

Mrs. Scott

Acc. 1377

Towie Barclay

Turriff

15th August 1881

My very dear friend I wish
you could sit down beside me
this evening that we might have a
long chat together for there is so much
in my heart to talk to you about
that I fear I shall never find a good
substitute. But of all will you
forgive me for not writing long see
this when so many kind & beloved
remembrances have come from
your home to ours, both in the
form of loving letters & handson
letters? I must have presumed they
could I be grateful in my not
writing to thank you & Eva for
the exquisite doilies you so kind-
ly sent me in winter, Missie
wrote at the time when I was in
great agony, but I fully proposed
doing so as soon as possible after

My recovery, but the nervous system
had got a great shaking it was
long before my correspondence was
resumed. then came the busy time
of the wedding, busy before & after,
& so weeks & months have passed
with a great many letters written
to you in my head but not one
on paper: Will you forgive me
& believe that my heart is full
of love & gratitude to you though
so long silent. We & all our friends
admire the d'oleys so much the
style is quite new to me & I
appreciate the kind gift so much.
They are far too lovely to be used
in the way meant & are to be shown
off as mats on very special occasions.
Accept too of our warmest thanks
for your kind note to our darling
for the beautiful mirror, Eva's
candlesticks, Parson's & much
beloved painting of "Katie's falls"
the latter being of such pleasant
remembrance of the happy afternoon

spent there with you (can it be two
years ago?) I do not know whether
you have had any account of the
wedding or not, but it passed off
most pleasantly, everyone said
it was the merriest wedding they
had ever been at but it was a day
of mingled feeling, to us gave they
imagine. It was the first time we
three sisters and our husbands
had met at our country home,
and for nearly two weeks we
enjoyed each other's society
to the utmost our hearts full
of gratitude to our Father for
his wonderful loving kindness
to us, we may well feel that he
has made our cup to run over.
The marriage party remembered
party, the house for a day or two
before & after, was being crowded.
I think we remembered twenty
five young ladies left in the
old castle, we had the "sisters"

Doctors loom down of being,
I it made a splendid bed-room
the old hall being reduced with
all the fun & money making. They
were not in the least afraid for
it was feared dark, it being the
long month of June. See Minnie
looked very sweet & behaved
so well, though she had nearly
broken down when she tried
to give me the first kiss; her
uncle had a fearful struggle
to keep up at the ceremony but
managed it; he is so bound up
in her, it was like tearing out
his heart to give her up.

It was a very poor disappoint-
ment to let all that Rankine
could not see his way to come
up at that time, but am quite
satisfied that he did what he
felt right under the circum-
stances. Chick has written to

ask him when we may expect
him north as we see longing
to have him ^{Towie Barclay} for a long
visit. I do hope the summer
weather will not be over before
he can get away, for Fannie is
looking it - very bad just now
& he would enjoy it thoroughly
after so much hard work.

After our parents left we went
north & spent a most enjoyable
month among our friends:
two weeks at Ruel's & two
at Glasgow; we were a few days
with Minnie but most of our
visit was to Mr. & Mrs. Beal who
live in such a jolly spot called
"the Lion" about four miles from
town; we were very happy with
them; a most charming family
& have met (all four) & Minnie
has in Mr. & Mrs. Beal a most
loving father & mother who have

already given her a warm corner
in their hearts. Jessie said in a
letter lately that when in Missin-
temjoral interest she gave an
answer to her Mother's queries
as she sat that Winter looking
her playing baby, her bible on her
knee & her head leaning against
-mission with her feet, "I feel
she is right. We have had a very
cheerful house since our return
for we brought four young
gentlemen with us two of the
bible, a friend of their and
Robert Rudolf; they staid two
weeks & the house feels empty
since yesterday when they
left us. Robin is to remain
another month when he returns
to school. Willie the eldest boy
is still in Switzerland, returns
in October & then begins life by
going into an office. We get most

interesting, well written letter from
Arthur who is now in Japan for
more interesting than the majority
of books of travels, he is wonderfully
observant & has quite a gift in
describing what he sees; he is expect-
ed back about November.

I know you will be pleased
to hear how well & strong my
husband & this summer, & bright
& breezy as a child, oh, how I do
wish you & your good kind
overworked husband could
throw everything aside & come
& join us at our sweet home,
I feel sure a thorough rest here
would add to your lives for
the quiet is so perfect & you both
need this so very, very much, will
it ever come? I am not going
to give up hopes of yet welcoming
you. I have been having another
look of your delightful letter

Written from New York I have
enjoyed it as much as when it
was first received, it is almost
like having a talk with you. I
feel very grateful to you for
telling me about your former
arrangement, how the different
members expected to be employ-
ed through the summer. I am
specially interested in William's
work among the French coast
it is a noble work & I wish
I saw that a rich blessing may be
on his labours. My heart & back
were sore that as I have other
letters to write I must say good
night. I am pretty well this
summer, after suffering from my
head but on the whole stronger
I think than when with you.

My husband joins me ⁱⁿ all parts
of kind loving greetings to you
& all your dear ones, I believe me
Lovingly yours Maggie Scott