

Cum gratia 14th Dec^r

Mr. Dawson

any thing of you
thought nearly broke
Lacey write
My dear
Lacey write
Lacey write

I wrote two sheets of
a letter to you six weeks
ago, but I burnt them,
being dissatisfied with
something I had said; and
since then, I have been
very ill for me; and
then, when I was getting
better, Mr. Cunningham began
to be ill too - he has been
seriously ill, but I am
thankful to say that he is
improving slowly, - he was

very low about himself, but
happily, Emma had any
fear, beyond the feeling
that one never knows what
turn, such an illness may
take, with one so weak
and old as he; but God
has been very good to us, in
sparing him to me a little
longer. he is still very
weak; he was in his room
for a fortnight - it was
then prostration of strength
with the old trouble at his
heart, induced by a sharp
attack of bronchitis - today

he has too, which I suppose
we should hail as a return
to his "normal" condition -
I was so sorry not to
see anything of your
daughter, who must have
left Rock Ferry before
I knew of her being there;
at the time of your letter,
telling me of her coming
to England, I had the house
full of visitors, old friends
whom I had not seen for
over twenty years. We had
an unusually busy summer
with friends, and other

things, pleasures & troubles
mixed - and now we are
expecting Charley, (who is on
the sea), for I was, which
seems to have come upon
me "unawares" this year -
so much so, that I miscalculated
my time and had almost
been too late with my good
wishes for my dear Canadian
friends, which are after
all, all that I can send,
there for I have not time
for a long letter, but I did
not like you to think I had
forgotten you though I can
only send such a scrap -
I hope you are all well - I now hear