

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO.	1421 B
REF.	5/4

Amosburgh July 28th
1866

My Dear Margaret

When I look at the date of your last kind letter I certainly feel ashamed, I was exceedingly grieved to hear George was so delicate, and such a source of anxiety; he promised when here to be such a noble looking fellow, but I trust your fears regarding him will be groundless, that in a short time he may outgrow his weakness of body. I trust all the rest

have been keeping well this winter
we have been all well here with
the exception of Mr J who has
had a very bad cold & hoarseness
which has confined him almost
since Christmas, he is now going
about but not at all well yet.

Mr Dawson's book seems very appropriate
while Mr J was confined to bed;
he has read most of it, and has
enjoyed it very much. it must
have cost him a great deal of
labour & study indeed, accept
our cordial thanks for his kindness,
Dear Margaret I have had a very
quiet house this winter: Alfred
Charles & Frederic have been
boarded with Mr Saffour at

Campie House (day boarders)
They go after breakfast & return
at eight in the evening, they get
their lessons prepared before
coming home, which has been
a great save to me. Alfred is
going on with English writing
Arithmetic French Latin Gym-
nastics Sill & singing, he is
very little of his age, a very slow
learner but very anxious & perse-
vering, I should have begun with
George Robert, I think I mentioned
in my last he had gone to Gutter-
on Treat, he is pleasing very well
and likes it himself. he is to
be there four years, he has been

ten months, he goes in every morning & returns in the evening.

" Mitchell Somerville & Co they

are general Merchants do a great deal of Foreign Trade, and have a great deal of shipping, they are very strict.

Charles & Frederic are both very good readers. I know not how it is, they began very young & I see no improvement on them for two years past.

along with grammar & geography writing & arithmetic & gets drill and both join the singing class.

I should like them all to be able to sing, I have felt the want of it so much myself. George Charles & Marion are very fond of music but

got in Montreal. are there many
members, how is it conducted,
is it any thing like ours?

Marion Jane was highly delighted
with her Book of Tolly's she is
not very good at making them, but
it affords her much pleasure trying
she sends her kind love & kisses
to Anne Gow for her kind press.

Alfred is best at making them al-
though he is rather big, and has
very little time, the shippers were
far to fine for wear they certainly
are ornaments. What do you think
I was proposing this Spring to let
my house furnished, board the
Boys, and Marion & I pay you a
visit, but I have just got laughed

at for my proposal, so I suppose
I will just have to jog on here.
My dear Margaret why do you write
so seldom, whose fault is it.

I suppose mine. You know I never
had the gift of the gab, and I can
assure you I have not made any
improvement yet; my story comes in
such small compass, I do not think
it worth while sending it, we have
had a very severe winter here, the
snow has lain for some weeks.
it is still on the hills, but we
have got the roads cleared, it is
still frosty the boys have enjoyed
it very much. there have been im-
mense flocks of Wood Pigeons flying
about the gardens & fields a great

When I sit down to the Piano and
ask any of them to try a hymn -
they just commence to laugh and
not one of them will let the sound
of their voice be heard, and not
being able to help them myself
it falls to the ground; it won't do.

Marion Jane is a capital reader
& speller, & very fond of it. The book
is hardly out of her hand, under
her pillow, it goes at night, the
Songs for the little ones at home
is a favorite book, she sews a
little & knits, she is a merry
little creature, exceedingly fond
of Music, she often sits & plays
for hours in her own way with
the book before her, she tries to

sing but she has neither voice nor
time, she has the goodwill, she is
pretty, and very affectionate, also very
fond of being Mistress over the boys.
There is a nice description to you
of my children poor little dears.
You would feel very sorry to hear
of W^m Farmack's death after all he
suffered, and every one hoping he had
got over it. Give my love to Lizzie
tell her I was extremely glad to hear
of her having professed her faith
in Christ, there have been 52 added
to Mr Dickie's this year there were
four received last Sabbath and
other 2 baptized in the evening.
The church is always well filled,
what sort of a church have you

Many have been shot they were very
fine to eat. but since the snow has
melted there is not one to be seen
they have done a good deal of damage
to the market gardens. we are
going to get some improvements
on our house we are going to put
in a water closet half way up stairs
if you recollect half way up there is
a space at the lobby window (not
seen just now) which we can open
it goes above the side entrance
it will be a great convenience
also water & soil pipe into the kitchen
a bed closet built into it for the
servant and then I will get her
room for an addition up stairs.

a larger window will be put into it
a boiler for the clothes built in
the laundry the house painted out
side to preserve the stones so you
see I will have plenty of dirt & dust
for a while. Remember me very
kindly to Mr Dawson son of Sam
to Leasia and all the children
also Mr Jones me in affectionate
regards to yourself and Mr D
I ever yours in love
P. Mason

Mr D. was disappointed when he found
I had closed my letter, as he
wished to thank Mr D. by his
own pen, for his kindness, not by
mine; but I thought any more
would make the letter too heavy
P. M.