

Mrs Bell

#1 Gilmore Place

Decr 3<sup>rd</sup> 1868

Interesting letter.

Cure for cut arm

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 1584
REF. 18

My dear sister

Your last kind letter dated July 31<sup>st</sup> (which I acknowledge I did not deserve) arrived when I was confined to bed with a severe bilious attack, I had not been so ill before for a very long time when I was sufficiently recovered we took furnished lodgings at Trinity, Mr Bell and I with Ellen

and Amelia went down  
for a fortnight which we  
enjoyed very much indeed  
our parlour windows were  
directly opposite the sea  
it was pleasant to watch  
the different boats cross-  
ing, we sometimes counted  
upwards of a hundred  
in sight at once, many  
of these fishing boats.  
I look forward with  
pleasure to the idea  
of going back at some  
future time.

Your congratulations  
on Margaret Ann's mar-  
riage are very acceptable  
it seems an old story  
now but I am truly glad  
to say she and her hus-  
band are well and very  
happy, they have got a nice  
flat in Rutland Street with  
only three families in the  
stair flat is let at sixty  
pounds the second forty  
and twenty six very clean  
stair and the door always  
shut at the bottom, we see  
them often, always on Sat

urday night. <sup>4</sup> Mr. Dant  
W Kenp's arm is now better  
although he cannot use the  
hand yet he is back to  
business and can write  
beautifully with his left  
hand, it was a very serious  
injury - there were I think  
nine gashes across the arm  
between the elbow and hand,  
some of them showing the  
bone. The mode of treat-  
ment adopted by Professor  
Spence was very successful  
throughout. He lay on his  
back for six weeks, during  
five of which the arm

was kept in a wooden trough lined with tin full of water at 90 degrees of heat there was a tap at the lower end of the trough, so that the water as it cooled was let off and more hot supplied, He never had any inclination to fever or shivering, and being possessed of a good constitution and very temperate he progressed steadily Prof. Spence was most attentive in visiting him he felt more anxiety about the case than he thought prudent to express at the time, there were

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several sources of danger  
which he only could be a-  
ware of. The bath proved a  
most satisfactory means  
of cure, and has led to its  
adoption in other cases  
with equally favourable re-  
sults. Poor Ellen sat by his  
bedside for two or three  
hours every day, he is now pay-  
ing back those visits, Daniel  
had lodgings next door to us  
at Trinity which of course  
they enjoyed much.

We had the pleasure of a few  
days visit from Gordon two  
weeks ago, he is looking very

well, his wife had a daughter on Friday last and was going on well when we last heard, I suppose Walter will have written to let you know that Annie is now engaged to Mr. Mossman the Jeweller's youngest son, he has bought a new house near her Father's which will not be finished for some months yet so that the marriage will not likely take place before June. This brings to mind the disappointment I felt at your not getting a piece of M

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Mrs cake, Mr Bell took such  
a nice cut over to the post-  
office the day after her marriage  
but they would not let it pass  
it was not worth sending as  
a parcel. so we had to submit

I think I may say in a word  
that all your friends here are  
well, Mrs Reid had her third  
baby about two months ago, she  
was here with her nurse and  
children last summer and  
spent a month at Portobello, she  
seems to have every comfort  
that money can produce.  
We have had three <sup>deaths</sup> amongst our  
Church members this summer,  
all suddenly Mr John Berry



Miss Duncan and Old Miss  
 Milne, no additions to fill their  
 places, I have been very  
 much instructed and I hope  
 benefited by going to the Hall  
 where Jessie Christina and  
 Louisa are members, they  
 have a gospel sermon every  
 sabbath night and a lecture  
 on Wednesday night all of  
 which I take great pleasure  
 in attending, They are a work-  
 ing people, we are asleep.

My dear Margaret, you  
 must forgive me for being  
 so long of writing, it is not  
 for want of loving you  
 thinking of and speaking

of you very often, but to  
write seems a thing I am  
not capable of, although  
I have taken months to  
think of it, this is as usual  
scribbled down at the last  
moment if I read it over  
I will lose the post.

The year will be near a  
close before this reaches you  
so accept my hearty wish  
and prayer that you, your  
dear husband and family  
may be long spared in  
health to enjoy the returns  
of the season. believe me  
to be in love and affection your  
sister  
Jane Bell