

Lanville August 26th 1853

Dear Aunt, you are thinking by this time that I am dead or have forgotten you entirely, but such is not the fact and I think that you will forgive this seeming negligence if I promise better passions in future, it is something of a task to write but if I could see you I think that my tongue would run as fast as ever it did in this world. you say that your health is quite as good as usual and for that I am glad very glad but Mrs Lusk informs me that you have not much help, is that the way to gain health and strength if it is I think that you and I are in a fair way to have health to spare for help is so very hard to be got here that it is almost impossible to get even a washing done but we get along the best way we can and that is not very well for ~~very~~ the way did you know that we are getting sick fast if not I can tell you some news