

Feb / 47
18

MCGILL UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES

ACC. NO. 1377

REF. 15-B-5

Mrs Margaret H Mercer
11 Arminston place
Newington
Edinburgh

FEB
A 25 M
1847

MASSACHUSETTS
24 FEB 5
1847
N. X

Globe Hotel Wednesday
evening

Dear Margaret,

I have just finished my days work, after much weary tramping along the straight flat streets of this smoky town. I have however no cause to complain since I have done a considerable proportion of my work, and have had a fine dry day. I hope to finish nearly everything to-morrow, and to get back

to Edinburgh early on Friday

I'm going to my lodgings
yesterday evening, I felt
that I had done wrong
in detaining you so long,
& perhaps exposing you to
blame from your father,
as I know he does not
like to wait longer than
is proper for his supper.
I did not however feel
any regret for what we
had said, nor do I now;
for I am fully persuaded
that it is the best way for

Friday all parties, and that
god will bless us in it, as
he has in thinking favour-
ably of each other heretofore,
Notwithstanding every ones op-
position. I thought over it
all this morning, in coming
here, and several things
occurred to me which might
make further steps easier, and
which I will mention when
I return. I am however
very anxious to know what
you think now, whether
Calm reflection serves you

out in adhering to what
we partly resolved yesterday.
Whether you are less troubled
or more distressed than before,
It will however scarcely be
worth while to write to me
here, unless you can be
sure that your letter will
reach me before Friday
morning. (The Glasgow mails
leave Edinburgh at 1 & 10 PM)
I will try to see you at any
rate on Friday afternoon.
A great part of my
time to day has been occupied

in buying little trinkets =
wax, or the stationary
box, which take more
time than things of more
importance - it is a pleasant
part of my work too, for
however strange you may
think it, I take as much
pleasure in getting nice
patterns, ^{of various} perforated cards,
gold ornaments & tissue paper
slap seals, showy prints and
all that sort of thing, as in
any other study I know;
and it deserves ~~and~~ all 2

ational interest from being
one department of the study
of human nature; since
it involves a knowledge
of the tastes and notions
of the ladies who buy
such things. I do not
deny however that I would
rather buy and sell use-
ful books, though I see
no cause to quarrel with
ladies for amusing themselves
with trifles, if they show
good taste in them.

This morning in going

At the railway I heard
a little bird singing a
few pretty notes, in the
trees at the foot of the
castle hill. He was a
a little fellow smaller than
a sparrow, with a dusky
breast and a bill I think
like those of the Linnet family.

I would like to know
the little fellow's name;
perhaps you can tell me.

This joyful song makes
me think that our Heavenly
Father, who cares for the
sparrows, will care for us;

and trust that he will
deliver us from all our
troubles; and not us only,
but also those who are
troubled on our account.

Eagerly wishing that
he may give you as much
peace and serenity as
is possible, I am yours sincerely

William

