

June 25<sup>th</sup> 1880

Dearest Mother,

As housekeeper,  
I suppose, I should give you  
some account of the past  
week. Everything has gone  
very smoothly; George has  
given up grumbling as I  
suppose hopeless under the  
circumstances, and we all  
live together as a happy  
family. The girls have  
done very well considering  
the general up-roar, that  
the house has been in;  
dinner always coming up  
regularly, & a great deal  
of housecleaning having  
been got through. The  
various alterations & improve-

2) which looked so terrible  
in prospect, some weeks ago,  
have all been accomplished  
with very little inconvenience.  
There has been no smell,  
& not being able to use  
the bathroom was really the  
only annoyance. The sweeps,  
whitewashers & plumbers are  
now through, & I hope that  
tomorrow will see the  
drain completed also.

Last night I went  
down to the evening boat  
to say good-bye to the  
Campbells who were all  
setting out for Calouma.  
Lorne however has been  
left behind. His leg is now  
much better, & he hopes to  
get through a week or two

of work before starting. Dixon Hayes &  
his brother were also on the boat. Tonight  
the Dares leaves.  
We are, of course, all expecting a letter from  
Eva by next boat. If she sends it to  
Metis, as is quite likely, please don't detain  
it too long. I wonder how she enjoyed  
the passage & what she thinks of Liverpool.  
I wish she were out here to enjoy the roses;  
they are in perfection now.

The weather here has been delightfully  
cool until yesterday afternoon when it  
suddenly became quite sultry. Today is  
also very warm.

Since it has come to talking of the  
weather, I feel that my subject matter  
is quite exhausted, & shall close with  
best wishes to all.

Your affec. son  
Rankine.

My love to Eric.

W's Office is still in situ - I call occasion-  
ally to see that no one has kidnapped the  
boy.