

St John June 13
Wednesday

Dear Margaret

You will I think full
my letters arrive safely, & scarce I can
plain that I do not write often
enough. I have however plenty
of time to write from this place,
as the boat does not go on till
tomorrow morning; and I am in-
formed that the post for Am-
herst leaves this afternoon, so
that this will likely reach you
before I can ~~write you~~ ^{write you} Boston.

We arrived here this morn-
ing at about 9 o'clock, after a rather
slow though pleasant passage from
Windsor. The night was very calm,
but unfortunately the air was so

full of smoke from burning
woods, that we could see little
of the fine scenery of the bay.

We had a rather a small set
of passengers in the boat, most of
whom are like myself going on
to Boston. The fare in the boat
is good, and the berths comfort-
able. On landing this morning, I
took a stroll through the streets, and
had my hair cut. Afterwards I went
out to the falls of the river St John,
about 2 miles. I went part of the
way in an omnibus, and the re-
minder, about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile, through
a rocky & uneven ground partly covered
with pretty little thickets of cedar.

The fall is caused by a ridge of hard
slaty rock extending across the river, which
as I suppose 300 yards wide. It is

a salt water fall, the great tides
of the bay rising above it, and making
all level at high water and then
at ebb tide the water rushes back over
the edge of the rock, pouring and foaming
and tumbling in quite a grand manner.
It is a great rapid rather than a water-
fall, but its effect is much heightened
by the broken & rocky scenery of the
banks. I have made a rough sketch
of part of it.

The harbour of St John seems
to have a good appearance, though I
saw it very imperfectly owing to
the smoke. Partridge Island, a
rocky Islet at its mouth, with a
lighthouse, a penitentiary and some
other buildings, looks well, and
much improves the appearance of
the harbour. The city is built upon

a projecting point, in some parts steep & rocky. It is larger than Hali-
fax and has a greater number of
brick and stone houses. Some
of the public buildings are very fine
& substantial, for a colonial town.
The stone most used is granite
though there is some freestone also.
Some of the meaner parts of the
city are very squalid, and as a whole
it is rather dirty. It seems a busy
bustling place.

Tell father that I have ~~not~~ called
at Mr McMillan's. He is not at home,
being absent in the U States, but the
young man in his shop, promised
to speak of the Harmonium to him,
and thought it likely that some would
sell

After dinner I intended to have
another stroll, and to buy an umbrella

This paper (for which I paid
here no less than a penny per sheet, my
luggage being on board the steamer)
is so greasy that it is not easy to
write on it - which you must take
as an excuse for the more than
usual stoneliness of this letter.

I am thankful for having got
to you in safety; and trust, if all
goes well, to be in Boston on Fri-
day evening. I hope most earnestly
that you are all well, and that
I shall hear from you soon after reach-
ing Boston. Give my sincere love to your
father and mother, and tell James how
that I would very much like to
give him a kiss. Take good care of
yourself, dear Margaret, and may our
heavenly Father care for you
your affectionate
M^r Dawson

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Travelling by ship
to Boston

Mrs J. W. Dawson,
Pictou
Nova Scotia

Pictou
JUL 17
1849
NS

JOHN
JUL 13
1849
P. B.

Forgot to say that I
have your recent
letter in my pocket

