

I have
as you will
believe returned
home again after
an absence of three
more the 1st half

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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41 Belmont Place

3rd April - /67.

My very dear Aunt,
I did not receive
your letter till the middle of
February as M. A. forgot all about
it, & since that time I have been
very much taken up bodily & mentally.
Your letter excited in me very
much the same feelings as mine
seems to have done in you but through
a little misunderstanding, although
I thought I had written very plainly
& that you would know my charac-
ter by this time as one who would not
go against the wish of my parents
unless in a matter in which the
truth of God was concerned & I
have ever tried to follow the leadings
of Providence close, & not to do any
thing rashly. But however
plainly you spoke I thank you
most sincerely for it, as it shewed

me the warm place I have still in
your heart though separated at present
by the great Atlantic, yet there is
a day coming when we shall be
one in all things in the Father's
home above, oh how sweet the
thought that it is to a Father's
house we are travelling, & when
we shall enjoy to the full every
thing that love could possibly
provide for us & all secured to us
through His well beloved Son, who
though He was rich yet for our
sakes became poor, that we through
His poverty might become rich.

I will endeavor as shortly as
possible to show you any real position
in that matter. I mean I seemed
to see nothing for it but that
some of us should leave home
but yet keeping from all friends
here the reason of any sudden
departure, but as none of the others
seemed to like the idea of such
a thing, I meanwhile made it a

matter of prayer & the Lord seemed
to say to me, that I should first
show the example, I accordingly
made the proposal to mamma
placing before her the only two
places (Montreal & Jonction) I
could think of as paying a length-
ened visit, but really in assisting
as a member of the household
in any thing that might be required
till we saw if things would improve
a little, I would have chosen
the land of my spiritual birth,
as my heart always flows out
towards it, but mamma chose
the latter as being able to get on
back again if desired; the lady
was it once written to & arrangements
entered into, & the thought that
I was going to a comfortable &
happy home quite reconciled
mamma & papa to parting with
me although it was a severe
trial from the surrounding cir-
-cumstances which was the cause

of it, but I never in all my life
was more thoroughly disappointed
with any thing, & had it not been
for my friends here I would not
have stayed as long as I did, but
it was understood that I had
gone to spend the winter at least.

We are all at home just now;
but the intention is that those
who are best qualified should
take situations as soon as any
such should be heard of suitable,
if nothing else occurs in the
meantime, Ellen is at present
studying German which will
the better fit her for something
superior, & while mentioning her
name I may say that she & Maria
have come out decidedly for Christ,
& D. V. they will be baptised next
Thursday, I feel greatly encouraged
& strengthened by it, & I am convinced
it was in answer to believing prayer.
All the family here, as well as all
other relations are at present well

Though the Lord has been pleased
to afflict with sickness some
of our members lately.

Miss Sherren wed married last
Wednesday to a widower with
six children, the eldest fifteen.
& a member of the chapel Bristol
where his father is one of the
deacons, she of course has left
Minto House to come with her
husband; Miss Margaret Blair
has also been married on the
Thursday to an Established church
clergyman in Kirkwall, & also
a widower with a family all
grown up & married except the
youngest who is sixteen, & said
to be engaged.

Mrs Irvine fell asleep in Jesus
about six weeks ago from a shock
of paralysis.

Give my love to Mrs Carnish &
tell her I rejoice to hear that
the Lord has blessed her with
a son, may they long be spared

To me another & for the glory of
God.

I am delighted to hear that
you promise to be a good musician
& that she & Rankine are getting
on with their studies; I hope
George is keeping somewhat
better.

Many thanks for all the infor-
-mation concerning any of my
-other acquaintances.

We had a letter from George
the other day who has just
-arrived from one of his voyages,
& he tells us that there is a pos-
-sibility of his ship going to Quebec
-or Montreal & that it notes
your address in the event of such
-being the case, (I only wish
it had been myself that had
such a prospect.)

I never heard before of your having
regular scripture reading meetings
at the College, we have no such
thing here amongst any of us & I
miss them very much.

But you will doubtless be wonder-
 -ing what has come over me
 that my thoughts & feelings go
 so much abroad, so to satisfy
 you & to live my own mind.
 I will tell you, when I left Northampton
 it was with a lingering hope that
 I might return to it again in
 one capacity or another, but as
 that hope faded from my view,
 I thought that the love for that
 country would fade also, but
 the spiritual advantages with
 which I was surrounded there,
 seemed to keep alive, though
deeply buried for a while, these
 feelings: circumstances since my
 return from England at this time
 have revived these feelings again.
 & what I tell you now, no one
knows as yet but he who was
 the means in Gods hand of bringing
 me to this point, through whose
 lectures I lived a week after
 my return & on the Holy Spirit's
 presence on earth, by one of them

brethren, but which I did not
 know at the time. & While
 visiting at Bristol Place, I have
 felt for some time very un-
 comfortable there, & wished I
 could only get once more into
 the little company once more in
 Montreal where I enjoyed such
 sweet seasons of blessing & the
 thought has been fastening itself
 upon my mind that the Lord
 has withheld the blessing in
 token of displeasure that ever
 I left that simple form of
 worship but I did it for the
 best at the time, & believing
 the Lord led me there, not
 knowing of any such gatherings
 here as I had come from, but
 now my mind is in such a state
 as to regret me for enjoying even
 the amount of comfort I enjoyed
 there, but I feel that the natural
 shyness & timidity of my character
 shrinks from the thought of
 meeting with the pastors & deacons
time

which according to the church's
order ~~should~~ wait upon me
to point out the error I would
commit in leaving their aidot,
& also to separate myself from
the many friendships I have
formed, while still living in
the same city; I feel that if
it were the Lord's will I would
rather like Abraham leave the
place of my nativity & go into
a land of strangers so that I
might worship the Lord in a
way by which Christ as the head
of the church would be more
glorified & the Holy Spirit's
presence would be more seen &
felt, but I fear in remaining
here, I will not have courage
to take the step; I would
therefore beg an interest in your
prayers on this behalf, that if
it be the Lord's will to retain
me still under the parental roof,
He will give the needed grace &
strength to conquer the flesh, &

I follow the Lord whithersoever
He leadeth.

This has grown into rather a
long letter but I trust it will
not be altogether a tedious one
to you, although it speaks so
much of self, supposing you will
take as much interest in my
spiritual well being though there
as you shewed in kindness to me
which under your roof.

I have often longed to hear of
the Lord working in your family
circle, is there no appearance
of spiritual life in any of your
loved ones?

Fond love to Mother, yourself, George
Anna, William & Ann & da
I hoping to hear from you soon
again. Behind me as ever

Your very loving niece

Jessie