

22.
21.

Santiago de Cuba April 13th 1842.

My dear aunt

As I get older I become more thrifty, or at least regard the relative value of shillings and pence, with increased reflection, and I noticed 4/6 as postage of Sonathan's last letter, and I looked around me to see how such charges could for the future be got rid of, now the vast increase of our exports of copper ore to Swansea, and consequent return of vessels from thence to this port, offers opportunities of forwarding letters by them, to and fro continually, with little comparative cost, and I have sent my last letter to Sonathan in that way, as I will also do with this, and I have by present conveyance written to James, Purton of that City, Swansea of the same gentleman that attended to receiving and forwarding the butterflies, telling him that letters for me from Ireland would be forwarded under cover to him post paid, and requesting his transmission of them always by the best and safest opportunities, which I feel assured he will do with pleasure, please to say all this to Sonathan for me, as it will be better for both you and him, to adopt this route for your letters hereafter, the effect of the delay may be obviated by writing a couple of weeks earlier. I am at all times satisfied that it is not indifference, which influences any matter relating to our correspondence, for I feel too sensibly myself the pleasure arising from it, to imagine that it could be otherwise with you, here I am quietly replying to your affectionate letter of 2nd me 23rd without having in the first place acknowledged its receipt, that done I continue

my answer, and I may say with great truth, how pained I
to read the terrible fall you had suffered, & was really Provi-
dential that you escaped with a little affliction & you did and
I think you have acted wisely, to recollect the advantage of having
at all times, others around you than servants. I thank you for
thinking about a bed for me, and our station there is not, but I will not
promise positively, as I think such friendly matters should remain
as the minutes of some time & say, "open your letter," I devoutly pray
that your next letter will advise me that every vestige of the sad ac-
cident has disappeared, and that you are to all intents and
purposes as well as if it had not happened at all, sometimes
an injury of the muscles ~~is~~ ^{is} not any the least of ease, therefore it
was the more grateful to me to learn that you were again able
to resume your accustomed walk. It is extremely pleasing
to read your remarks about all relations. I am glad that Mr
Knott was pleased to hear of me, how well I bear in mind many
preparations of youth in relation to her and family, you to coach
to his study, defence of conservative principles, and I am re-
personally acquainted with Doctor Madden, he is of a degree
to which I am diametrically opposed. I would never receive
the hospitality of my house, but should before I became aware
of the tendency of his writings, and his acts, since he has been
Ordeal Central I have returned even introductory letters which
he has given to some of his friends & to me, he has adopted a
partly inimical to the welfare of the solvent, and there is
nothing it proper to make my reproofs toward him, but
I think it probable that he considers it an advantage to continue

to count me as honestly amongst his friends. I am pleased to be
able to say that he has been dismissed from his office by the Council
of Aberdeen at the representations made by more than seven
hundred of his own countrymen at Havana, his work on Cuba
was full of malice and ignorant assertions, as for example
he stated that the revolutionary attempt in this City in 1835
of the Civil and Military Governor, to separate the Colony from
Spain, was put down by the sacrifice of upwards of five hun-
dred of our citizens, & here I met a drop of blood was spilled,
nor a gun fired, nor hand raised in an offensive act, but the
movement was crushed by an expression of public opinion,
and the firm determination avowed by the orderly part of our
society that it should not be carried out, and I Durball
visited this place shortly after, when any child could have
stated the facts to him, I leave you to decide his merit as a
writer for the public, indeed the only part of his work that con-
tains truth is the statistical, and that is entirely compiled
from other & his own observations and details and I may say
almost universally false, and of bad motive throughout -
how changeable are terrestrial affairs! I have lately received
advice of the failure of one of my former partners, and even
yet a capitalist in our form who withdrew as a wise man
from our concerns, and began business with a brother in Boston
about 3 years ago, with I suppose a capital of near
300,000 dollars, which he will be seen swallowed up in that
short period, it is a caution and warning to me not to attempt
too much, but to be satisfied with what is reasonable -

We take the "Standard" and the "Times" London news papers, so that we are aware of European movements generally, and I have always been sorry to observe that the advance of Ireland except as to population does not keep pace with most other countries, this Island has progressed surprisingly, it is the greatest and best colony held as yet by any nation, India alone excepted, the tonnage of vessels entering into and departing from the Island, is not less than one eighth of all going into and from all the ports of Great Britain and Ireland, all peace and quietness reigns throughout, we have been blessed exceedingly by the favourable dispensation of divine providence, and are sincerely thankful to the giver thereof.

I gave Jonathan in my last the latest news, that I had from Ohio, and since then I have received no further letters, therefore presume that no important event has taken place there, I remember I was much pressed in money matters, owing to the unexampled severity of the time of crisis, from the general disorganisation of the banks, and the very low prices of their produce, Pork for instance went down to $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 cents per pound, and prime land could be had at 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents, how can farmers get along at such rates except by the very tightest economy and industry combined.

I remain dear Aunt Anne's
very affectionately,
James Wright

10/10/1891

Please to remember me kindly to all relatives and friends,
 and it is very pleasing to feel that I have such to be
 remembered to. The struggle to shake myself clear of
 business here comes about the 1st of October next, when
 our present association expires by limitation, and
 I do not doubt but what I shall be able to get complete-
 ly out of harness as we sometimes call it.

I am y^r Lth & A^l

RECEIVED
 10/10/1891

given up last
 simple and light
 pleasing to me to be able to
 & quite reestablished, for I feel sure
 do it. I answer your letter without any
 to transmit via Swansea, which will probably to
 answer from