

CHATEAU FRONTENAC

QUEBEC, CANADA

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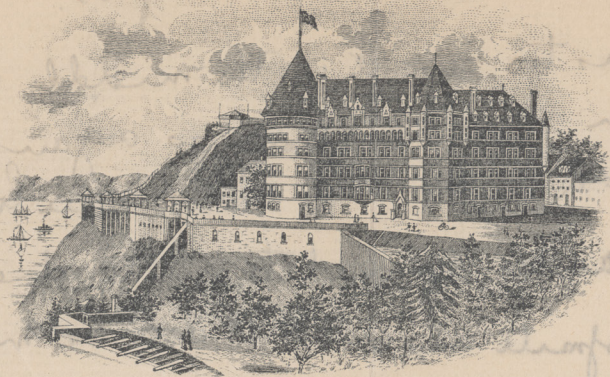
QUEBEC
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1908



Miss Lois Harrington
Little Metis

St. Lawrence River
Canal Trip
Que.





Chateau Frontenac,

Quebec, Canada.

June 24th 1908

Dear Lois

Our plans we upset after writing my last letters. We were wasting time last Sunday afternoon, trolling towards Three Rivers at about 3 o'clock, when the Curlew came along with Walter, Bert, Win, George MacD, and Gerald Inbs. Of course we got on board and were taken on for 21 miles. We had a great afternoon's sail with them and then stayed to tea, after which we paddled down the River a couple of miles and camped. They left by a ten o'clock steamer for Montreal.

We got ahead about 45 miles that day which ~~was~~ is the best day's distance up to yet.

However they did not stop at "Three Rivers" and so we wrote to the post-master asking him to forward our letters to Quebec. A day-and-a-half after we passed "Three Rivers" the whole place was burned to the ground, with, they say, a loss of \$2,000,000. So I expect if any letters went there for us they are lost.

~~At~~ The next day (Monday) we paddled from 8 o'clock in the morning down about 30 miles, running the Richilieu Rapids.

It got too rough finally and so we slept just west of the Jacques Cartier River. Next day we started at 5 and came in to Quebec between 3 and 4 in the afternoon. We had to wait about 4 hours for the tide, just this side of the Quebec Bridge.

(over)

There was some excitement coming down the Richieu Rapids. Bennier told us that the current was too swift in the middle and that we had better take a course in near the shore, so against my judgement we kept close in. We had to cross the river twice losing a lot of time and nearly running on rocks several times. We did run on one as we were getting to the opposite shore but it did not matter much just then except that it broke our record.

When we arrived at Quebec we went to the "Yatch Club" where the Commodore very kindly put ~~us~~ ^{our names} up and allowed us to store our things. He wanted to do more for us still but I thought we were too young and so let it pass.

There was wild excitement here yesterday when they were holding a celebration of St. John the Baptist's day and Savard's birth day. The town was illuminated and decorated and everyone was out listening to the Band.

It's drizzling a little bit now but I expect we will be able to go out with the tide at about 3 o'clock, and go down about 15 miles.

I got a letter here from mother but not from anyone else. We expect to be at Metis in a couple of weeks calling at Cacoma 3 or 4 days before we get to Metis. (Cacoma address of Miss Budden)

It's the hardest thing in the world to write a letter, the way we are travelling.

We have been getting up at daylight and paddling as soon as the dishes are washed and ~~at~~ we camp just in time to get settled for the night. We don't light the lantern for fear of the flies.

It will be better below Quebec, when we will have to wait over until the tide is suitable.

Tomorrow if its fine we will get the flood tide at about 4 A.M. paddle till 10 and then wait for the next tide at about 4 in the afternoon.

affectionately
E. Shwin slow