

Acc. 976
Williamson

41 Eberlin Road

Fellowfield

My dear Lady Dawson.

Our New Year's Greetings
come this year in all true
heartedness, but sadly tinged
by the news of poor D'Arcy Gray.

It is almost impossible for us
to realize the bright-active genial
Protestant, who enjoyed every thing,
& helped all else to enjoy it,
should now be laid helpless;
poor Mrs Gray! I can hardly
realise her, she was ^{entirely} utterly
dependent upon her husband's strength,
God grant she may now have
physical as well as nerve strength
for him in his weakness.

We have a heavier & almost a
greater shock. Our good friend
& Scientist Dr Ralphus Stuart left
last Friday by the night boat.

Just now he is particularly well - He has very much enjoyed preparing for you the little Cards which will come by Parcel Post & reach you shortly after this. You will recognize the Pouchillo on the Spluseu Pass - He only sends such cards to our very special friends.

Will you accept from me, as a little reminder of me, such as I have of you in great remembrance of value which mine is not. ~~They are~~ called Glass Cloths, but are woven in a real old English Hand Loom by a real old English man both on view in our great Exhibition. I believe they are what they pretend to be, we saw them partly woven, - ^{the species} of course pass quickly out of existence. I believe no hand loom has been made for upwards of seventy years - only very old people can work them - There is a new kind being made now, as I understand, which supplies a very pretty material, but it is not truly old. I have not hemmed

them, because I fancied perhaps you would prefer to put them on some bed room chair, or some chair often used, both suitable case they are pretty & very useful - They come with much love & much thought of you - The set during the ^{manufacture} was carefully tickled for "Lady Dawson" & was watched with much interest.

Herbert sends you also his New Years Card - uncoloured as you suggested - I am not sure you will like the subject, - he chose it with reference to a lady loving her own children, & children's children, not perhaps one of ^{Stasmenis} happiest efforts, nor is it indeed, one of Herbert's best Copies, but he chose it for you so please with all defects, accept it as it is given, without

Edith sends love she is very busy in good works mostly ^{for the} ^{purpose} with a little professional music teaching, - she is very well - astounds us all some times by her development in many directions.

Robert & family have had a strange year, Financially you know Robert is almost pennilessly successful, - at least such success in

In Ireland where he has a little
pleasure, so as to attend the Queen's
holiday - the night was stormy -
but a telegram reached the College
yesterday afternoon, simply telling
of his sudden death - that is
all we yet know - We hope he
reached his house & his wife alive -
It is all too terrible - Please imagine
all this in what should be bright,
but it makes me over whelmingly
thankful to be spared such horror,
as Mrs Stuart must be passing
through now - If only one may
have the tenderness of nursing &
care - & the memory of it afterwards!
We ourselves are fairly well
Dr Williamson indulges in little
attacks now & again, but he always
recovers quickly & is better in some
time after one of them, still each
one when it comes is alarming.

one direction is a great responsibility
& a great temptation; we have yet to
see how they will accept the one or reject
the other - Emily is well now, but in
the early part of the year she had a
nasty illness, the nature of which no
one quite knew, but her physician
suspected an internal hemorrhage, & for a
while he frightened us all a good deal;
she appears however to have cheated them
thoroughly, looks well, is bright - & capable
of a good deal of hard work.

They are both interested in the preparation
of a new home - Robert has bought an
old house - not large, but with a very good
garden; the house he has almost rebuilt
& it has been a great interest to all of us.

Herbert is very gratifying - I hardly like
to say how much pleasure his health,
appearance - intelligence & above all his
conduct & taste give to us, without appearing
to boast - Sometimes I tremble for the future

reflecting my guests - Our weather was throughout
atrocious - the only fine hours were on Sunday afternoon
when we had a little reception of Botanists - who enjoyed
the garden houses more than could have been possible
with such dullness, as the rest of the week gave us.

The other fine day was Thursday in the forenoon,
this was generally accepted as a great kindness on the
part of his highness the weather Clerk - In the rest the
Meeting was a huge success - More a success however
in the populace, than the fine scientists - I believe some
of the foreigners regretted they had not been able to see
more of each other, without the masses of horsey admirers
who were always surrounding them - My own guests
were delight me - all through, we parted from them with
Sincere regret -

Will you thank Sir William for sending me his lecture
on "Museum Education in its connection with Professional
teaching" - I read it with great interest - & the pamphlet
is now one of a little pile of Educational papers, each
written by one of those, who have thought & worked for the
good of their fellows -

We are much wanting to know ^{how} you all are - whether
there are any more little grand children of Sam especially
interested in Dr George Danson, & but of course in all your
children - Again Dear Lady Danson accept our love
& best wishes -

With renewed kindly remembrance

Believe me always affectionately Yours

Annie C. Williamson

he is so much to us now - He is
considerably taller than Edith, & well built.
My Grandpapa Kneel - the one whom
Sir William went to see some time ago
is one of the Jubilee Knights; but the
gratification of the honour, is that he is
Sir Henry Mitchell not from any Merit
or any Political opinion - but purely for
his early work in connection with
Technical Education. - He is very well
& my Mother also. the brother & sister
suit each other admirably, & keep
each other in good health; both look
so young, it is difficult to realise they
are a generation before me - you see
they are both younger than my husband
& look immensely younger than they are.

Do you remember my last scrap
a letter to you. written in the B. & N. Reception
Room? & ending with promise of
a continuation in a few days -
You will easily imagine I found the
continuation impossible without