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Coupsteps October 8th 1838

Dear son,

I send this to let you know that we are all well at present, thank God for it. I received your letter that you sent with Archibald Dempster and the book for which I thank you for it, I have waited for Archibald Dempster take ? by you again, but he is still here, it was good to hear that you was all well. John is in Dunfermline and has 1 son and 3 daughters, Agnes the same, Helen 1 son, William is at Blairhill in the garden and I am there too. We have had a very wet summer this year and last Winter we had a storm for near 3 months but at this time it is very good. George Wishart is dead about 10 months since and your aunt is not so well left as we supposed she would been. You say that you have not received a letter from me this long time, but I send one every year. I was looking for one from you, I hear little word at present. A great fight between Tories, Whigs and radicals and volunteers and church men. We have got a young Queen on the throne of Britain.

William Harvey is foreman on the Blairhill our neighbours is much about the same as when you left this place. Send me word if you have got a confession of faith and if Archibald Dempster come next spring I will send one and if you have any opportunity of sending me some **more of the ? I will** be much obliged to you. I think you might take a trip in the great western from New York and see old Scotland again. We would be all happy to see you. Prices butter 20 shillings the stone, cheese 6sh 6d the stone, eggs 8 pence the dozen, beef 8sh the stone. Meal 20 shillings the boll, potato 8 shillings the boll. See if you can find out Mr Robert McDonald, engineer to the care of Mr William McCaveky? No 47 Church Street or to Mr. Peter Smith Beaver Street and let him know that Peter Barr and his wife is well and he would be obliged to him if he would write to him and direct to Blairhill, parish of Muchart, Perthshire and he wisheth to know the name of your boat. Send us word as soon as you can, how you all are and remember your creator and redeemer in the days of your youth before old age attack you. Give my best compliments to your wife and children and I would be happy to see you all but the great distance hinders that at present, hopping to find you all well. I say no more at present, but remains your loving father
John Reid.

Dear brother,

Thou art far away in a foreign land although we do not see you yet, we can hear from you by letters. I have often thought I would come over to you, although not yet o I have been three years and a half in Blairhill garden and I am thinking about following after the trade. They have been great improvements coming on in Blairhill garden. This some time they're building a new hot house at this time. All the time that I have been there I have been under a bean ? gardener. Write to us as soon as you find this and let us know how you are all and let us know how things is getting on in a foreign land and let us know what kind of a trade the gardeners has beside you. I add no more at present but remains affectionate brother William Reid.

Letters From Scotland to James Reid 1833 - 1868

#7. From John Reid, father and William Reid, brother, October 8, 1838

Transcribed by Lorna Paterson, September 2014