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The Mann House  
Chirehest

Oct. 24, 1883

My dear Mr Fencer,

Since I wrote last  
to you, I have spent some  
time at Manchester with my  
old friend Prof. Williams, partly  
in studying fossil plants with  
him, and partly in obtaining  
information about educational  
matters in that city. I visited  
the Woman's College and enquired  
as to the details, still new and  
untried, of its connection  
with the College and Victoria  
University. It has as yet only  
40 students, of whom only 3  
are preparing for the University  
degree. We also visited the  
Manchester Art School, and

The Students' dining room was  
 visited with Owens, which is  
 quite sufficiently simple to  
 be imitated in Montreal.  
 From Manchester I went  
 to Leeds, and under the  
 guidance of Professor Armstrong  
 (Principal of the city) and Prof.  
 Miall, saw what is being  
 done in connection with the  
 Yorkshire College, which  
 combines the functions of  
 a general college preparing  
 for the University exams, and  
 a technical college. I had  
 also the pleasure of lecturing  
 before the Leeds Philosophical  
 Society. At Bradford I was  
 received by Prof. Duff (Principal  
 of Montreal) and visited the  
 Congregational College and  
 the Technical School, and

of the first of its kind in  
 England, and still one  
 of the most complete.  
 The zeal for local colleges  
 and technical schools  
 which has of late years  
 arisen in all the large  
 cities of England is quite  
 surprising, and though I  
 had heard of it I was  
 not prepared to see so  
~~a~~ fine buildings and so  
 costly apparatus and,  
~~a~~ find so large sums  
 freely contributed for  
 these institutions. The  
 new buildings in process  
 of erection for the Yorkshire  
 College are to cost £100,000

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the Bradford building is remarkably good and Queens College has just finished its Medical building and has broken ground this autumn for a great museum and science laboratories, for which all the money is I believe provided. All the cities here seem animated with the same spirit with our Protestant citizens of Montreal.

Returning from Leeds by Manchester we proceeded to Cheltenham, where there is one of the largest and most successful Colleges for women in this country. It has 500 students and pupils - 125 in its collegiate classes proper and the remainder in preparatory schools. A class of 12 is now preparing for the B.A. examination of the London University and a large number

In the Associate and higher examinations of Oxford and Cambridge, in all of which, as shown by the published lists, this College has been highly successful. Its teachers are nearly all women, though there are several male professors who take special classes. Several of the Lady Lecturers are graduates of London. It has a fine building, admirably arranged for its work; and the greatest marvel of all is that it is self-sustaining, supporting itself without any endowment, and having a surplus for additions. The employment of ladies as teachers is of course a great economy, and the

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fees which can be collected  
in this County are much  
higher than with us. It  
is important to notice  
however that the supply of  
ladies from this College and  
the Cambridge colleges  
competent to train students  
for the various examina-  
tions, is likely to make  
the higher education especially  
that of women, cheaper  
than heretofore. The  
Cheltenham College does  
not board its students; but  
arranges for them in lodging=  
houses under regulation of  
the College but self-supporting,  
and when there are regular  
rules for conduct and study.  
This seems a most excellent  
and economical plan

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Miss Beale the head of the  
Cheltenham College is a  
woman of the highest qualities  
of mind and heart, and  
combines administrative ability  
with teaching power and  
earnest Christian character.  
She has been in office  
for 25 years, and is justly  
regarded as a high authority  
in all matters relating  
to the education of women.

She prefers the Separate System,  
and while she prepares students  
for the University examinations,  
she holds, and I think  
rightly, that in many points  
there admit of great  
improvement here especially  
as applied to women.

At Cheltenham I had  
the privilege, in company



with an active young geologist  
of that place of making  
a little run over one of  
the best sections of the  
Oolite of the Cotswold  
Hills, and collected a  
quantity of fossils for our  
Museum, which were kindly  
named by Dr Wright of  
Cheltenham, one of the  
best authorities on the  
fossils of these rocks.

We have now reached  
a haven of rest for a  
few days under the  
hospitable roof of our  
friend and the friend  
of the full Mr Redpath  
and hope while here

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I heable to visit Cambridge  
and to see something of  
London while preparing  
for our further journey.

I sincerely hope to be  
able to visit Judge  
Day this autumn,  
but am glad to learn  
that he is well.

We send our kind  
regards to you and other  
friends in Montreal as  
do also Mr & Mrs Redpath

Sincerely yours

J. W. Dawson

The Manor House,  
Chislehurst,  
Oct. 24 1883.  
C.W. H.

My dear Mr. Ferris,

I thank you for  
your kind letter of the  
19th, and for the in-  
formation ~~which~~ it contains,  
which is very gratifying,  
as indicating the con-  
tinued prosperity of the  
University.

Since I last wrote  
I have had the pleasure,  
in company with Mr.  
Redpath, of a visit to  
Cambridge, where we were  
hospitably received by Prof.

Stokes, Prof Hughes and other friends, and where I had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of Lord Rayleigh the President elect of the British Association.

At Cambridge I was introduced to Miss Gladstone (a daughter of the Revuees), who is the principal of the Newnham College for women; and under her guidance I saw the arrangements and working of that college, and was informed as to its details and its relation to the

movement. I had also an  
 introduction to Miss Bernard,  
 the Principal of Girton  
 College, and received from  
 her very full information  
 and guidance as to its  
 constitution and work.  
 In both colleges I was  
 kindly permitted to examine  
 and inquire into all  
 the arrangements whether  
 for residence or tuition.

Though there are  
 some interesting differences  
 in details, in most of  
 which Newnham College  
 perhaps approaches nearer

to what might be desired  
in Canada, and to  
what I may perhaps  
offer in a more full  
report on my return,  
the general principles are  
the same in both.

In both the students  
are with few exceptions  
resident in the buildings<sup>\*</sup>,  
and are provided with  
rooms and board. In  
both there is a staff  
of resident tutors and  
lecturers, ~~at~~ <sup>aided by</sup> ~~both~~ lecturers  
furnished <sup>from</sup> Cambridge  
and teaching within the

\* (Which are plain but neat and serviceable, and  
well arranged and modern in all  
their arrangements, appliances, & plans.)

walls of the Colleges,  
Both colleges also possess  
Chemical Laboratories and  
Libraries of their own,  
and have arrangements  
for the exercise and  
recreation of their  
students. Both prepare  
students for the Degree  
examinations of the  
University, and in  
both the greater number  
of the undergraduates  
take honours courses rather  
than the ordinary, which  
they rightly judge to  
be less profitable and

suitable to these students,  
 This feature carries with  
 it a lesson for us,  
 which should be care-  
 fully studied in con-  
 nection with any con-  
 templated college for  
 women. In both col-  
 leges a large proportion  
 of the students consist  
 of young women pre-  
 paring for the profession  
 of teaching, in those  
 higher walks which  
 are open to women  
 having a college education.  
 While however these



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Colleges are independent  
institutions distinct from  
the University in their  
teaching and government  
and discipline, there  
is in connection with  
each a certain amount  
of "Co-education", that is  
of the attendance of  
women from these colleges  
on the lectures of the  
Professors and Lecturers  
of the University and of  
the other Colleges.  
This is mostly in the  
higher subjects, and in  
those in which apparatus,  
raters, laboratories are not  
purchased by the separate

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needed,  
are required;

Colleges, and in some instances the attendance of a chaperone with each class is required. The classes in which both men and women thus attend are for the most part small, and the work of an advanced nature, and it is evident that in the case of students having colleges of their own in which the greater part of their education is received, the circumstances differ very much from the mere admission of women along with

men in our common  
 college. I can easily  
 imagine that if a  
 college for women  
 on the plan of New-  
 ham or Girton were af-  
 filiated to the full, the  
 movement might readily  
 supplement its teaching  
 to quite as great an  
 extent as that now  
 permitted at Cambridge.  
 Both Girton and Newham  
 are however at this  
 moment enlarging their  
 buildings, and as their  
 students increase in  
 number and their  
 apparatus and laboratories

suppose, they will become  
 more and more indepen-  
 dent of the Uni-  
 versity classes, and  
 this is I think the  
 wish of many of their  
 most active friends.  
 I have not yet been  
 able to visit the  
 two colleges for women  
 established at Oxford,  
 but from what I can  
 learn they are not  
 likely to give any  
 important suggestions  
 in addition to those  
 furnished by the Cambridge  
 colleges

At Cambridge I was  
 also so fortunate as to  
 be introduced to Prof  
 Stuart and to visit  
 under his guidance  
 the interesting mechanical  
 workshop now con-  
 ducted by him. This  
 is altogether a re-  
 markable development  
 of the work of the  
 Museum, and is con-  
 nected with many  
 other efforts now being  
 made to ally the  
 University with the  
 business of modern  
 life. These workshops

as I have no doubt well known  
 to Prof. Bony, and may some  
 days be imitated by us. At  
 present I cannot refer to many  
 interesting points connected with  
 them which we may discuss sub-  
 sequently. At Cambridge I spent  
 some time very pleasantly in the  
 Woodwardian Museum, one of the  
 richest in England in its Geological  
 Collections, and I have ~~also~~ seen  
 some portions of the British Museum  
 Collections as arranged in the magnificent  
 new building at South Kensington. We  
 have had a run through the Fisheries  
 Exhibition and were present yesterday at  
 the closing ceremony of the Prince of  
 Wales. Canada makes a fine  
 display, and everything has been  
 done by Wilnot and the other com-  
 missioners to make the most of the  
 material at their disposal. They have  
 the credit <sup>among other things</sup> of being the most successful  
 hatched of young fish in the Exhibition,  
 much more might have been  
 done, had the Government been

a little more liberal in  
 expenditure, and had it  
 awarded itself more freely of  
 the aid of scientific experts.  
 There will be an opportunity  
 to remedy this in the  
 new Colonial exhibition  
 which the Prince of Wales  
 announces for 1886, for  
 which preparations should  
 be begun at once; and  
 which will be especially important  
 as the beginning of a Colonial  
 Museum, and also as allowing  
 the exhibits of the Colonies to take  
 the prominent place, instead of, as  
 in the Fisheries exhibition, being over-  
 shadowed by those of older & more  
 advanced countries.

With all kind regards to you  
 and our many mutual friends, in which  
 all here join, I remain  
 Yours sincerely  
 J. Dawson.