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Miss Margaret A. Mercer,
6 Woodmill St,
Edinburgh.

May 30th /42

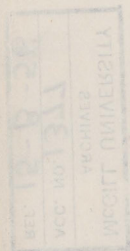
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[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the reverse side of the envelope, appearing as bleed-through from the other side.]

My unwholesome opinion about cropped letters, seems
never to be forgotten; never imagine that it applies
to yours. If your letters were cropped all over in every direction
I should be all the better pleased, if I could read
them at all. Yours may be cropped for another reason,
they are beautifully written and easy legible, whereas mine
are such miserable pieces of penmanship that they can
scarcely be read when not cropped.

My employments during the Spring have been very common place
filling books & seeds, with occasional gardening and very
little reading or mental improvement of any kind.
Mr. C. Pickers of recent years I alluded to when we were young;
I know much of every kind the pleasure of again seeing Edinburgh & you,
but I must be content to bid my time.



Your time seems to be fully occupied and I suppose
that now you will have much more to do than for-
merly. You used to accuse me of wasting your time
with talking, and now when you will be nearly as busy
as I am, unless you find other time-wasters, you may
have more spare moments than you think for. If you have
any useless ones, employ them in writing a few stray thoughts upon
a piece of paper, and send a bundle of them occasionally to me.
I will undertake to repay at least an equal quantity.