

COPY OF INCLOSURE

To Mrs. Arthur D. Fordyce

Fergus, Canada West, 21st November, 1846

My Dear Cousin,—

I take the liberty of enclosing a Sketch hurriedly taken from our office window in Fergus of the Free Church and Manse erected here during the last Summer in order to bring to your recollection that I last year appealed to your generosity in behalf of those who have now, by their own contributions, put up those buildings; and while I do so it is only in order to renew my request that out of your liberality you would still do something for them. You I daresay think [that] as WE, who are the only tie to Fergus you have, do not belong to that Church, you have no greater reason to bestow your generosity on this more than on many another destitute quarter; but altho' WE do not belong to the Free Church, we feel interested in its welfare; not indeed as an opposition Church, but as a true portion of the Universal Church of which I trust we are living members, and although I cannot deny that I feel warmer interest in the one I am myself attached to, it is one which, understanding your sentiments, I could not ask you to do anything for, however much I might wish it; and so I would desire to do what I can, through you, in relieving of difficulties [of] well-meaning Fellow Christians whom you believe to be contending for an important point, and consequently sympathize with. They have got good substantial stone edifices erected at considerable cost; but from what I can learn have very great difficulty in making up the amount they have cost; and in a merely benevolent point of view, I cannot but earnestly wish to see them in a flourishing condition, and now especially that there should be no hindrance to their being able EFFECTIVELY to go forth as an active and energetic, and by God's blessing, useful portion of the Church. You have perhaps not understood why, as a Member of the OLD Church, I should apply to you on behalf of the NEW one; but I trust you will now see that I can do it with perfect sincerity, and not on account of DENOMINATIONAL bias, withhold the boon which I am sure would be a real benefit to those of another communion. With kindest remembrances, based on old indelible associations connected with your memory, I am, Believe me, My Dear Cousin, Yours very affectionately

(Signed) Alex'd Dingwall Fordyce, Jun.