

Mr. Gill College  
April 15<sup>th</sup> 1870

Acc. 1443

Dearest mamma,

I received your note only yesterday, & it seemed to have spent the interval from last Saturday in Mr Walker's pocket for the envelope was almost worn through, & the writing very indistinct however I managed to decipher it & I was very glad to hear certainly that you had got so far safely & with only such a slight misfortune as getting once off the track. The fact that ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Acres were your fellow-passengers was news to me for though I have conscientiously read the papers every day, I failed to find the passengers list. We have had the most beautiful weather lately not a breath of wind & almost as warm as summer, but today we have a strong north wind & bitterly cold, I have had to make the children put on all their winter things again.

For the first few days after you left I had a most disagreeable fit of the "blues" but now we have had a leaf taken out of the dining table, your room dismantled, Bella dismissed, & altogether have comfortably settled down into a small family; unfortunately for my peace of mind Frankie has got holy days at present, for casts of cursed Eva at once wished them too, for a little time I was quite in despair, but a bright idea struck me & I sent Frankie down to the Selwyns with a polite invitation for Mabel to spend a few days, the young lady accordingly appeared, & the success of my plan is charming, Frankie took both the girls to Joyce's with him to buy some "Hot Chas beers" & has since been playing with them & the dolls as good as possible. I find him the most difficult to manage but I try to let him have his own way as much as possible, but when I do prefer him to do or not do anything, I make him do it. William has

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taken the pieces of quartz over to  
Miss Gale, so you may expect it  
along with, or soon after this.  
Maria is very obliging & holdable  
but has been rather ruffled  
lately by Mr. Cline throwing a  
news paper at her out of the window  
& holding out a chair & inviting  
her to ascend in it. I believe Mary  
took up the cudgels in her defence  
& I have promised to speak to  
Prof. Larnish if she is annoyed  
again. I was so amused at the  
episode of the chair, that I could  
hardly understand her taking it  
so gravely - William is becoming  
a franker remarks quite fatherly,  
that is to say he regularly reads  
the news papers, & excites himself  
over the news of the day, which  
at present mostly relates to the  
Red River disturbances & the  
Fenians, no one seems the least  
excited about the latter, as well  
as the former, has been cried too often, but  
the poor volunteers have been  
ordered out, some of our Montreal  
ones sent to the frontier & several  
of the country regiments brought

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in here, they drill a good deal, but as I said before no one seems to care much.

I went to see Dara & had quite a long talk with her, I heard a full, true & particular account of Mr Child, which of course though intensely interesting to me would not bear transmittion on paper, she seems a little bit stronger, but Dr Sutherland will not allow her to walk far, not even up to here, if she feels better next week she is coming up some afternoon I will stay all night by way of a rest. I went on a shopping expedition the other day & got a good many spring things, I cannot exactly make up my mind about a hat for myself, but will I have no doubt eventually succeed. - I have had a letter from Hubert Warren & the house is to be ours, so that is quite settled I am thankful to say.

There is really not anything more to say, so with much love I must conclude yours very lovingly  
Amu.