



Mosa [Twsp, Ontario, Canada]
6th of August, 1849.

Dear Brother,

I take the long wished for pleasure of writing to you to inform you that we are all in good health at present, thank God. Hope this will find you enjoying the same blessing. We received your long looked for letter of the 9th of April on the 29th of July. It gave us great consolation and pleasure to think that you, your brothers and families, are in a state of health, well situated and contented with your station in life.

Dougal has been unwell for two years but is now on the road to recovery. Your mother-in-law enjoys very good health. So do the rest of us. John McKellar (Sarah's husband) started off from home about the first of May. We got a letter from him. He is well and working on a canal in Indiana. He always talks of taking a trip to the Pacific. His wife and family are well. They have had a son and daughter since you left these parts. John, my brother, has taken McKellar's place on shares for three years. John McFarlane (married Mary Livingston) and family are well. They have two daughters.

I was married in April after you left here to Mary McFarlane of Ekfred—daughter of D. McFarlane. We have two boys: Neil, the oldest (two years last March) and Donald nine months old.

Bear Creek has flourished greatly since you left it, but all the people of that place would be glad to see you back in your old mill again. Branan has done no good whatever with it. Hardly any one goes there now. He speaks of getting a run of burr stones in this fall but it is a great chance if he does. It has, may I say, gone to rack entirely.

There have been a good many of your old customers gone to their long resting places since you left here; namely, John McTavish Sr., Donald Ferguson, Archibald McKellar of Ardare, Nancy McKellar of Gore and some others.

There is a minister stationed here these two years back of the Free Church by the name of Sutherland who has effected quite a change in this place since he came with regard to drink and etc. (In this neighborhood whiskey was nearly as common as water at all public places when the Gardners were there.)

Mr. Davenport of Port Sarnia, the man whom you empowered to collect the notes off McPherson, buyer of your mill in Enniskillen, went to law with McPherson the fall you left. Davenport gained the suit so McPherson cashed the money right down \$1050.00. There are several claims charged against

you but Davenport will not pay a cent without your order. So the money lays there waiting your call, so I understand.

Duncan McKellar intends writing to you I suppose to see if he gets an order to raise some of the money for charges he says he has against you in the stove business. They tried to raise it before but Davenport would not pay them anything without your consent. Duncan and company or the Great West Company as they were termed, went all to rack. Their store was taken from them, their securities lost, most of their farms and stock gone, Duncan and Sam Cirk were nearly a year in jail. Duncan McKellar made out to keep his farm some way or other. But he was obliged to take the plow in hand and work it for a living. Anderson in Wardsville failed likewise. He ran away to the states, his securities lost. He came back later to Wardsville and is there now keeping a grocery store.

I hope you will receipt this letter as soon as you get it. You have been very negligent in writing to us. Although you are far from us we think of you daily. I think it is a great chance if you ever see any of us in your great valley. We hope in the day of judgment which none can escape, Mormon, Presbyterian or any other denomination, we will receive our reward.

You will please state the distance you are from us, what sort of a road there is and which way to go. Gold is not so plentiful here as it is there but we make out. If 'money is the root of all evil' we should not wish so much for it. I will add no more for the present but my wife's mother, her brother and sisters join me in sending our compliments to you, your wife and family, to William's wife and family and to your father and mother if they are still living.

Duncan Livingston

Note: source of the above letter written by Duncan Livingston, of Mosa Township, Ontario, Canada, to Archibald Gardner, his brother-in-law living in Utah, U.S., is the book *Life of Archibald Gardner, Utah Pioneer of 1847*, written by Delila Gardner Hughes, copyright October 1939, published by The Archibald Gardner Family Genealogical Association and by Alpine Publishing Co, West Jordan, Utah. A copy of the book is available at the Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah and is available on line from the FamilySearch.org web site at https://dcms.lds.org/view/action/ieViewer.do?dps_pid=IE951356&dps_dvs=1354400498791~448&dps_pid=IE951356&change_lng=en