

Letter,
Jane Morrison
Loanhead 16 Dec 57
16 Dec 1857

My dear Uncle

I have to acknowledge the receipt of 2 of your much-esteemed epistles. (Since I wrote you of the 2nd Dec and another from Glasgow of the 7th Nov. before proceeding further I beg you to excuse the very bad write as it is written by the light of a candle not over-bright, we have no gas here but Naphtha.)

I will reverse your letters My dear Uncle and put the last one first I was somewhat surprised when I received your letter bearing

The Glasgow postmark and my first
impression was that somebody had un-
expectedly brought you to Scotland.

I am sorry you should have put yourself
to so much trouble and expense on my
account. I do not know as yet what I
am indebted to you but whatever it is
I shall accept ^{it} with all the more pleas^{ure}
as coming from a friend whom I esteem
so highly but why the sad termination
of your sentence, in case you should recover ^{me}

are you unwell. Dear Uncle's has everything
seem'd to disarrange your proposed visit
in 53: true we are all mortal and it is
a far stretch forward but the human
heart could not survive without hope
hope which makes the future brilliant with
pleasures unknown, there may be many

be many changes ere that time God only
knows, the past has been fraught
then the future may be the same
but while angels are our guardians
what have we to fear;

With regard to the ancestry of our
families we shall endeavour to satisfy
you as early as possible, but I fear we
will be unable to trace it as far as you
would wish by Mother has a very bad
memory and she cannot assist us further
than that her Grandfather & Grand
mother on the father side came from
Ireland consequently their lineage is
lost, the old records were very irregularly
~~too~~ kept too. but remember I do not
say this to discourage you but in
case we be not so successful as we could

wish fortunately my father and my-
self have been proposing for some time
past to visit our friends in Adirondack
and I am sure Aunt Lizzie will know
a good deal about many things that
you would like to know.

I am not going to say anything about
them here, farther than that the old
people that my mother lived with in
Fargue ~~was~~ ^{were} not very near relations, the
woman was a grand-aunt of yours, being
an Aunt of your mother's Label that
was her name. but I will write again
soon and mention all the particulars
that can be gathered, do not mention
the trouble we will all be very happy
to do all we can in such an interesting
subject again I must apologise for this
very careless written sheet now that
I see it by daylight it is absolutely

shameful and if I had time and
paper to transcribe it I should have
done: but being scantily supplied with
both I shall trust to your kindness
for an excuse, thank you for your
hint about not pre-paying my letters
but be charitable dear Uncle, would
you take all the expense and leave
me none? I do assure you that I write
to you with more cheerfulness and
alacrity than to any other correspond-
ent but I will tell you what I may
do if I happen to be very poor, which
I sometimes am in winter (or my father
keeps a rather close hand) and I shall
frankly avail myself of your kindness
if I need it. by the by you asked
my Brothers address but you have
forgotten that you sent him several
papers already, his address is the

very same as my father's with the addition
of Jun^r at the end of his name
I mentioned in a former letter something
about going to see the Queen, but I saw her
nearer and better than I expected she
passed through Aberdeen in state, while
I was there and had the keys of the City
presented to her on a velvet cushion by
the Lord Provost, what a multitude
was there one could have had no idea
unless they had seen it.

but I must close for my time is done
with compliments to you all believe
me to be

yours very affectionately

James Harrison

P.S. I forget to say that we are all
well with the exception of my mother
who has always a severe cough in
Winter I hope you are all well. I sh.