

Acc.  
121)

119 Belairway  
Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 1886

Dearest Lais,

I fear you have  
been neglected in the matter  
of letter writing - I must  
not omit to tell you that  
Ruth is much pleased with  
my clothing - she thinks the  
Wool most becoming & she  
likes the silk suit & also  
the striped dress that  
Mrs Carral made - The silk  
coat looks very well &  
cold days the lining of  
satin makes it - very com-  
fortable - we have had  
several very cold days &  
lately a few of real summer  
now the air is crisp & cool  
the sun delightfully warm  
you wd love Winter if  
it is quite Parisian & in  
its air of brightness &  
space, & trees well kept  
ness - though the new houses  
just - propped down amongst  
trees, & the streets being  
ploughed up to level them  
before asphalt is applied  
are wholly western.



The people too have an  
air gai - & a bonhomie  
that is very pleasing -  
of course I am staying in  
a good quarter where  
wealth & comfort - is af-  
parent, but also views  
of smaller homes, which  
belong to the less 'wealthy'  
but still prosperous folk.

We had a tremendous  
fire not far off, & as we  
heard the reels & ladders  
rattling past on Wellington  
Crescent & neither Ned or Kate  
were able to follow, I set out  
a long long block of apart-  
ments only half built - & not  
roofed it was blazing, &  
a house near it - was catching  
the firemen struggling to  
save it - & the inhabitants  
dragging out their goods -  
& trunks on the street im-  
mediately behind the apart-  
ments were completely de-  
stroyed. Just new, small  
homes, most of them not  
entirely paid for - It was  
pitiful to see. The fire spread  
so quickly that some of the  
workmen lost their tools &



had to jump from the 9<sup>th</sup> story  
winders.

The automobiles here are  
far more numerous than the  
carriages in all the streets,  
not in the business parts, &  
we have had several very  
delightful drives out into  
the country - where they do  
go - Tell Clare I had tea at  
Mrs Harvey Smith's with Mrs  
Holt from Lakeside - she & her  
husband are going out to the  
Coast - for a trip - & she was  
as lively as usual. Mrs  
Sterling came to supper on  
Sunday & I took her down  
to the cars & saw her off to her  
hotel - She is much cheered  
about - Olive, who now is  
really progressing - Dr Klein  
rose & they were both here  
for two days - There is little  
doubt in my mind that the  
bad nurse is responsible  
for the whole trouble, but  
all the doctors think she will  
recover with no trouble  
left behind - but it will  
be a slow business.  
Ted is going to his office  
today, & I hope we will



hear no more of the Scatoca  
Kull's nurse paid us a visit  
last night & looked over  
everything, & gave us final  
instructions, she is a very  
smart-trim. strong, well  
laced in lady, who has been  
nursing part 14 years & is  
inclined to make light of any  
discrepancies that may occur  
which is an advantage.

I'll advise that Fashion  
Craft has a shop here, so when  
he comes this way, he will  
find his clothe ready.

Eve spoke of a riding habit  
it is not unlikely she might  
get a ready-made one at  
Rae's & though a blue doll  
one is the regulation thing or  
rather used to be, many are  
made of covert-cloth in shades  
of grey or drab. I are much  
better for ordinary & country  
use - & more likely to be  
serviceable - If one has to be  
made I sh<sup>d</sup> be inclined to  
try those Miss Greig or Previa  
Arthur Strat - I don't to be reason  
able & excellent-tailors. The  
gals & Lady Drummond have  
had things made there. I  
will say for Eve's lessons