

St Oswalds,
Grasmere.

R. S. O.
12 Augt: 1885.

My dear Harriington,

I got back here from
Leeds last night, & found
yours of the 9th awaiting
me. I fear the stupid
bungling about sending you
letters or, may have been
something to do with your
determination to fly back to
the nest earlier than would
otherwise have been the case.

The non-reception of tidings from
your friends may possibly have
impressed you with the unhappy
thought that they had for-
gotten you; or at least did
not care to see any more of
you - ~~at least~~ for a few years! -

It is a thousand pities
you could not make up your
mind to give your English
concerns another week of
your coveted society. But
I suppose you must now be
left to "gan you ain wilful"
"jain"! -

I gather from your letter that

you had not got mine (the last
I sent) before it was written.

I suppose there's such a possibility
as "wiring" to Motin; - and the
"last but to be had in a"
"ship" is not usually the
quickest inducement to travel
to her.

I am glad to hear you have
had so pleasant & profitable
a visit to the Continent.

I only regret I am to have
so few particular articles.

You'll bear in mind the
project for a winter or
12 months there, some day?

I have a letter from a
friend, the private secretary
of (Cabinet Minister ^{their address}) in
which he says: - "I hear"
"you have been nominated"
"to the post" (Ambassador). I
wish I could believe it is
true. - But as I have
myself so far received
no confirmation of the news,
I do not feel justified in
taking it "as serious". -

I sincerely wish I could
come & see you off. - It is

a great disappointment to me
not to do so. When I had
found it possible, you do
not say at what time
you back, or rather when
you sail. - At all events,
I hope for the most
prosperous of voyages, &
that you may ^{be} come wholesome
to those that we are
& dear, & as it you
coming. - (Bid you see
faintly) - And while we
explore you person to

Leave us thus suddenly,
all hear join hearts in
the same sentiment.
We wish you also, to convey
to all "on the other side"
our best & kindest re-
membrances & the ex-
pression of our hope that
not very many "months"
but not many "years" away
we will again have the
joy of meeting some
at least of those whom
we love to call friends.

I must thank yr most
sincerely for all your
kind sentiments & illu-
cations to me & mine, &
I need not, I am sure,
say that, on my part,
they are deeply reciprocated.

I must now I fear, tho'
reluctantly, say farewell
at least for a time, & beg of
you, with my desire for the
health and happiness of
yourself & of those that
are dear to you, to believe

that I am always.

Your true & affec^t friend,

J. F. Armstrong.

P.S. As soon as I learn
anything really authentic
about Edinburgh, I will
let you know. Send me
word of your arrival, and
how you find them all.

Aug 12th 1853
J. F. A.