Mrs George Stephenson Forth Street Newcastle [upon] Tyne

Liverpool [June 1824]

My Dear Mother

I seized hold of my pen as soon as opportunity would permit me after the arrival of my dear father to let you know all is well and safe and we are as happy as can be expected considering that I have to part with him on Thursday morning- when I think of this early parting I almost regret that I had seen him, but still I reconcile myself by saying that all is meant right- I scarcely dare think of my father's engagements indeed if I was it would only render me unfit for the undertaking in which I have engaged myself - many will say that I am wrong but I will never say that; I know the experience which I shall gain is worth all the trouble indeed I have already improved myself materially in scientific enquiry- I have the satisfaction to say that I never in my whole life spent time to so much advantage as I have done since I left home last -I have received all my instructions from my employers and am now quite ready for sailing which will be on Thursday morning, and let me assure my dear mother it will always be my earnest desire to return home as soon as possible and by that time I think it will be almost time to get married- what do you think- see if you can pick one out for me while I am away- I hope you have received the parcel I sent from Liverpool directed to my father it contained some plans and also a letter to you and my father, also my old seal that I once mentioned to you about giving to Edward Storey - give my best and kindest regards to all friends at Callerton indeed every body that enquires after me and at Make him run [?]

Since we have been in Liverpool we have had every attention paid us by our friends, indeed I never recalled of being so kindly treated by strangers, they accompanied us to all the places of note, but I have not time to tell you all. My friend Charles is writing a full account to D Hardcastle who will let you know of it-

& Believe me Dear Mother
Yours Very Sincerely
Robert Stephenson