

2 Park Avenue

7th - Jan'y 1893

My dear Lady Dawson

Thank you so

very much for your interesting letter enclosing Miss Wilson's. which also I must answer soon. She has the pen of a most graceful writer! I quite agree with you that she needs loving care & quiet - yet the Lord who knows all is watching over her. He will interpose before she goes too far. Besides Mr^r Ed. Blake must be in London. one of her great friends, & surely she will take a warm interest in her. I have written several times on the subject to the Hobbes. but they are such busy people themselves - I fear the subject is forgotten. As to all you write about organisations - as it is not a practical subject with me I leave it alone. Miss Wilson will be happier working in Toronto. than any where else. she has all her plans arranged as regards her house - how many she can receive into it. I saw her cousin in Toronto who is spending the winter

with Mr. Gibson & the two sisters of this Cousin
live with Mr. Cliphant at Windsor. Katherin
Campbell - I had a delightful trip. We staid
five days at Kingston on our way up - paid
two good visits to Mr. Wood. Had such a satis-
factory talk. Kat. had heard of him all her
life & thought she would be disappointed - but
far from it. He made a great impression on
her. He has such a bright face, & heavenly ex-
pression. Showing a heart at perfect rest
& satisfied, & would win any one to a holy life.
He lives alone, with one old rheumatic servant
& he is never lonely & cannot understand
any Christian feeling lonely. He is the only
one I know on earth, of whom it can be said
"Self is dead". Christ is literally & absolutely his
life. He poured out treasures he had gathered
from the bible: said it was only like scratching
on the surface. He has often been at death's
door: he wonders that he is still here. He was
69, the last time we saw him on our way back
from Toronto the 17th Dec. our third visit & the
most interesting of all as he told us more of his
personal history & of theirs of the family. Espe-
cially an Uncle who died at the age of 30. who
often used to spend a whole night in prayer.

once for a servant maid. & his prayers wth in God thought were due in
a large measure the great blessing that came when three sons - David
you could see him. All fear of death has gone forever - he has a per-
fect victory - I trust he may be spared for some time longer - for his
prayers must help on wonderfully God's workers in the mission field,
& many - many more besides. He explained some things so clearly so
thoroughly to that. I was so faithful in speaking to her. He is occupied with
God's great plans for the future. He seems to live on the mount with God
& yet he attends to the small details of house keeping - his small house
is as bright & pretty & perfectly neat - as any house can possibly be - you
can know how delicate he is - that even in the warm sitting room - if
he leaves off his little skull cap - he immediately takes cold - I soon felt a
sharp pain through his cap - We lunched & spent such a pleasant
afternoon with Mr. Straubinger & her three daughters. On our second visit
to Kingston. Professor Watson called. he took Dr. Murray's place in that college
I heard of him last summer in Glasgow. Mr. Ed. Caird told me he was
one of her husband's very best students if ever had a chance of hearing
him lecture - I trust certainly so - We just missed one on "Holbein & the
Reformation" - we asked him to come to Montreal give it, but he said
Dr. MacVicar would object! He is such a clear man. his face & his conver-
sation showed that. & so handsome too. He applied as Assistant Prof.
of Moral Philosophy at McGill 20 yrs ago - advised by Prof. Caird - but he seems
to prefer Kingston - as he is more independent. We were in Toronto for about
ten days & got to know so many people. but the most interesting people
we met were J. W. Russell M.P. for South Tyrone & his daughter -
he is the leader of the Liberal Unionists in the house of Commons,
left with 90 others on the Home Rule question. He came out here to in-
form himself on the Canadian Constitution & the P.C. Church in this
Province so as to fight Gladstone, Ed. Blake &c he took pains to get the
most accurate information every where. Goldwin Smith called on him
before he was an hour in the Hotel & saw a great deal of him - the most
respectable men in Toronto rallied round him. You know the Orange
men are strong here - He gave two lectures "Home Rule" & "Socialism"

They came here from Lettawa. They were loaded
with attention every where. He is such a ^{man} clever
& so intensely earnest, a strong total abstainer,
his daughter never tasted a stimulant.
She is clever, quick & amusing - looks about
20. goes with her father whenever he has to
help boycotted people at the risk of his life -
though her heart may quail, as she sees men
following them, she lets them know by her eyes
steadily fixed on them what they are trying to do -
her stories of terrible danger are thrilling.
Spune them a large afternoon tea & a dinner
the next day. - the Campbells gave a lunch -
& at both they met gentlemen who helped him.
The judges - who can explain some of the cases of the
Province. I shall be interested in the debates
his wiles. As soon as Ed. Blake sits down, W.
Russell will stand up & answer him. - but they
think very little of Ed. Blake in London. W. R. says
the English Statesmen & people know absolutely
nothing of Canada. He congratulated the people of
Toronto on the way the Lord's Day was kept. He
had seen nothing like it since he left Scotland
35 yrs ago. - Scotland now is not what she was
then. He writes three times a week for the "Pestman"
the best paper in the United Kingdom next to the
Times - I need not mention the Toronto people

that we saw. They were all very kind in
calling & offering civilities. Had we staid
a little longer, we should have known every
body in it. The trip did us both good -
how about the Bible Society. The Evans money
is not settled yet. only promises of payment.
The closed bank book has been sent & the acc-
books which are all clear. The Papeineau Legacy
was entered at the time both in Min Macin
book, & the bank book, & that went in with the
general fund. - though given for the sick poor.
Min Macin book led to advance this month
over \$20⁰⁰ It seems only \$77¹³ is due by W.
Evans. I wrote the last time - a few days ago,
that we were preparing our Annual Report
& we did not wish a large deficit to appear
in taking over the books from the late Treasurer.
He evidently did not like that, as he answer-
ed in the third person - of course he has spent
the money & won't refund it if he can help it.
Now we have seen W. Finley. Treas. of the Gentle-
men's Committee. - He came this morning to meet
Min Macin book & myself. He says to let W. Tarker
audit the accounts. - It should be done every
year, & if W. E. will not pay by gentle means
either thro' W. Finley or W. Tarker - stronger will

be used - Hope it will be all right in time. I spoke about guarding
against such a thing in the future - Mr. F. said it would be better
to let the gentlemen deposit the money. Their Committee are not
at all pleased with the outlook as to money - but many of the Col-
lections have as yet come in. I mean our Lady Collectors & they think
they will have to face a larger deficit than last year. There is a
general murmur against the employment of Bible-women as if
the Churches overtook the work they do - I was very glad we had a talk
with Mr. Finley to hear what they thought & proposed doing. When you were
both at home Mr. F. kept you informed as to all that took place -
Mr. Finley proposed one of the Ladies attending the next monthly
meeting of gentlemen. So I offered at once. I shall go & let them
know all they ought to hear. They have the payment of all the
B.W. charged. deducting only what is received from the Parents & S.B.
for the French work - whereas during this last year or nearly all of it
£30 pr. month was paid by Mrs. Van's fund - This the gentlemen
should understand - otherwise Mr. Stacey could pocket it - that is
£30 a month - Mrs. Main took is very particular never pays nor receives
money without a ^{receipt} ~~check~~. Mr. Finley thinks it utterly preposterous
bringing in such small collections - next year he offers to find
a good Lady Collector for us - It will take a year or two to get these District
& their Collectors into proper working order. There is so much difference
between a good & a bad Collector - Our Mother's Meetings are going
on very well indeed. Mrs. Main took gave me a most delightful
account of hers - She is greatly encouraged. Hope you & Mr. F. are
getting stronger every day. & not doing too much. The Finleys expect
to see you. They leave on Wednesday for a month's absence. We are
having such cold weather. It is not easy to keep the house warm.
Very bright. little snow. but so cold - I must close with a great
deal of love. & hoping you will both come back here so many
years younger. I affect friend Emma M. Lucas
I hope this will reach you. I could not make out the address