

Acc. 976

121 St. George St

Nov. 18th 86?

My dear Lady Dawson

Your very kind letter, with its warm, loving invitation must not remain unanswered. Papa could not possibly leave home at Xmas & with us it is such a sad time, we are best to be quite alone, any attempt to make a joy of it, only makes it sadder; but the Holy Day does bring its own gladness & I am so glad it comes on Sunday this year -
However, I do long to see you & if

you will have me for a fortnight
after the New Year, I should like
very much to come - unless my
heart fails me at leaving Papa when
the time comes - Nelly asks me to
thank you so much for so kindly
including her in your invitation &
for that I also feel so grateful;
but I think she had better stay
& take care of Papa & the house -
Your picture of a very quiet life
is just the thing which tempts
me, I have no heart for society &
I feel as if there were so many
things I should love to talk over
with you - I think I am learning that
it is best to manage one's own life with-
out consulting anyone, or at least there
are very few who quite understand
what one wants, people are beginning
to worry me about going out into
society again. & the only effect of it

is to bring my great & irreparable
loss, home to me with fresh pain -
Every one must live through sorrow in
their own way; however you will think
I am moping or repining & really I am
not doing either; but life is not what
it was two years ago & never can be,
only the real joys which last as ever
so much more & are worth living for.
Mrs Hunt called last week, bringing
an introduction from Miss Remond, which
was quite unnecessary - With Miss R.
I hoped we should get to know each other
very well & mutually help each other.
Mrs Hunt drove up at lunch time,
saying she was leaving that evening,
absolutely declined to come in & have
lunch with us, so I got Papa to go off
& take her - Then the good lady
kept imploring me to tell her when
our hour for lunch was & not to let
her detain us, so that it was quite
impossible to be kind to her, as I

should like to have been to Anna's
friend - However she seems to be grateful
for very little - & I believe went away thinking
I had been kind - -

We are having such a lovely autumn,
winter still seems some way off, though
doubtless he will soon come -

I shall be delighted to hear all
about "your boys" & anything else
you have in your heart, that you
are willing to share with me, if
this very pleasant idea of coming
to see you all, is really brought
to pass - Even should it not we
all thank you so much for
the loving way in which you
have asked us to come -

Give my dear love to Anna
Eva, & Florence & with much
to yourself. Believe me

Yours very affectionately
Sylvie Wilson