My dear Grandpapa,

 It is not my turn to write to you, but you are so long of answering my letters I cannot help myself.

Uncle Jack and Aunt Kitty[[1]](#footnote-1) are here just now, Emmy Cathy and Francy say they don’t like Edin~ so well as [[2]](#footnote-2)Croftinloan, the carriages make so much noise. You would say this is a fine day for the country not raining, but drizzling kind of mist for it is fall just now.

There is a promenade in the Experimental Garden[[3]](#footnote-3) to-day, We thought of going yesterday, but this day not being fine I don’t know whether we are going or not. I am so glad we are coming home so soon now, this tiresome winter is nearly done at last.

I hope Fairy[[4]](#footnote-4) is all ready for me. Tell Grandmama my stamps are done too. We have not begun to bathe yet it has been so cold.

We were out at Lauriston[[5]](#footnote-5) on Tuesday at Mrs Oliphant’s maids marriage, it was in the [drawing room] and performed by Mr Nicholson he breakfasted here yesterday.

Keep my puppies from the rabbits holes if you can. With kind love to Grandmama –

 Believe me

 Ever your affte

 C M Keir

Thursday June - I don’t know what - 1851

*Ref.letter1CK*

1. Aunt Kitty is Catherine’s Maternal Grandfathers child, Sir Neil Menzies, her mother’s sister. She married Rear Admiral Jack Murray [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. They lived at Croftinloan Pitlochry. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The new botanical gardens [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Her Pony at Kindrogan [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Lauriston House Edinburgh was the home of Mr W.S.Oliphant. Mr Oliphant was the Writer to the Signet. The house had 7.5acres of grounds. In 1854 it was sold, 2 acres reserved for the Chalmers Hospital, the rest of the land and the house were let out as a boarding school. The house was later demolished to make way for a larger hospital. The hospital was built in 1860 to the plans of architect J.Dick Peddie. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)