

York Hotel,  
Aldersgate St,  
London,  
Nov 14, 1853.

My dear Mr Follen;

Since I last wrote,  
I have been learning something  
of the opposite side of the  
Education of women, as it  
is carried on here in Miss  
Bevins College and in the  
University College of Bristol.  
In both Colleges there are  
numerous female students at  
tending classes along with the  
young men, and apparently  
with very little reputation or  
superiority. At Bristol the  
Principal's wife exercises a  
semi-official oversight, and  
there it has been repeatedly

to institute a separation of the  
 classes in Kent, the large  
 numbers attending being given  
 as the reason, <sup>for</sup> the London  
<sup>College</sup> also, there are some separate  
 classes, I think principally  
 in English literature. Opinions  
 differ as to the success of  
 these arrangements, but there  
 uniting them do not seem  
 to see any objection. On  
 the other hand there are  
 in London large ~~schools~~  
 colleges for women alone.  
 One of these, very highly spoken  
 of, is the North London  
 Collegiate School, near Hamp  
 Den, and another is near  
 Greenwich under the Pri-  
 orate of Miss Headland.  
 I have not been able to

visit these schools, and shall  
 probably hardly have time  
 to do so till my return in  
 the Spring.

You will thus see  
 that three distinct systems  
 are in active operation in  
 England — the Separate, as  
 at Cheltenham & North London;  
 the partially separate, as at  
 Exeter, Newnham & Manchester;  
 and the mixed as at  
 University College and Mitot.  
 Each is highly spoken of by  
 its advocates; but experience  
 must decide. My impression,  
 from what I can learn,  
 is that the last mentioned  
 is proving liable to the ob-  
 jections of unduly taxing the  
 women students and impairing

their health, and also of  
 cultivating a rather strong  
 minded, and combative  
 style of manner, better  
 suited to promote what  
 are called here "advanced"  
 views than to soften &  
 civilise humanity. At present  
 this sort of thing is very much  
 derided by the agnostic party,  
 and promoted in every way  
 both in the education of  
 men and women; but I  
 cannot think it will last.

Since we came into  
 town I have had the pleasure  
 of meeting many scientific  
 friends, and of attending meetings  
 and dinners of the Societies.  
 On Tuesday Morning I was  
 present of invitation at the  
 weekly breakfast of the

Committee of the Religious  
 Tract Society, a very interesting  
 meeting. The Society has  
 among other things recently is-  
 sued immense editions of  
 publications relating to the  
 Luther's Commemoration, which  
 seems to have attracted  
 much attention everywhere  
 and revived an interest in  
 the history of the history of  
 the Protestant Reformation.

From this time we  
 shall be a good deal occu-  
 pied in preparing for our journey  
 to the South, and expect to be  
 able to leave England in the  
 last week of November.

With all kind regards  
 and good wishes to our mutual  
 friends, I remain  
 Yours sincerely  
 W. Dawson

P.S. I have just received from  
our old friend Prof Hatch of  
Oxford the Reports on of the  
two Colleges for ladies now in  
operation there. Their arrangements  
seem on the whole similar to those  
at Ginton, but they are as yet on  
a smaller scale. W.D.