

Letter
Jane Morrison
11 Aug^t Loanhead
1857

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11th Aug 1857

My dear Uncle

I have been so long in writing
that I am almost ashamed to be-
gin and yet if you knew how long
I have been, I am sure you would ex-
cuse me.

My father and mother are away at
the Coast sides just now for the benefit
of their health, which was not very good
since their illness in Winter, so I am
quite alone with the exception of one
girl.

Time flies; I suppose by this time your
wife will be a happy wife and you all alone
there is nothing but changes in this
changeable world. There has been many

many a change here within a very
short period. as I could not write sooner
I did the next best thing, which was to send
a paper, which you will have received ere
now, containing the very remarkable trial
of Miss Smith, it has created a great
sensation about Edinburgh. They have dis-
charged her it is true but her own conscience
will condemn her, for I have not the light-
est doubt but she administered the poison
she is now I believe living in strict seclusion
from society, I wonder not how she could
have preserved such an undaunted appear-
ance before such a multitude of spectators

I am sure, I could not have done, although
innocent. This past two years has been rather
remarkable with us here in Scotland.

you will have seen by some of the English
papers the very extensive frauds and failures
that have been going on for some time past
in the commercial world.

One of these a corn merchant lived but a
short distance from us his failure has ^{been} ~~been~~ ^{ruined}

several very respectable farmers our next door
neighbours fortunately, we are not of the number
my father and him had differed about the way
of ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~soon~~ ^{soon} about a year ago so we had no deal-
ings with him, one of our neighbours is just merely
staying on his farm at the good will of the cred-
itor. I believe he had signed bills for upwards
of \$500, I may mention that it was getting
people to sign bills for him that he would so ^{soon}
He sailed for America I believe he is in Boston
his wife poor thing, was married to him when very
young, only fifteen she is lying just now at the
point of death, she was surprised lately and had
a dead child,

so we see that nobody wants sorrows and trials
and cares although some have ~~them~~ ^{them} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~them~~ ^{them} and some
another but if our afflictions ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ be sanctified to us
then will the end be peace.

I thought I should have got my father to have
written but I could not do it, unless it be by express
letters we can scarcely get him to write to anybody
he has so entirely given up the use of the pen.

before going farther. I must apologise for this
very badly written note I have been taken away
from it so often that I have written uneven
and mispelt it and every thing, by the bye, I had
almost forgotten to tell you my Brother Willm
was at Reynold a few days ago and he says
my Aunt is so far recovered as to be able to walk
on a staff is it not wonderful that so aged a
woman as she is, should have ever risen again

I have to apologise for an error that I made
in my last letter, I said that George Kesteven
had written us that he had received a letter from
you, but upon referring the letter I found that
I was mistaken, I hope you will excuse this ^{short}
as I before stated that, I am very busy ^{note}

This leaves us all well thank God hoping this
will find you enjoying the same precious blessing

Father & Mother kind love to you, our best wishes
with respect and esteem, I am,

Your affectionate son
John Thomson

P.S. I hope you will not take it any
amiss if I do not write you quite so
frequently as before, until I have more leisure. I am,