

Montreal October 2<sup>d</sup> 1891.

My dear George

We are hoping that  
you have now finished your  
inquiries & observations on the subjects  
connected with your Commission, &  
are on your way back to the Bering  
Sea, if not already within the limits  
of Civilization. I have written once to you  
since our return from England & on  
Tuesday next Rankin's Mail will have been  
on this side four weeks. In that time  
an astonishing amount of people & things  
have passed in review before us. I have  
forgotten the date of my letter & what I told  
you but more than probable. I mentioned

the great gathering, of between four or  
 five hundred Electrical Engineers, mostly  
 from the U.S. It was a most successful  
 Congress & the large & varied exhibits in  
 the skating rink had crowded of visitors  
 so that the proceeds left a handsome balance  
 over all expenses. The Exhibitors have given  
 many valuable contributions to the University  
 Electrical Department & doubtless it has been  
 a stimulus to the whole new departure in  
 our Science School, whether partly from  
 this or other independent of it some  
 duty tickets have applied for admission  
 to the various departments\*. We have also seen  
 a good many English strangers, or business  
 or pleasure here. Mr. P. Reapute, now some-  
 where in the West, also Lord & Lady Mount-  
 Stephen & others. & last the home & the home-  
 circle have occupied much time & thought.  
 As I get back at our old documents

\* of the Science School. There are no more new  
 applications to the Arts.

make it much easier for me to  
 start housekeeping again & get settled,  
 but both Anna & Florence have had  
 a trying experience, especially the former  
 who constantly surprises me by showing  
 the amount of fatigue she is capable  
 of enduring, notwithstanding that I know  
 how much strength is consumed by the  
 cheerfulness in which she accepts all  
 circumstances as they are sent. I hope  
 now however she has passed the  
 worst of her struggle, altho' disappointed  
 to have to change her French governess  
 that she has had during the summer  
 & who has proved efficient & agreeable. —  
 The poor girl has developed some malady  
 that requires long treatment. Anna has just  
 begun with another French girl who  
 has for two years taught the T. Bells. & the

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has got an English untrained nurse  
who is hopeless, but she has not decided  
how the English branches of music are to be  
provided for the elder girls. Eric has returned  
to the High-School.

Mrs. dom: Gramschilds & Jean leave today  
for England, en route for Germany, where  
they intend to devote themselves to the study  
of music for the winter. Bella, husband  
& two boys, who have been here on a months  
visit, go at same time. Have you heard  
of the deaths of Miss Rimmer & Dr. Dick Mac-  
dowell - both justly deeply regretted.

Eric & I have reopened our weekly  
carus-purcellus & she & her little daughter,  
when I last heard, are very well. They  
have decided to call her "Lois Sylvia"  
or "Sylvia Lois". at wh: we are all amused  
but the boys we will like these names  
better as time goes on - than to her Sylvia

breathes of words I remember & remind  
 her of a Shakespearian boy then she  
 has always greatly admired "Who  
 is Sylvia?" I don't say you know it.  
 The weather here throughout September  
 has been glorious. towards the end of  
 the month unseasonably warm  
 but with the assurance that it  
 could not last long one here  
 it with equanimity. Rankine has  
 melted in the perpetual sunshine  
 a most grateful change after the  
 severity of last winter & the great rains  
 of the summer <sup>in England</sup> one had heard is that  
 it has given many summer colles &  
 I deeply regret that your father is  
 among the number. He caught it in  
 an overcooled train from Quebec

where he had attended a meeting  
 of the "Commiss. of Public Instruction" some  
 two weeks ago. Like most Colds it went  
 on for a week without attracting any  
 attention but developed into a bronchitic  
 affection & through P<sup>o</sup> influence we  
 have succeeded in keeping him in  
 the house for four days - He is greatly  
 better & this being Friday he will without  
 chafing stay in Sat. & Sunday & by these  
 means R. thinks resume work again  
 with safety on Monday.

At this point I received another letter  
 from Liza (Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>). All quite well - the baby  
 is definitely Hilvia, Lais, Hanson, Atkin. She  
 asks every ones opinion of the name & if we  
 prefer Hil! to Hyl! I am writing very rapidly because  
 I momentarily expect to be interrupted by visitors &  
 I have besides a dog: people coming to dinner  
 tonight, but under all circumstances I am  
 always & ever your affectionate Mother.



