

McGILL UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES

ACC. NO. 1421

REF. 6/4

Edinburgh July 5th/55

My dear Margaret

I feel quite at a loss
what to begin with for the
Nat. Hist. Ch. is uppermost here
it is the subject of daily regret
Mr. Dawson's not coming over in
time and discussion as to the
propriety of his yet doing so, I
need not say much as Mr. Bell
is writing him at length, it
would be very mortifying were
he to come and find the bus-
iness settled unfavorably, so
that you must consider the
matter and make up your
own minds as to whether it
would be prudent to run the

risk at this late stage on the
other hand if Mr D could turn
the journey to any good account
otherwise it might be well to
come and take his chance,
if your anxiety on the subject
had been as great in proportion
as ours you would have had
him presented at head quarters
long ago, Mr Bell's interest and
labours in the matter have been
beyond all praise few days have
elapsed since the commencement
that he has not had something
either to do or say, Oh that we
had had a telegraph, it is the
time that must necessarily
elapse that makes it diffi-
cult to advise, I have got
a nice bonnet for you but

I am afraid it will be late
in the season before you get
it, if I were disposed to joke
which I really am not (for I feel
quite vexed that we should have
any thing to reflect upon), I would
say it will not be lost even
though you be a Professors Lady
I have one made of the same
silk but trimmed with purple
and white, yours is all white
which I like better but I
had mine before you wrote
I have sent you a beautiful
honiton lace collar which I
hope you will not think too
expensive $12/6$ it should have been
more but it was one of a job
lot that Mr. Craven had got, I
tempted to take one to myself
at $7/6$ it is very pretty but nothing

like the work of yours I have
also sent the corded cloth,
the parcel was made up in
great haste as usual, I puzzled
myself to think what I had
about me that I could put in
for the children, at last I re-
membered two pairs of shoes
I had bought for the twins but
taken so much care of they had
become too small I therefore
sent one pair to W^m Bell the other
Fidelia will get two russian
cannon balls which were
lying on the drawing room
mantle piece for George & Anne
one yard narrow ribbon which
I had got for my own collar for
you so that you must not wonder
at the shabbiness of them for they
were all picked up at the moment
of packing