

To
mother

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO.	1010
REF.	233

Rosslund
Jan. 2^d 1900

Dear Aunt Anna,

The new year
came in here very noisily
— the steam-whistles at
the mines blowing, guns
firing and fire & crackers
going off, miners yelling
like fiends, and altogether
a great hubbub. For several
days the weather has been
anything but pleasant, soft
snow falling much of the
time & occasionally turning
almost to rain. Whether
it is the weather or the
altitude or other causes I

know not my cough has
been increasingly troublesome,
though it does not keep
me awake at night. I
shall be glad to get home
and see whether anything
can be done for it.

I have gone pretty well
over the collection now
and find that its value
was certainly not overestimated.
It is not a showy collection,
but scientifically is remark-
ably fine. I expect to get
through here to-morrow &
to leave to-morrow evening, or
the following day, for the
"East" spending a day, or
possibly two at Nelson on the
way, as I wish to look at

a collection of British
Columbia Ores there.

I have not been into any
of the mines here as I have
been afraid of the draughts
and dampness.

You would be astonished
at the shops here. There is
even a "departmental store"
and the goods seem little
if any dearer than in
Montreal notwithstanding
the cost of transportation.
There are also Chinese shops
here and I was in one of them
to-day and picked up a few
little bits of China. The odour
of the place was vile, but
the men amused me much.
The proprietor was a born

diplomat. He asked my name and when I told him he said, "Oh yes, we hear much talk about you, but not see you before." I asked him if he made much money and he said "No, Mr. Hallican, when ~~the~~ gentlemen like you come buy me sell so cheap." He assured me that he made no profit whatever on the things he sold me.

The Ferris have a China-man cook, but he is not a success. The said "Chung" knows very little, but all the same gets \$25 a month.

I hope that before this Ruth has quite recovered from the effects of too much birthday cake and that you are all now quite well. Love from Bernard
Special love to Poppy.