

Montreal Thursday Oct 16th 1859.

My dear George

Your last received letters were addressed to Anna, Papa & Rankine, & that in my last I noticed anything that seemed to require an answer in the letter I last received. I think we enjoy the letters you write to Rankine & Eva quite as much as any. They remind us more of you every day much of talking at home. They give familiar incidents of your life in London that bring you before us very vividly. I was very much gratified by a letter I received this week from Mrs. Bell. It is the first I have had from herself since you went home. She says she found you looking wonderfully better both in appearance & health since you were in Scotland before. She also tells me that the tailor who made your coat has kept an exact pattern so that at any time he can make you another, as you seem pleased.

think its fit, should you acquire one I advise
you to send your order to the same man.
Mr Pettigrew has sent me photos of
the twins, Amelia & Gordon. I wish me in
return to send the nearest ones of our family,
but with the hope I have before me of
perhaps going home myself, I shall not
do so at present. Mr Bell writes in the
most urgent terms about my going home
beseeching me not to miss such an opportunity.
There are many difficulties & grave risks in
the decision & therefore I especially wish to be
guided by God's providence in the matter.
If the way is open papa has quite decided
that I shall accompany him. As I have
said so much about papa being unwell
this winter, I must tell you that he is
just begun to give a little time to the
Rheumatic fossils which has chafed him
not a little. I trust the holidays now so
near will not be frittered away by any new
difficulties.

The younger children are now undergoing
the pleas and tortures of selecting & making
Christmas presents. Anna with her usual
decision is at work, & gives me one or two daily

whining for an hour of his precious time
to help to carry me through my difficulties.
I intend to give Eva two Booshy flowers
in pots. R. a large Cage for his chipmunk.
So Sarah I have already given a handsome
velvet bonnet for her wedding as well as
her Christmas present. She is going to be
married in our drawing-room at 8 o'clock
on the evening of Thursday the 23rd. The children
were told of this only today & they are wild
with delight. I do hope Anna will
not find a good escort to Lube before
this date as I shall find this a formidable
affair. Mr. Gibson is to perform the Ceremony. I go
to picture the scene. After the marriage, Belle
(Sarah's sister who is our table maid) with
Mary, are to bring from the drawing room
& bring in Coffee & Cakes for the party.

We have mailed for you by last
steamer a few lights merely to remind you that
you are not forgotten in our thoughts
about Xmas. I hope they will reach safely;
we ought to have requested you not
to open them until Xmas morning, but it
will be just before we can speak to you
now.

Sothy is thawing & Herbert is at work

damming up the Spring, back of Hamilton's garden, where it passes under the Avenue to flood that piece of flat ground for a skating rink. It depends upon the length of the thaw whether it will succeed.

Mr Johnson, Miss Cochran, Sophie & Fina spent an evening with us last week. Mr Johnson was asking about you & begged me to send you his kind regards. As did also Mr Kemmer & Mr Parnock. Lady Patt has come to town for the winter her husband is now in London. Mr & Mrs King of the bank are also there. Mr John Watson has invitations issued for a large party on the 30th of Course we declined.

William has had at school a written examination in Greek & came off second. Taylor 1st. What a miserable collection of small talents I have managed to scribble down for you. Some week I think I shall treat you to a week's diary of my own doings & then you shall hear of sewing meetings, Mother's Meeting, Particulars Church, Helped. Rev. with lessons. Market. Planned a dress. &c &c

She has I look forward to with most pleasure during the week is papa's bible lesson. I wish I could take notes of them. Now I must have to go my meeting with the women at the House of ^{Reserve}