

Original letter written by George Mitchell to his fiancée, Jane Brown, in 1840, was written in a beautiful script. The copy attached to the Mitchell & Wilson Minute Book is difficult to decipher and transcribed with as much accuracy as possible. The spelling and punctuation appears as written.

Kingston, September, 1840

Dear Jane

I have thought Proper to write to you A few lines partly for my Amusement and partly for our information. Now perhaps you are aware that love won't always be conversent with the object that it delights in and so would I be conversant with you and as our appointed time is drawing neigh and I shall likely not have the pleasure of seeing you before that time, I will just mention a few things that I wish you to consent to before that we are joined to each other which if duly considered may prove beneficial both to our own good as christians and also promote the glory of God. A _____ it is with pleasure that I state them for I think that you will be ready to agree with them 1 As we should neither eat nor drink to our selves so in our marriage we should eye the glory of God by (studying) to live together as heirs of the grace of God - 2 we may expect troubles and trials while in the world let us seek to get good out of them 3 Let us expect some failings in each other that we will have to bear with and so resolve before hand to behave wisely towards each other never to be angry at once, to cover one anothers falts and to forgive one another – and to live in love by esteeming respecting and comforting one another 4 Let it be our joint request that the grace of God may be in our hearts his peace rule thair? And his blessing rest on our home. (home?) 5 Let us remember that it is only the Saviour of God that can make us happy with little or with much for should he be pleased by our provocating him to send one evel spirit between us and we should be miserable what ever sum we may enjoy of this world or goods. _____

6 Hear by we also engage that this spirit of God is to be kept up daily in our family even though the one of us should be from at least by prayer. _____

7 let us never seek heaven upon earth nor expect felicity hear for this is not our rest for it is poluted and so may we welcome our lot whether prosperous or afflicted which heaven send. rejoicing that their remain then at rest for the people of God.

8 Let us remember that the one of us may be taken away by death before the other and leave the survivor drowning in sorrow, but let us study so to walk before God that the survivor need not sorrow as one that have no hope

*9 If blessed with children let us remember that they are only but loans and may soon be recaled
And when one corrects the other is not to offend them let us bring them up for God and much
rather wish to see them gracious than great ---*

*10 In all things let us endeavor to adorn the doctrine of God our saviour and to leave [?] our
conversations in heaven from whence we look for the Saviour to come ---*

*If you agree to these few expressions as I think you will you will put your name beside mine and
keep this letter.*

[Editor's note: This last section of the letter was torn and pieced together. Therefore, parts may be misquoted]

*To put us in mind of our duty to each other and Now my dear Jane as the time is drawing nigh
which we to crown mutual happiness with each other I hope that you will not forget to ask
frequently the blessing of our God upon both yourself and me before we are united. I am look
forward to Friday first now as my intended wedding day and I am glad when I think that I am
about to be blessed with one that I love so dear and as you have long been the person that I
have respected above all others. I trust that we may spend many happy years together. I need
not ask you to write me for if you are still the same mind and agree with my wishes. I hope to
here your feelings expressed word of mouth. You need not expect me down before Friday. If I
should be late to come on that day you need not impute it is bad intention of mine, but you may
say he not help it I have never said to one that intend to get married nor yet that I am going to
Gananoque that day and I do not think that anyone ever suspects such a thing by my actions but
I am all ready only two things. I have not got the Licence yet nor I have not asked for leave to
get away but I think that I will manage them both in good time. And should I not get down that
day just say you are very glad that you missed me and I will say the same of you and so we will
be free from all promises tell we meet again. I am in good health at present and hope you are
the same.*

Remains,

George Mitchell