

The Rectory  
Dec: 5<sup>th</sup> 1898

Dear Sir Wm Dawson,

I made a vigorous effort to see you on Saturday last, but having been told that you lived in Peel Street, I scaled that alpine ascent, without success. And, when I had got down again, it was too late to make another attempt, as I was returning home that afternoon.

I was very desirous to have a few words and a shake of the hand from you, to recall pleasant days

of the past, when we met  
but I also wished you <sup>often</sup> to  
grant me a great favour.  
I have been requested to  
draw up a congratulatory  
address to Dr Robins,  
from the Post. Committee of  
Public Instruction, & we all  
felt that no one could do  
so so well as yourself.  
I have known Dr. Robins  
intimately for 20 years,  
but except from hearsay,  
can say nothing about  
him prior to 1848. He has  
been a teacher for 50 years.  
Can you tell me anything

of which I can extract the  
essence and embody it in  
the address? Any opinions  
that you have formed of  
Dr. Robins, during his profes-  
sional career, would be of  
value to us. I regret ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> trouble  
you, and if I had not  
been invited, could have  
saved you the trouble of  
writing, by taking your  
remarks orally during an  
interview. We miss you  
very much at our meetings  
of the Prot. Committee, but  
trust that you are enjoying  
fair health, and you have  
the happiness of recalling  
the good work that you  
have done in

the cause of education  
for many years.

With my best regards  
to Lady Dawson & yourself  
I remain with every  
good wish,

Most sincerely Yrs

R. M. Norman

Sir J. Wm Dawson  
&c &c.

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Norman  
Dec 98.