My dear Friend

Your letter has confirmed sincere pleasure on your friend who anxiously awaited the news of your arrival among your kind friends; and that they are kind and sympathizing in [?] comfort in the deep sorrow for your loss.

I need not [?] you that your departure has left a chasm in our circle which can never be filled for you know we have loved with the perfect perfection such as few deserve and still [?] perhaps you have rejoiced in your joy and [?] in your sorrow and [?] have asked that on us misfortune might fall if it would a shield to as a [?] but we look up to Him who holds the storms of adversity in his own hand and rejoices that they are ever directed by Infinite wisdom; and stayed by Infinite mercy. I look on you as a child of God whom he is [?] from the cares and vanities of this world to repose in his son alone; preparing you by sore trials for a glorious rest; trying you as silver in the fire that purified you may be the companion of pure spirits through adversity it is a glorious boon to live to die we look down the dark and troubled stream of life we know though it may dash and foam and still we are [?] to the house of end and less rest [??] friends have [five words illegible] has been done well Mrs. Coulter Aunt Till and Elizabeth were in the house some hours as they [?] to secure such articles as were used by you that they should not fall into strange or careless hands they were disappointed in several things but your green chaise [most of line illegible]. Aunt wished for the green chaise and it is in her [?] always serving to remind us of you. James is in town today and has received [?] offers of a house but will accept none have [?] he has very anxious to hear from you and Buchanan and [more?] facts that she has lost her last home. There is [?] several articles [quilts?] I believe [?] in your [???} should be left you will find those there I trust as they are as they are [?]. Mrs. Contes has the books she desired; several clergymen were here two from Pittsburg [sic]. Mr. Campbell and Mr. Penn all seem anxious to evince their kind regard and many articles went beyond their value.

We look forward to your visit here next summer with great pleasure do not disappoint[.] [T]he girls appear to regulate their actions by it and every thing [sic] must be done before that event. Mr. Marsh and I think must be acting on some hint your brother gave him for he has resumed his visits. Mr. Ogle spent a few days with us. Gen Ross is here now he was a schoolmate of Mr. Buchanan's and looks quite grand his visit has given [?] to much conjectures and the usual gossip.

Elizabeth has still a wretched cold. She requests me to bid you thank Mr. Buchanan for the interesting report he forwarded her; and Father also presents his thanks for a similar favour [sic]. Mr. Harrison and family take up their abode among us next week. Mrs. Coulter still thinks of crossing the mountains this [tear in letter and right middle section wanting]. She will her to death [rest of line wanting]

The Waverly novels and a [rest of line missing] of until your visit next [rest of line missing] to interest us that the hope [rest of line missing] [most of line missing] their kind love to you in [rest of line missing] that it is not in this [rest of line missing]

You cannot imagine [rest of line missing] one and all for your [rest of line missing] is on the street to know [rest of line missing] afraid you would not [rest of line missing] the mountains. I might tell you hundreds of stories to you and yours are regarded but time will not permit. Persons whom you would have thought in different [?] an most [deporstitions?] desire to possess even the most trifling article Uncle bid on the carriage declaring it was consecrated [? ?] be profaned Love old Grey fell into kind [?]. Mrs. Nicolls of [unite?] and [Buchlittle?] [Mr.?] Smith purchased Seymour [?]

I have told you all I thought would interest you though the subjects might be painful still it is soothing to know that so little of heartlessness has been displayed but on the contrary the very best feeling of human [?] have been abundantly displayed escalating in little our ideas of virtue and exciting as to initiate an example which receives the tribute of universal approbation.

[left middle section wanting and right section totally faded]

And now my dear friend, I must close by beseeching you to look on your remaining comforts for consolation; the apearance [sic] of His love who has given you a noble boy to train for his service and your earthly support. Do not augment the succor of your relations by yielding to vain grief; rouse yourself for your sisters [sic] sake who I trust will be spared many years to her anxious friends. You will not forget the friends you have parted from and who are always [word faded] to hear from you and [?] whom always remember. your affectionate friend Mary [Kenna?]

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