

Montreal December 9<sup>th</sup> 189.

My dear George

We had the pleasure of receiving another budget from you dated Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> last Sunday. You have never said that you were well or so well as you like London, & altho' we take this for granted by the general tone of your letters, yet I have remarked this because these are the standard questions asked regarding you by friends here. Mr. Carnish & all I are very constantly & kindly inquire how you are. Mr. Leach sends his kind regards to you. He called the other day with his young wife. He looks very delicate.

We feel extremely obliged to Mr. Breyer, Lady Syll - Mr. Wain & others for the kindness they are showing to you. Lady Syll was so very kind as to write to me by the same mail which brings you mine last. She said they were much pleased to make you acquainted & would be glad to see you more.

frequently, & should be glad if she could  
do more for you. yet though you were  
wise in declining evening engagements  
as it was not compatible with diligent  
study. I do feel very grateful to her. Mrs. Davis  
is an experienced & practical woman & should  
you be out of health I should depend much  
on her sympathy & advice. How is her daughter?  
Her son I am told is in a lucrative & aristocratic  
position in New York. but Mrs. Davis feels deeply  
his separation from him & fears his soul is  
suffering from his prosperity.

We have still quite a lot of Sophie Brown  
with us. Anne & she have been at a great  
many quiet dinners & tea parties & so many young  
ladies have been attracted to the house that  
it has been quite cheerful. I expect that his  
visit draws to a close & soon after Anne  
hopes to go to Quebec so I fear the "old folks at home"  
will have a sorry Xmas. Where will one still  
more lonely son spend his? I hope the "sojourn"  
may be set in families" or wherever you may  
be it may prove a pleasant time. I thought you  
might possibly go to Scotland. yet there are so  
many sources of improvement & enjoyment in

Lovelace that latterly I have inclined to think you would remain there.

Mrs. Paddy is mother of our friends that always asks about you. She has herself been very unwell for several weeks; general debility from absence of nourishing powers in her blood. Poor Lucy fell one these stairs harnesses this week & had a narrow escape from death. She was for some time insensible & her head & neck are much bruised but today she is better. They have flooded this yard & have a nice little skating pond. We were discussing, at dinner today, the possibilities of getting a skating rink on the grounds. I doubt if it will be carried out this winter.

I think you know that Papa has a Bible Class this winter in the basement of Eskine Church. It is very largely attended & his lessons are most interesting. He has chosen the first epistle of St. John where he dwells so practically on the love we should manifest as one with Christ, as Christ is one with God; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence, & not be ashamed before him at his coming. In all the show & talk we have about + mas, how few quietly take in & endeavor to realize at all adequately the blessings

the Lord's advent has brought to us, & make sure  
that he is a guest in their hearts. Believing  
in the love God has toward us. I am going  
to send you by this mail a daily memorandum  
book of no intrinsic value — only to remind  
you of my love. I have many of my thoughts are  
of you. I shall select a text as a motto for the  
new year from St. John because Jesus is giving  
us such impressive lessons from it this winter  
& I should like that you could benefit by them.

Someday we expect Mr. Evans to dine with us  
& in the eve. the Baynes's, & a Mr. & Mrs. Cooper from  
London who are staying with them. Both Mrs.  
Anne met them last eve. Mrs. C. plays beautifully  
& both sketch & paint very nicely in deed, besides  
being good scholars in both French & German.

"Vanity is the spice of life". The B.P. must be  
highly seasoned. You would not fear William  
becoming "misanthropic" if you could, as I now  
do, over hear him reacting. "Hans Andersen's tales"  
to Sophie & the Merry Lancers interested themselves.

I write tonight because I wish to go early to  
market & afterwards to Miss Lunn's meeting.

Accept sincerely my weekly greetings of much love  
& affection. Alas Rankine & Elizabeth warmest love  
The others are writing to you.  
Ever your loving Mother.