

Letter to [Agnes Livingstone 3], 24 December 1863

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

Private Dec^r 24.1863

M^{rs} Buchanan

has written to me to know
my mind in reference
to your going to another
school either in Scotland
or England. To Miss
Fisdells or to what is
called a finishing school
in London. the last will
cost £150 a year But
I reply as you seem to
prefer it so do I. But
dont think pray that because
it is a finishing school
you can finish your
studies after a year there -
that would be a misfortune
but you may make
still higher attainments

[0002]

in our own cottage if it
please God to permit us
that pleasure, by using
the information acquired
as stepping stones for future
use.

She requests me to say
whether I should like you to
go to the communion.
Of course I should if you
in love to our saviour
went to obey his command
” Do this in remembrance of
me. She would like to
know if you could go
with them to their church
on that occasion. As I see

much to admire & something
to deplore in all churches,
I am not anxious about
what body of christians
you may join. I communini-
cate with any body of
Protestants wherever I have

[0003]

the priviledge, and as you
dont know where your
lot may be cast it
may be well to remember
that all the churches who
hold Jesus as the Head
belong to his flock. I
like the church of
Scotland as well as
any, but you must
be guided by your own
convictions of what is
right. the matter is one
between you & your Saviour

M^{rs} B. is right in telling
you not to sleep with a
woman much older than
yourself. A transference of
vitality often takes place
the younger person loses
life or power the elder
gains. A child often
[becomes sickly] & old
[...] [s]leeping

[0004]

with an aunt & when put
into a crib of its own quickly
recovers without medicine
this was well known to
physicians as long ago as
when King David lived to be
an old man.

As you dislike the sayings
of that dreadful woman
dont imitate them and
when you see evils in
others take a lesson to avoid
them in yourself. and
always remember who

makes you to differ from
the worst. I have told her
that you could visit Aunt
Helen Vavas seur M^{rs}
Fitch- and M^{rs} Bevan
Braithwaite in London
we hope soon to be home
i.e. sometime in summer
next.