

James M. Bell
(Niece)

41 Gilmore Place

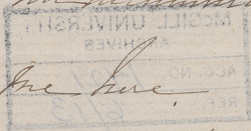
1st July 1869.

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO.	1421
REF.	6/13

My dear Aunt,

I have been going
to write to you for the last
three weeks, & tell you that
your skirt is finished at last.
I have been much longer over
it than I intended, but I
could have counted my stitches
I put in it while at the

North, & when I returned,
Thama had quite an accumula-
-tion of books for the time,
- & it would have been some
- some. Do you know of any
- one who will be returning to
- Montreal soon, as I should not
- like you to wait any longer
- for it. I fear your patience
- will be well nigh exhausted
- already. Thama thought it
- would be a risk to send



such a small parcel above,
but if you do not, I will
send it off as soon as I hear
from you. I inquired of
Mr. Middleton's if he had a
box going, that it might be
enclosed, but he said he had
not. If you are disappointed
with it on reception, please
say so candidly, & I may be
able to send you a handsome
one at some future time.

I got Jesse to run it at
the foot with the Machine,
as I was quite sure you would
not like it cut out.

We are very busy just now with
the House cleaning, one nice
job I got to-day was to take
all the pendants off the
Crystal chandelier wash them,
& they require a great deal
of rubbing up, but they repay
you for the labour when x

+ Stone as they look quite new.
I bet we use for them is fine
whitening mixed with spirits
I mention this may not know
of it. I do not know any thing
that makes it so pretty.
I have just been asking Mama
what message I was to send
from her. She was very much
pleas'd with your letter, but
you know what a bad correspon-
dent she is, however good her
intentions may be, so I fear your
patience will be try'd. Waiting
for an answer. Mama told

us of the very nice party you
had. I have been at three Balls
this season, & had invitations for
a great many more, but declined
accepting them. I have made
up my mind since not to
go to one again, I find them
very dissatisfactory things, & think
I might employ my time much
better. I have been spending
a week with Aunt Primrose,
it was a pleasant change for
both of us & she made me

promise to come again very soon,
it is not very easy getting away
from our house however. My visit
had been promised two months
before, & something always came
in the way. I often wish
there were some prospect of your
paying us a visit & ant. I remember
so little about your last one.
I am not going to lose hope as
Anna is growing up, & will soon
be able to take your place.

I suppose you dread the sea
as much as any thing, but it is
for such a short time, I think
you might overlook that.

I hope George is improving. he
must keep you very anxious, if
he is spared he will be requiring
another sea voyage soon & you
must come with him next time.

Lina says she is really ashamed
of herself so I think there is
some hope of your hearing from
her soon. I will have to.