

Fenian raids + Anna  
dress for a wedding

Mr Gill College  
May 27<sup>th</sup> 1870

Acc. 1443

Dearest Mama,

There is no  
lack of news this week in fact  
we have been so tremendously  
excited about both public & pri-  
vate affairs that we hardly know  
whether we are ourselves or ~~some~~  
one else. - In my last I told you  
that perhaps George Baynes was  
perhaps going to be married in  
fall. but after considering both  
the cost & risk of the long journey  
to & from California, all the plans  
are changed & they are to be married  
on Tuesday fortnight. What do  
you think of that? Mr Griffin  
has settled something on her, which  
will enable them to live economically  
till he gets a practice. You can't  
think how intensely I enjoy the  
prospect of a real fine wedding

every thing is to be nicely got up  
I went down with Peggy to help  
her choose her wedding dress, it  
is to be of white Japanese silk, she  
preferred this as less expensive &  
more likely to be useful afterwards  
she has beside 3 silk dresses (a black  
& two coloured) four morning  
calicos & day handkerchiefs, 3 day <sup>table</sup> cloths,  
& a dozen of every thing else. Is  
not that a nice housewife, her  
sister Louisa & Nina are to be  
the brides maids, dressed in white  
tulle with blue wreaths & short  
veils. Mrs. Leornish gave them a  
lovely set of lace curtains, & I  
have got them a pretty biscuit  
box, one of those new fashioned  
ones of glass & silver, it cost \$8  
I hope you went. Think me very  
untravagant, but it was my own  
money & George is such a dear old  
fellow, & they are going so far away  
that I could not resist the temptation.

As I have spent all my money, of course I can't get my photographs taken, but the least one is very good, so I do say it will not matter much. — Then you know I suppose that the Finians have actually come, of course intense excitement prevails, & the news boys enjoy a temporary paradise, such contradictory reports are circulated that I really have not the least idea what is going on, I believe some of the telegraph wires are cut, the only things certain are that a small engagement took place at Pigeon Hill, & several Finians were killed & wounded, no volunteers hurt, & that O'Neil is taken. Half of the marauders seem to be coming on, the other half fleeing panic-struck & leaving their arms behind, the general impression is that all danger is over, every one is regretting that there

has been no opportunity for a  
good stand up fight, which  
might have served the femians  
for a few years, however we  
will see the final result in  
a few days, we are not the  
least frightened, so don't be alarm-  
ed, on the whole our minds  
run as much on the approaching  
wedding as on the "terrible raid".

I had rather a charge on the  
Queen's birthday as three of the  
Selwyns were up, & as the day was  
wet & misty & they would go out  
then put me out several times  
& all our spare stockings put  
into requisition. I bought k. a  
few fireworks & they all seemed  
to enjoy them immensely.

Last night I had a small tea  
party, which consisted of Sara  
Bruce, Alice Taylor, Jessie McLeod  
& mine, b'Ware came in in the  
evening, I regret to say that our en-

They are a gone case.

I have just read Kankie's letter, & discovered that he has sent you the astounding intelligence that I am having my wedding dress made, this explained why I to read that I am having a spotted muslin over skirt made for my dress —

Prof. & Mrs. Larnish are to leave to day & return in ~~September~~. I think it would be a good escort for you. I sincerely hope that you will be able to persuade Papa to remain till the end of July, there is really nothing for him to do here. The people have been ceased writing to him, there has not been a letter for ever so long. William had a little cold but it is quite gone now, he has in ~~Wassington's~~ <sup>Wassington's</sup> above the care of the gymnasium, & all the boys to drill, he is becoming quite gallant, thinks his presence indispensable when <sup>evening</sup> girls are here & generally is working.

versation principally turned to the feminine folly of dress, but ~~that~~ it was in connection with the wedding, so we ought to be held excusable. I intend to wear my white spotted muslin, for which I am having an overskirt made, trimmed with blue ribbon to take off the dead white look, they tell me I ought to get a bonnet, I could make a pretty little one for about a dollar or six, & there, but I have not quite made up my mind about it, yet.

Mrs Lunn came up to see me yesterday, she looked rather tired & worn, she has just returned from a visit to Mrs Barber.

I received my kid gloves & the pattern of silk, I think it is very handsome, I like the colour, only I am afraid that it will be very showy, William's gloves have not yet turned up, I am afraid that