

Mrs. Cate
 Town Barre
 5th May 1886

My dear friend,
 I was so
 glad to receive your delightful
 letter long ago, & so long I
 lay as you did that I
 was unable to write to you
 time I have taken to answer it
 Again I again have I carried it for
 days in my pocket until it is
 almost worn out, hoping to be able
 for a few weeks that I had
 the almost daily letters from
 mine, & friends, many of
 which required immediate answer
 -ing as they put into a state
 something must be being
 creature, entertaining
 being all the hours trying to do
 I always find people to be

Makes my life a very busy one.
Besides this, all winter I have
been a great sufferer from swollen
glands & inflammation & rheuma-
tism in the shoulder, & writing
is most painful work after the
letter or two I often have to lie
down with the pain, & so often
have wished I could photograph
a letter to you of the thoughts
which so often occur to you, & the
longing desire makes heaven seem
very few, when intercourse
with loved ones will have no
hindrance. We were so much
interested to hear of your doing
dearing for me, & especially
the fact about Mrs. of which
I am glad we have such very
peaceful, pleasant memories;
I think we look back to our
visit there in the month of June

right feeling, with for nothing of the
same feeling that you do to William
Barclay, after your bustling life.
We were glad too to hear of all
your dear ones who are each
wanderers; like us, as a family, you
have also to pass of "goodbye &
Nancy" following in all the dangers
of travelling. From a remark in
your letter I think you cannot
have heard that Minnie's little
one was born dead last December;
she took such care for months,
giving a great deal, & the time of
danger we all thought had passed,
but two weeks before the time
she got a shock, this brought on
a shaking, & the doctor said she
had a convulsion, he was born
that night: it was months before
we were getting put over the deal
he was such a lovely boy, such

like her friend; I think the empty
heart seen her measure of
this because she had another
for a long fine child, when joy is
so full & deep; Papiu stayed with
her for five weeks, I kept her from
feeling her loss which was a great
matter & she went the full time,
she had such a good recovery.
Dear little Minnie took fear
from a fall days after baby's
death, a long mild kind & she is
now able to see about the nursery
but Minnie has felt it a great
trial not to go near her for five
weeks; the dear little in bed
has been so good & patient, has
asked to get out of the room,
feeling to understand that there
would be danger to other people
if she did; only once Minnie
jumped in at the ^{door} when the

get paid for Westfield "why do you
not come in beside the Mother" which
John Mission fresh a few hours.
The hope to visit them in Feb'y. which
will be a great pleasure to us all as
we have not seen each other since
July, when we went through the
could not come to us through the
furnace. The had our house full
of friends until late Autumn.
Have had a good many through
the winter at different times: it is
the best way to get the good of friends
the have not been from home at
all & have many of our peaceful
get full life; in the speaking when
we see down we have leading
around, which makes a variety
of ideas in the farm field. To
think I speak about ^{the} ~~the~~ has been
so well for a year but I have
had a good deal of suffering the

last year³ months; I took cold,
which made me almost stone
deaf for weeks, instead we thought
I was to lose my hearing altogether,
& it was a terrible cross to us both,
& made us have to whisper hard
in prayer to say from the heart "thy
will be done"; at first it was like a
haze of thick darkness, confu-
sion had all my life been my greatest
pleasure & now to have to live on
in filiation; but God has been so good
& spared me from what would
have tried me more than all, a
doubtful feeling; instead of which
He gave me the greatest assurance
of His love & wisdom, that it was
in this way prayer was to be answered
for those brought to himself I have
found this, with greater desires in
prayer, more intense longings that
others should be brought to know of
His love & what being, this is really a

blowing in disguise. I am hearing a
little better but not general con-
-solation. Aftersent inflammatory
shard no time came into my brain &
shard den which nothing seems to be
-know for I have had rather a hard
time of it. I have been very often from
Poughkeepsie they all seem in good
health this winter I have been with
lectures, concerts, falling meetings, &c
Edith is going on her way to France
as she said but long ago in a letter
"the Master's words" "I have been
but it leaves the spirit free"
The other piece I have seen but not
the feeling of heart which must be
felt before I can be free as
free given, but it will come for
"faithful is He who hath promised."
You will, with Eva, surely be
coming to see father this summer
with your husband. I hope you will
sing but be cruel enough to be free

As a visit then though it might seem to
be a phantom; we look back with the
greatest of pleasure to your last.

Will you kindly thank Sir William for
his interesting book on Egypt & Nile.
I ask his forgiveness for not thanking
him before? A friend lately wrote
me that he for had read with great
interest & benefit "The chain of life"
he had never read a book of the
kind before written by a Christian &
had several practical Proposals
in his clauses, so it did him good.
I need not close dear friend
with wishing you a happy New Year
& all your dear ones in which thy
husband desires to join. & the
Blessing promised in 3 John ver 2
With ever kindest love

Believe me Dear
Yours loving friend
Meggie Scott

P.S. Many thanks for your just card
which desires thank to Eva. We put her