



18 Bueloch place Edw.  
9<sup>th</sup> March 1852

My Dear Sister

I received lately a periodical entitled the "Journal of Education for Nova Scotia", conducted I see by your respected husband. It gives me great pleasure to learn by this publication that he holds such a distinguished & useful situation, & that he fills it with so much honour to himself, & advantage to society; & trust he will be long spared in health & strength, not only for your sake & his family, but also, that he may be able to carry into effect those important improvements & reforms connected with education, on which, with their proper training, the happiness & prosperity of the young & rising generation so much depend. It was with great concern we heard that Mr. Dawson had been seized with fever, but were afterwards glad to be informed of his recovery, & rejoice with you in the Lord's goodness in this respect. I trust that he, with yourself & <sup>the</sup> children, are all in good health.

I understand that at one time you had some intention of spending the winter here, but providence graciously ordered it otherwise. I hope however, if all spared, we shall have the pleasure of again seeing you in Edw. at no distant period. But alas, a short period may introduce us into great changes, & give a different complexion to all our views & expectations, so that what is a source of joyful hope today, may be turned into darkness & sorrow tomorrow. And the events which have recently



passed over us here, as well as over yourself, in the removal of  
so many of our dear Christian relatives & friends, & which thus  
connect us so closely with the grave, are calculated to impress  
more deeply upon our minds the solemn truth, that here we have  
no continuing dwelling place, & lead us with greater earnest-  
ness to seek that city which hath foundations, whose builder  
& maker is God. Here dwells the Lord our King, there his people  
behold his glory, & enjoy the light of his countenance, & are  
made most blessed for ever. But it is only my dear Sister  
by holding fast the faith unto the end that we can expect to be  
made partakers of Christ, partakers of that inheritance which  
is incorruptible, & undefiled, & that fadeth not away, that we can  
expect to see the King in his beauty, & mingle with that innumer-  
able multitude who are for ever employed in ascribing salvation  
to him who sitteth upon the throne, & unto the Lamb. But  
that grace which enabled those who have gone before, to  
obtain the Victory, to overcome this world & all its allurements,  
is also sufficient even for the feeblest of the sheep, & for all who  
are yet in the wilderness, & may yet have many rugged steps  
to travel before they reach their city of habitation. But it  
is perhaps from those green spots which occasionally come  
in the way, with a stream of worldly pleasure flowing  
gently through them, inviting us to sit still & rest, from  
which we are chiefly in danger of forgetting that this is not  
the place of our rest, & that we must watch & pray lest  
we sink into a drowsy & lethargic state, & be thus over-  
come by the things of time & sense, losing sight of that blessed  
hope, even the glorious appearing of the great God, our  
Saviour Jesus Christ, & of that crown of righteousness which  
he will bestow on all who continue faithful to the end.



Be faithful unto death, & I will give you a crown of life,  
are his gracious words of promise. And that we may be  
preserved from the many evils to which we are exposed, it is  
necessary that we add to prayer & watchfulness, an earnest  
& constant attention to his holy word. It was the possession  
of this inestimable treasure which constituted one of the  
chief & distinguishing privileges of God's ancient people;  
but how much greater are our privileges in comparison  
of theirs, for we in addition to all that they possessed, have  
the instructions of the Lord Jesus Christ himself, & of his in-  
spired apostles. In their heavenly instructions, warnings &  
exhortations we ought at all times to give heed, endeavouring  
to possess that state of mind expressed by the Psalmist when  
he says, I have taken thy testimonies as my heritage for  
ever, for they are the rejoicing of my heart.

I have nothing particular to communicate  
regarding the Church at present further than to say,  
that a young man connected with Galashells (Francis  
Barker) was baptized & added to the Church last week.  
Mr. Bill's family are all well. My Wife & Sister are both well &  
desire to be remembered to you with Christian love. With kind  
regards to Mr. Dawson

I remain

My dear Sister

Yours Affectionately

John Horsburgh

J. Mr. Dawson