

Montreal July 3rd 196

My dear George—

Were I a more ready
 scribe or a less busy man I
 know not how I wd. apologize
 for so long a silence — if only
 thoughts wd. be telegraphed you
 wd. wish to stop the share I
 wd. supply, for talks & walks with
 you come & go ^{constantly} mingling with
 other things that fill my busy
 days & even more vivid interviews
 take shape in dreams: however

2.

I have turned up others to do
the mechanical part, & I hope you
will be at the acct. of the wedding as
given by, my dear little adopted
daughter, Sophie who so sweetly
tried to fill Anna's place for a
few weeks & break the lonely
feeling he leaving occasional.

We were sorry to know from
your last letter dated from
Russett May 28th that you were
so far on your way into the
desolate parts of the earth before
knowing that June 9th was the
day fixed for the wedding as we
expected to have you present in

heart & thoughts as you were
 with us; & as Mr Campbell, in
 the kindest & most thoughtful
 way, mentioned you & wished
 you all prosperity in your sum-
 mer's researches at the breakfast
 table - however all this excitement
 is now over - a new home is
 founded & Anna Chaps is now
 & again for a few minutes, her
 head full of plans, wanting
 advice or assistance for some
 separate interest of their own - having
 only a few stray beams of pleasure
 & carrying off the full sunshine

of his happy nature to gladden
 another!! to me fulfil our
 mission here!! one generation
 after another. Mr. Slayton & Burnham
 have succeeded in developing each
 other for several months so that
 B's plans for the summer are
 still undecided, but there is hope
 that he will be sent to examine
 rocks around Mtis & also have
 to go to Phila^a, in either case a
 mile come to us at Mtis. I am
 writing this in all the hurry of
 preparation for our departure
 there fearing that for some time

after getting there I will be still
more occupied. Rankine
has preceded us to get the Cottages
scrubbed out the stoves up
o the rough beds made.
He writes that he likes the appear-
ance of the Cottages very much.
Papa has given him a boat
which I hope will prove a
great pleasure to us all as I am
resolved to try to subdue my
fears & not be fit to be an
unpleasant addition to the party
William I regret to say goes with
us only for a short time he is

bent upon work which
 I suppose is highly meritorious.
 He looks well & is I think
 rather stout. Evas High
 School exam^s are now over
 & she has taken the very credit-
 able standing of being second
 in her class. She was first
 in Geometry, drawing & English
 & honourably mentioned
 in several other subjects. Laura
 too did well for the time she
 had been there.

I hear that Mr. Lead of the Obser-
 vatory

is going to be married in a few days. Jack Mr. Leman has returned here for the holidays.

Dear George, I say nothing of the place now vacant on the Survey by the death of Mr. Billings because I do not say any thing but express strongly my heart-wish to have you settled near us, as I do not know how you will like such a position so that, even if I do, I will not influence you to do anything that was not agreeable to yourself. So that my consolation & safe course is in committing

the matter to the Lord that
 He direct the matter for ~~the~~ best
 interests of ^{that} you of the work too. I
 hope Mr. Bowman may prove
 an agreeable Companion &
 a useful worker. I hope too
 that as you will be often
 in communication with
 the C. P. R. Survey people that
 opportunities will occur for
 communicating with us & that
 you will receive at least
 some of the letters which will
 be written from time to time
 to you. With much love. Believe
 me ever your loving Mother