

41 Gilmore Place

December 19th 61.

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Dearest Aunt, I have never
 been so long from home
 as I am now. I have
 paper & pen before me to pen
 a few lines to you, and I
 dare say you will be beginning
 to think by my long silence that
 I am getting indifferent about
 you & yours, not so I can assure
 you, for the longer I am absent,
 I long the more to hear from
 & see you all, for I feel as
 though I were never my
 home, however far I may be
 from it at present.

I had a letter from Miss Gordon
today she & her Uncle start
for the Continent on Thursday
the 19th intending to return in
seven weeks, when she will
again be left in Brighton &
her Uncle proceed to Scotland
alone thinking it too cold a
season for her to visit there on
account of her health, it is
therefore uncertain at present
when she may come this way.
Mr. Horseburgh sends kind regards
to you and thanks you for your
kind letter she is quite ashamed
of herself for not having answered
it but will endeavor to do so
soon. You would see
in the papers the instructions

of Maggie Woods' death, she
was very sad, being only
eight days ill with inflammation
in the bowels, it was a dreadful
blow to her parents, but she
was enabled from first to
last, when ever the pain she
suffered would allow her, to speak
with calmness & joy at her expect-
ed change, desiring to depart
to be with Christ which was
far better, ^{it} which was a great
joy to her parents & friends in
the midst of their grief, ^{and}
I have now been invited with
Mr. Dickinson's congregation two
months & feel very happy to
inform there are a great many
unconverted people, they have a

society in connection with
it & meet once a fortnight
for three hours on reading
while the others sew; I enjoy
them exceedingly, we had
our prayer meeting on Thursdays
a gospel sermon on Fridays &
an opportunity given to those
at the end of it who are desirous
unwearily enquiring the way
to salvation to speak with
any of the members, & once a
month on Sabbath evening.
Allow me to tender, both to
you & Uncle Sam, our most thanks
for your kind admissions
about some of my failings &
which I now feel very grateful
for, when I see myself beside others

But as there is still great room
for improvement I hope your
councils & advice will not be
forgotten or unheeded by me,
& that if we are spared or permitted
to meet again you will be see
a change for the better.

This year is fast drawing to a
close & perhaps in the next
one or two you may have secured
this in events of which I well
wish you all a very happy one
I wish you all a very happy one
I wish you all a very happy one,
I would also say to give my kindest
regards to any kind engineering
friends who may call on the
first days of the year.

kind love to Mr & Mrs Cornish,
& Mrs. Byrnes, also to Mr. Dawson,
Uncle, George, Anna & William
Patience & a kiss for dear
Tom, Jane & Eva.

Would you kindly give the
enclosed to Miss Leeming on
Sabbath.

I almost envy you the fine
weather you will no doubt
be having just now, for we
have had for two months
back high winds & rain &
I am constantly feeling cold
except when walking out
doors. Prudence & Papa send
their kind love to you, accept
dear Aunt's warmest love from
your very loving niece & sister in the
bonds of Jesus, Jessie