

To
William B. Dawson

Montebello.

Aug 22, 1876.

My dear Mother,

I have certainly been very remiss in not writing to you before and I will plead no excuse. I am very sorry and you may be sure I will remember my fault & not be so unkind again.

I have been finding out how selfish I am, and I trust by God's grace I shall get entirely rid of it, now that He has shown it to me. And why should I not? Can His grace be exhausted, or His patience fail? When ^{He does teach me} ~~I do learn~~ to be unselfish then the love which God puts into my heart will

not be spoiled by coming there,
and I shall love you far more
than I do now, and every one
else too. We read of Jesus that
he pleased not himself and surely
we are not here for that purpose
either; we must be meant to
put ourselves entirely in God's
hands to be used for the ben-
efit of others, and that too in
whatever way he knows to be
best. Do pray for me that
I may be enabled to do so
fully.

I wish you knew more
of the McLimonts, for I am
sure you would like them, and
I should be so glad of your
advice, too. Were you never at
any of the meetings they used to
have at their house at Murray

Bay? You must remember
M^{rs} de Limont at all events,
and I am sure the more you knew
of her the more you would like
her. You should see how she
manages the children. It is an
almost perfect combination of
kindness & firmness. She never lets
them disobey her even in things
the most trifling things that may
be said in the most casual way.
She certainly deserves to have all
there are — eleven in all, — and
the more there were, the greater a
blessing it would be to the world
when they grow up. You know
^{too} what I mean you to infer
when I tell you this; for you
told me I could judge in this
way; but after all it is only
a part & a small part, of all

I might say if I could venture to speak directly.

I got a flute before I left town. It is a very nice one of the proper size & with all the keys. The price was \$10.00 & I was allowed \$8 on the concertina, its original price being \$10 also. I can play all the scales up to four sharps & four flats & hope to progress.

I also got a very comfortable pair of long boots for \$3.50 (sewed) They fit quite nicely.

The weather is now quite cool sometimes at nights chilly. I have had to get them to give me a blanket.

I wrote to George yesterday.
With love to all, believe me
Your affectionate son William.

P.S. I got samples of cloths
when in town. I enclose one
which I like best & of which
I have a duplicate.

I think though, that I
hardly need a whole new
suit, as the one I have ought
certainly to last another winter.
It might perhaps be advisable
to have a pair of trousers,
which would also be convenient
for Sunday's.

I will wait & see what you
say before sending any order
as there is plenty of time.