



LIVERPOOL
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Miss Mercer

6 Windmill Street

Edinburgh
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Birkenhead. Hamilton Square

Oct. 1. 1840 -

Dear Marion & Margaret -

I promised, when in this
quarter to send you a letter. I am at present staying with
Mr John Walker, and will yet be a few days longer. Birken
head is on the opposite side of the Mersey from Liverpool,
and in Cheshire - It is a very thriving place, and 2nd or 3rd as
large as Dabruith - I had a very stormy passage from Glasgow
to Liverpool, I was not sick however. Greater part of the passen
gers were so, and some of the females suffered much. While
in Glasgow I saw Dr Alison, and got an excellent recommendation
from him, which may be of great use to me, the more especially
as he is so well known to the profession -
I experienced much kindness in Glasgow, I left it however, in
the opinion that it could in no way cope with "Auld Aethie".
Liverpool is certainly a great mart for business, but far from
being a pretty place. The streets are in general narrow, &
the houses built of bricks. The docks are most splendid, and
in them, are some of the most splendid vessels, I ever saw.
While speaking of ships I may tell you, that, I have been on
board the Arcadia & the Liverpool both steam packets running
between here, and America. I was also alongside of the
President. The ^{Arcadia} first mentioned made her first voyage

to America in 10 days. They are most splendidly fitted
up. In the Liverpool I met with a fellow student of my
own, Dr Bogie, who acts as Surgeon to the vessel. He very
kindly showed me over the whole vessel -

The Messrs Walkers (for there are 3 brothers of them) are very
busy here furnishing a new square. They have a good deal
of building in the County, and I have been away with them
twice. We drove 18 miles yesterday and at the same time
forenoon. It costs them 6 or 800 £ every Saturday night for hours
wages. Mr Walker is very anxious that I should commence
practice here, he does not doubt but I would do well -

There are only 2 medical men in the place of any importance
& the one is far above the other. Let me know your opinion
of yours, but you will hear from me again, after I
reach London -

You have often heard me mention Woodside, that part of
the town close by the river is so called; all the rest is named
Birkenhead from which I write. The ferry boat plies
between Woodside & Shankpool & every 1/2 hour. & although
by steam it takes 10 min. or 1/4 an hour to cross from which
you may have an idea of the width.

Mr John Walker with whom I live is married a second time
his first wife left 3 boys. The youngest now 13 or 14. Mr W^r
Walker has been married 2 years & has 2 children Mr Walker
is to be married very soon. They are all exceeding

ly kind to me, so that I am very comfortable here —
I am just surrounded by a colony of Scotchmen as Mr Walker
Masons, joiners &c. are all Scotch.

Remember me kindly to Mr & Mrs Bell & Colonel Mathie
son — Mr & Mrs Chepman; I will write them after I
have called on Dr Lee — Present my warmest regards
to your Father & Mother, tell them I am living in the
house of a truly good man, to whom, the Bible is the rule
& standard of life — Compts to all other friends —
May I express the oft repeated wish, that you will,
both for or me with a letter, you had better wait
however until I write again —

With love to you both, and an earnest wish for
your happiness & welfare

I remain
Yours affectionately
David Walker

P.S. I will put this into post at Liverpool. Mr Walker & I
are just going aboard — I see on reading this over again that
I am very confused, I am however much distressed as I
have Mr Walker beside me — DM