

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 976119
REF. 2



Highfield

Dec^r 14th 1869

My dear Mrs Dawson

I was so very much
pained that my last letter
should have gone unstamp-
ed. It was put in the
pile accidentally, with
another, and though the
mistake was immediately
discovered, it was too late
to remedy it. Though I
have not since heard from
you, I wish to believe my
mistake on this point, and

also to express my hope that
we may see William and
Janet or some of the
young people next summer.
if all is well as the
British Association meets
in Liverpool next time.
It would give us both
much pleasure to have a
visit from you. I have not
heard anything of you
for a long time, but hope
you are all well. We
have been blessed with
excellent health this
year. My American tour
has been of the greatest
benefit, and Mrs. Brew too

has been better than for
years. I have been at home
all summer, except a
week at the Lakes, and
a few days at Scarborough.
Mr. C. has gone to Mr. Scott's
but I did not accompany
him. He had a long visit
in summer from Justice
Carrivick and that
Traveller. The latter after her
father's death fell into
such a low state of health
that her friends feared she
died, and unwillingly
consented that she should
visit this country, as they
feared she was unwell for

the boy age, but after a few
weeks here, she improves
beyond belief. She & Miss C.
are now with Maggie in
Scotland, and they all seem
to enjoy each other's society
very much. The one now at
an period of short, dark
days, the worst in our year.
The time of the last few weeks
of the year seems to fly with
an greater rapidity than
at more genial seasons, why,
I never can tell, but it is
very pleasant to have it so,
and after the new year
comes, there is a feeling of hope,
or constant looking for spring
that makes one brighten
with more than encreased



We have had scarce any
post yet, and my children
are but desirous of flowers.
Anything tells of Christmas
now, and I never can quite
escape the illusion, that
the bottle, the holly &c. &c.
are a sort of ornamented
pictures, I suppose from
being so long accustomed
to see only representations,
instead of the reality.
Our children are as usual
looking forward to their
holidays with great hopes
of pleasure, which would
be more likely to be deceived

if he had a little snow
and ice. It seems so absurd
to see rows of skates in the
ship windows, and see
more ice than if they were
in the tropics. Do you ever
feel in writing that there
are such numbers of topics
on which you would like
to enter, but that there would
not be room fully to discuss
them one of them, and to
leave them all! My love
joins me in kindest wishes
for your happiness and
that of your family in the
coming year, and believe me
am your affectionate cousin
Lame Crow