

(handwriting)

~~1028/8/15~~

(Mrs. Marian Francis to Dr. Ogden)

23 Prince Arthur Ave.,
May 15, 1885.

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Toronto

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Dear Mr. Ogden,

We are so glad to hear from you again, altho you tell us very little about yourself. If I had not been so much occupied first in nursing & next in removing I should have written before this to congratulate you on your appointment to the Professor (of I know not what) in Milwaukee University. We are all delighted at the prospect of your coming in the autumn. You must stay with us the Dr. is to be here in August so come then if you can I know you will enjoy meeting him again. We could only get a horrible house, in a horrible situation when we came to Toronto. Percy & May got Typhoid in it & four other children, younger ones, sewer gas poisoning- all the rest malaise, so I thought it best to sacrifice the rent & escape for our lives wh. we did. May journeyed in an ambulance as Dr. Graham wd. not hear of her being raised off the flat. She had such a violent attack but recovered wonderfully & is so strong & tall- I nursed them all, I wonder my hair is not grey. We are in such a nice situation now, & the house is much more after my heart, & there is a delightful garden- We all feel well & the children look quite different already. We are just above Blooe Street the garden joins the Queen Park grounds it is almost country- nice kind neighbors all about us & high tone people. You will be pleased with the children. Baby is as "big & healthy & jolly" for his age as the one you remember was "little mean & miserable". She is growing tall now & a wiry strong little girl. She & her next sister Gwendolyn is very pretty, they go to school 2 hours a day. Willie Brick-Gwyn & Grant, 4 boys, go to the Model School- May is at Rosedale staying with Mrs. Edmund Osler just now; I took your letter to her to day- I miss her very much, but she is such a favorite it is very hard to keep her at home- She is very sweet, bright & cheerful, & most useful too. I did not cut off her hair but plaited it in two long tight Grecian plaits & it does not seem to be injured by her illness, she is very strong & active, full of play still. Percy is preparing for marriage he is engaged to Ruth, after five years constancy! They will be a most happy couple. He has a good income & she is all one could wish for as a wife. Now I think I have told you enough of ourselves but I must not forget Auntie - just the same treasure as ever. I suppose you get the Montreal news- The Landlord is the proud & happy father of a little 'Marguerite'. Dr. Molson was appointed to the Front, but got a substitute, the Dr, a' la David, wished to make a Uriah of him, but his deep designs were frustrated!! You must be sure to give us as long a visit as you can spare; we shall all be most delighted to see you- I am afraid May's welcome will be overpowering! She has not developed into discreet young ladyism yet, & I fear looks on you as her especial property! she scorns Uncle Willie's proposal of making her his second or third wife!- I must conclude- the children all send love to the "Giraffe". I suppose you are reconciled to the states by this time. I am

Yours very truly

Marian Francis