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Edinburgh Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1853

My Dear Sister

Your kind letter of June last has  
been too long unanswered but I fear you  
will find me a bad correspondent

We were glad to hear of your  
welfare both then and since

I am happy to say that we are all  
well, and myself now much stronger

We went down to Portobello for six weeks  
where we were almost next door to

Leppin which was very pleasant

we then went out to Inverlathen  
& Peckley for a fortnight - and now have

just returned from a tour through the  
Highlands by Callander Loch, Katrine

and back

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Sackhamont, Glencoe, Fortville am  
Caledonian Canal, Inverness,  
Aberdeen, Ballater, Balmoral,  
Braemar, Glenshe, Maryrose,  
Cupar Angus, Perth, Edin -

at Balmoral & Braemar as seen  
the Queen & the gathering of the Clans  
and such scenes altogether of Beauty &  
Grandeur as I never saw and perhaps  
never shall see again

My Aunt & Sister are  
just preparing to commence their  
classes at the Institution and you  
enquire about their dispositions &  
pursuits, they are quite different as  
Aunt is always for writing letters or  
sewing a pair or something or another

Helen is for Books & Scientific pursuits such  
as Botany Astronomy Natural history & so  
they are both fond of Music and have made  
very good progress for the opportunity they have  
had —

I suppose your George  
will soon be in the middle of his studies  
also tell him his Cousins Helen & Annie  
send their Love to him

You enquire of Miss Mackenzie she is  
considerably better again lately so much  
so that she came in to see us last week  
she had not attempted anything like  
that for a long time —

My wife desires to be kindly remem-  
bered to you and Mr Dawson — and might  
I ask you to remember me to Mr Dawson & say  
tell him I never forget the pleasure I had  
in his company when he was here

I suppose Mr Bell gives you all the local  
news so you must now allow me to  
subscribe myself your aff<sup>l</sup> friend

Wm. W. Johnson

Am. W. Johnson

*[The remainder of the page contains extremely faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper.]*