

Toronto -
Saturday 1871
Acc. 976

Dearest mamma,

At last I have
heard of a satisfactory escort.
Lady Robinson has been the kind
friend who arranged for me,
Miss Leslie one of the Brethren, is
going to stay with the Duncan
Bells - ^{the boys} either on Monday or Tuesday
evening, her father is the Post-
master general, & will put us
along with the mail bags into
the mail agent's care, so I shall have
a lady companion, & also a protector
who is thoroughly acquainted with
all the incidents of travel, & the
modes of making oneself comfortable.
Perhaps Mr Kilaly is also going
down with us, in which case
we shall be doubly taken care

of I received your telegram
but as I had nothing definite
to tell you thought that it
was no use to return the
compliment. I expect a note from
Miss Leslie today, to let me know
which evening she has decided
on having, I will telegraph as ar-
ranged but particularly request
that you will not try to meet
me for the trains are almost
never in time, being often four
or five hours behind time for
no particular reason, as Miss
Leslie & I can drive up together
& as the cabman we choose will
get our trunks, there will be
no difficulty, & I should be quite
miserable if I thought papa or
William were catching fearful
colds & being reduced to iced
by waiting at the station, the
train is I think, due at ten
but there is very little chance
of your seeing me before the
afternoon, I will lay in a stock

of provisions, & take my work so
don't be the least excited about
me till I walk in, & oh! would it
be nice to be safely home again,
if the Lord will.

On Thursday evening Mr Wells
came for us to go to "the house"
& hear the debate, & though Mr
Kingston had dined with us, we
could not resist the temptation
but left him to Capt & Mrs Kells
company, & after a delightful
moon-light drive we found
ourselves comfortable seated
in the Ladies' gallery; the subject
of debate was "the Goodhue
will" which the heirs wished
altered, as under the will a large
share of the money lay unused
till the death of Mrs Gardner.
As Mr Richards made a long & tire-
some speech which time we began
with lively conversation, then the
debate became more lively, & we
were finally obliged to leave the

whole case before it was finished
we reached home about 12 o'clock
I found a nice little supper
consisting of corn beef, wine, & delicious
bread & butter having by a hearty
attack on these reconstituted and
sworn physical powers, we retired
to rest to snatch what hearty re-
pose we could, before the morning
dawned.

Last night we dined at the
Bayley's they are very kind & nice
we were a party of 16, I had a
very nice man's Captain Prince
to take me in to dinner, Walter
Lassells took Jamie in, & altogether
we had a very pleasant evening
which only surprised us by the
hearty way in which it came to
a close, Walter Lassells drove home
with us as body guard, the ex-
citement proved too much for
poor Maude who is at present
sleeping off the effects.

It is delightful to feel that a
time is settled for going home, but it
is by no means without regret that
I turn my back on Toronto, if I ac-
cepted all the invitations to stay weeks
with people I should be here till
spring, & as every one wisely remarks

that steam-boat-travelling is
much safer than the Grand
Trunk, the awful stories I have
been told about which are
sufficient to form materials for
a hundred night-mares, & for-
tunately I am not overruled, be-
sides I have the assurance of
the wisest care of the best of
guardians -

I did not go to the Moffatts
last Thursday it was so very
stormy, so I have promised to
go there tomorrow after church
& stay till Monday, they are so
nice & very much improved

Now dear Mamma
good bye, I will not write
again
Your loving daughter

Mrs W. sends love, & says she
cannot part with me, but you
know that is all very kind on
her part - but, cannot stop me -
Love to all - not forgetting her

Aimed Toronto
very home sick +
planning to return home

Railway conditions very
dangerous