

Walter

Edinburgh 8th Dec 1877

Mrs Dawson

Dear Sister

Looking over my correspondence list for the year, Montreal there is a blank line, I know you have been much & anxiously engaged, and not reflecting upon your side in the least, I thought I must write a few lines ere the year runs out

I am thankful to say we are all well and living (I suppose somewhat the reverse of yours just now) a very quiet life, and it would be still quieter but for our eldest from ever being with us for convenience attending the College, where he has entered this Session for Medical, that is his friends decision, of course his Uncle

Dr Ballantyne, who has a successful
practice in Dalkeith had a great say in it,
I would have preferred Mercantile,
but John is intelligent & clever, and may
succeed very well, He is with Prof Kelland,
Mathematics & Prof Tait, Moral Philosophy,
this winter, & will offer himself in March
for examⁿ. for more Clapes, he passed
^{examination} for these two first Clapes with Distinction,

My other two Grandchildren are
still with their Father & Grandfather & Grandmother
at Blunket place they are at school together
and are in good health & spirits

I suppose Mr. Bell will keep you
acquainted with all family news
the latest thing is Dr Bell, intended
removal to a practice near Derby
& where his wife will be nearer her
relatives in Manchester & Hookdale

Mrs Primerose has been here a while this summer, she keeps well and active and goes from place to place, I said to her I would not wonder to hear of your arriving at Montreal some day!!

our old friend Mrs Storsburgh is very weak and confined to bed, but her health is good sleep & appetite are still continued when, for she must be a long age by this time

Mr Anderson the senior pastor at Bristo Church is in weak health his head troubles him he says it gets confused, and he cannot officiate much, his wife also is still as she has long been a confirmed invalid - the Church thrives exceedingly frequent Baptisms 4 5 & 6 at a time our numbers are between 5 & 600

I would be very comfortable there every way but for the entire ignoring of prophetic things Mr Grant is a great evangelist thinks all

The great things predicted are to come
about by preaching, & the agency at
present in operation, viz the second
coming of the Lord is rarely alluded to,
or any event that might seem to hasten his
appearing & Kingdom, as surely the drying
up of the Euphrates in this Turkish war does,
preparing the way for the return of those long
scattered Kings of the East to Palestine, for
Rufica will likely get all Armenia and
open the way for them, Constantinople must
go for the Greeks or some such nation,
but a wise hand will order all that in its time,
and now perhaps you may scarcely have
time to read this, much less to reply to it -
but if you can, please tell me all about your
family, each one by name & the th himself, he is
I am glad to think greatly esteemed, we had
a visitor here from the Grand Signe Mission, He
seemed almost to worship God & awe
but I must have done - My Mother desires her
kind love regard to you and remains affly
Pleas remember me to Mrs. Dawson) Walter Mercer