

Victoria 24. Jan 18. /76.

My Dear Mother

Late as it is I sit down to write a few words to send by tomorrow's steamer. We have been enjoying a few fine days lately, & once last week it was quite warm.

Tonight however I hear the wind howling & the rain coming down again. We have a little frost occasionally at night but have not had any snow on the ground for a long time.

About a week ago I went to a concert which was given in aid of the Reformed Episcopal Church here. It was fairly good on the whole. All the performers

Amateurs. The most-amusing  
part of the affair was the sudden  
extinction of the ~~fire~~ just as a  
lady had opened her mouth to  
sing in response to an encore.  
After sitting in the dark a while, &  
considerable investigation by those in charge  
it was found that there was no water  
in the net. Last Saturday went  
to see ~~the~~ an Opera troupe which  
came here with a great flourish of  
trumpets. It has turned out rather  
poorly & disappointed the people here  
very much. There was one person  
who sang pretty well, & that was all.  
You blame me for not referring in  
writing to various important topics, the

truth being I suppose that in writing  
I think I must have previously discussed  
them. The water house looks well in  
plan, though of course everything depends  
on the situation, I suppose you will be  
planning to go down there next year summer.

How is the new home in Montreal getting  
on? I hear from William semi-occasionally  
& write to him at similar intervals I fear.  
You seldom tell me anything about  
his movements in home letters. I hope he  
will get on well & find the course of  
the College to be useful & thorough. I don't  
particularly envy him in Paris, knowing  
what it is to be in London with  
plenty of studies to occupy all ones time.  
One might almost as well be in  
Timbuctoo — or Victoria. The most  
unsatisfactory part of the whole is holiday time,

I used to hate a holiday in London  
When they used to shut up the foreign li-  
brary & leave you to cudgel your brains to  
find out where to go & what to do.

Auntie I suppose is busy with  
preparations for the great event. If it is  
really to take place in the course of the  
next few months — & I have hardly  
yet arrived at a clear realization yet —  
— you must put me down for something  
useful in the present line, say to the  
amount of \$400 or \$500 dollars or  
any other sum you please. I must  
depend on you for suggestions.

Please let Rankine I have got the Cartridges  
& note books. All right & suitable. I  
enclose a few more Japanese stamps  
for him.

Your loving son  
George

