

My dearest Mr. D.
I hope I shall
soon be able to
write to you
again.

My dearest
you are better with
Alex. at your convenience
about the mantles
Tell me if I can do
anything for you

George Square Edinburgh
June 4th 1841

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It seems a hopeless
thing a letter ever again reach you
from me. I have been wishing ever since
I came back from the Continent to write to
you but it has been simply an impossibility
Perhaps you will scarcely understand this
I cannot today take time to explain it
as I have not a long time left me to write
& must refer to necessary things first.
I hope before this reaches you you have
received your mantles sent by Mr. Day.
As she was a friend of yours I did not hesitate
to take them out; she was very nice about it
& said she was glad of the opportunity of
serving you. She had written offering to do any
shopping for you, which you had declined on
account of Miss's illness. So I told her you had
asked me to get these things before that time.

I gave her the prices, as she might have to pay
duty. Yours came to £3-14-9 ^{AFS}
& Anna's
2-18-6

6-13-3

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Yours was my own choice & hope you will
like it - but Anna's did not quite satisfy
me. It is so very difficult in London to find
just what one likes - amongst such a variety.
Hope however Anna will like it & find
it useful. I am only sorry with every wish
to do my best, I did not better succeed.
Now I am going to write you very decidedly
about the absurdity of returning me again
Secretary of the S. E. A. I positively decline accept-
ing the office. I never dreamt you would do
such a thing after my writing so strongly about
it before. I take a hearty interest in it - as much
as ever - but I cannot bear having the name
of a thing & not doing the work - It is very
unfair to me as well as to the Assocⁿ - I cannot
allow it - it will only drive me from it
altogether if you continue to act towards me
in that way - My place is certainly here.

for the present. I am tied hands & feet for
Mr. Noble is so much of an invalid that until
her husband comes home. I can not possibly
leave her. Hers is an illness of a trying
& nature affecting so much her spirits
causing great & constant depression. While
her looks belie her real state. Her nervous
system seems to be so completely broken
down. I believe there is nothing for it but
patient waiting & kind medical sympathy
& care. She is now in the hands of Dr. Granger
Stewart. Of whom we do not know much. but
we hear he stands high & has a large practice.
He wishes her to remain at least a month
under his treatment. We do not like staying
here. The arrangements for London on the 10th
& Mary reads going into lodgings. Mary
is very kind in wanting us to stay while they
are away, but I don't like the idea.
I feel Mary must be guided by her own
feelings. I wish with all my heart Col. Noble
but we must wait until he can get leave.
I am troubling you with my own cares.

The last week in July I go to France with
Willy Cross & spend his holidays till the mid-
dle of Sep^r with him particularly & learn
French - so we hope to get out of the way of
English people. He is looking forward with
such delight to the trip & I hope he may not
be disappointed. After that - I have no idea
what may be. "Sufficient unto the day" I
now you see that for the summer at least
I am very clearly required on this side.
Thank you very much indeed for your last
most interesting letter written so long ago.
Since then what anxiety & trouble you have
had. I heard of Maria's illness on my arrival
in England & I felt so much for you, I longed
to write & tell you so, but I was not able.
I am so thankful that she has recovered -
& trust she may lay up a stock of health
during the summer in some pleasant
bracing country retreat.
Thank you much for those addresses in
London. I was only a week there & was
so busy shopping all that time, I could

not for any where or see any body. We were
so far out of the way at the Webber Smith
in Inverness Gardens Kensington, we both had
so much to do - I did not accomplish much
after all - that we could not help ourselves.
London was very full. I heard that Mr. Paphin
whose name you mention - both before going
to the Continent - this last time - The first sermon
rather disappointed ^{me}, & the second was so wide
reaching & so general. that it did not touch
me as Mr. Mackrae's preaching always did.
The W. Smiths think him the best preacher in
the world. - One so very seldom any where
gets what we crave for. I have never had
it all my life - I never look for it. Mr. Mackrae
satisfied me better than any one else & once in
England before, I got exactly what I required
but only for a very short time. but I was in
the state of mind that made what I heard
most powerful to me - The heart made soft
by trial. - Mr. Wilmut came to see me
in London - I was to have staid with her but
could not on Maria's account. She is a dear little

woman. She looks as well as ever. She has
seven children. Bertha grows up. During
the last few months she has been im-
pressed with religious convictions. Before that they
had allowed her to go out, as it was her wish
with her heart, after much anxious thought
on the subject. After leaving London
I spent two or three days with Miss Barber
at her brother's house at Sheffield. She is
perfectly happy. After nearly going out
of the English Church, & finding she has returned
to her moorings, & more inclined to stay - not
that she is satisfied, only she sees nothing
else that is decidedly better. She was very
busy attending & addressing two or three meetings
every day. She delights in her work at Sheffield
& the factory girls specially interest her.
I heard her address a mixed congregation
of respectable working people of 300 or 400, & she
spoke being well explained the gospel so
clearly & in such an interesting way. She
has been much blessed every where. You may
see her in Montreal, as she talked of going

is on her return. I enjoyed seeing her again
so much. I felt inclined to enjoy her so
happy in her work & in her labours.
Work is a great privilege. I trust I may
get into it again - never to leave it.
It will be three weeks tomorrow since we
came to Edinburgh. Until lately we have
had the most dreary weather. Cold
bitter east wind & heat with a heavy shower
on the whole day & could not get warm.
Now it is delightful & the country looks
so fresh & green. We took a long drive on
Tuesday to the Earl of Roseberry's place
pretty but nothing very particular -
at Sheffield. I saw the Duke of Devonshire's
"Chatsworth" - considered one of the finest places
in England. The views from the windows were
certainly beautiful. I recurred to another
world. The Scott Moncreiffs are about as
happy a couple as can be met any where.
They are devoted to each other & the children
are like her own. She has their confidence
that of their relatives - a happy thing for

der. They are healthy, happy, vigorous children
from 12 down to 4 or 5 years of age. Two boys &
three girls. I have not been to any thing in
Edinburgh. To tell you the truth I have not
had much heart for it. The Gen^l Assembly
have just closed their sittings. The great
question before both Free, Established has been
this Bill on Patronage - not approved of generally
by the former. I have not read the debates, so
I can give no opinion on the subject.
You would be shocked at the prevalence of
Broad Church views in the Scotch Church
amongst the people.

This is a shabby letter. I hope to do better
next time. Be sure - call me Emma as
always. Give Maggie Anne my best love
I shall write to her as soon as I can.
I have not attempted to answer your last
delightful & most interesting letter. but I thank
you warmly for all your kind good wishes for
the year. I trust we may be spared to have
many long talks together as of old.
Both Mary & Maggie send love to you & with
a great deal to yourself & Mrs. D. D. George & all