

(handwriting)

~~1028/98/14~~ CUS417/78.13
(Mrs. Marian Francis to Mr. Ogden)

McGill Coll Ave.
May 15 1882

So sorry about that photo- did not
know him, sorry he was not more welcome.

Dear Mr Ogden

We are all earnestly hoping for your success in New York, & indeed expecting it- if "Merit commands success" then I may assuredly offer my congratulations in advance. I was so pleased to receive your nice letter, if you had only seen how gladly its advent was hailed by all the family, you would have felt that your time in writing it was well repaid. Dr Osler was very pleased at receiving one from you previously. I have so much to tell you that I do not know where to begin- & first of all you would not know 1351 it is so transmogrified. I do not think it would gratify the Apostle of Aesthetic culture it is too gilded & opera house style & rather mixed - but the amount of adornment & improvement is very striking. Dr. Buller & Mr. Cantlie are enjoying it alone, so far, as the Dr has not forsaken us- he is however most attentive in calling at _____ & most scrupulous in his get up- a beaver hat on all occasions & an extremely fashionable London importation for extreme ones! The important question however of "to be or not to be" is not settled yet, so don't congratulate him. I must send for "Canada first" with some Bachelors in it for your amusement- it is old now, but I did not know your address when I got it for you, the last Bachelor I shd not have supposed was meant by the initials, but I am assured it is the case. The children are well & improving Grant being "Boss" now feels the responsibility of the position; he is doing so well at the Jesuit's Coll & has brought home a Report of "Excellence" in all studies & conduct May is improving increasing in wisdom & stature "she is still looking anxiously for a letter from you! Dr. Buller's second operation on Gwyn's Pharyngeal tonsil seems quite successful, & he now breathes as peacefully as an infant & is getting robust & jolly. It wd weary you to go thro' each individual so I will forbear, & leave the rest to imagination- except to say that Gwendolyn being asked by Mr. Johnson what the Stock was said "that is my welly dear Ogden". You will never be unremembered while your most aesthetic type remains, you see! Mr. Francis has missed the pleasure of seeing your Father by returning by another route - he is in N. Carolina again now- he enjoyed his trip immensely- if you remain in N.Y. you will probably see him before we do. I hope Percy has reached Eng. or if not Eng. Ireland; today. Ruth mourns his absence, & so does the faithful collie.- "Young Boodle" has left his retired quarters & gone to the Boarding House where his sister resided & where he is the honoured companion of seven(I believe) single sisters- he is becoming so scrupulous in his attire that I think there must be something up- I do not judge altogether from attire please observe, but there is a certain indescribable something in manner too! I'm afraid you will require a study of "Scribbleship" & a course of treatment before you will be able to wade thro' this scrawl but this "too too" paper is too too much too utterly rough for my scratchy pen- when I get a pencil like yours, I shall write Books to my friends, at present bad tools make me visit them simply with pamphlets. I had such a delightful letter from Dr. Rogers wh. I wd. send on to you only I must keep it, besides it is long & you could never wade thro' both; & mine might be the victim sacrificed! Dr. Osler & I went to Oscar Wilde's lecture tonight- his appearance prejudiced us both, but we soon fell victims to his magic spell - & we follow the Apostle. Dr. Osler has gone to a supper at Dr. Rodicks given as a farewell to Dr. A. C. Edwards who is leaving for the west; if he tries linseed poultices there instead of mustard perhaps he may succeed better than he did here. I seem to be giving you no news only meandering along in my usual way. There is a good class of students & the Dr. is having his lectures printed. The "inside ring" seem more hopeful about McGill difficulties being overcome but as I am not initiated I can not "give anything away"-

I must begin to close up as my conscience will not allow me to commence another sheet. I hope this alarming letter will find you with time lying on your hands. The children all send their love & wish you back they intreat you not to go to Millwaukee(?) but to stay, at any rate as near as N.Y. they ask me each day if I have written & when I say no- they "Oh mama" in such reproachful voices, in so many keys- that I almost feel ashamed to speak to myself. With kindest regards and my best wishes- Believe me always

Yours very truly

Marian Francis

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