

McGILL UNIVERSITY
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11 Gilmore Place

July 20th 1855

My dear Margaret

I intended my last letter to you to have been a long one but was provoked to be interrupted. I had a great many little things in my head to tell you which I do not now remember, I am sorry to say our hopes are now at an end about Mr Dawson I hope and trust he is not away, I never myself thought he would come at this late stage, I could fancy him saying this is not the time to go since I have taken my chance so long I will do so to the end now.

our hopes had been excited
for a fortnight before we last
wrote, more than I can find
words to express, it seemed to us
from all we could hear that
had Mr Dawson been here and
been able to have made friends
in the council so as to have
had a representation ^{of his merits} sent
from thence or from some
of the professors that he would
have been the successful can-
didate, this annoyed us very
much and still does, the proper
way to have gone about it was
to have been here two months
ago at all hazards, I wonder
you did not think of it we
always did but not in such
a way as to venture to urge it

more than we did, there was
not a stone left unturned but
this which was the most im-
portant of all, I would have
been more satisfied to have
been defeated, if we had been
able to say; every ^{thing} was done that
could have been done;

I hope Mr Rawson will be more
successful in his next attempt,
my hopes were a good deal raised
and I am not ashamed to say
that I am very much disap-
pointed, perhaps we need it
to keep us humble, for I think
it would have been apt to
have raised us all a peg.

There is a great change upon
our household within these few
weeks our dear steady perse-
vering boy George has now

been five weeks at sea, Gordon
has gone into the Infirmary to
stay, I and I have been at Gales
for three weeks, they returned on
Tuesday night and have truly
enjoyed their jaunt suppose
the difference three people sit-
ting down to supper at night
instead of seven or ten as we
had often lately, you will
hear all about Mrs Crow from
her friends, she is at Macduff
just now, you think her clever
I dare say she may be but she
is at the same time very
selfish she is in a sad way about
George as she calls him, she can
think or speak about nothing
else but herself and George
very natural this, but one

