

[27]  
24<sup>th</sup> Jan - 7 1913

TELEGRAMS  
& STATION  
WYLLIEBRIDGE

BONSHAW TOWER,

ECCLEFECHAN,

N.B.

My dear Clauswomen,

Many thanks for  
your letter & postcard  
of 13<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> last, & which  
<sup>29<sup>th</sup></sup> arrived here on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>  
& deserved a quicker  
reply. But unfortunately  
I was from home for  
5 or 6 weeks about that  
time & so unfortunately  
it got mislaid. And in  
going through a lot  
of Clan letters this morning,  
I came across it. So I hope

You will forgive my

apparent neglect.

Properly the Border  
Clans were Horse soldiers,  
& wore hobble grey,  
Steel back & breast  
plate, & a steel helmet.  
Large Jack boots, &  
spurs, & a spear, <sup>or lance</sup> many  
inches longer than any  
one else's. Nobody but  
the Pipers would wear  
kilts & ours always wore  
the Johnston tartan. They  
were our bosom friends,  
& were the only clan we

[37]  
never quarreled with.  
Erving of Boushaw was the  
hereditary Commander of  
the Light Horse of Scotland  
at the fatal field of Flodden.  
The then Erving of Boushaw  
& his sons all died round  
the King. The Irvine Clan  
Society, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> of America,  
have bothered me often  
about starting a spurious  
tartan, but so far I have  
been against it, but I suppose  
in the end I will have to  
give into it. Amongst  
"The Cambridge County Geographies"  
they have recently published  
one of Dumfriesshire. I will  
get one in the course of  
a few days, & send it  
to your boys to look over.

There is much in it to interest  
 an Irving. I hope later on,  
 you may think of sending  
 one of your Sons to one  
 of the Scots Universities.  
 It would keep up the  
 connection with Scotland  
 & make them no worse  
 Citizens of the United  
 States. Personally as a boy  
 of 6 I wore the Stuart Tartan.  
 I have a miniature in my  
 dress, playing with a box of  
 Soldiers. Prophetic of my  
 after life. Shall be very glad to  
 see any of you here whenever you  
 come to this country. I sent a post  
 card of Boushaw. My son Bob is  
 1st Officer of R.M.S. Campania  
 (Amard 079). Now going between New York  
 & Liverpool. Glad to hear from  
 you any time.  
 Your very sincere Chief,  
Boushaw