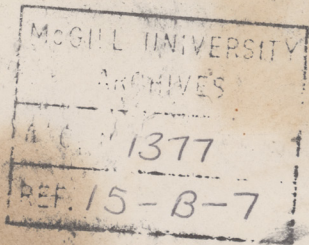
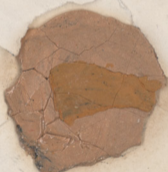


Feb/47



Miss Margaret A. J. Mercer,  
11 Arriiston place  
Newington  
Edin<sup>burgh</sup>



Monday Morning

Dear Margaret,

Do not think me too im-  
patient because I write so  
soon, wishing to see you.

You cannot be anything  
unobedient, on your part,  
in granting me this, since  
if you have a right to  
decide for yourself, and  
if, as I understand, your  
parents are willing to  
concede this right, they  
surely cannot object to  
your informing yourself fully  
respecting every fact that  
ought to guide you. I find it  
appears to me strange that

they should be averse  
to my calling on you at  
their house, at least once.  
After I left on Saturday, in  
thinking over our hurried  
and, on my part, rather dis-  
jointed conversation, I felt  
sorry that I had not asked  
your mother's mind on this  
subject.

In present circumstances,  
I can think of nothing  
better than to ask you to  
renew the former appoint-  
ment, for tomorrow (Tuesday)  
I will therefore, unless you give  
me contrary orders, come out  
at a quarter past eleven by  
the town time (which on Satur-  
day was 10 minutes slower

than that of your clock, and  
will wait for you about Pres-  
ton St. If the day be not dry  
I will come on the next dry  
one.

I shall be prepared  
to say, in as few words as possi-  
ble, all I have to say on the  
subjects referred to in your last  
note, and shall not urge you  
to give any decision on them,  
till you have time to consider  
them, ~~and to~~ ~~ascertain~~ ~~the~~ ~~influence~~  
and to ascertain the influence  
my answers to them may have  
on the mind of your mother.

It makes me all the more  
anxious to see you, that I am  
sure that many things in my  
views and position, in a reli-  
gious point of view, are less to be  
objected to than your mother,  
and even you think. If it

were not so, I would perhaps  
not feel so very confident as  
I do, that you and I would  
be fitting helpers to each  
other in the pilgrimage of  
life.

It is a very terrible thing  
to me to think of difficulties  
that may altogether separate  
you and me in this world;  
yet they must be met and  
conquered; and with God's help,  
this shall be done in a  
truthful and Christian spirit;  
so that I may be worthy  
of being your

William

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