

St Andrews Sept 10<sup>th</sup>

My dear Miss Dawson.

You can imagine our surprise at the announcement in the letter received from my son this week, as he had never given the slightest intimation of the thought of any engagement but with "mining and Assaying". I had hoped he would marry some time; but the to whom? was always a serious and anxious thought. Many Mothers would be satisfied to have a son secure a daughter of Dr Dawson, and I am far from being insensible to this Cause of Congratulation; but honorable connection does not secure happiness, and I am glad that though I do not know you personally, I have received

a favourable impression through  
others and have the conviction  
that a daughter brought up  
in such a Home as yours,  
ought to be and will be the  
sensible - amiable companion  
I desire for my beloved,  
my only son. I feel especially  
hopeful and thankful on ac-  
count of your Christian character  
and sincerely pray that you  
may have the blessing and  
approbation of our Heavenly  
Father as well as of the earthly  
Parents in each family.

Bernard has told you how full  
of anxiety our hearts are these  
days on account of our dear  
invalid. I am happy to say she  
has been more comfortable yester-  
day and to-day than when her  
brother was at Home. -

Mr. Harington joins me in  
expressing good will which

we hope will mature into real  
affection when we are better ac-  
quainted. We are glad to know  
of the approbation of your  
Parents - please present our  
respects to them and

Believe me dear Miss Dow-  
son - Yours most affectionately  
Laura Harrington.