TO GEO. DUNCAN, ESQ., M.P., FOR DUNDEE.

DUNDEE, 26th January 1852.

Honoured Sir,

In Dedicating to you the Eighth Edition of the Poems and Songs of my Son, Peter Livingston, and also his Lecture on the Genius and Works of Burns, as well as his Oration on the Rev. George Gilfillan, his genius and criticism, I mentioned to you, that one of my reasons for the publication was, in consequence of having to relinquish an extensive business in the book-trade, occasioned by severe personal affliction, during a period of more than ten years; and also to do justice to my own feelings, as well as to fulfil a wish of the Author; your honour having formerly become his first Subscriber for the original edition, the sale of which was considerable;—the Seven Editions extending to upwards of 6000 copies.

These are some of the reasons which have induced me to solicit your indulgence; and I shall never forget the kind and generous manner in which you not only permitted the Dedication, but feelingly expressed, that if your consent could be of any service in forwarding my design, it would afford you the utmost pleasure.