

Handwritten signature or initials, possibly 'W.P. Graham'.

W. P. Graham

13 South St.

Waltham

APR 28 1853



Main body of handwritten text in cursive script, containing the letter's content. The text is dense and covers most of the right page.



Mr. P. Abraham  
13 South St.  
Baltimore.

Liverpool 18<sup>th</sup> ~~Aug~~ 10<sup>th</sup> 1833  
S.W.

Dear Brother,

A card with John Cassin's name attached has been left for me this morning saying (as I understand it) that a Mr. Robson will call in the course of the morning and would take any thing for you so I embrace the opportunity to write a few lines. Mr. Thompson very frequently inquires respecting my Father's Relations &c. and if my Father had any old papers. I mentioned the existence of the certificate of marriage between Daniel Abraham & Rachel Fell (which I have recd) and that there were other old letters. He desired me when I wrote to my Father to say that if he would be kind enough to send them he would be glad to pay the carriage. I told him I believed you had them all & I said you would lend him them. If you will do so you will much oblige both him & myself. He has a very large collection (many volumes I understand) of Manuscripts

which he has collected at a great expense  
He is almost childishly curious in such  
matters.

Can you tell me if I have any cousins  
of the name of Abraham & what of  
my Father's Brothers are living. I really  
know scarcely any thing about my  
family. He knew my Aunt Maria very  
well - & said that she was one of the finest  
women he ever knew. He has been acquainted  
with my Aunt Mary & calls her "Dee".

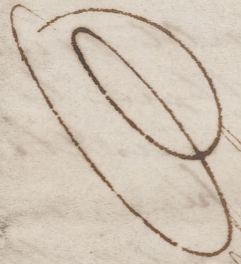
My Aunt Forest returned from Brighton  
on Saturday week & looks very much better.  
I had a commission from Mr. Thompson  
to ask him for an autograph of Mr.  
Boylan.

I have not time to write any more. I  
shall be glad to hear from you when you  
have leisure to write.

Your affectionate Brother  
John Abraham

My thing old will suit W. J. Do not  
omit sending all the old letters you have.  
He is also a collector of franks.

with her to be visited & that she did not invite Mary to Edinburgh.  
I have no doubt however that something else mortified her  
pride & folly. She (Mary) said that she never intended  
writing to her cousin again. W. Thompson mentioned  
to me one day that a young man of the name of  
Zachary had dine with him when Father was former  
his partner in partnership. He said that my  
Uncle was a very extensive tanner at Tottenham but



Mr. Robert Graham

13 Brotherton St.

Whitehaven

RECEIVED  
29 OCT 1833  
LONDON

21

that not answering he opened a ready made linen  
shop in Bounds ditch which had a very high name - that  
he died very suddenly of apoplexy 25 or 30 years ago  
& that there was an account of <sup>him</sup> in the Gentleman's  
Magazine of that time.

Yours

Your affectionate Brother  
John Graham

Liverpool Oct 1, 1833

Dear Brother,

I am sorry to put you to expense  
through but am obliged to write owing to the absence  
from your letter of all instructions for my  
guidance. I shall commence by giving a regular  
account of my proceedings. I rec<sup>d</sup> your parcel  
of a Saturday & intended to have commenced  
collecting yesterday (Monday) but was prevented  
by circumstances. The only time I have at my  
own disposal consists of a little in the morning  
<sup>before 10 o'clock</sup>  
as circumstances may happen & you have  
from 5 to 6 - allowed for tea but which of  
course we are at liberty to employ as we think  
proper. First, in the morning, I called on W.  
Arnold, who was not in but would be in a few  
minutes, went to E. Smith's - W. Langley  
was not in but would be at nine - proceeded  
to the Chronicle off. where I saw Mr. Pop.  
The bill is Adv<sup>ts</sup> 7/6 Post 10 = 2/4. Mr. R. showed me  
<sup>with a receipt</sup>  
a bill for the same Adv<sup>ts</sup> in the Hull Advertiser charged  
Adv<sup>ts</sup> 7/1 Post 10 = 7/10 Discount 10 which brought it  
to 7/1 which sum was all that Mr. Pop would pay  
me. Now I had no authority either to allow Disc<sup>t</sup>

in to secure charges & consequently I declined  
receiving payment till I had further instructions  
Then Mr R said that he had only seen at the rate  
of 7/11 & that they would not have charged more  
for its insertion in their paper. I then called  
again at E Smith's & was told that Mr Langley  
would not be in till afternoon. Then proceeded  
to Mr Arnold's Paper Agent. Paid 9/3 13 papers.  
He asked if there was not an indenture to him.  
I enquired what was usual - He said 1/2 a lead  
paper. I believed this was right & consequently  
accepted of 9/4. In the afternoon I called at  
E Smith's. Mr Langley had not been there  
to day but would be to morrow. During tea hour  
I went to Roper's & Mr Gair's for a bit of paper  
of the other of James' P. Saw Mr M'Gair who  
spoke of examining the acct & sending the  
amount to me. I replied I would call again  
- he spoke of my calling again in the course  
of the month. I said in the course of the  
week not appearing to notice his month.  
I then called on Mr W. W. Ellis who paid me  
£ 1.1 - I shall not make any further calls  
till I hear from you & shall thank you also  
to say when I shall find Mrs & Miss Hamson.

I also if you know the address of John Wybert Esq  
There is a person of that name in the Directory  
but here represented as a Gentleman. Mr Forest  
is in Wales. Please also to say how you will attend to  
money. I am much obliged to you for our family his-  
tory & glad to hear you to speak so cheerfully of that at  
the time in Cash. I have not had an opportunity  
of delivering your message to our Aunt though I  
was with her at Chapel of Sunday. It is a pity  
quodiam with the Dr Robinson who told me that you  
asked as well & wished to consult you. Mr Thompson  
expressed himself much obliged by the parcels  
I was very glad you sent them as they at once  
put the absence of the old letters & requested. Mr J. is  
in correspondence with several of the Statutes of France  
in different parts of the Kingdom & consequently  
if he receives more than one of a kind he cannot  
change them with others who are deficient. I cannot  
help saying that I was considerably disappointed  
by your not sending the old papers. It is most likely  
that Mr J. felt some delicacy in making them  
sent to be repaid what is asked and under such a  
feeling is necessarily painful. There was not the least  
danger - I cannot suppose you perceived there was  
of their being either lost or injured & they might if dan-  
ger had been returned in a few days. Even if they  
had proved no interest in themselves Mr J. would  
doubtless have been pleased by the attention to his request  
I do not remember left for supposing that other circum-  
stances than their want of interest caused their  
being withheld. The only reason Mary assigned for quarrelling  
with her cousin was that the latter did not love his husband.



to Cashier  
 A sum of £8/10. I hope it has arrived safe though  
 I have not, as I requested, received any acknow-  
 ledgment of it. It included a sum of £6. 2. 6 1/2  
 for you, being the amount of the following bills.

Dec. 27	E. Smith	£6. 6	(10 dose)
Oct. 1	W. W. Ellis	1	
	W. Arnold	8. 8 1/2	
Dec. 12	W. W. Ellis	10. 4	
Nov. 4	W. W. Ellis	2. 16	£6. 2. 6 1/2

I had only a days notice of the opportunity  
 of sending a parcel or possibly I should have  
 been able to send the two bills which I rec<sup>d</sup> on  
 the following day (Jan. 22) Ross & Nightingale  
 of Wm. W. Ellis & Co. £1. 10. 4. The latter sent  
 me in a copy of the firm "Norman & Wybergh." I had  
 called several times without finding anyone  
 in the office. He enquired if shareholders of  
 the paper paid the bills but however settled  
 the account immediately. The bill for the  
 Exchange News Room will be settled by Messrs.  
 Williams & Smith. It is desired that it may  
 be directed in future simply "The Exchange  
 News Room, Liverpool" as at present they have  
 the habit of sending it there. I waited on  
 them, with the inclusion (alms) of all others  
 during six or eight weeks, and was put off  
 from day to day on the most frivolous and  
 evidently false excuses. During that time

P.S. It is well to know that Richard with all the world...

I saw W. Smith only. The last time I saw him  
 I observed that I hoped I had not called at an  
 inconvenient time. No, he said, you shall be  
 paid now. He left the shop & W. Williams (as  
 I found) came to me, and enquired if I knew  
 what the papers were charged in the bill. I did  
 not - presumed 6 1/2. What was the amount  
 of the bill. £1. 10. 4. Well, he said, we cannot  
 find the bill but we never pay more than 6 for  
 country papers & would immediately stop on  
 charged more - if I pay you the amount  
 you mention, will you enjoy <sup>on our finding</sup>  
 the bill to return all that <sup>& opening your</sup> is charged above  
 6 cash. I could not agree to this and thought it  
 better to wait till I heard from you. He wishes  
 you to state the account (with additions  
 which may be due - you need not send a bill)  
 when you write to me and said he would  
 pay it.

I was totally unsuccessful in my first attempt  
 to find W. Denton Sewell. I have since heard  
 that he is in the Permit Office but have not  
 had time to find him out. His bill and  
 W. W. Harrison's are all that remain on my hands.  
 I can find no W. Smith in Pool Lane.

W. Thompson is very much obliged by the  
 franks you sent. In consequence of your saying  
 you thought you could procure him almost  
 any franks he wished from the H. of Commons



to the principles of a "Netto Theravada of the Sabbath"  
bill.

By a new arrangement in our shop my plan is  
changed - I give up the "Dinner Room" and come  
more immediately behind the counter.

The lecture on Geology I have mentioned is the  
third of an intended series. & W. Thompson is  
a sister of the late Wm Phillips a Mineralogist  
of considerable celebrity and also of Rich<sup>d</sup> Phillips  
F.R.S. L. & C. & Co. the Chemist. George Thompson  
is prosecuting the study of Geology at consid-  
erable expense of time & money.

I don't know that I have much more to say  
but shall remain,

Your Affectionate Brother

John Abraham

Now forwarded to the printer  
by sending an old newspaper

W. Robt Abraham

Whitehaven

Saturday Morning May 3, 1834

Dear Brother,

I have not much time to acknowledge  
two panels & a franked letter of yours. Last night and  
this morning at six George Thompson delivered  
a lecture on Geology, on the subject of your letter  
franked by Mr. Howard I presume you have by  
this time received a message through Mary -  
which would inform you that though most  
(not all) the newspapers were misdirected I had  
received them with the exception of one for Feb. 18  
The latter I have since got also - I presume you  
sent it. With respect to the direction "75 Church St."  
it will do very well for any thing by post but it is  
worth mentioning that it is not our true number  
(which is 80) but an old one, by which, however we are better  
known. Almost every house in Liverpool goes by two  
or three numbers, which occasions much trouble.

I don't say you have seen Mr. Rodgeron. He told me  
he was going to Whitehaven and I endeavoured to collect  
your bills in time to send by him but could not.  
I have called as often as I could at Mr. Wybergh's but  
have not yet found any one in the office. Denton  
will say he did not get over of the papers & will not  
pay unless the charge for them is disturbed

It is in the Excise Office Harcour St. George Kensing  
bill against you is but 19/6 but he has a bill of £ 2.. 9.  
against your Clerk which he says the latter promised  
to pay ~~to~~ you on his account. The latter I mention  
both bills - Johnstones is made payable to you  
which will leave a balance in Kensing's favour  
to be carried to next half years account.

Mr. Thompson & I are both much obliged  
to you for the franks. I read Mr. S. all that  
related to him in your letter of ~~Sept~~ 29. I thought  
it the best way to prevent amissakes. I told him  
yesterday that I was about writing to you & he will  
give me to day a list of the franks he most  
particularly wants.

I am obliged by your offer of the paper at 4 &  
the trouble you have taken respecting it. Mr. Thompson  
did not find so much as he expected about  
"Applity" in the paper so said he did not wish  
it to be continued on his account. This falling  
off of subscribers induces me to accept the offer.

My Aunt Forrest appears to me to be better  
than I ever knew her since I came to Liverpool.  
<sup>I think her own opinion is similar</sup>  
Mr. Forrest, however, has been extremely ill & for  
a few days was in great danger.

5 1/2 P.M. Mr. S. had been ill a few days when, on the  
night before Good Friday he had a severe attack  
that my Aunt suspected his death momentarily.

The next day all his relations were sent for but  
on Sunday when I went I was informed that  
no one was admitted to see either him or my  
Aunt. I however saw the latter, & found her very  
unwell, & so Mr. S. continued in a low way for  
several days, but the week before last he commen-  
ced coming occasionally to the office. I have not  
seen him yet - he generally goes to bed by four  
or five o'clock.

By Act. enclosed you will perceive that I owe you  
£ 6.. 10.. 8. I now send £ 10.. 10.. 8 - four pounds  
of which I will thank you to forward as soon as  
you have opportunity to & may with my love and  
I am sorry I had no good way of sending it sooner  
I am glad to hear by all accounts that they are  
very comfortable.

Mr. Ellis complained that he had not rec<sup>d</sup>  
two of the papers. I will take the liberty of giving  
you an opinion of mine which you will please to  
take quantum valent - put your own price  
upon it and don't be afraid of making it too  
cheap - that the signature to certain of the  
"The Four Lovers" is unmeaning and vulgar.  
Another thing I have some reason to suspect  
that there are more persons than you <sup>suppose</sup> ~~think~~ of,  
whom I should be loth to think I still shou-  
ld call either byots or hypocrites, who are friends

Liverpool May 1<sup>th</sup> 1834

Dear Brother,

I have nothing particular to im-  
portant to write about but meeting accidentally  
Miss Richardson yesterday I avail myself  
of the opportunity of her return by the steamer  
on Wednesday <sup>by</sup> enclosing a letter for you  
which I will thank you to forward as soon as  
you have opportunity, and if that does not  
happen within a week please to post it.  
I sent a parcel by Mr. Barker, with some  
money - I presume a newspaper I received  
shortly after was intended as an acknowledgment.  
I received a Carling Journal yesterday  
for which I am obliged to you. I have called at  
Mr. Wyberghs again but found no one in the  
office.

When I wrote last I gave you a favourable  
account of my Aunt's health - the next day  
I found her extremely ill - suffering severe  
pain by an attack of gout in the right foot -  
- she was attended by a Physician (Dr. Butler)

Miss Richardson

13 Leinster St

Tras. by Whitehall  
Miss Richardson



and an Apothecary — yesterday I found her  
down stairs, greatly recovered, and able to  
walk about & in good spirits. — Mr. Foster is  
quite recovered.

You probably know that a Miss Aborn  
here about Middlebury — I hope it  
will do her good — I don't know the precise  
time of her visit.

Mr. Thompson promised to bring the  
view of Washburn Hall for you to morrow  
so you will most likely receive it with this

Your Affect. Brother

John Abraham

I forgot in my last to give you the list of  
franks which Mr. Thompson most par-  
ticularly wants & did not recollect it  
till I got to Mr. Down's office with the parcel  
I wrote a note for you in pencil, with the list  
of names — but you should not have re-  
ceived it I repeat them

Bellevue E. L. Codrington Edw. A.  
Stewart James Jefferys Francis  
Shiel R. L.

Tuesday.

Mr. Thompson has brought the Engraving  
(a Lithograph) of Washburn & I have folded  
it on a roller for safety but I am afraid it  
is doubtful whether Miss R. will be able  
to take it — if not I shall keep it for  
another opportunity.

S. A.

Liverpool Aug 4 1835

My Dear Brother,

I am much obliged to you for your letter of June 13 & July 13. I had fully made up my mind to take your advice of coming direct to Whitehaven, especially when I found that I could only have a fortnight's holiday, but since that time a new Packet "The Windermere" has commenced running between this place and Ulverston and I think offers great advantages over the plan previously proposed. I intend sailing by her next Saturday morning at three o'clock and they say that she makes the trip in 7 1/2 hours so that I shall be able (I hope) to visit Swarthmoor, Furness & Conishead on the same day — proceed return to Ulverston and on Sunday afternoon perhaps proceed to Conishead Waterhead — Monday to Cumbleside, by way of Hawkeshead & Bow-

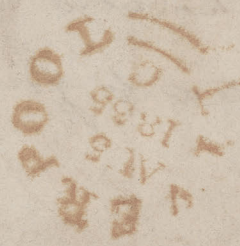


Liverpool Aug 5 1835

Wm Ross

13 Lovell St

Whitehaven



rep. Here perhaps you can meet me and  
I need not say how much the pleasure of  
my next day's walk to Keswick by Thilmen  
will be enhanced by your company. Perhaps  
however you cannot meet me until I arrive  
at Keswick, <sup>and in that case,</sup> but I think we may spend two  
days very pleasantly between that place &  
Whithaven — ascending Skiddaw if possible,  
and going by way of Borrowdale, <sup>Buttermere</sup> Crummock  
and Lowerwater or Emeralds. Ulswater,  
I fear, is entirely out of the question on this  
occasion and perhaps also Wart Water. I  
should like much to make an excursion up  
Laydale but fear I have not time — I can  
not expect to see every thing during so  
limited a space of time.

I am much obliged to you for Baines's  
Companion but, unfortunately, I had  
previously bought one. I shall return yours  
as it may be useful.

I shall be much obliged to you to  
write to fix <sup>the</sup> time, place, and circumstances  
of meeting me. If I do not hear from you  
before I sail I shall enquire for a letter  
at the Ulverston Post Office. It should  
be recollected that I cannot expect to be

at the places mentioned precisely at the  
time spoken of for I do not <sup>exactly</sup> know  
my own strength and it may very easily  
be overrated. One thing I shall take care of  
— not to hurry myself — for if I were  
I might probably be knocked up at the  
beginning of my journey. The <sup>days' journey</sup> distances I  
have mentioned are moderate. The route  
I have mentioned on Saturday is about 18  
miles. Ulverston to Conistone Waterhead  
16 miles. From latter place to Ambleside by the  
route mentioned abt 13 miles. Ambleside to  
Keswick 16 1/4 m.

I should be glad if you could tell me the  
most suitable <sup>days</sup> to stay at — seeing  
being kept in view. I shall either send, or get  
sent after me, by one of the Whithaven  
Steamers a trunk or box directed to your  
house.

Please to give directions not to send my  
Herald news-week. I shall get it when I  
come. I expect to bring you the report of your  
acts.

Trusting that I shall hear from you either here  
or at Ulverston I remain

Your affectionate Brother  
John Abrattian







Aunt - I am pretty sure she told me she  
lent it on, or gave to the children a dividend  
that she might have received. The sum in  
the hands of Mr. A's executors was the product  
of funded property lent to him.

13 Park Lane  
London

London, March twenty

two 1836

R. Abraham Esq

Whitehall

R. A. Howard

27.  
80 Ch. St.  
Lpool  
is a sup. address to me by post.

Liverpool March 17. 1836

I have received your letter of the 15th  
under Mr. Howard's frank and  
in consequence of a polite invitation to  
send any letters for you or for  
I received along with it  
and bill directed Messrs Russell  
and I am obliged for sending  
one cover from his being  
I apprehend however  
that they  
as you seem to allude  
as an enclosure in mine.  
I occasionally avail myself of  
his kindness. I sent the letter  
for Messrs Russell and shall  
call on a day or two.  
I cannot join with you in your ungrate-  
ful imputation of our late Aunt's  
I can neither say that it is  
nor make any probable guess  
at her motives. I have no doubt however,  
that it would be conscientious, as was every



thing she did and sometimes think that I can account, by the best of motives, for her total neglect of myself. I do not think she had much regard for relatives as such, nor is it to be wondered at; generally speaking they did not deserve her esteem.

I have received full accounts of Mr Forrest's will &c. I took tea lately with one of his executors, Mr Dalrymple ~~Whitaker~~ a most worthy and excellent man, so much so that it is a wonder that Mr Forrest, who hated and despised such persons, should have chosen him for the office. From him and his sister I have received an invitation to their house which I can only accept. All Mr Forrest's property is to be converted into money and placed at interest. A memorandum was found dated (I think) in June last in which he said that he calculated he was worth £27,000 but that calculating all losses and drawbacks in converting his effects into cash he thought he was worth at least £20,000. He left his wife an annuity of £200 per an. for life; and a house, the rent of which was not to exceed £50 per annum unless she chose one of his, and the use of

Extract from the will of Mr Forrest, dated Feb. 11. 1828

"And also give to the children of my late sister Mrs Dalrymple the sum of £1000, and also to be equally divided between them, share and share alike, and to be paid to them respectively at their respective ages."

his furniture, plate, china; as long as he continued unmarried. He left his son £3 per week ~~£500 to Mr Wood~~ and should he have any lawful children they are to receive the half of all his property on their father's death - £500 to Mr Wood and the interests of all his remaining property to Mr Falem. The annuity to my aunt is universally enclained against ~~against~~, and it was much too little but knowing his character, it was more than I expected. His property is not likely to produce much more than £20,000. There was a sale to day and yesterday of his effects with but minor. Mr Falem is retiring from business. His wife are at present in London & dined with the latter & Miss Falem (from your neighbourhood) before they left to winter. I shall be glad if the legacies can be advantageously disposed of in the way you propose. The object is a very desirable one. I do not know how soon they will be paid no time is fixed by the will except on a majority. I shall enclose a copy of the bequest. I should have thought that it would have been worth while to pay it to Mr W Ramsey's wife, but you know best - my aunt thought it doubtful. The sum lent to Mr Redhead was never repaid to my



R. Abraham Esq

W. R. Abraham  
13 South St  
Wharfedale

London June 13. 1836

My Dear Brother,

I write to you chiefly for the  
purpose of enclosing a letter for Henry which  
I hope will reveal the man in time for  
your Secretary's service.

I rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of May 1. If the Exor  
can be invented so as to produce £5 per  
annum I am naturally for my father  
I think I should rather suppose that there  
would be better than £11. 15 in my father's  
life.

Your observations do not fully settle  
Mr. Chapman's affair. If he were a pure  
of property in plain way they for a little  
to the extent I am not inconsistent w<sup>th</sup> it, but  
to sell a piece of land within 14 miles of the  
center of W. London to the same person or mechanic  
without any price mentioned and on a bargain  
that can be proved, for a number of 5000 lbs. of  
which is not to commence for 12 mos. does  
new things to me. It is hard to find  
out whether a certain time and business  
that they will continue to obtain a perfect  
forming section.

Thamnis yet necessary to get up a  
mentimes. Your Affate Brother John Abraham

Wm. B. ...  
Wm. B. ...

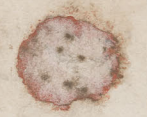
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Calcutta Sept. 13 1836.

R. Graham Esq

W. H. Stretcher

P. H. Howard



Liverpool Sept. 13 1836

Dear Brother,

Mr. Witter Wood called on me last Wednesday  
 my sister's address as he wished to send some of  
 to our late Aunt and he also said that  
 would be paid to us in about a fortnight (that is  
 about the 20<sup>th</sup> inst) and I had better obtain from you and  
 think proper authorities to receive what is  
 due to you. We said they would have been paid sooner  
 but that he had met with difficulties in disposing of the  
 property. I am informed by Mr. Dalrymple that Mr. W. tried  
 various methods to induce the court pay out to him by  
 force to the executors. First he claimed to have the interest  
 of the stock since it was sold out of the funds  
 paid to him. Then he requested Mr. F.'s power to sell the property  
 of out of the funds, at least, whether it was legally sold out,  
 and claimed to have the same nominal amount of stock  
 as he had in the present funds, which being now much higher  
 would have been considerably to his advantage. These claims  
 were rejected and overruled and in the course of the  
 examination which they occasioned a document was  
 found which appeared to bear strongly against the validity  
 of the will. This was a deed connected with Mr. F.'s marriage  
 by which alone she could make a will at all, and  
 it was necessary that the power thereby given her should be  
 referred to in the will. Counsel's opinion was taken whether the  
 following words were a sufficient reference to this document.  
 "I do hereby give and bequeath to" The counsel thought this  
 but I am not though I suspect myself that there may be a legal  
 doubt about it.

I heard of our Aunt Ania from a lady connected with Bennett who was lately there. She is very troublesome to her friends and in debt about £18 to Mr. B. Beattie. Mr. Wood said that her annuity would commence from the 6th month after Aunt's death.

I could not deliver any of your bills until last week and have not received any of them yet. <sup>except Mr. W. Beattie's Christmas bill.</sup> Mr. Rogers wants to know the cost of two advertisements (that of the Lady Douglas, I think) and when I show that, I may call for the amount of the other bill — so the sooner you send me it the better. Mr. Woybent has not called — he has I believe £500 a year as income to the corporation.

I am sorry to hear bad accounts of Mary's health. Should I visit Aunt? this year I shall be glad to visit you if I have time but the former is uncertain and the latter hardly probable. I hope you are not fixed in Whitehaven for life and think no means of placing yourself in a more advantageous position <sup>will occur</sup> at present. If it is really highly probable that they ~~will occur~~ the dullness of a place, however, depends much upon ourselves and though Carlisle is a more stirring <sup>town</sup> place than Whitehaven even you there you might very likely think <sup>that</sup> a dull place compared with Liverpool.

I sometimes think of your notion, which appears to me a very strange one, of the impossibility of believing what we do not understand. It appears to me to be about as true as if a man should say he could not believe that ice was the same substance as water because he could not understand how water, of which he has little idea unconnected with its fluidity, could be or become a solid. And yet do you not think that every clown believes that ice is the same substance as water as firmly as the philosopher who thinks he has discovered the reason to be that the particles of water have in one instance become differently arranged? Your ideas of the nature

of conviction must be totally different from any that I have been able to form. It appears to me a very plain fact that no one could possibly believe what is untrue if he were acquainted with all the circumstances bearing on his opinion, which is the meaning you yourself attach to understanding what we believe. But we are sure that people do believe what is untrue — nay, hold opinions grossly inconsistent with each other. Our opinions seem to me to be founded on a partial apprehension of circumstances not on a full understanding of them, but your doctrine, according to your own application of it, is, that we cannot believe one fact without knowing its relation to other facts and carried to a length it strictly admits of, it would say that when one piece of wood of a certain colour, &c. I can not believe its existence until I know its distance from the centre of the earth, the fixed stars, the distance between its particles, and innumerable other particulars. I met with a passage of John Locke's which illustrates the question — "many words, which seem to express some action, signify nothing of its action or modus operandi at all, but barely the effect with some circumstances of the subject wrought on, or cause operating; v.g. creation, annihilation, contain in them no idea of the action or manner whereby they are produced, but barely the cause and the thing done. And when a countryman says the cold freezes water, though the word freezing seems to import some action, yet truly it signifies nothing but the effect, namely, that the water which was before fluid, is become hard and consistent, without containing any idea of the action whereby it is done." And in another place he says "a great many things may be and are granted to have a being, and be in nature, of which we have no ideas. For example; it cannot be doubted that there are distinct species of separate spirits, of which yet, we have no distinct ideas at all: it cannot be questioned that spirits have ever communicated their thoughts, and yet we have no idea of it at all." P.S. I hope you don't share Lock's doctrine that we are not responsible for our beliefs. I was surprised yesterday by a letter from Jas. B. Redhead who had seen Aunt Merrill's death in a newspaper and wrote to me to know particulars. He is with a Dr. (Messrs. W. & G. in Montreal) is the second son & I suppose abt. 18 or 19 — his eldest brother John is a Cabinet Maker in Burlington and being ridiculed by the Yankee about his name wrote to the legislator and had it changed to John Redhead Smith. Elizabeth is

Feb 7<sup>th</sup>  
Liverpool Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 1837

My Dear Brother,

Enclosed are two documents — one for your signature and one which I will be obliged to you to forward to Mary for her's and perhaps you can get the latter back and return both to me under Mr. Howard's or some other of your honourable friends' frank. Mr. Foster brought me them yesterday and would have paid me my legacy but demanding out of it a fee of 10<sup>l</sup> for himself I declined receiving it. I have enquired however of Mr Dalrymple and am informed that we shall have to pay it. Mr Dalrymple cannot recollect that in the deed which you referred to any limitation of my Aunt's property was made but he cannot be positive that there was not — However I am tolerably certain that if there had been any interesting to us he would have recollected. I have no means of obtaining a copy of the case and opinion respecting the validity of the will but by application to Mr. Foster and as it was of course (I presume) taken at the expense of the Executor it is doubtful whether he would give me it and moreover I should not wish any one to suppose

that I am desirous of overthrowing the will.

I received your parcel on Sunday and am  
much obliged to you for the newspapers. I forwarded  
the parcel and letter. I received Willmer's act. <sup>for last year</sup>  
on the day I wrote to you last — as follows —  
Edw. Willmer — Nov 178 — Earl. Newkome 13/1. W. Malley  
13/1 — total £ 1.17.8. —

As Mary could hardly be mistaken about my  
Father's will for a copy of our Aunt's will I now  
send one which I will be obliged to you to forward  
for him. I am sorry that the limited weight  
of a frank would not allow me to send a larger  
piece of paper.

Wishing to hear from you soon

I remain

Your Affec. Brother

John Abraham

I shall direct to Mr Howard  
in London — I presume he  
is there though I have not  
seen his departure mentioned  
in the Herald.



Wm Allen Esq.  
Plough Court  
Lombard St  
London

32 Northumberland<sup>th</sup> New Road  
(at Hampbell's) July 25 1837

My Dear Brother,

I have obtained the situation  
I coveted - with Wm Allen Esq. - I reached  
London last Thursday having walked  
all the way - I found my trunk at  
Mr. Burnett's, for which I am much obliged  
to you, and met with a very kind recep-  
tion there.

I went yesterday to Allen's and was very  
well received - they enquired if it was  
probable that I should stay 2 or 3 years  
as they did not wish to take an aprentant  
for a long period. I had no difficulty in  
answering that satisfactorily. Then they  
said that they had for some time re-  
quired an agreement not to begin  
business within 5 miles of London without  
their consent. They have no objection  
to their aprentants opening shops in  
some parts - so North & West of Temple  
Bar where they have hardly any cus-  
tomers but in others places they have  
found it to interfere materially with

Wm Allen Esq.  
July 25 1837

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

Wm Allen Esq.  
Journal Office  
Liverpool

At - Evening - Worcester at 8-03-1



*[Faint handwritten notes]*

their connections. I wish my prospects had made this condition a matter of more serious importance than it is - I had no difficulty in assenting to it but they thought it better that I should consider it until to-day. This morning I agreed to it and told them that I was so desirous of being with them that though I had an introduction to John Bell He at the West End, who, I believe, do not require such an understanding, I should not make any application there. My remuneration was then settled - it is considerably less than in Liverpool but for that I was prepared £32 1<sup>st</sup> year £36 2<sup>d</sup> £40 3<sup>d</sup> and also a percentage upon the amount taken but I have to find my own groceries. They said the average of the three years was not likely to be less than £42 - I am to go on the 10<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>.

I am much obliged to you for 3 L<sup>pool</sup> journals and 1 Carlisle Journal which I found at Mr<sup>s</sup> Barnetts. I have not got last Sat's but it may be for me to day. I wrote to you from Builth -

P.S. I should be glad if you can be so kind as to call on Mr Kelly and you may be able to get some more engagements in the city.

I proceeded thence by Way - Hereford - Ross - Monmouth to Chepstow & crossed to Bristol. Here I would have called on our Uncle Henry but his name was not in the directory. I walked thence by Bath & Windsor to London. Upon the whole I enjoyed myself very much. And am considerably better for my journey. I have got a comfortable room for 4<sup>p</sup> per week through the address my Aunt gave me - it is near the Regents Park.

My expenses to London were about £5.9 - I walked 500 & a few odd miles - reaching London on the 23<sup>d</sup> day. I am glad that Mary<sup>e</sup> is likely to suit you and hope you will both have reason for continued and increasing satisfaction. I was sorry to have my things in such a disorderly state with you. I shall require a new suit and want some money. I should be much obliged if you would send me £10 in a letter to Mr<sup>s</sup> Barnetts care. It would do if I received it by the end of next week and perhaps you can get a frank by that time.

I remain

Your affect. Brother  
John Abraham

Feb 7<sup>th</sup>  
Liverpool Jan 7 8 1837

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Hoping to hear from you soon.

I remain

Your Affect. Brother

John Abraham

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in the Herald.