

STIRLING  
AU 27  
68



Mr J W Dawson  
Mc Gill College  
Montreal

1868  
per Maria

24

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West Baers  
Dome Aug 26<sup>th</sup>  
1868  
7

My dear Margaret

I received your  
very welcome letter of 31<sup>st</sup>  
July at the above mentioned  
Place where we are enjoying  
ourselves for the month of  
August, we are about two  
miles up the hill west from  
Dome a very lovely place  
with beautiful pleasant walks  
through the woods. I never en-  
joyed a country place better  
we are in a farm house.



I need not say with what  
pleasure we all looked for-  
ward to the prospect of  
having you settled amongst  
us again, nor to the very sad  
disappointment of the decision  
of the 6<sup>th</sup> of July, although you  
have made up your mind  
to settle in Montreal. Something  
may yet turn up & bring you  
here, they don't seem to have  
chosen the right man, it  
seems a pity so few have a vote  
for such an important office.  
You speak of the hot summer  
you have had, with us it  
has been the hottest & dryest  
almost in the memory of

The present generation we had  
no rain from the beginning of  
summer till about the 7<sup>th</sup> of  
August and some days the heat  
was tremendous, our garden  
produce at home was quite  
scarcely up before we left, and  
the grass as brown as copper,  
since then we have had a good  
deal of rain, the Gurns are  
again swollen and fishers  
are getting a little sport with  
the rod, Charles has just gone  
out to try his luck. we had  
Frederic here the first two weeks  
of the middle two & Charles the  
last two, Mr. Pinrose comes  
every Saturday & stays till the



Tuesday, we have been gathering  
Mushrooms and have made  
about a gallon of Ketchup  
also some rasp berry vinegar  
and a jar of Framble Jam  
so you see we are not idle  
here, wild Rasps abound in the  
woods, I trust George has been  
much benefited by the change  
to the sea side, it would be  
very odd for him to be ahoie.  
I suppose I need not give you  
any account of Margaret Ann  
Bell's marriage as you will  
have got it all already, they  
seem to be a very loving couple  
and I have no doubt will be  
a very happy one, he seems

Mr Housburgh has got very  
old & withered like,  
I think I told you before  
that Mr Hall Galashie's  
Isabella's Mathews husband  
had got married again  
a very suitable match.  
Miss <sup>Mathews</sup> sends her regards to  
you, she says you might  
write her such an old  
friend, and you have  
never written since Mrs  
Hall's death she feels it  
very much. I think you  
know Mr Lees has built  
a fine new house in  
the Abbotsford road named



Oatlands, Mr Hall lives in  
the old one at Wilderburn,  
Mrs Lux Musselburgh has  
had a German governess  
for her daughter. This last  
year, she is going to leave  
this month, I do not know  
for what reason, Marion  
is still with Miss Bennet  
for French & German,  
and gets music lessons from  
a German who comes down  
from Pt<sup>h</sup> twice a week,  
I think him a first rate  
teacher, after September he  
has so many engagements he

says he will not be able to come  
down any longer, which is a  
great disappoint as I am  
highly pleased with him,  
so I do not know what I  
will do with her this winter  
I would not like her to go up  
& down to Paris there are  
so many young ladies go up  
every day to offices —

Marion Sam desires to be  
kindly remembered to Anna  
& George, Give them also  
my warmest love, not  
forgetting Mr Dawson and  
accept the same for yourself  
from your attached Marion

a really nice pleasant house  
I have not seen their house  
yet, but believe it is very  
nice & comfortable -

I may mention Mrs Geoghegan  
death, Janet is still with  
the Russian Princess,

Mr & Mrs Skirving have come  
to reside at Haddington  
they called on Mrs Bell, but  
I have not seen them. Mrs  
S is very pale and terrible  
fallen off.

Thomas Gordon was buried  
the last Wednesday of July he  
indied of gastric fever,