

1899
Dankshofms

Sat. Dec 23^d 1899

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MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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Dearest Lou,

We are steadily
making our way across
the Prairie - even at
this date a snowless one.
Yesterday morning we arrived
at Winnipeg and found
practically no snow there.
The weather was balmy
as spring and the mud
beyond description. In
Montreal we do not know
what mud is or can be,
as we remained some hours
in Winnipeg I hunted up
Mr. Gordon and was cordially

welcomed by him and his wife. She is certainly not beautiful but looks good and amiable. They urged me very strongly to spend a day with them on my return journey, but this I am not the least likely to do. Indeed if I had the time there are numbers of places where I should prefer to stop. I also called upon the Fortins who seemed very pleased to see me and offered me the privilege of carrying a parcel to Montreal on my return journey.

Winnipeg is not an attractive city - so my flat - and mess

be an expensive place to
 live in. We think it dread-
 ful to pay \$6 a ton for hard
 coal, but in Winnipeg it is
 \$10. — Building materials are
 also very expensive. I forgot to
 say that the first person I saw
 on getting off the train at Winnipeg
 was Stewart Lupper who had
 come down to meet his boy. He
 looks much as if you, though
 of course older. The Winnipeg
 Railway Station is a wonderful
 place — such crowds of
 people there when the trains
 go out and come in — and such
 a motley crew — Canadians,
 old country people, Indians,
 Half-breeds, Frenchmen, Germans,

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Icelanders I see to. — I saw
no Doukhobors. By the
way I hear the D is very well
spoken of. One complaint about
them is, however, that they
have too many religious holidays
and festivals, especially for a
part of the country where
many people expect to work
7 days a week. Everyone that
I have met says that they are
undoubtedly clean & moral,
but sadly lacking in education,
very few of them being able to
read and not feeling the necessity
of the accomplishment.

"Lunch is now ready in the
dining car" and I suppose I must
go, though I am not specially hungry.
I hope to post this sheet on the
homeward bound train.

Yours well Bernard