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Montreal  
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Dearest Anna,

I am at the laboratory and while waiting for something to stew sit down to write a few words.

Eric has finished his schooling for this session and this morning the grand finale came off at the Victoria Armoury. Your mother, Rankine and I were there and

saw most of the performance  
 - the best part being the  
 military drill. It was  
 the first time I had  
 seen Mr Nowat, and  
 certainly he is a rough  
 specimen - plenty of  
 energy no doubt, but  
 a very small allowance  
 of the gentleman.

Rankine came and  
 lunched with us and  
 has since gone for a  
 walk with your mother.  
 He still seems undecided  
 about staying here, but  
 on the whole seems inclined

to try his fortune elsewhere.  
In any case I should not  
wonder if he went down  
to Mexico for a while.

I am accomplishing a little  
here, but the sum total  
is small; there are so  
many interruptions.

Yesterday I had a visit  
from Renshaw, Professor  
of Chemistry at Johns  
Hopkins University. He  
was in Montreal on business  
in connection with a book  
which he is publishing. The  
book was to be issued in  
London (Eng) yesterday

and it was necessary that ~~she~~ he should be on British soil on the day of issue if he wished to secure his copyright.

I am heartily tired of town and long to be with you all at Melis. My intention is still to leave about the middle of next week, but my plans may be changed when I see William.

I hope the little ones are good and giving you a minimum of anxiety.

Yours loving B.

I sent the key you asked for yesterday, and the sponge and tooth-brush to-day.