

Please excuse
this hurried note
I write to catch
this afternoon

Monday 26 July 1864
(C. P. R. Office)

Dear Father,

We have all had quite an
anxious time about you. A cable
in Saturday's Gazette was shown
to me by Strathy on my way in
on Sat 2^d morning, & on reaching
town I at once cabled to you to
the Canadian Agency, & advised
George of the news & my action.
Everywhere on the streets the bulletin
caught my eye "Sir William and
Lady Dawson slightly injured"
at the head of both the Gazette &
Herald bulletin boards; quite enough
to make me anxious. I could ob-
tain no ^{farther} news from the newspapers
offices, to answer inquiries about
you. Mr Kennedy telephoned me;
Fleet called at the office;

Bogies sent Hamilton down post
haste; I met Mrs. Lyman and
she told me she had had a cable
from Harry to say he was not hurt;
persons I hardly knew, by sight
stopped me on the street to ask
if I had any details. Even the
baker touched his hat by way of
sympathetic recognition. Yet we
had no news all the weary hours
of Saturday. I waited till the
6 P.M. train & then made final
arrangements ^{with George} for the forwarding
of messages during Sunday, and
left for Sault au Recollet, as I
had no means of communicating
directly with Florence. I also waited
till the last on Saturday before
telegraphing to Bernard & Anna
in the hope of saving them anxiety.
All Sunday I could hear nothing
till toward evening if their friends
no news had arrived, so came

into town by the 10^{7c} train in the evening, & arranged with Florence to meet me here in the morning. The only news I could obtain was a further item in the New York papers which I saw at the Gazette office, mentioning Perkins also. It was the same despatch but more explicitly worded. I therefore cabled to Mrs. Crow at midnight, and received an answer this morning at 9.30 to say "Injuries very slight & trifling". It was a great relief I can assure you, & I was glad to be able to repeat the message to Floyd & Bernard & communicate it to the papers. The "Star" had it put up at once on its bulletin at 10.30 so that by 10.30 the anxiety of the city was relieved. I also telegraphed this morning to Mrs. Carpenter as her Gazette is forwarded to her, & she will be relieved & anxious too. You would be surprised

to ~~know~~ see the amount of concern
& sympathy manifested by everyone.
I was continually stopped on the
street this morning, and even the
telegraph girls seemed as desirous of
news as any one. I do trust you
will be all right & that this
will not interfere with your plans.

We only wish you had that of
cabling at once it would have
saved such a world of anxiety
and tedious suspense; but it is
all as nothing now to know that
there is nothing serious about it,
& we all trust there will be no
unfortunate effects from it.

I have to trouble you with
a letter from a fellow in difficulties.
I have sent a provisional answer
but you or Dr Johnston can give
more definite information.

Trusting you are all better, &
with sincere love & sympathy,
from Florence and myself

Your affectionate son

William