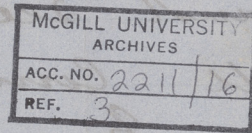


Letter  
J.W.D.

July 1856 Dear

Father

Mspl Col July 27  
1856



I have little to say,  
except that we are all well and  
the weather becoming milder. I  
have received the various pamphlets  
sent also your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> July  
I am much pleased to hear  
of your comfort, and to  
have a sketch of your dis-  
tress arrangements; but am  
sorry to learn of so much death  
among old acquaintances. I do  
not know what to say about  
your proposition about sailing to  
Porto in Spring en masse. In  
some respects it would be pleasant,  
but it is a great affair to travel  
with so many, and you know the  
difficulties and dangers with  
children in steamboats. I fear  
it would be unpracticable. I  
think it would be far easier <sup>for you to</sup> to



Come and see us. At all events  
I shall come in Spring if all well.  
I see my friend Mr Arthur  
has been criticizing my lecture. I  
enclose a few words of explanation  
to him, which you may give to  
Mr Donald if you think it worth  
while. If so please read the proof  
Please tell me when you  
write what returns you have  
received from the agents for my  
book, & if any are defaulters; also  
when the Gas Company reports  
in March say what are their  
dividends. I have no doubt the  
Union Bank will do well if  
well managed. Bank stock has  
hitherto been the best investment  
in N. Section; but much will depend  
on safe management.

I have intended for several  
years to write a long letter but time  
has always failed. I may perhaps manage  
it soon. In mean time I am  
Yours affectionately  
William