

LIVERPOOL
AUG 20
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JUL 18
1849

AUG 2
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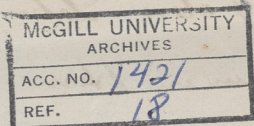
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Mrs J. W. Dawson

Pictou

Nova Scotia





Philadelphia 17 July 1859

Dear Sister

My wife and I are exceedingly
to hear of the death of your dear little one, and
would desire to express our sincere sympathy with
you in this trying bereavement. We can well
enter into your feelings in this situation, having
been more than once ^{left} childless ourselves.

Among all the troubles to which we are subjected
in this world of trial, perhaps one of the most severe
is when we are thus at the outset in life bereaved
of a beloved child. Our warm affections become
entwined around the little one, pleased with its smiles
and happy in witnessing its dawn of faculties & affections
and forming many fond & sanguine hopes as to futurity,
which are thus suddenly severed by the stroke of death.
The belief in the love and goodness of God to those who
have put their trust in him is the truest solace
for a wounded spirit from whatever cause the affliction
may arise. We are assured that all that befalls them
however trying or seemingly adverse, is intended for their
good; and designed in infinite wisdom and goodness
for the accomplishment of His designs of mercy and
of love respecting them. It is a great trial of our
faith to bring our minds to this persuasion but when
we look back on God's dealings with his people in all
ages, as also with ourselves in all the ways in which
he has led us hitherto, we must acknowledge that goodness

and mercy have accompanied all that He has done. Let
us therefore put unlimited trust and confidence in Him
knowing that having given Christ he will withhold no
needful blessing from his people. We are also assured
that Jesus our elder Brother the great High Priest
of our profession hath a fellow feeling with us in
all our trials and infirmities for

He knows what sore temptations are

For he has felt the same.

We are therefore encouraged to come unto God through
him pouring out our hearts before Him who is a
refuge for us, remembering that he says "Call upon
me in the day of trouble and I will deliver thee
and thou shalt glorify me."

Let us also who
mourn the bereavement of infants be comforted by the
declaration of our Lord that of such is the Kingdom
of Heaven, and with the Psalmist David be
consol'd with the thought that we shall go to them
and not they return to us. They are infinitely
happy in the enjoyment of God's love, and it would
be selfish to wish them to be exposed with us to the
trials, troubles and temptations of a wicked world.

While we have therefore every reason to put our
trust in God's wisdom and goodness, and to be
comforted with respect to the happy condition of
such little ones now departed who were thus blessed
of our Lord, we ought to examine ourselves to see
if these bereavements work in us the peaceable fruits
of righteousness for which they are they are intended.

We ought to be seeking our happiness in Gods favour which
is life and his loving kindness which is better than life rather
than in the things that are seen and temporal, seeing
that we all are going the way from whence we shall
not return and that there is only a step between us
and death.

I trust that this dispensation will
be blessed to you and your posterity in life, that
he and you will be supported under it, and that
you will be enabled to comfort and console one
another under the trials which you are called on
to bear in this world, and live together
as fellow heirs of the crown of life. You
will be sorry to hear that Mr Toth
has lost his only son which has plunged him into
great distress. Wherever we look around us we see
trials and troubles on every side. how happy
therefore to be able to look forward to the Heavenly
rest which awaits the people of God. My wife
desires to be remembered to you in Christian love
and sympathy. We request also to be remembered
to Mr Denton and with best wishes for your
spiritual and temporal welfare I am My
Dear Sister yours in Christian affection
Peter Inoué