

Mary to her brother Bernard
October 1870.

Speaks of housecleaning &
papering a room—

Earthquake

St Andrews Oct-17th 1870

MCCILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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Dear Gerrie,

As I have "nothing else
to do" for a wonder I will
commence a letter to you but
do not know when I will
finish as tomorrow we begin
house-clearing that most de-
testable of all things.

I suppose you have received
Charlotte's letter which mamma
sent and know what a
nice time she is having
I can tell you I would
not mind being her boots
would you? Have you

seen the wards since you went
to New Haven? I sent a "Paper-
-knife" to Mrs Ward last week
& am in fear and trembling
in case it will not reach
her. In my last letter from
Maria Atwater she says that
she had seen you for a few
minutes. she has been having
a splendid time in Bergen
at Mary Green's wedding now
Mrs Dr Tobias, is not that an aw-
ful name, It all seems to have
passed off well and the bride
received fifty presents quite an
inducement to get married if
~~you~~^{one} could only catch a fellow.
It is a most awfully dull
day raining &c. &c. but we cannot

complain for we have had lovely weather this fall and October is half past without our realizing it. But I must - go and attend to other duties, will finish some other time.

Monday Oct-24th

Just a week ago I commenced this letter and here it is in my desk yet. I have been awfully busy in the day-time ever since and at night too tired to write any thing decent. Maria and I papered your room on Saturday and I can tell you it looks fine but is awful hard work; Maria being sick all day of course could not help us, she

drove out on Friday to see
Anelia Doudiet that used to
live with us, she had been
sick ~~two~~ days but was dead
when Grandma & Mr Paterson
arrived, leaving four children
sick in their beds was it
not dreadful. Charlotte has
got back to Montreal since
I wrote last & is staying
with Louisa who leaves
on Friday. If Mrs May
had not wanted to go
Louisa was going to take
Charlotte; would it not
have been splendid for
her I fear she will never
be so near going again.
Did B. send you one of
her photo's? she sent us

a very very good one taken
in Buffalo she looks so
nice that I think it quite
an honor to have it - said
I look like her.

Did you have an earthquake
last Thursday? we had one
here that shook the whole house
and made the lamp-shade
^{in the parlor} shake so that mamma was
obliged to take it off for
fear of its breaking, while
at Mrs B. Davis' three large
sized trays were shaken
off the side-board onto the
floor, every body was frightened
some running from their houses
others asking if the "Last day
had come" &c. &c. We have had
such a strange season
that I can hardly wonder
at their being frightened

especially as the day before
we had a "big-blow" which
removed the roof off Squire
Benedict's shed, and did
other damage & nearly
blew your humble servant
out of existence while
crossing the yard I had
a note from Mrs. Howard
stating she says that Bob
is not so sick again & spitting
blood. I should think the
poor fellow would be entirely
discouraged, he is coming
down to be doctored up by
him at Lehigh. I don't know
any thing about that Miss
Merriman's god met but be-
lieve she is nice from what
Grand says I have two more
letters to write tonight and