

MS. Eng. lett. c. 717, fols.52-3

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Edgeworths Town  
July 7<sup>th</sup> 1819

My dearest Aunt, I cannot be happy without writing a few lines to you though I have nothing new, remarkable or entertaining to tell you.

Lovell is still in Dublin waiting till certain leech bites which festered get well enough to permit him to bathe - It is said that ^the race of homebred leeches was [extinct?]^ & the last importation of leeches to this country from France was of a poisonous kind and all who have applied them have suffered sorely. - One lady applied one to her gum for a slight tooth ache & her head swelled I can't tell you how large for I did not see it - but this I know that Lovell has a circle of bites round his stomach which have festered & have not got well for many weeks.

- Crampton & Cheyne agree in their opinion that there is no danger of dropsy of which L and we had been afraid from the swelling of the stomach. \_  
All that I can learn further of their

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opinion is that the digestive organs are disordered - this we knew before - they have ordered him to bathe & talk of travelling - but this must be I think in Ireland during his sheriffalty.

They say he has over exerted himself mind & body - I know of few lives so valuable as his - both from his real merit & from the circumstances in which this large family would be placed if

he were gone – It would be ruin in  
ever way – Heaven forbid!

Lucy is constantly horizontal – tell  
Sophy she need not be anxious on  
that point – All here are as well convinced  
of the necessity of this as she can be.  
- Lucy is going on as well as we are assured  
as can be expected. She is wonderfully  
patient & cheerful.

We have endeavoured to amuse Miss  
Waller & Anne & Harriet by what do you  
think? By going each Sunday to a  
new church – Longford – heard an ex-  
cellent sermon, the first a M<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Lelland  
ever preached - in a terrible brogue – but  
full of sense & spirit – with some odd  
faults from want of knowledge or proprie-  
ty for instance quoting the quarterly

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review for some facts about the want of  
education for the poor in London - &  
~~quoting~~ citing Hogarth's idle apprentice  
- & “a Roman poet tells us” &c – But  
it was altogether so new & striking &  
contained such a fine address to the  
soldiers present on the virtues of peace  
- after the triumphs of war, as touched  
every heart &. The soldiers all with one  
accord looked up to the preacher at  
the best passages –

Last Sunday we went to Barons Town &  
heard M<sup>r</sup>. Burgh – a famous preacher  
- extempore – good figure & face - &  
fine stage attitudes – but much too  
dramatic for my taste & I was going  
to say methodistical – but he denounced  
vengeance against those who talked  
of Methodism & Calvinism & fanaticism  
“& all the [Terms] invented by the devil

There are many who do not know  
the difference between fine sounding

sentences & sense - & these will admire  
M<sup>r</sup> Burgh - he preached an hour by the ^watch wh.<sup>h</sup> did not stop^  
I am ashamed to say that during half the  
time I was impatient for him to conclude  
because I smelt Harriets riding habit  
was quite wet – she had ridden & a heavy  
shower had wet her quite though. We went  
to Lady Sunderlins after church & she was  
dried comfortably - & caught no cold –  
But either that day or some other day  
(observe – which day is a disputed  
and very tender point. \_)  
Bess Waller caught cold - & we had great fears

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that she was going to have one of her terrible  
Colds – but she lay in bed yesterday & is much  
better to day.

Lord Lansdowne who wrote me a kind note  
a few days ago says “Lord Byrons new  
“poem Mazeppa is out this day & to the  
“surprize I must not say the disappoint  
“ment of his readers contains nothing satiri  
“cal or licentious – but some pretty descript  
“tions tacked to a strange story”

[upside down]

Dr Holland asks me & I ask you – why the P.R. [i.e. Prince Regent] at the last levee  
was like a [sequin?/sequence?]

[address]

We have not yet the new tales of my landlord  
but they are on the road – D<sup>r</sup>. H says they  
are interesting but inferior in power of  
character to the preceding tales.  
Now for a bonne bouche – Dear Lord Carrington  
writes me word that he has just given the hand  
of his eldest daughter (who appeared to me to  
be old beyond hope) to a very amiable man  
a nephew of Lord Crewes who met her in Italy  
- went back to England to ask his uncle’s leave

[side] to propose for her returned to Italy

to Rome – found that she had  
departed – she [not?] guessing his  
intentions – foll[ow]ed her back  
to England - & [Lord] C is now  
going with the [new married  
couple to Caen in Normandy

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where they  
are to spend  
some months  
- I forget why  
I hope you  
re.<sup>d</sup> a letter  
from me  
in wh.<sup>h</sup> I  
thanked  
you for  
my dear Fosters  
education  
- I wrote  
a note to  
Lady [?]  
in yester  
day to thank  
her for the  
dog of  
whom I  
am very fond –

I need not  
say that  
I am hard  
at work  
every day  
I am very  
sorry my  
dear uncle  
does not  
go to  
[Bally] [Ed.]  
[?]  
for Richards  
sake & for  
his & yours  
love to Sophy

I am Dearest Aunt ever affec  
ME