

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO. 2211	53
REF.	

~~gms~~

Keswick

July 25 - 1871

Dear Mamma

I got quite a  
budget of letters last week as  
you had written by the Cunard as  
well as by the Canadian mail.  
I was very glad to know that  
you have all got comfortably  
settled for the summer at Colonsay  
I am spending my time here  
very pleasantly, & though at-  
first there seemed to be too  
much walking about I am  
becoming more accustomed to that



I am not now troubled  
with stiff legs in the mornings  
as I used to be for the first little  
while. Mr Ward kindly  
insisted on my being his guest for  
the first few days, but I soon  
came to a more satisfactory arrangement  
by which I have a room in the  
same house, & share with him  
his sitting room. The name  
of our landlady is Miss Hudson  
& Mr Ward has stayed with  
her ever since he has been at  
Keswick. She is very attentive  
& always notices to take clothes  
boots &c to be dried when we  
come in. This is very necessary



as for the last good while it  
has rained more or less every  
day. (Generally the latter). This has  
~~generally~~ rendered the Mountain  
even wetter than usual, so that  
it is a very rare event to come  
home with dry feet. A great  
peculiarity of the district seems  
to be that many of the bays are  
nearly perpendicular or along the  
steep sloping sides of the Valley.  
Yesterday we walked up the Valley of  
Newlands, there are a good many  
lead workings in it some being  
still in operation to some extent, but  
most abandoned. Near the top  
the Valley is very wild & grand.  
It has steep crags on either side.  
The slopes are quite treacherous as in  
many



of the Vallis here, ~~is~~ only covered  
with broken pebbles, & stones.  
It rained furiously two or three  
times, & we were obliged to take shelter  
for a good while in a place which  
had been originally an opening for  
lead, but had been subsequently partly  
walled round & converted into a sheep  
fold. Today we went up another  
glacier ~~which~~ near Skiddaw it is a  
splendid one for scenery & a new  
view opens out at nearly every turn.  
On the way back I filled my pockets with  
specimens of lead & copper ores from the  
rubbish heaps of old mines & workings  
of which there are a good many.

I have quite finished up my clumsy boots  
(which if you remember were made at  
Murray Bay & would not wear out) &  
I have in consequence ordered another pair  
which are to have nails of considerable  
magnitude in the soles. your affectionate son  
Glass