

BOTANIC GARDEN,

CAMBRIDGE. MASS.

June 7, 1882

My dear Prof. Dawson.

I have quite long
enough held back my
response to your & Mr.
Dawson's kind invita-
tion. It was very kind
of you to think of us,
considering how many
and how much you
must have on your
mind.

The fact is, I have
been saying all along
that I should not
leave Cambridge this
summer, having such
a mass of work on my

hands. But now, when
it is brought home to
me, and I think how
much we should enjoy
it, and when I remember
that I am one of
the old fellows, and
ought to go and join
in, if I cannot add
to, the éclat of your
Presidency, I am much
disposed to change my
mind. Mrs. Gray is away
for 2 or 3 days, but she
left me carte blanche.
And so I am going to
say that we will
hope to be with you.

I am sure we shall
very much enjoy it,
besides the real pleas-
ure of renewing our
intercourse with you
and yours.

And how few of us
are left, after the
mortality of this fatal
year!

Mrs. Gray desired
her kind regards to
Mrs. Miss Darrow and
yourself; and I am
always sincerely yours

Abigail Gray

Gay

9 June 1872