

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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Boston 26<sup>th</sup> Sept/63

My Dear Cousin

With real pleasure  
Isaac and I went down Washington Street  
in search of the mirror plate for you, and  
were so fortunate as to procure one without  
the least difficulty, on the first mirror store  
we entered, and at the price you were willing  
to give, the plate cost 37¢, but they would not  
take it under 26¢ extra charge.

We had intended, and would have preferred  
sending it by Capt James M. Garrison, as being  
a person on whom we could depend for its safe  
conveyance, at least, so far as careful handling  
was concerned, but Bessie mentions in a letter  
received yesterday that William had spoken  
to Capt Hugh M. Garrison to buy it down,  
and have accordingly shipped it as desired.  
Please to write on receiving it as we will feel  
anxious to know whether it reached you in  
safety, and how you are pleased with it.

I sincerely hope it may suit the family.  
I like living in Boston much better than I  
anticipated, and although boating do not  
feel the time drag by heavily. Our room though  
simply furnished possesses one valuable  
attraction, abundance of fresh air and light.  
I have given the girls a minute description of  
our new home and refer you to them.

This evening our holiday soon ends, I need scarce  
tell you that our short experience of married life  
has been fraught with much happiness, no  
clouds have dimmed the sunshine of our  
hearts, but we must not expect all life to  
be sunshine for evil not clouds and sorrows  
sometimes cross our pathway through life, we  
ought forget to thank the "Almighty Bestower" for  
the many mercies with which we are daily com-  
passed, that we may never prove ungrateful  
recipients of his many bounties is our most  
earnest prayer. Isaac's health continues to  
improve daily, he does not go out after night  
and we visit him regularly before ten o'clock  
a question here about you think? By next spring  
I trust he will have returned to his former  
health and strength. It is not a punished

To have to remain every evening in his board-  
ing house was, for he has some one to look for  
his return, and happily do the house give by whom  
seated in our own lightsome, airy room, which  
has already assumed that pleasant home feeling  
we had quite, talk, sing or remain quiet just as  
we feel inclined. Of music we have an abundance  
there are two young lady boarders splendid sing-  
ers, they do sing duets most beautifully, one of  
them has the strongest alto voice I have ever  
heard. A married daughter of our hostess  
plays the piano and excels on a accompaniment,  
so we have not to go out of the house for good  
music. I have only attended one concert yet  
but the musical season has scarcely commenced  
Isaac's brother sojourns in the house with us  
and when I feel inclined to go out on the evening  
he is most happy to be my escort, Isaac insists  
on my going out sometimes but inclination rarely  
prompt me to leave him alone. How numerous  
are the attractions presented in a city like  
Boston to any one coming from a small inland  
place, Concerts, Parades, Exhibitions, &c  
most thoroughly did I enjoy our visit to the  
"Mechanics and Horticultural Exhibitions"

The display of useful and ornamental articles  
at the former exceeded everything my mind's  
eye could have conjured up, no expense  
had been spared in fitting up the Halls, in  
magnificent style. One of the greatest curiosities  
to me was a beautiful little steam engine,  
made entirely of crystal, when working it made  
a sound precisely like the ticking of a watch.  
But it is useless to attempt any description of  
the thousand beautiful and wonderful  
articles exhibited.

<sup>Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> 1841</sup>  
Mr Isaac Green gave me a Budget of news  
from home, it is so delightful to meet a  
familiar face when in the midst of strangers.  
He proceeds to New York this evening to have  
an operation performed on little Bob's eye,  
poor little creature what an amount of  
suffering he has endured for one so young.  
So please make every excuse for this detached  
scrawl, for I am writing very hurriedly.  
Give my warmest love to all the loved ones  
at home and reserve a share for yourself  
and William. When Isaac here I know he  
would cordially join me.

Remain yours  
Cordly cousin  
Barbara