



Sep 2019 - MIDAS Mystery – Mary Brown letter (3/179)

Another offering in our **Listening to Letters** project.

This time we hope you'll help solve a bit of a mystery that we found in one of the Sparrow letters we featured in September 2019 Descent.

There are two areas we need help with.

- We have made an initial transcription of Mary Brown's letter and would welcome your input on any part of it, but in particular the portions marked in **red text**.
- We hope you may have a bit of fun coming up with an explanation of the contents of Mary Brown's letter. We have the following questions we'd like resolved but you may have more.
 - What is she really asking John Morris to do for her, and why?
 - Who is she and what is the nature of their relationship?
 - What is she implying in that difficult portion marked in red in the transcription?

Please feel free to have some **fun** with this – we won't mind if your explanation is a bit outrageous – it seems to us that there is something somewhat nefarious in Mary's request.

We'd like your responses of no more than 500 words please, by 8 October 2019, sent to cpgailsa@gmail.com.

We'll report back in the next issue of Descent.

Here are the source documents you need

Our draft transcription as a pdf or as a Word Document is here

<http://midas.sag.org.au/attachments/TranscriptMaryBrownLetter1822.pdf>

or

<http://midas.sag.org.au/attachments/TranscriptMaryBrownLetter1822.docx>

The pdf of the scanned pages of the letter¹ is here

<http://midas.sag.org.au/attachments/MaryBrownLetter1822.pdf>

You may use this link to see the MIDAS Item Record for 03/000179

<http://midas.sag.org.au/fullRecordItem.jsp?recno=21790>

It's always best to logon to MIDAS first as you will see more detail as a SAG Member.

Please contact us at info@sag.org.au if you need help with your MIDAS username and password.

¹ The letter is on a single page folded so that the address portion is clearly visible and the other text written on all other available surfaces. We've cropped these to offer you a single in-line pdf document to read.