

95

Marseilles, Barcelona etc

R to George via Southampton

in Ottawa

GROSVENOR CLUB
Acc. 976
155 NEW BOND STREET W

May 3rd 95

My dear George,

Very many

Thanks for your letter

March 31st and Apr^l 16th

which I received here

Yesterday, on my

return to town. Since

leaving Marseilles, upwards

of a month ago, our

movements have been

so uncertain, depending

2) on weather and when
that I have had no
letters forwarded from
here. As a matter of
fact we called at Barcelona
& Valencia on the east
coast of Spain, stopped a
day or two at Gib, and
then passing Lisbon without
calling, spent two or three
days at Oporto, a very
quaint, picturesque old
town in the northern
part of Portugal, famed
as you know for its
wine. Leaving this we

had a very fast run all
run across the Bay &
channel, and arrived
safely at Portsmouth - day
before yesterday - The cruise
has been a very successful
one from the health point
of view, and on the
whole very enjoyable &
interesting. Charming
little vessel, with excellent
sailing qualities, and
steaming 10 knots an hour
in fine weather. I often
thought she was just the
sort of craft we ought to
have had in '78, for the
B.C. coast.

The "Ailsa" I saw sailing
in some race they held
at Marseilles, whilst we were
there, and very trim and
pretty she looked, but there
was not there any worthy
competitor. I am sorry
to hear so unfavorable
an account of Father's health.
Giddiness, at his age, is by
no means a symptom without
serious import. Excitement
of all kinds, even of a pleas-
able kind, such as the glow of
satisfaction felt, after a successful
address or lecture, is the
thing most to be avoided.
As you say of course there
are difficulties. It does

I seem a little hard that
none of us should be resident
in Montreal, but really it
is only the natural result
of Father's own life long policy
of devoting time, thought &
money exclusively to the
welfare of the "College", and
leaving all family interests
to Providence only. I am
very sorry indeed that Mother
should be also a sufferer, &
would willingly do anything to
brighten her life, by however
small a degree, if I saw a
way—
Among recent books Henry
Norman on "Peoples & Politics of
the Far East" and "Sir Samuel

Baker's Memoirs & Life;
will interest you, if you
come across them. Both
are singularly seasonable, &
are attracting attention here.

You remember Mark
Swain's new Pigeon's Progress,
or is it known abroad,
and their dinner bill at
Madeira, which excited such
alarm. I enclose a couple of
these little Portuguese bills as
curiosities to be added to your
collection of coins.

Remember me very kindly
to the Major & his household.

With all kind wishes
& remembrances,

Yours very truly,
Pantling