

Edinburgh June 8th 1791.

Margaret's first visit home

Since her marriage (23 years)

My darling Anna

My nomadic life makes the intervals between your letters appear very long: indeed the months of years seem crowded into the last two months & I often sigh longingly to see your dear face again. Your letters are much prized & I endeavor in time to reply by return of mail. I can write more cheerily. I can scarcely hope to hear them this week as doubtless they will have to be remailed from London. I told you when I last wrote that I was about to separate from papa & go to Edin alone. The journey was safely & pleasantly accomplished & a Cornish greeting was given to me by friends here. Mrs Bell is somewhat older looking & much stouter than

when I had saw her. Mr Primrose
& Mr Clyburn are so painfully aye
that it is most trying to me to be in
this Company. I from being in the Country
so much alone this Manners are so
rusty that I have been tempted to
wish that I had never seen them
again I to been able always to have
recalled this fresh young faces. I dare say
I ought not to feel so especially as
this hearts are warm & thus welcome
to me so hearty. George & Bill returned
from New York on Saturday Morn. & he came
from Glasgow the same day to see
me. Spend Sunday here & return to
wife & Children Monday Morn. by the way
his boy & girl are beautiful Children
6. & 8. & proficients in music, writing &c
Alfred Primrose also came from
Glasgow to pay me a visit. then of
course I have had to make the
acquaintance of the two Mr Kemp fine
fellows I like them much. Ella &
her husband really a fine looking

Paris. This is now another morning
on the tapis — Lane is engaged to
a tall genteel looking man — Mr. Lemie
an optician with a good and established
business — he has great natural ability
for music & plays beautifully on three
different instruments. They are now
looking for a house & wish me to
stay for the wedding. but oh I long
to be with my precious little head
& to return to quiet this is such constant
excitement her also. I have only
had one note from Papa since
I left London & he did not say
whether he had decided to go to Oxford
himself. he has promised to stay in
this Country until the end of June

This is literally the first half hour
the constant run of tourneys has ceased
to be in my ears since I arrived in
Edin & I purchased this at the cost
of seriously offending Tina. You know
that she & Jessie are very hot P. B's
& I have been attending a course of

lectures by Mr Kelly (a very able man) at
the Hall with them. There I have met
Mr Walston's brother — also Mr Walston
& Cap. & Mrs Cross who show the same
house with them this last asked
us to take an early tea with them.
I go together afterwards to the lecture & I
have sacrificed both tea & lecture to pur-
chase this little quiet. Today Mrs Bell
& I went shopping for towels, shirts stockings
& such things. I had no end of trouble
getting these last suitable in size. I only
trust they will prove satisfactory. Yesterday
we sat in one shop five hours. I am
now getting part of the trousseau. I got a
leg horn hat for myself. They are worn
by ladies here — altho' not in London. The
style is broad draping trim — sensible
& shady. I also picked up a lot of odds &
ends — Collars — ribbons — &c for future use at
home. A simple spotted muslin — some
the upper part exactly like the Cap or tipper
of my brown trimmed silk is the prettiest one
here I see here to wear with silk petticoat.

but I have not yet found any
ready made. I will not attempt to make
one myself but I may by and by get one
& this probably get a spotted muslin as
near as I can to your last white dress
Is that it all he worn with it also
The muslins I observe in windows are
of very large patterns but I have not
looked for any yet. I dread doing
so. Silk jackets are still the most
ordinary thing here. I have not
heard one read one word about
Remains since I left London. God
may be suffering every thing or nothing
but as I am powerless it is perhaps better
I should not know. I hope all is peaceable
& that about the time this reaches you
you will be planning your departure for
Murray Bay. It brings a hot flush over
me when I think of your making all

needed arrangements above. You had
better take down the little stove
with you. The Cottage is only built
for summer & is much colder than last
years. I do hope you will all be content
to do without boats unless it be a
large one with experienced men in
charge — however paper must be with
you before boats are used at all.

Before you leave will you please tell
William I wish him to go to Banesto
& get his health put into thorough repair.
The sooner he can spare time to go the
better as Banesto gets more & more
enjoyed until after the beginning of July
Rankin ought to go too. I am reminded
of the duty I owe you all in this
matter by finding the large majority of
my friends here with decaying health. The
really pretty Ella has had two hard days

one of his Chunks for weeks & has
had them lanced on the outside by
Mr. Wallston. I insisted upon his
taking farther advice as they were growing
again & a Mr. Smith told her he was
convinced it was produced by decaying
teeth - so to day under the influence of
chloroform she had two large back roots
extracted. I trust the lumps may now
dissipate. Should you be spared
to go to Murrey Bay do dearest Anne
remember to maintain a quiet
spirit. & a still quieter manner
especially to the gentlemen be the
temptation to lively or even foolish
conversations. I should much like
you to "Keep heart & mind"
"See us the wind."
"No fall to him or or"
until you reported Mamma
returns to visit the Inver.

