



Edinburgh September 2 - 45

26A

My dear friend

Having once more returned to our improved Modern Athens I must try what I can add to swell the mixed snow of Communion which probably forms the contents of the Kings's Mail bag. Presuming you have long ago received my last letter packed at Kaildington, also a Paper I packed at Glasgow, by last Packet, with a slip inside acknowledging receipt of yours dated July 15. I need not apologise to excuse of my silence: but this I ought to do - apologise for passing over many things of importance contained in your letters. I am not altogether guilty of neglecting these for I occasionally make them subjects of thought.

26A

by an immense accumulation of difficulties I am laying
 up in store for your solution. In spiritual things I greatly
 feel the want of some intelligent Christian friend to whom
 I could freely unburden my feelings, who would help to solve
 my doubts and clear my difficulties. It appears to myself
 strange that I should experience this want considering
 my Parents are aged Christians, but somehow Brothers
 thoughts seem so entirely engrossed by the study of the
 Prophecies portions of Scripture that individual examina-
 tion or sympathy with takes in Christ occupy less of his
 attention than I could wish it did. I think - so far as
 I am able to judge - his views of the Millennium and persons
 sign in correct Scriptural and consequently very important

26A-B

While I expostulate with her on the evil of dwelling so constantly
on one subject to the neglect of others, which to me, seem, as im-
portant; she usually quotes the first part of the vs. of Habakkuk, as
the blessings promised on the study. In regard to my Father
I must share the blame with him, because I believe he is more
disposed for such Conversation - this begins interines: from
earliest Childhood a restraining feeling of our parents me-
opening my heart to him as I desire to do. Can you believe
that I cannot summon Courage sufficient to tell him you intend
reviving us? There is a young lady in our Church whose
society I have enjoyed while at Rotherham and who in some
measure supplied this want, I speak of, for the time: now,
when at home we are both so much engaged that we
seldom meet. By the by if you were in the way of hearing
Edin. gossip you would probably be told that her brother
is soon to become my husband. Do you remember him?
if you do, I doubt if you will not think me pretty Compli-
mented - by the Choice the public has made for me; perhaps
they think I have attained my opinion on this subject and
now think that good prospects will make up for the
absence of good sense. Not so, however, my observations on

Sept 21/45²⁶⁸
The experience of others is too great to be led away (I hope) by such a gross sentiment.

I told you I proposed going to Galushels shortly after my return from Harpenden. My stay there was greatly prolonged on my return I learned Mr. Mathie had visitors, which I should not have had the much party, I have therefore deferred my visit till about the end of this month. Father went alone and Mother, Miss Gile, Christina Bell and I set off at the same time for Potho my lake of Prate. This engraving I send gives a poor notion of its appearance but it is the only one I saw. The Steamboat Communication between Prate and all the places on each side of the Clyde and with the Argyleshire locks is immense and so very cheap that we frequently enjoyed trips to many beautiful places in the neighbourhood. Upon the whole I enjoyed our jaunt exceedingly. Prints and I used to wander about for hours and when tired would sit down on some hill or on the rocks on the shore and read a little of the Pilgrims Progress, which we usually took with us, and converse about our own experiences.