

The Winklers Montreal

May 16th 1893.

Dearest George

I am ready to accept any amount of blame for my naughtiness in not having written to you for so long a time, but since our return here there has been a steady whirl of excitement of one kind or other that has alternately occupied me & tired me. Papa I think has already told you of our reception & the enthusiastic welcome he received from Governor & Prefect as well as at the Comacinations. For me there has come presentations of flowers & many friends calling, although unduly this, family affairs have been chiefly occupying our thoughts - How & where the Harringtons are to be housed? Will's position & what course he should take? - Papa's resignation & the consequences there - Will's visits, & how

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Whether two or three days some of these
problems begin to be solved. Since our
property was sold Bernard has diligently
since every available hour to inquire about
houses, & last week devoted his time exclusively
to this work; he has considered & carefully com-
pared their respective merits. After an interval
we then wrote him to see how of those
apparently most suitable & he also got Mr
Seyles to give his opinion as to the quality
of the buildings & after due consideration,
yesterday he decided in favour of Mr Lewis's
house, 295 Upper University St, wh^{ch} is strongly
built & in good order & as at the
same time has secured a small lot adjoin-
ing it, he sh^d decide to add a few
rooms for our use, there wd have a sep-
arate entrance from the street & a private
door by wh^{ch} we cd enter his house so that
we cd take our meals with his. These
arrangements however, belong to the future &
we are thankful that it now knows where

She is going before the house she is in is
 pulled down over her, so that she can
 plan & prepare for her removal, as she
 is not strong & has much before her so
 that it was all important that ^{this} matter
 should not be kept in uncertainty. Will's
 prospects too, we trust, look more hopeful.
 Your father had a talk with Mr. Angus
 lately about C. P. R. matters when he
 told him that the Managers, he thought,
 had not established a testing department
 & that Will thus the man they looked
 to regarding & carry it out. This is not
 much to depend upon yet it gives W. renewed
 courage & patience. As to paper's future
 all of us here adhere to the opinion that
 he should abide by the resignation of his
 Principality as done to the Government while
 he was away last winter. Dr. Blackader,
 who has carefully examined him, confirms
 this, & finally tells me that although he has

made an excellent recovery & is sound in
 all his organs there is a reduction in vitality
 that makes it unsafe for him to assume
 the responsibilities & strains that will come
 in that position. With an easy life he
 may live for many years & do useful work,
 but a break down will surely follow if hurried
 or pressed into work. Your father himself
 believes me to be right & that it is wise for
 him to retire, & I do not think he will recede
 from this decision at the meeting at which the
 final step will be taken ^{which} is on the 26th.
 I only fear that he will hang onto some
 shred of work (Museum or other) ^{which} that he will
 use the old formula "it must be done."
 "I pledged myself to do it & I must ^{keep} ^{the}
 entire promise I will like. I know at the
 last too it will be an effort to him to be
 firm & a shock when accomplished. He
 I am planning to have something prepared
 to interest & occupy him until he familiarizes
 himself to these changes. We intend to
 go to Paris

about the middle of June & perhaps your
 my return about that time wh: will
 be a great pleasure. He is now busy
 with last proofs of the arranging of plates
 for his "Salient Points" & his many College
 finishing up — he is too busy & has al-
 ready lost some of the healthy bloom with
 wh: he returned.

Whilst we were in Washington
 we paid our respects to your friends
 the Ambassador & Lady Poncefort by leaving
 our cards for them — & they were kind
 enough to look us up & ask us to a
 reception they were giving to the Champs?
 Diplomatique. They gave us a Cordial welcome
 & asked for you, speaking with warmth
 & kindness of the pleasure of your visits.
 It was a brilliant & entertaining sight
 to see representatives of all nations in their
 official Court dresses, with heads of Depart-
 ments & Naval & Military men in their bright
 Colours — a few of the foreigners had business with
 the Salient Points doubtless equally enjoyed seeing

the grandeur & magnificence of America in their
brocades, laces & diamonds.

We are following the Arbitration news
with deepest interest, pleased to find
how much of your ^{work} is used in argument
against the Americans. I sometimes feel
proud that my own brilliant inspirations
& want to telephone to you to pay
the lawyer. Why shall not the claim
rights of property in migratory birds, who
are hatched & fattened on our garden
produce, to be shot in the courts, plump
& profitable for pies & steaks. This ^{is} an unjust
& meretricious - and they gain the power, after
the men take so adjudged - will be held up
to the masses with contempt. But I
cannot believe this possible.

Franklin is still a source of anxiety.
He tells me that he is far from well.
I get I dare not say, come home; in
deed we have no home to offer him, however.
That is not the reason, the true reason is that
I do not wish to influence him in his decision.

as to where he is going to settle for
 fear of after regret. I desire that
 his act may be a willing determination
 that will strengthen him to bear the dif-
 ficulties that accompany every position.
 I need not add how glad we should
 be if he favoured Canada in this
 spirit. I somehow I am hopeful that
 a change in his life is imminent
 that will bring comfort to us all.

I am glad to have told you in connection
 with our own prospects, that I had
 last Saturday a long confidential
 talk with Mr. Mc Donald. He, among
 other things, told me that the Governor
 had, at the time of receiving your father's
 intimation that he proposed to retire,
 considered the subject of an allowance
 & had decided upon the amount &
 although he wd. not like to go into partic-
 ulars lest he wd. be giving of late hearing
 his thoughts it wd. be ample to make
 us comfortable. I am not at liberty

to Commence much of what he
told me to your father, but I don't
consider I am betraying his Confidence
in telling you this much.

Emu writes expressing much regret
that she is likely to have gone to
Italy before you return to England.
She has lived in expectation of
seeing you ever since Xmas. I don't
doubt that she has told you that she
the babies, Kelly & her three children are
going to crowd into one house for
the summer. It is a wild queer place
a little back of high cliffs. I wd not
wish to have the Care of Children in the
situation. It is the place where Hape &
all Mrs. Atter's little ones used to go in
summer to Amoria's Cliff and
it pleases to Hape. But I must
finish this lengthy letter by sending
you papers & my own love & every good
wish for the successful issue to you of
your Conferences labours in Paris. Affectionately
Mother.