

account, the event will distress though not surprise him, his opinion has been long decided.

[25th Letter]

YORK, JANUARY 20TH, 1817.

[Comforts the father (Mr. G. Murray) on the loss by consumption of his son John, who had been sent to England the previous year for his health to his father's mother and sisters in Norfolk. The young man appears to have started for the south of France to spend the winter but was detained on the coast, where he died. A very pious, wise and affectionate letter.]

[26th Letter]

YORK, FEBRUARY 24TH, 1816.

This is the sitting of the Legislature and there is every probability of its being a long session. An allowance was made for the Speaker of the Upper House, and this obliges us to give dinners twice a week, the party always consists of 16, so you may imagine we have a continual tax upon our time. The severity of the season adds to the trouble, the 14th was one of our days and the thermometer was $\frac{0}{12}$ (below zero) the combined art of the family could not make the house warm, and the provisions were almost frozen by the fireside. An accident has added five children to our family, Dr. Strachan's house caught fire on Saturday and though it was not wholly destroyed rendered uninhabitable. Mrs. Strachan is on a visit to her mother at Cornwall and we have taken the children in till their own dwelling is repaired * * * good children, the youngest about 18 months old, the good Doctor has been unfortunate, this is the second dwelling house besides his school house which has been burned.

[27th Letter]

YORK, MARCH, 24th, 1817.

[Private matters] * * * Am quite well and have only to complain of the difficulty of giving dinners twice a week and the little chance of my being relieved by the prorogation of the Legislature. The members like the good things of the metropolis too well to leave them.

[28th Letter]

YORK, APRIL 13th, 1817.

My Dearest brother

A person of the name of Jones who is a saddler in the town goes to N. Y. and affords me an opportunity of send-