



Little Metis

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1902

Dearest Anna,

We have had some lovely Metis weather this week and our grounds are looking their best - that is on the upper level. The winter was a severe one and the trees near the shore suffered rather badly, but about the house the foliage is fine and the grass very green. I have put the wanted amount of work into the garden and the results are satisfactory - weeds having well-nigh disappeared. If all goes well we should have three or four times as many poppies as last year and also a number of kinds of flowers which I am trying for the first time.

Sandry has sold his place to Macnider and is going to leave Metis in the autumn. He is such an obliging man that I shall be sorry to see him go! I fancy nearly all the cottagers are here now and the hotels are rapidly filling up. I, however, have not been outside of our gates more than two or three times, so know little as to what people are here or what they are doing. I am pummed by no end of troublesome letters and often feel disposed to tear them up instead of answering them.

Rankin + Mayant arrived on Saturday and are both looking well. R. brought golf clubs with him and has been out playing this morning. He has been in to see us several times and is more like himself than he has been for a long time.

I enclose a postal card which Clare received from Miss Hill a few days ago - the latest news which we have of Mrs. M.

The children are all looking so well and seem to find the days too short for all they want to do. Lois is very proud of the boat which Hope gave her last summer. Then we have a new "junk" which Carol made to replace last year's, which I did not like. The new one is much sturdier and a pretty shape, riding like a duck upon the waves.

Love loving Bernard

Our united love + good wishes to the household of Atkin.

Rankine, Margaret and the nurse are to arrive to-morrow morning and I hope the day may be fine. Luekey will of course meet them. He has got the express agency and goes up for parcels every morning. Three times this week he has taken Poppy with him and the little fellow enjoys the drive immensely. He is the best of boys and happy as happy can be from morning till night. I have given him a large and better garden this year and it affords him much occupation and pleasure. Conrad really took a better place in the examinations than we at first heard and there were several candidates below him. He will probably have to leave here for Kingston some time in the last week of August. At present he is of course occupied chiefly with base-ball and golf, and it is very difficult to get him to read anything. Bernard reads far more and makes himself much more agreeable at home.

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The weather is still lovely, but there are signs of coming rain - a day of which, however, would probably be good for the farmers - and gardeners.

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Garden and children

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