

My dear father
I received your letter of the 10th and was
glad to hear from you. I am well and
hope these few lines will find you the same.
I have not much news to write at present.
The weather here is very warm and
pleasant. I have not seen any of
the old friends for some time. I
shall be glad to hear from you when
you have a chance. I am
ever your affectionate son,
John G. [Name]

ACC. NO. 14216

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

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being engaged, & on the whole to
rather like Bernard, as a brother
in-law, of which I am very, very
glad - for I am so fond of you
that it w^d have broken my heart
to do anything you w^d not have
liked, & you know I really did
mean to keep house for you, & w^d
have refused all offers of marriage
if there had been a chance of
my going with you, but there
seemed none - & as I cannot go
to you, I shall do my best to
have always a snug little
home waiting & ready to welcome
you to whenever you return
from your wanderings. It
was quite nice to see how anxious
Bernard was to know what you
thought of it, indeed I had so im-
pressed him with the importance
that I attached to your opinion
that I believe he had in dread

of my sending back his ring, &
breaking it all off if you had in
the least objected, now his mind
is at rest on the point, & everyone
has given their consent & approval
even to poor old Dara, who writes
sheets in praise of matrimony
from her far off isle of the sea,
& raises a sort of peevish cry
at the prospect of welcoming me to
the ranks of the wedded.

Poor B - is in trouble just now
for his eldest sister Charlotte,
who has been ill so long, died
last Sunday rather suddenly at
the end, poor thing she had suf-
fered a great deal. B came
back last night, tired & red to
the last degree, but was then as
usual instead of thinking of rest
as most men wd after a 50 mile
drive, he came directly to see me
& brought me a haquet, was it

not afraid of him? And he has
impressed so, you will scarcely
know him when you get back,
he tells me everything now in the
most natural way possible, &
graves constantly funds & funds
of me - I am already collecting
the mysterious & varied articles
that go to make up a trousseau.
& B. has bought at a sale, a
set of bed-room furniture, & a
bed-stand, which latter I fear
will prove a white elephant as
few terrace houses will be
able to comfortably hold it -
Nothing definite is settled about
the wedding. but a sort of im-
pression seems to be on all our
minds that spring is to be the
time.

Nov. 29th

Mr. Kiral has commenced his
art classes, & I am a pupil, &
sit on an artistic box have a
real easel to paint at, & hurried

things to paint that I blunder
over readily - haw, a red earthen
jar, an apple, & a shiny shell are
my objects, & they melt off
to going down as they ought to,
I am working as hard as I can
& hope to really learn, I spend the
best part of two mornings a
week at it besides doing odd
things at home - I have been working
at two memory sketches of a
walk on the mountain which
promise very well one I am doing
for the second time I will send
you the first to show you the
idea of it - by the way I would
so like to have that sketch picture
of the rocky mts. & that lake
that you did - for my new house
I just love that picture, I wd
feel so proud of it - may I have
it dear & of course I wd give it
back to you at any time if you
were willing to show it had your
own wall to hang it on, but may
while if this sister, wd have that

specimens of her favourite brother's
work she wd be very much
delighted.

Your quilt pins have been a
great comfort to me, they write
almost of their own accord &
I do only master the art of putting
new points on them I do not
write with any others, but even
painting a pencil is too much
for me, so I fear the other
art will be unattainable.

We have had two students
parties, one was a decided
success, but the last one being
a little near the exams was
not quite so good. Bernard
has got up a glee club among
the students & they meet at
his house once a week to
practise, they all seem to like
it & to judge by the specimens
of their singing that we had
at the student's evening, they
are getting on well. Hamilton
is a regular attendant, which

is good for him - The "intolerance
of youth" appears strongly in
him at present, I having no
elder brothers to quench him
he really is dreadfully opin-
ionated sometimes, however that
will wear off with advancing
years I suppose.

Alfred & Nellie are to be
married on the 30th of December.
All preparations are being
hurried as the time is short
I think it is such a pity to have
so much to do at the last. I'm
quite worn out by the wedding
day.

Last night about four inches
of light dry snow fell & today
though the sky is clear & the sun
shining, a high wind keeps clouds
of snow driving along furiously.
Oh dear dear, the dreadful
winter has really come. I do so
envy Dara who is never cold.
I wish I could be on the sunny side
of the sea.

Even has come out of the in the
new class which is extremely
good, considering that several
of the subjects are quite new
to her, & some of the girls much
more advanced. I think that
the teaching at this High School is
really capital the girls are worked
up & think & work like inter-
ested mortals.

Your letter arrived the day
after Mr. Selwyn - he is well
but has a cold caught by the
way. I have not seen him yet
but hear frequently of him from
B. There has been renewed talk
of resuming the survey to Ottawa
but so far it seems to be only
talk. I long may it continue so.

I began this intending to write
you a really long letter, but fate
seems against it & I don't want to
keep this another day. Maggie Martin
is now in Manitoba, & I hear that
Jessie Mc Linnert - I mean Gilmore has
greatly lost her beauty, & her child
is sadly delicate. Lilla Rogers has
another baby, a girl, so now she has