



McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 1010
REF. 252

S.S. *Tannier*

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1903

Dearest Anne,

I send you a few lines from Quebec and again from Rimouski and hope they reached you. Your letter sent to Quebec did not turn up, but I got two at Rimouski - one from you and one from Ruth, both of which were most welcome.

I was, however, greatly distressed to hear of the little girls having the mumps, but hope they have not had a very bad time. You of course come in for the nursing and anxiety as usual.

We are well on our way across the Atlantic and should reach Noville tomorrow afternoon and ~~for~~ land

land at Liverpool early  
~~Saturday~~ <sup>Monday</sup> morning. We have  
had cold weather and some  
fog, but a wondrously calm  
sea; so calm in fact that  
only two or three ladies have  
disappeared from the table.

I have not suffered in the  
least and have had neuralgia  
only once. This big ship is  
very steady and on the whole  
very comfortable. Our cabin  
though small is so well  
ventilated that it never  
gets in the least stuffy. The  
ventilation is indeed too good  
and Conrad got a cold in  
his head owing to the draught  
in the upper berth. It is however  
better now and he seems to  
be enjoying himself thoroughly.

The Russells have got on famously  
and he has not suffered

in the east. There are  
 some very nice people on  
 board, but one cannot  
 make the acquaintance of  
 all as there are about  
 180 Cabin passengers - inclu-  
 ding three McGill professors  
 Starkie, Goffron (Law) and  
 myself. There are also two or  
 three professors from American  
 Universities. I have seen a  
 good deal of a Mr. & Mrs  
 Baldwin from Yorkshire,  
 both very nice. He is a  
 manufacturer of fine yarns  
 but also a well educated  
 man. She told me yesterday  
 that she had five brothers -  
 two of whom are growing tea  
 in India, one a marine  
 surveyor also in India, one  
 in the navy and now stationed  
 at Halifax, and one a

rolling stone with no permanent abiding place. Another paragon is Whitney, the new Principal of Danversville, an Anglican parson with exactly the cut and intonation of voice which a parson of the established church should have. He is pleasant and prejudiced. Then we have Ben Fough the cartoonist from Toronto, who has given much amusement by his cartoons and caricatures.

Joffin is one of the counsel in the Alaska Boundary case and on his way to London to take part in preparing the case. He is a pleasant fellow and I should say a really clever man. His wife was a Miss Thibideau and goes



MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO.	1010
REF.	252

S.S. ....

to London with her - also  
her sister, a very pretty little  
French girl who has afforded  
Conrad much amusement.

He told me yesterday that  
he had been talking French  
with her. She is engaged to  
young Dr. Ford, the young  
fellow who goes to our church  
so Con is safe and you  
need not feel anxious.

On Dominion Day there were  
various games ~~the~~ which  
Conrad took part winning  
a couple of prizes. He  
was in the tug-of-war - En-  
glishmen versus Canadians,  
the Canadians winning easily

In the ~~way~~-of-war for ladies  
the Canadian girls also  
came out ahead.

The ship is so crowded  
and there is so much going  
on all the time that it  
is difficult to do much  
reading and Con I need  
not say finds greater diffi-  
culty than I do in settling down  
to a book. He is on deck  
from morning till night, or  
has been up to ~~the~~-day. Now  
it is raining and every one  
is in doors. Indeed it is very  
difficult to write as there  
is a perfect babel of tongues.  
My pen too is very bad and  
refuses to write unless I am  
flooding with ink. Hence  
little blotches. Ruth will  
translate this for you.

We have not very few ships but saw two icebergs and a number of whales and porpoises. So far the commo has not been in requisition as there has been practically no sun time. Besides we want to reserve most of our powder until we see something really worth photographing. It is lunch time so I must not write more at present, but will try to add something this afternoon or tomorrow after we have sighted the Irish coast.

Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

After writing yesterday the wind rose and we have had tossing enough to drive many people to their cabins. There has been fog all night

too which has made it necessary to run at half speed so that instead of getting in very early tomorrow morning it will probably be midday before we arrive. I fear that Hope will meet us and want us to go home with him. Kate falls say that if we wish it she will engage Hope in conversation while we slip off to the hotel.

Last evening there was a concert in honour of July 4<sup>th</sup>. We bought programmes but did not attend - the room was so full & stuffy. Judging from the roars of laughter Ben fough must have afforded the audience much amusement.

I have just had a long talk with an English engineer named Bellfield who with his wife is returning from China & Japan. She was very ill on the way and had to go into the Royal Victoria Hospital, where Fordner operated upon her & apparently with great success. They have nothing but praise for the hospital.



We sit next to the Doctor who is a very intelligent fellow, greatly interested in natural history and full of the wit which generally belongs to an Irishman. He is anxious to get skins of Canadian birds for some museum in Dublin and I believe Con. has promised to write to Bernard about a fish-hawk for him.

The fog is clearing away and we expect to see the Irish Coast in a few hours. The mail bag, however, closes before then and so I must close this very stupid letter. Conrad has written to you I think and no doubt has told you about his experiences. I have failed to get him to read much, but as a matter of fact no one has done much reading.

I hope that Clare will be able to lay up a store of health this summer. The difficulty which

you mentioned <sup>"</sup> before & left  
should be watched.

I shall write to Bernard  
soon and give him some  
advice about the smoking.  
Considering his own growth and  
youth he is a great fool to  
smoke at all.

But, dear, I must close  
and will write again as  
soon as I can. With much  
love to all

Your fond Bernard

---

