

Aug. 17. 86

Boxwood,
Calne,
Wilts.

Dear Sir William

I found your kind
note on my arrival
in England after an
exceptionally long
journey.

I wish I could manage
to be present at
Birmingham on the
1st of September, but

I fear it is out of
the question.

My holiday will be
a short one - how
short I do not yet
exactly know - but I
may find myself
wished to return &
cannot do so at any

moment - one of
my principal objects
in coming to
England has been to
see my mother who
is not in very
good health - I am
to visit her in Scotland
as soon as I can
get through the most

urgent nature of
my business here &
in London - I could
not put off my
visit to her and once
North of the Tay I
could scarcely break
my time in Scotland
by coming down to
Dumfriesshire. I am

Boxwood,
Calne,
Wilts.

Quite sure that
you will understand
how I am placed
in these respects after
a three years absence.

It would have given
me great pleasure
to show my personal
respect for you and
my appreciation of

The compliment which
has been paid to
Canada in your
selection as President
by attending the
meeting.

I dare say you
will be kind enough
to appear to those

who with yourself
have been good
enough to desire
my presence, the
reasons for which I
feel myself constrained
to decline the
invitation.

I am
Dear Sir William Davson
Yours sincerely
Lansdowne

Laundress

Aug 1866