

To London

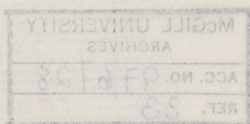
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293. University St
Montreal.

July 24/95

Dear Rankine

I hardly knew
whether to laugh or cry,
over your dismal letter
of the 6th; but as it
happened to come at
a time when I was
in somewhat low spirits
over Eric's cure and Anna's
trials and heavy work,
and other things of
an afflictive character,
among my friends, I
feared the latter feeling



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was dominant. It seems
strange that the Benjamin
of our family, for whom
we have planned and
worked and expended
more than for any of
the others, should have
been so absolutely mis-
directed on one point,
and so unable to
do what others have
done in sticking out
a suitable career
for himself; but I
suppose we utter words

A sound judgment must
have been & blame
for the whole, and
when in later days
you attain, as I have
no doubt you will,
to some high pinnacle
of professional
other distinctions, we
shall take care to
claim none of the
credit, that is imp:
ping we remain to
retire the event, I
shall not repine at this,
but I do hope that

before long you may
pursued in discussing
some way to fame
or fortune, or at
least to what is far
better a degree of
wellness that will
fill and satisfy your
own heart.

I had a letter by
the same mail with
your fine in front
Mrs Papineau, about
some money she wishes to
give the Bible Society.
She is a frail delicate
lady; but is spending her

in your way of thinking
of things. I have tried
to see this over and over
again in my own case,
and you will do so
also in course of time,
I hope not too late to
make something good
out of life.

I am sending by
this mail a little treat
intended for a New Year
gift to students; but it came
a little late. I do not
know what caused the
retention of my last letter,
it must have been over 2
weeks in the P. O. or mailed
too late. Eric is very thin
and weak. Henry fading
away. Ruth has had a sharp
attack of sleep but is better.
The rest are well. Ever yours
J. M. Dawson