

Little Mites July 29<sup>th</sup>  
1876

Dearest George—

It is so kind of you to write as often as opportunity occurs—when hot, wet or weary it takes no ordinary amount of resolution to do so; it is some recompense to know how heartily the smallest note is welcomed.

From you. Your last is that dated June 16<sup>th</sup> addressed to me. You were then anticipating that in about seven days you wd join Mr. Cambie. Three weeks have

slept just since we came here,  
 Rankine having preceded us  
 by a few days, to unpack the  
 furniture, cracking &c. notwithstanding  
 our arrival was fraught with  
 discomfort an account of our  
 having lost every one of thirteen  
 pieces of baggage. It was four  
 days before we recovered them—  
 four days of much discomfort  
 & worry, besides costing a small  
 fortune in telegraphing & driving  
 to this & that station to find them;  
 however that is all past & papa  
 is enjoying uninterrupted quiet  
 for his writing, in a pleasant little

room which he has entirely to  
 himself. This he varies with dress-  
 ing, patch-making & general out-  
 door improvements. While every  
 day or two I take a nice push at  
 some of the many small things  
 that want doing indoors. One  
 trouble is that the Carpenters are  
 so busy that I cannot get one  
 for a day, or even two hours at  
 a time, so that shelves & locks re re  
 have to be patiently waited for,  
 fortunately the things now needed  
 do not interfere with family daily  
 comfort. We have a nice cosy  
 parlour with a bow-window

looking out upon our craggy  
 ground & down the Gulch, a double  
 door window opening upon a  
 balcony set round with tree tops  
 it being projected over the bank  
 upon which the trees are growing,  
 this commands a fine view of  
 the sea & in certain states of  
 the atmosphere, of the high hills  
 on the opposite side — 35 miles  
 distant — also of Prof. Carey's & Dr.  
 Sunholm's Cottages to our left or  
 up the Gulch. Our trees screen us off  
 from the Hotel which is at some  
 distance on our right. The parlour  
 communicates with the dining room  
 by a very neatly finished arched way

on the dining room side of which  
 I have curtains hung, instead of  
 a door, the two rooms making  
 one large airy one. Up stairs we  
 have four good bedrooms two  
 of these opening on to a balcony from  
 which a very extensive view is to  
 be had. William came down  
 with us & had plenty scope for his  
practical  
 engineering abilities but having fin-  
 ished here he was not so far more  
 work & has gone off to be under  
 Car Harris on a section of the railway  
 near Ottawa. He will join us  
 after our return to Montreal for  
 a short week or two & then off again  
 to Paris for two long years! but dear

Anna has come to fill the gap, Bernard having been unexpectedly ordered to take Mr Selwyn's place at Philadelphia. Richardson has returned from there completely broken down in health.

The Hotel here is crowded to excess. Mrs Selwyn & three of her family are there. Cecil spent his holiday with us & left yesterday. Mrs Peepath & Emily. Mrs Walker & Lou. Mrs Macintosh & children & Mrs Carpenter are those we know best. Mrs Peepath has bought the lot on the opposite side of the road & is coming to tea tonight to talk over the plans of her Cottage

The chief amusement is heating  
 & papa having given one to  
 Rankine he & Eva with some  
 of the Major's as Herbert Harry & now  
 Anne are on the water every fine  
 day. It had been arranged  
 that Bernard was to do up  
 some of the geology of this  
 region & we hope that later  
 on he may still have a walk  
 or two here as it is terribly hot  
 in Phila<sup>a</sup> indeed this July has been  
 most unusually warm both  
 in Montreal & here with frequent  
 rains so that vegetation has been  
 almost tropical in its rapidity  
 Your father has told you fully

of the steps he has taken  
 matter of the late Mr. ...  
 on the ... we are ...  
 things out ... as to ...  
 interests of the decision the Government  
 may come to. I don't think ...  
 will do much to advance what  
 tells me, ...  
 cannot find another man ...  
 to take your place. But that  
 in the Patent Office.  
 of your ...  
 are such quantities of ...  
 has been examined that ...  
 this is light on many questions  
 in discussion. The hope that you  
 may return this Autumn to remain at