

Acc 1443

Anna August 18

Mostly about servants - 1856

And the daily College  
grind being too much for  
Papa -

Dearest - Mother,

I was quite  
startled to find I sh<sup>d</sup> only  
be able to write one more  
letter to you. In case of  
any hindrance to that last  
time, I must send a note  
now as to matters domestic  
I have written two letters  
to Ellen M - one to Martine-  
tacon & one to Andrew Allen's  
care - to give her yr. message  
if those fail. I do not know  
what further to do - also I  
have asked Carry if she  
knows anything of her. I sent  
a note a Mrs Hamilton to  
tell her what you wish, in  
case Ellen applies to her & my  
notes miscarry - Will hatahi

let me know her intentions  
perhaps I had better write  
to her later when she has  
had your note. I will  
give Leggatt yr. order & try  
to extract some definite  
promise from him. he  
is usually at the Borg's  
house, so I can seize him  
at my leisure. I fear he  
is drinking still. —

There is a girl here  
Christina Mc Gargan, who  
is a cousin of Marys. I was  
last winter with Mrs Judge  
Smith as housemaid. I  
have written to Mary to  
ask her opinion of her, in  
case we any of us need  
her. & she is coming to me  
for the last few days here  
as I intend letting Kate  
go to her own home before  
I leave here. as I expect to  
go directly to St-Andrews  
& then hope Kate will be  
back in Montreal some



stop before we arrive, & just things in  
order - as it was there nearly 10 days with  
no remainder - I know the hours after  
Quinn's reign meet - he is a harsh man  
& I have no quarrel - the only cheap  
counter of this place is that I shall not be  
at home when you arrive - but on the  
whole I think it best - for we were  
there just about a month & with all the  
trouble I got not help you & I return  
a few days later to a clean house, & as  
in order - & you too a little better we  
will have a more pleasant meeting  
Kate suggests - my being her & my wife  
go to home - I may, but several of  
the names to be included in - & I do  
not know if we influence me - I will certainly  
invest a large profit that Kate displays at Florence

Mary (my farmer's housemaid) has a little son  
I had, so her hands will be full - as I have the  
marked, it - ought to have been a girl, for now  
we have 3 boys - Conrad, 2 Victor, 2 Mary's

boy - - We have had no wet of cold & wet-  
weather, but - having got through a few  
days of pretty storm, we were happy for better  
things a few and to Aug - 2 a charming 4th.  
Only one warm day since we came down -  
I have scarcely worn cotton stockings - &  
most - nights - we have a fire -

Some had a happy summer, Conrad is the  
devised of all schoolers, he is so strong &  
of learning & talks so much - the other  
children consider him perfect - I admire  
all his little ways - greatly - they too is getting



on better. She was so  
frightfully cross to the chil-  
dren, especially Kettle, that  
I w<sup>d</sup> gladly have sent her  
away had I been able -  
but after some very plain  
talk, & no end of patience,  
she apologized - & has been  
very much better wh. I  
hope may last, she has a  
very irritable temper natu-  
rally. that nervous irritabil-  
ity, one feels for, but wh-  
one finds a very rare spot  
in the nursery, that is one  
danger of the Superior nurse-  
the good natured Biddy, I al-  
most believe w<sup>d</sup> have a  
better effect on the mindes of  
children, however dirty, their  
bodies, or rough their speech-  
still, that is a doubtful  
view - I confess -

I can easily believe  
that you will not come  
back to Canada any better  
pleased, with its wealthy ig-  
norance, or vulgar pretensions  
still, a settled home in England

we bring with it - many of the  
daily cares & worries that now  
connect themselves with us -  
I still hope that some-  
thing or other will soon en-  
able papa to sever his connec-  
tion with the College grind -  
wh. is too much for him, &  
prevents his turning his energies  
to other & more congenial  
matters - I hope that "the  
meeting" will be a brilliant  
success - we shall not hear  
of it till you come out  
I do hope that Natalie & Ellen  
will turn up, & have all in  
order for you - Florence in-  
tends to be in town by the  
15<sup>th</sup> so in case of any failure  
you will have one house  
open - I wish I could be there  
to smooth all the path for  
a triumphal progress home  
but, I fear I cannot so  
arrange the Chinese juggle  
of household affairs -

With all love

Anna

Little Matis  
Aug - 18<sup>th</sup>

1886