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Helgate Farm. 27-10-64 -

My dear James

I was sorry not
to write to thee by the last mail,
having sent thee such a poor ac-
count the previous one, but for
a long period it will be very diffi-
cult to me to write, & there seemed
much to make up in this very
letter, I am thankful to say I
am now much better, & able to
pretty much do as I see worth,
except that my walking journey
are but small, so that to get to
West Bank & back is about the
extent of my journey now in
this way, however this is very
different to being able to take
freely to get once round the
garden, which was the case
for some time. I do not know

that, I was ever so kind, but the
only disturbance to me about this,
is people remarking it, so; but
during my illness, the kind feelings
of my friends towards me, were
quite touching, & the warm
greeting on my going to meeting
after more than three months
absence, felt quite humiliating
tho' I trust, I fully appreciated
their love - I wish I could
report more improvement in my
dear Sister, who is still here, &
will probably stay over next
month, & then if able go to the
seaside - I hope she has gained
a little strength of late, but she
continued gathering in the cavity
above the nose, is very troublesome
& keeps her strength down, she en-
joys getting into the garden which
looks just now very beautiful, we
have had so far a very fine season,

with the exception of one late severe
frost, which in many places, seems
to have affected the fruit, which
were just setting, it seems to have
dropped off, but the flowers are
beautiful, roses particularly.

Thos will be interested in hearing
that my nephew Thomas has a
little son, six days old, it is to be
named after him, he seems much
set up with his babe, he was here
for a short time on seventh day,
coming to meet his wife's mother,
I expect Sarah Jane will be at
Middlesbrough tomorrow she has been
for a few days at Darlington, to
see after their concerns there, get
their garden into order &c, she
intends coming back on to the day,
next week being our Quarterly
Meeting, she will be very useful.
I shall be very glad to have her
assistance - My dear Brother
has again been for some weeks,

but, we have much surprised
accounts of him, James M. the
name been in Wales for nearly
two weeks; & both seem much
better for the turn out, I do not
know when my Brother will
return, probably before 2nd.

24th I have not acknowledged
my last letter, & my piece of poetry
which I have been much inter-
ested in reading, I think it does
them credit, not only as regards
the poetry, but in the know-
ledge of the different subjects;
it, much more than I could
think, to have to read it before
such an audience, I am glad
that such become possessors
of such valuable works
as compensation for their la-
bour - I showed the piece
to John Ford, but have not

seen him to speak to him
since - The school, has just
broken up; I was obliged to
forego the pleasure of the ex-
aminations this year, as I
felt I must try to spare my
strength as much as I could.
The boys had a grand excursion
just before they left, going
to Isaac Hartness, in Rowdale
where there is great business
going on, and getting the iron ore,
I Hartness only had thus been
for some years at school, & is
just leaving, so this was an
honour of him, a special train
was provided, & every facility
for their enjoyment, breakfast
upon their arrival, & a capital
dinner to which 104 of our
several others being invited,

Sarah Jane among the number,
who greatly enjoyed the turn-
out, tho' they had a long railway
ride. Louisa & Williams and
Mary Anna were among the
number. — Mary Anna and
Fanny are in lodgings at South
the latter seeming better for the
freshness & quiet of the country -
they all wish their love to thee.

We are hoping very soon to see
our friend Henry Popsley at home
again, they are expected to arrive
in this country about the end
of next week, he had received the
intelligence of the death of his
mother when at Lucy, tho' he
did not expect to see her again
when he left, it seems to me
a blank upon his arrival.

John Spence his wife & daughter

are well, the latter a tall young
woman, only hoping her mother
What a change thou would see
if thou could look in upon our
meeting! Some gone, many others
come, & all looking so much
older; & I suppose if we could
see thee, we should see also a
much change — Truly this is
a changing world, are we mak-
ing progress towards that land
where there is no change? or a
question we ought to often ask
ourselves, & thus he invited to press
forward in the Christian course
looking unto Jesus, let us know
him to be the Father, we may
hope to find him the friend
of our faith also. —

My niece Mary J. was here
this morning, she & her children
are well, they are three nice

children, little Jimmy is very
fond of coming here, & if we only
show him a book with pictures
in it, he is quite content. —

My niece Jane King & her little
girl are at Scarbro', her husband
was here about ten days ago, &
had left her nicely. —

Thomas Allis has been at Lak-
worth like cutting Gen. Pakenham
out to visit some of the smaller
meetings in our borders. Dr. Wallis
took much notice of the give sheets
sent here when I wrote. —

I must now conclude with
very dear love in which my
Father unites believe me my
truly attached friend
Amy ^{the} Buckhouse

We should like our love to be
given to my Mother. —