

Letter Sence
Collingwood May 8/73

Dear William

I spent the greater part of
Tuesday in Toronto & went over the University
buildings & Observator^y. The former are
very fine, & they have a very handsome
Museum & Library. At the observator^y
there were a lot of Anemometers going
together on top of a shed, & on enquiry I
learned that they were there to be tested
before distribution to various places. They
are on a new plan & very ingenious.
The revolving cups are made to act on
a common American clock which has
been deprived of its pendulum, in such
a manner that every mile of wind
indicates four minutes on the dial.
The ~~quantity~~^{number} of miles can thus be

read off easily by anyone in the farm
of hours & minutes. The motion is given
to the escapement of the clock in two ways.
First- the rod supporting the cups passes
down close to the clock & into a box in which
the clock is inclosed. It has upon it a small
Crank which moves a rod passing through
a hole in the side of the clock to the escapement.
By the other plan, the weight of the cups is
supported by a short rod which does not
pass down to the place where the clock is.
The short rod has on it a small eccentric
disc works against a spring on the end of
a long light square rod of wood which passes
down to the clock box & is pivoted mid way.
The lower end of the latter rod thus moves
exactly as the upper & once for each revolution
of the cups. An iron rod fastened to the lower
end moves the escapement of the clock.

Here I am at this barred place Collingwood
with nothing in the world to do, & the weather
abominable, cold wet & windy. The
Chicora which is to be the first Superior
boat, is I find now advertised for Friday
night, but the Captain says will not start
till Saturday afternoon, I have even heard
it suggested that she may not get away
till next Tuesday. The hotel at which I
am staying & which is the best in the place
is dignified with the title of the Railway
Hotel. It reminds me forcibly of the
American House New Glasgow in many
respects, but contains a larger & more
noted assemblage. The elite are Captains
& various officers of the steamers vessels
ascends here in part, & from this the
descent is gradually made to a party of
Indians who are waiting here for some
expedition & seem to occupy the whole
day playing draughts

Collingwood is I should think about as
large as Pictou, but very much scattered.

It is for the most part divided up into
rectangular blocks by streets of immense
width, & which in the suburbs are still
decked with cedar bushes & stumps. The
two main streets have here & there a tall
pretentious brick building, & all between
is filled in with assorted wooden
shanties with more or less ^{ornate} ~~regular~~ fronts.
In front of the city is a long bifurcated
wharf with an immense grain elevator
at the end, & at which three large steamers
besides tugs &c are now lying. In other
directions the city passes by a gradation of
new yellow wooden shanties into a
wilderness of burnt rampikes through
which long straight roads run.

As I want to write a note to Anna
I must now close

Your affectionate Brother

George

