

Victoria V.I. Jan 3. 1876

My dear Mother,

The steamer for San Francisco

leaves this morning & I had intended to have written somewhat fully yesterday, but found certain business letters I had to write took me so long, that at last I gave up & went to bed without writing anything for home at all. I will however take an opportunity of sending another note sometime during the week by overland mail.

First I have to thank all members of the family for our unexpected shower of Christmas presents. All arrived safely, & I must now in a general way thank each & every one without

going into details. I am only
sorry that I have been unable to
respond in a fitting way, but really
there is nothing here, & if there was
one could not get it across the
Continent. The little rumor you
sent is very pretty & acceptable
as that I had before was broken
last summer.

I dined on Christmas day at Dr
Helmeckens, as I told you I was to
do. We had a very pleasant party
consisting of Mr Marcus Smith, &
Messrs Gausby, Jennings, & Nathan
Lindes the hosts & myself. Dr H.
Came out here years ago as
physician to the H.B. Coy's Post,
& married one Mrs James Douglas!

(the then Governor & Chief of the H.B.O.)
daughters, who died some time since. Dr H
held a variety of various positions of trust,
took a prominent part in bringing
about Confederation, & having now retired
from all public duties, runs a
small practice in Victoria. As you
may judge from his name, he is
of German descent, & as from his
name you might also deduce he is
one of the queerest & most interesting
specimens of humanity.

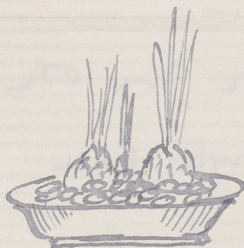
Please congratulate Eva for me on
having come so well through her
examinations

I enclose three Japanese stamps
for Raulcine, which I hope will

be new to him.

I cannot attempt to treat your
topics of importance in so
short a letter, so please excuse this
time.

It seems I should have told you
to plant the lillies in water with
some clean pebbles in it. I am
told that in earth they do not bloom
nearly so well. The I see about
here are arranged somewhat
thus, but are not in flower yet.



Your loving son
George

