

LIFE AND LETTERS

OF

JOHN HARDIE

OF

THORNHILL, ALABAMA

AND OF HIS WIFE

MARY MEADE HARDIE

but as I was in lodgings I did not think it worth removing  
 for all the time, however, I generally see them once a day.  
 I hope you will write me very soon. of this giving  
 me all the news you can concerning Kinross as I am very anxious  
 to hear from you all now, address it to me care of Mr. Graham,  
 Merchant, Richmond, Virginia, America. I like this country  
 very much, only it is rather warm just now, but I never was in  
 better health in my life. Give my compliments to all my  
 friends and acquaintances. Hoping this will find you all in  
 good health and a continuance of which is the earnest prayer

Your affectionate son,  
 Jno. Hardie.

P. S. Mr. G. has not got a situation here yet but is trying  
 to get into some of the writer's offices. I will advise me  
 if Joseph would write a few lines to Tho. Wright, Kirkcubright, Ker-  
 kady, informing him that his brother Wm. who was one of our  
 passengers is safely arrived at this place and that he had  
 got the offer of a job, but did not accept of it as he heard  
 there was better encouragement at Richmond, and likewise to  
 get Mr. G. - which he overpaid "Ails on berth of his passage."  
 Impossible to write with haste.  
 I have not half an hour to write this letter but was  
 anxious to let you hear from me.

Richmond, Virgn. 22 Aug. 1817.

Dear Brother:-

I wrote a letter to my Father from New York dated  
 the 24 or 25 July addressed to your care, mentioning my arrival  
 in that Port after a passage of 69 days and which letter men-  
 tioned a great many other particulars to which I refer. I hope  
 you will have recd. that letter long ere this reaches you, and  
 have wrote me in answer, as you may believe I am now extremely  
 anxious indeed to hear from you all.

According to what I mentioned I sailed from New York on  
 the Saturday, was eight days after my arrival there and ar-  
 rived here in eleven days thereafter having stopt there three  
 days at a place called Norfolk.

I got a great number of introductory letters from Mr.  
 Gillespie ( Mr. Buchanan's friend ) and I shall never forget  
 his kindness after he had made his Clerk seek a Schooner for  
 me to go by, he sent down the evening before I sailed on board  
 the Vessel three bottles of wine, three of rum and three of  
 ale, and I assure you part of it was of great use, as the  
 weather was very hot and the water bad, and which would have  
 been attended with bad consequences had it been drunk alone.  
 However, the water is very good here and can be freely used  
 without any liquor.

Mr. Gillespie's letters introduced me to a number of the  
 most respectable Gents in this City, a good number of whom  
 are Scotchmen and who gave me a very good reception; there  
 are almost none of them married except Mr. Ia. Bridges, one of  
 the partners of Bridges & Robertson, who belongs to Fife as

Richmond, Virgin. 22 Aug. 1814.

Dear Brother:-

I wrote a letter to my father from New York dated the 24 or 25 July addressed to your care, mentioning my arrival in that Port after a passage of 68 days and which letter mentioned a great many other particulars to which I refer. I hope you will have read that letter long ere this reaches you, and have wrote me in answer, as you may believe I am now extremely anxious indeed to hear from you all.

According to what I mentioned I sailed from New York on the Saturday, was eight days after my arrival there and arrived here in eleven days thereafter having stoped there three days at a place called Norfolk.

I got a great number of introductory letters from Mr. Gillespie (Mr. Buchanan's friend) and I shall never forget his kindness after he had made his Clerk seek a Schooner for me to go by, he sent down the evening before I sailed on board the vessel three bottles of wine, three of rum and three of ale, and I assure you part of it was of great use, as the weather was very hot and the water bad, and which would have been attended with bad consequences had it been drunk alone. However, the water is very good here and can be freely used without any liquor.

Mr. Gillespie's letters introduced me to a number of the most respectable Gentles in this City, a good number of whom are Scotchmen and who gave me a very good reception; there are almost none of them married except Mr. Is. Bridges, one of the partners of Bridges & Robertson, who belongs to this as

also his Lady who is a very fine woman indeed. I have spent several very pleasant afternoons and evenings in their house, and I never call upon Mr. Bridges but he always makes me to go up to his house or take a walk with him. There are also abt. ten other gentlemen here with whom I am very intimate and double the number of clerks all Scotch. Mr. Lishman has two brothers in law with whom I am very intimate, one is doing business for himself and the other is a Clerk with Lutch Graham & Co. to whom I also had a letter. Such are truly good, such

I am just now in the Counting House of Mr. Samuel Myers Jun. Mercht. here but I am expecting to leave him soon to get into a Grocery Store (as they term them here) this is at Myers' request as he means to commence a store somewhere in the country and to which he means to send me after acquiring a knowledge of their customs here. I have had a letter from Mr. Ireland since I came here, he had not then got a situation and I have wrote him to come on here if he was not engaged elsewhere, as I had some views of a situation for him. Also to Mr. and Mrs. Sande,

The weather is extraordinary hot here, a person can neither write nor do anything else for sweating. We had a dreadful thunderstorm yesterday, and two men were killed by the fire. Give my respects to all my former acquaintances.

I have wrote my Aunt since I came here but have not heard from her since, her son had left this before I wrote, I understand from her he has caused her much vexation. I mentioned in my former letter she was married to a Mr. Brackett, a stone cutter, to whom she has two children and three alive to my uncle, two sons and one daughter. I only saw the latter.

P. S. We had a most extraordinary rough passage, I often never expected to see land; we had 30 or 40 most severe gales; one night the cabin windows were knocked in and it was full of water, the sailors was up to the middle on deck, with the sea coming in. I actually thought we was going down, we was in very omenant danger indeed. I recd. your very kind letter in the dictionary. I cannot express my thankfulness to you for sweet and valuable treasure. I hope in God that I will be enable to stand by its dictates which are truly good, such admonitions will always be very acceptable, for I can assure you this is a vile land, in fact the people here in general seem to walk as if there were no God who seeth and heareth all things.

The next letter I write will be to William, which will likelic be in a short time. However, inform him in the meantime that I would not be a Farmer here on any account as the country has the appearance of one continued forest. Give my love to my dear Father and Mother, as also to Mr. and Mrs. Sands, Wm. Marion, David, Rob, James and Helen, and may the blessing of Heaven rest upon you all. Now be sure to write me particularly how you are all doing and coming on, as I am most anxious to hear from you. Give my respects to all my former acquaintances, such as Messrs. Roy Blackwood Jun. Saunders, Jameson, &ct. &ct. Address your letter care of Saml Myers Jun. Esq' Richmond, Virginia, Amer. I must now bid you adieu, and may God bless you all, which is the earnest prayer of your ever Affectionate Brother,  
Jno. Hardie.

also his lady who is a very fine woman indeed. I have spent several very pleasant afternoons and evenings in their house, and I never call upon Mr. Bridges but he always makes me to go up to his house or take a walk with him. There are also and another gentleman here with whom I am very intimate and double the number of clerks all Scotch. Mr. Fishman has two brothers in law with whom I am very intimate, one is doing business for himself and the other is a clerk with Hutch Gr- ham & Co. to whom I also had a letter.

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P. S. Excuse this letter as it is wrote very horribly and in fact could hardly procure for me time for it. You may expect a longer and more explicit one next. Give me all the news you can, write immediately on receipt----

-----I again embrace the opportunity of this -----  
 Capt. Rogers sailing from the New York Oct. 3rd, 1817. and you a  
 Dear Nephew:-- I hope you will receive.

I write In hast I embrace this opportunity to inform you of our health and of your brother's safe arrival here, he stayed three or four weeks with us and then went on to Richmond in Virginia where he has got business for one year; he writes me he dont like America, he wishes he was in Scotland again, says he will return soon as he can if business is no better in America as there is no encouragement for anny- of men but maccannicks and good land can be purchased for two Dollars an achor in the State of Ohio two or three hundred miles from York. Mercantile business was never so bad as at present, in this place dry goods and other furren articles are bare so poor a price will not pay frait and duty; your Brother's wages is only 250 Dollars per year & found. My family joins in lov to you, your Father and Mother & all our friends. Accept the same from all receive them soon as they arrive in this place. I had letter from Your loving Mt. fourteen days ago from my Cousin in which she says she is Hannah Brackett. all and when  
 P. S. I have changed my name but not my place of abode; you will be glad to hear your uncle's children has the good fortune to have as good a step Father as ever drew breath, you willing; please to direct to William Brackett, Greenwich St. 363.

scotland by an acquaintance that was going to that country.

Richmond, Va. 3rd November. 1817.

A. W. Jno. Hardie,

Kinross:-

Dear Brother:-

I again embrace the opportunity of Ship Thorne ,  
Capt. Rogers sailing from this to Liverpool , to send you a  
few lines which I hope you will receive.

I wrote you a letter fully four weeks ago, by a Mr. Watt  
who belongs to Dundee, and with whom I sent you some newspapers.  
I also sent you some newspapers by a Mr. Livingstone ( who  
got them in place of McLessie) who sailed from this to Liver-  
pool in the Brig William Ezra, bound to that point; Livingstone  
belongs to Korkaldy, and I doubt not you will have received  
them by this time, if they arrived safe at Liverpool.

Its now on the verge of six long months since I left  
Scotland, and I need hardly mention I am very anxious to hear  
from some of you. Indeed, I am almost beginning to wonder a  
letter for me from Scotland does not make its appearance. Our  
Country house is next door to the post-office, and I am sure  
to get my letters immediately on their arrival altho they were  
directed to people's care, I have now no courier, so I am  
confident I will receive them soon as they arrive in this  
place. I had letter from New York abt. fourteen days ago from  
my Cousin in which she says she has been very unwell and when  
she wrote the letter it was with difficulty she was able to  
write it ,but was recovered so as to be thought out of danger.  
I have not heard since whether or not she is still recovering;  
she mentioned in her letter that her Mother has wrote to  
Scotland by an acquaintance that was going to that Country.

I apprehend the letter will be brought to you, being her former correspondent, this however, I am ignorant of may say if you or my Father has received such a letter yet ; she is a very fine woman and many a good advice I got from her. Indeed I may safely say I never experienced more kindness from any person (except always my Father's family) in my life than I did from her, my Cousin and Mr. Brackett ( I believe I mistook his name in my father's letter) her husband who is a very decent, religious man, he is an Englishman. I went to the Churchyard where my Uncle and several of his children is interred and read the inscription on the stone erected to their memory , my Aunt and her daughter went along with me, and I will not attempt to describe their feelings on the occasion, no doubt it made a memorable impression on myself, it brought to my recollection these words: "We must all die". If my memory serves me right I think the inscription says my Uncle died on some day of November, 1808 , the exact day I have no recollection of but this I am pretty sure is the month and year. I saw in their house old Josephus that you no doubt will recollect of being sent over to New York, it looks as if it had seen a good many days . I likewise saw a good many other books with my Uncle's name, some of which he had brought from Scotland with him. I have been the more particular on the above subject as I believe I never mentioned concerning my Uncle's family except in my first letter to my Father which perhaps never arrived, and was wrote in a hurry.

I mentioned in my letter to you by Watt, to buy some old clothes in Cowgate, Edinburgh, and try and get them sent over

I apprehend the letter will be brought to you, being her former  
 correspondent, this however, I am ignorant of say if you  
 or my father has received such a letter yet; she is a very  
 fine woman and many a good advice I got from her. Indeed I  
 may safely say I never experienced more kindness from any  
 person (except always my father's family) in my life than I  
 did from her, my cousin and Mr. Rickett (I believe I mistook  
 his name in my father's letter) her husband who is a very  
 decent, religious man, he is an Englishman. I went to the  
 churchyard where my Uncle and several of his children is  
 interred and read the inscription on the stone erected to  
 their memory, my Aunt and her daughter went along with me,  
 and I will not attempt to describe their feelings on the oc-  
 casion, no doubt it made a memorable impression on myself, it  
 brought to my recollection these words: "we must all die".  
 If my memory serves me right I think the inscription says my  
 Uncle died on some day of November, 1808, the exact day I have  
 no recollection of but this I am pretty sure is the month and  
 year. I saw in their house old Joseph that you no doubt  
 will recollect of being sent over to New York, it looks as  
 if it had been a good many days. I likewise saw a good many  
 other books with my Uncle's name, some of which he had brought  
 from Scotland with him. I have been the more particular on  
 the above subject as I believe I never mentioned concerning  
 my Uncle's family except in my first letter to my father which  
 perhaps never arrived, and was wrote in a hurry.  
 I mentioned in my letter to you by "Walt", to buy some old  
 clothes in Glasgow, Edinburgh, and try and get them sent over

to me as I thought they bring a handsome profit; I must coun-  
 termand this last order, for this reason, I had a letter the  
 other day from a young gentleman, an acquaintance in New York,  
 mentioning that a young man acquaintance of his from London  
 had bought a quantity of old clothes amounting to 140 coats,  
 100 pairs of pantaloons, and he wished me to try if I could  
 hear of a market for them, and proposed taking tobacco in ex-  
 change; this, however, no Tobc. Mercht. would ever think of;  
 I would try to find a market and if they sold could get on  
 more, no person will buy them except for their negroes (there  
 is plenty Black Dicks here). New clothes is very high here,  
 a good coat at from 36 to 40 dollars; if you would procure me  
 a good black or blue coat, a few of good blue Cassimere pan-  
 taloons that suits you will abt. answer me and 7-1/8 or 7-1/4  
 inch hat is my size. Mr. Ireland's Father I am informed in-  
 tends coming here next spring, if no better opportunity oc-  
 curs he would bring them out here as his own and save all duty,  
 and you could either get the money from him or I will remit  
 you by Drft. on London or Livpool. some of you may call upon  
 Mr. Ireland and learn his intention, he lives on West Ten-  
 glassie. I have not heard from his son since he sailed from  
 New York to Huntsville, Mississippi Territory, I am anxious  
 to hear from him now.

The price of Flour and Tobc. on your side of the water,  
 will I am afraid tend to make some of the Gentlemen that deal  
 largely in these articles go for it, and indeed they commenced  
 already by the failure of Messrs. Meyers, one of the Jewish  
 race, he is uncle of my former employer, Samuel Meyers, he has



failed for \$100,000. Mr. Muir is in \$2000. I am glad I have no more to do with these Israelites, of they are in general not a good set to have to do with; this failure is only expected as the forerunner of a good many more. Tobac. is not selling in England for its cost here, and flour hardly half of what it should bring to pay well at least what was shipped in the spring.

The Brig Olivia, Capt. Davies from Lpool. to this has run aground near Cape Henry about ten or twelve miles from the entrance James River, Brig and cargo is expected to be both totally lost. She belongs to Mr. Tho. Potts, one of the gentlemen I had a letter to from Mr. Gillespie.

I have now been two months with Mr. Muir, and like him very well, I am kept quite busy from early in the morning until dark and sometimes later. I believe I must think of concluding.

When will I have such a long letter from you? I hope I will have letters by the Sept. packet which is not yet arrived in New York. Give as many news as you can when you write. I hope business is getting brisk in Briton, but I am afraid prices are getting too low for my Father paying his heavy rent. I shall have wrote this to William had it not been to countermand the Cowgate clothes. With best wishes and respects to you all, I remain ever

Your affectionate Brother,  
Jno. Hardie.

P. S. I have closed this letter between 9 and 10 evening, 3 morning with you. There is a young man here of the name of Elder that comes from Auchy, I saw when I came to this place

... failed for \$100,000. Mr. Miller is in \$2000.  
 I am glad I have no more to do with these last letters,  
 they are in general not a good set to have to do with; this  
 failure is only expected as the forerunner of a good many more.  
 Topic is not selling in England for its cost here, and flour  
 hardly half of what it should bring to pay well at least what  
 was shipped in the spring.  
 The Brig Olive, Capt. Davies from Liverpool to this has  
 run around near Cape Henry about ten or twelve miles from  
 the entrance James River, Brig and cargo is expected to be  
 both totally lost. She belongs to Mr. Tho. Potter, one of  
 the gentlemen I had a letter to from Mr. Gillespie.  
 I have now been two months with Mr. Miller, and like him  
 very well. I am kept quite busy from early in the morning  
 until dark and sometimes later. I believe I must think of  
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 I am afraid prices are getting too low for my father paying  
 his heavy rent. I shall have wrote this to William had it  
 not been to countermand the cowgate clothes. With best  
 wishes and respects to you all, I remain ever  
 Your affectionate Brother,  
 Tho. Hardie.  
 P. S. I have closed this letter between 8 and 10 evening, 3  
 morning with you. There is a young man here of the name of  
 Rider that comes from Ansony, I saw when I came to this place

first about 4 weeks ago, he said he was in Wm White's your  
 Tenant abt. the end of July. I suppose you did not know of  
 Dear Brother:-  
 his coming to Am. or you would have wrote me by him, as he  
 sailed for N. York and you did not know that I was in that  
 City, I believe that he has got into some grocery store, but  
 I suppose it is but a mean place and he only awaits the oppor-  
 tunity of a better to embrace it. Mrs. I. and Hardie that  
 you recollect I mentioned having seen, Mr. Ireland has a  
 vicious horse and has commenced keeping store as formerly  
 upon a nice place, he says Mrs. I. is extremely anxious to  
 come out on her son's account and seems much concerned about  
 him; they are therefore expected out the ensuing spring. I have  
 not yet heard anything from Mr. Ireland from Huntsville, but  
 I have wrote him, he having sent me his address when he sailed  
 from N. York. The fever is still raging in Savannah, Char-  
 leston and New Orleans. I am glad I did not go to any of these  
 places, it is quite healthy here; I have heard nothing fur-  
 ther from N. York since I mentioned in the within letter,  
 and I anticipate a letter soon. Nov. 2nd. In the N. York pa-  
 pers I notice the arrival of H.B.M. Packet Lucie Wellington,  
 with the September mail at Halifax; I am anxiously waiting  
 for arrival at New York, in expectation of some letters from  
 Scotland, but as the "Thorne" is going to sail, I am under  
 the necessity of closing this letter and putting it in the  
 letter bag, hoping when the letters does come to hand they  
 will bring good and interesting news to  
 Yrs. J.H.  
 We have letters from Liverpool to 1st October saying Flour  
 has advanced \$10. and \$12. per bbl.

Richmond, Virginia, 20th Decm. 1817.

Dear Brother:-

I am glad I have it now in my power to acknowledge the receipt of your long expected letter dated Sept. 23rd, which I received on Saturday the 29th ulto. It came by the Oct. packet to N. York via. Halifax. It truly gives me great pleasure to hear you are all well, which completely makes up for the long time I have been in hearing from you.

I am happy to hear you anticipate an abundant harvest and a revival of your mercantile concerns, both of which I hope will be realised at some time. I hope the farmer will get such a price for his grain as amply to repay him for his labour in this, I observe you have now a double interest, please say the extent and rent of William's farm, as also his future address. Flour continues to support its price here, indeed is fully a Dollar per barrel higher than it was two months ago; Superfine is selling here just now from \$8/2 to \$9/2 per barrel. Tobacco you will think is very cheap when I tell you it sells from \$10 (old) 100, to \$9 new, 100 pounds, the former getting sent in the country makes it support its price; the labor was expected to be 50, sht. on the way to Liverpool, and are shipping it and Flour to the New York market almost daily all upon consignment. There is no doubt that you will know ere long now of my present situation, with which I am well content until something more lucrative casts up. Books here are kept much the same principal as at School, the Cash-Book is balanced every Monday morning. Situations here

are not so plenty as they were some years ago, however, they are more so than anywhere else. I would have got two or three very good ones since I came to Mr. Muir. When I write to New York I will execute your command. Your oldest Cousin is a namesake of your own but have never seen him. I do not recollect the other boy's name, perhaps I never heard it, the girl's name is Hannah, whom I mentioned in my letter to you by "Thorne" was unwell, I recd. a letter from her more than a month ago, at which time she was almost completely recovered, this is the last one I have had from N. York, she said No-- Do you recollect of any in your colony who has heard from Alexander, and where was he from? When I was in New York of course I had not the pleasure of seeing him.

You desire me to give you an acct. of the productions &c. of this country, this I will do as far as I know, but my information on this head is very limited. Tobacco and Wheat are the staple productions of this State, Indian Corn, Rye, Barley, Buckwheat, Hemp, Flax, &c. are also raised here; great quantities of Flour and Tobacco are exported from Richmond to Europe, South America the West Indies and the other States in the Union. Ships and large Brigs come up the River to a place called City Point and also Bermuda, a hundred and twenty-five miles from the town, and are loaded by sending their cargoes down in lighters, smaller brigs; schooners, sloops come to the lower end of the town and receive their cargo.-- As to the face of the country, I can say but little, I have not been above four miles from Richmond since I came to it, altho

there are more here than in New York, at least this is my opinion.

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 girl's name is Hannah, whom I mentioned in my letter to you by  
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 been above four miles from Richmond since I came to it, altho

I saw some of the country coming up the River, I paid very  
 little attention to it; this place is upward of 150 miles up  
 the river from the sea; the country in some places to appear-  
 ance is one continued forest, but when you go into the coun-  
 try you find large spaces cleared and producing good crops.  
 Long Island is almost all cleared and is a very beautiful  
 place, it was the first land we made, it was a very beautiful  
 day up the River to New York, which is only 20 miles from the  
 sea. The land in Virginia is very various, in the lower  
 part of the State it is sandy, but not on the banks of the  
 River, along about the bottom for several hundred miles it  
 is also very good; from the upper part of the State, at  
 least about Richmond, and the greater part of the Tobacco  
 plant comes from the country towards the Eastern shore is  
 interspersed with swamps and meadows; the people in general  
 are pretty kind, great numbers care little about religion,  
 some keep their stores open on Sunday, but these are the lower  
 kind of Jews; there are believers only in two opinions regard-  
 ing politics, which are termed Democrats, that is the Gov-  
 ernment party, almost all the natives and Irish take this side,  
 the other is called the Federals, these is counted friends to  
 Great Britain, the whole of the Scotch almost as also the Eng.  
 and some few of the natives are considered of this party, if  
 a Scotchman was among these and running down his Country, he  
 would find a very poor enjoyment among his Countrymen. Business  
 is not near so good here I understand as it was several years  
 ago, it would affect me, business in a mercantile line is more  
 over-done here than in New York, at least this is my opinion.

The great part of the people, except that is married, which is very few in this portion to what might be expected, board in Hotels, is principal lodging house, some pay as high as \$300. p. annum, the margin is \$230 to \$260. I think I informed you as to this formerly, and also as to the price of clothes, if you send me any as I mentioned formerly, you need not care whether the pantaloons is blue or gray Cassimere.

I have received two letters from David Ireland, the first dated Mobile 24 Sepr. stating that he arrived there after a pleasant voyage of three days from N. Y., he was to sail up the river the next day for Huntsville, the place of his destination, he was becalmed three miles off Havana the Capital of Cuba 20 miles South from the Tropic of Cancer where the thermometer is 890 in the water 980 under the shade and 928 under the sun. His second letter is dated Huntsville 31 Octo. wrote the day after his arrival of which you have the following quotation: "I am perfectly pleased in coming to this country, have you not heard emigrants are coming to it daily?" There is first Mobile at 30 miles from the sea which is flourishing daily, there is St. Stephens 120 miles above it flourishing still better, and lastly there is the place of the Black Warrior 280 miles above St. Stephens rising as fast as any town that was ever seen or heard of, last year about this time there was not a house except a hut or two, and now it contains 3 stores. He says it is a fine health country, containing the best land in the U. S. and furnishes large quantities of cotton. It was lately purchased from the Indians. I wonder if his father will go; they might come to

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The great part of the people, except that is married, which is very few in this portion to what might be expected, board in Hotels, as principal lodging houses, some pay as high as \$300.00 a month, the margin is \$280 to \$290. I think I informed you as to this formerly, and also as to the price of clothes, if you sent me any as I mentioned formerly, you need not care whether the pantaloons is blue or grey cassimere. I have received two letters from David Ireland, the first dated Mobile 24 Sept. stating that he arrived there after a pleasant voyage of three days from N. Y., he was to sail up the river the next day for Huntsville, the place of his destination, he was becalmed three miles off Havens the Capital of Cuba 20 miles South from the Tropic of Cancer where the thermometer is 89 in the water 88 under the shade and 88 under the sun. His second letter is dated Huntsville 31 Oct. Note the day after his arrival of which you have the following quotation: "I am perfectly pleased in coming to this country, have you not heard emigrants are coming to it daily." There is first Mobile at 30 miles from the sea which is flourishing daily, there is St. Stephens 120 miles above it flourishing still better, and lastly there is the place of the Black Warrior 250 miles above St. Stephens rising as fast as any town that was ever seen or heard of, last year about this time there was not a house except a hut or two, and now it contains 3 stores. He says it is a fine healthy country, containing the best land in the U. S. and furnishes large quantities of cotton. It was lately purchased from the Indians. I wonder if his father will go; they ought to come to

In sending your letters in future by packet enclosed in one with a few lines to Samuel Gordon Esq. desiring him to forward them by the first vessel to the States, you must be sure to pay the postage to Liverpool, which will cost you a double postage, and not so much as when sent by the packet, and they will reach me a great deal sooner, Mr. G. does business for Mr. Muir, and he has two brothers here who I know very well, they are to write how to take care of my letters. Any time you see any letter and doubt it from Greenock, send it to the States; you might send a letter for her to James Hutchinson's son in regard with the same instructions, and doubt you will miss no opportunity. When you write me again, please be a little more particular as to some circumstances, such as deaths, marriages, and a kindness I would be glad to have as many particulars as you can just answer yourself in my place, and tell my father and mother I keep them in continual remembrance, and remember me to all my brothers and sisters, also my Aunt; there is no doubt you will mention everything worth relating.

Inform Marion that I feel much obliged to her for being so mindful of me, and that I appreciate her partial compliments. If I saw her I could explain to her the reason I had not the pleasure of acknowledging her present; tell her I may perhaps write her soon, which I hope will help to reconcile her a little; remember me to my former acquaintances; tell Mr. Wallace I would have been glad to have seen him before I left Scotland; is he still in Kinross? Any new upstarts in your place since I left it? I was just going to forget to tell you concerning the watch, I sold her at auction held on board our Brig in the midst

of the Atlantic, sold at L5/5sh. I would not have got that for her here, the person that bought her I think wanted it for himself. I believe I must think of concluding; how is all the Kinross getting along, where is J. McGill, how is Maclean, also Morrison Stokes? Now be sure to write me often, I am very anxious to hear always from you, I expected to write some more but was afraid they wd. charge a high postage from Liverpool; ask Baird as to this and let me know. You must excuse this letter as I have wrote it very hurridly as I only know today that Wm. Ashton the ship I am going to send this by was going to sail for Lvpool tomorrow. With best wishes I remain always

Your affectionate brother,

Jno. Hardie.

Richmond Vrga. 26th March, 1818.

Dear Brother:-

Your long anticipated Richmond, Va. 24 January, 1818.

Dear Brother:- I received only on the 23rd currt. no less than 3 months & I wrote a few lines dated the 22nd currt. by Mr. Johnson, to whom I refer. I this day understand the bearer, Mr. Anderson, is going over to Scotland in the same vessel with Mr. Johnson, which he means to join in Hampton Road. Tomorrow he leaves this for that purpose, and I have wrote you (understanding Mr. Anderson was going your way) in order he might give you a call. I have nothing further to state to you in addition to what I wrote you on the 22nd. I had just time to state in Mr. Johnson's letter that I had recd. no letters from you by the British packet; I must again express my surprise



of the Atlantic, sold at 1/2d. I would not have got that for her here, the person that bought her I think wanted it for himself. I believe I must think of consulting; how is all the Kinross getting along, where is J. McGill, how is Macleod, also Morrison Steaks? How he said to write me often, I am very anxious to hear always from you, I expected to write some more but was afraid they wd. charge a high postage from Liverpool; ask Baird as to this and let me know. You must excuse this letter as I have wrote it very hurriedly as I only knew today that Mr. Ashton the ship I am going to send this by was going to sail for Liverpool tomorrow. With best wishes I remain always

Your affectionate brother,  
Jno. Hardie.

Dear Brother:-  
I wrote a few lines dated the 23rd inst. by Mr. Johnson, to whom I refer. I this day understand the vessel Mr. Anderson, is going over to Scotland in the same vessel with Mr. Johnson, which he means to join in Hampton Road. Tomorrow he leaves this for that purpose, and I have wrote you (understanding Mr. Anderson was going your way) in order he might give you a call. I have nothing further to state to you in addition to what I wrote you on the 23rd. I had just time to state in Mr. Johnson's letter that I had recd. no letters from you by the British packet; I must again express my surprise

at your not writing me by her, or some other opportunity which must have occurred since your first letter to me. Hoping this will find you all in good health, I remain, Dear Brother,

Respectfully yours,  
Jno. Hardie.

P. S. I understand Mr. Anderson means to sail immy. for Leith on his arrival in London, where he means to take the coach for Perth, its probable he will stop a day or so in Kinross. It is likely you will see him before Mr. Johnson and perhaps ere you receive the letter sent by him. He can give you an account of Nova Scotia, Virginia and other places in America where he has been.

J.H.

Richmond Vrga. 26th March, 1818.

Dear Brother:-  
Your long anticipated and welcome letter of date 20th Decm. I received only on the 23rd curr. no less than 3 months & 3 days from its date till its arrival in this place. I am surpris at the length of time it has taken to reach me, and no less surpris at the length of time that has elapsed between the date of your first letter and it; in place of three months going by without your writing me. I never expected you would let as many weeks pass without doing it, for what signifies 18 or 20 cts. of postage now and then, compared to the satisfaction and pleasure it gives me to hear of and from those that are ever dear to me. I can assure you it is a great mistake in those that told you letters sent by the packet are often

miscarried; it is no doubt an expensive mode of conveyance to the people on your side of the Atlantic, and also long in reaching their destination, in this case I would recommend your sending my letters care Samuel Gordon, Liverpool, with directions as I mentioned, I think in my letter to you by the Wm. Ashton. Your letter came by the Ship Euphrates from Liverpool to N. York, of course Mr. Sim must have sent it to the former place to some of his correspondents there. I am very glad as well as thankful to hear that you are all in good health, but it makes me melancholy to hear of those whose faces was once so familiar to me now consigned to their native dust, it shows the frailty and uncertainty of all earthly things, none of the whole deaths you mention struck me so much as Mr. Gill's who when I left Scotland was enjoying good health and everything else that the heart of man could desire; poor man, he has it seems enjoyed his envied situation but a very short time.

I have delivered Mrs. Seeshman's message to her Brothers, they are very thankful at your mentioning concerning her and her family, which have the goodness to continue to do; they request you to inform her that they are at present in good health, one of them (Geo.) is one of the finest men I have almost ever met with and I see him almost every Sunday at the Presbyterian Church, both of us sit in the same seat which belongs to Mr. Budes; this is the Church I generally attend altho at times I go to the Episcopal but very seldom, the minister of the Presbyterian Church is no great orator, but is a very serious and I believe a very good man, the ministers in this place

I think upon the whole are inferior to those with you, altho there is some middling clever men among them and shall I tell you that a Dr. Buchanan of the Episcopal Church an old unmarried Scotchman is thought the best preacher of the whole, a great many of our countrymen hear him.

I am a good deal astonished at Mrs. Halkerton's plea agt. her, what is Bobby Forbes thinking of it, poor woman she had better need to receive such a disappointment as was this must have occasioned her. I am afraid you may now bid adieu to the debt she owes you. You say you was much amused by the Yankee Newspaper I sent, those printed in New York alone comes under this appilation and not those printed here, New York and the States to the Northern of Am. are all termed Yankees and their inhabitants ( who are far from being well liked among the Virginians) alone receive that name, in fact you could not offer a greater insult to a native than ever to presume to think him a Yankee; the meaning of the small letters at the bottom of the advertisements means the number of times they are to be inserted . When I write to New York I will execute your commission to my Aunt, I have had no word from them since the beginning of January, at which time they were all in good health ; I believe I mentioned having recd. the same letter in some of my former correspondence, it was from her daughter I never wrote the old woman but once which was the one she mentioned having recd . in her letter to you. as there is no

As to Ireland, I have letters from him now and then, the last one I recd. which was abt' 3 weeks ago was dated the 11th February, at which time he was in good health and comfortably

situated, he gives a very great account of the country to where he has gone, to reside, its healthy, and being in its infancy is one of the best places in the United States for making money, he desired me to write his father ( as his opportunities for sending letters was less often than mine) that he was there in good health, comfortably situated , had a situation worth four times the one he had in Kinross, was extremely well pleased with the prospects of the country , had wrote him two or three letters and intended to write another in a few days, would you be kind enough to communicate this to his father, in case you have it not in your power to see him personally, write a few lines and send them by some safe opportunity. A George Hoey, whose father ment. in his letter had seen you and who lives somewhere abt. East Blair desires me to ask you the favor of informing his father he was well and wd. write him soon; he says he has a brother with Alexander Forfar in Milnathort, if you dont see his father soon, write his brother a few lines communicating the above.

I wrote William a few times very hurriedly in thesth currt. addressed to your care and I doubt not you will forward them on their arrival. I should be glad to hear how he is succeeding in his new farm and if he thinks he has got a good bargain of it, who supplies his place at South Mains? I doubt not from the price country harvests are bringing with you that my Father will obtain a good price for his this year, as there is no doubt he would as usual have an early harvest and thereby sustain little damage from the late season. Flour is again on

this town to be sold abt. 3 weeks ago, in answer to the only

the decline here, Tobacco maintaining itself but not expected to go any higher, the advices from your side the water has been very good lately and shipment made last summer will leave a reasonable profit. Tar is \$2/4 per bbl. in Wilmington, N. Carolina. his place in the Brig Albert for London in a day or

two. I see from the New York papers there is a vessel due from Greenock, and several in that port, I would fair hope you would not let such opportunities slip without writing me. I therefore expect some early news from you by them and which I hope will be as good as those lately received respecting my dear relatives. I will write some of you soon again, remember me to my Father and Mother, also my Sisters and Brothers, also the good people of Kinross; I often fondly remember the happy days I spent with them and fully appreciate their goodness in remembering me tho in a distant land. I sincerely hope this will find you all in good health, as it leaves him who remains with best wishes for your prosperity and welfare,

Your affectionate brother,  
 Jno. Hardie. intend to  
 P. S. Would you inform Mr. Leishman that his brother-in-law Mr. William Hutchison, sends his compliments and will write him soon. I see him every other day, he keeps a grocery store here. his to your civility.

J. H.

--- I have not heard from Richmond, Va. 22nd January 1818.

Dear Brother:- I wrote you by the Ship Wm. Ashton who sailed from this bound to Liverpool abt. 3 weeks ago, in answer to the only

letter I have received from you. I am in daily expectation of having another letter by the Nov. packet which is not yet arrived, altho due several weeks ago.

This letter goes by a Mr. David Johnson a young man who leaves this place in the Brig Albert for London in a day or two. Mr. Johnson is going to Edinburgh to pay a visit to his friends in that City, and if you have any wish to see one who has been in New York, Richmond, &c. for two or three years and who has known me almost ever since I came to this place, you can apply to Mr. Johnson, who can give a much better description of this Country than I can by written correspondence. He promises to pay you a visit, but you know how often people forget their promises when once removed to a distance. In case he neglects to fulfil his promise and you are anxious to see him you will hear of him at his brother's Mr. Thomas Johnson, Fobt. St. Patrick, Squire Edens. He is not sure but he may stop a few weeks in London, in which case this letter will be put into the post-office there, and if not he will bring it down to Edin. with him. I have sent, or rather intend to send you, a few Newspapers by him, which he will carry to Edin. and send by some of the coaches that go your way. In case Mr. Johnson visits you, which I think he will, I beg leave to recommend him to your civility.

I have nothing of importance to write you since my last. I have not heard from Mr. Ireland since I wrote you by Wm. Ashton. I have had a letter from your Cousin in New York in which she desires to be remembered to you all.

I assure you if the November Packet comes in without bringing me any letters I will be sadly disappointed as I feel very anxious to hear again from you. Flour has again started here \$1.00 per bbl. fine sells from \$10. to \$10/2. I have no doubt that the farmers with you are getting good prices for their produce. Tobc. is fully as high as when I wrote you last from \$7 to \$10. per 100 lbs.

I will write you soon again after receiving a letter from you, the opportunities will be more plenty towards the spring and Summer from both sides the Atlantic, you may depend I will not neglect them and I hope you will embrace them also. In the meantime with best wishes and compliments to you all I remain wishing you many happy New Years, Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours,

Jno. Hardie.

P. S. The letters by the Nbr. Packet has arrived in town this morning, but brings none from you, at which I am not a little surprised. I think you are very neglectful. I never miss any opportunity to write you.

J. H. Jan. 23.

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Richmond 6th May, 1818.

Dear Brother:-

I wrote you on the 26th Mar. acknowledging the receipt of yours of 20 Decm. and have again to inform you of having recd. on the 11th ulto. your letter dated 15th July. I cannot put my joy into words at again hearing of your all enjoying

I assure you if the November Packet comes in without bringing me any letters I will be sadly disappointed as I feel very anxious to hear again from you. Your has again started here \$1.00 per lb. The price from \$1.00 to \$1.25. I have no doubt that the farmers with you are getting good prices for their produce. Tobacco is fully as high as when I wrote you last from \$7 to \$10. per 100 lbs.

I will write you soon again after receiving a letter from you, the opportunities will be more plenty towards the spring and summer from both sides the Atlantic, you may depend I will not neglect them and I hope you will embrace them also. In the meantime with best wishes and compliments to you all I remain wishing you many happy New Years, Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours,  
Jno. Hardie.

P. S. The letters by the Nov. Packet has arrived in town this morning, but brings none from you, at which I am not a little surprised. I think you are very neglected. I never miss any opportunity to write you.

J. H. Jan. 23.

---

Richmond 24th May, 1818.

Dear Brother:-

I wrote you on the 24th Mar. acknowledging the receipt of yours of 20 Dec. and have again to inform you of having read, on the 15th ult. your letter dated 15th July. I can not put my feet into writing at again hearing of your all enjoying

good health and which I earnestly hope to have the pleasure of hearing every now and then. I must also tender you my thanks for your promise to write me frequently, which I have no doubt you will strive to fulfil. You ask me of some account of the manner of living here, which I must acknowledge is better and a great deal dearer than with you; but altho the former is the case, I wd. prefer your substantial and plain manner of living to all their Am. luxury (as I may term it); in summer we breakfast at 7, get dinner abt. 2 and Supper between 7 & 8; in winter breakfast ab. an hour later but get dinner and supper much abt' the same time; we have generally at breakfast cold beef, beef-steaks or something of this kind, and Tea, Coffee as we choose; at dinner roast or boiled beef, bacon and greens, which is a great dish in Am., turkeys and other fowls in their season, with a great many other dishes which I do not remember, therefore can not name them to you. In our boarding house we have nothing but bread and butter and tea for supper, but I understand it is different in others. This is the principal of what we get for our \$250. per year. As to the climate, it is very changeable in winter, which was I am told a very mild one, the thermometer is sometimes as low as 9 or 10 and the next day, or perhaps the same, it wd. be up as high as 40 or 50. This you'll wonder the reason of, it is in consequence of the climate varying as often as we have a change of wind, when it comes from the cold northern regions then we have it immediately cold, and when from the burning sands of the Carolinas and Georgia we have it equally



hot, it is from the east and west we have more agreeable and pleasant weather. Snow generally lies here only for a few days at a time, we had only two or three falls thro the winter which was soon melted by the sun, which is pretty strong in the middle of the winter. In summer it is for two or three months insupportable hot, the thermometer generally stands from 75 to 85 in the shade and 110 in the sun. We have as yet had an uncommon cold backward spring, except for a few days, when it was like summer with you, this cold weather I am informed has done a great deal of damage to the fruit and has also been very injurious in the Cotton States. Richmond is as healthy a place as any in Virga. and I may add as many places in the U. States, being built in a very elevated situation. It stands upon the face of a hill and partly upon another, so like Edin. it may almost be said to stand upon two hills, it lies on the north side of the James River ab. 160 or 180 miles from the sea at the head of the tide water, imry. opposite Manchester a small place on the south side of the River with whom it is connected by two wooden bridges each abt. a qr. of a mile long. This City is the Capital of the State of Virginia and contains about 16,000 or 17,000 people and is still increasing. Its travel is extensive and has commercial advantages for produce which is brought down in boats and here disposed of; on the other hand it supplies a large back country with foreign goods in return for all kinds of country produce, which is bringing good prices just now. I am convinced a good and industrious farm would soon realize an independent fortune, good land can be bought here for abt. \$25. per acre.

Altho I am always very busy and have little leisure time I will satisfy your curiosity by giving you a full and as particular account of our passage as possible and I have no doubt you will not grudge a dble. postage to have it at once from beginning to end, it shall entirely occupy my next letter, which you may expect soon after receiving this, as I intend to send it by next opportunity. I should like much you had been able to give me some information as to Mr. Ireland's Father's "intentions" as he is very anxious to hear whether he means to come to Am. or not as the letters he has as yet recd. from his Father being very queer no light on the subject.

I am of opinion he is a much reformed man from what he was when in Kinross, this I infer from the tenor of his letters, and his conduct which I saw personally before he sailed from Leith and pared in N. York, speaking of Kinross in one of his letters, he says: "I can say however that the most unhappy of my days since leaving it are by far the most happy I experienced." Keep these quotations to yourself.

I had not been writing to N. York since I recd. your last two letters but when I do will deliver your commands, they were all in good health the last time I heard from them. As to Edw. Perrines friend, I do not know where to enquire after him, there is no such place as Alexander, Gotham Esq. in Va. there is an Alexander in the district a few hundred miles from Washington and Louisiana, which is the only two of any consequence in the U. S. I suppose the former, if any of them is the place of his residence, tell Mr. White from me that I do not know what became

Altho I am always very busy and have little leisure time I will satisfy your curiosity by giving you a full and as far as account of our passage as possible and I have no doubt you will not grudge a little postage to have it at once from beginning to end, it shall entirely occupy my next letter, which you may expect soon after receiving this, as I intend to send it by next opportunity. I should like much you had been able to give me some information as to Mr. Ireland's Father's "intention" as he is very anxious to hear whether he means to come to Am. or not as the letters he has as yet recd. from his Father being very queer no light on the subject.

I am of opinion he is a much reformed man from what he was when in Kinross, this I infer from the tenor of his letters, and his conduct which I saw personally before he sailed from Leith and passed in N. York, speaking of Kinross in one of his letters, he says: "I can say however that the most unhappiness of my days since leaving it are by far the most happy I experienced." Keep these quotations to yourself.

I had not been writing to W. York since I recd. your last two letters but when I do will deliver your commands, they were all in good health the last time I heard from them. As to Edw. Perkins friend, I do not know where to enquire after him, there is no such place as Alexander, Gotham road. In Va. there is an Alexander in the district a few hundred miles from Washington and Louisiana, which is the only two of any consequence in the U. S. I suppose the former, if any of them is the place of his residence, tell Mr. White from me that I do not know what became

of the Memo. concerning his friends in Georgia, if he choose to give you the last address and send it to me I will be happy to be of service to him if in my power. I wonder if Alexander Scott has got any word from his son that went to Am. I was so forgetful when in N. York as not to ask my Aunt if she ever knew him, and if so what has become of him, when I write next I have a good mind to ask this. I must, I believe, conclude for the present, hoping to hear from you again ere long, but I wd. like for you to write more particularly than you have as yet done, there is a great number of things I would like to know, you mention nothing abt. Give my warm respects and best wishes to my Father and Mother, also all other relations and friends, and believe me to be Dear Brother, in Affectionately yours  
Jno. Hardie.

P. S. Have you no notion yourself of taking a trip at some future period across the Atlantic?

Richmond, 20th June, 1818.

Dear Brother:-

I wrote you on the 6th and 19th ulto, the last containing a short account of my passage from Leith to New York, which I trust will reach you safe. Mr. Bell from Edin. del. me your letters of 17 Feby. enclosing one to Mr. Wm. Lawrie, with whom I have been acquainted for some time back, however, I am not the less obliged to Mr. Wm. Lawrie for his kind intentions and for which give him my thanks; his Cousin is a very fine man and is an honor to his Country and his friends. I recd. on the 20th ulto my Father's letter dated the 2nd March, but my

latest account of you is from Thos. Ireland , whose letter to me dated the 12th of the last mentioned month and by which I am glad to hear you were all in good health . Altho I have little or no news to send you yet I cannot let the present opportunity slip without again writing you a few lines, for another will not occur for at least three or four weeks and by which I will again write you. If I receive any of yours betwixt that time or anything else of consequence occurs as I have not yet received any word of the arrival of the clothes you mentioned in your letter, neither have I recd. your letter via. Lpool, but the wind being contrary for vessels coming to America and few has arrived for some time back, which is perhaps the cause of it, but if once they are in New York, I can get them easily sent on here and I hope you would not trust them to anyone in whom you had not confidence in their safe delivery there; I shd. be very sorry if they did not come to hand, after putting you to so much trouble; you are perfectly right in not sending a hat , as in all probability, at least if not taken particular care of, it wd. have been rend. useless ere it come this length, if I had thought a moment I never would have proposed it.

The spring which was so backward here has been followed as far as is past by a very fine summer and the crops which was lately suffering by the cold is now fast coming to maturity, particularly wheat, which will be cut down abt. the beginning and towards the middle of July. I believe Tobc. Cotton and Rice will not so easily get over the check they have sustained altho they are very much mended; fruit has also suffered a

good deal, the weather here is now very warm but not oppressive, the thermometer is seldom above 98 in the sun, our hottest months are July, Aug. and Sept. when it is as hot as in the East and West Indies; but the winter makes it more healthy. Tobacco is now beginning to be shipped freely to Europe, and will endeavor for at least three months to secure sales, is very scarce here and freight uncommonly high, last year 2-5/ a hhd. was given, now they are asking from 20 to 25 more and even scarce at that. There has been nearly 20,000 hhd. Tobc. brought into Richmond this year, and nearly an equal quantity may yet be expected, from this you may judge what a commercial place it is. Tobacco is abt. 3 Dollars p 100 lbs. or 3 cts. per lb. higher than it was last year, the price given here just now is from \$10. to \$15. dont let your friend, Johnny Kirk, raise it more upon you than it actually should be, remember a Cent is only abt. a half penny. Farmers here just now are making money fast, they are getting a good price for their produce, and everything else that is raised upon a farm, their land cost very little and taxes here is nothing at all compared to those with you, it is nothing uncommon to see a farmer bring in 8 or 10 hhd. Tobc. at a time and receive his 12 or \$1500. for them; upon the whole I think they make their money a great deal easier than those with you; their Negroes or slaves have to do everything, particularly in Virga. and to the South, this is the only thing I would not like farming in Virga. for there are great numbers of these unfortunate beings being purchased at this place just now and carried

Jno. Barile.

Call Mrs. Leichman both her brothers are well, George is

to Georgia and Louisiana where they are required principally for the cultivation of Cotton, Rice and Sugar.

If you have an opportunity of seeing Thos. Ireland tell him I recd. his letter of 12 Mar. and will write him soon, that his son was well on the 21 May the date of his last letter to me; he likes the country very well, it is healthy, and being a newly settled country containing good land holds out more advantages to the adventurer than the more populated and earlier settled States, his Father seems sorry at his going to Huntsville, but from every account I can hear he will have no occasion to rue it, if he takes care and is cautious which is worth a fortune of itself, I have no doubt but he will succeed very well. Tell Father and Mother that it gives me real satisfaction to have a letter from their own hand now and then, and that it always will be my study as a duty and pleasure to follow their kind injunctions. I will write them soon more particularly in answer to their letter. Remember me to my Brothers and Sisters, I am sorry to hear of Aunt's sickness and I hope she is completely recovered. I will write William direct next time; I think he might write me a few lines. I am afraid it will be a long time ere I can write Marion, if I wait for an appropriate opportunity; why did you not write me by some of the last vessels that arrived in N. York? I am happy to inform you that I have still enjoyed a good state of health since ever I left you, which is a great blessing. I hope you all enjoy it equally with myself, which is the prayer of

Your affectionate Brother,

Jno. Hardie.

P. S. Tell Mrs. Leishman both her brothers are well, George is

very much surprised at not having a letter from her or Mr. No. for so long a time--- how is Peter Sands? you say such an -----y expense. Roy and Jamieson would be in the same way but I sent them very cheap as none of them has ever wrote me a line, altho they promised faith  
Richmond, Virga. 28 July, 1818.

L. 6, 6, 0 Sterling to write them when I arrived in America,

which I did. At sight of this my second of Exchange ( first of the same tenor and date not paid) pay to the order of M. John Hardie, Six pounds, Six shillings Sterling for value in Current money here received which place to account either with or without advice. Your mo. ob. servt. now Wm. Muir. 10 p bush-  
To Samuel Gordon Esq., (6/ to the Dollar) which I believe is a fair price.   
Liverpool.

Dear Brother:- It also fall off in price. The farmers here for some time I wrote you on the 8th inst. annexing first of Ex. for Six Guineas and now according to what I then mend. send you the 2nd, both of which I trust will reach you safe. I have now the pleasure to inform you of having recd. all the clothes you sent me with the exception of the pantaloons, which as I informed you in my last, never reached N. York; the whole fits me very well, and I am well pleased with them in all other respects also; such a coat as the one you sent would cost here abt. 85 Dollars and hat ab. \$10, I will therefore after losing the pantaloons save money on them.   
favorable in general to those

in I am anxious for a letter from you, it being more than two months now since I recd. your last wherein you mend' you wd. write me soon either by Lpool or Greenock, but none has yet come to hand. I however anticipate by the first arrival from

Scotland. I am sorry that Johnson was so foolish as to put your letters in the P. Office deal, and incur as you say such an unnecessary expense. Roy and Jamieson would be in the same way but I sent them very cheap as none of them has ever wrote me a line, altho they promised faithfully to do so when I left Kinross, and urged me to write them when I arrived in America, which I did.

The wheat crop in this part of the country is now cut down and in safety from the weather. I am told it is an uncommon fine crop, and will have the tendency to reduce the price of that article, it is selling here just now from 8 to 10 p bushel, Virginia currency (6/ to the Dollar) which I believe is a fair price. Tobo. in general is expected to be very good and I think will also fall off in price. The farmers here for some time past has been making a vast deal of money from the high price they have been receiving for their produce, they have very little taxes to pay and those that hold slaves has little to give for labour, of course it is almost all clear money; the best place, however, for farmers is in the Western Country, where cotton is raised in large quantities, the price they receive for one year's crop will pay for the price of the land; in the States of Kentucky and Ohio there is also most excellent land and plenty of scope for industrious farmers, the lands in these States are much preferable in general to those in Virginia; great numbers of emigrants are going to these States settling. I understand Mr. Drew's Father and family from Puthshire has arrived at N. York and intend setting off immediately for Ohio, where I suppose they intend settling. I



mentioned in my last letter that I had an offer to go to the Gulf of Florida, you will no doubt be wondering what kind of situation it was. A Gentleman has contracted to build Forts for the United States Government on some Island in that quarter or nigh the mouth of the Mississippi River, he wanted some person to take charge of his cash transactions, which will be very considerable, and also to see that his men were paid at the end of every week, the salary was no doubt good, but the nature of the situation was such as I had no hesitation in at once declining to accept, I intend to stick by merchandising and hope at no distant period to be doing something to advantage, but I am by no means sorry and lay my account to meet with difficulties, particularly that of the want of finances, but I hope by industry and steady conduct to overcome them all.

I enclose letter for Marion which you will please deliver to her, I do not know of better opportunity and that it best to embrace this. I will write in the course of abt. 3 weeks expect to at which time I have something new to send you, my time expires ab. then. with compliments as usual, I remain

Yours in sincerity,

Jno. Hardie.

Aug. 25th- Since I wrote the above there has been two arrivals in N. York from Scotland, one from Dundee and another from Greenock, but neither has brought me a letter, which I am a little surprised; I have nothing further of consequence to state to you, I am just going to close this and send it off, as soon as the vessel has cleared.

Richmond, 14th February 1818.

Dear Brother:-

If it is your fault in not writing that I have not received any letters from you for this long time past, I think I may be excused altho I say that I never expected to be treated so by you, especially at the present time, but if you have wrote me and your letters never reached me, then it is not your fault. The Nov. Packet has arrived and brought not a single word for me, and now the Decm. one has arrived also and brought as little; I never was so much disappointed in my life to see every person getting word from their friends, news from their native country, &ct. and nothing of the kind for me. Your letter by the Oct. packet is the only one I have ever recd. and you must be aware yourself of the uneasiness I feel at not having later intelligence.

I wrote you abt. 14 days ago by a Mr. Johnson, who was accompanied by a Mr. Anderson from this place to whom I gave a letter merely introducing him to you, he went down the river with Mr. Johnson, but got sick and returned to town, he very foolishly gave the letter to Johnson also . I sent you some newspapers by him (Mr. J.) which you will likely have received ere this reaches you. If ever any of the newspapers I should send you be put in the Post Office by which a heavy expense would be incurred, you will easily know what the parcel is when you see it, and not take it from the post.

I have always neglected to mention to you that one of our passengers of the name of Cunningham, who set himself up for a gentleman of great fortune, has I understand, since I left

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I have always neglected to mention to you that one of our passengers of the name of Gunnaghan, who set himself up for a gentleman of great fortune, has I understand, since I left

New York, turned out a great vagabond. I think proper to mention this to you as he pretended to be going home in my above £20,000 Stg. which he said was left him in Am. by a relation, but which is all falsehood. I not knowing but what he represented himself to be, desired him to call on you as he went thro. Kinross to Methver near Perth to where he belongs, so you can be on your guard in case he would or should go home and call on you, using my name, he was a Cabin passenger.

Mr. Ireland has obtained a situation in Huntsville and gets \$300 a year and bed, board and washing; he has had letters from his Father, the first dated in July, but he is an only son.

Its of no use to tell you to write to me often, and I therefore leave it with yourself. Remember me to my Father and Mother, tell my Brothers and Sisters that I remember them better than they seem to do me, deliver the enclosed letter to Marion, and I remain still

Your affectionate brother,  
Jno. Hardie.

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Richmond, 8th August, 1818.

Dear Brother:-

A longer period has elapsed since I last wrote you (which was on the 20 June) than is general betwixt my letters, but this you will find explained before you get to the end of this letter. Abt. two days after I wrote you I recd. your letter of 6th April, which came by Mr. Kettle <sup>to</sup> of New Brunswick

and this is the latest date I have from you. I am truly sorry to observe the death of Isabella Sand, and deeply sympathise with you all and more especially with her parents on this melancholy occasion, but these things we must all lay our account with and patiently submit to the Will of Divine Providence. I also observe the death of Rob. Rolland. an. proof of the shortness and uncertainty of human life, these warnings truly ought to have their due influence on the life of all of us, and make us prepare for a future and better world.

The letter before mentioned contained the first information I recd. of my clothes being sent to Am. and which made me a good deal surprised at not having either recd. or heard of them. I therefore immy. applied to Mr. Bell to see whether or not any person by the name you ment. came in the same vessel with him, when he told me he thot there was, and very kindly wrote a letter for me to his fellow passengers in New York, relating the circumstances of the case to him and asking him to try and find out Wilson and procure the clothes or make them to be deld. to the people to whom they were addressed to in New York; this had the intended effect, for abt. 8 days after (now weeks ago) I recd. a letter from Cousin saying they had that morning recd. my clothes after being 6 weeks in New York, however, a pair of pantaloons was a wanting, and Mr. Bell tells me some clothes was stole on the passage, so its likely they were among them, this is the reason I did not write until I could give you some information concerning the clothes; I have wrote for them to be sent on here and expect them soon. I recd. your letter which accompanied them in my Cousin's, which was

broken open, and was in that state when she recd. it. I think this unfortunate affair of losing part of them and the trouble they have occasioned will prevent me from sending any more clothes from your side for some time. Above you have Mr. Muir's first of Exchange for Six Guineas to pay the debt I owe you for them, and also accept my thanks for your services. I will send you the remainder of Ex. soon, it will be paid immy. when presented. The ship Wm. sails from here for Leith ab. 14 days, I will likely write you by her, load by Thompson and Murray and consigned to Newton & Lauvie.

The rate in interest in Am. is not limited, Banks take 6%, but 7, 12 and even 20% is often given and obtained by individuals. Money is well worth 8% here, which could be easily got, nay even more from first-rate men, it is of more value here than with you; a person in some places in Am. if he is industrious, with a few hundred pounds could make money fast, but I can tell you it is impossible for a person to do much without money as well as with you. After saving every penny as it was possible to save, I had abt. \$240. to \$250 (Dollars) \$230. of which I laid out in Mr. Muir's hands at int. I kept the balance for necessaries, such as buying shoes, &c. and this year I expect to save abt. three hundred Dollars, as my salary I expect to be abt. \$350. , 100 more than what I ment. to you, which is in consequence of Mr. Muir having more employ than one would be expected to perform but which I accomplish, and he nited, or rather plainly told me he wd. make my salary better. I had the offer of a famous salary to go to the Gulf Florida when my present time expires, but as it was

and this is the latest date I have from you. I am truly sorry to observe the death of Isabella and, and deeply sympathize with you all and more especially with her parents on this melancholy occasion, but these things we must all lay our account with and patiently submit to the will of Divine Providence. I also observe the death of Rob. Roland. an. proof of the shortness and uncertainty of human life, these warnings truly ought to have their due influence on the life of all of us, and make us prepare for a future and better world. The letter before mentioned contained the first information I recd. of my clothes being sent to Am. and which made me a good deal surpris'd at not having either recd. or heard of them. I therefore inq. applied to Mr. Bell to see whether or not any person by the name you ment. came in the same vessel with him, when he told me he had there was, and very kindly wrote a letter for me to his fellow passengers in New York relating the circumstances of the case to him and asking him to try and find out Wilson and procure the clothes or make them to be deliv. to the people to whom they were address'd to in New York; this had the intended effect, for abt. 8 days after (now weeks ago) I recd. a letter from Cousin saying they had that morning recd. my clothes after being 6 weeks in New York, however, a pair of pantaloons was wanting, and Mr. Bell tells me some clothes was stole on the passage, so its likely they were among them, this is the reason I did not write until I could give you some information concerning the clothes; I have wrote for them to be sent on here and expect them soon. I recd. your letter which accompanied them in my Cousin's, which was

not connected with mercantile transactions I rejected it; I believe I would have got one thousand dollars per annum. My present time expires on the 1st proximo, but as I have something in view, I am not sure whether I may stop or not; I should wish my salary enlarged, as I know from them that has told me, Mr. Muir was never better satisfied in his life with any person, altho I say it myself, I know he can say nothing otherwise. I will inform you more particularly to this in a future letter. I am now in expectation of some more letters from you and hope they will bring favorable accounts when they arrive. The weather has been very warm here lately, the thermometer has often been 98 in the shade, some says about 100, but this I dont believe. I still continue in good health, the hot weather has had no other effect upon me than making me a little leaner. I remain Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours,  
 P. S. You will no doubt as usual give my compliments to my Father and Mother, Sisters and Brothers, and all other relations and acquaintances. I will write my Father very soon, as also Marion. As to William, I think it is now his turn to write me first. If you see David Ireland's Father, tell him his son was well on the 10th July.

Richmond, 17th September, 1818.

Dear Brother: I wrote you abt. 3 or 4 weeks ago by the William, for Leith, annexing 2nd of Exchange for L-6-6p, the amount paid

by you on my account for the clothes which I then mentioned I had received with the exception of the pantaloons; this letter I trust will reach you safe, as also a former one accompanying the 1st of Exchange. I then mentioned I was without any letters from you since the one by Mr. Kettie dated the beginning of April, and I am not a little concerned and surprised to have to tell you this is still the case; surely some of your letters has been miscarried, and from the long time that has gone by since I received your last, I think that more than one must have shared this fate.

I told you in the afore-mentioned letter that I would write you at the time my engagement with Mr. Muir expired, giving you an account of my future views and intentions. The time having now arrived, I shall state to you as distinctly as possible my inducements for leaving this place, which I have now finally agreed upon: As I ment. in my former correspondence, I had frequently letters from David Ireland in Huntsville, and as a matter of course I made particular inquiry concerning the country, its mercantile affairs, and particularly the inducements for young people of my profession settling in that quarter of Am. to all of which I received the most sanguine and flattering encouragement; I do not however, rest entirely upon what he has wrote, as I have received information from others that has been in that quarter, and who I have seen personally, which fully corroborates his statements'. It is a place in its infancy and its there that one with a small beginning and their own industry will soonest succeed. Mr. Muir

is very sorry at my leaving him and strongly advises me to stay another year, for which he will give me \$100. with board and washing, but as my mind was made up to go to that quarter where I think I will get along better, I would not retract. I am to have immediate employment upon my arrival at Huntsville, and my present intention is to take the situation for six months to learn the manner and customs of the people and at the end of that time, I would wish if possible to do something for myself, if my small finances will at all allow it. I am almost inclined to think, altho I am removed from you by the will of Divine Providence to this great distance, you and my Father, if you have it in your power (which no doubt you have) would assist me with 100 or 200 pounds, to help me begin, after which I hope I will not be indebted to anyone, for their help in that respect. I will allow you 7 or 8% and remit it annually until I pay the principal; this of itself must be an object to you, as from what I can learn, money can be obtained in Scotland at the rate of 3 to 5%. - If you are disposed to do this, the best and safest plan of remitting wd. be for you to buy in Edin. a first, second and third of Exchange, on London for the amount, the first two you could send to Rob. Gillespie Esq., Mercht. New York, in two different letters payable to him, to whom I would give directions how to dispose of them, the third you would retain in your own possession. Perhaps before you do this, it would be best for you to hear from me after my arrival in Huntsville, which you may expect but I thot it could do no harm to mention what I have done at present. my of my Father's family, except my esteemed Cousin,



Huntsville is from 6 to 700 miles from this to the Alabama Territory, where you will in future direct my letters. I perform the journey by land, which will take from 20 to 25 days, a young man who belongs near Durkaley's is also going to the same Territory, and will accompany me in the conveyance, which consists of a machine called a Jersey waggon, which runs upon four wheels and is drawn by one horse, this is the best and cheapest conveyance; the course to Huntsville is West and a little South, passing through the States of Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. I will write you how I get along among the Western woods of Am. immediately upon my arrival at Huntsville, with a short description of my journey. I hope you will also write me immediately on receiving this.

With compliments to my Father and Mother, also Brothers relations and friends, I remain

Your affectionate brother,

Jno. Hardie.

New York, June 21st, 1818.

Dear Cousin:-

With much diffidence I raise my pen to address you through motives of sincerity and the regard I have for your brother prompts me to the agreeable task; and although perhaps I have taken an unwelcome liberty, I flatter myself you will have the goodness to pardon me. I received a letter from your brother a few days ago, which informed me of your welfare which gave me great pleasure; although I never had the pleasure of seeing any of my Father's family, except my esteemed Cousin,

our meeting and parting shall never be erased from my memory while life lasts. I am very sorry to be deprived of his agreeable company, but I hope shortly to be favored with it again; I think it must be very disagreeable to be separated so long from each other, for no doubt you and him is on the most intimate terms, for he always speaks very highly of his Brother, I can almost realise your feelings by my own. If Providence permits I hope we shall all see each other at some future period, if I should never have the pleasure of seeing him again, my last wishes will be for his welfare.

My mother is very ill at present, or she would not have mist this opportunity of writing to you, but I have taken her place in writing with pleasure. Give my best respects to your father and family and all the rest of my relations, and now I must conclude, after praying you to excuse these few lines ill composed, and hoping they will be so fortunate as to meet with your approbation, if they should, write and assure me this, and when I write again, I will with more full. The family all join in love to you, so I remain

Your affectionate Cousin,

Hannah Hardie.

Joseph Hardie.

Huntsville, Alabama Territory,

October 28th, 1818.

Dear Brother:-

About eight days before I left Richmond ( which was on the 26th ulto.) I wrote you a letter mentioning my intentions

to start for this place, and my reasons for doing so. I arrived here on the 19th inst. along with a Mr. James Black, a native of Kerkaldy, who accompanied me from Richmond, we performed the journey in 24 days, which was very short considering our conveyance and the distance of road.

It will be impossible for me at this time to give you the particulars of our journey, as matters of more immediate consequence must be the subject of this letter, suffice it however, to say the people in general were hospitable and kind, we had no doubt a good many difficulties to encounter, which every person performing such a journey must expect, altho. we travelled several nights thro. the woods after dark, no accident ever befel us the whole journey.

Immediately on my arrival at this place, my first inquiry was how I in the meantime was to settle myself, and was fortunate enough to get a very good situation with a Mr. Read, who keeps the Land office, and also one of the first stores in town, he is extremely thriving in the former, and I am at present writing there, but also am every day in the store, and have every opportunity that I could wish for gaining information on that head, indeed in the course of ab. 3 mos. I expect to be in the store almost constantly, my engagement is for one half year, at the rate of 350 Dollars per annum, bed, board and washing; he offered me 400 if I would engage for a year, but this I declined as I wish to serve other people for as short a time as possible.

I wrote you that my reason for leaving Richmond was to

better if possible my circumstances in life, and I think if there is any place in Am. where I can do so, it is in this Territory; the profit on goods on an average is 50% , some more, but few less; for money 30 to 40% could be got for it, being much wanted to buy land , a speculation many a one has made their fortune at; I have now nearly 500 Dollars, but as it is as yet too small for commencing upon, I mean to put it out to the best advantage. In my letter from Richmond I mentioned that 100 or 200 B would give me very great assistance in getting along in this place, it indeed will be of more value to me here for a short time than I ever had any idea of, if you really could at all procure it for me, which I trust you can, it would be greatly the means of assisting me in realising something handsome. I am truly sorry to see people here making almost as much in a day or two as I can in a whole year. I will remit you regularly 7 to 8% which I hope will be satisfactory compensation to you for it, it is useless for me to say more. I know if you were aware of the advantage it wd. do me, you would not have a moment's hesitation. I am very anxious to make some money , in order I may soon have it in my power to pay my native country a visit. I wd. have wrote my Father on the subject, but I believe it is needless; I trust he will assist you if in his power. The way of remitting would be to buy 3 sets of Ex. on London, send the first and second to Rob . Gillespie #110 Front St., New York . I will correspond with him on the subject after I hear it is sent him. A few days ago I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of 25th June which came to New York with John Robertson. I am sorry I have not

to start for this place, and my reasons for doing so. I arrived here on the 15th inst. along with a Mr. James Black, a native of Kentucky, who accompanied me from Richmond, we performed the journey in 24 days, which was very short considering our conveyance and the distance of road. It will be impossible for me at this time to give you the particulars of our journey, as matters of more immediate consequence must be the subject of this letter, suffice it however, to say the people in general were hospitable and kind, we had no doubt a good many difficulties to encounter, which every person performing such a journey must expect, altho. we travelled several nights thro. the woods after dark, no accident ever befel us the whole journey. Immediately on my arrival at this place, my first inquiry was how I in the meantime was to settle myself, and was fortunate enough to get a very good situation with a Mr. Reed, who keeps the land office, and also one of the first stores in town, he is extremely thriving in the former, and I am at present writing there, but also an every day in the store, and have every opportunity that I could wish for being informed on that head, indeed in the course of ab. 3 mos. I expect to be in the store almost constantly, my engagement is for one half year, at the rate of 350 Dollars per annum, but, being and wanting; he offered me 400 if I would engage for a year, but this I declined as I wish to serve other people for as short a time as possible. I wrote you that my reason for leaving Richmond was to

the pleasure of seeing Mr. K. nor is it in my power to render him any assistance. If he was here, he could get immediate employment which will perhaps not be the case in New York or Richmond. I notice what you say concerning D. Ireland, from personal observation since I came here, and from every other person's account, he is as steady a young man as can be, indeed I never knew a greater reformation on anyone, and now repents very much of his conduct in Kinross; his father ought actually to send him money, he has it in his power and what could he do better with it than helping his own son; all that he wrote concerning his trunk was a fact, also the dangers he underwent before arriving here; at his desire I again wrote his Father from this place, he says he will never ask money more from his Father if he dont send it at this time. Mr. Black has got some very respectable connections. D. Is Father can inform you concerning them, he expects L- 500 Str. out next spring.

I am very thankful for, as well as happy at having a Br. that is both able and willing to give me such good and reasonable instructions, never, never have any hesitation in writing me on this. I know that without the blessing of God all our earthly enjoyments are nothing. I wish we had a good Scotch minister here, they are in general inferior here to those with you. This paper will not allow me to enlarge at present. Tell Mr. Ireland his letter by Mr. R. the first I ever got from him. Give my warmest respects to my Father and Mother, also my Brothers and Sisters. Please write me frequently, you need not expect so many letters from me now, as I am so far from any opportunity. With best wishes for your health, prosperity

to come to New York with John Robertson. I am sorry I have not had the pleasure of receiving your letter of 25th June which on the subject after I had it is sent him. A few days ago buy 3 sets of R. on London, send the first and second to Rob. assist you in his power. The way of remitting would be to on the subject, but I believe it is needless; I trust he will to pay my native country a visit. I wd. have wrote my Father to make some money, in order I may soon have it in my power me, you would not have a moment's hesitation. I am very anxious say more. I know if you were aware of the advantage it wd. do factory compensation to you for it, it is useless for me to will remit you regularly 7 to 8 which I hope will be assist almost as much in a day or two as I can in a whole year. I something handsome. I am truly sorry to see people here making it would be greatly the means of assisting me in retaining really could at all procure it for me, which I trust you can, me here for a short time than I ever had any idea of, if you ting along in this place, it indeed will be of more value to that 100 or 200 B would give me very great assistance in getting the best advantage. In my letter from Richmond I mentioned as yet too small for commencing upon, I mean to put it out to their fortune at; I have now nearly 500 Dollars, but as it is much wanted to buy land, a speculation many a one has made but few less; for money 30 to 400 could be got for it, being territory; the profit on goods on an average is 20%, some more, there is any piece in Am. where I can go so, it is in this better if possible by circumstances in life, and I think it

and welfare, I remain, Dear Brother,  
you since the one that came by Mr. Robertson to New York, and  
Affy. and Ever yours,  
which I recd. Lucy, after my arrival here. I understand by  
Jno. Hardie.

P. S. I thank you for a hint regarding writing to Kinross. I  
have taken a resolution some time ago, to write to nobody in  
Scotland almost but my own relations. I am happy Robert has  
been so fortunate, I trust he will find his situation comfort-  
able. Please let me know from time to time how he is liking  
it? How has my Father and his Laird settled abt. their new  
tack? Is William's farm thought reasonable, he must have some  
idea by this time? I have had to write you very hurriedly, the  
post only leaves here once a week, and I did not know till now  
the time it was going to start.

P. S. I am a little curious to know whether any word was  
ever recd. from James Cowdin that went to the Cape of Good  
Hope, and how it is said these adventurers succeeded. Mechanics  
of every description is very much wanted in the Alabama Terri-  
tory. I wish a few would take it into their heads to come to it.

Yours affectionately,

Jno. Hardie.

settled: in short, the openings is this -----

number. I mentioned to you in my last letter that I had

from 1 to 200 pounds w. to Huntsville A. T. Dec. 10, 1818

Dear Brother:-

I wrote you from this place abt. the end of Octo.  
but as some unforeseen circumstance may have prevented its  
reaching your side of the water, and it being the first letter  
from me since I arrived here, I think it is but right not to