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Miss Mercer
11 Arnotton Place



Saturday, 21st

Dear Margaret,

I have just finished my day's work, having after leaving you been engaged all the afternoon in despatching some minor business matters. I find that I shall have to go to Glasgow on Wednesday, in order to get as much done there as possible before the next packet leaves. As I may thus possibly not have any other opportunity of seeing you, before the first of the month, except on Monday, it is of consequence that that opportunity should be employed in deciding, as seriously as possible on our future proceedings.

If you can, with a good conscience consent to be sworn, I would at once inform myself accurately respecting respecting any formalities that might require to be witnessed

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home about. If there be such,
I could not receive an answer
containing the necessary certificates
till the middle of April; and
in that case all the ships, direct
to Pictou, would have sailed;
and we should have to go by
way of ^{Liverpool to} Halifax, which though
if we went by steamer more speedy,
would be less convenient.

If no such reference to Nova
Scotia were necessary, then I think
it would be every way preferable
not to wait so long, and I
could when in Glasgow make
arrangements for ^{passage} conveyance di-
rect to Pictou. In this last case,
however, I shall be able to reserve,
after buying stock, only about
a hundred pounds of the funds
I have now, to pay all expenses;
and I am not quite well

that I will have any additional
remittance by the March packet.

In case of having to wait
over April, I would have time
to write for additional supplies,
which in that case would of
course be more necessary.

All this is of course contingent
on your decision; but however im-
portant to me, I do not wish you
to make such a resolve, without
your confidence that you are
acting right. I can sincerely
pray that God may guide you
to what is best; for what is good
to you must be good to me, and
nothing that would injure you
can benefit me. I wish those
who think differently from me, could
do so too. There would then I think
be less difference about it.

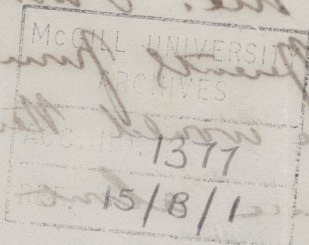
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You may call this a bread
and butter billet down, and
not much regard of that; but
you ought to know these things,
and they will be plainer and
take less time when written
than spoken.

If you have no objection,
I would prefer calling to
waiting for you on Monday,
as I expect to have a copy
of my map and perhaps
some other things to show you.

Yours sincerely

William



Lady Dawson to
Sir J. W. Dawson
before marriage