

Acton Sept 1,  
1843

Dear Margaret,

I send with this  
the books mentioned in  
my letter by packet,  
and an additional  
one; 'Hester's young woman's  
guide'. The latter I  
send, not because I  
think you require any-  
thing of the kind, but  
as a specimen of a  
class of books, even  
more abundant in

America than they  
are in Britain, and  
whose object, that of  
improving society by  
raising the character  
of women, is a good  
one, whether the mode  
which they adopt be the  
best or not. Alcott  
is one of the most popular  
of this kind of  
writers in the U States,  
and I believe most  
of his opinions on  
matters of health and



education are common  
though some ornaments  
for example may be  
extreme. Let me know  
what you think of it.

This will likely be  
delivered by Master Clarence  
Primrose, a boy sent  
by his father to be edu-  
cated in your good town,  
and who I believe is  
to be under the guardianship  
of St Gordon.

If I had time I would  
perhaps write more, but  
it would only be sentiment-  
al, philosophical or sheer  
nonsense, so it is no great  
loss. Yours very affectionately  
J. Dawson

September 1143

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Wm. M. A. J. Mercer  
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