

Many thanks for the beautiful
supply of wedding cake oh; Cassene
the dearful blast

Mrs. Scate

Acc. 1377

Cowie Barclay

Curiff

11th October 1883

My very dear friend I was a
very great pleasure to receive
your letter a few days ago. I
feel truly grateful for
your kind & loving interest
in my health & comfort, which
prompted your wise advice
about taking myself all over
I am in hurry & if
that advice is not followed
at once you must not think
we have not given it our
thoughtful consideration.
It is rather a difficult question
to solve as to what is best to do,

one household is such a very
peculiar one; sometimes we
have a very large family
around us when a housekeeper
would find abundance of
work in seeing after things; then
again which I am often in
winter alone, or from home,
when it is quite a difficulty to
make work for the three present
we must keep. Then again I fear
there might be some double
misunderstanding, among so
many of them, which would do
me far more harm than being
at the head of things. As it is
my present, all love me & there
is the most perfect concord
amongst them: I do not think

There has been a sharp or unkind
word heard in the house for
at least eight years, we dwell
in the midst of peace & love.
This has been an exceptional
summer & Autumn, as I have
then been present to train into
our own way, & having had
friends the whole season made
this perhaps a little more
difficult, but all is going on
well & long before next season
I hope they will require being
little looking after, for peace
by dear & loved friend do not
leave our hearts again by
our hoping that we may be
deprived of what has so long
been looked forward to by us

Both with the deepest pleasure,
that of having you your husband
& dear Eva under our roof,
& sharing our peaceful quiet
County home & life, which
our "Heavenly Father" has given
us. You must not disappoint
us, you do not know how we
are longing to welcome you all
for a long visit, it is often
a bright day dream of what
true fellowship of spirit we
shall have if spared to meet.
I enjoy the County fight & I
pounds feasted under our old
favourite cherry trees. After
you have been visiting all
winter you will be able to
enjoy the best quiet & good

Know I desir'd that you
should enjoy the most perfect
freedom, ^{Towie Barclay} going & doing
^{Turriff} when I wish you like in that
you are to be at home & not to
be entertained as strangers.

Dr. Balcanon's little study is
all ready for him. I desir'd
him that his papers will not
be disturbed, nor the stones.
My health is not very good
this year, but I am under good
medical treatment & hope
with God's blessing to be much
stronger before going. My sight
can trouble me a good deal,
making writing falling so very
difficult. It is such a mercy
that Alack is so well, you would
be delighted to see what a

picture of robust health he
in fact must indeed have
had a busy time before
leaving home; getting ready for
such a long absence generally
involves enough wear & tear
for most ordinary mortals,
but with a marriage on hand
& leaving a house open for
duties must have been legion!
No wonder you were "washed
looking" as Sam wrote me.

We had a delightful visit
from Minnie her husband
& dear little babe, & fancy
they have gone we have had
a strange empty feeling
about our nests, making
us feel the truth of what
our kind, precious old

friend Mrs. Gr. Hall used
often to say "Love in this world
is a most painful thing" &
yet I would add what would
it be without it? Love as it
is, I am so desirous to see
from all quarters, what a
wise choice Millian has
made, it is such a comfort
when we love ones, choose
those whom we can love
I have no complaint with.
I can't thank you
enough for the lovely present
you sent on with Maggie?
I do not exactly understand
what it is, I have laid it
safely just until you come
to show me how to place it.
it is exquisite, so much

More appreciated from being
just a hand book. How beautiful
his thought must be when he
see them come out in fresh form
of beauty. I have feared the thought
is of spending eternity with him
all closed & dark, which
so often hide him from us here
fore ~~for~~ forever. It is a very
long time since I have written
to much with a pen & I fear
the writing will be rather hard
to read but I know loving
eyes will read & make excuse.
We are very happy with dear
Maggie, Arthur & a young married
friend from Charlotte & am
a house full of mine. With our
best love we must love to the
two believe me I love
your loving friend
Maggie Scott