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David Walker

Miss. Mercer

Windmill St

Edinburgh

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Edinburgh
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Annan Post Office Feb. 4. 1845

My Dear Margaret -

You will I fear have set me down as an uncivil, and very negligent mortal, such is no more than my desert - My conduct to you has been very ungracious, but I trust you can, and will forgive me - Pardon me then, dear Margaret, I sincerely trust it will never again be necessary to charge myself with negligence towards you -

By Saturdays post I forwarded in answer to a kind and agreeable letter from your dear sister Mrs Drummond. It was indeed a forgiving action in her to remember me - you have been no less good, accept of my grateful thanks, and may continue to be as kind as formerly to one who anxiously hopes to rank among your friends -

Not receiving an answer to your last letter you would I fear think me angry with you, let me assure you such was not the case. I felt that you had done me a kindness, that you had shown yourself a real friend - I immediately attended to your good advice, wrote to London, and am now out of their debt, and should be out of their black books, they are not the same here - (they expect great attentions, with small returns) - I repeat it, your letter instead of displeasing, pleased me greatly, and raised you if possible, higher in my eyes - At the very time yours came to hand, there were several parties in the town busy at work, tracing secretly to undermine my character - They shortly came out

with assertions calculated to injure me. I tried all plans to hunt
out the sources of the mischief, to have some tangible person to
lay the matter to, - No person was an authority, and at length
I was obliged quietly to sit down, and wait until some clue
could be found to unravel the matter, - They themselves con-
founded themselves, and my day of rejoicing over their confusion,
and disgrace has long since arrived - Mr Landon the young man
who boarded with me, was a chief instrument in doing us ill,
but he has gone home in disgrace, and despised by all here -
It was a sorry day for me when Mr Landon came here, and
forthwith in London to place such a young scapegrace in my
house was far from right - - You may fancy that during this
time, I was in no fit state to write any one, and having but
off so long, I shamed to approach you even in the form of letter.
Now you know the cause dear Margaret, of my long silence, I
was down on heart, and in not fit condition to use pen, or aught
else - Pardon me then, I blame myself much for being so foolish,
as to allow so long a period to elapse, all the while wishing to
write - Man is a queer animal, and your humble servant one
of the queerest. Now you will write me soon, wou't you? &
Take my word, I shan't be so bad a lad again, my answers
shall be as regular as possible - - -
My business here is better, I occasionally add a new patient,
which is something considering the great opposition. Some of

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my professional brethren have a dislike to me, from the cir-
cumstance of their having lost a few good patients, who are
now in my ranks. For instance I got last year from a former
patient of Dr Irvine's, between 16 & 17 £, a good addition to my
income. But Mrs Irvine, & Johnston have done me no ill, their
opposition and rancour have had no ill effect, but an opposite one.
Dr Edgar is a good friend of mine, and we pull hand in hand.

How did you like the London folks? What were your impressions
in regard to the folks of 5 Charing Cross? Mrs Walker you would
form a favourable opinion in regard to her mental abilities, she
wise she is a nonentity - Mrs Milne - poor body - good in her way -

They have not used me well; at their instigation considerable ex-
pense was put upon my present dwelling, and what have they
done, left me to pay nearly all - Considering, that I was only
commencing in the world, it was very unfair, but why, its of
no use complaining, Annie rules the roost by in as far as ex-
penses go - and prevailed on James only to send me £10. - - -

I have not complained, so they may keep their cash, I am gra-
dually getting over it - - - I am silent, but such conduct from
a Brother & Sister - to pay £10. - within our convenience, and we
consequently above - £35. - when not one farthing was required, had they
not wanted it - Jush, I am only filling up paper with
what is of small importance to you, but death (of pocket) is
to me - I begin to believe that, your humble servant is
too

friends.

Accept of my love & best wishes—

I am
My dear Margaret

Yours very affectionately
David Walker

As your blindness shall no time to read
This over