

Rothschilds by Huntly 20 March 1876
Murdock

Lo Principes Dawson

Sir your very kind

letter of 10th April 1873 came into my hand
this morning and reminded me of my
ingratitude in ^{not} returning thanks for
your kind attention

at that time we had made up
our minds to immigrate to some
part of America, I wrote asking
your advice regarding the location
of finding the best location for James
Medical Education your prompt
and kind reply was very gratefully
received I really cannot understand
how I did not at the time thank
you for it

after our arrangements were all but
completed some difficulties arose

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About the transfer of the property
that we occupy which I saw
could be settled ^{or not} until the season
was too far advanced so we had
to abandon the purpose for a
time before another season re-
turned several circumstances had
occurred that rendered the change
less desirable Mr Murdoch was
weaker less able & less willing for
any fatigue -- Lizzie the girl for
whom I was anxious to get a
medical Education fearing the
deficiencies had to some extent
changed her mind her teacher had
got her to begin teaching which
she liked had made up her mind
to qualify for teaching in preference
to medicine, she went to Edinburgh
S. C. Normals Dec 1824 in the
Parliament Examination she stood

second of 400 girls who passed that year - in the Exam for Dec 1885 she stands first. she has thus taken a good position with bright prospects even as a teacher of shared in health, but ~~she~~ in a recent letter she says she likes the study of Animal Physiology ^{so well} that she has decided to take her M. D. if well should it require 10 years to do so she took a first

Class Certificate for Animal Physiology last session she has had a great liking for science subjects I think she has 12 certificates 9 of them 1st Class for forward for honours in mathematics this year much against my will I think she takes too much at once altho I am a great-advocate for Female Equality and like to see her going ahead particularly when she has boys to com^e

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pet. with I am much afraid she may
hurt her health however I trust it is
with feelings of gratitude that I am able
to say that as yet she has enjoyed
really good health althrough

When I wrote the above we were in
the midst of a very heavy snow
storm Roads & Rails all blocked
I have had a bad influenza am so
much better as to be able to be
out of bed find the old snow
nearly gone but a new fall began
at least it has been falling all
day altho not lying still it is
uncomfortable like on the 28th March
we have had a very cold backward
spring no seeds sown and
little preparation for their ^{reception}
I am thankful that I did not
leave when we purposed it on
the whole we have a very com-

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comfortable home with plenty
to do although we sometimes
think that our labour does
not yield the returns that
it should still we have
much to be thankful for
and had many chances to
have been much worse
had we crossed the Atlantic
when we intended I like
my family perhaps a little
proud of my goods and thought
if we were in America we
might be able to keep them
much longer together
but believe we were wrong
when they grow up they can

6 cannot be kept together nor
is it necessary that they
should be our 2^d bay
left us about 5 months ago
the oldest son & second girl
are in the Shop the others are
all at school and doing well
Mrs M has been very weakly, mostly
confined to bed during winter
but is improving and able
to move about through the
Room we are all hopeful that
she will gather strength
if we had dry warm weather
we had a nest from Mrs Crow & Mrs
Scott about the first of winter Mr Scott
has a most delightful place now nearby
Lauriff I have enclosed a Card of Ligeje
this reminds me of what I thought
something remarkable at the
time she has gained a great many

Books as prizes when they gain
a government-prize they get
a choice from a great many
of the same value for one ~~of~~
7/6 prize she chose *The Origin*
of *Species* by Darwin being
led to do so from having
read your story of the
Earth and man I do
not think that she has
had any enjoyment in
reading it - I have read
the story with much pleasure
would use it as a text-book
for short-lectures if I could
get the illustrations (or
at least part of them) transfered
to glass in a form suitable

8 for the Magic Lantern 8

I have kept one for many years and given exhibitions to Sabbath Schools or any other charitable Object and have often thought I would have an opportunity of setting some minds at least a thinking ⁱⁿ a new direction ^{if I had some good ones or} I think ^{of} ^{it} may be able to get some of them done some day if well I will enclose a card of our second fire their names are on the back not being very strong I feel tired already with kind regards and best wishes I am yours very Respectfully
Geo. Murdoch