

Loanhead Dumblair

June 1855

My dear Uncle
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I scarcely know how to commence this letter for I am sure you will feel terribly disappointed at our want of punctuality in gratifying your wish, but I must lay the blame upon my Brother and yet he has not been entirely blame-worthy, for he has been very busy however he can speak for himself, you must know my dear Uncle that Mr. Frazer is far from being exempt from bodily, as well as mental, care and solicitude, my father has been almost entirely knocked up with over exertion in settling a sister of mine upon a small farm. I did I ever tell you about her, I rather think not she took up with one of our servants and married him against all our wills, this was about three years ago and now she

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has three children so what could we do
with her we could not have been so near
at her marriage if he had been possessed
of any talent or cleverness, but it can't be
helped now she must do the best she can.
I forgot to tell you in my last how
opportune your beautiful gift came
the Bible that I had I have kept for
many ~~or~~ years it was the gift of a dying
sister and Oh, how earnestly she besought
me to read it I can see her now with her
large lustrous eyes, and her cheeks burning
with a hectic flush that made her, ~~so~~
so startlingly beautiful, as she told us so
calmly that she was going home. Yes
she has found that home long ago
and I have no doubt but she has found
many dear departed friends to welcome
her arrival. but I was going to say that
I have kept her Bible ever since and I
was thinking with regret that I would

need to lay it aside, when yours came so unexpectedly.

I see with pleasure the great awakening that has been for some time going on thro' your country. I have taken a great interest in it from the first and I see by our papers and periodicals that it is still on the increase it is surely an incomparable blessing and happy may the people be who are favoured thus. it is the Lords doing and it is wonderful in our eyes and so mercifully it was sent just after the commercial disaster that the peoples hearts might be humbled. it is a long time now since there has been a revival of religion even in our seemingly highly favoured country the last revival I believe was about '40 the scene of the operations was South of Aberdeen and extending to the borders of England did you ever read the works of the Rev

Robert Mc Cheyne that young and earnest
disciple of Jesus he was at Dundee at the
time of that awakening and how earnestly
he laboured in the cause of his beloved
Master but his time was but short and
he was soon called away to his eternal rest
I love to read his sermons and especially his
letters there is something so sweet and solemn
in them that makes one to feel that
God is near, I never read any other works
with the ^{same} pleasure. I am in hopes that the
time is not far distant when we
shall have time of refreshing too.

although it may not be seen at the present
time God can soon turn the people's hearts
to turn when his own time comes.

people may and do think that they
would not have time but as a young
Free Church Minister said to his congregation
a short time ago when the spirit of God
came they would find time.

we are enjoying Splendid summer weather
 here everything is looking beautiful by
 the way I have ^{some} something to say to you about
 the slight you unintentionally cast upon
 our pretty little town of Huntly I can
 understand what Huntly was once say 30
 or 40 years ago but I believe if you were to set
 down in the streets of it now you would
 scarcely know it, even since I remember
 it has almost doubled its size.
 and now that the Great North of Scotland
 Railway passes it it has become a
 very bustling active town, dont you know
 I feel a little proud of our Huntly,
 viewed from the station it is as pretty
 a romantic looking town as you would
 see in the North of Scotland and perhaps
 I may one day take up my residence
 in it. I never saw Keith so I cannot
 speak of it but I am sure Inverurie

must be a very extensive City, and it seems rapidly on the increase. by the bye I forgot to mention that I have ^{an} annual book called Legends of Strathmore that I am sure would be interesting to you it is not at home just now but if I can possibly get it I will send it soon but I think I hear you saying you are better at promising than performing and I fear I must plead guilty to the charge in many instances. Thank you for your information regarding the mine ^{sal} I sent you I am not at all learned in these matters indeed I never turned my attention to them farther than admiration of their beauty, but I will close this leaves us all well, thank God and I ^{trust} it will find you all the same goodbye my dear Uncle and hoping to hear from you soon I remain your affec^{tionate} Niece I. Thorne

As my Brother bids me say that you may expect a letter soon