



Ferriol

The House  
Méris May 3/80.

Dear Doctor

Of course I cannot reasonably wish you many returns of what I may call the semi-jubilee of your connection with McGill College. I can however wish that you may see many more anniversaries of that event in your history and this I do most cordially.

I hope that you are all well.

I am sorry to say that my mother is much worse than when I last wrote. She is all but a complete cripple. Her joints are very stiff and she suffers from rheumatic pains. You would be sorry if you saw her walking or working. She likes to stir about a little both because she is of an active disposition and because she thinks

she would do herself harm if she  
did not. She usually wears the same  
clothes day and night as she finds  
it so painful to change even with  
help. I have been kept very much  
at home since she took ill. She  
has not been once out of doors  
since then. I fear that her trouble  
will be permanent but the Lord's  
will be done. We have reason to  
be thankful that her mind, her  
health and the free use of her  
hands have been preserved to her.

Please accept a photo of  
my last imitation statue.

Our Sabbath School is as  
usual. There are Mr. Fisher and  
myself as teachers. That is all.  
Sometimes - but not very often -  
neither of us can attend. In that  
case there is no Sabbath School.  
None in my class seems to be quali-  
fied to be a Sabb. School teacher.



They do not seem to have the heart  
for such work. It is not a good sign  
when a flimsy excuse suffices to keep  
me away from church or Sabb. School  
when visiting is prepared to the Sabb.  
School and when the Sabb. Sch. les-  
sons are learned in patch-patch style.

There is a young woman teaching  
in the day school from Chateaugay  
She professes to be a Presb. I have asked  
her to join as her help in the S. Sch.  
but she excuses herself on the plea  
of being tired. She often goes visiting  
on Sabb. afternoons. She has written  
prayer, praise and the reading of  
the Scriptures in her school. I spoke  
to Mr. Baber one of the Commissioners  
on the subject. He spoke to her. She  
said that she had not time for  
one or other of these exercises, that  
there were religious pieces in the read-  
ing books and that the children  
got religious instruction on Sabbath.

Thus though the settlement is a  
Protestant one the Bible is virtually  
excluded from the school. I am  
not a Commissioner so I cannot  
worry in the matter. I expect how-  
ever that when the next engage-  
ment is made the reading of the  
Scriptures will be insisted on by  
the Commissioners. The teacher's  
landlady one of our communicants  
when she was starting for church  
last Communion Sabbath asked her  
if she were not going to communi-  
cate. She said "No" and staid  
at home. She is I believe a very  
good teacher in the day school but  
I fear she wants the very first  
qualification of a Sabb. Sch. teacher.  
I have strong reason to suspect that  
she is a novel-reader.

Our Method. friends here  
have service only once a fortnight  
On their vacant days several come



I have been long here <sup>2211/75/396</sup> now  
I know the people of the place  
pre-tt-y will.

Will the Marriage Bill has  
been defeated in the Senate through  
only by me. I am not at all sorry  
at it especially on account of the  
second part. On the principle  
of that part marriage with a step-  
mother, an aunt by marriage or  
a daughter-in-law would be quite  
proper. If the whole of the Ten  
Commandments might be pitched  
onboard. If Leviticus 18 be rejected  
we have no divine law to guide  
us in regard to impediments to  
marriage on the ground of too near  
relationship. I speak now with  
special reference to the second part  
I am sorry that even some minis-  
ters think that Leviticus 18 is not  
binding on us. But enough on that  
subject. My mother and I write in  
kindest regards to yourself, Mrs Dawson  
and family. Yours T. Fenwick.

"to the old stand." A Presb. station  
is to be started at Riviere du Loup  
the place connected <sup>Methodistically</sup> with Mitis. This  
will of course greatly weaken per-  
haps break down the Methodist  
station there. It is whispered that  
this place is to be a Methodist sta-  
tion only during summer. Should  
this take place I know that some  
would be quite willing to fall in  
with us. In that case a Presb.  
Ch. at S. Mitis would "not be  
a bad idea". However it is of no  
use cooking fish till they be  
caught. I know that some would  
like very well to have a minister,  
just two or three weeks in summer  
in the Methodist church. They would  
get their children baptized without  
any trouble. They would be under  
our pastoral oversight. They would  
get off cheaply. The visitors would  
do the most of the contributing.