



G. P. B. Laine
near Brandon
July 14th 1888

Dearest Lou

Once more I am on

the train moving westward, having left Winnipeg at 10.25 this morning (Saturday). I had seen most of what was to be seen in Winnipeg and did not care to remain longer - and besides I may have to remain there for a day or more on my return journey.

I liked the town very much and found it much more of a place than I had anticipated. But oh the mud & the mosquitoes! We had a few little showers and then the streets became so muddy & slippery that walking with anything like one's wonted grace was out of the question. I should think Winnipeggers would acquire a gait as characteristic as that of sailors.

While walking down "Main Street" yesterday I met two of the girls Galt (Sir Alex's daughters). They were greatly surprised at seeing me and wanted me to call, but I had not time to do so. Sir Alex. left last evening for Montreal. I called at the Fortins but she was out & he away from home. Sewell & Lewis I found at his office and he went for a long walk with me. He urged me to go to his house to tea, but I declined as I had a little shopping to do and wanted to return to the hotel. Lewis gives a very bad account of Fortin, accusing him of being deceitful & I know not what. He was formerly warden in Fortin's Church, but says that he could not stand the Archdeacon & so left. It struck me that the Wimpseyes who know one another as either great friends or else at daggers drawn. I was also amused at the way in which they date everything from the

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Time of the "boom". It is never
B.C. or A.D., but ante or
post-boom.

Last evening I took a walk
with my Irish friend Col.
O'Hara who is very good
company and has some know-
ledge of things scientific. He
remains in Winnipeg until Mon-
day, but is then coming on to
Bangor where I may see him
again.

To-day we are of course
crossing the prairies which
are I suppose looking their best.
In the cultivated parts the
crops are looking remarkably
well, while the uncultivated
parts are almost flower-gardens.
Such quantities of bright pretty
flowers - including a showy lily
which is everywhere to be seen.
The blue-bells remind of metes
- of the shore - & some little

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one picking them. Our Pullman
is nearly full and among the
passengers is a lady who has
just come from England and is
on her way to Vancouver. She
has four children and a nurse.
There is also a lady with three
more than grown-up daughters from
Toronto I think. They are on
their way to Banff & I believe their
name is McMurich or something
like it. The daughters talk very
largely.

Only think we shall not reach
Banff until 6 O'clock Monday
morning. When I get there I shall
be quite at sea owing to Scarth's
not having kept his appointment to
meet me at Winnipeg. I am
heartily sick of the whole business
and ~~wish~~ ^{I had had} sense enough to remain
at Melis. As it is I fear my ~~last~~ stay
there will be a very short one.

I arranged with Scarth's agent
at Winnipeg (F. C. Campbell) to