

Thurs. Dec. 28th 1866

Sorrows that Anna cannot
visit them

My dear Mrs. Dawson

Caroline
Broune

I was very glad to receive your letter, but you must never feel an obligation to write. I know how very much you are engaged, & am thankful for any scrap or message, although it is a great pleasure to get a long letter. We were as you well suppose very much disappointed to find that it has finally decided to postpone Anna's & Maria's visit. I had had misgivings & tried to prepare D. & S. for your letter - the weather has been so different from what it usually is at this season that I feared they would not come - travelling has been very disagreeable & cold in a carriage there was a little sleeping last week, this week none - as Anna

had an attack of Bronchitis
not very long ago - I knew that
you would hesitate - If the
sleighing had been good, there
would have been no wish with
warm clothing & good fuffolocks
The journey is made in an hour
or half - & Country girls think no-
thing of it at any time of the
year - Mr. Blossie had bought a new
sleigh & D. & S. anticipated great
pleasure in driving their young
friends about - but it seems to be
ruined otherwise - Many thanks
for your very kind invitation
to Dora, I should like very
much to send her, but do
not see how it can be managed
as I could not conveniently
send her in until the middle
of February - when Anna would

be at school & you would wish
her to attend to her lessons it
would be the same with Alice
Taylor & Sophia - Mr. Brown ^{unlike}
with me in best thanks for your
kind wish with respect to our-
selves - but we cannot ever
all leave home at the same
time. Many thanks too for all
your kindness to Arthur - we
miss him very much. I hope
your reading meetings are profitable
this winter. How often I wish
I could join them - & I am
glad the meeting for Communion
on Sundays is still carried on.
I did not know until I got
your letter how it was - as
Mr. Secumy & Mr. Thomson
are not there, I should think
(with whatever weakness) there

would be a nearer approach to
gathering similes in the name of
the Lord Jesus - & to humbly waiting
on the Spirit - which after all is
the place of blessing - however few
the numbers - you do not say whether
you heard Mr. Darby preach there
is always much to be gleaned
from him, I shall never forget
his exposition of 17th John & other
parts of S. What a day will it be when
we meet where all clouds will be
taken away & having such a glorious
hope how ashamed should we be
of our low estate - will you give
my kindest love to Anne & tell
her I was looking forward to seeing
her cheering face I am as much
disappointed as any of them
All send kindest remembrances to
D^r Dawson I hope George continues
to progress - love to them all I
mean your young people & to Mrs
Baynes & Miss & Mrs. Crutch
& believe me very affly yours C. Benson