

Thursday.

Care of Miss Boyd
Penkill Castle
Girvan, N.B.

My dear Mr Gilchrist

Thank you for your very kind
disappointment showing a regard for
me which I highly prize. As this regard
is the crowning grace of our intercourse,
I must not grumble at missing the beauty
and pleasures of Brookbank and its
surroundings whilst I retain what is
more than worth them. Please give my
love to your children with whom I am
sorry not to renew acquaintance yet
a while. — But the reason of our
disappointment is indeed a sad and
anxious one; and to offer you my

warm sympathy I have only to think of my own beloved Mother, and of the pain that her failing health would give me. Let me wish you the proportionate joy of witnessing and contributing to a renewal of strength and cheerfulness. And pray accept from my cousin as well as from myself grateful thanks for the welcome you so kindly offered us.

The home budget informs me that William is at home again, fresh from all the glories and beauties of most beautiful Naples. However, even Naples in imagination cannot efface the quiet fertile comeliness of Penkill in reality.

and when, beyond the immediate greenness, a gorgeous sunset glorifies the sea distance one scarcely need desire aught more exquisite in this world. My plans, dependent as they are on Mr. Scott, are not yet matured: but conjecturally we may expect to leave here in the course of next week, and I am not sure that I may not have the opportunity of paying a visit with her in Edinburgh before we return to London. This of course would be a prolongation of pleasure.

I hope you know that my laggard book is out at last — and now I am in the thick of reviewing. As yet I don't

know of any very severe handling
of me and mine. And my health at
present is so very tolerable that I
may be all the braver to undergo the
lash.

Pray believe me

Affectionately yours

Christina J. Rosetti.

