



Little Misses,
Tuesday, Aug 21st / 94
5 p.m.

Dearest Love,

I sent my thermometer
on this morning and hope it will
reach you safely. It was registered.
I also tried to write a letter, but had
to give it up, there were so many
wants on the part of the little
people. Now there are two little
daughters with me Lois and
Constance who while not intending
to interrupt certainly do not make
it easy to write. It has been cold
and cloudy with occasional slight
showers to-day - more especially
in the morning. This afternoon by
way of withdrawing the children
from their environment I proposed
~~an~~ expedition to the woods to

our walking sticks and the proposal met with general approval. I found, however, that the hatchet had long ago disappeared and had to get a new one at Miss Artie's. We have just returned buying enough sticks and birch-bark to make the house untidy for the rest of the season. As for the grounds they could not be much more untidy than they are at present.

Last evening I went to your mother's to ~~do~~ tea, but there was no discussion of "plans" as Miss Ramsay was there. To-day, however, your father tells me that they intend to go up to town as early as the 30th of September, taking the servants with them — so that your idea of Florence going to their cottage would not be possible. Your mother suggested that Florence might come to our cottage bag, baggage & boys, but I fear that would not work and would probably make difficulty with our servants. I have said nothing

about British Columbia get to Florence (the nurse), but please tell me that she talks of going there as soon as she gets back to town.

Son mother and Eva talk of going direct to Elizabethtown from here, leaving your Father in Montreal. I fancy they would not remain out there more than a week or possibly two days as E. will probably return to England by the steamer of September 28th and no doubt wishes to have a little time in Montreal to see her friends there.

Your Father seems to think that if Eric has to go away for the winter it would be impossible for you to accompany him and that someone would have to be engaged to go, and certainly it is hard to tell what would become of the other children without you — especially with the prospect of my having to "knock under" at any moment.

Flet is down here and I have promised

to go over them for tea, so that I must finish this either on my return this evening or tomorrow morning.

Wednesday morning.

Had a really good night's sleep, but woke up to find it again cloudy. It is however, clearing off now & likely to be a fine day. Went to the Flatts to tea last evening. Your father & mother & Eva were there & we had a very fine tea & pleasant evening. I had a short play on the organ which I enjoyed. It seems so strange to have neither piano nor organ at our cottage.

Baby has just been in to pay me ~~the~~ a visit. He is so very good and so amusing that it is a pleasure to have him. His favourite expression is "Ach pitty" "ach pitty" — the Ach like a regular woman. I gave him a doll this morning and told him to kiss it and he at once put the doll to his lips and tried to make a sound like kissing which amused the other children immensely. He slides about the floor with marbles rapidly and frequently gets up beside a chair and would walk with very little encouragement.

Your poor father seems greatly relieved at having me here and says that he finds the children improved in behaviour already. He has evidently given up a good deal of time to them and has felt much

anxiety and responsibility on their account. Con and Bernard are the ones that need most looking after - Con especially. He is so tremendous dominating and cocky, though very affectionate and obliging withal.

I have found Roddick's memo & it is essentially what I gave you - 5 grains quinine - 10 drops nitro-muratic acid & a tablespoonful of water; mix with the quinine and take at first in the morning only (10 or 11) and later after a time both morning & evening.

I intended to ask him about Cod-liver oil which seems to be so generally given in cases like Eric's. No doubt however, you spoke to Browne about it.

I was much annoyed by the poisonous business on my way here and on the train one side of my face swelled up quite badly. Roddick said that the difficulty would probably disappear when I got to Metis and so it has. I heard yesterday that one of the Mr Swill's got poisoned 7 years ago and is still sadly afflicted, especially

if he happens to be in any locality
where poison ivy occurs.

Clare reminds me that it
is high time to take this to the
post so I must close with
love for yourself and Eric

Your loving husband
Bernard,

Take care of yourself dear. I
think that as a matter of conscience
you ought to do a little feeding up
with milk & eggs. I do not like to
have you so thin.

A letter from you the morning -
the children much amused
by your account of the cows
shaking the apples trees and
eating the apples.

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