

McGILL UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 1010
REF. 5

Philadelphia

July 21ST 1876

My own dear little Wife,

Nothing short
of the most intense devotion
induces me write to you
to-night, for I am tired &
sleepy, and, if possible, more
stupid than usual - so
stupid in fact that I must
confine myself to narrative
of a very simple description.
Well, to begin where I left
you, I reached the train in
plenty of time & there found

my father waiting to see ²
me off. I gave him numerous
injunctions about taking care
of you] in the evening, and
hope he did as he was bid.

The rain had had the
effect of laying the dust, but
still it was intensely hot on
the cars until after sun-
down. [At Plattsburg we came
to a halt for twenty minutes
& I went to a certain hotel
called the Houquet House
for tea. There stood the
same landlord with his
big diamond pin and
shanty pin, and there
the same bottle of olives -

3 - perhaps a little more
mouldy - and the same
sundry sauced and saucy
table maids (no wonder
they become saucy). I can-
not say I was sorry when
the twenty minutes were up.

There was a lovely sunset;
& Lake Champlain and
the hills beyond looked
much more beautiful
than when we saw them
in June. How I wished
you were with me! I
never see anything beautiful
now without wishing that you
could enjoy it too.

Before reaching "Sienderoff"
I retired to my berth and

slept as peacefully as a
babe after purgative.
Indeed I slept quite too
late this morning and
missed some of the fine
"sceneries" on the Hudson.
We reached New York
at 7 a. m. and after
crossing to Jersey City and
getting some breakfast in
a very dirty restaurant I
again took train for
Philadelphia, arriving
about noon. After obtaining
a room on North 41st Street
(No 515) and vainly endeavouring
to cut my throat with a
dull razor, I started in white

5

attire for the great
Centennial Exhibition
ground. There I soon found
Mr. Selwyn, and together
we started on a tour of
inspection which lasted
till after six o'clock.

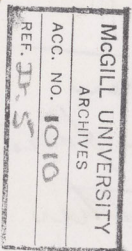
I shall not attempt to
tell you to-night about
what I saw - the story
would be too long a one,
and then besides I shall
be able to tell it better
when I have looked at
things more carefully.

This evening I went
down town with Mr. Selwyn

and met Dr Hunt at ⁶
the rooms of the Institute
of Mining Engineers. The
worthy Dr inquired after
you in a most affectionate
manner, & expressed his
regret that you had not
come with me.

As yet I am not at
all favourably impressed
with Philadelphia, but
perhaps will like it better
on more intimate acquaintance.
Bad smells are very prevalent,
indeed more so than in any
town I have ever been in.
Perhaps the numerous negroes
here have something to do with it.

You know not my standing how loved
I feel without you to night, but I try to
console myself with the feeling that you
are with those who love you & will
be kind to you. As the days of our
married life increase & only become more
fond & more proud of the good & loving
wife whom a good & loving God has given
to me. May God bless her is the prayer of
her husband
Bernard.



Saturday morning -

Before going out in search of a breakfast I am going to add a little to my letter, which if you find too long you must take in detachments. You see if you postpone reading this part until the day after you have read the first you will fancy that you have had two letters instead of one and will send me two in return.

The heat you will be glad to learn is much less intense than it was previous to my coming here; indeed I find it much more comfortable than it was in Montreal. This morning there is a delightful breeze. The armless shirt

which my thoughtful little
wife prepared for me is
Capital - so much better
than with the long sleeves.
The ink bottle too is a great
convenience. Really darling
I feel as if you had thought
of everything for my comfort
& I had done nothing for
you. I was so sorry to have
to leave so many things
for you to attend to and
hope that when evening came
you were not completely worn
out.

Now like a darling try to
write often to your husband
and tell him everything
that you do or say or think.

10

It will be such a comfort
to him in his loneliness.

Remember me kindly to your
father & mother and also to
William, Rankin & Eva, &
tell Eva that I wish her
many happy returns of her
birthday.

Ever your loving husband
Bernard.

Mr. Selwyn will leave
here on Monday. How
long I shall be here I do
not know — probably for
several weeks. R. J. H.

