

Eric Wmo Lady D. about  
return home for English trip

June May 16<sup>th</sup> / 84  
Walfrae -

Acc. 1443

Dearest mother,

I did not manage to write last week intending to do so Monday, but George came down Sunday, & there he persuaded me to go back to Ottawa with him on Monday - I was unwilling to do so at first - but B. & he both talked me into it, so Eric & I went up Monday morning & came back Tuesday evening - Ottawa is very easy to find one's way about & I was charmed with the beauty of the Parliament building & their unsurpassed situation. Eric & I, loafed about the grounds there a good deal - I also went to see the fisheries exhibit - wh. has returned from England & is laid out in a hall there, & the Natural office wh. interested Eric above everything - he fell in with an old fellow there, who took him round & unlocked cases & let him handle models to his heart's content - indeed I had some difficulty in separating the two, & getting off in time to meet G. for lunch - G. is certainly looking better than when I left last, & has lost his bitter attitude toward the world - but he is still impatient, & lacks the vivid interest one w<sup>d</sup> wish to see him take in things

3 difficult - to realize -

Jean Greenfield I have just seen - looking uncommonly well she will be a bridesmaid at the wedding on Saturday - Every one seems to be going, the marriage is to be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  of - at St Paul's church & the reception at Terrace Bank afterwards - Carpy is going to the church but declines further festivity. I will wear my new dress & hat which look very well - Florence her blue silk - with a large white hat & lace - I was down this morning seeing that all her things were in trim - I hope the day will be fine & warmer than the weather we have lately had -

I am shocked at papa's proposal to passmetis by - why the steamers almost - always arrive at Rimouski Saturday, the night - just as well spend the Sunday with us as in town & as far this hour he wd be in plenty of time, to see about the yard etc wd I fancy find the custom house officials at Rimouski much more lenient than at Quebec - & if you have 22 boxes near the top of the luggage wd take all off there & check & leave at the station till you wanted to pick them up later, that is what I say did last year - I had my attendant for luggage for his new house for which his personal effects, I think it's certain will be very

I do not think there is any hope  
of his returning to Montreal for  
August, his present idea is to come  
back as far as Winnipeg meet the  
H-A party there & accompany them  
to their furthest limit, it seems  
not a bad plan to me.

Another tragedy has just occurred  
poor Mrs Harry Scott, has lost her  
eldest boy Lillie, he was at school  
Thursday afternoon, not well  
Friday dead on Sunday, I buried  
Monday - Diphtheria the cause but  
a very unusual, & malignant  
case, the growth being too far  
down to see - I believe 7 Drs were  
in attendance, & they tried tracheo-  
tomy, but to no purpose, except to  
relieve the painful struggles for  
breath - The children are at  
Mrs Yarrance's - Mrs F. & Harriet  
Cassels went to help Mrs Scott  
nurse, before they knew what  
the trouble was, & being there  
stayed on the few hours help was  
needed - but so bad did the  
Drs consider the case that they  
made the 3 ladies burn all  
the garments they had worn in  
the sick room & after 3 change of  
baths of carbolic etc - the whole  
party were sent to the H-Law  
ready Hall - where they are to be  
in quarantine for some days  
The whole calamity has been so  
sudden & so distressing - that it

pretty - & the extra bit far latitude  
could will be very useful - I am  
sorry to hear Mr Elliott seems so  
much worse, I don't know whether  
F. has been told or not. She  
speaks very little of him, & of course  
I do not care to introduce the  
subject. F. has quite recovered  
from her sore throat, & looks little  
the worse - though she thinks she  
is "very much thinner" she is a bit  
of a cadette in any case but no  
doubt will hard better in time.  
W. is much unsettled & worried  
about his affairs. there certainly  
seems little present prospect of any  
improvement in his present po-  
sition - though as I told him he  
need have no fear that the com-  
pany wd keep him a month or  
a salary higher than the needs  
of the business present or prospective  
demand. W. is so very impractical  
I fear he will always have trouble  
in his dealings with his fellow  
men - how he wd have lived in  
the world so long & know so little  
of humanity puzzles me. In another  
decade F will have twice the  
practical shrewdness he has. Now  
now the merits of her husband  
assume such gigantic proportions  
that she cannot fairly weigh the  
pros. & cons. of any affair he is con-  
cerned in - but her heart is clear &  
she can see & observe what goes on

about - but to advantage - 57

Carry is in great delight with her new maid who was with Mrs Baldwin as cook - I do hope she will continue satisfactory as Carry wants her to go away with her, she speaks of going to a farm house at Pt Fortune opposite Carillars, the people have not had boarders before & Carry has not inquired whether there is a gallery, or shade - or beds of respectable capacity - though I have suggested the uses of all these, but she is enthusiastic & I do hope it may be all right - is she goes though I fear at best she will feel it lonely - no friends near

Many thanks for all your shopping troubles on my account - it is exceedingly kind of you to get me a shawl - I think a black - velvet will be exactly what Lawrence needs, & of course in case of mourning w<sup>d</sup> be most useful - Clare says she hopes you will come home soon & she will make a nice bookmark for you, she is always liberal of premiums -

I fancy that now you must be in Scotland enjoying a

round of tea parties & other mild  
festivities - I hope all the circle  
won't feel obliged to send us  
tokens of remembrance - for I feel  
myself already under much ob-  
ligation to them - Ellen's baby  
must be a charming little fellow  
if I may judge by the photo she  
sent - George - Mr Bell must be  
very old now, a veritable patriarch  
I hope you will not hurry away  
from Fannie Barclay far, I think  
that will be your best judgment of  
peace - if I were you I should not en-  
gage to go on any long jaunt with  
the cranes, they will take you to  
death, & I am sure the Isle of Man  
is not an inviting spot - if it were  
Wales now! Give the Scotts our  
particular loving remembrance -  
also love in general to all in-  
quirers - especially Aunt Marion  
of whom I have very pleasant  
remembrances when I saw her  
she was most kind & loving, &  
more full of kindly thought of you &  
your going days than any one  
else I met - Will you see the  
Cligharn people at all? I think you  
ought to try - & it would be a pleasure to  
you in retrospect - The Bells seem to dis-  
like them but I thought them much  
pleasanter than their stiff ways  
chose to announce - Betsy is now  
settling into a fat good natured  
child but full of spirits & mischief  
& mischief, & of course very useful  
she is still blue-eyed & dark haired  
very curly - runs & climbs & fights  
with Clare.

Eric is waiting with some  
impatience to post this -  
Everingly Anne