

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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Grange
18 May 1887
Str. Ancon to
Wrangell.

My dear Mother,

after long delay
in Victoria & a slow
passage we hope to
arrive at Wrangell this
evening. There I get off
preparatory to ascent
of Stickeen River for
Cassiar. Mr Connell &
Mr Evoy set off here
also, together with four
men we have brought
up from Victoria. We have
had fine weather in

the way up the Coast,
 though the past two days
 somewhat windy & rather
 Cold. The steamer, however,
 is very slow & we
 lost nearly the whole
 day yesterday calling
 at some small fishing
 establishments. The
 spring is equally late,
 in proportion, everywhere,
 & as we get further north
 the snow on the mountains
 comes nearer to the
 sea level, though it is

probably about a
 thousand feet up. The
 alders & other broad
 leaved trees are just
 beginning to bud out, &
 with luck we should
 get up to Bear Lake,
 the Central point of the
 Cassia district, before
 the ice leaves it. If
 so we shall at least
 feel that the time lost
 by the way is no disadvantage.
 The passengers on this
 steamer are not numerous

& none are of the tourist
 kind, it being rather too
 early yet. This note will
 be mailed at Ursangell,
 from which place I shall
 no doubt have time to
 write again. I will also
 be able to send letters out
 from Cassiar, though they
 may save time on the
 way, & possibly from points
 beyond Cassiar, but with
 no certainty. I hope therefore
 that you will not allow
 yourself to feel anxious
 in the absence of news.

19 May
P.S. Reached Wraycell
yesterday P.M. at 5 P.M.
The little steamer up
river is to leave at 1 P.M.
today. Nothing additional
to report. This is the
first trip of the river steamer
for the year & there is
quite a crowd of Chinamen
on board going to the
mines. No cabins accommodated
as you may suppose &
we therefore camp on the
shore at night, the steamer
lying up till morning.
The days are very long here
now ~~long~~ & a sort of
twilight nearly all night
George

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you may be sure that
I shall endeavour to
arrange everything safely
& if possible so that I
may get out in the
autumn, though if I
should get caught by
an early winter this
may not be possible.

I have, however, no particular
wish to stay up here
for the winter, & shall
endeavour to govern
myself accordingly.
With love to all
yours George