

Dec. 16. 97

Ottawa

My dear Anna,

I am very much
obliged to you for so far
furthering my Christmas duties
in the matter of Skating. I
really don't see why Bernard
should deprive himself of a
Christmas gift to send me
to his mother's friend, nor do
I think a rifle at \$2.50
would be a very safe article.
However, if he wishes to send
it he may. You might give
him the money from me - say to
\$4. Also give Clara \$5 to

help her with her gifts, &
 if possible get her or
 Ruth to hunt up something
 for Poppy & Eva - also
 for Father & Mother.

If you know of anything
 that would be useful to
 Clare herself I should be
 glad to get it for her.

I send enclosed cheque for
 \$40 to cover expenditure
 already made & all other
 items. There should be a
 box of candy too for each of
 the children all round.
 It is of course very unpleasant

to have to look forward to anything
 of the kind contemplated in Clare's case,
 but there appears to be now a days so
 great confidence & assurance of success
 that I think you may be certain in
 all human probability of a happy result.
 It will be a great relief to feel that
 Clare is all right again & it is very
 good that she looks the better in the
 face herself with so much expectancy.

I sincerely hope that she may continue to
 do so. —

Yours
 George