

Acc
976

There is nothing here
except a couple of empty
pages, much difference
wrote upon
to
recy. Please
#one open this
this to let you see that

Shushu 14th

My dearest Father
I have just received a
return from papa to
inform me that you
grace reached port
yesterday. We at
are prepared to see
that you are
safe in safety. July
and command me
to the care of our
dear father
M.

13th 1881.

how many weeks have passed since
I last wrote to you. I daresay, through
some member of the family, you know
that Anna, her little ones & Eva left
for Antis on the 20th of June, immediately
after the bustle & excitement consequent upon
the meeting of the Civil Engineers & leaving
you, your father & me quite alone in
the College. however, I can assure you
that I found too much occupation
to feel lonely. Ten days or about two weeks
later I managed to get the house closed
& followed the first instalment to Antis.
It was well I came at the time I did

2
for I found her looking very poorly
suffering from a very large hail, an
indication of an exhausted state of
the general health. So I gave her it
my close attention for a week, by which
time all risk of parturition ~~is~~ was ended.
She continues to take quinine & iron & keep
nourishing diet & is picking up again her
strength & colour. She talks of joining the
sitting party here next Friday but I fear
she will find that rather soon. My
absence from home throws too much upon
her in the Spring. & in the midst of her
preparations for Ant's come all the gaiety,
excursions & meetings of the C. E's. It is
a most fortunate thing that the effects of
such dissipation worked itself out in
the shape of a superficial balcano instead
of some obscure internal trouble. Papa
insisted on my leaving him alone in

Montreal, as while the house was kept open there were constant interruptions. So I have arranged with Mrs Hamilton to give him his meals, in his office off the Faculty room, & he is to sleep in the house. He writes to me that by two days after I left he had his pamphlets spread over the dining room, his specimens of some kind over the library & fossils all over the benches in his class room. He had Currier, Richardson, Hamilton & one of his boys hard at work assisting in the preparation for the new museum & had accomplished more & felt greater peace of mind, about his prospects in regard to his collection, than he had had for a year. I suppose there is a measure of physical rest in all this but he has had unceasing labors through out June - meetings about every variety

of things connected with the College, Normal School, examinations &c. &c. I have all much worry as to how the large deficit in the yearly income of the College is to be met. It amounts \$6000. annually. Already two lengthy conferences have been held by the governors on this subject & a third & last, if for the present, is to take place to day. Pope has prepared a written statement giving up his ^{2^d} salary as Principal's & proposing that an eighth be deducted from the salary of the Prof. & that this scheme with a statement of this affair be printed as a circular letter & sent to those able or likely to help in this day of need. Will you hear that Mrs. Reepath had given \$20,000. to endow a Chair in the Pres. College? It has disappointed us sorely. Mr. Fred. Gault also has bought Mrs. Luy's house for an English Church theol. School - giving ~~\$22,000~~ ^{\$22,700} for it. The Methodists, who tried to get this house, have decided

to begin to build upon this lot
to the right of the Gate at University
street. So while the main body is
weak the flanks appear to be strong.
The new museum has reached the top
of the second story windows when I left
D Hultstrom promises that the roof
will be on before early winter. Perhaps
to be well advanced with his special
work this week I promised to leave by Friday
night's train, reaching this Saturday the 16th.
Remaining here for only a few days, next
week he proceeds to Cambleton to dredge
at the mouth of the Restigouche & he
wishes me very much to accompany
him. I do not really care for the trip
as I have already seen Cambleton but
if it is a pleasure to him personally I
shall certainly go.

I cannot recall whether Williams had

the offer of making a topographical
 survey of the gold fields of Nova Scotia
 before you left. It came from Hon^{ble} Mr. Hobbes
 Premier of N.S. There was some delay about
 preliminaries but it ended in Mr. Claring
 his office & starting off on a wandering
 life similar to yours. In his last letter
 dated from Parter's Lake, fifteen miles
 East of Halifax. he, with Mr. Archbold (son
 of Archbold the Strattinghorne's business trustee,
 who lives next house to the J^{rs} in Boucher St
 & who has taken the Niame, or rather Engouez
 Course at Allay). as his assistant, was
 just inaugurating his undertaking
 from that point. Should he continue
 the work he thinks it will be accomplished
 in about three or four years. but he would
 prefer the tunnel if it gave on & you may be
 sure that I earnestly hope that it or something
 better may occur to bring him back to us - We
 feel^{ed} very lonely with the prospect of having

all our souls separated from us.
 Rankine writes meekly which is a
 pleasure to us, but after his pale face
 passing over his medical books in a
 Charles London lodging house comes
 before me & I long to hear that he has
 got through his exams. But it would
 be difficult to check which of your
 various hardships are most frequently
 occupying my thoughts. I never turn into
 my comfortable bed without a sigh
 for that loved one who has nothing but
 the ground, damp or dry as it may happen,
 upon which to rest his weary body after
 a hard day's journey. Dear George I am
 in constant prayer for you & I do trust
 that this journey into the uninhabited
 parts of the earth is the very last you
 will ever undertake. Surely surely your
 talents can command employment among
 civilized humane beings. It cannot be right

to spend all life traversing useless deserts.
 Joseph Mackey. Harrison Stephens.
 old Mrs McLeod of Kingston & Gordon Mack-
 enzie & several other old people has known
 to go on as at now amongst the dead.
 J. McIn has left Mrs Forde \$7000. jewelry &
 the house & grounds on Shurbrooke St.

Nina White has had a little boy added
 to his ^{family, the first is a} little girl. They are unable to get
 any rents from their tenants & are quite poor.

The Cottages here are all full mostly
 with the same people. Mrs Carpenter. Miss
 Lunn & others at the Hotel. The weather is al-
 ternately very warm & then suddenly cold,
 but through all terribly dry. The day is a
 failure.

Anna is housekeeper here & she nothing
 farther of an untoward nature occur. I have
 fairly started upon a life of lazy indulgence
 which with plenty milk & cream will I
 dussing pattern me into a typical old lady.

But I hear the dinner bell & as I am
 just at the end of a score. Shut I shall
 close with dear old love to you from
 your affectionate Mother