

Loanhead

1st December 1844

My dear Mabel

I shall make no farther apology
for leaving your kind letter ^{of 19th July} so long unanswered,
than by saying, that I have been rather
busy for sometime but I suppose I
must plead guilty to being somewhat
lazy too I was sorry to hear of the ill-
ness of your son: boy. poor little thing
it sad to see a child laid down with
disease and suffering at a period when
children are so bright and playful
but I hope this little one is a Lamb
Lamb of Jesus flock and if so his young
mind will comparatively untroubled into
the hardening influences of mature years
till if it please God to call him away
he will bloom amidst the lilies of para-
dise.

You say you have had a very fine sum-
mer so have we and although we had
not an abundant crop still what we

do have is of excellent quality we had
splendid harvest weather and in this
district it was all secured in excellent
condition but in the Cabach district
the late storm had overtaken them
I fear before they had had much out
I suppose you have heard of the fearful
Storm we had in October I suppose
the oldest inhabitant in Scotland
has scarcely witnessed its equal
hedges, bridges, banks of rivers were
swept before it as nothing even
tiny rivulets that seemed scarcely many
were turned into foaming raging rivers
The Bay of Portog & Shattisla Roadway
was very much injured by it I believe
they have scarcely got it as yet
even yet I had the pleasure of taking
I went upon it a week or two since
I could not help recollecting what
you said about carrying through
your native country at the rate of 80
miles an hour but you know we Scotch
are proverbially a siccary people.

and we would not wish our seats at 80
miles an hour I don't think ^{it} went at
above 15 miles an hour however they run
a great deal faster in the South than
they do here but not at the lightning
fearnought speed that you Yankees
do there are by far a greater number
of Railway accidents in America
than there are in Scotland or England
either by the bye you wished some
information about the N. P. S. Rail
way, I could not help smiling when
I read your remarks about it how
correctly you have judged of its course
so after it leaves Dunfermline it passes
down through Kinross past the old
Churchyard of Kinross then down
through the woods of Bothwell till
you come to Bothwell station
then it passes on to Grange station
and there the terminus is the Great
North goes by Perth through Elgin &
Morayshire thence on to Inverness.

I am as you say unacquainted with
the localities through which the Shab
ola railway passes till we come to Ard
ighill but I am pretty well acquainted
with the localities there and your con
jecture is perfectly right I do not know
the muckle burn but I know the Barry
mass there is a Shaban there called
the Barrie then on looking from the
south side of the carriages you see the
house of Barrie the Parish church and
Manse of Ardighill the Town of Over
town Oldtown and pass through
Claymore past Myermill where Aunt
Elizabeth lived and down a little
way below the village of Cornhill
you come to Cornhill station

I was down at Bayndre to see my
Aunt Tibbie as they call her I found
her very frail indeed she has been
confined to her bed she says for two
years she is very fretful and her son
and Granddaughter have a great

taste of her but I think she is a good
woman for all that and that she is
looking to the right course for comfort
under her affliction her sight is failing
her that she cannot see to read but
has a great many of the promises of
the bible by heart and she says med-
itates upon these in the night.

she is ninety eight years of age she tells
me one unhappy idea that has got
hold of her mind is that they are un-
kind to her it is painful to listen to
her complaints about them I tried to
the best of my poor ability to direct her
thoughts to Him who suffered more
for us than we ever can or will suffer
the Innocent for the guilty, her son has
been remarkably kind to her and
home a great deal with her.

I scarcely know how to thank you
for your coming present or rather
I should say my coming present
I am sure from the slip of paper you

sent of its contents inside the newspaper
it will be a very interesting book
many many thanks for your
kindness

I have great pleasure in telling
you about a movement that is just
now going on in. Known originally
first in a small prayer meeting
they assemble night after night now in
this house now in that of ^{Mrs} and ^{Mr} ^{and} ^W ^{and} ^W
and reading of the Scriptures

I cannot tell you how it gladdens my
heart to hear that my Sisters husbands
and sons have been brought to say what
must I do to be saved. I fear they
were not always very kind to my
Sister but it will be different now
if the change be abiding. I am sure
there are a great many anxious
enquirers about Huntly and the districts
around some are scoffing and making
light of it but it is going on
the day of the Fair market in Huntly

there was a noble band of Christian
ministers and others spoke to the people
all day and distributed tracts
but it was a strange sight to see the
servants of Christ so earnest to save souls
and the spirit dealers so anxious to get
them ensnared into their houses
I heard it said that the wife of a spirit
dealer became so enraged that she struck
one of the preachers a blow on the face
who happened to be standing near a
window. were you in Huntly on a
market day you would be astounded
at the masses of people that
came pouring in from all quarters
with the trains.

As the Victoria Barge opened yet
I have seen no account of its opening
yet I fear the great Eastern will not
suit Portland this year she has
been somewhat damaged with
the late storm she is too unwieldy
I don't think she will do well
she is too unwieldy

you have doubtless heard the particulars
of the loss of the Australian Mail
Packet the Royal Charter and the
fearful loss of life 452 passengers & ~~other~~
sailors that met a watery grave.
there was some people here about had
friends that perished with her
but I must conclude for any time and
paper are both done and I am also very
cold for winter is upon us sternly

Please present our kind complem-
ents to Prof Dawson and his Lady
and accept them for yourself
Thanks for the papers you send
us from time to time some of
them are very interesting

My Brother sent you a paper with
some of the proceedings of the
Kittil Disposition did you get it

Believe me to be

Your affectionate Nephew

Lane Kenyon

Settle
Dear Mother
1 Dec 59