

Musselburgh, 29th Dec. 1862

My Dear Aunt,

I dare say you will wonder when you receive this. I do not think I ever wrote a word to any of my friends across the Atlantic before.

As George is intending to buy the Photographs, I will endeavour to answer the queries in your last kind letter. As to how much it would cost, which is the first great consideration, I do not think I can say much as perhaps you will not have the advantage that we have here in Scotland, I may mention however that it has cost me £7 or £8 for Camera and all the apparatus required for Glass & Paper, this includes all the Chemicals &c and has kept me working all the summer.

I got the Camera Bather &c second hand & therefore a great deal cheaper than if I had bought them new. A good camera like what I have got is seldom to be picked up, when new it would cost about £8.

I dare say if George tries it you will get plenty of friends on the spot to advise you and I will be glad to give him all the information I can on the subject.

I would advise him to get a good Camera, which

which is the principal thing, there can be no pleasure unless it can be done first class. The manipulation is perfectly simple and easy, it only requires care and attention and there is every chance of success.

I regretted I sent so very bad a sample of my workmanship but it was the very first attempt on paper. I have been very unfortunate with the weather even yet I have not had time to get any very first-class negatives taken. This must be left till next summer as the winter has now set in and put a stop to all Photography for the season. I hope George will succeed and send us some fine specimens of his workmanship. If you like I could send a Guide to Photography which will be published shortly and which will give manipulation of the latest and most approved methods. I think it will be a very good work.

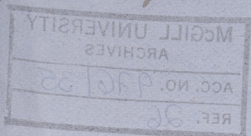
George always collecting Foreign Stamps, I enclose a few of the same sort as he got before but he can exchange them for others. I cannot understand how there is such a mania, evidently all over the world, for collecting old postage stamps. I even see advertisements in our daily papers "all sorts of Foreign stamps at moderate prices etc." We

We have had a little Skating on the
Locks, and as usual one or two cases
of drowning has happened. I am sorry to
say all through their own carelessness.

The dark nights just now always
find some ready to turn them to advantage
& we read in every paper of somebody
being "Garotted" also numerous advertisements
of Spiked Collars, life preservers and all
sorts of inventions guaranteed to defeat
the most daring assault appear in the
newspapers, Every body goes out at night
with some deadly weapon of defence.

Some people are very much alarmed
but I do not think there is any occasion
for it, as things are very much exaggerated
and any little affray is turned into a
grand story by the Newspaper agents,
indeed numerous cases have turned
out on investigation to be nothing at all,
but good sometimes comes out of evil,
and there is a prospect of a new Bill
being got up to keep all these Ticket
of Leave people away instead of always
letting them back to do more mischief.

But what a lull I have gone, I
did not think I had half as much to
say. I must conclude this by wishing
yourself Uncle and all my cousins ad
Montreal



We have had a little blizzard on the
all the Compliments of the Season.

Remind me kindly to Mr. & Miss
Thomson.

Remain

Your aff. nephew.

George R. Loring

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