

Cum gratia
Knoxton 24th April
1879

My dear Mrs Dawson,

I am very sorry that I did not, as I intended, answer you very kind letter as soon as I received it; it is so much easier and pleasant to reply at once, when your heart is full; - and as it arrived on my birthday, amongst several containing good wishes for the day, I took yours as one of them, as it did me good and added to the solemn

yet thankful feelings that
such a day inspires - Your
account of your busy use-
ful life, makes me ashamed
of mine; - though I am now
idle, I have nothing to show
but the old work of making
up the blind women's knitting
which keeps my ^{fingers} fully em-
ployed, and I do not know
what I should do without
it, for I have so much quiet
time, yet I often wonder whe-
ther I ought to be content with
such work alone - there is no
one else at present to do it,

and I can do it, but when
I compare my life with others
I am not by any means satis-
fied. I have lately been so
struck with, and thankful for,
the complete surrender of lives
to real hard work, instances
of which I am personally ac-
quainted with, and it is very
refreshing though humbling to
meet with them - there seems
more individual work now, than
long, - perhaps I feel it so because
I have heard more of it. - You
name dear Miss Linn's "Bible read-
ings" - I often think of them - I wish
I could join them again - I have

felt near Heaven in Miss Linnis
dressing room, than I ever did -
knowing that so many there, were
true servants of Christ - some
now with him - dear Mrs. Katoe
Mrs. Crawford - and I like to
think of Miss Barber, whom
I knew so slightly - now she is
actively helping Miss Knapp
is she not? I must congratulate
you on the safe arrival of
another grandchild - you will
have to come to Liverpool to
buy a spotted muslin frock
for her - you will remember
to what I allude; I only wish
there was a chance of your coming
here again - what an interest

those little ones will have for
you! as I can testify who
am only half a "grammie"; that
is my name, the only one to
which I am entitled, and
which it is marvellous very
sweet to be called. Emily's eld-
est boy is only this week
gone to a boy's school - he is re-
markably clear - has a wonda-
ful memory, and not only a
great reader, but is able to give
such a clear well expressed
account of what he has read,
that he has often surprised us.
One answer he gave me some
months ago would have pleased

you, as it astonished me - I ask-
ed him if he knew what the
Reformation was? "well Grammie,
it was the awaking of mens
minds to the cross of the
Church of Rome" - the Archbishop
of Canterbury could not have
given a better answer than
this ten year old boy - the other
two children are very intelli-
gent but not so original - they
do live about a mile from
us, and the two older ones
can find their way here alone.
What a pleasure it must have
been to have all your children
together for a little - its so sel.

to - done happens after the young
ones leave the old nest that
they can all be together again -
is one of the sorrows of the mother
bird - How sorry I am to know
that Mrs James has been so ill.
The last accounts were better
but it has been a serious illness.

I saw a review of a new book
which I think must be by your
good husband - a most favour-
able review - in the Spectator -
he must be a busy man and
you must be proud of him.
I have been enjoying lately read-
ing the "Lectures of Thomas Paine"

of Liviatum which I have not
to me - the 1st vol. of his life I have not
seen - but the others are beautiful
and he seems to have suffered
long and hard for good
or to have been surrounded by
those like-minded with himself.
I have now "Baroness Bunsen" on
hand. I like that I have read
extremely is the best of every
one shown in Biographies? that
all seem to much better than
those with whom we have
met. How much pleasure
it would be to have a talk
to write a stupid letter but such
as it is, it goes from one who has
a very loving regard for you and