

Peeped

McGILL UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 1010
REF. 137

New Haven

Dec 14th 1890

Dearest Love,

Your letters of Thursday & Friday reached me respectively yesterday & today and I was delighted to get them. I have been such a very busy person since my arrival here that it has been difficult to find a chance to write letters much as I have wished to write to you. The first day was almost a dis non on account of that wretched toothache, but since my visit to the dentist I have had no further trouble. After this I shall swear by New Haven dentists and shall let the two lights that I visited in Montreal know how relatively dim their light is.

No doubt you would like to hear

of what I have been doing since my arrival here and I must try to tell you something about it, although it would make a rather long story if I went into minute details.

On Thursday I spent ~~to~~ some time at the Peabody Museum and the biological laboratory, and at the latter place saw as I think I told you already, some of Koch's celebrated lymph with which they are making experiments here. Afterwards I looked in at the Bruchs and had a very pleasant evening, three of the old professors dropping in to see me.

Mrs Bruch is very little changed and reminds me constantly of Mrs Pitt, though of course much younger & not churchy. They have three daughters, but only one of them is at home just now. One of them is studying at Wellesly and is I think in the 2nd year of the course.

Friday was occupied largely with looking at ~~the~~ minerals in the Peabody

Museum and going over the Kent
Laboratory, a new and admirably
planned chemical laboratory in
connection with the Faculty of
Arts, or Academic Dept. as
they call it here. The building
cost \$75,000 and appliances so
far about \$8,000, but I do not
think that such a building could
be built in Canada for the same
money. Building is certainly cheaper
here than with us, and much
of the work is better done -
plumbing & gas-fitting for example.
On Friday I dined with Hastings
who has a charming little house.
His wife is very pleasant, but by no
means equal to him. They have only
one child, a bright little girl 9
years of age. Saturday morning
was spent with Prof. Penfield
at the museum, going over
a quantity of duplicate specimens
from which Prof. Brush had
allowed me to make a selection
for myself. I lunched with two

of the professors, and then
made calls & during the
afternoon and afterwards dined
with Edward Dana. Since he
stayed with me in Montreal
in 1882 he has been married
to a Miss Bristol, whom I knew,
and they have two children.
To-night I am to dine at the
Bristols of whom you have often
heard me speak. I knew one
of the sons quite intimately when
here. He now lives in Chicago
but has come home for the
Christmas holidays. Altho' I
I could not have come at a
better time to see my friends,
and it is gratifying to come
back after an absence of 20
years and find everyone so
glad to see you. In the last
two days, ^{too} I have learned more
than I would have learned in two months
at home. I have found out ^{also} ~~too~~ that
even in this purring country professors
are not expected to and do not work

as hard as I do⁵. They have learned here besides that efficient work cannot be done by faded men.

Everyone, however, admits that the chemical professors have the hardest time.

If the German scheme is abandoned I think I shall try to come down here for two or three months in the spring. In so far as mineralogy is concerned I believe I could learn just as much as in Germany and they are quite willing to place every facility at my disposal, in fact seemed quite pleased when I spoke of the possibility of my coming.

I intended to leave for New York last evening, but concluded that this would be a better place to spend Sunday in, to-morrow morning, however, I hope to go on to New York and to spend two or perhaps three days there. But enough of myself —

5

As to Eric, I shall be quite pleased to have ~~him~~ him go to Toronto if he wishes to go.

He is a good boy and I am glad that he should have any reasonable pleasure. The expense will not be very great and he requires new garments in any case. I should not like him to go without proper equipment and hope that if he does go he will try to remember that he is a young gentleman and must needs be very careful as to behaviour and neatness of dress. If he wishes to go as a swell he can take my light coloured valise which is somewhere in the attic.

The railways give reduced rates for boys going home for the holidays and possibly one of his teachers would arrange for the privilege to be extended to him.

6

I wrote to Lamb a couple of days ago about the poultry and pigs and told him that if he wrote to my usual address you would open the letter. I told ~~to~~ him that if he could not take the pigs I would try to arrange for their sale in Montreal. Probably the butcher would take them. As yet I have not written to Brown, but shall try to do so. In my letter to Lamb I asked him about butter. Florence's order you might also send to Lamb. If he cannot supply the turkeys here, it would be best to write to Wm. Brown, Point Fortune, P. Q. from whom we obtained our supply last year.

How I wish you were here with me. Everyone wants to see you and the children

and even the photos which I brought have been studied with the greatest care and no end of questions asked about each member of the family.

It seems so odd that Mrs Brush should know some of the Crows and Atkins.

There are many other things that I wish to say ~~dearest~~, but I have to go out now and must leave the unsaid says for my next letter, which may possibly be from New York I shall try to keep you posted as to my movements.

I feel that it is perhaps unkind of me to leave you with all the burden & sorrow of Christmas and yet it seemed wise & right for me to come. With love & kisses for all the bairns

Your fond B.

I have nothing to read this one.