

Southwell, Feby 20<sup>th</sup> 1833

My Dearest Jane,

We have again an opportunity of sending to our dear relatives and am thereby reminded of the length of time since we had any news of you all surely we shall soon hear from you. The last was from Marianne sec<sup>d</sup> last August giving the acc<sup>t</sup> of Henry's return & again starting to the southward. You have now had I hope packages from us by Maria & Mr Whitely, but Mr Sack is not yet ready for starting though he has the best wishes of many in this country & even in this town. Mrs Pigot was particularly pleased with him & as he is not one to smite at first sight & cannot take up his quarters for any length of time wherever he may please for the prosecution of his plans he has more than ordinary difficulties before him. How has Miss Davis borne his loss, and has she consoled herself with another suitor for I think you have a choice of single gentlemen. We long to hear if you are going on tolerably well with your new accession of strength. I read a little paragraph in the Record newspaper today stating that Capt Payne & Mr Wellen had been compelled to seek for safety at the Bay of Islands, in consequence of their establishment having been entirely destroyed at Kaffia [sic Kawhia] by a party of New Zealanders. I have just had a little note from your sister Betsy in answer to an application I made for Mrs Fletcher (late Miss Allen of Nottingham) for Maria, who is likely to have or has left Mr Corbett's. Mr Fletcher has a very large school in the house where Mr Falkner lived, and his large family of girls are educated with the boys, which is a plan contrary to our notions of propriety & they begin to find it desirable to make an alteration. They have talked of honouring us by sending them here for part of the day, but they are not wise enough to see their interest in this plan & they talk of having a governess and upon that I recommended Maria to them but I fear they will not be so fortunate as to obtain her but I should be very glad to have her so near us for I have

no particular friend here out of the house except our neighbour Miss Morris. I have just sealed a letter to Maria to make the proposal & shall be very glad if the Fletchers are so fortunate as to obtain so conscientious a person. I have just <sup>heard</sup> from Mrs Milward that your mother is expected at Epperstone from York in a few weeks and that Dorothy has passed an unusually good winter. The Plumptre family have been a good deal tried lately. Mrs Hodgkinson who had been living at Malvern & had been considered in rather a delicate state of health, was a short time ago attacked with symptoms of consumption & sad to say her disorder increased rapidly & she died a few weeks ago; but at the same time Mrs Plumptre who is living at Cheltenham was so ill that they knew <sup>not</sup> which would be removed first & Dorothy who was nursing Mrs H. in her last moments was sent for home to bid adieu as they thought to her dear mother. She however is now a good deal better tho' they are still quite doubtful if it shall please God to spare her to them a little longer and last summer Miss Plumptre fell down stairs & hurt her back. She did not think seriously of the accident at first, but was obliged in a few days to have advice & though this ~~accident~~ happened many months ago she can sit up only five minutes at a time once or at most twice a day though her general health is good. They were most actively engaged at Cheltenham but it has pleased God to stop them in the midst.

Fanny Byron is again come to us for a time. Her sister Mrs Rockfort Clarke, invited Fanny to live with her after the death of old Mrs Rockfort, Mr Clark's grandmother with whom they lived, but poor Eliz<sup>th</sup> who has for many years past had very delicate health has been so alarmingly ill lately, that it was not thought proper for Fanny to remain & she is here till Eliz<sup>th</sup> is quite recovered.

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She is now out of immediate danger but is in a very weak state. Last November the Clarkes paid a visit to Nottingham to assist Mr Gordon in his election for that town but unfortunately all efforts were unsuccessful against the corporation who are in favour of radicals. Mr Gordon who is a religious had however a great many friends there & might possibly have come in had not the people been deterred by intimidation. It is a sad thing that Mr Gordon was defeated as he is a superior man in every way & is considered the only person able to cope with 6 Councils. Our friend Mrs Gordon has lately been paying us a pop visit of one day before she enters on her new situations. She has at last come to the end of her engagement with the little Franklins as the little boy was considered old enough to go to school & Catherine who is just fourteen is thought to be finished & is therefore <sup>going</sup> to live with her uncle W<sup>m</sup> Burnside. Mrs G. upon this thought of trying to obtain a few pupils & she succeeded in a small number but now her health failed more than usual & she found the anxiety & noise too much & was strongly advised to give it up & she has been solicited to keep the house of Miss [paper torn] daughter of the Chilwell esquire who is now [an] orphan. A house has been taken for them near Stapleford till the oldest son is of age when he goes to Chilwell. Mrs Gordon's misfortunates have been of great service to him in weaning his affections from the world & she has testified a very pleasing reliance on the providence of God in her late trials and it has been "Lord, what will thou have me to do." Her son John is now at Reading with an attorney with a salary of £80 a year. The Pigots gave me <sup>to send to you and Marianne</sup> I think two lengths of print for the natives & Miss Morris one [sic] a dark one with coloured strokes on it. They are most sincere well wishers. I have not yet told you that Miss Anne White is lately married to

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A Scotchman a widower <sup>13 years older than Anne</sup> with four children resident in Dublin. He is a merchant with <sup>whom</sup> Sam White was placed for some years & therefore is well known to the family & being most highly respected the family are much pleased. Her name now is Pollock. Poor Eliz<sup>th</sup> married a cousin who is in the Customs House with a very small salary & as she is having children as fast as possible they are not particularly well off here and he does not appear to possess half her sense. She is living at Pentonville not far from John's. Have you heard a pleasing account of John Harry's. He was placed with a Mr Moore a local broker upon first leaving school merely for the

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sake of employment till his father could hear of anything advantageous for him but he was not to receive any salary. However this Xtmass Mr Moore wished to testify his approval of Master Harry by giving him ten pounds for a Xtmass box in return for his half year's services. John proposed bringing him a watch with part of it Master Harry said he should prefer begin

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ning to pay for his own clothes. This pleasing trait was mentioned at Hampstead & Edw<sup>d</sup> soon after hearing from Mr Hoare that Sir Francis Palgrave wished for a clerk in the Parliament Record Office. Master Harry was immediately thought of & through this interest he was so fortunate [that] he was engaged with a salary of £30 for the first year but he has a good deal of business to do having eight hours to work & to walk to Westminster & back besides. However it is a very great thing that he should have employment to keep him out of mischief. His business chiefly consists in copying Latin &

French manuscripts with abbreviated characters & as he has not yet learnt French this is a good addition to his labours. Mary is his mistress & I have taken great pains with him. I must now bid you adieu with my every good wish for yourself, dear Will<sup>am</sup> & your four chickens & with Edw<sup>d's</sup> & my dearest love believe me

ever affectionately

C. Heathcote

Pray write.