Lorretto[[1]](#footnote-1)

 Mar,, 14 /55

My dear Grandpapa h

 There are about 50 bo~~ls~~ys here but t^ere are 8 that have got the mumps we have [half] a holiday on We~~a~~densday and Saturday.

 r

I had a letter f^om Papa before he went to Alva[[2]](#footnote-2) I am going to write to Papa tomorrow Kitty[[3]](#footnote-3) says that you have got snow again. A good number of the boys are fencing Mr Boland comes today

I am quite happy here. Tom was not very well so he went up to Edin~ on Sunday and he is not coming back till the beining[[4]](#footnote-4) of next week. I am in a great hurry for we have to go in to school in a ~~he~~ few minutes. We get up up about 8 oclock and read~~s~~ prayers we get breakfast at nine and diner at half past ~~I~~ 1 o clock we get very good dinners we had three rounds of beef and rice & damson jam, and we get plenty to eat, we get tea at half past ~~8~~

~~S~~5 oclock, I am in the lower middles, tell Miss Douglas that I saw Mr John the Sunday I was in Edin~

Tell Kitty I got her letter last night about 8 o,clock and she said you were [wearing] for a letter from me. How is Nora under [Jack’s] care I hope you? ~~it~~ you will write me soon how is Grandmama give her my kind love. With kind love to all and yourself.

 Believe me,

 Yours affte

 W A Keir

*Ref. letter1WK1855*

1. 1 Loretto is a boarding school in Musselburgh East Lothian he attended there 1854 to 1858. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Alva is a town in Clackmannanshire where family friends live, the Johnstones [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. His sister Catherine(Kitty) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. There are a lot of mistakes in this letter but is transcribed as it was written. William was only 13 years old. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)