

Mr. Elyburn is still continuing to improve, but not yet able  
to go down stairs. I will make no apologies for my long absence,  
but must have done it often before this time. I will now give you a  
good account of the children getting on, & have not yet  
had a description of them. I did not hear  
of your little girl's birth until June. You  
see what distance we give me now a minute  
description of both boy & girl, what color of eye,  
of hair, & you keep it curled, how tall, what  
sort of disposition. if they are fat or gaunt,  
if they are good looking, how you manage them,  
how you keep baby warm in winter. I should  
like to see all of you. I am sorry I cannot give  
such an account of Isaac's family. Mr. Elyburn has



was confined for a fortnight with bilious colic  
fever he had now got the cure but is very weak  
only <sup>the</sup> set up for a few minutes, little Isabella  
had at the same time been laid up with red  
putting fever, she has been exceedingly ill for  
ten days they looked upon her for death.  
The doctor never thought she would get over  
it but has now got the cure and although  
a perfect skeleton and not yet recovered her speech  
they trust she is in a fair way of recovery.  
Susan has been sent to a boarding school in  
Manchester & John goes to Edinburgh every day  
to school, there are no nice schools in Sabbath  
her baby is well, you would receive a paper  
with the birth of my baby. The stoutest one  
that ever arrived in Massachusetts. He has very  
dark eyes, long hair very wavy, and a very  
well contented, and now laughing like a man you  
know so much for the description of Frederick  
I suppose next to me Charles Edward quite the  
reverse of that he is little; pale blue eyes, fair  
hair, a most intelligent face, and the smartest  
child imaginable runs like a hare. George Robert  
& Alfred Edward you have had a description of  
before. Alfred has been half a year at school.



George is no great book man very fond of  
working, Drawing, & writing, many a piece  
he & Alfred draw & write to send Aunt  
Jawson. Such is my four boys —  
~~you~~ would perhaps notice the death of Mr  
Pier in the papers of Typhus Fever he was ill  
twelve days poor Mrs Assie must be very dull.  
Mr Jessie Elyson & I along with Mr & Mrs Gery  
Alfred & John Elyson paid them <sup>away</sup> last summer  
at the Ferry and spent two days with them.  
Mrs Henderson was also staying at the Ferry she  
has 3 daughters the fattest children I saw in my  
life, Mr Wall of Galashiels who was married the  
same week ~~with~~ with Mrs H. has 3 boys, she has  
been last 50 days after me. I also paid them a  
visit last summer and stayed all night with  
them, we get the railway so convenient now.  
Mrs Mather is at present ill with a sore ankle  
she is unable to walk but have not heard the  
particulars of it, Mr James Gilt died very suddenly  
about a fortnight ago, he was learning to be a  
manufacter at Galashiels with Mr Lees but hap-  
pened to be at home when he died, have not  
seen Mrs Gilt since, Mr Shearer was also taken  
away lately, he had been ill about a ~~year~~  
but was able to be in church the Sunday before



I received the barrel of apples you sent they were very nice, and in remarkable good condition Mrs Bell was not so fortunate with hers I believe a great many of them being spoiled. I sent Mrs. Lybourn half of them for which we return you many thanks; you seem to think Mrs. C not inclined to correspond with you, you mistake, she has no feeling whatever about writing, but somehow or other has never done it but you will perhaps receive a letter someday if they were all well again. Mrs Lee here is quite well you would hear she had a son about 4 months ago which only lived two days. it was a very great disappointment to them.

What do you employ your spare time in? fancy work or what I have been doing crochet work of late. I like it very much. most of my work at present, is dance little baby dance up high!

Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Dear Margaret. Thus far I wrote a foot: night ago as a scroll. But when I look at it again, it is so long, it must just come as a letter as I cannot think to write it over again, having little time to night, as baby just awoke as I was beginning to write. and would not like to lay it aside again without finishing it. I received your papers from time to time one I received this afternoon

REF: S/2

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