Toronto
Jan 22nd 1911
Sunday.

My very dearest Lois

"Last but not least" I am writing to you. I have just finished a letter to your Mother and one to Bernard. Please tell me, when next you write, whether you had written to him. I suppose that all the family have told him by this time. It is a pity I was so slow but I took good care and I do not think he will be annoyed at my neglect.

The time has flown. I see that even to you I have not written for several days. If all my thoughts were put in writing you would not lack

for correspondence. I wonder how you feel about it — personally I have some hesitation in writing very often unless something is happening or some subject comes up.

All of which is ridiculous of course because I certainly always love to receive a letter from you and I am sure that my reasoning is helped out by my failing for procrastination.

I have two nice letters from you — one written last Sunday and the other the following Tuesday.

Darling, I hope you will never let your faith in God be dimmed nor your earnestness in doing His will. You have felt like being a missionary. I am (speaking seriously) afraid that for years — perhaps since my first year at McGill — I have felt just as guilty about not going into the ministry as — well it is something the same feeling as when I have failed to write to you for over a week. I have made several reasons

or excuses for myself — none of them perhaps quite good enough. At first I did not want to go into anything but the Church of England and there were some things (in that) I disliked and knew I could n't change. Later the idea of the sacrifice I should have to make came in and I have said "I am the eldest son and should marry" and though it would be all right for me it would not be fair to my wife or children if I had any".

Unfortunately — judged by the standards we both believe — it is pure selfishness.

Then I went to Newfoundland and before I left Dr. Grenfell could have had me for life for the asking but he did not ask and I did not offer

Now Lois you are going to marry me and we are going to live as perfect a life as we can help each other to. Perhaps we shall never be professional missionaries but nothing in this world is certain.

—>

In any case we should hope to be mighty good amateurs.

I have told you something I have never hinted to anyone else.

I wonder if you have seen a set of "Dickens" yet. There does not seem to me to be any betwixt and between such as we want. I'll have another look tomorrow.

By the way I don't know whether you forgot to enclose Ruth's letter or whether you thought better of it. It was not enclosed anyway.

I know Loie darling that it might be quite hard for you to leave your present home. For myself, I have become accustomed to being away and now my only thought of home is with you. But even I have been quite forlorn at times. You may be quite sure dear that I will not ask you to leave Montreal if I can avoid it without putting us too far back.

There is one thing about being at a safe distance now. You, poor child, are probably in for a fine time. Our respective mamma's have you at their mercy and I suppose they will double things up and give you my share (1/5) as well as your own, of good advice etc.

It won't be long before you know your "catecism" young lady and then they'll begin all over again. Oh it does'nt make the slightest difference that you know it all already.

About Cobalt, I have been officially asked to go there but to say nothing about it. The plans are not yet decided but I am to have charge of all the North country work which was handled before by Mr. Bowman's bro-in-law Mr Hoyt - together with the ~~four~~ (4) largest

accounts in the Toronto territory which I asked to have added to my work. This is very satisfactory. In addition, for the time being my head quarters will be Toronto but I will require to have seperate bases at the Northern outposts. Probably my visits to Toronto will be in the neighborhood of once a month.

~~Do~~ not count on my getting to Montreal for the 12th Feb. I will try to spend Sunday there but the most I had better say with certainty is that I will be there inside of two months and that I will spend two weeks with you during the coming summer if we're all alive.

Nan was out that day I called. Her brother said she was always at home on Sunday afternoon and so I did not ring up. Probably I may see her some other time.

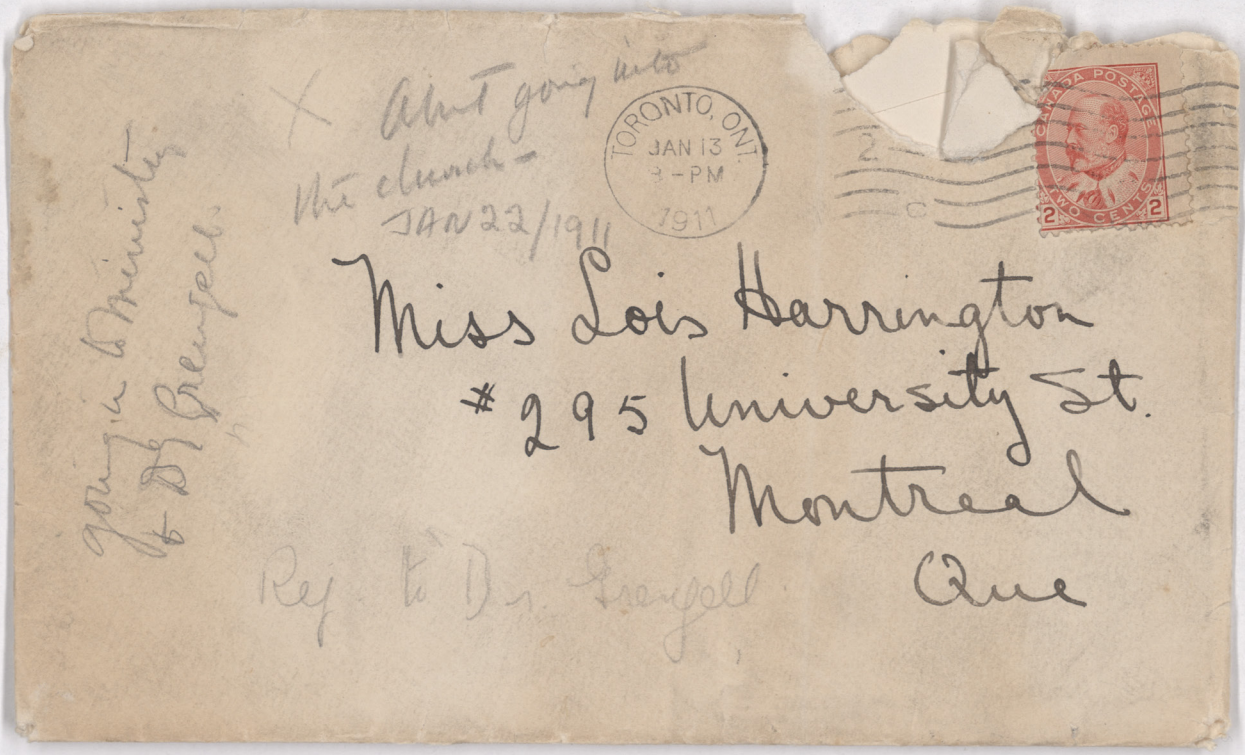
My stenographer's skating party seems also to be all off. Some of her friends couldn't skate and others disappointed her. Poor girl I'll have to get her up a sweet party myself yet.

That's the trouble about being good and conciencious. That other little scrap of mine could find a score of people without trouble. But she would never save the price or have the inclination.

Its midnight Loie - Good night.

Lots & lots of Love Dear.

Yours
Edward - S.W.



Miss Lois Harrington
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Montreal
Que

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JAN 13
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1911

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Abt going into the church — JAN 22/1911

Going in to Ministry & Dr Brengell

Ref. to Dr. Brengell