

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis. Sept. 4th 1900.

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ACC. NO. 909c12
REF. 16

My dear George

As you said you
would probably return from
your visit to the Rockies about
this time I wish to welcome
you, & to express the hope, that
notwithstanding most of the time
must have been spent in the Cues
that the rest & change of circumstances
may have been beneficial, & get
leaves more for its being your
distinct duty, to prepare yourself

for further work, by breathing
 the good sea-air of Melis for a
 couple of weeks. For the past five
 weeks, or so, we have had superb
 weather & if we could only prolong
 it for you would rejoice, but
 even less favorable weather, if not
 too cold, will do you good. I should
 like to stay to the end of this month
 & Anne advises me to do so, perhaps -
 partly, because she wishes Clare to stay,
 so probably I shall. I should like you
 to come here soon for after A. goes
 you might find it dull - I think
 she proposes to leave on the 11th? Not certain.
 I duly received your letter (August 26th)

I still agree with you as to the
 advisability of putting some outside
 criticisms upon the autobiography, before
 giving it for publication, & no one more
 likely to do this well has occurred to
 any of us than W. C. Colby. Rankine I
 know does not think this necessary, he
 has such entire confidence in your
 judgement. but I find it extremely
 difficult to put myself outside of my
 & judge as a stranger. I have now read
 to the 13th Chap: above, & find it all deeply
 interesting filling in, as I were, circumstances
 & incidents as memory recals them. & etc.,
 I have asked myself, how many in (say)
 England or the U. S. would care to follow
 the steps by which a poor Colby goes

to be a prosperous University or, in
 same measure, the same may be
 said of ^{the course of} your father's progress in geolog-
 ical knowledge — an editor outside
 the family ~~of~~ believes these by personal
 remarks or incidents. but this means
 a great deal more labor on the part
 of some member of the family by the
 going over & selecting of a mass of materials.
 I think Anna ~~of~~ this, not badly, if she
 had the leisure but how, when & where
 can that be got! She is as busy as any
 of you. Do you think without expending
 P. you ~~of~~ ~~she~~ you yourself approve —
 write to Colby & ask where he is to be found
 for the next few weeks & if at leisure to be
 interviewed. I tentively put this matter
 before him & thus form an opinion of his
 fitness

5.

Birkenshaw,
Little Metis.

I will enclose you a letter I
have been from Peep: Banning
& I think you will value, as I do,
the few words he says of father's
gifts. Deacon Hague also refers to him,
very eulogistically, in an address he
gave at Northfield on the "unique
characteristics" of the bible. It was I
who ordered a copy of the Methodist
Mag: to be sent to you wh you for-
warded to me, but you can have
it again if you wish the article or
pictures for your album of "Cuttings".
The hotels are closed & the cottages, by
next week, will mostly be shut up.

Hoping soon to hear of your safe
arrival at Ottawa. I of course
being able to come here. I am,
as always, your affectionate

Mother

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