

N. S. Wales
The Manor Cooma
Novth 29/78

My Dear Sir

You will be surprised to receive a letter from a stranger in this remote region. I am not however a complete ~~stranger~~ but had the pleasure of meeting you once in New Zealand about 12 years ago. The reason of my troubling you at present I will explain. A fortnight ago I visited the town of Begun, about 100 miles from my home. Whilst there I was waited on by a Mr. Manning a native of Pictou County who mentioned that there was a family in the town in great destitution, and wished me to go with him to see them

and I would the mother to
make a sacrifice in order
to educate them. She wished
me to bring the matter before
some of her husband's friends
and I know that you only
require to be made acquainted
with the circumstances of
the case. There is a Dr.
Shields a very respectable
man in Beqa. If you wished
to make any inquiries or
to do anything for the bene-
fit of the family he would
I am sure be glad to for-
ward your designs

Trusting that I am not
trespassing on your kindness

I remain
Yours truly
J. W. Dawson L. J. S.
McGill College
Montreal J. W. Archibald

I went and found a widow
and two children in great
want. Her husband's name
was Thomas W. Dawson. He
came to Australia about 1854
and was for a considerable
time at the gold-diggings.
He was drowned in the Bege
river N. S. Wales in March
1870. Since that time Mrs
Dawson has been a widow.
After her husband's death
a few friends in Bege made
a subscription for the benefit
of the family, and she receiv-
ed a certain allowance per
week. That is long since ex-
hausted and she depends upon
her own labour for supporting
herself and family. The name
of the elder child is Jessie
A.E. 10, and Thomas the boy is
8 years old. They attend my
school

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