

Mrs Harrington 1876

St Andrews Jan 7<sup>th</sup>

My dear Mrs Dawson.

Your kind letter of sympathy and invitation I received and hardly know how to thank you warmly enough for choosing such a plan for my comfort and relief. I would have answered by return of mail; but we telegraphed to Mrs Molson that the little fall of snow had made the roads good and were thinking perhaps my husband would be asked to meet the ladies this morning at Vaudreuil.

It is quite impossible for me to accept your kind invitation. You know Mary has long had some special weakness. She has

been greatly benefitted by  
sea-bathing - but during the  
fall and early winter has  
been worse, keeping her  
weiriness and pain to herself,  
on her dear sister's account.  
We find now that she must  
be most carefully attended to  
and as the Dr thinks change  
of air and scene would do  
her good, we wait Mrs. Nelson's  
coming, to talk about her re-  
turning with her, as she feels  
quite at ease in that old  
Home. I could not think  
of leaving the other members of  
the family. They would be so  
lonely and I am only waiting  
to get my mind in a state to  
teach Laura. She is being  
neglected as there is no suitable  
School here - Besides while I  
am trying to make our changed  
Home as cheerful as possible,  
I am afraid meeting old and  
new friends just now would be

rather too much for me.  
To what a blessing it is to have  
duties so imperative we cannot  
shirk them with any  
good conscience! These, and  
the reasons for gratitude we have  
in the memory of the character  
of our precious Child and the  
hope of her Blessed state, are sup-  
porting me. My habit of water-  
fubness I know will wear off  
and the sad consciousness when  
I rouse from sleep become less  
oppressive. Your kind inter-  
tion to help me makes me speak  
freely and I hope you will  
not think me ungrateful in  
declining. They are still ex-  
pecting a Telegram but I  
thought I ought to write in the  
mean time.

With good wishes for your-  
self and family at the opening  
of a New Year, and Thanks for  
the sympathy of Dr Dawson  
and love to Anna - Believe me  
Dear Mrs Dawson - Yours truly  
Laura Harrington.