

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	ACC. NO. 976	33
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*Mr. J. W. Dawson
Victoria.*

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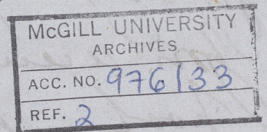
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P.S. You had better be thinking if you have any commission
for me & execute in Halifax.

Barnington May 19

Dearest Margaret,



Being Sabbath, and having a little
quietness, I shall devote a short time
to a little talk with you which I shall
whip forward from Shelburne on my way
among these. I had but a small meeting
at Tusket, and an evening meeting which
I had advertised in Argyle was a failure.
I came on here on Saturday morning
some schools by the way. The afternoon was
very wet, but I got along pretty comfortably.
Some parts of the County that I travelled
over yesterday are exceedingly stony, covered
with large boulders of granite, and even in
the cleared fields the rock sometimes occupying
more space than the soil. I shall remain
here & in the neighbourhood over Monday,
Tuesday & Wednesday, and leave on Thursday
for Shelburne.

I am quite vexed that you should have
been so anxious about my journey to Westport,
and especially that two mails should have
passed without a letter from me. You would
surely receive my letter from Clark on Sunday

last. First dear Margaret in the goodness
of our Heavenly Father, and he not tempted
by any apprehension of evil. By the time that
you receive this, I shall have been in Liver-
pool, and only about 4 weeks from the
time of my return, to which I look forward
with much longing. I think I shall manage
to have the last meeting, advertised for Mas-
sachusetts on the 27th or 28th June, instead of
July 1, which will let me get home a little
earlier.

The part of the Province in which I now am
experiences much of the miseries of sea-faring
life. In most places a large proportion of
the male inhabitants are now away on
fishing voyages, and I often hear of losses of
lives at sea - vessels which leave and are
never again heard of. The gales of last month
have produced several serious losses. The Packet
from Boston to Falmouth was one of the worst.
16 or 17 people belonging to Falmouth were lost
in it. One lady in Falmouth met with a
peculiar affliction, I think. She was married
to a Boston gentleman, and had been on a visit
to her mother in Falmouth who was unwell. Her
husband was coming for her, and was drowned,
and her mother died while I was in Falmouth.
Two other families lost each two persons.

sons. How thankful those should be who
amid many risks and expenses, escape such
Calamities.

Shelburne May 22 Received here to day your
letter of 17th and am most thankful to
hear of your welfare. Do not doubt, dearest
Margaret, that I am just as anxious to see you
as you can be to see me; and ~~not~~ ^{do} not think
of other journeys. They will all soon be frustrated,
and then I hope for some quiet time with
my own dear wife & children.

In Mr Lyell's letter he mentions sending
some copies of geol papers by Mr Curran. If
they come in time please send the copies
of the "President's Anniversary Address" to wait
for me at Mr Kurlay's in Halifax. Send
also 3 copies each of the other papers.

Send also in same parcel, 10 doz of the
pamphlet on School Architecture (on the
lower shelf in my specimen room); all these
to wait for me till my arrival in Halifax.
Father will put them up and forward them

Since I last wrote, I have had a
cold which gave me some uneasiness,
but is now quite gone. I had not
been exposing myself in any way that
I know of, and I rather think it must
have been some kind of influenza or

infectious cold, as colds of that kind
have been prevalent here. On Saturday
evening & Sabbath I was quite hoarse, and
had the symptoms of pneumonia cold. On Mon-
day I was a little better, and held my
meeting advertised for Brampton. On Tuesday
which was rainy I confined myself to
the house all day, and on Wednesday
felt considerably better. Wednesday was a
fine day, and I went as far as
Port La Four on my way to Shelburne, and
lectured there in the evening. Port La Four
is the site of the first French colony that
settled in Nova Scotia, and a little mound
what is all that remains of the little first
built here by La Four, was an object of
some interest to me. On Thursday I came
to this place, and had a small meeting
on Friday, and a little institute of 8 teachers
on Saturday, closed by an evening lecture.
My cold is now (Sabbath) quite better,
and I trust I shall also now have better weather.
Cherry trees are coming into blossom here & the

Armonia is just beginning to make the woods
beautiful with its white blossoms.

Took tea with Mr & Mrs Byles on Friday.
Their baby is a very nice child, very like
Mr B. Its name is Josephine which I think
they said is the name of Mr B's mother. Mrs B.
Looks very well, and intends to come to Peter
with her husband when Spout meets.

I intend to visit some schools near
this place on Monday, and to leave for
Liverpool on Tuesday morning. Tell George
that Papa wishes very much to see him, and
to show him pictures and play ball with
him, and that he must not forget me
but be a very good boy and be kind to mamma
& little sister. Think of me dear Margaret
as at home in thought & feeling, though far
away in person - My heart is with you
always, and especially on the quiet Sabbath
days, when I often sit down and try to fancy what
you may be doing, and long to sit down beside
you and speak of our thoughts or promote or ease
our cares. You must think of me as just as
much alone, and in want of that affection which
is our chief earthly good, as you are or can be
in our present separation. Your presence dearest
Margaret is a necessary element in my happiness,
and when separated from you, every step of my

work gives pleasure just as it brings me
nearer to our Union. In so far
as true happiness is concerned, these journey
are a sort of blanks in life - so much
time given to duty or contact at the expense
of real peace & enjoyment. Let us dearest
Margaret at least enjoy the pleasure now
of thinking constantly of each other, and hope
to have, by the blessing of God, a happy meeting
whose joys may outweigh all present pains. You
see that I do not doubt the affection for
my dear wife, I cannot think of doing so,
even though I sometimes think that I am
in many ways not deserving of it. There must
be no doubts in our love for each other any
more than there should be in our love to our
God. How happy when we can realize the
great love of the Saviour to us, in spite of all our
faults & deserving, and in like manner it is
happy to feel that we have the love of those
on earth whose love is most precious to us,
and in like manner I think this love & belief
that we are loved, makes us better and wiser.
May God grant all His best blessings to you

Monday 26, Drove to Sand
Point & have returned

to the former prayer of
Your own
William
- a fine day, got some curious sea-weeds shells & minerals - quite well