

To
17 Palace Road
London Eng.

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 976134
REF. 14

McGill College.

Montreal.

Sept 19 1881

Dear Rankine,

Your letter to
Mamma by last mail (the
steamer being late) arrived
after our letters to you had
been mailed, and I acknow-
ledge it now by New York,
as your stay in London
seems nearing to a close.

You will have
our earnest prayers & God
for your success in the exam.,
which you propose; though
we had both hoped that
no further exams would

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he receives the autumn,
and that you would
have had some time
for rest and recreation before
coming out. In every case
been in mind that another
year and a return to
London work, are small
matters in comparison
with any risk to your
own health by over study
or anxiety. I have always
contemplated the receipt of
a return to London next
year, as I had supposed
the rules excluded you

from the final exam. The
you; so if you do not
find it possible to prepare
in the time, or if the
red tape excludes you, or
if even you should fail,
bear in mind that it
will not be in our judge-
ment any serious injury.

From my stand-point of
61, it seems quite unnecessary
for a young man to enter on
any serious professional re-
sponsibility before 25 at earliest,
and, as I have told you, my
first real start in life was
at 35, all before being
well prepared, partial failure,
and uncertainty.

Mamma mentions your having
drawn for £15 more. That is all
right. I had expected that,
with heavy London fees we, you
would have spent more than
you seem to have done.
My bank account for September
is still good for another £15,
and it will be replenished
on October 1st.

We shall all look forward
with great pleasure to your return;
and hope it will be before the
stock of St Lawrence apples and
Beurre pears is quite exhausted.
The weather has been pleasant
here since we returned; and but for
the depressing effect of the sickness of
friends, we should have capped our
return very much. We have been
well, except a swelled face which has
timbered down, but is mending now.
Ever your affectionate
father,
M. Dawson