

say of her good looks.

This event may probably
make before very long
some change in my house-
hold but not at present
for Mr Mathews had given
the most exact directions
to prevent anything being
done suddenly. The very
diligent attendance upon
this matter has taken
great effect upon them, for
lately either Ann or Miss
Mathews was present with
her almost at every hour
either of day or night. And
however I have little doubt
will before long get over it
for she is of an elastic nature
that so many occupations

Wavertree Thursday
20 March
Dear Robert

The allusions which
I have from time to time
made as to the state
of Mr Mathews health
will prevent your
being taken by surprize
by the announcement
of her death which
took place on Tuesday
evening. She had been
confined to her bed for
the last five or six
weeks; her sufferings
were probably not acute
but were almost unceasing
as she was latterly rarely
free from those palpitations

what she has gone through
and the loss she has had
must make it a work of
some time.

Some of the last advices
from California have
brought intelligence
of the death of our old
friend Harry Barker
he died about the 20 of
December last of Cholera
but I fear broken down
by disappointments
& ill luck.

Yours very truly
Daniel Bell
P

and under the influence
of the exhaustion produced
by them in the disease
whatever it was which
they were produced by
she was gradually worn
down. during the whole
time of her confinement
to bed Mr Blackburn
had no hope of any
improvement, nor did any
really take place. for the
last 48^{hours} she lingered on
evidently in great discomfort
& evidently dying - ~~the end~~^{the end}
was very gradual & quiet.
She was quite prepared for it
in every way for a long time
past every act she did was
with reference to it. with

reference to her funeral,
the position of her grave,
she gave precise directions
and as any of her income
came in, she handed it
to her daughter with
special instructions
how it was to be appropriated
she was worn away to the
merest shadow. =

In looking upon her face
since death - I can think
that for a very long time
though uncomplaining, she
must have been suffering
pain. for now her features have
such a quiet, & beautiful
expression that I feel I can
better understand what those
who knew her when young

that her attention will be
occupied with other things -
but Miss Mathews has so
long devoted herself to
waiting upon her mother -
reading to her & being her
constant companion that
it must be a very great
change to her and there will
be a blank which she will
not soon fill up - The closeness
of her attention had taken
such hold upon her that
some weeks since - she was
obliged to submit to a person
being engaged who should
take her place in the bedroom
at night - We will hope that
quiet & perhaps change of air
& of scene may do something
for her, but naturally delicate

Don't tell
Died 1845

M. Abraham

Bald St

Dear Sir

Herewith is a parcel
for your sister left
by a sailor man at
our place but how it
came beyond that I
cannot say & there was
no charge upon it -

I have a letter by the
packet from your brother
he writes cheerfully
but says he was not
able to write to you &
desires me to let you
know the reason which
is that during the interval

from the last packet
he had been suffering
from Rheumatism
so much as to be
confined to his bed
unable to write, dictating
his Editorial articles
& unable to move or
turn himself in his
bed. He represents
himself as much
recovered but still
requiring assistance
to dress - hoping to be
recovered in a few days
but not yet able to get out

He desires me to add
that he has got your
Athenaeum but no
letter nor the Manchester
Guardian. The rest
of his letter refers
to his business in
which he continues
to find lots of plague
as usual but which
still seems to be
progressing favourably
~~to~~ your way

Dan R
Wednesday Morn

There is a heap in the boxes of charcoal burnt in the
Newman court in a heap of all one day in the
The house is a very nice one and the
The house is a very nice one and the
The house is a very nice one and the

The house is a very nice one and the
The house is a very nice one and the
The house is a very nice one and the

The house is a very nice one and the
The house is a very nice one and the
The house is a very nice one and the

Liverpool 10 Oct 1845
Dear Robert
I got your letter of the 27 Sept about
your share since - The money for
you share I sent to your brother &
but he is not yet arrived -
I have seen Tom since. He seems
to be you to have some trouble &
anxiety about his partnership
but does not anticipate ultimate
difficulty. In his case the anxiety
is from beginning the business
upon the terms of Partnership
has technically settled. The
intervention of a lawyer many
people have a dread of, but after
all this can be done without
and it is better to call me in in
the first instance to give proper
form to an agreement. I have to trust
I gave a written agreement drawn
up non-professionally, which is now
at least upon the best of terms
which never become matter of dispute

and to leave smaller matters which
are what people always fall out
about, open to misunderstanding.
I have seen Mr Carter of Whitaker
house since I got your letter. It
is several years since your friend
Mr. Watson was with them probably
at least, and he scarcely remem-
bered him but called to him the
young man who superintended
the office. They did not remember
how he had been introduced to them
but he must have respectably so
or they would not have taken him
his connections they believed were
highly respectable but not directly
known to them. He kept them pretty
cash and though he left them
abruptly after being only about
12 months instead of his term of 4
or 5 years it was without imputation
on his character. The cause of offence
was his refusal to do something he was
directed - a fault of temper, which they would
say was his failing. What he has done since

they did not well know but believe that
he had been living in the County chiefly
sporting, though he might have been
paying some attention to agriculture.
When he was known here - he must have
been a mere boy and a fault of temper
may easily have been corrected, since
but he cannot have had much business
knowledge and I should fear you would
find him less assistance than you are
expecting. I have no wish to oppose or
dishearten you as to the course you
are inclined for. I only wish you to look
well to both sides the question. Hard
work with narrow means is always distressing
but it is what every body must encounter
and if I and some of your friends make
less allowance for your care than you think
we ought - we on the contrary are a little
inclined to think you make more than
you ought of your difficulties and that you
increase their force by dwelling too much
on them. If you looked at them with less
anxiety, the greater attention you might give to
the other details in your business & thereby be
enabled to spare some of the assistance you
want. However before this reaches you I hope
your arrangements will be complete & however and
I trust to your comfort & advantage.

apaths with which all political affairs were
now treated. Letter opening of Irish state trials
and many other things that formerly would
have raised a storm people could hardly
be got to think of or listen to. and it is
remarkable how much this quiet state
prevails just now; even the Anti-Corn Law
gentlemen could hardly get a meeting together
now in this part. - I dined with Mr Perry last
yesterday. he is looking well, his Daughter Ann
has lost her husband in a melancholy way
as you will perhaps have seen by the last
mail if you get the Carlisle Journal. - Mr Perry
was in Liverpool in business connected with young
Allinson the Ironmonger's Affairs, who has disappeared
entirely from Whitehaven, it is supposed he has
taken a good deal of money away with him,
at all events there is a great deficiency this
mother is greatly reduced in the world by it & some
of his sisters have been obliged to take governess
situations. - I think I mentioned last time
I wrote that my Mother & Sister were at Harrogate.
My wife went to them a few days ago & I hope
will induce the old lady to return this way.
I have been very busy this last week or two
Homer having been a good deal away this last
week he was taking his son to Dr Peck's (Tom Peck's)
School at Repton in Derbyshire. - I think we
have very good prospects for Trade before us now
& certainly it is time we should, for there has been very
little that was agreeable in it the last two or three years.

Whitehaven Sunday 10 Aug

Dear Robert

Your letter of the 26. July received by the
Hibernia on the 13 and the enclosures it
contained were all duly forwarded the
same day. I also received from some
vessel but what one I do not know a parcel
containing a number of small packets
of seeds, it had been examined by the Custom
house Officers & I could not tell from the
wrappers whether intended for me or your
brother but after taking out what was
unnecessary to Whitehaven I sent the rest with
the newspapers to your brother. -

From what you say I hope the papers
prepared by Perry and executed by Bolton
have been found sufficient and that
you got the money in time for your purposes.
Bolton desired me to say he was glad you
had so much to do you could not write &
he will be willing to wait your convenience
in writing. - I am afraid Ellis will not get
settled with Nockliff quite on friendly terms
Perry has been employed by Ellis to act for him
& is in communication with an attorney on
Nockliff's behalf, a Mr. Norris who is most highly
respectable so I hope mischief will be avoided. -

I am rather anxious to get your next letter to know how you have got over the early part of this month which seems as if it would be your most pinching time. I have had too much practical experience of the effect it has upon ones feelings, how anxious, nervous it makes one when large engagements become due, not to be fully sensible how it will affect you who have heretofore not had them to contemplate but when you are once over this year you will find things I hope comparatively easy. You will then be richer by a years profits and the amount owing to you by your own customers will not be much larger than it is now. The first few months of all tradesmen before their capital gets spread abroad are usually easy to them, afterwards there will always be a ~~very~~ certain proportion of his accounts that will be unpaid, say about a fourth. so that if your subscriptions & advts acct should amount each half year to 1500[£] Pound, ~~then~~ ~~will~~ you will never be able to collect them up so closely as not to have 2 or 500 owing to you, but this amount will not be liable to much increase and will not trouble you when you have had the benefit of a year profit to increase your own means. = You will have got before this the

plan of the Machine press from H. and I hope the instructions he sent with it, were sufficient to enable you to bring it into work. H. persists that no part was left behind.

I am sorry to hear of the Crack. I hope it is a false alarm. I was afraid when I saw them packing that the packages would be made too heavy & mentioned the subject in the way of caution and I sent our porters to assist in loading it at North Cliff & putting it down in the Quay to ensure as much care as I could.

I am glad to see your imputing might be had so good a trade, the prospects of your Exports at least of Grain & Flour do not mend. We are having very wild weather for harvest work but not doing material injury if any. the weather may prevent the grain being got in such good condition as to be fit without mixture for immediate use, but that is the extent of the mischief so far and there seems no dispute about the large yields of every thing. Even turnips will be a large crop which were the most feared for. Potatoes may have failed in places but not generally and the second crops of Hay have been good. I met your friend Freon of Chester at W. P. on one day. he desired to be remembered to you, he is looking well. he exclaimed upon the

Hollis

Whitehaven 13 May 1853

Dear Robert

I have been a long time now without hearing from you and in the interval I have written to you several times and some of those letters were from their contents referring to great events and changes among my domestic relations, I must confess to some disappointment that they have not elicited any notice from you. - I have continued you to receive your newspapers & have been glad to perceive from your hand writing in the direction that you were still alive & I hope well but it would have been more gratifying to have had the assurance in a more direct way

Mr Robert Abraham

Manuscript office

Montreal

Canada

Paid

1853

1853

1853

I made my final removal from Liverpool to this place about a month or six weeks since, & we are now by degrees settling into the comfortable occupation of the house, which we reckon upon as our abode for the future -

I have not had a great deal of intercourse with my old friends as yet as we are not quite prepared for Company - Our friend Perry is still the man looked up to by his party he has pretty good health but shows signs of years creeping upon him - John Thompson & John ~~Thompson~~ Gibson little changed and look well - John Dawson - Peter Fisher seem coming up as the leading men in the present race -

The works which my late brother John

conducted are now wholly idle & I am on the point of advertising them for sale - the advertisement will be in the Herald published today - I can form little or no idea of the price I may have offered but from a general view of the state of all Manufactures now in this Kingdom and the plenty & abundance of money it seems as likely as times for a purchaser to offer as is likely to occur -

I frequently saw your brother John before I left Liverpool - I am very glad to think that he is doing well - he has several very fine healthy children -

I wish Dear Robert that you would write to some of us - with entire unanimity we all retain our old feelings towards you, & we rarely meet but there is a reference to some paper you have sent, & a wish expressed to have news of you - Yours most truly

Daniel Bell

that the risks far exceed all proportion
to the profits which can be got. and
it happens that at about this period
I had promised to the Horner that
I would either take the son into
partnership or return in his favour -
I have no fault to find with him, but
the contrary. ~~but~~ I think very well of
him. as however I see no particular
object in continuing to work and
I think I can manage upon what
I have. I am disposed to be content.
if I should continue to work much
longer as I have done I would become
incapable of any thing else and as
the largest proportion of my income
will come from my wife's property, it is
due to her to make arrangements that
may enable me to contribute more
to her comfort. as it is I leave home
every morning at 4 1/2 past 8 and get back
at 1/4 past 6, which leaves little time
except just for dinner & sleeping -
How soon I may be able to effect the
change is uncertain. I hope the course of the
year.

Liverpool 1 May 1852

Dear Robert

I received about 3 days ago your letter of
the 11th which came under cover to your
brother John - in this you mention 5th March
as the date of the last letter you had had from
me and that I dare say is the last I have
written for since about that time I have
had so very full occupation for my time
and thoughts that I have hardly been able
to keep my business from falling into arrears.
In my last letter I would no doubt mention
that we were being very anxious as to my
Mother's health - our fears unfortunately proved
too well grounded for about the 16th a change
became decided and on the 19th she expired -
from some accidental delay in the Post Office
we did not get intelligence to enable us to
reach Holms until after the fatal event.
She was interred on the 24th being the Anniversary
day of the funeral of my Mother in law Wth Mother.
My Mother was in her 77th year - she had been
about 6 weeks confined to her room & bed. she
did not appear to suffer greatly. it seemed to be
a gradual decay and final exhaustion.

She will be greatly missed especially by
Joe, but we must endeavour to take as
good care of him as we can. At present
he is with us at Waverley and shortly
he will go to Devonport where our Cousin
Miss Addison (now Mrs. Wright) ~~she~~
resides & who has kindly undertaken to
receive him for some time. Joe weighs abt
18 1/2 Stone, but has not strength in his limbs
adequate to such bulk & requires great assistance,
his sight is impaired so that he reads little,
and altogether he is very dependent upon
those about him. Of John's general health
I would speak more favourably than some-
times, but his legs are dreadfully sore
and his sufferings great, he has some irrita-
tion of the nature of gravel. it is often very
painful to see how he suffers, but he will not
however submit to ^{regular} medical advice & treatment
and I fear he will have to continue to endure
great suffering. After giving so poor an acc-
of these two. it is some relief to say that I & and
my wife are very well. I cannot speak quite so
favourably of Miss Mathews. - have had a remarkable
long spell of dry weather, occasional warm, but the wind

having been constantly from the East, though
not severe, still it has made a cool spring -
which tells upon delicate people. with advancing
Summer I doubt not Miss M. will improve
as she has not enough of other actual
ailment.

I am glad to see that you are yourself
not suffering quite so much and with
you I hope that the advancing season
will help to complete your cure; it seems
a very singular development of Rheumatism,
very different to what we see here and must
have been very painful indeed before
it came to a head.

I am taking into serious consideration
the subject of retiring from business.
I have now been abt 44 years having
no children nor likes to have. I feel
desirous of giving me working while
I am still young enough to acquire
other habits and tastes. Neither for nor
John wanting Hall's house. it may suit
me and though I have not a great deal
of my own, yet with what my wife has
we could make a respectable income
& now a days not the competition is so great