

London March 6<sup>th</sup>

1840

Acc. 376

Dear Mamma,

Many thanks for your last  
very long ~~and~~ letter, containing the  
welcome intelligence that you had finally  
fixed the day of your departure for England.

I have spoken to Mrs Guest & she will,  
(as I thought) very gladly accommodate you,  
always supposing that Mr Fison leaves  
in time. He himself does not exactly know  
when he goes, but it is quite probable that  
he will do so ~~so~~ about the end of this  
month. If so it will be all right.

March 9<sup>th</sup>

I have been thinking about the silk  
dress question ever since I got your last  
& had just come to the conclusion that  
it was rather impracticable. 1<sup>st</sup> Because  
Mrs Guest has a very bad cold & only goes out

occasionally at present, & 2<sup>nd</sup> because  
I have not been feeling quite so well  
for the last few days, & thus rather  
dreaded the journey up & down to the  
docks; & hanging about there to find Capt  
Sclater whose address I do not know.  
But this morning I got news which  
settled the matter. Rimmer wrote me  
from Liverpool that he had just heard  
that poor little Jacky Sclater, (who you saw)  
had fallen down the hold of the Lake  
Eric, & had broken his shoulder & thigh,  
& fractured his skull & was not  
expected to recover; so that poor Capt  
Sclater will have quite enough to do  
before the sailing of the ship, without  
troubling him with the dress.

Hoping that this will cause you or Anna  
no inconvenience, & that you will not think  
me lazy.

Believe me your ever affectionate son

George.