

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 1421B
REF. 517

Spencer Place  
Musselburgh  
Jan 22<sup>th</sup> /66

My dear Margaret

I received your kind letter of 21<sup>st</sup> Decr on the evening of Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of Jan while at supper, I had Mr & Mrs Sleghorn and Mr & Mrs Reid with me who were all glad to hear of your welfare, I most heartily sympathize with you in regard to the change of your servants, for the loss of good servants is a very great domestic affliction

for when they have been  
a long time with you, you  
feel the change doubly  
severe, and it is also a  
great chance if you ever  
fall in with others again  
that will suit you as well,  
I have had my own troubles  
with them this winter, but  
I trust I am now settled,  
although not to my taste.  
I was exceedingly sorry to hear  
that George was not so strong  
I fear he has not been much  
the better of his summer  
jaunt, when I think of the  
past autumn and the very  
short time your loved ones  
spent with us, it just



appears like a gleam of  
sunshine and a sort of dream  
although I can now look  
across the Atlantic in im-  
agination and picture to my  
self the happy cheerful home  
with them all around you!  
Anna must be a very great  
comfort to you, she appears  
a most lovable girl, when  
shall we ever have the pleasure  
of meeting again —

I notice by the papers something  
about a Canadian movement  
to throw off the British rule,  
is there any fear of such a  
thing across with you.

We have had a very mild winter

very little frost, and no  
snow except one shower,  
but fearful gales of wind  
which has caused terrible  
disasters at sea one emigrant  
vessel, "the London" has gone  
down with two hundred and  
twenty people on board, it is  
heartrending to read the  
accounts, amongst the  
passengers there were nine  
of one family of the name  
of Graham, one of the Brothers  
only four weeks married,  
another lady and her  
daughter who had been  
on a visit to her sister



in this country and  
was returning home to  
her husband I just thought  
of your family, what if they  
had never returned.

Dear Margaret the Lord  
has indeed been kind to  
us as a family to think so  
many of us have <sup>been</sup> spared to  
this time along with our  
husbands, Mr. Pinrose  
met with an accident  
five weeks past on Monday;  
in the morning when he  
rose, and was going down  
stairs in the dark, he  
missed the first step

and fell smash down,  
I sprang out of bed and  
got him lying at the  
first landing all bruised  
about the head and face,  
his right hand dislocate  
and his arm broke above  
the wrist, it gave us a  
terrible fright, he has  
suffered great pain with it  
and still does, although  
it is getting on as well as  
we could expect, but it  
will be a long time before  
he can write or use it  
freely, Alfred or Charles has  
to do all his writing in the



Evening when they come  
from their office, Charles  
has left A & J Beveridge's  
and has gone to the assistant  
book keeper in the same  
office with Alfred, his  
time will be out in <sup>Alfred's</sup>  
March, but I do not know  
whether he will remain  
with them after that or  
not, he seems to think he  
would like a change at;  
though they are very anxious  
for him to remain, he has  
very late hours there and  
he is not very strong.  
Frederic sends love to George  
and would <sup>like</sup> him to write

and say if he has got all his  
birds nicely stuffed, and  
his shells put in order yet  
Marion's Love to Anna and  
would like her to write  
and then she will return  
an answer, all the rest  
join me in remembrance  
to yourself Mr Dawson and  
the young people with  
all the Compliments of  
the season, and believe  
me My dear Margaret  
your very affectionate and  
Loving Sister, Marion