

Mr. Ruelley

Acc. 13 77

Gracetield
Helensburgh

Sept^r 16th
1873

My Dear Mr. Dawson

For a long long
time I have thought of writ-
ing you & especially have I
wished to do so since having
you all brought so vividly
to remembrance through my
husband's visit. lately to McGill
College. How can he forget
the pleasant hours he spent
with you in your home - en-
joying every moment of his
visit there - I is very grate-
ful for your exceeding

Kind ones to him. I had
many questions to ask about
you all when he returned &
it seemed almost like seeing
you again.

He like our Scottish home
very much - & perhaps the
greatest draw back we feel
in our circumstances here, is the
long separation every summer.
Coming here was my first
change of home & for some
time I longed for familiar
faces & old friends very deeply.
But here we have a pleasant
circle of plain, kind hearted
people who really treat us
like old friends; & which they
cannot take the place of

of earlier ones. They certainly
do much toward filling up the
Clark we felt so long.

He bore a sweetly putty horse-
white & surrounded by fine
trees with a croquet lawn be-
fore! It is considered one of
the finest situations in town,
commanding a fine view of the
Clyde & we can see all the
Steamer pass up & down to
the sea. It reminds me of Pic-
ton Harbor here - but it is
six miles across to Greenock -
Helenburg is on the south
side of it. Hill - on a slope
with mountains all around -

I dare say Anson would
tell you a good deal about -

our surroundings so I need not describe any more.

We are well supplied with good schools & our three eldest children attend a capital one quite new as the Misses West. Edie & Agnes ladies are the teachers. Two little boys are still at home. Minnie & Baby "Norman Scott" is twenty months old, the very picture of health & fun. out of one mischief into another all day long. giving the Mary a laugh & Mary a fright. as his head touches the pillow every night.

Sister Maggie, W. Scott & Minnie said good bye to us a day or two ago. No more West. Day for home. They had lodgings but heard at this time of fear

Winchester
Helensburgh

for some weeks in Glasgow.
but did not trouble their
Lord Lady much. for friends in
all directions gave them little
rest. Most of their spare time
was spent with us but we
did not get half enough of them.
We will not see them before
February again. Mr. Scott has
taken another fine farm ten
miles from Scatterty - & a large
hard some house is being built
on it for them, they expect
to get into it about Christ-
mas time. They selected a
great many fittings for it.

When South. Maggie is na-
her stout & very rosy, the
picture of health yet never
very strong, as full of spirit as
ever. I a great favourite with
all. I told her I was going
to write for I she desired her
ford love to you both. she
was so pleased to hear all about
you. Minnie seems like
her daughter quite, resembles
Barbara in disposition her Pa-
ther's family in feature we think
she is quite a comfort to Aunt
Maggie. As I have not at pre-
sent a photograph of myself
I will enclose one of her - which
will be best best. You will
scarcely recognize it. I'm sure
the little girl you knew.

She is a blooming lass & very
healthy indeed.

Many thanks for the excellent
meal you were kind enough to send
me. I was so pleased to have them
and appreciate them very highly
indeed. I wish a good one of Co.
six millions & how Jones is in its
place beside it - Co's not far
off. I was so sorry that Hermann
could not see George & Ann's son -
but they were from home.

Many, many thanks again for
all your attention to try and see
from our hearts we express it.

Our dear Mother so far
could scarcely reconcile with the
action horse keeper of former days.
She charge I feeling ^{had} commenced
before she crossed with us. But
now she has lost nearly every

vestige of memory I is as helpless as
a child. Mr Taylor her name & con-
sation is a treasure to us all. a
Christian woman with a heart full
of tender love - Mother is happy as
a child most of the time. They
have a quiet little home quite near
as I by the sea. Our little Edith is
a great comfort to her & spends a
good deal of time at Grand Ma's.
Sarah is at present busy getting her
knaggin ready for school - she brings
her to Edinburg the first week
in October, but before going there
has promised me a visit. Her son
as at school is Jack. I see her
two or three little visits lately from
Miss Knaggin Carmichael. She has
been living at Inverness with Miss Innes.
but they came to Dunross for the summer
near North, quite near here.

With fond love to each one - in which
I remain your
affectionate lover
James R. Taylor