going

on as yet in smiling prospects and doing something every day that tends to our comfort but we are only early [] visions which I do not encourage. Yet I cannot help praying that we may be permitted to meet again in a few years. I fear setting my heart too much on this, but I trust to the support of providence until every disappointment, and under every trial. Trials we must have in all places still more in these dreary woods -

In the Autumn of our first year in Douro our youngest little girl of not quite two years old was seized with Dysentry. I was quite ignorant of the disease and there was no Doctor within reach - The nearest being Dr Hutcheson who then resided in Cavan, a good many miles distant. We had as yet no canoe on the River and were often depending on a chance visit of the Indians for a passage to the other side. One of our hired men, a faithful Highlander, seeing how very ill our darling was volunteered to swim across the rapid stream and walk through the woods to the Doctor, promising that if I wrote the particulars, he would bring the necessary medicines. He started early in the morning of a cold October day and returned about midnight with some powders, and a message that the Doctor would come up on the following day - But no improvement and the day passed in great anxiety for the Doctor did not arrive.

On the third day he came having left at the promised time, but lost his way in the woods and hence the delay. The next day she appeared more lively, but refused to take the arrowroot and sayo which I offered her. She asked for bread and of this we had none fit to give her, having for sometime been unable to procure good flour. It was a bitter trial not to have what she seemed to crave for.

The next day she fell into a stupor and towards midnight her angel spirit passed away to the immortal Land." On the 27th October we assembled together the whole of the Settlement, including the six Highlanders employed in clearing the land, in all numbering twenty seven souls. The only Christian inhabitants in that vast forest stretching for thousands of miles unbroken East and North of the Otonabee and the Little Lake to follow to the grave the youngest and most endearing of the little band of Pilgrims who had arrived on the shores of the Ontario the previous year: The spot selected as the last resting place lay midway between Mr Stewarts [] being consigned to the earth, was powerless to restrain the outpouring of his noble and swelling heart. Deep and lasting the memory of that day sank into the hearts of all who joined in the beautiful and touching burial service of the Church of England, heard for the first time in the midst of the little band of pioneers who founded the settlement in that vast wilderness - No hallowed spot was ever dedicated with more beautiful prayers than where little Bessy was laid beneath those noble hemlock trees.

(Returned to me by my sister Bessie CES on the 24th July 1872)

Paid

Charles E Stewart

10 Alfred Road

Acton London England

Manuscript

[] promised time, but lost his way in the
Notes

* His Mother Maria Newcome eldest daughter of Primate Newcome - I was born in Dublin -
Marlborough Street 27th May 1794 -

Mrs Browne

her eldest sister Susan Noble had devoted the best part of her life & prospects to the care of this now helpless sister - the eldest daughter Catharine was left under the care of her Aunt Mrs Sutton at Ballina in Ireland Co Mayo - and in 1801 was taken to join her Mother at Bath where she was kindly adopted by her Aunt & Uncle Revr Thos Sutton at that time returning to Ireland where he was appointed to the Rectory of Clogill Co Meath - & where her Aunt Miss Nobel also resided. Fanny Browne was adopted by her Grand Uncle Robert Waller Esq of Allenstown on the death of her father when only 2 ½ years old - In 1800 it was necessary for Mr Waller to go to London on some Business - & as Mrs Wallers health required change the whole family went to England for one year - & Fanny Browne during that time remained at Collon under the care of her Grant Aunt Beaufort & Revd Dr. Beaufort Rector of Collon - Dr Beaufort was a man of extensive taste & knowledge - most refined manners & peculinary engaging deportment - her her tastes were first formed in Music - drawing & general Literature besides being the only six years old - introduced into the best society - as a person taken notice of by all the visitors - & was frequently invited to accompany her Aunt in spending evenings with Lady Ferrard (wife of the Honble John Foster afterwards Lord Oriel) & her daughter who afterwards married the 1st Lord Dufferin - Lady Florence Balfour also was a visitor at Collon who kindly took notice of "little Fanny" -

After the return of the Allenstown family FB was taken charge of by her cousin Miss Beaufort who from that time till Mrs Stewarts marriage was her constant kind instructress & steady faithful friend till her death in 1865

*this part shd come in where Dr Beaufort is first mentioned - page 1 - my addition FB

[78-008/2/14 #277](#)

[this transcription is not an actual transcription of #277; it is a partial alternate version of #277; another partial alternate version is located immediately before this version]

[this version appears to be a draft of Our Forest Home]

Mrs Stewart and Mrs Kirkpatrick, her eldest sister & the wife of the worthy & respected Rector of Craigs Antrim were the only surviving children of the Late Very Revd Francis Browne Dean of Elphin - Son of the Revd William Browne Vicar of St Andrews Dublin and his wife Frances eldest daughter of the Venerable Francis Hutchinson Archdeacon of Down & Connor - brother of Doctor Samuel Hutchinson Bishop of Killala who died in 1780 ancestor of the present Sir Edward S. Hutchinson Bart. & of Sir John Synge Bart. Her mother was sister of the Late Revd Mungo H Waller whose family have resided for more than two centuries Allenstown-Meath, the present possessor of the Estate is James Waller, Esq D L C. His Mother Maria Newcome eldest daughter of Primate Newcome

Mrs Stewart was born in Dublin Marlborough Street 24th May 1794, her Father who was Bishop Elect of Waterford died suddenly in 1796. Before entering upon the duties of his Episcopall, his widow who was in declining health removed shortly after this sad event with her eldest Sister to Bath England where she died in 1809. Mrs Brownes eldest sister Susan Noble, had devoted the best part of her life & prospects to this now helpless sister - the eldest daughter Catherine was left under the care of her Aunt Sutton at Ballina in Ireland Co Mayo & in 1801 was taken to join her Mother in Bath where she remained till after her Mothers death, when she was kindly adopted by her Aunt & Uncle Revd Thomas Sutton - at that time returning to Ireland where he was appointed to the Rectory of Clongill Co Meath & where her Aunt Miss Noble also resided, - Fanny Browne was adopted by her Grand Uncle Robert Waller Esqr of Allenstown on the death of her Father when only 2 ½ years old - Thus early bereaved of both parents she remained with her Uncles family at Allenstown where many of her earliest recollections were formed & some of the alarming events of the Great Rebellion imposed upon her mind ***

* In 1800 it was necessary for Mr Waller to go to London on some business & as Mrs Wallers health required change the whole family went to England for one year & Fanny Browne during that time remained at Collon under the care of her Great Aunt Mrs Beaufort & Revd Doctor Beaufort Rector of Collon. Dr Beaufort was a Man of extensive taste & knowledge, most refined manners, & particularly engaging deportment, here her tastes were first formed in Music drawing - & general Literature - the best Society - as she was taken notice of by all the visitors - & was frequently invited to accompany her Aunt in spending evenings with Lady Furrow - (Wife of the Honble Joh Foster afterwoard Lord Oriel) & her daughter who afterwards married the 1st Lord Dufferin - Lady Florence Balfour also was a visitor at Collon who kindly took notice of "little Fanny" - After the return of the Allenstown family F B was taken charge of by her cousin Miss Beaufort who from that time till Mrs Stewarts marriage was her constant kind instructress & steady faithful friend till her death - in 1865 -

*** The Hill of Tara - incultated in a widely surrounding plain, was the scene of a trouble slaughter within sight of the Allenstown House from the attics of which the family watched the movements of the contending parties where 4 hundred on both sides were killed many of the escaped & wounded taking refuge in the enclosures around Allenstown

On the death of Mr Waller she removed from Allenstown with his widow & sister to Dublin & resided with one of the family of her Uncle Dr Beaufort (the father of Mrs Edgeworth) who was so well known to the British public as the Author of the Map of Ireland & most valuable Memories on the Topography, Civil and Ecclessosticol state of the country, he was an excellent Clergyman & a Man of Taste & Literature - Thus all her early life was passed in the midst of refinement

At different periods Mrs Stewart spent considerable with her relations, Mr & Mrs Edgeworth one visit in 1804 & 1805 she has always spoken of as the most charming events of her early life & of the advantages she received from Mr Edgeworths course of literary instructions, as it was his custom to call upon all the family to hear & judge of all he & his daughter were writing, the taste for Literature was by this means formed & exercised in a large family; Stories of children exercised the judgement of children, & so on in proportion to their [] ages all giving their opinions & trying their power of criticism fearlessly & freely, Miss Edgeworth in their midst of all her literary labors delighted to please those around her for the amusement of her brothers & sisters she wrote many little plays for their birthdays: in the memoire this highly gifted & popular Authoress lately published we find Mrs Stewarts name frequently mentioned as taking part with her cousins & their entertaining & harmless plays at Edgeworthtown

In 1816 the subject of this narrative married Thos Alexder Stewart Esqre of Wilmont Antrim whose family (originally from []) had resided at Ballydraine Co Down for generations, owing to serious losses through mismanagement of a near relation & Trustee who had complete control over considerable Interest & other property of Mr Stewarts, he was forced into several heavy Lawsuits in endeavouring to gain his rights - so cruelly made away with, this proved to a great extent a fruitless business, & he saw that he was not only further involving himself, but entailing serious responsibilities on his family. Thus deprived of a large fortune, he finally made up his mind against the opinion & wishes of his many & attached friends, to leave all & cast his lot with his young family in Canada.

On the 1st June 1822 good ship "George" - sailed from Belfast on board of which were Mr & Mrs Stewart & family Mr & Mrs Reid & family, two or three servants & with every imaginable farming implement carpenters tools several tons of hardware, such as Nails, screws &c &c with any amount of household articles that could be collected together, with a view of commencing a settlement in the backwoods, this little Band of Pioneers arrived on the 1st August at Quebec after a voyage of 9 weeks. They were kindly received by Bishop Mountain, the only Protestant Bishop in Canada. Nothing could exceed the hospitality of this good Bishop from whom much valuable information was obtained. His death on the 15th June 1828 cast a general gloom over

the whole British Settlement, & so generally beloved was he that the principle Roman Catholic Clergy citizens joined in following his remains to the grave

During their progress in open boats from LaChine up the St. Lawrence, Mrs Stewart soon began to feel the hardships of a Canadian life, she & her family generally preferred on fresh hay, the beds at the Inns were so full of vermin, sometimes they even slept on the ground & sheltered from the night air by an awning, & more than once in their open boats under a heavy dew - She speaks of the farmers with great gratitude whenever she stopped at - their houses she was received into with the greatest kindness & hospitality, & her children plentifully supplied with milk & good bread. Throughout her Journal & in all her letters, there is the most amiable disposition to make the best of every thing, & to enjoy whatever little comfort she could find in her situation without looking back on her former very different life -

After remaining some weeks at York negotiating with Government for a grant of land, they finally decided to go into the New Castle District, North of Lake Ontario, with this object they set out in October & settled at Cobourg as a temporary residence while a house was building for them on the land they had obtained.

We here give a few extracts of some of Mrs Stewarts published letters, written at this date, which are very interesting, as descriptions of the country the dwelling & mode of travelling, and as giving a striking contrast to the present development of these rich & beautiful countries - She describes her house thus

Cobourg Oct 30th 1822

"There are three rooms on the ground floor, & four above but they are so small they are like little closets; we continue however to squeeze into them, & though we shall be here two months, we can easily reconcile ourselves to these little inconveniences, there is a nice grassy place in front of the house & the children can play in it with safety, that is one great comfort; we found boards in the barn & Mr Stewart whose old taste as an amateur mechanic are now very useful has made temporary shelves & tables of them, we have at present neither table chair - or bedstead, the carriage of these articles was too expensive for us, but we have screws & all things ready to make them when we are settled in our Loghouse for which I long as ardently as if it was a Palace - our bedrooms have no doors but we hang up blankets which answer the purpose Fortunately we have plenty of these & the air is so dry that we do not suffer from the cold though the nights are frosty, & not a fireplace in the house except in the Kitchen. The frost has given the woods a gray look instead of the beautiful autumnal tints they had before.

Some years ago there were but two houses here now it is a nice thriving town, with a near Church a large school house, & some very good shops or stores as they are called & the houses in general are very neat.

Cobourg Jany 1st 1823.

"We have been detained here longer than we intended first by the illness of my eldest girl, & next waiting for snow, to make the roads fit for travelling; at present they are in such a state of roughness from the hard frost after the heavy rains of last month that the jolting of either cart of waggon could not be borne, there is no covered carriage here They are very roughly made with two seats, placed across one before the other, & have an odd appearance for gentlemen's carriages.

This New Years day I hope you are as well & as happy as I am & I am sure it will give you pleasure to know my beloved friends that we could indulge ourselves by going to Church on Christmas day & receiving the sacrament. Do not imagine that in this banishment as I fear you still consider it, these duties are neglected far from it, we have a Church near us & I thank God the inclination to use it -

Loghouse Feby 24th 1823

"here we are at last, & though we must bear a good deal of inconvenience for some time, yet we feel all the enjoyment of being really at home. On Monday morning Feb. 10th we left Cobourg, Mr Stewart & I on one seat with a little girl between us. The maid & the other two children on the seat before us & our charioteer in front, we had blankets & cloaks to roll about our feet & a basket of cold meat & bread and the sleigh carried our bedding trunks & baggage besides a basket of poultry & our two dogs.

We travelled twenty miles that day very pleasantly passing through miles & miles of forest. I was delighted with the new scene, every now & then we came to small clearings with loghouses & generally with a good stock of cattle & poultry. At four o'clock we reached the Inn & we passed the night there very comfortably sleeping on the floor in the sitting room where we opened our Mattresses & blankets. Next day our road lay through thick woods, indeed it scarcely deserved that name, for it was merely a track through the snow, where other sleighs had lately passed, we [] backwards & forwards through the crowded trees, & often had showers of snow from the branches, which our heads touched, the boughs of these beautiful Hemlock pine were so loaded with it & bent down so low, that we were obliged to lie down to pass under them, & twice we were obliged to stop, & cut a passage where trees had fallen across the way; we drove for nine miles through the woods without seeing any habitation except two Indian huts, -

When we arrived at the Banks of the river, near the Mills, we found that the ice had given way, so that the sleighs could not cross; & the Millers boat could not ply because there was still a border of ice on each side of the river, we sent a man across to beg our friend Mr Reid who was settled there to send his oxen & sleigh to a part of the river called the "Little Lake" two miles lower down & we determined to walk across.

This delay was very embarrassing but our travels were nearly at an end & that gave us spirits to proceed with vigor through the snow which came above our ankles. The friends who came from the opposite side to meet us carried the two youngest children: the workmen carried our

bedding & every thing else was left at the mills, with this assistance we continued to cross, & being soon packed into the slish we proceeded in the shade of the evening to our home, through nearly 5 miles of wood, our Loghouse was quite illuminated by the glare of the fires, which had been prepared for us, & even had there been no fire, we should have been warmed by the joy our friends showed at seeing us here - The house was not quite finished, & we found it rather cold at night but every day since we have made it more & comfortable - our books pile up one side of the two parlors & gives it a comfortable look, & as it has two windows - one to the south & one to the west we have now the delightful warm sun shining in from ten till past five.

This is really a pretty spot, even now though the ground is covered with snow. The river is broad & rushes by with great noise & rapidity carrying down humps of ice from the Lakes, it winds beautifully & the banks are findered with fine spreading cedars & lofty Hemlock pine We have been most prosperous in every thing voyage journey & health, & when I look back & think of all we have gone through since you & I parted I cannot help feeling surpouse mixed with gratitude to that Merciful Being who has watched over us & protected us all -

Loghouse April 15 1823

"You can scarcely conceive when I saw your handwriting the thrill of delight it gave me - your letter was read first, I could not sleep that night, from the fullness of my head & heart

The snow I am told continues later this year than usual; in some places it was gone off rapidly within the last fortnight, as it thaws a little every day while the sun is hot. - The buds are all swelling & I have heard one or two new birds of late. They sing up in the high trees & I have not been able to see them. We have numbers of dear little tomtits & some sparrows & crows. I used to dispise all these at home, but here I delight in them. they are like old aquaintain. When we first came here we heard an Eagle very often, but he has deserted us. -

I am surprised at the nice green herbage that is under the snow, by the which & the decayed leaves it has been preserved from the frost, the children bring plants every day. The mosses & lichens are all quite new to me - The deep snow has much delayed the clearing of our land, next week we are to have five men here to cut down trees - choppers as they are called we have one at present & it is astonishing with what dexterity he fells these huge hemlock pines nearly one hundred feet high.

It is almost sublime to see them stoop their thin dark heads slowly & then fall; very gradually at first but soon increasing in rapidity - tearing off neighbouring branches shaking all the other trees, & coming down with a crash that makes the whole forest echo the sound.

The Americans from the United Sates are employed to [] as they are more expert, than people from the old country& can make the trees take the precise direction they choose in falling -

There are some families here, who for the first six months had no food of any kind, except salt pork for breakfast dinner & supper, without even bread, we have good bread & peas, & some times turnips, & excellent milk. We brought Barley & rice with us, & the arrowroot you gave me is a great comfort to the children. I never saw them more healthy creatures -

May 2d

"Last week we were busily engaged in burning the fallow, trees which covered the surface of the ground that we had cleared. The branches were first piled up & burned, then the great stems which had been cut into pieces about twelve feet long were drawn together by the oxen, & with much labor raised into piles & set on fire. This was a very dangerous operation for some of them were very near our windows house & the whole surface of the ground is combustible as for several inches deep it is composed leaves & bark & looks like a bed of peat earth. When this takes fire, the flames rapidly spread & are very difficult to extinguish; but we are now safe.

The Indians sometimes walk into the house but they are harmless & inoffensive & ask only for whiskey They like better than anything else, they bring baskets & little bowls & dishes, made of the bark of the Birch tree & are glad to sell them for spirits, flour or pork, they come down the river in their canoes & can paddle them across the rapids jut opposite this house, where no European could venture in a boat

June 5

"Our first spring flowers are hepaticas, which already carpeted the ground as daisies do at home, they were singly but bery large, Blue, and white. We had the pretty Dogtooth violets in profusion, then white & crimson Lillies; both of these handsome, but with an odious smell. There was another very elegant plant with leaf like fumitory, the roots a collection of reddish bulbs, & the flowers something like a butterfly ochis - We have now an abundance of yellow white & purple violets, but the white only have a sweet smell. There is also a beautiful Ladies slipper & numerous other flowers which I may describe some other time. Our shrubs are Leatherwood cranberry Dogberry alpine honey suckle without scent, & syringia. The trees are Elm Maple, Oak black cedar, hemlock pine hiccory & lime. The oak grows tall & straight in these forests. I spend what time I can in examining the trees & plants that are new to me. We have also a great deal of the moss or rather of the tillansia about which you enquired, it hangs from almost every tree, & we saw it in quantities along the banks of the St. Lawrence before we reached Quebec. The Captain of our vessel told us it was used in the States to stuff beds & that he had carried some home for that purpose

Miscellaneous, Undated Correspondence, and Letters

Frances Stewart fonds 74-1005; 92-1002; 97-023 (transcriptions of original items)

74-1005 #1

Douro 9th Novr

1823.

My dearest Harriet

You will see by this sheet of paper that your precious box has arrived [] Oh! how nice my darling Bessy would have looked in the dear little shoes & gloves you sent to her. My dear H; we never met so severe a trial as this one tho' so young she had the art of winning every heart & had [really] a mind which even at that age shewed itself superior to that of common children. I often thought, & once or twice said to Tom, long ago, that if she was spared to grow up she would be too perfect for this world, & that she was too much an Angel for us - & frequently when she was running about, with the appearance of robust health, I said she could not be for this world; I never saw anything like her sweetness & obedience during her illness & she really tryed to be pleased and amused with the little playthings the other children shewed her, when she was so weak that she could scarcely look about her. - I never had a feeling of her being fit for living in this world of woe & care - but I was not sufficiently prepared for losing her so soon & it has been a most severe trial to us all. Her attachment to little Ellen was quite touching; - I think "Elly" was one of her last words - & I never saw two little sisters feel more deep regret than they still do for her loss - but Ellen particularly. Dear Harriet I know I am weak and foolish for writing so much about my feelings - but it is to you - & I know you will feel with us, - & do feel with us in joy & sorrow. And tho' our grief for the loss of this dear little one is deep & poignant, yet we donot repine, for we see how largely Mercy was [shed] along with affliction. My constant prayer during her illness was that she might not suffer at the last - & I was in mercy spared the agony of seeing her suffer for I dont think she was sensible of much pain for the last 4 or 5 days - & at the end of all just appeared to sleep, with her sweet smile, tho' her features were all changed from emaciation & the palid hue of death, but she had no symptoms of any convulsion except a few sobs. - The very time of her illness was pointed out by almighty wisdom. If it had been in summer I was much too weak to have attended her as she required. Nor could my mind have borne the trial for I was greatly relaxed & weakened both in body & mind, but the heat & by the sickness attendant on my situation, & I was constantly languid & low spirited. If her illness had been 2 or 3 months later than it was I should have been quite unable to nurse or keep her on my lap & the effects of the shock might have had serious bad effects - & if she had been permitted to live some years longer, how much more dreadful would have been our loss - so that I see the great goodness of that God who knows how and when to afflict us & exactly how much we can bear & who has in mercy to this dear Baby removed her from a life of certain trial here, to one of eternal happiness. None of the other children took the complaint which is very infectious. The maid was ill of it for some days but is quite recovered I am now as well & strong as ever I was. Since Augt the weather has been very cool & delightful - for the last month it has been particularly charming. The therr has been so low as 14 & is seldom up to 30 at 7 in the morn. but the cold is not disagreeable for we have lovely fires. Our

kitchen chimney is nearly 8 feet wide - & our other chimney rather more than 4 - We seldom use logs in the kitchen quite so long as to fill it up - but in this room we have them very nearly 4 feet long. - & now I will describe the sort of fires. We first put on "a backlog" which is about a foot or 18 inches diameter, & long enough to fill up the back part of the fire place - Then we put in the "Dogs" which you have seen I am sure in old houses, & on the dogs we lay smaller split sticks about 5 or 6 inches thick & the same length as the "back log" - & pile on chips & pieces of pine till we have it as high as we require - & you cannot think what a lovely pile it is or how cheerful it makes our little rooms in the evenings & morn. Every even. befor tea & every morn. - after breakfast, we have a fresh back log put on by one of the men - & then we need only put on smaller sticks to keep up a grandfire during the intermediate time. Before we go to bed we throw on some good large sticks - & in the morn, we have only to take the kindled pieces out of the ashes - scrape the ashes off the backlog, put on fresh sticks some chips & in a few minutes we have a delightful fire, which gives light enough all over the room, for dressing, sweeping, sitting, & laying the breakfast table - & which prevents us from feeling cold. We have filled up every crevice & airhole between the logs with moss and mortar - so that no air nor frost can come near us - & our house is as close & warm as any good Irish [mud] cabin or any stove or brick house could be. I could not help being amused at your asking why we burnt the timber of the clearing instead of keeping them for firewood! - We have as much wood as we can use, or could use in 30 years & we have only to draw it to the back door & have it cut up, which is easily done. You need not fear our being starved this winter, for this day we have killed a pig of our own of nearly 2cwt & about a fortnight ago we got a good store of beef from Cobourg.

We have between 2 or 3 hundred bushels of potatoes in pits & plenty of turnips & Indian corn. We have a parcel of fowl too, & 3 young pigs & 3 geese, & plenty of flour, rice & barley & can very easily get things from Cobourg if we want them - So you see we have abundance for eating, & as for drinking, we have a Barrel of Whiskey which is chiefly used for the workmen & for strangers as it does not agree with Tom. We have a little keg of port which we treat ourselves to a glass of now & then, when we take a fancy for it or on grand occasions. We have enough milk to supply the children with as much as they require, we have a lovely well of crystal water - which is a great comfort & now we have your nice store of soda powders which Tom delights in, as the draughts agree with him very well & he is so fond of them & so am I. We treat ourselves to one every even[ing] - but we must save them for hot summer weather - for often poor Tom longed for them when he was tired working out in the sun - & every time he takes one he blesses you. Novr 23 A long time has passed since I began this letter. Just at this season of the year opportunities between this & Cobourg occur very rarely, so you must not be uneasy if you dont hear so regularly so you have done, for at this season we are sometimes 2 months without any intercourse with [] front. What a delightful excursion you took to London. I wish Tom & I could have joined you in some of those parties. - We saw an account of Mr. Perkins beautiful little steam engine in one of the Montreal papers - just about the same time your little description came. The newspapers gave us a great fund of entertainment. We have received them very regularly - & quite free. - we dont pay any postage now. 6th Decr. It is 6 weeks since we heard from Cobourg & I am sure there are letters there, but the frost is too hard to allow boats to ply - & not hard enough for sleighs.

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

[Extracts from F.S. Douro - Nov. 9th 1823 - Dec. 6th 1823 - Rec'd March 19th.

M.N. No. 26

To Miss Beaufort]

[M.N. above = Maria Noble, cousin to Frances Stewart, whose mother was a Noble]

Douro, Jan. 27, 1824.

My dear Harriet,

I began a long letter to Louisa [Beaufort] on New years day, which I have never yet had time to finish from some unforeseen circumstances which have added a good deal to my domestic employments, & which make it necessary that I should now begin this new sheet to you without waiting to finish hers. Well then I must begin regularly & tell you my circumstances which are these. My paragon Betty - the maid who was so useful & such a treasure - has turned out [like all other paragons] to be a most abominable little animal & has left me against our consent & after pouring out such a heap of the most abusive lies as you could never imagine any one could invent. I have found that she has been for months deceiving me. I need not enter into the detail of her artifice & ingratitude but will proceed to state my necessities to you, in hopes that you may in some time send me the remedy. Here I am without any maid - I cannot in this busy country get a servant girl without paying wages much too high for our means, as the lowest wages given are from 4 to 5 dollars a month, or £12 or £15 a year. So I must do without one till you or some one else can send me out two little girls. I should like to have 2 if possible as I can find abundant employment for them. I wish to have the oldest not more than 14 or 15 years old - but strong for that age & healthy clean & good humoured. I should wish that they had never been at service & should be unacquainted with the ways of servants. Perhaps you might find such as I want at some school. I should like that she should know how to spin well, for spinning will in a short time become one of our household employments. Indeed spinning & washing are the only accomplishments that I am particularly anxious these girls should have - for cooking, baking [] I can easily teach them after they come. As for needle work I dont expect them to do much but if they are good workers it will be no objection. I should like to have them bound to me for 4 or 6 years. They should be bound in return & I can have indentures drawn up & signed (here likewise?) - Perhaps Mrs. Stewart or Mrs. Wilson might know of a family going who would take charge of them. Your Septer letters reached me last month so I may reasonably soon expect more. I hope you had Mrs. B. & Lsa with you at Christmas. Ours passed cheerfully & our new year begins pleasantly: at least we have no reason to think that our expectations of success will not be realised - but we find that everything must go on "step by step" as you used to say to me - & we donot raise our expectations too high. - I believe when I last wrote, in Decr Tom was just going to Cobourg by the new road. He found it rather a tedious journey as his sleigh was drawn by oxen & the new road was so bad that he was all the first day going 9 miles; It was Saturday - that night he slept at an old highlander the husband of my femme sage - as he took the old lady home with him. They live within 2 miles of Mr Rubidge's & on Sunday Tom went there & spent the night & day there. Tom reached Cobourg quite safely & crossed Rice Lake & it left him on the other side of it where he was to wait till his own sleigh came up. - This is so slow that he waited & walked about on the lakeshore for a long time - & then he thought he would go back part of the way across the lake & listen if they were coming. When he had proceeded some way from the shore one of those

sudden snow showers came on which you sometimes have at home accompanied by high wind - Poor Tom could not see land on any side nor could he hear any sound to direct him which way to steer his course, he was surrounded by an atmosphere of snow & the wind was most intensely cold - he tied down the ears of his cap & buttoned his coat tight round him, & tried to gain an island which he knew was near. At last he became uneasy for he did not know where he was, or how to find his way back - & he was growing too cold for pleasure. In this very uncomfortable situation he was considering what to do, when he thought he heard some one call out - he lifted up his cap & distinctly heard a call which he answered - & very soon a man came up to him & told him that Major Anderson (who lives on this side of the lake) begged he would come to his house, as he would certainly perish if he staid out. He very kindly sent his sleigh out for Tom & brought him safely to Terra Firma once more. - Major A. did not know where the person was, he had just distinguished a figure & guessed that it was some poor passenger who had lost his way. He was very kind and hospitable. Tom soon saw his own equipage arrive, & he proceeded to Mr. Rubidge's where he slept & came home safe & sound next day, heartily tired of his oxen sleigh & of the new road, which was so badly made that no horse sleigh can come up here without great difficulty - for in consequence of the snow & frost there are many trees lying across the road uncut. I mean by this very confused sentence that in consequence of the snow, the men could not cross cut the logs which had fallen across the road - & every sleigh has to jolt over them. Some of them are I daresay 2 or 3 feet in diameter. These nice little jolts we called Hop overs, & they are very common I hear in the roads thro' the woods - but indeed the best of our "Bush" roads scarce deserve the name for they are but paths. I am sure you are in misery about me now, my dear Mamma's & think I am billing myself with all sorts of hard work, now that I am without a maid. But you need not be uneasy for I do not indeed do anything more than my ordinary business, or at least nothing fatiguing. Mr & Mrs. Reid have very kindly given me their eldest daughter Mary - & she is very good natured, & know how to do every. She is excessively anxious poor little girl to save me & is always trying to get everything before me, that I may have nothing to do but nurse my "Papousie". Maria besides sends the servant girl here every monday to wash, so you can see I am well off only that I feel quite ashamed to let poor Mary do all Betty's work - & I know it must be very inconvenient to Maria to give her to me, & it must continue for so many months, befor any of your little girls could come - but bothe she & Mr. Reid are very good natured & assure me they are very glad that Mary should be here. She cooks & cleans the kitchen & washes the eating utensils. I bake & make the beds & sweep the two rooms, which with my care of the little buntling & my constant supply of needle work fill up every moment of every day & at this moment I am sitting up waiting for my bread to be baked & taking advantage of the silent midnight hour to write to you my dear. I generally read a little to myself while I am nursing babe, the only time I have now to read - sometimes I get a good deal of time for this indulgence, as she has not yet, taken any thing except what I could offer her, & consequently is very often with me. She thrives fairly & is strong & fat & sleeps well in general. She has been my bedfellow since her birth & I have taken the entire care of her since she was a week old. It seemed very odd to me at first & I trembled every day when I was washing & dressing such a tiny creature - but now I am become quite expert & am a very good nurse. She was vaccinated on Sunday when our little Doctor paid us a passing visit. He improves on acquaintance very much & we like him better everytime he comes. I have really told you all my occupations so dont be uneasy for constant employment is

very good for me. The servant boy who we brought with us was very bad - idle & impudent & at last ran away, but in a month he came back & is now much better & is improved in many ways. He carries in all the water for our cooking & washing, cleans the pans & kettles & makes up fires & when we want assistance in lifting any heavy thing, he & his master are always near & willing to help us. I never half thanked you my dear for all your delightful presents which are & were & will be most useful. They were just in time for my Papousie who has some frocks of the pink gingham & nightcaps etc of the longcloth. Tom admires the bombazine very much. Even the linen covering of the box was most useful for subbering which we cannot get even tolerable here. The books are wonderful comfort not only to us but to many others - for Mr. Rubidge & Dr. Hutchison have borrowed many from us. - Wed Feb. 5 ¼ before 12. Tom goes to Cobourg tomorrow & he must have this to put in the post office. I wrote the former part when I was fast asleep. Our winter has on the whole been remarkably fine & mild so far. We have had very cold nights once or twice but till [within] this week nothing like last winter - & we have had a great deal of thawing weather, very unusual here & not so pleasant I think as the clear frosty weather - however I think we shall have some real frosty Canadian weather now, for the therr has not been many degrees above zero this week, & is now 16^o below zero - but the days are sunny & pleasant, & we have fine fires. - We have 2 cows going to calve so we shall have a fine store of butter & milk for spring. There is no danger of our being exposed to the miseries described by Captn. Franklin in this "most deplorable of all climates" as he calls it. I envy you all those interesting books & having time I read them. Oh! I am become a famous Tailor! I have just made up a nice pair of frieze pantaloons for Tom & am to make him a waistcoat of the same material. I think then he will be a complete Paddy - he is so fond of this frieze³ that he is determined to have a whole suit of it & it is very comfortable in this climate. I think next year we must get a pair or two out & a pair of good blankets & some linen sheeting, but at present we could not compass it. Good night & may God bless all my dearly loved mama's pray your own child - F.S

[Extracts from F.S. Douro Jan. 27th & Feb. 5th 1824

To Miss Beaufort, Rec'd Ap 28th

M.N. No.28]

Goodwood - Tuesday

11th April 1854 -

My dearest Maria,

I am sure I need not tell you how I long for home letters, since I received your last - dated 2 March & which reached me the 23d - but none have come since - except one from Catherine to Ellen in which there was no mention at all of your dear Aunt's illness - In the very letter I had before that from our dear Mamma she mentioned her own declining years & requested me not to be shocked or to grieve for her if it should be the Lords' will to call her to Himself. We cannot help grieving at losing even for a time the social connection with members of our own family - whom we have ever loved & revered from our earliest years - - but we are allowed to sorrow in our hearts, & to mourn in our Spirits - & to feel the blank left - even though we are assured & perfectly satisfied that the change is for the dear departed - one of blessedness & to hope that in a short time we shall join them again never more to part - never more to weep - but to enjoy perfect peace perfect happiness - of which our finite mind can form no conception & above all to be with them in the mansions prepared by our Lord for our reception - & in the Presence of our blessed Lord Himself to be with our God The Father - Son & Spirit all in one - & to feel the Everlasting Glory of Heaven for all Eternity. Even knowing & feeling & being sure of all this - yet we must feel the pang of parting - If a very dearly loved friend who has been staying with us for some time leaves us - oh how dull & melancholy we feel for sometime - till letters come to renew our intercourse - In the same way, dearest, when one of our dearest & best beloved is removed to what we consider a distant land - our greatest and only consolation is from Spiritual intercourse - which brings our prospect of meeting again nearer to our view & makes it more sure & takes much of the pang of separation away - Still it will return in spite of all we can do - associations of every kind bring back memories of the past which at times even years after - have power to overwhelm us with grief as fresh & keen as ever - but this again brings us to the "Fountain of Still Waters" where we can find refreshment & have our hearts renewed by the Spirit of our Lord - Oh my beloved friends you can enjoy this - you are always near that "Living Spring: which never fails - Oh may you my own Mother & Sister & brothers & all we love & hold dear in this world come to this Living Water & drink & be refreshed & renewed by his Holy Spirit - may our hearts be sanctified & washed & cleansed - & strengthened & supported -

I feel deep sorrow for poor dear Bessy Rothwell - She has been wonderfully supported - but I know - that the time which immediately follows a bereavement like hers - is not the worst. At first one feels a necessity for exertion which keeps one up - & there is much to be done & arranged & ones situation altogether - seems so changed that there is an excitement which actually keeps one from feeling so deeply - But when we feel ourselves alone & obliged to think & act without the friend to think & act for or with us - when we look around & see all others - happy & gay - & that each possesses some one friend who makes them their first object - & that

all have some tie - then we who are widows do feel our desolation - we then feel ourselves drawn closer to The One Friend whose love never fails, who we can never lose - unless by our own forgetfulness - On what should we do, if we had not this Friend to fly to who is closer & whose love is more lasting than any Earthly friend - I can't help seeing a great similarity between Bessy's situation & my own - for indeed my own dear husband was all to me that hers was to her - he was the centre point of the whole circle, to whom all turned & all looked for guidance & I may say for happiness - Rich & poor alike looked up to him - & always found him a ready friend & councillor - He was the life & spirit of every company - yet his influence ruled & regulated the whole country around as - In our own family & associates he ruled most strictly - but at the same time so judiciously that he never gave offence - & seldom appeared harsh - till the last year or two when the state of his affairs evidently affected his own stretched & overwrought mind & feelings & actually his brain - but this was "The hand of the Lord" - his heart was always inclined to religion - & his adversity seemed to draw him closer to God & induced him to study the Holy Scriptures for edification and light - And he did receive light - & shewed it & tried to lead others by it & to it -

Oh Maria dear I am forgetting myself & selfishly writing my thoughts just as they come - & not considering that tho' you can feel interested in some of my ideas - you may have too much of them just at present - for one sometimes is not in a frame of mind just suited to some trains of thought occupying the mind of a friend at a great distance - but I know you will forgive me - I left poor dear Bessy - & began about my own.

Now I must get back to her - I am very much grieved that poor Emma continues to grieve so much - I could not help thinking of her - when travelling about with Emma to try change of remedies & new Doctors how much she must feel her loss - not having her husband with her to share her anxieties and help her in her efforts to relieve her dear little daughter - I am sure though that having some object to keep her from sinking into apathy is very good - & the change from place to place will be useful to her - tho' the cause is painful - I believe she did not go to Cork as at one time I heard she had some idea of - Perhaps English air & English Doctors might do her some good - Dear Aunt Sutton is most kind to me & has written' me many delightful letters - I have not written to her for some time - but as I am now writing to you it would be useless to write to her this time - All this winter I have been very idle about letter writing - I have not been as well as usual - & never have been good in spirits - & I felt that if I wrote it could only be in either a restrained way or else a [] story of my own little troubles so I just wrote as little as I could - Now I am better - & hope my mind will return by degrees to its own tone - I have been staying with darling Bessie & Edward for the last four weeks & enjoy myself greatly - I feel here as if care & sorrow were left behind - for this is a happy little place - & I have not seen Bessie so well & so so like herself as she is now - her eyes are bright & her heart seems light & her health is good - & tho' her little twins & her little adopted daughter Mary Brown, add to her cares & very much to her trouble & work, yet she manages them all wonderfully & never is in a fuss or out of patience or temper. The children are very healthy & very interesting of course - as all little children are to their parents & Grand mammas - but I dont think either Bes or Edward make too much fuss about them or think them anything wonderful as many mothers I know do - I have not been able to get out for three weeks - I

mean to see anybody - for I walk everyday - but the roads are nearly impassable for any conveyance that ladies could join - so we must wait for some time longer - tho' I am longing to get down to see Anna & Ellen & Kate & Louisa & all my friends - Frank is living at his farm & working steadily making preparations for adding to his house - as he hopes to have his little wife in some months from this. I am truly rejoiced to say her father is now on the best & pleasantest terms with Frank & I hope all may go on smoothly & happily - John is to be married very soon - as he has fitted up a loghouse for the present - & as he must study economy more than indulgence he wishes to settle down at once - as he finds it "does not pay" - to go every week or ten days to Grafton 25 miles off to see Anna - & besides it will be much more agreeable & better economy to have a housekeeper for good & as her parents have consented I believe they think of concluding all [letters] on my Birthday - the remembrance of which will be preserved by several weddings - John is a very industrious steady fellow, but he has nothing to depend on but the work of his hands - Anna has no fortune - but she is very prudent & a good manager & is active & industrious - if they have health I have no fears. Frank's wife is also a very good manager but is rather [part of page missing]

Pray give my love to James & all your little flock & the Rockfields & Athboys and to any of my old friends who care for me or that you think I love. Goodbye dear.

YourSin

Affecty.

Fanny S.

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92-1002 #1

Goodwood 1st Aug

Tuesday 1854

I believe I never answered your last - yet I think I could not have delayed so long thanking for all your tender prayers & wishes on the anniversary of my birthday - only think - 3 score years,

It seems strange that I have been allowed so long a portion of time, & so large a portion of happiness - when I am so useless & unworthy - but it ought to rouse me, though late to redeem the time, & try to do more good. I have so many blessings & sources of happiness - & indeed my heart is most thankful for them - I dont know any person who has such great & numerous blessings & mercies as I have. Health, one of the greatest, has been much better this summer than at any time last year; Asthma comes occasionally - but is not so very over-powering as it was last year - nor so constant. My mind is much more at ease than for many years back, as I am free from the responsibility & exertion of managing the establishment at Auburn to which I was quite unequal

My dear Frank, who was far far away from me last year & about whom I was in ignorance then, - is now settled down into a steady respectable member of society and established in his proper place, & grade of our society. I am thankful to say that there is a respectability which seems to attend on, & belong to our family, - which all my sons are likely to keep up. - Even in Toronto George & Charlie seem to inherit the regard & interest of many in the highest classes there, who were acquainted with their dear father & who till lately we had little or no idea of recollecting us. They have proved themselves kind friends to the sons of one who possessed their respect & esteem, & whose memory is still revered & cherished in their hearts

This is very gratifying to me

My leaving Auburn has been advantageous to Willy - as he now does more there than he would while I remained. He is doing a great deal now, & the fields & every thing, look more thriving & promising than for many years back.

I go there very often - I love Louise & Wm. very much - & they both always seem to wish to make me comfortable

Malone has been very full, but now they are alone again, & dear Ellen is looking much better & growing fat again, she is too apt to forget herself & do too much when she feels well - & then she [brings] back pains & swellings & other ailments which require care & active remedies to set all right again. I spent 3 days with her last week - as George came to spend a week or ten days with us, & he made Malone his head quarters - he has now returned to Toronto, but there is a prospect of his coming to reside in Peterboro, & opening an office there as Engineer. There

are some new arrangements making - but of course he will be guided by the advice of his friends, & by circumstances -

His leaving Toronto would be a great sorrow to Charlie who has a year & $\frac{3}{4}$ still of his time to [] with Mr Tully - Mr T. seems to have the highest opinion of Charlie & places the greatest confidence in him - leaving all in his charge when he goes from home

It is expensive to push young men forward - but it fully repays one to find them so deserving of all that one can do to help them -you may laugh at me for praising my children but I just write my thoughts as they [arrive]

This has been the hottest summer I have felt for above 25 years - we are all nearly stewed to jelly. The Thermr: has been up to 96° - 98° & one day 106° - in the shade

That very day poor Charlie had a slight Sun stroke I think. He had been allowed a holiday & went early in the morning to spend the day with Mrs Turner, mother of a fellow pupil - they were hay making, he joined them, but was overcome by the heat - & not sensible of any thing more till he found on the sofa in Mrs. T's drawing room - & all the family anxiously watching him - & bathing his head with cooling applications - wh. they had been doing for 5 hours!! - however in the evening he was able to go home - but had a Dr. to attend him - & every day, at the same hour for several days, severe head ache & high fever came on. - He was quite well however when George left him - & I hear from him every week. Cholera has been very bad in Montreal & Quebec - but there have been only a few cases in Toronto & Peterboro

Anna's little flock are quite well - Barbara a nice fat smiling dark eyed thing they all say she is [ridiculously] like me

They are all fine healthy children

Mary Dunlop is very tall & looks much healthier & better than she did when she first came back but she has lately had a pain in her right side it comes & goes & is worst at night when lying down Ellen thinks it is from her liver. She is a fine little girl & wonderfully little spoiled, considering -

Bessy & her little boys are very well - they are very healthy, & run about, & are in all sorts of mischief. Bessie has a great deal to do - but is never in a fuss, & just goes on through her course of daily work & duties like a little Steam Engine - & it is wonderful what a great deal she gets done in the day & yet never seems in a hurry or disheartened

My little Emily is a good child - & her arm is rather stronger - but I fear will never be of use - she has to dress herself

I think I have given you a family history - but I have not done yet - for I must tell you about my [] daughters. I told somebody that Frank & Joann had removed to a temporary dwelling at their

own place - we all went to spend an Evg. there while George was with us - They have a nice little parlour, & small but neat & snug - a sofa, & Rocking chair (an American comfort which [] but americans enjoy) it [looks really] comfortable & was nice & cool - it opens into a new house. Their bedroom is next the parlour - & at the back is a nicest little kitchen you ever saw - like a kitchen in a child's baby house - floor, table & shelves are all so clean - all the shelves filled with [] & the walls hung with Tin utensils all bright - & a nice little stove in proportion to the [], of the house. Several people came in unexpectedly so that in a little while we were quite a large party - all connexions - Oh! what do you think, Frank & [Jon] have just come to spend the day & have interrupted me - Good bye I had much more to say -

Love love to all dear friends

F.S.

a long & violent [] storm all yesterday from 11 a.m to 11 p.m - I hope this dreadful heat is over

Dear Kate send this back for our travellers to see -

MS.

Douro - Monday 4th April 1859.

My own darling Aunty

I have just been reading over for the third time your kind & precious letters of 26th Feby which I received on the 25th March along with one from my dear Charlie - I do indeed feel deeply thankful for your great kindness in writing to me so regularly & telling me so much that is so interesting - I often think I dont know any person in Canada amongst the hundreds who have left their homes & friends - who is so fortunate as I am in hearing so constantly from those dear ones who I left so many many years ago - who still retain me in their home Circle by constant intercourse on paper - & communicating those small incidents - which keep up our close union - so much more than the mere mentioning of subjects which perhaps might be of more importance in the opinion of many - but to me the small ones are most precious - & which I think may be considered the "pith & marrow" of love & friendship between members of one family - and which take away much of the pang of feeling seperated from those we love best - it always seems so lonely to think - "If I were now at home I should hear & know all the little things going on" - but I have seldom felt this for any length of time - soon nice letters come from different quarters - each conveying news of the nearest & dearest interest - from the different parts of the country - so that by degrees I know more than could almost be expected of all my darlings beyond the Atlantic -

Our winter has been like yours very mild - & our spring is unusually early - so much so that ploughing was commenced about the 20th March in this neighborhood - which is some weeks earlier than usual - & the buds of currants - Lilacs - & other shrubs are actually bursting open - & the tops of the trees in the woods have lost the hard grey appearance they have in winter & now look quite a reddish green from the swelling of buds - but alas! all this fine mild weather has its own disadvantages - these sweet buds now encouraged to open, will I fear be nipped by the frosty nights we may expect to have between this time and the middle of May - which is the most trying season in the year to vegetation as well as health

- There has been much illness this winter - Influenza of a new species has come in fatal force into many families - attacking the head & brain & swelling the ears & neck most painfully - thank God none of my family have had it in that form - none of my numerous offsets have had more than bad coughs & common feverish colds - but poor Bessie for about two months had dreadful agony from neuralgia in her head & face - which latterly extended to her neck & throat but I am thankful to say took its departure there & has not returned for nearly a fortnight - so I am in hopes it has gone for this year at all counts - She is beginning to look more like her bright little self again

I am sorry to find that dear Helena is not so strong as you wished to find her - after her sojourn with Dr. Barton who has been so successful with Emma & her dear Mother - perhaps if Helena

returns there in summer & repeats the course of treatment - the cure may be more complete - your account of the whole family - Mother & daughter was most delightful - long may they & the dear dear "Grannie" be permitted to be blessing to each other & to enjoy all the social & domestic enjoyments with which you are surrounded

What a fortunate fellow Johnnie [] is - and so far at least - he seems not to be at all spoilt by his great prosperity - his is a dangerous situation in every way - both personal & moral - but he seems well guarded by his excellent principles against the temptations of the latter kind - & the former of course we must entrust to the Divine Guardian who reigns over all the wanderers in this wide wide world - - I grieve to say we have had no tidings of my dear Frank since the wretched letter of last July - written in the depth of despair - his truly admirable little wife is still with her parents, who are aged & not well & require her care the eldest boy little Willie has always been delicate - but little Alexr. the Baby now 20 months old is a fine child I earnestly hope they may prove comforts to their dear Mother Your favorite George was staying with Ellen & for some days with John lately - he was employed in Surveying that neighborhood - he suffered a good deal from walking so much & had a great deal of pain in the front of his ankle near the instep - which I am inclined to think must be from rheumatism - he was greatly tired every evening after his days work it is so disagreeable walking in deep wet snow - I wish dear George had not taken his marrying fit so early - but had spent a year then visiting the auld country - & married afterwards he often regrets he cannot now hope ever to be able to see the wonders of [] & Nature with which Charles letters are filled - as well as to become acquainted with the many relations & friends who have given his brother such a kind reception dear George would I am sure make as many friends as Charlie has done tho' he is more reserved and of a more thinking disposition than Charles - Kate had a very pleasant letter from dear Charlie yesterday - dated the 11th March - he was still at Leicester where he had been detained by the illness of his Uncle who had been in France & requested Charlie to stay with his Aunt till his return - he finds it quite a difficulty to get [] his Aunts heart seems to have opened & bestowed on him all the love she has for years back withheld from all her own relations - it seems very strange that this poor wanderer from the backwoods of Canada, should be the only one of her nephews she has ever [seen] I dont understand where she kept her heart - he was to go to London the next week & on to Bristol & across from that to Cork!! - We have had terrible high winds - & the papers filled with disasters at sea - which make my heart beat when I think of his going that apparently tedious route -

- But I suppose he does & [] some advice or instructions from the Hoare family as their relations are Cork people & friends of the Cork Beauforts & I am glad Charlie will be able to see them as well as the southern parts of Ireland - he has travelled over a large part of Gt Britain in a short time - I dont know how he will reconcile himself to our homely ways - but I know he is my own dear old Charlie still in heart -

I have not seen Anna Hay for a long time - as I have been [] up from bad roads - She is very well - as I hear constantly of & from both her & Ellen - the latter walked here one day about ten days ago - 3 good miles! & home again after early tea - So you may conclude she is well - Anna has taken a small house in Peterboro as she is now quite strong & able to undertake the

management of her own affairs & family - & I think will be much happier living independantly as long as her health continues good, which I trust may be for many years yet -

I had a very kind letter from Allenstown on Saturday - James sent me his half yearly account & notice of having sent the draft for my money to Thos. Kirkpatrick from whom I hope to have it soon & when I do I will write to James to tell him of its safe arrival I also had a charming letter from Anna Waller - who is so kind in writing to me as if we had been cousins & well acquainted all our lives - you dont know how I delight in these proofs of kindness - dear good Mary also wrote me a very nice letter some time ago - which I have not answered - this winter has been a time of so much care & anxiety to me from many causes, that I sometimes cannot rouse myself for writing to anyone

I have had rheumatism all over me constantly for many weeks - & today it is in my right arm so much that at times I can scarcely guide my pen - as you probably have observed by my rambling writing -

But I find I am drawing near the end of my 2d sheet - & [] "curbing genicis" - indeed it is time I should release you from this weary job - Bessie unites with me in [kind] love to you & Bessy & all your dear surroundings - and believe me

my ever loved Aunt

Your Grateful & Attached

neice & child F. Stewart

[92-1002 #3 \[fragment\]](#)

July 18, 1859.

told them what to send - for they were the very things I have been wishing so much for"! -

My dear Son has returned to us very happy to see all his own kin again - & very ready to tell me all he can about so many I so dearly love he expresses regret at not having been able to see more of his Meath friends but having treated poor Harriet so unceremoniously on her first kind invitation - he could not hurry away from her sooner than was absolutely necessary - - I suppose you have heard of the cause of his prolonged visit at Southwold - where at first he only intended spending a few days - but Master Cupid flew in & cast a net over him which detained him & I suppose will draw him there again as soon as he can make arrangements for settling down as a married man & the prospect of visiting Europe next year (DV) gives him hopes of seeing many friends who he could not go in the meantime - I have heard a great deal about Miss Ellis from some of her friends who are in this country & are greatly attached to her - And I can only feel astonished at Charless extraordinary good fortune in having gained the affection so soon of a person of truly excellent sound sense & prudence - I can only account for its having proceeded from her discernment in judging of his character from his countenance & his quiet unpressuring manner which I rejoice to find is perfectly unchanged - not withstanding the very partial & distinguished attention, paid him everywhere & by all he met & especially his relations & connexions - as well as some perfect strangers I was afraid he wd. have been a little elevated in his own estimation but I must say - he is exactly the same dear old 'Charlie - except he is grown stouter & broader in his shoulders than he was - & looks quite a year older -

[92-1002 #4 \[fragment\]](#)

for I am now writing in my bedroom at 11 oclock at night - not having been able to dose at a more reasonable hour & as I am going to Peterboro early tomorrow I have determined to write a short letter tonight

[section of page missing]

How very kind you had been my own dear Aunt to write me such a delightful letter - which made me truly happy giving such pleasant accounts of yourself & my other dear friends & relations, & telling me so much about dear Charles & Charlotte who I am sincerely happy to find you like so much - I am sure if one quarter of what I have heard of her from all sides are ["are" crossed out] is true - she will indeed be a blessing & comfort to me & to all her connexions - It is most amazing to me how Charlie contrived to gain her affections so soon & so completely - But he has been equally fortunate in all he has undertaken - for he has now got Auburn - a very pretty place & a very excellent house - & a fine valuable property - without the smallest trouble or difficulty on his part - I have had the whole house painted & papered & I think it will look "first rate" for them when they come

- Oh may they be preserved in the dangers of the voyage and may we all meet at my own dear Auburn in safety & thankfulness next week -

I shall look out for them about thursday next the 25th. - they might come sooner - I cant help feeling anxious but I know they are under the care of Him who holds our lives in His hands, & knows the time & the way to call us hence - Many are preserved in apparent danger & taken at an unlooked for moment - All are in His hands - & we know His Power & His Mercy & His Love - which is boundless - Oh may I in this trial & all others, place all I hold most dear in His care - who is our best Father Guardian & Protector

11th. Sept. 1866

My very dear Harriette

I wish to show you that I think of you today- and one of the best means of doing so is to write you a letter - I very constantly think of you and of Lena and little baby - who I suppose is now quite a large baby but I hardly know what name she goes by - as I only mentioned Nora by way of a joke - I know Momma intended to call her Eleanor which is a very pretty name - - I hope in some time you will be able to write to me

I thought of you dear Harriette early this morning & remembered that it is your Birthday - and I hope you have been very happy today - & that you may have a great many happy Birthdays encreasing each year in wisdom [&] knowledge of the best kind as well as in health & strength of body - I am sorry that I have no nice present to send you - but at this distance it is difficult to send parcels to our friends - & besides I am sure you have all sorts of nice things - much nicer & better than anything I could buy in Peterboro - but my dear child I have a large portion of love in my heart to send you - if you could only see it or feel it, as I feel it - but this is one of much that we must believe without seeing - or feeling - as I dare say your dear Mamma has explained to you already & she will explain this to you in the same way if you dont understand it - I have not been very well lately & my hand is weak & shakes very much - so that I cannot write as neatly as I should like to do, when I write to you- but I cannot help it - & so dear child you must Believe me to be your Ever affectionate Grandmamma

F Stewart

Kiss Mamma & Papa & your sisters for me & ask Mamma to give you a warm embrace & a good kiss for me

Douro 25th. March 1868

My dearest Harriet

I liked your letter very much - and I hope you will write to me again - I have letters very often from my other Grandchildren, and now I send you one from your cousin Herbert I asked your cousin Harriet to write to you, but she has not one ready - but she writes very nicely - I think you would be very fond of her, she is a very nice little girl and always merry -she sings very nicely and sings a great many hymns and songs too - If you ever come back to Canada you will be surprised to see Aunt Carolines new house - I have not seen it - but I hear it is a very pretty house - and I should like to see it and Aunt and Uncle Strickland and Charlie and Agnes and Arthur

We have had too much snow - and could not go out for a long time I have not seen any of your Aunts or cousins except the Browns who live very near - and Aunt Louisa's family - We have no flowers yet but I suppose you have Violets now and crocuses - have you a garden? We sometimes hear a little bird who comes to a tree near the house and sings in the morning - and we hear the crows cawing - & see lots of wild Pigeons - - Some beasts called Wolverines have been here this winter - and have killed our hens and amongst them a dear little black hen with a large topping of black and white feathers, she was so tame she came to me whenever she saw me and eat bread out of my hand, I was very sorry - these Wolverines cry at night like some person screaming - they are like a very large cat - Oh! dear Harrie how much I should like to kiss you again

Poor old Betty sometimes comes to see us, and she often talks of your Papa - she often nursed him when he was a little boy about as old as Nora - I should like to see you all my dear little children for you are all warmly loved by

Your own fond Grandma

F: Stewart

Give my love to

Lina and Nora - and Henry

is he to be Henry or Elliott

92-1002 #7

15th Decr. 1868

My dear Harriet

Thank you for your nice letter which I wish to answer, - Harriet Brown likes very much to have letters too, & will I am sure soon write to you, she is at school till three o'clock every day and then she plays and runs about on the Veranda, as the snow is very deep now - You don't know how much I long to see you and Lina, and Nora, and Henry - but I am afraid I shall not be here if you ever come back to Auburn or to Canada. -

Little Bertha Brown is staying here now - she is just your age - your Mama will remember her; her Mama is Mrs Templeton Brown - Bertha is a tall large girl - but she has not learned to read well yet - Harriet is older but is much smaller and I think is much prettier - yet Bertha is pretty too - Harriet is a very good child, and very obliging and seems always pleased and ready to go on any message or to do any thing for any body - she is very merry - and can run very fast - sometimes she and Roly make a noise laughing and running - she would like very much to have a nice race with you - Dear Harriet I have sent out a little money to Mama to buy some thing for each of you my four dear Grand children as Christmas presents - I am going to give some little gift to every one of my Grandchildren there are 38 besides your four - so you may suppose I have to think a great deal about you all - but I thought it best to send some money to Mama, though it is but a small sum to send so far but when each of the 42 have a little - it all makes a large sum I suppose you have a slate to do sums on - so you can see it - and now I hope you may have a merry Christmas and a happy new year - Kiss your Sisters and little Henry & love

Your affectionate

Grandma

F Stewart

Harriet asks me to thank you for your letter - she was much pleased to have it - and will write soon to you - she sends her love -

[Addressed to:

Miss Harriet Stewart

Acton]

Douro - 15th. April 1869

My very dear little Grand daughter

I wish to write you a long letter to show you in the only means in my power how much pleased I was with your very nice one, which Aunt Dunlop gave me one day lately when I was at Malone You are improving very much in writing and I think you will soon write as nicely as Mama

But you should not wait for Papa to send your letters, for he is too slow - I am glad you did not wait longer - Mamma is a much better medium for that purpose - Do you know Papa has not written to me since the 22d of last October! - six months very nearly! - dont you think if he were as far from you - that you would write to him oftener - dear Mamma has written me three letters since I had one from him

You say you often talk about us - so I can return the compliment with truth, for we very often talk of you all - I am glad you got my Christmas Gift safe: - I have so many Grand children now that I can hardly remember [] birthdays - and [I am] often sorry to find I have allowed some to pass over without even sending a letter of remembrance - as I fear I have now allowed dear Mammams to pass bye and dear little Nora's - Oh how I should like to see you all - and to kiss & hug you! - do you like to coax people who you love very much? - I do - and a dear little boy here Cecil Brown is so gentle and loving he always coaxes those he is fond of, You would be very fond of him and Helen, as they are not very shy - We have another cousin of yours staying here - she has been here since the beginning of winter - she is Bertha Brown - Mrs Templeton Browns only daughter - She is just your age - I think she is only one day older or younger, I forget which She is a very pretty girl - & she has very rosy cheeks & red lips & brown eyes - & very nice hair which hangs down on her neck in curls - - She is as tall as Harriet Brown and much stouter and stronger - for Harriet is very thin & slender - she is a pretty little girl - I am not sure if she is writing to you - for she did write sometime ago, but [] letter was not sent - but she will write another [] soon - She does not write as well as you do - for she scribbles too much She reads very nicely and she is learning music - - I am sure Aunt Kirkpatrick was pleased to have a letter from you She is as fond of having letters as I am

How kind it was of Aunt C. Luxford to make up the money you lost it is very vexatious to lose any thing and particularly money when we are going to buy any thing with it - You did not tell me what you bought as a present for Papa - I had some likenesses taken sometime ago, but they were not approved of - so I have not sent any home to my friends in "the Old Country" - but I hope [DV] to be able to have some better to send in summer if I can - I have only been once in Peterboro since Christmas! - or some time before it - I was at Aunt Dunlops one day lately and passed dear old Auburn - it always makes me very melancholy now to drive that way Papa can tell you why -

And now I must remember that I must write to Mamma - & if not too [] perhaps to Papa - for I love both of them very much indeed - I hardly hope my dear children ever to see you again for I feel my days cannot be many in this world - but I earnestly hope and believe we shall meet in a much happier one - never more to part And meantime dear Harrie - think of me as I do of you when in prayer - & Believe me Your Affectionate Grandma

F Stewart

Christmas day

1869

My own dear Harriette

I hope you are very well and very happy today - and as merry as people generally are at this sociable Season -

I have been some weeks intending to write to you, so that you should have my good wishes and loving remembrance on this day - but I have not been very well for sometime nor in very good spirits - and you know people cannot write cheerful or pleasant letters - unless they feel quite well and happy - One cause of my feeling dull was having been disappointed in my wish to send you all my very dear little Grandchildren - some little presents - but I found I could not manage it - so I wrote to dear Mamma - I fear a very dull & discontented sort of letter - for I felt so - & whenever I do so - it makes me feel sick - but I have had a cheerful day - for Aunt Kate & Uncle Robert and their six children spent the whole day here - from a little past 11 - in the morning - till near 10 at night

The servants of both families were allowed to go home to see their own friends - I am sorry to say none of our party were at Church - for it threatened rain and we are 5 miles from our Church - - Early in the Morning about 3 o'clock - Mary & Caroline Mathias and Mary Brown went to Uncle Roberts house, & sung two nice hymns just near their bedroom window - One was Hark! the Herald Angels sing - and the other was Heavenly Home! - Heavenly Home! Precious name to me. - I dare say you know this last one of course you do the first one.

- Their voices sounded very nice in the stillness of that hour - We had no Christmas tree this year but on the Evening before 18 of my Grand children & their Mothers were here - & had a merry Evening with various games & they dressed up & acted Charades - some of the older ones - Oh I should have like so much to have your dear Papa & Mama & you my five dear children here along with ours - Aunt Louisas 5 were here - but she could not come - as she is staying in Peterboro - Aunt Annie and 7 of her children were here - but dear Uncle John is far away in Illinois - Aunt Kate and her six were here - besides Aunt Bee's 4 & our nieces & Uncle Robert - so we had a large party -

I think Harriet is writing a few lines to you - she is a very nice little girl - she is not at all fat - but is tall & thin she & Aunt Lou's little Birdie, are very fond of each other & go out on a little hand sleigh & slide down a little hill in our lawn - Papa will explain to you how they go -

I hope dear Harrie you may have & had a very merry Christmas & New Year - for both will be "bye gones" when this reaches you - I have a headache today but I dont think it is very bad - So

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

dear I hope you will soon write to me - & believe me that though I have not been able to send you presents or to prove the truth of my words I am always your very loving Grandma

F Stewart

Douro - 24th Octr 1870

My dearest Harriet

Accept my sincere thanks for your nice long & interesting letter which Uncle Robert sent to me some days ago - I have not seen him yet, but I hope when he has time he will come here - for I always like to see him - and I want to hear a great deal about you all - Fan Hay has been here very often and she always has a great deal to tell me - she seems to have enjoyed her visit to London very much - and felt deeply the great kindness shown to her by the friends she staid with, to whom she was quite a stranger - as well as by your own dear Papa & Mama & indeed every body she met there

Few things make one more happy than [part of page missing] with kindness - and Fan seems to have been most fortunate in that way -

You say you should like to see me and I can assure you - that I should like very very much to see you and Lina & Nora and Henry and Johnny - I always look at the Photos of you & Lina & Nora whenever I am at Aunt Dunlops - I remembered your Birthday on the 11th - Aunt Bee and I talked about it, but alas my dear little Grand daughter I could not send you a present - nor did I write - for just about that time I was not well - and I wrote to Mamma soon after but I was not able to write well & I am not sure if I sent a message; but had not forgotten you

Our trees were very beautiful a week or two ago - the weather was most delightful - and so warm that we [part of page missing] - but now we have quite high [part of page missing] and frost every night - [part of page missing] shocks of Earthquake have been [part of page missing] all over this Province - on Thursday last particularly - we did not feel it here - but we heard a great noise like thunder - only not the sharp crashing sound that thunder has - but a rumbling sound, which continued for some minutes - Aunt Bee & Aunt Kate & Mary Mathias and I all heard it going on & thought it was distant thunder - afterward when we heard of the Earthquake we concluded it must have been connected with that as it was about the same hour - and it was a very cool day -

Did I tell you in my last letter that I had two dear little birds Canadian Canaries - One of them was tamer than the other and I called it Petsey - it sung very sweetly - and [part of page missing] nice little coaxing ways [part of page missing] its cage just outside the [part of page missing] everyday - but one day last week - I found it lying dead in the cage, and its poor little head taken off!! - So then I recollected having seen a Jay flying about amongst the trees near the house - and I am sure it killed my dear little Petsey! - I was very sorry - the other little bird was so frightened it could not eat & sat without moving for some hours - and its poor little heart kept beating quite hard - it was very sick & very dull for several days - & is only just [now] beginning to recover - but it has not sung at all - I am sure it feels lonely after the other

Harriet Brown wishes you would write to her soon - I think you would be very fond of her - she is such a nice little girl - Mary Mathias teaches her every day She is very good natured & merry and runs & jum[ps] about - We have a good many apples now & Harriet hel[ps] to gather the[m] - She sends h[er] love & so doe[s] Aunt Bee an[d] your own v[ery] fond Grand[ma]

F. Stewart

Pray write to me again and to Harriet

Monday -

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[97-023/1/1 Indenture](#)

Assignment

Kivas Tully and Maria Elizabeth Tully

his wife

To

Edward Brown

Robert Dennistoun

Conveyancer []

Peterborough

C.W.

I certify that a Memorial of the within was recorded in the Registry Office for the County of Peterboro' At 10,30 AM On 20th March 1861 In Lib, G1 Fol 14564

Chas. Rubidge

Regr.

We Samuel Strickland and Robert Casement Esquires two of Her Majestys Justices of the Peace in and for the United Counties of Peterborough and Victoria do hereby certify that on this Twenty Seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty [in] the township of Douro in the said County of Peterborough the within deed was duly executed in the presence of us by Maria Elizabeth Tully wife of Kivas Tully one of the grantors therein named and that the said Maria Elizabeth Tully at the said time and place living Examined by us apart from her husband did appear to give her consent to depart with her Estate in the land mentioned in the said deed freely and voluntarily and without coercion or fear of coercion on the part of her husband or of any other person or persons whatsoever

Sam Strickland. J.P.

Robert Casement JP

This Indenture made this Twenty Seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty Between Kivas Tully of the City of Toronto in the County of York

Architect and Civil Engineer and Maria Elizabeth his wife of the first part and Edward Brown of the township of Douro in the County of Peterborough Gentleman of the second part Witnesseth that the said Kivas Tully and Maria Elizabeth Tully in consideration of the sum of Ten shillings of lawful money of Canada to them in hand paid by the said Edward Brown (the receipt whereof is hereby by them acknowledged) do hereby assign transfer convey and set over remise release and for Ever relinquish unto the said Edward Brown his heirs and assigns all the Estate right title interest use trust property claim and demand of what kind soever whether at [Law] or in Equity and whether present or future of them the said Kivas Tully and Maria Elizabeth Tully or of either of them [] to or out of That Piece or Parcel of land Situate lying and being in the said township of Douro in the County of Peterborough aforesaid in that part of the Province of Canada heretofore called Upper Canada containing by admeasurement one hundred acres be the same more or less and being Composed of The West Half of Lot number six in the Ninth concession of the said township of Douro - To Have and To Hold to the said Edward Brown his heirs and assigns to and for his and their sole and only use for Ever

In witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year [] hereintofore written

Sealed Signed and Delivered

in presence of

Haynes [King]ham [Higgan---]Kivas Tully

Maria E Tully

[97-023/1/1 Will](#)

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE LATE

HON. THOMAS ALEXANDER STEWART

OBIT.

SEPTEMBER. 6TH 1847

AT AUBURN

Henry Louis Stewart

This is the last Will and Testament of Me Thomas Alexander Stewart of the Township of Douro. in the Colbourne District and Province of Canada. -

I give and bequeath unto my wife Frances all my household furniture, stock implements and utensils of husbandry, books plate and all other my personal property of whatsoever nature or kind, which may be and remain after the payment of my just debts (save and except my copy of Rie's Encyclopaedia and also the sum of three Thousand Pounds now standing partly in the public funds and partly in other securities, set fourth and mentioned in certain deeds of settlement made and executed on the inter[] of me the said Thomas Alexander Stewart with my said wife, and [being] date on or about the sixteenth day of December in the Year of our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and sixteen) To Hold unto my said wife to and for her absolute use and benefit. - - I give, devise and bequeath the said sum of Three Thousand Pounds, to Stafford Frederick Kirkpatrick of the City of Kingston in the Midland District and province aforesaid Esquire. And Thomas Hay of the Town of Peterborough in the said Colbour District Esquire. And the survivors of them, and executors or administrators of such survivors. In trust to receive the interest and annual proceeds thereof, and to pay the same when received unto my wife Frances during the term of her Natural life. And from and immediately after her decease in Trust to sell and transfer the said sum of Three Thousand pounds for the best price that can be obtained therefor and to pay and apply the proceeds of such sale or transfer in Manner following that is to say - As to two hundred pounds - part thereof - to pay to my son George Alexander Stewart to and for his own use and benefit. - And as to the rest residue and remainder of the proceeds of the sale or transfer of the said sum of Three Thousand pounds in trust to divide the same between and amongst my four daughters, Anna Maria Hay, Eleanor Susannah Dunlop, Elizabeth Lydia Stewart, and Catherine Mary Stewart, their executors, administrators and assigns equally share and share alike. - And in case either or both of my said daughters Elizabeth Lydia and Catherine Mary shall die sole and unmarried during the lifetime of my said wife, then and in that case, in trust to pay the presumptive share or shares of her or them in dying as aforesaid unto my younger sons Charles Edward, and Henry Louis their Executors administrators and ["and" crossed out] or assigns equally share and share alike. - -

My copy of Rie's Encyclopeadia before mentioned I give and bequeath to my said son George Alexander. - And it is my will and I do hereby declare and direct that the portion or share of the said sum of Three Thousand pounds herein before devised by me to and for my said daughter Anna Maria Hay is to be accepted and taken as and for and the same as hereby declared to be in full discharge and payment of the sum of Five hundred pounds advanced to me by my said daughter Anna Maria Hay and for which the said Anna Maria Hay holds my certain deed of bargain and sale by way of Mortgage in security - and my said daughter Anna Maria Hay is only to be entitled to the benefit of the devises hereby made to or in trust for her on condition that proper and valid release and discharge of the said mortgage and of the said sum of five hundred pounds is secured thereby, - be first duly executed - I give devise and bequeath all my real estate and property whatsoever and wheresoever situated unto the said Stafford Frederick Kirkpatrick and Thomas Hay and the Survivors of them and the heirs, Executors and administrators of such survivors in trust to permit and suffer my said wife Frances to receive and take the rents, issues, and profits thereof, and to use, occupy and enjoy the same for and during her natural life, and from and immediately after the decease of my said wife. then in trust - as to those certain portions thereof constituting the Ghrist Mill property now under lease to and in the occupation of one Donald McFarlane and composed of part of Lot Number one in the twelfth Concession of the said Township of Douro. And containing by admeasurement, [] two [] and thirty-three perches more or less according to the [] and description thereof made and given by one John Reid, Deputy Provincial Land Surveyor

For my said daughter Anna Maria Hay her heirs and assigns to and for her own sole and seperate use part from her present or any future husband and not to be subject to his or their debts controul or engagements but to be absolutely disposed of as she my said daughter Anna Maria Hay shall from time to time by visiting and under her own hand direct and appoint and as to the residue and remainder of the said lot number one in the Thirteenth Concession of the said Township of Douro, and also as to that part of Lot Number One in the twelfth Concession of the said Township, which cut off by and is situate to the west of the Queens Highway in trust to and to divide the same into three equal parts and as to that portion thereof which is next adjoining on the south to that portion so divided to or in trust for my said daughter Anna Maria Hay to convey and transfer the same unto my said daughter Eleanor Susannah Dunlop her heirs and assigns for her own sole use apart from her present or any future husband and not to be subject to his or their debts, controul or engagements but to be absolutely disposed of as my said daughter Eleanor S Dunlop shall from time to time by or under her hand direct and appoint and as to that portion of the said lots to be divided as aforesaid next adjoining on the south to the portion above give or devised or bequeathed ["or bequeathed" crossed out] to or in trust for the said Eleanor S Dunlop as aforesaid in trust to convey or transfer the same unto my daughter Elizabeth Lydia, her heirs and assigns to her own sole and seperate use apart from any husband with whom she may hereafter intermarry and not be subject to his debts controul or engagements, but to be absolutely disposed of by her in like manner as the portions given and divided to or in trust for my said daughters Anna Maria Hay and Eleanor S Dunlop - And as to the remaining portion of the said Lots, so to be divided ["ided" crossed out] divided as aforesaid which is next adjoining the portion last above given or devised to or in trust for the said Elizabeth Lydia Stewart as aforesaid in trust to convey and transfer the same unto my said

daughter Catherine Mary Stewart her heirs and assigns to her own sole and separate use apart from any husband with whom she may hereafter intermarry and not be subject to his debts, control or any engagements, but to be absolutely disposed of in like manner as the other portions so given and devised to or in trust for my said other daughters as hereinbefore mentioned.

And as to all that portion of Lot Number two in the twelfth Concession of the said Township of Douro, which does not comprise or form part of the saw mill site and reservation now under lease to Donald McFarlane or which does not comprise or form any part of the land herein after directed to be set apart ["apart" crossed out] and apportioned unto of other mill sites or reservations and also as that part of Lot Number [three] in the twelfth concession of the aforesaid Township of Douro called the Park containing about thirty acres more or less and which is bounded by the public Road on the east entrust to convey and transfer or otherwise assign the same to my son William Stewart his heirs and assigns for ever. - And as to Lot number one in the eleventh concession of the aforesaid Township, containing by admeasurement two hundred acres more or less. And also as to the saw mill now laid under lease by me to the said Donald McFarlane and being part of Lot number two in the twelfth concession of the said Township of Douro. in trust to convey transfer or otherwise assume the same to my son Francis Thomas Stewart his heirs and assigns for ever. - And as to all the residue of Lot number one in the twelfth concession of the said Township not hereinbefore specifically given or devised in trust to convey and transfer or otherwise assume the same unto my son John Stewart his heirs and assigns for ever - And as to the east one hundred and fifty acres of Lot Number three in the eleventh Concession of the said Township in trust to convey and transfer or otherwise ass[] the same unto my son Charles Edward Stewart his heirs and assigns for ever. - And as to the remaining portion of Lot number three in the twelfth concession of the said Township not having before specifically given or devised, and also as to the remaining fifty acres of lot Number three in the eleventh concession of the said Township, not having before specifically given or devised, in trust to convey and transfer or otherwise ass[] the same unto my son Henry Louis Stewart his heirs and assigns for ever. - Provided always and I hereby declare by will that in case of any or either of my said sons dying during the lifetime of my said wife Frances, sole and unmarried than and in such case the portion or share which he or they would have taken under this my will shall be divided between and amongst them ["m" crossed out] survivors of my said sons equally share and share alike, and shall be transferred or otherwise ass[] to them respectively and to their respective heirs and assigns for ever. - And I hereby give my aforesaid trustees or the survivor full power to divide and apportion the share or shares of my sons so dying as aforesaid between and amongst the survivors of my said sons, and their division and [appropment] in every other case directed by this my will to be made shall be final. - And in case any or either of my said sons shall die during the lifetime of my said wife and leaving a widow or widows but without issue - then and in such case it is my will that the portions or shares which my said son or sons so dying as last aforesaid would have taken under this my will shall be held and enjoyed by their said widow or widows respectively during the term of the natural life or lives of such widow or widows respectively unless the said widow or widows shall again marry, and from and immediately after the decease of the said widow or widows respectively or in case she or they may ["may" crossed

out] shall again marry, so often as either event shall happen, then it is my will that the respective portions or shares last mentioned shall either be divided between or amongst the survivors of my said sons equally share and share alike, and therefore conc[] transferred or otherwise ass[] to them respectively and to their respective heirs and assigns for ever - or else that the said respective portions or shares shall be sold by the Trustees or trustee for the time being of this my will, for the best price that can be obtained therefor, and the produce of any such sale divided between and amongst the survivors of my said sons equally share and share alike, As the Trustees or trustee for the time being of this my will may be deemed most expedient and advisable - And I hereby direct the Trustees or Trustee for the time being of this my will immediately on the decease of my wife Frances to set out and apportion for each of my sons herein after mentioned - that is to say my sons William, John, George Alexander, Charles Edward and Henry Louis and their respective heirs and assigns a mill site and mill reservation on that part of Lot Number two in the twelfth concession of the said Township, which lies south of the saw mill and premises now leased to the said Donald McFarlane and herein before given or devised to or in trust for my said son Francis Thomas and to convey and transfer or otherwise ass[] the said mill sites or mill reservations when set out and apportioned in the manner following that is to say to my said son Henry Louis his heirs and assigns a mill site or mill reservations next adjoining on the south to that devised to or in trust for the said Francis Thomas - To my son William his heirs and assigns a mill site or reservation next adjoining on the south to that apportioned to Henry Louis - To my son John his heirs and assigns a mill site or mill reservation next adjoining on the south side to that apportioned to William - To my son George Alexander his heirs and assigns a mill site or reservation next adjoining on the south to that apportioned to John - And to my son Charles Edward his heirs and assigns a mill site or reservation next adjoining on the south to that apportioned to George Alexander

And as to all the rest ressidue and remainder of My Estate and property both real and personal not hereinbefore by me specifically give devised and bequeathed in trust to divide the same between and amongst all my surviving sons to be held by them and their respective heirs administrators and assigns equally share and share alike for ever. - And I do hereby constitute and appoint my said wife Frances and the said Stafford Frederick Kirkpatrick and Thomas Hay Executors of this my last will and Testament Hereby revoking all former wills made by me, in witness of which I herewithin do set my Hand and Seal this the third day of August in the Year of Our Lord one Thousand eight hundred and forty seven

Signed

Thomas Alexander Stewart

witnessed by

A. Rubi[dge]

Andrew Foulis

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Robt. C. Armstrong

Miscellaneous, Undated Correspondence, and Letters -- **97-023/1/1** Will

[Note: some of this extract seems to have clarifying notes written in the hand of Frances Stewart]

C.E.S. 1879.

Sent to my dear Mother on the 18 Nov 1871 She died 24th Feby 1872 / CES

Mrs Stewart and her eldest sister Mrs Kirkpatrick, the wife of the worthy and respected Rector of Craigs Antrim were the only surviving children of the Late Very Revd Francis Browne Dean of Elphin; Son of the Revd William Browne. Vicar of St Andrews, Dublin and his wife Frances, eldest daughter of the Venerable Francis Hutchinson Archdeacon of Down & Connor; brother of Dr. Samuel Hutchinson Bishop of Killala, who died in 1780. Ancestor of the present Sir Edward S. Hutchinson, Bart., and of Sir John Synge Bart.

Her mother was sister of the Late Revd. [word crossed out; illegible] Mungo H. Waller, whose family have resided for more than two centuries at [continues after next square-bracketed section]

[My Mothers Notes CES

[this section seems to be written in the hand of Frances Stewart]

x His Mother Maria Newcome oldest daughter of Primate Newcome -

x was born in Dublin - Marlborough Street 24th May 1794 -

Mrs Brownes her ["her" crossed out] eldest sister Susan Noble had devoted the best part of her life & prospects to the care of this now helpless sister - the little ["little" crossed out] eldest daughter Catherine was left under the care of her Aunt Mrs Sutton at [Ballina] in Ireland [co.] - and in 1801 - was taken to join her Mother at Bath where she remained till after her Mother's death when she was kindly adopted by her Aunt & Uncle Revd. Thos. Sutton - at that time returning to Ireland where he was appointed to the Rectory of Clongill Co Meath - & where her Aunt Miss Noble also resided Fanny Browne was adopted by her Grand Uncle Robert Waller Esqr of Allenstown on the death of her father when only 2 ½ years old -]

Allenstown-Meath. The present possessor of the Estate is James [N.] Waller, Esq. D.L.C. x Grandson of His Grace Archbishop Newcome. His Mother Maria - Newcome eldest daughter of Primate Newcome. -

Mrs. Stewart was born at the Deary Elphim: ["Dear Elphim" crossed out], her father who was Bishop Elect of Waterford died suddenly in 1796. before entering upon the duties of his

Episcopall; his widow, who was in declining health removed shortly after this sad event with her eldest daughter ["daughter" crossed out] sister to Clifton Bath England, where she died in 1809.

Thus early bereaved of both parents she [word crossed out; illegible] was placed with her Uncles family at Allenstown, where many of her earliest recollections were formed, and some of the alarming events of the great Rebellion impressed upon her mind

[[this section seems to be written in the hand of Frances Stewart]

In 1800 it was necessary for Mr Waller to go to London on some Business - & as Mrs Wallers health required change the whole family went to England for one year - & Fanny Browne during that time remained at Collon - under the care of her Great Aunt Mrs Beaufort & Revd Dr Beaufort Rector of Collon - Dr Beaufort was a Man of extensive taste & knowledge - most refined manners, & particularly engaging deportment - here her tastes were first formed in Music - drawing & general literature besides being tho - only six years old - introduced into the best Society - as she was taken notice of by all the visitors - & was frequently invited to accompany her Aunt in spending evenings with Lady Furrow - (wife of the Honble John Foster afterward Lord Oriel) & her daughter who afterwards married the 1st Lord Dufferin - Lady Florence Balfour also was a visitor at Collon who kindly took notice of "little Fanny" -]

After the return of the Allenstown family FB was taken charge of by her cousin Miss Beaufort who from that time till Mrs Stewarts marriage was her constant kind instructress & steady faithful friend till her death - in 1865 -

The Hill of Tara - insulated in a widely surrounding plain, was the scene of a terrible slaughter within sight of the Allenstown House from the Attics of which the family watched the movements of the contending parties where four hundred on both sides were killed, many of the escaped & wounded taking refuge in the enclosures around Allenstown.

At different periods, Mrs Stewart spent considerable time, with her relatives Mr. & Mrs. Edgeworth; one visit in 1804 & 1805. she has always spoken of as the most charming events of her early life and of the advantages she received from Mr Edgeworths course of Literary instructions, as it was his custom to call upon all the family to hear and judge of all he and his daughter were writing; the taste for literature was by this means formed & exercised in a large family: stories of children exercised the judgement of children and so on in proportion to their respective ages, all giving their opinions and trying their power of criticism fearlessly & freely. Miss Edgeworth in their midst of all her literary labors, delighted to please those around her, for the amusement of her brothers and sisters she wrote many little plays for their birthdays: in the memoirs of this highly gifted and popular Authoress lately published we find Mrs. Stewarts name frequently mentioned as taking part with her cousins in their entertaining and harmless plays at Edgeworthtown.

[[this section seems to be written in the hand of Frances Stewart]

x this front shd. come in where Dr Beaufort is first mentioned - page 3 - my addition

F.S.]

On the death of Mr. Waller she removed from Allenstown with his widow and sister to Dublin and resided with one of the family of her Uncle [word crossed out; illegible] [see page 3] Dr Beaufort, the father of Mrs Edgeworth, who was so well known to the British public as the Author of the best Map of Ireland and most valuable Memoirs on the Topography Civil and Eccleseostical state of that country, he was an Excellent Clergyman & a Man of taste & Literature: Thus all her early life was passed in the midst of refinement, talents and Literature.

In 1817, the subject of this narrative married Thos. Alexder Stewart Esq of Wilmont Antrim whose family (originally from [Gradies Wigtownshire]) had resided at Ballydraine Co Down for some generations, owing to serious losses through mismanagement and [] of a near relation and Trustee, who had complete control over considerable Interest and other property of Mr Stewarts, he was forced into several heavy Lawsuits in endeavouring to gain his rights so cruelly made away with: this proved to a great extent a fruitless business, and he saw that he was not only further involving himself but entailing serious responsibilities on his family. Thus deprived of a large fortune, he finally made up his mind against the opinion and wishes of his many and attached friends to leave all and cast his lot with his young family in Canada.

On the 1st June 1822 the good ship "George" sailed from Belfast on board of which were Mr. & Mrs. Stewart and family Mr & Mrs. Reid and their family, two or three servants and with every imaginable farming implement, household articles, ["household articles" crossed out] carpenters tools, several tons of hardware, such as nails, screws &c with any ["any" crossed out] every amount of household articles that could be collected together, with a view of commencing a settlement in the backwoods, this little band of Pioneers arrived on the 1st August at Quebec after a voyage of nine weeks. They were kindly received by Bishop Mountain the only Protestant Bishop then in Canada. Nothing could exceed the hospitality of this good bishop from whom much valuable information was obtained. His death on the 15th June 1828 cast a general gloom over the whole British settlement and so generally beloved and respected was he that the principle Roman Catholic clergy and citizens joined in following his remains to the grave. ["Mrs Stewart remained some days with his Lordship [] while preparations were being made for their journey to York. (Toronto)" crossed out]

During their progress in open boats from La Chine up the St. Lawrence Mrs Stewart soon began to feel the hardships of a Canadian life; she and her family generally preferred sleeping on fresh hay, the beds at i were so full of vermin, sometimes they even slept on the ground sheltered from the night air by an awning and more than once in their open boats under a heavy dew - She speaks of the farmers with great gratitude where ever she stopped at.

Their houses she was received with the greatest hospitality, and her children plentifully supplied with milk and good bread -. Throughout her journal and in all her letters, there is the

most amiable disposition to make the best of everything and to enjoy whatever little comfort she could find in her situation without looking back on her former very different life.

After remaining some weeks at York negotiating with government for a grant of land, they finally decided upon going into the New Castle District, North of Lake Ontario, with this object they set out in October and settled at Cobourg as a temporary residence while a house was building for them on the land they had obtained.

We here give a few extracts of some of Mrs Stewarts published letters, written at this date which are very interesting as descriptions of the Country, the dwelling and mode of travelling and as giving a striking contrast to the present development of these rich and beautiful countries: She describes her house thus -

Cobourg Oct 30th 1822.

"There are Three rooms on the ground floor and four above, but they are so small they are like little closets; we continue however to squeeze into them, and though we shall be here two months, we can easily reconcile ourselves to these little inconveniences, There is a nice grassy place in front of the house, it is paled in, and the children can play in it with safety, that is one great comfort, we found some boards in the barn and Mr Stewart whose old taste as an amateur mechanic are now very useful, has made temporary shelves and tables of them, we have at present neither table chair nor bedstead, the carriage of these articles was too expensive for us; but we have screws and all things ready to make them when we are settled in our Loghouse, for which I long as ardently as if it was a Palace -. "Our bedrooms have no doors but we hang up blankets which answer the purpose, fortunately we have plenty of these, and the air is so dry that we do not suffer from the cold, though the nights are frosty, and not a fireplace in the house except in the Kitchen. The frost has given the woods a gray look, instead of the beautiful autumnal tints they had before,

Four years ago there were but two houses here; now it is a nice thriving town, with a neat Church, a large school house and some very good shops or stores as they are called; and the houses in general are very neat

Cobourg Jany 1st 23.

We have been detained here longer than we intended; first by the illness of my eldest girl, and next waiting for snow to make the roads fit for travelling; at present they are in such a state of roughness from the hard frost after the heavy rains of last month, that the jolting of either "cart of waggon could not be borne. There no covered carriages here, [words crossed out; illegible] They are very roughly made with two seats placed across one before the other and have rather an odd appearance for gentlemens carriages"

"This new year's day I hope you are as well and happy as I am; and I am sure it will give you pleasure to know, my beloved friends that we could indulge ourselves by going to Church on

Miscellaneous, Undated Correspondence, and Letters -- **97-023/1/3** Extract of "Our Forest Home" (See also 78-008/2/14 #277)

Christmas day, and receiving the Sacrement Do not imagine that in this banishment, as I fear you still consider it, these duties are neglected; far from it; we have a Church near us, and I thank God the inclination to make use of it."

Loghouse Feby 24th/23

Here we are at last; and though we must bear a good deal of inconvenience for some time, yet we feel all the enjoyment of being really at home.

On Monday morning Feb 10th we left Cobourg. Mr Stewart and I on one seat, with a little girl between us; the maid and the other two children on the seat before us, and our charioteer in front. We had blankets and cloaks to roll about our feet, and a basket of cold meat and bread. Another sleigh carried our bedding, trunks and luggage, besides baskets of poultry and our two dogs #

We travelled twenty miles that day very pleasantly: passing through miles and miles of forest. I was delighted with this new scene, every now and then we came to small clearings with log houses, and generally with a good stock of cattle and poultry.

At four oclock we reaches the inn #; and we passed the night there very comfortably sleeping on the floor [~~second "on the floor" crossed out~~] in the sitting room, where we spread our mattresses and blankets. Next day our road lay through thick woods; Indeed it scarcely deserved that name for it was merely a track through the snow where other sleighs had lately passed. We turned backwards and forwards through the crowded trees, and often had showers of snow from the branches which our heads touched: The boughs of the beautiful hemlock pine were so loaded with it, and bent down so low, that we were obliged to lie down to pass under them; and twice we were obliged to stop and cut a passage where trees had fallen across the way. we drove for nine miles through the woods without seeing any habitation, except two Indian huts.

When we arrived at the banks of the river near the Mills, we found that the ice had given away, so that the sleighs could not cross; and the Millers boat could not ply, because there was still a broad border of ice on each side of the river. We sent a man across to beg of our friend Mr [] who was settled there, to send his oxen and sleigh to a part of the River called the Little Lake, two miles lower down and we determined to walk across.

This delay was very embarrassing, but our travels were nearly at an end, and that gave us spirits to proceed with vigour through the snow which came above our ankles. The friends who came from the opposite side to meet us carried the two youngest children; the workmen carried our bedding, and everything else we left at the mill. With this assistance we contrived to cross, and being soon packed into the sleigh, we proceeded in the shades of evening to our home, through nearly five miles of wood. Our Loghouse was quite illuminated by the glare of the fires which had been prepared for us, and even had there been no fires, we should have been warmed by the joy of [~~"of" crossed out~~] our friends shewed at seeing us here.

Miscellaneous, Undated Correspondence, and Letters -- **97-023/1/3** Extract of "Our Forest Home" (See also 78-008/2/14 #277)

We have been most prosperous in everything, voyage, journey, and health; and when I look back and think of all we have gone through since you and I parted, I cannot help feeling surprise, mixed with gratitude to that Merciful Being, who has watched over us and protected us all" -

Loghouse April 5th

You cannot ["not" crossed out] scarcely conceive, when I saw your handwriting, the thrill of delight it gave me - Your letter was a real feast - I could not sleep that night, from the fulness of my head and heart -

The snow I am told, continues later this year than usual; in some places it was three feet deep, and is still deep though it has gone off rapidly within the last fortnight, as it thaws a little every day, while the sun is hot" -

The buds are all swelling, and I have heard one or two new birds of late - but they stay up in the high trees and I have not been able to see them

We have numbers of dear little tomtits, and some sparrows & crows. I used to despise all these at home; but here I delight in them, they are like old acquaintances, when we first came here, I heard an eagle very often but he has deserted us -

I am surprised at the nice green herbage that is under the snow; by which, and the decayed leaves, it has been preserved from the frost. The children bring in plants every day; The mosses and lichens are all quite new to me - The deep snow has delayed the clearing of our land; next week we are to have five men here to cut down trees, choppers as they are called; we have one at present and it is astonishing with what dexterity and speed he fells the huge hemlock pines, nearly one hundred feet high. It is almost sublime to see them stoop their dark heads slowly, and then fall, very gradually at first, but soon increasing in rapidity - tearing off the neighbouring branches, shaking all the other trees and coming down with a crash that makes the whole forest echo the sound - The Americans from the United States are employed to chop - as they are more expert than people from the old country and can make the trees the precise direction they choose in falling.

There are some families here who for the first six months had no food of any kind, except salt pork for breakfast dinner and supper, and without even bread; we have good bread and peas and sometimes turnips and ["and" crossed out] with excellent milk - we brought barley and rice with us; and the arrowroot that you gave me is a great comfort to the Children; - I never saw them more healthy creatures -

May 2d

Last week we were busily engaged in burning the fallen trees, which covered the surface of the ground that we had cleared.

The branches were first piled up and burned, then the great stems, which had been cut into pieces about twelve feet long, were drawn together by the oxen, with much labour raised into piles, and set on fire. This was a very dangerous operation, for some of them were very near our wooden house; and the whole surface of the ground is combustible, as for several inches depth it is composed of leaves and bark and looks like a bed of peat earth. When this takes fire the flames rapidly spread and are very difficult to distinguish, but we are now safe. -

The Indians sometimes walk into our house; but they are harmless and inoffensive and ask only for whisky which they like better than anything else. They bring baskets and little bowls and dishes made of the bark of the birch tree and are glad to sell them for spirits flour or pork. They come down the river in their canoes and can paddle them across the rapids just opposite this house, where no European could venture in a boat. -

June 5th

Our first spring flowers were hepaticas, which actually carpeted the ground as daisies do at home: they were single but very large, blue, pink and white. We had the pretty yellow dogtooth violets in profusion, then white and crimson lilies, both of them handsome, but with an odious smell: There was another very elegant plant with leafe like frunitory, the root a collection of reddish bulbs and the flowers something like a butterfly orchis. - We have now an abundance yellow white and purple violets, but the white only have a sweet smell. There is also a beautiful yellow ladies slipper and numerous other flowers which I may describe some other time. Our shrubs are leatherwood, cranberry, dogberry, Alpine honey suckle without scent and syringa. The trees are Elm, maple oak beech cedar, hemlock pine, hickory and lime. The oak grows tall and straight in these forests. I spend what time I can spare in examining the trees and plants that are new to me - We have a great deal of the moss or rather tillandsia about which you inquired: it hangs from almost every tree, and we saw it in quantities along the banks of the St Lawrence before we reached Quebec The Captain of our vessel told us it was used in the States to stuff beds, and that he had carried some home to his wife for that purpose. -

July 1st -

I must give you a sketch of the manner in which we pass our time. Mr Stewart goes out at five and returns to breakfast at seven; he then works at his farm till twelve, when dinner is ready; after which he rests sometimes, and again works till eight, when I summon him to coffee

Household cares and preparations occupy me all the morning and teaching the Children, and working for them the rest of the day - after they go to bed I have a nice hour for reading or writing.

It is the custom for ladies in this country to dress in the morning very plainly, and suited to the hard work in which we must all take part: after dinner they put on silk gowns and smart caps and either go out to pay visits or stay at home to receive them. But we live in such perfect solitude in these woods, that we have no neighbours to go to, or to expect here. We are going on as yet in smiling prospects and doing something every day that tends to our comfort but we must be contented to advance very slowly - In spite of every effort my thoughts too often turn to dear home and [fond] times, or sometimes they take a far stretch forward, but these are only [] visions which I do not encourage. Yet I cannot help praying that we may be permitted to meet again in a few years. I fear setting my heart too much on this, but I trust to the support of providence under every disappointment, and under every trial. Trials we must have in all places still more in these dreary woods" -

"In the Autumn of our first year in Douro our youngest little girl of not quite two years old was seized with Dysentery. I was quite ignorant of the disease and there was no Doctor within reach - The nearest being Dr Hutcheson who then resided in Cavan, a good many miles distant. We had as yet no canoes on the River and were often depending on a chance visit of the Indians for a passage to the other side. One of our hired men, a faithful Highlander, seeing how very ill our darling was volunteered to swim across the rapid stream and walk through the woods to the Doctor, promising that if I wrote the particulars, he would bring the necessary medicines. He started early in the morning of a cold October day and returned about midnight with some powders, and a message that the Doctor would come up on the following day - But no improvement and the day passed in great anxiety for the Doctor did not arrive.

On the third day he came having left at the promised time, but lost his way in the woods and hence the delay. The next day she appeared more lively, but refused to take the arrowroot and sayo which I offered her. She asked for bread, and of this we had none fit to give her, having for sometime been unable to procure good flour. It was a bitter trial not to have what she asked for ["asked for" crossed out] seemed to crave for.

The next day she fell into a stupor and towards midnight her angel spirit passed away to the immortal Land." -

On the 27th October were assembled together the whole of the Settlement, including the six Highlanders employed in clearing the land, in all numbering twenty seven souls. The only Christian inhabitants in that vast forest stretching for thousands of miles [] broken East and North of the Otonabee and the Little Lake, to follow to the grave the youngest and most endearing of the little band of Pilgrims who had arrived on the shores of the Ontario the previous year: The spot selected as the last resting place lay midway between Mr Stewarts clearing and that of Mr Reids on a sloping ground known as "Hemlock Bray" beneath four [] Hemlock pines whose interwoven and spreading branches formed a perfect canopy and whose huge rough dark gray trunks or stems with their spiral tops towered far above carrying ones heart and eyes away in the clear vault of heaven: No human architect could equal in design the solemn grandeur of this sepulchre under whose sombre shade this sorrowing group [] were gathered together in mournful silence: strong and hardy men stood there breathless beholding

the scene which lay before them rendered the more solemn and sublime by the knowledge that they were assembled alone in the midst of the noble works of God untouched by the hand of man.

The generous and stalworth Donald who had risked his life so lately in procuring remedies to relieve the little sufferer whose remains were now in the midst of this solemn scene being consigned to the earth, was powerless to restrain the outpouring of his noble and swelling heart. Deep and lasting the memory of that day sank into the hearts of all who joined in the beautiful and touching burial service of the Church of England, heard for the first time in the midst of the little band of pioneers who founded the settlement in that vast wilderness - No hallowed spot was ever dedicated with more beautiful prayers than that where little Bessy is ["is" crossed out] was laid beneath those noble hemlock trees.

[Returned to me by my sister Bessie on the 24th July 1872

CES

Paid

Chas E. Stewart Esqr

10 Alfrid Road
Acton

London England

Manuscript]

[Paid

Chas E Stewart Esqr

10 Alfrid Road
Acton

London

England

Manuscript]

[[] Mail

Mrs. Stewart

Miscellaneous, Undated Correspondence, and Letters -- **97-023/1/3** Extract of "Our Forest Home" (See also 78-008/2/14 #277)

Frances Stewart Letters – Trent University Library & Archives

Douro

Peterborough

Ontario

Canada

Paid

Manuscript]

[97-023/1/4 Letter dated Dec. 12, 1825](#)

[TAS to Major Froot, Dec. 12, 1825 [cf pp 82-4 OFH]]

[] Fanny & # often regret you did not put your plans in execution & join us in the woods, & more so, as things have turned out now, & are likely to improve more. You can form no idea how fast this country is getting on, & particularly in this immediate neighbourhood. I believe I mentioned to you in a former letter that Cobourg was our nearest market, we have now a market within 2 miles of us, & a place that is likely to beat Cobourg in a very few years. Land is more than double what it was in value since this time 6 months, not one good lot I had laid out for you which I could have got for 5# per acre, the duty done, are 15# now. The principal reason for this, is the arrival & settling of 2000 Emigrants from Ireland. - - They have been settled all through these townships. The Hon ble Mr Robinson who was appointed by Govt to conduct the people of their lands, fortunately for us, chose this place; he is a most Gentlemanlike man & being born in this country is most completely adapted for such an undertaking -

I must tell you that 2 miles below this is the head of the river Otonabee navigation, & on the west side of the river are extensive plains containing nearly 2000 acres this was# reserved for a town plot. Up to this place Mr R. brought the new settlers, here they pitched their tents until their lands were appointed to them, - - they are now almost all gone from the camp, except a few tradesmen, # have their houses built & are busy clearing land. Not one that is not making rapid strides to being independant. Every one is found for a year from the time they# go on their land, in provisions - - & each family gets a cow, deed, & utensils; poor people it would delight to see how happy they are in general. Of course where there are so many, & those coming from the worst parts of Ireland there must be a few black sheep amongst them; but tho' they have been now 4 months encamped in this country & had during that time nothing to do, yet there has not been one complaint against them. - - But to go back - - On these plains where they encamped - a few months ago there was only one poor farm house & a miserable mill. Now a flourishing village containing stores of all kinds of merchandise, stores of provisions#, 2 saw mills - - Smiths shops - - bake houses, Doctors# shops, dwelling houses. Every day people coming in to take a town lot, shoemakers, masons, carpenters - - every day I go down something new. We have laid out lots for the Church, Schoolhouse, Courthouse, Jail, &ec many of which will commence next Spring. The situation for our new town is one of the most beautiful places I have seen in this country, remarkably healthy & plenty of good building/ stone close by. When we came here first we could not get a joint of [meat xed out] fresh meat for love or money, - - now we have a meat market every Saturday, 3 butchers at work. The stores will take all kinds of grain & everything that can be raised on a farm, so we are in a fair way of doing well. It is said the Land company will come here - - if so we are made up & this will be the best inland situation in the province. I am in great hopes to get one or two things for myself, but more of that when the time comes. There will be some good things here - - & I think I have a good chance. I have taken a building lot in our new town, & if I get the situation I want I shall move there. I shall only be a mile & half# from this, so that I can have my house supplied from the farm. You must know that I have given up the cares of the farm very much# - - having

engaged a Farmer on the American plan as I find it will be less expensive. I give the farmer all the cleared land for 3 years, with all the stock - - seed & utensils for the first; - he is to give me the one half of everything he raises, half of the young stock of every kind & at the end of 3 years he returns the original stock & utensils allowing for wear & tear. So that I have not the trouble; or expense of Labourers. I go on clearing land & adding to the farm so that by next summer I shall have 60 acres under crops; & every year after I expect to add 10 or 20 acres. My share will come to more than I can [lay out xed out] consume in the family, & no layings# out, whereas if I kept the farm in my own hands, I should be obliged to have men always working, & the farm would not afford that as Labour is so high. I also give up my sugar making in the same way. I am going to have a brood mare & sow & a stock of horses - - that I shall manage on the same plan so that I shall avoid all expense or trouble. I shall be obliged to you to procure me a neat, cheap, good, one horse harness such as would do for a gig, & if you would send it to 31 Merrion St in a box, so as to be sent in spring, as soon as I hear of its being there & you or Miss Beaufort will let me know the price I will get her to pay you for them#. I shall indeed be very much obliged if you will do this for me, perhaps you could get them 2nd hand for me, nearly new. Everything of that kind is so dear & bad in this country. - -

Our society is improving very fast here but we are sadly in want of a Clergyman; I am in hopes Dr Stewart our present Bishop will do something for us very soon. We commence our Church in Spring - - We have changed the situation very much for the better; every one thinks it best to have it in the village as it would be more in the centre of the settlers & only a pleasant walk from this. We have laid off the ground of it & the Church yard & a most beautiful situation it is, on a rising ground with a few fine old Oaks scattered over it - - it will overlook the town & have a fine view of the river.

The river just opposite the village is very broad with a number of beautiful wooded islands, our bridge will be just above the Islands - - so that the river will be enchanting - - Everything is so combined to make this one of the most delightful spots in the world - - I know if you had come here you would have been well pleased. - -

Our Dr Reade I believe knew you - - he was in the army, he is employed by Govt# to attend the new settlers. He is married & Mrs Reade is very pleasant

We are to open our new town in a day of this, with a grand dinner# to assist the Inn Keeper, I have sent to the Indians for Venison, fish & wild fowl - -

The sleighing is # begun, so we expect a large party - - & such a turn out has not been in the woods for some time. We expect the Governor Sir P. Maitland this winter at the Government House [which is a handsome house commanding a view of the front street]. If any one had told me all this 4 months ago I should have thought them mad.

You cannot think or conceive how interesting all this is, such a bustle in the midst of the great woods of Canada. []

[97-023/1/4 Letter dated Nov. 5, 1842](#)

[F.S. to Mrs. Sutton, Nov 5th, 1842 [extract by FS or BB? cf p 183 OFH]

xxx []

How often we find that the very thing we think most delightful turns out a source of pain & anxiety & we always find that what is arranged for us & permitted by our Heavenly Father is most conducive to our Eternal Peace & very often even proves so for our present happiness when we just think of the daily mercies we receive# and the unceasing & numberless proofs in every moment of the care & protection of God how can we help putting our trust in him & feeling all our nearest and dearest concerns safest in his keeping, in full assurance & confidence that he will dispose all things best. He who gave his Son for us surely will preserve here# & forever. He has supported you in all your long trial & now soothes your sorrows & heals your wounds by his heavenly grace. May he continue to enrich you with every blessing & may you feel that peace which passeth understanding & which no one can feel but those who know and love the Lord & have experienced the influence of his Holy Spt# - - & seen its effects as you have. - - I am glad you have been to see poor old Allenstown, now new. I wish you could see our new house tho' it is not yet finished - - but we are living in it. - - Mr. S. was anxious to get the removing over and the old House taken away before the frost sets in as it stops all kind of work and we could not then have the ground levelled. - - As soon as 4 rooms were fit to sleep in we all moved in. The Back room was not very dry as it had been lately plastered - - but we had a good fire & we were all so busy for two or 3 days settling & fussing that we only sat there at meals & we did not feel it cold or damp tho' the door was not hung. We put a skreen# up in its place. We have been just a week in it now & our little room looks very snug. We have not yet put up the shelves. I sleep in Anna's room as my own is not dry. Edward works away all day from day light till 9 at night often. He is in a hurry to get on & when I look at all the work of this large House I wonder that one carpenter could do it all - - from the cutting of the great trees in the wood & morticing the frame, to the pannelling# the doors & putting on the locks & ec - - His brother helped in squaring & hewing timber & framing - - and our George assisted in the lathing, but all the rest was done by one pair of good hands. There is still much to be done as we have only just enough to keep out the cold outer air, & he is as anxious as we are, but with all his exertions there will be still some to do next year - - as he will be obliged to go to his own farm this winter. But altho' we shall not have our closets & cupboards finished yet we shall be very comfortable indeed compared to the old House & we have reason to be thankful we are all so well. a child near us was carried off lately by the same sore throat which John was so dangerously ill with. - - The old House was so full of air holes there was scarce any place where we were free from a little breeze. - - Well may be# we shall all grow delicate now we have air tight rooms. - - We have a large stove in the passage near the foot of the stairs which warms the whole house as the hot air ascends & warms all the upper part of the House. - - The large sitting room is not yet plastered, as the plasterer was obliged to go away & he has not returned - - but he thinks he will be back next week. It will look very nice indeed with our beautiful curtains and carpet. We have sent our poor old piano to be put in order. Our friend and Pastor

Mr Taylor is very musical & is so clever that he can tune & thoroughly repair piano's#, & he has very kindly undertaken to put the dear old Piano in order for me & it will sound quite fresh and young in the new room, where it will have space to sound in. - - We are busy now making up window blinds & then we shall have curtains to make up. We shall have plenty to do - - indeed work never fails - - but I have [word xed out] able & ready helps in my dear girls. They are very expert Needle Women & can cut out, and make up better than I can myself. The disadvantage is that all these necessary occupations seem to come in the way of mental & intellectual improvements & cause a want of refinement of ideas & feelings which is very little known in this country & which is equally perceptible amongst all the young people who have been brought up in the remote parts of this country. There is a sad dearth of intellectual pursuits & the conversation is consequently too much confined to the business of the day or any little gossip that happens to come in the way

[97-023/1/4 Letter dated Sept. 30, 1850](#)

[B Brown to Maria Noble, Sept 30th, 1850]

Sept 30, 1850

Goodwood

My dearest Maria,

I have too long delayed answering your dear kind letter which I have had for more than a month but Mamas & my trip to the States prevented me doing so sooner I am sure you will be surprised to hear of dear Mama leaving home It is such an unusual thing for her to do, I assure you we had hard work to persuade her - - She had been very ill for sometime# with asthma & other complaints, very much weakened, & her spirits very low, so the Doctor said she would not get better till she went from home She settled to go to see the boys in the States. I offered to go & take care of her, so off we started on the 12th, Poor Mama suffered very much with asthma all the way we went as quickly as possible, but the noise & fuss# of Rochester was almost too much for her, we stayed there part of a day to rest her & then set off in a Canal Boat for a little village called Brockport 20 miles from Rochester. It was dark when we I landed we had to walk about 20 yards to the Hotel but it was up a little hill & this was too much for Mama I thought she would never have got into the house just think the first person we met in the hall was dear Frank If you had only seen the surprise & delight of that creature; at first he did not know us, but it was only for a moment, he never expected to see Mama, nor did we expect to to# find him there, he only came a few days before we did He got us a comfortable room, but poor Mama could not lie down, she was obliged to sit in a large Rocking chair all night. The next day Mama was very ill I wished ourselves back in Canada she looked so dreadfully ill it made me very anxious. - - Frank drove for Johnney# who was living 7 miles from where we were before he came Mama was a little better. Frank never told him we were there but brought him up to our room Johnny could hardly believe it was us, poor dears it gave them great pleasure to see us. We sat together & talked of home till evening Mama got better & she was able to walk to the next street here we had comfortable lodgings & more comfortable for her then# the noise of the Hotel. She had a good deal of asthma all the time but was able to drive out to see the people Johnny lived with, & to see a little of the country. The country is very pretty & the people very kind indeed but their manners are not pleasing. I should not like to live there Canada is far before it We enjoyed our visit very much & Mama got stronger, though the asthma remained, & was very troublesome sometimes, William Stewart & Robert Brown came & brought us home. We were a whole fortnight away. I never was so long or so far from home before, nor never saw so much of the world before, so you may judge how little I have been from home. I was glad to get to my dear quiet happy home again & with my dear old Man who seemed very glad to have me home again I hope dear Mama will find it has been of use to her when she gets rested She has had a heavy cold ever since she returned but the asthma has left & she appears stronger. I do wish I could give up more of my time to be with her, particularly

when she has not been well, she has not had her usual health this summer I often think there are few who have such a Mother as we have & now my dear Maria, as I have taken up one sheet with our travels I must begin something else on this or I shall have a large letter made up before I know what I am about. I must now thank you for the things you & my dear Aunt sent me in the Box, indeed I ought to have done so much sooner, but many things happened to prevent me. I was taken ill [went into labour] the day after the Box came. I have had a second disappointment but it is the Lords doing He sees I require all he sends. I know I am impatient & do not trust Him as I ought. Dear Ellen sets me a good example of patience & submission# she bears her sad sad trial wonderfully the loss# of her dear engaging child was so unexpected & till the last moment she could not believe he was going She has had very great anxiety since - - as both Charles & little Mary have been very ill & she had gone through a great deal of fatigue nursing them, & I hope may not suffer in consequence. She expects her confinement in December I hope she may have a little boy to take the place of the one she has lost. How many little happy ones he has joined I am sure dear Maria one of your kind comforting letters would do dear Ellen good, & would give her great pleasure Your last I have read over several times I read it to Edward, indeed he enjoys your letters very much, & thinks it so kind of you to speak of him as you do & call him your Son you do indeed treat us as if we were your children. I hope we may [___y xed out] make a good use of your love & kindness to us, & that your letters may make us both find that real happiness which you have found dear Maria It does require some kind friend to put in mind & help us on, there is so much to draw the heart to this earth & make us think too little of another world. That is the use of trials, though we would wish all to go our way, & think we are unjustly treated, but when we reflect & see whose Hand afflicts, how worthless does all appear, It shows us what we are, no power of our own, we are helpless beings but oh! how good is that dear Saviour How He invites us to come to Him & find comfor. How kind of you to write all the nice texts for me. I kept your letter in my hand & studied them with the Bible, & I got a nice little text book from Ellen, as I had not one & looked for all you mentioned in your letter. It is very nice & makes it plain & easy to understand. It was indeed very kind of you to give up so much of your precious time writing. You must have very much to do, & keep you busy all day & all so usefully & to make others happy & good; you must feel lonely without poor little Willy. They are all so like your own children. I am sure they are all dear good little things. - - I am afraid I am not such a quiet Housekeeper as you think dear Maria. I do long to be as much so as possible. I find it does not help [xed out] one a bit more to be in a fuss. I always try to do my best in every way, but I come short of what I ought to be - - & now I think it is time to thank you & my dear Aunt for your nice valuable presents Will you give her my kind love & thank her for the nice shawl & the little book which I read every day - - & thank you my dear Maria for the little book you sent. I read it when I was ill before I could leave my bed & had a good time to think of it & read it with attention. I read many nice books then & while I was staying with Mama after I got better I read "Winslows [] Directed" too. How beautifully he writes. Edward sends his love to you too, & many many thanks for the Shirts, he says they are the most comfortable he has had for a long time & they are so nice & warm for winter. The shirting is so much better than can be got here. My dear dear Mother/ for you are like a second mother to us/ I dont know what to say for all you have done for us, every year sending us such useful things. I seldom have much to buy I am so well supplied by kind friends - - Edwards brother that was married this summer to my cousin is with us, & she is great company to me &

we are all very happy together he is going to buy a lot of land near us this winter he is doing very well in his business, & they will stay with us for the winter at any rate. His eldest brother has rented a farm very near us, he is going to be married to a very nice amiable young woman this winter, it will be very pleasant for us, as we have few neighbours, it is pleasant fall all the brothers to be settled [____ xed out] near each other. Edward is now helping/ him to get his house repaired. They all help each other. We are expecting a cousin of Edwards to pay us a visit this Autumn, he is a clergyman & lives above Toronto. I have never seen him, but have heard he is a most excellent Man. I hope he may be of use to us while he is with us - -

The Potatoes I fear will be a complete failure here as well as in poor Ireland many have scarcely any, ours are beginning but we can not judge till they take them up our crops have all been good this year, though it was very hard to save them so much wet weather, such a wet summer has never been known in Canada - - Many lost a good deal of wheat in consequence Indeed we have great cause for thankfulness that our farm had done better this year, & above all that we have good health. Dear Edward works very hard, but he is very unhealthy, he has hardly ever had a days sickness. he made me a nice Dairy this summer & I have been able to sell some butter to pay the expense of hiring a Man to work at it. It is great pleasure to me to be able to help him & take off some of the expense we live very sensibly & at as little expense as possible so that we may get out of debt which I hope may be this winter. He is not happy as long as he owes any person. I must not forget that Mama wants to put a letter with this, & write on till I make it too heavy & tire you too with all my housekeeping affairs. I cannot get a pen that will write on this paper so am writing most shamefully, & have had about a dozen pens. I must take this to Mama tomorrow to send Will you give my kind love to dear Aunt in which Edward joins me & to yourself too.

Believe me my dear Maria

Your affectionate child

Bessie Brown

Will you soon write again please

[97-023/1/4 Letter dated Aug. 18, 1851](#)

[includes hand-drawn map showing Auburn House, Otonabee River, Dam, etc.]

Toronto August 1[8]th, 1851

My Dearest Mother

I should have written before this, but having written to Ellen a short time ago, by James Bird. I thought I should wait a little longer before writing to you so as not to crowd all my letters together -

I have nothing new to tell you this time I am just dodging on as usual - I suppose you have heard of the melancholy accident which happened at Kingston -

As my going down to Peterboro this year is out of the question, I intend to transact our business through our letters -

There is a plan which John - Reid made of the proposed canal which I think he has got, if Charley would get it. and if it is too heavy to send in a letter he could make a copy of it in a manner which I shall explain presently - I send a sketch of the mill properties. which if Charley would take to John Reid and get him to put in the length and courses of each line - which he will get from the Leases I want also - a copy of the plan I made of the girl's lots. the way to do it is this - take a piece of thin writing paper and lay it over the plan so as to see each line distinctly through it. then with a pen and ink trace each line - being careful that the angles are rightly placed. -

I think I left some papers on the top shelf as you go in to the parlor - any of them that contain descriptions or dimensions of any part of the Mill property please to send me a copy -

Please tell me all about the mill business - and how things are going on for I am very anxious to see things going on properly -

Please Ask Charley to go to Mr Williamson's old house on Shaw's hill and see what state it is in and who is living in it - his son William requested me to do so -

I remain your affectionate Son

Geo. A. Stewart

My Mother

20 Augt [] - George

["Uncle George Stewart" written in another hand]

[97-023/1/4 Letter dated June 15, 1861](#)

Douro, 15th June 1861

My very dear Mary

I have been some time past intending to write to you but always some hindrance came in my way - I think my last letter to you was written in March soon after poor Maria Reids release - and I have never heard from you since so I dont know if you have received that letter - but I am sure you heard most of the details it contained from my sister - as I told her to let you know in case I might not be able to write myself - I little thought then that in my next letter I should have another death to mention! One least to be expected indeed according to our own limited knowledge of what is to come - "His Will" - we do not - for how wretched we should be anticipating every sorrow - there is no promise of Grace for those sorrow's we anticipate - we have the support and refuge promised for "the day of trouble" - Perhaps you have already heard that by the unsearchable but no doubt wise & merciful Will of the Lord our dear Edward has been removed from this life - to a joyful & glorious Eternity - I may say in the prime of life - with all appearance of health and life till the attack came on which was caused by taking cold - but it became an extreme case of Inflammation of the Lungs which reduced his strength with the most extraordinary rapidity and in a fortnight & two days terminated his valuable existence amongst us - Oh you cant think how we feel his loss - he was so truly excellent in every way - as a father a husband a Son (which he was to me even before his marriage) for indeed I loved him as a son & he returned it -

From early in his illness he gave up hopes of recovery - before we came to believe there was really dangers - & before our Dr. could see any decided danger - but he himself said "I shall not be long with you" - he seemed to be completely loosened from this life -for he seemed to take no interest in anything that was going on - but said frequently he rested on his Saviour - & his Hope was in Christ - he had so much difficulty in speaking that he said but little but when asked any question he always gave a clear & satisfactory answer - he had several conversations with Mr. Rogers our Minister - who often visited him - which he always enjoyed & looked for eagerly - All this is our greatest consolation - I am happy to say dear Bessie is wonderfully supported for which we are most thankful - & she has a kind & most faithful & judicious friend in her brother in law Robert Brown who assists her in the management of the farm & her four fine boys who have a good guardian & an excellent example in their good Uncle Robert - May the Lord direct all for their happiness & safety in their journey through this life - & their security of peace & joy in that which is to come

I think Charlotte has written to you lately - so you have probably heard of us before from her - Oh what a fortunate man my dear Charlie is - what a prize he has gained! - Dear Charlotte is a treasure to us all - & is making herself loved and valued by all who know her - She has a Sunday school in her own hall every Sabbath afternoon - and a prayer meeting every thursday evening - & she goes about amongst the people visiting them & reading to them & trying to improve

them - I have not yet been able to join in the meetings - but hope (DV) to do so soon - She is now trying to have a Church established in their own neighborhood with a good Missionary appointed - but the funds must be raised to enable the church to be built - or the Missionary to be supported - & for this purpose they are trying to raise subscriptions & have given me some papers to send home - so I send you one in case you may meet with some person who may help us -

Now my own darling Mary my paper & time are both used up - so I must only request my love to dear Emily - 1 & 2 & all my other dear cousins & friends - I am as Ever Your affectionately attached old Coz

Fanny Stewart