



41 Gilmore Place

November 27th /61

My dearest Margaret

I shall begin by asking your pardon for being so very ungrateful and careless as not to have written you long ago, I have no apology to offer but my very great unwillingness to lift a pen, the state of Papa's health this summer has I think rather increased that feeling, I am sorry to say he has been suffering from depression of spirits caused no doubt by some derangement of the system he has now consulted Professor Miller who seems to understand his case he is somewhat better and I sincerely trust that the means used will be blessed to his entire restoration to health and usual spirits.

I duly received your very kind and
undeserved letter dated October
and although I cannot see any
reason to expect the so much
desired result you hint at
respecting a certain person
yet I feel extremely pleased
at your taking the trouble to
write me on the subject, and
if spared will certainly let
you know the result of the
visit, I have destroyed your
letter, you need never fear
any thing you say to me in
confidence going farther.

Aunt Primerose told me of
the box that was going to you
and I would have liked much
to have sent some little things
for the children but had neither
time nor spirits to look after them
I had however sent my little silver
jug to be regifted inside for William

Bell but it could not be done
in time, will therefore send it
by first opportunity.
Jessie is writing to Anna, I has
after some consideration connect-
ed herself with the body under
the care of Mr. Dickson. She is at a
tea and sewing meeting at his
house tonight. If any thing should
occur to induce her to return to
Canada I am sure it would please
her much as she decidedly pre-
fers the country and climate to
this, she says she has all the Can-
adian cold here without the com-
forts. I think her much im-
proved in manner and her
decision of character increased also
her particularity in the most min-
ute things in no way diminished.
We know no change in her looks
she does not appear a whit older
than when she left. she looked

them and pale after her sea sickness but has more than made that up at Lemmahajou and is in good health and cheerful.

Mr Wood's family are in deep distress at present their only daughter has been seriously ill with inflammation of the bowels for the last eight days and the medical men give little hope of recovery.

You will see by the papers what a dreadful calamity has occurred in the city this week by the falling of a six story house in the high street whereby thirty persons have lost their lives and as many more injured, as you may suppose it has created a very great sensation here. We all unite in kind love to Mrs Dawson and self and hoping to behave better for the future remain your most affec^t sister
Jane Bell