

G M D  
Victoria V.I. Nov. 8. 1875

Dear Father,

I have now been here more than a week, but there has been so much racing & chasing about, that since sending the telegram announcing my arrival, I have not done more in the way of writing, than pen a brief note to Anna.

I can hardly tell yet much about winter arrangements, though Victoria will in any case be head quarters. Mr Selwyn Pope is to leave for Montreal next Wednesday, & immediately is trying to make arrangements for the representation of this province in the Centennial Exhibition. With the exception of Mr Richardson's numismatic collections, the thing has pretty much fallen through, from the incapacity of the Secretary in Montreal (Perrault) & jealousy between partisans of the Dominion & local Governments here. If they can be



Arranged, I may probably have a week or  
ten days work getting collections together, which  
will not exactly be lost time, as the weather  
is almost too hot at present for out door  
work. As soon as I can get away I  
intend to go for a few days with the C. R. R. S.  
parties now engaged locating a line between  
Zeni & Nanaimo, which line by the way, is  
a perfect-fair, passing over very difficult  
country, & running parallel all the way to the  
coast & Gulf of Georgia, which is a splendid  
water way all the year round. I do not think  
the line will ever be built, but the carrying on of  
an expensive survey on it is hardly in  
conformity with Mr. McKenzie's idea of  
"Utilizing the magnificent water stretches &c."

I had a letter from Capt. Andersson the other day,  
written before he had received copies of our Report,  
in which he says that he had represented to  
Lord Derby that it is desirable to publish  
a complete account of the work of the Navy.



(3)

at a cost of £800, & thinks there  
will be money enough to embody all my  
Report in the General one. I am on the  
point of writing to him to say that if this  
intention is carried out I shall furnish  
Revised copy of plant list, & perhaps also  
other matters. Rowe, he says is still  
very shaky. I see the prospect of another  
Boundary Commission to settle a line between  
B.C. & Alaska is good, & if not  
undertaken immediately must be within a  
few years. I should of course like very much  
to go into that country, & do not see why  
geological & Natural history work should  
not be carried on partly in connection with  
the Can. Geol. Survey.

There is some excitement here at present  
about the Murder of a Catholic priest by an  
Indian chief on the West Coast of the  
Island, near Barclay Sound. It seems  
to have been in some way connected with  
the plague of small-pox which is at



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present causing ~~for~~ many deaths there. (4)  
As yet we have only heard one side of the  
story, but a steamer has been sent round  
to enquire into the matter & if possible  
arrest the offender.

With regard to the Thermometer &c sent out by  
William, I think the world would come safely  
enough by post - is strongly packed. The rate  
of postage is not very high now I think.  
However I hope you will keep a postage  
bill against me, as I shall likely enquire  
to send for books &c from time to time.

I have to acknowledge Copies your Report,  
Natures, Leisure Hour with your portrait,  
various Newspapers, & many letters,  
including a large budget - concerning my  
Report. At all these I have glanced &  
hope to go over them more carefully  
soon.

Your affectionate Son  
George.