

The Waterfoot, - Pettigo,
Co. Fermanagh, Ireland
29th July 1869.

My dear Mrs Dawson.

As I think of the Steamer leaving tomorrow which will probably in a few days pass up the St. Lawrence, Murray Bay presents itself to me with so many visitors there & who are being hoast-ed out for Christ's sake I must send you a line of greeting to the Saint here & to the faithful in High-land. I had looked forward to being among you all, but the Lord, to whom I must have committed my way, has directed my steps into a very different sphere, one certainly not so pleasing to self, but which I trust will be to His glory. I feel very like Elijah, without his faithfulness, but I have already learned a lesson which I am conscious I much needed, viz to value communion & fellowship with the Lord's people & I thank the Lord for it & give Him the glory that he has in

any measure influenced my selfish
Self to humble it - & while I know of how
much ground there is yet to be possessed
I may go on as David remembering that
my God who delivered me out of the
paw of the Lion, will also deliver me
from this 'uncircumcised Philistine' -
I had a cheering word from dear
Cap^t Brown (at Inchee) yesterday
telling of many & much that I am
interested in: The same Post also
brought me a letter from Miss Fleming
at Longford kindly asking Mr^r Barton
and myself to go there - I need hardly
say with what pleasure I look forward
to spending a few days there, but we
have so many places to go to, that I do not
think it probable Mr^r Barton will
accompany me there, but I have spread
her letter before the Lord & am waiting
the cloud which at present - very clearly
rests here. Though in due season I am
meeting much opposition, especially
from my own family, what strength they
have at present Irish Church & 'Gladstone'
on the brain, - yet in another season

I am surrounded with open doors
of service from the kind reception
which I get - & in every cottage for miles
round & the roads with which
people come long distances to hear
the Gospel preached: in fact this
burden of responsibility is almost
making me unmindful of the opposition.
I must tell you that this is quite a
country place with no town nearer
than 20 miles & most of the land is
owned by non-resident land-lords.
I have been led to visit from house to house
preaching 'Jesus & the Resurrection' & in
each & any house have been much cheered.
I find however, that even working for
4 or 5 hours daily I can accomplish
so little in this way that I have begun
to supplement it by meetings in the
evenings for preaching the Gospel.
I have no difficulty in getting houses
& schools for this purpose in different
localities and can generally gather 80
or 90 people & sometimes more.
But I do long to see the mists of darkness
which hang over this people dispelled.

I yearn for some "rays of the Sun
of righteousness" to break forth
with healing power, bringing light to
them that sit in darkness & in the
shadow of death & guiding their feet
into the way of peace." There is much
religion & very much Protestantism -
but very little of our blessed Lord
& his religion. "I could not but
speak the words that were on my
heart - when last Sunday I preached
on Rom. 1-3 to a number of people
whom I have known for 30 years.
It was rejoiced to find that a very gifted
Evangelist - (Alfred Trench) was preaching
weekly at a fashionable watering-
place about 10 miles from here &
I need hardly say I went there to
welcome & assist him & was individually
much profited. Very few came to
his meetings as in this country the
people are not so free as in Canada
or England & are much the slaves of
Public opinion, what others say &
especially the Ministers of the English
or how the Irish Church, is law. 4.

* and only very independent-characters
will act on their own judgement.
This dear Brother drives 22 miles to the
meeting & home directly after. he preaches
every night - within a circuit of 15
miles on an average. I was constrained
to praise God all the time he was preaching.
I was so thankful to know there was such
a testimony. I have also been made
glad by knowing that Capt Surgeon
Bate is witnessing very faithfully for
the Saviour in Dunstable - 20 miles in
another direction - amidst great
opposition. I went to see him also &
found three in the 17th Regiment - 4
Brethren in Kirk, who had just before
a table reading at which I was privileged
to be present. This D. is a town which
though the centre of Protestantism, has
for long rejected a faithful gospel
& endeavoured to silence all testimony
outside Establishment.
I am thankful to say Mrs. Barton & the
little ones are very well, we have been
enjoying lovely weather, but would
gladly find ourselves on a visit
among you all at Murray Bay.

I trust the Lord may abundantly bless
the gathering of so many of his Saints
there and that you may have cause to
realize that it was good for you to be
there, in that the Lord has been glorified
thereby. Mrs Barton writes with me in
it her love & affectionate remembrance to
Doctor Dawson & all your circle. Mr
Neddy & her family among whom we
hope the Doctor is remembered at Murray
Bay. - and I see with my friend's eyes &
sweet associations William W. Lincolnton
& his household with whom my spirit has
oft been refreshed in communion - give
them 1 Cor. XVI. 13. - Of Mrs Cailey from
Toronto is at Murray Bay remember us
kindly to her. - How is Mrs Thompson?
I long to hear of her & trust she is on
the Lord's side, our united love. -
Tell Miss Clapham I am anxiously
looking for a word from her. -
I do not remember who you have at
Murray Bay just now & must ask you
to say for us the grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ be with you. - Our love be with you
all in Christ Jesus. Amen. - 2 Cor. XIII. 11.
Yours in the Lord J. Barton.