

and I trust will continue to increase as you
Whenever there is an opportunity attend Church
on Sunday and let no idler draw you off. It is
not only your duty to God, but ~~an~~ an example
you ought to set the men under your charge -
I feel as if I had not said half I should to you and
yet James without a firm resolve on your part, earnest
prayer for strength all I can say will avail but little -
I have neglected to warn you against sudden friendships
and too easy confidences - Trust no one till you know
they can be trusted and talk to no one of family affairs
Your own heart is the best repository for all domestic trials

Dear James:

Your Uncle thinks if you
have no important engagement you
had better come here on Saturday and
stay till Monday when you can go
down with Fanny who will be here
also on a visit - We shall send her to
town by land - I have ^{late} just furnished
the last number published of Lockhart's
Sir Walter and find there such excellent
counsel ~~and~~ from that good man
just entering the Army that his son
I ~~should~~ refer you to that I think
trusting to my feeble ~~instead of~~
as an adviser. Still I think your ^{womanly} judgement
my letter have so weight & influence ~~but what make~~
The strong motive you have of shewing you
know how to appreciate your Uncle's
kindness ~~that~~ you will be sufficient to sustain
you against the temptation to do wrong -
The name of James Morrison I ~~hope~~ ^{trust} ~~immediately~~
trust will remain as it ever has been free

from that = You are ^{about} ~~going~~ to encounter the
great risk of an intimate association
with character you may one day despise
that at present have a fair face before
the world and too apt to deceive a young
heart like your own = At this time I
know you do not touch liquor = Let no
company or inducement alter that habit
Unless ordered by a Physician never take
a drop = Wine even you should take as
seldom as possible and that only ^{as a matter of politeness} when asked
~~as a matter of politeness~~
Circumstanced as you are, my reasons for
strict temperance must be clearly evident
~~to you~~ and let me urge upon you the
steady observance of it = With the moderate
means you will have ^{in your profession} ~~as an officer~~ & the sure
way, to make yourself feel independent and
care, is never to incur a debt and always keep
^{but pay as you go}
within the means no matter how small the
sum: ~~You incur \$300 spend only 299 =~~ Another
refuse and recollect in so doing you must never commit the error yourself
will you will have to encounter & conquer or ruin
will attend will be the social and to all appearance
can spring but never die

innocent game of cards = Let no one ever tempt
you to bet on anything and ^{sharp} avoid gambling as you
would a monster = Go where you will you can
always find books or to the society perhaps of
virtuous sensible women, if you cannot pass the
time rationally & agreeably with the gentlemen of
your mess = ^{in visiting female society, however} ~~But avoid the error of an ill~~ ^{party}
^{attachment} ~~marriage~~, a mistake so often made by young officers
Half the time care & want follow before they are
husbands five years = I know you are ^{yet or} ~~young~~ to talk of
of marriage, but the years run round and you will
be entangled perhaps without some warning from
your friends = Make it a rule never to repeat a
scandalous report. Of course you will never originate
one & conquer the feeling too strong already in
your heart of supposing people ever mean
to slight or show disrespect to you = By thus
doing you will be contented and at peace with
all around you = I feel as if I had not said that
I ought to ~~and get down without a firm resolve or goal~~
~~to be by your side in any letter I might write all about little~~
~~that to make~~ now go to the most important point
I will now speak of
your religious duty = Sincerely & daily
a firm reliance on his goodness and care will ever cheer
& sustain you thro' life = While you do this & each
day give a portion of time to a serious perusal of
his holy word, depend upon it God will not forsake
you = You have appeared to feel the necessity of this