Quebec Jan 14

My Dear Mamma

I am now beginning t get settled a little at my new lodgings & on the whole find them very comfortable.

I spent Sunday last out at Dr Douglas's & had a very pleasant time. He has quite a museum of all sorts of things from Egypt & Elsewhere

I did not go in to Church Sunday morning as it was cold & unpleasant looking but stayed & had a chat with the old Dr. He gave me a history of his whole Career in life, & certainly he has seen a good deal in his day. Surgeon on a whale-ship at 18. Then to India & occupied as army-Surgeon during one of the wars. Going to England to get his regular Commission & not wanting particular to return to India. Started on an exploring expedition of about 200 to Central America. He was one

of the few survivors of this expedition, the happy few being taken off a sloop of war to one of the W. I. isds. Here he lay sick & unconscious for a long time. Some friend sent him off in this ship to Boston when he finally recovered. Took passage in a coaster for New York on his way back to England. Was persuaded by an Englishman on board to change his plans & take a look at America as he was there. Went somewhere up into N.Y. State by canal boat. At a certain place canal broke & boat was detained. Made the acquaintance

of a gentleman of the neighbourhood at hotel table. A man having soon after met with a bad accident & being run through & a pitch-fork handle, the Drs of the place did not very well know how to treat his case. The gentleman thought of Dr Douglas & ran away to get him. Dr D. successfully cut the man up & extracted the rages of his shirt. Man recovered.

The end being that Dr D. settled down in the vicinity. Got into large practise. Appointed professor at Auburn? Being fond of anatomy pursued his studies

through possession bodies was then a state prison offence in N.Y. Got into trouble about a resurrected Stage-Coach driver, & was obliged to flee into Canada. Came to Montreal & found several old Edinburgh college friends. Finally settled at Quebec.

He also told me a good story about Father Shinopay as he new him here as a priest but I have not time to go further. Besides your patience must be nearly exhausted by such a letter as this.

Your affectionate Son
George.

Quebec Jan 14 1793.