

Kingston ^{19th}
Sat. Aug. 2nd

My dear Mrs. Dawson

It seems quite funny to be writing to you, for I can't help thinking that I am just off, upon another excursion & shall return to McGill College, at some hour of the night. Only it is a very silent excursion & if ever any one might be likely to suffer from an attack of suppressed conversation, I think I might, for I have scarcely opened my lips, since I said goodbye to you.

They gave me a nice cabin to myself, & then we had dinner, almost immediately. After that I went to bed, I wonder if you all collapsed in the sudden manner, I did. As soon as I felt it was all over & that for the present there was nothing more to be done, I became utterly limp & helplessly good for nothing in mind & body. I rolled on to my little bed, now even a log, likes to place itself straight, before it rests, (I should fancy,) but I had not even sense enough left, to make

Myself "comfie" before I fell asleep -

About an hour after, a knock came to my door, wh^{ch} I really could not answer, only the stupid man insisted that I needed water, wh^{ch} I did not care for, however I had to open my door & receive it & then tumble off to sleep again -

I don't know how a tipsy man feels, but I could fancy it must be some-what as I did - Does it not show what a power our wills have, for had there been another excursion, or anything I cared for, I could have gone on for ~~an~~ number of days -

I wakened up late in the afternoon, somewhat refreshed, & really enjoyed the scenery on the Canal - The rapids were to be seen, not very far off of the broad Canal stretched out before us, mirroring in its glassy surface, the quaint little cottages & pretty Elm trees on the bank - The harvest fields were cut & the corn lying about in pretty bronze heaps, while the fields varied in golden & brown & pale green tints, making such pretty patches of colour - Along the road by the side

of the Canal, were groups of people, walking
driving; & cattle & geese, all going life to
what I think a very charming scene. I
much prefer ascending thro' the canals to
going down the river - I surveyed my
fellow-passengers & decided that I would
not come down so far, as to talk to any
of them after such society as I had
enjoyed so recently - So I contented myself
with making friends with the Stewardess,
a friendly soul, whom I have promised to
visit again tonight - My own thoughts were
pleasant company, for I began at the
beginning, & tried to go over the supremely
happy days, that I am so sorry to let go.
I wonder what my companions thought of
me, for I found myself smiling & even laughing
to myself, as I lived & enjoyed it all over
again - I wrote the Nelson girls, a long
account of it, while it was yet fresh in
my mind & then I went to bed at 9 o'clock,
& slept till 9 this morning - Breakfast was over
but the Stewardess, seeing I was somewhat lazy,
was kind to me & got me all I wanted -
I forgot that I had a sham kettle-drum, when
I woke up yesterday, the fruit & cake were very nice.

6 I could manage without the tea; "but where"
were my friends, once to Merry & to Gay.
Today has been very fine, (it cleared up
yesterday too) & the Islands are really
lovely; I took out my pencil; but I was
really too limp to use it, only a little
English girl, who came on board at
Brookville with her Mother, has urged
to come up & see what was I doing &
then her Mother followed & we made
friends, until I slipped away for a
siesta - At Kingston Aunt Jan,
Mr. Allan & Gustave came in to see
me & we went out to Alvington for
a very brief rest - They loaded me
with beautiful grapes; but I want here
another Kettle drum -

When I came back, I found Mr. & Miss
Barton, wife & daughter of Judge Barton of
Toronto board - They are nice people
& I am awake enough now to talk
sensibly I think, so you see that good luck,
or rather I should say that God's tender
mercies & loving kindnesses are following

me all the way, to the dear home. He
has given me -

Dr. Lamborn's lily & roses are jewels as
ever & I have worn them all the way,
they have served to waken kindly, as
well as remorseful thoughts of the donor
who was really kind to us. There is but
one way in wh. I can tell him how
I wish you had join me in it, on the
strength of that never-failing promise
"when two agree in what they shall ask"
for surely we do not meet & part with
people for nothing, in this short life yours.
How can I ever tell you how much I
enjoyed, & how much I thank you
for all the pleasure you gave me &
for the innumerable kind things
so kindly done, I can only assure you
that you have given to me one of the
best - to be forgotten epochs of a life so
full of joys - Goodnight I shall finish this
at home -

Monday Morning. Here I am, once more in the
library at home & just as fresh as if I had
never given myself up to scientific dissipation

I took 10 hours sleep on Sat. night & that
put me all right. Mamma was meeting
me & so glad to have me -
I went off to church with her & heard such
a nice sermon on: "not by might, nor by power;
but by my Spirit". It just seemed the
word of help needed & so life begins again
all the brighter & happier & stronger for
the never-to-be-forgotten time when you
took me for a daughter & loaded me
with happiness.

Mamma sends you her warmest thanks
for all your goodness to me -

She bids me say that she looks
forward with the greatest pleasure
to Eva's promised visit & also to
making Miss Cross a acquaintance -
I will enclose a note to Miss Sum & me
to Katie Galt, as I do not know their
address - Mamma is just as pleased
at the thoughts of their coming, as I am, I
am only sorry that we cannot hope to
make them so happy, as you made me; but
we will do our best - To yourself & May I
with warmest love - To yourself & May I
add B. Dawson, Eva & Miss Carrie
Believe me Yours very affectionately
Gybel Wilson