

1797

8: Undated: Margaret Dunbar (London) to William Dunbar "My Dearest Brother" (New Orleans)

Margaret Dunbar

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My Dearest Brother

London 1797

I had the pleasure of receiving your long look'd for letter
No 97. which gave me unexpressable pleasure & satisfaction.

My Dear Brother for being so very indulgent as excuse my involving
debt, your being so very friendly as say that you'll send money to pay
debts & bid me out gently to come to you, words cant paint out the gratefull sensation
I feel on the occasion, I long ardently to be with you, I think I would be the happiest
man alive if I were allong side of you & Mrs Dunbar & your Dear Children
I shall write emediately to Sir Arch. concerning the two hundred Pounds & shall
write you on receiving his answer, I shall likewise write to George Hays Father as I
dont know what part of the country George resides in. the last time I heard of him he
was at Ireland in the Army, Mr Innes was so good as take the trouble to inquire
of Mr Morgans if a letter came from Scotland for you directed to his care, he
said they came none to him for you, when I hear from Mr Hays I shall let you know
since the year 95. my situation has been very distressing, I mention'd to you in a former
letter that before I left Edinburgh I had inadvertantly taken a small house for
another year rented at 5 Pounds, People are generally taken the advantage of in
your absence, he made Mr Stuart pay him 10 Pounds & 5 Pounds Mr Stuart
told me he had in his hands which he would settle with me about but he never
I suppose he intends to keep it to him self for his trouble in remitting
half year, that is 15 Pounds I have been det. & I have
advanced

... is kept to him self for his trouble in remitting
... about but he never
half year, that is 15th Pounds I have been depriv'd of - While Sunday
... advanced me 10 Pounds at last Martinmas he reimburs'd himself
... none, I never had it in my power to pay Mr Innes more than 10
... while Sunday 97, some time before I had the happiness of receiving ye
... to Mr Swift a card asking the favour of him to advance a little money whi
... tended buying some sort of goods with to endeavour to make some profit on
... ^{from being} such a burding on Mr Innes family as I have hitherto been but in that
... chme I was frustrated as Mr Swift declin'd assisting me, I cant innumera
... many obligations I lay under to Mr & Mrs Innes your Letter gave us
... great joy - upon receipt of your Letter Mr Innes (who is allways very
... ready to oblige me when he thinks it can add either to my interest or well fa
... ok the trouble to call on Mr Swift with your inclos'd Letter, he declin'd adv
... any money, he said he was in advance to you about 65th Pounds & like

caution for fear of death, before your letter arriv'd at ^{London} I
servitude as the best way for me but I found my self very
undertaking it as I never was brought up to it I have never
heard of our Brother Thomas since the year 95 I dont ^{know} if he
in the west Indies I shall enquire about him when I write to Scotland
I'm much oblig'd to you my Dear Brother for your tender care of me in regard to
a waiting maid, as she will be usefull in your family after our arrival I shall
endeavour to get her possess'd of all the qualifications you mention but I should
like to know before I engage one to know what length you would go as to wages
as I'm inform'd an expert servants pretty high in their demands at present in
Country - I dont recollect if I mention'd to you in any of my former letters
about the old gold watch of my Mothers it never went right in her life
time it cost her a good deal for repairs - after her Death I was foolish enough
to put my self to a good deal of expence about it, if you remember it had a
old face on it, I put a new face upon it to make it look more modern & of
all the expence it never went right I shew'd it to one of the capital watch
makers at Edinburgh he told me it was about two hundred years old
that the works were entirely wore out, ^{the} gold was wore as thin as paper,
when I found my self in straitned circumstances I was advis'd to sell it as
was of no use to me, I got 7 Pounds for it People that was shew'd
gave it as their opinion that it was very soild - I'll conceal
you my Dear Brother that I think of any consequence, when you
with hearing from you be so good as direct to Mr Alex^r Jones
Great Chermalage Street Wapping - Mr Jones remov'd from his former
residence at Christmas last - both Mr & Mrs Jones presents their complements
best wishes to you & Mrs Dunbar - I hope to have the felicity of hearing soon
from you nothing in this world will give me such pleasure, I beg to be remember'd
with sincere love & affection to Mrs Dunbar & your Dear sweet Children how
long wishfully to see - Adieu my Dearest Brother & with gratefull thanks for
your very kind & affectionate letter I remain with real regard your Sister

Marg^r. Dunbar

William Dunbar Esq
New Orleans.

America

...for fear of death
...the best way for m
...as far