

MCGILL UNIVERSITY
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Miss Mercer
11 Elmiston Place
Newington



Monday evening

Dear Margaret

When I received
your note, I regretted that
it was too late to post
an answer for delivery
to night; however, I wrote
one and posted it, before
it occurred to my stupidity
that I might deliver it my-
self; as I hope however
that you will receive it
before you go out to-morrow,
I shall not repeat what it

contains, further than by saying that I saw Mr Hous-
bush to day, but do not know whether he approved of my calling on him, or if I made a favourable impression. A sketch of what I said is in the letter I posted, & also a few words respecting the manner of my enjoying the last Sabbath; which in many respects was a pleasant one to me.

If I am to answer the question which you put to me, literally, I can only say that it is our part

As Christians to deny our-
selves any mere enjoyment
that gives pain to others, or
inflicts injury on them, even
if they have no claim on our
affection or gratitude. I think
however that our meeting
has or ought to have a more
serious purpose, and your mother
should ^{not} object to our having
the fullest opportunities of
considering, and advising each
other on, a matter which
is vastly more important
to us than to any other person,
and which may have good
or evil influences long after

her pilgrimage is finished
It is scarce a time for us,
Dear Margaret, to think of
enjoyment in each others
society; but rather of earnest
inquiry into the true nature
of our position, and the
practicability of reconciling
worship, which I firmly believe
are well and rationally found-
ed and right in themselves,
with immediate duties.
Trusting that we may think
and speak in something of
this spirit, I have no hesitation
in taking the responsibility of
our meeting to-morrow.
William