

McGILL UNIVERS. ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 9098/16
REF. 1c

Quebec Feb 4 /72

My Dear Anna

You have not honoured me with a letter for a long time, so I suppose I must be in your debt.

On Saturday night, or rather on Sunday morning, there was a great fire near here by which the Court-house was entirely burned. I had just gone to sleep when a sudden shock awoke me. I looked at the time & found it just half past twelve. I thought it might be a small earthquake, but it turned out

to be an explosion of gas which took place in the Court-house shortly after the beginning of the fire.

I was trying to go to sleep after this but wondered at the quantity of light coming in at the windows, as the moon was set. Shortly afterwards I opened my eyes again & then saw that a fire must be taking place quite near. I got up & dressed & soon found the Court-house in flames & a great part of the roof already broken in.

Very little was saved, & the burning of so many legal documents & registers will cause great trouble in legal circles. There was no water

At all till the entire roof had
tumbled in & there was no chance
of subduing the fire. It was a
very cold night - the thermometer being
about 20° below zero. I got in
about half past two, & slept till
9 o'clock on Sunday morning to make
up for it.

Yesterday I went out to dinner at the
Andersons, & afterwards went to church
at St. Matthews. It is a very pretty
little church but we had a very twaddly
sermon.

I had intended to see Miss Esauvier
today to ask her about any vacancies here,
but have not had the chance. If I

could learn that a good room was
to be unoccupied soon, you would
then be in a position to decide whether
you will come down to be my guest-
here a while or not. I shall be very
glad indeed if you will, but-fear in
some ways it-might-be rather dull for
you as so much of my time is
occupied.

Please tell Papa I have received his
\$10 quite safely.

I don't feel at all satisfied yet
about-the Boundary Commission.
I have sent-up several lists of specific
objections, which have only been

answered, by you people at-home,
~~by~~ ^{by} hopeful generalities.

The commission is better in name & appearance, but unless some of my more important objections can be answered, - & I fear they cannot - I still must continue to prefer in my own mind the B.C. Survey. When I think

of anybody else getting the appointment to go to survey that splendid country with splendid scenery, it puts me in the blues for a day. However as there seems no retreat at present I can at least put up with it for a year, & on resigning may get a post on the B.C. Survey in some capacity or other.

I am afraid Papa has been bothered
about this matter a great deal, & I
know he has plenty else to attend to
& do not wish to bother him with
any repinings about the matter. I know
he has done what he considers best, &
I hope it may prove so.

Various people have desired me to
give best wishes to you & Mamma & Papa
but I cannot go into particulars.

Your loving brother
George

