

Lancaster Pennblade Feb 22  
1838

My dear Mole

I fear I must plead guilty to the charge of laziness this time. I intended to have written you much sooner but one thing or another prevented me. I confess it was very careless to be so long in acknowledging your gift, many, many thanks for your kindness it is indeed a beautiful Bible. Beautiful inside and outside, and as you observed, of more value than many Jewels. I hope you are still enjoying your rides through the city, a ride is very pleasant in a fine day much more so than a drive.

I am sure you will be very anxious all this time to learn the result of our enquiries. I was very glad when you wrote my Brother upon the subject for it induced him to take a warmer interest in the matter

he was at Ruthven Churchyard last  
week he saw the grave stone that is over your  
Father & Mother but my brother is not at  
at home and I am sorry I cannot give you  
the exact date of their Death your Mother  
Died In March 1805 aged 59 your Father  
was 70 at the time of his Death which I  
think was about 23 but my brother is  
to write you himself soon he has been dis-  
eased to an old man of the name of  
Dawson who lives in Cedarvale and as  
soon as he possibly can he is to call upon  
him, if I mistake <sup>not</sup> he is a Cousin of yours  
there is another Cousin who has the Mill  
of Ruthven but he could not give William  
any information about her forefathers.

I asked Aunt Elizabeth what she knew  
about them they appear to be all quite  
ignorant about the subject the only in-  
formation that I get was that it was  
Elizabeth Geddes that was her grand

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mother's name, and her husband says  
that your Grandfather was a Wright  
in Ruthven I think I told <sup>you</sup> before that  
they were Catholics but I don't remember  
however your father did not die a Catholic  
I believe Mr. Labour of the Body, Mr. Lawie <sup>lie</sup>  
were blessed to him he was attended on  
his Deathbed by the Rev. Mr. Bunnese the  
secession Minister of Grange my mother says  
his end was Peace.

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There was some other relations you  
mentioned the old woman that lived  
with your Father was not an aunt of  
yours but an aunt of your mother. <sup>or as</sup> ~~the~~  
the old woman that my mother lived  
with in Torquay. Mr. Cleypman that you  
you mentioned having seen in Aberdeen  
in '76 was no relation of yours but an  
Uncle of my father's he was not the same  
Mitchell as your Uncle Dr. Mitchell of  
Frendraught, if I mistake not Dr.

Mitchell married an Aunt of my father  
a sister of the Curate Mitchell,  
But to go back to Ruthven Churchyard  
there is an inscription on a gravestone  
that we think must have belonged  
to some of our Paternal Progenitors.  
It is two Brothers John and Thomas  
Gordon but as yet we have got no traces  
of what they were, I think your Grand  
mother was a widow when your Grand  
father married her, but possibly this  
might have been some of her relations  
there is another stone in the Churchyard  
a John Dawson sometime farmer in  
Huddoch very far back & and some  
we must try and get all these differ<sup>ences</sup>  
sorted if it be possible.

I was wrong about our ancestors coming  
in from Ireland but it was affirmed  
to me for truth until I learned my  
mistake elsewhere. My father says



Letter,  
Jane Morrison  
22 Feby 1858

but it is not exactly for myself that  
I want to know but other people sometimes  
ask me what you say about it when  
people have friends there they are anxious  
to hear an impartial opinion.

but close and remember if you see anything  
wrong stated or not clearly stated in this  
letter put me in mind when you write

I expect you will receive a letter soon  
from my Brother with more particulars  
by the bye I had almost forgot to mention  
that my Mother has been afflicted with  
the disease you complain of for a great  
years it was first brought on by influenza  
and it never left her sometimes  
she hears better than at other times  
but she never hears well I never heard  
whether aunt Elizabeth was cured or  
not I rather think not did you ever  
get your ears syringed my Mother never  
never tried it but it is hard to do good



I have written more than I intended doing  
I am sending along with this a specimen  
of a stone found on my sisters, Theresas  
son is a geologist and I should be very  
happy to hear his opinion of it, it does  
not appear to belong to the nature of stones  
but rather of sand <sup>is it gold that is shining in it</sup> & it is very easily broken

But I must conclude this leaves us all  
well at present with the exception of a  
severe cold that my father & mother have  
got which always attacks them in winter,  
are you subject to colds in winter? this has  
been a very mild winter but I understand  
there are a great many sick people just  
now. Health is a great blessing for which we  
ought to be very thankful to God and to make  
a proper use of it while we have it.

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We all join in our kind love to yourself  
your Son & Family although at present un-  
acquainted with him I hope this will find you all  
in good health, and believe me to your aff. Dear  
I. Me.

that he thinks they <sup>came</sup> over from Ireland  
however about the time of the Irish  
Rebellion and settled down in Scotland  
I dont know for every thing about them  
appears to be wrapped in mystery but  
we will try and do our best.

We have received another token of your  
kindness, since I have begun to write,  
in the shape of a Book to my Brother  
My Dear Uncle you positively are to thank  
I dont know what to say about your  
kindness it is so great I am sorry you  
should put yourself to so much expense  
and do mention troubles upon our account

Please be so good when you write  
again as give me some account of things  
in general in America or at least of what  
you are acquainted with I mean trade  
and Commerce and all that sort of  
things and if it be still as depressed  
you will wonder perhaps at this strange