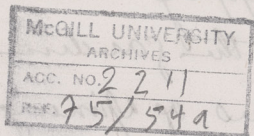


Mamma
Birkenshaw - Little Mills



Dearest William

I am quite relieved
to know that you are actually
finished with your College &
public duties & have begun to
work at your fossils. I know
that it will both soothe & rest
you, altho' it will not altogether take
the place of the kind & kind guest
& your air to be had here, so I am
going to ask you to promise me,
that you will resolutely throw
off every interlude I may reasonably
get. Diligently & join us here as soon
as possible. The weather during last
week

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has been warm & the water most
enjoyable. The Cottages are all occupied
& the Astle's have from twenty to thirty
in this house. I am told there are
only three visitors at the other Habit as yet,
Dr. & Mrs. Grant & his mother, Mrs. Lawson,
are occupying the Cottage the Haguis's had
last year, & are greatly pleased with it
& their. The Haguis's are quite settled in
this new Cottage. Bernard did
not arrive till nearly 12 o'clock last
night & it was one o'clock before his
boxes came. The flowers were in
beautiful order & are giving me un-
qualified pleasure today - the perfume
of the lovely lilies is filling the house.
Thank you so much for sending
them. We have scarcely had a day
without fresh vegetables since we
came & now B. has brought a prod

Supply. There is also good lettuce in the garden. I have sowed three rows of spinage in vacant ground but it has not appeared yet.

I have got a thorough little man to scrape & paint the boat - It got its first coat yesterday & will be finished tomorrow. I was sorry, when I found the scraping took so long, that I had not bargained as to price, as I had expected to do that I watched him closely & think he worked diligently & completed the preliminary work well & carefully.

I have made an arrangement with Mrs Mc Nicks to get one Cow's milk from her, which she is to pasture & milk for the two months we shall stay here, for \$12. Yesterday was the first day - we had ten quarts, & so today we have been cup writing in cream. Tomorrow is to fetch the milk & to get some skimmed

milk for his trouble.

I am quite wishful to know what Rankine decides to do, or rather where he decides to go. There seems to be a general impression that this is to be an unusually warm summer, so that it raises grave doubts as to the safety of travelling over the plains of Manitoba in the height of summer. No doubt there is little to suit his tastes here & I do not feel as if I had sound advice to offer on the subject.

If he could find any desirable companions who will join him in a walking tour through some of the pretty places in the Townships. Lake Thompson & the White Mountains. Could he not find what such fellows as Fleet, Lewis, Lorne Campbell &c are about.

Tell me if you thought William looked the better for his visit here. Principal Grant has been asking when

5.

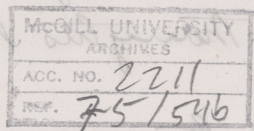
you are to be here - he says
he wants so much to have the
opportunity of talking at length to you
about some matters. He hopes to be
here until the beginning of next week.
but he may be called away sooner.

I find the mornings such a hurried
time for writing that I have taken
a little while this afternoon but as
I do not wish to take much of Sunday
privilege for secular thoughts I
shall finish.

On the very top tray of my
wardrobe, at the edge to the right hand,
you will find the key of the middle
bottom Cupboard - in it find
some round boxes with paper collars
& some long ones with paper cuffs -
please bring with you a box of
collars & two or three pairs of cuffs.

Again near the time for
 mother's letter from Eva. I
 do earnestly hope that she will
 plan her movements so that they
 may suit George's intentions.

With very kind love to my
 three sons, whose Company I grieve
 extremely to miss I much to your
 own dear self. believe me as ever
 your loving
 Mary Ann.



Monday July

All very well! A shower during
 the night & now another beautiful
 warm day.

Bring half a dozen white China
 breakfast plates with you when you
 come
 H.