



Wm

8th Dec. 1881

My Dear Dr Dawson

Your kind letter of the 5th lies before me; and also a list of class Examination work warning me that time is precious at present.

Our Michaelmas Examinations begin next week. We also lecture to the 3^d & 4th years up to the 21st; and if we can get through our examination papers before Xmas we shall be fortunate.

I had proposed leaving this if possible on the evening of Tuesday, the 27th, so as to be with you by Wednesday morning.

I do not think it is possible
for me to get away earlier.
Both Mr Wilton & myself
would have greatly enjoyed
spending our Xmas with
Mr Dawson & yourself, were
it possible; but I fear
you will find me dull
company. I am well
nigh worn out at present;
and, like yourself, much
in need of an easy chair
and a pair of slippers!

You bid me prepare
a suitable list of members
of the projected Academy

or whatever else it is
to be called. I am
really at a loss. Our
friend Goldwin Smith
would do credit to any
Academy of Letters; but
one scarcely thinks of him
as exactly a Canadian.
The next two names that
occur to me are Drs
McCauley & Ryerson, - both
I fear past all caring
for literary honours; and
below them, I know not
who to name. It is making
bricks not only without straw,
but without clay. However

I shall try and make
out a list of illustrious
Nobodies; the more
insignificant they may
be, the higher will be
their delights when such
Honors are thrust upon,
and their names are
recorded in our Libro
Doro.

With very kindest greetings
to Mrs Duvron & all the
Home Circle

Yours faithfully
Sam. Willing