

October 1870

Mother to Bernard,

Tells B. his letters are well  
written & worth keeping - !

B. complains his hair falling  
out - the beginning of baldness -  
etc

St Andrews Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 1876

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Dear Bernie.

You say you wish you could sit down and write off-hand letters; but whatever you think of grows when looking over some of the old ones, I think this and that are too good to burn up - whereas those scribbled, careless letters, such as myself and the girls often send, are committed to the flames without much ceremony. I would rather get a hurried note from my children than none and am not disposed to criticise except for their benefit; so much by way of introduction, it is too true - the women folks are wordy. - Charlotte has not come home yet and I do not know whether she intends to go to Salisburyburg or not. Miss Nottingham was to have left Montreal last Friday, a week later than the first day fixed upon, as Mrs. Saw's sudden illness detained her. I was to stay with her till she left. Mr & Mrs. Cushing were down a few days ago to say that Frances

is agreeably disappointed in his  
new Home. Papa went to town  
but made a hurried trip of it -  
as he intends going again soon,  
after another barge starts with  
wood. He received your tailor's  
bill - it was \$80. I wish Papa  
would get some clothes there - his  
get shabby so soon. Papa per-  
sists about not smoking and  
is stout and looking better  
than he has for a long time. I  
was very sorry to see you indulging  
in that miserable habit - it seems  
momentarily to yield to such a habit,  
it is unnecessary - expensive - spoils  
the breath - injures the health &c &c  
Mr. Canton has not finished the  
painting of our house yet - he  
does not understand that trade as  
well as his own. Papa economised  
for the Superior too much.

I do not know whether Mary  
mentioned the death of Anne-  
lin Doudlet (Mrs. Doree). It was  
so sudden. I went out with  
Mr. Paterson to see if I could do  
any thing for her and found  
her dead - surrounded by 4 sick

Children in beds - also a mother in  
law with fever - her husband  
crawling about her was so weak.  
I do not know when I have been  
so upset by any thing. Poor thing!  
I was so sorry I had not known  
how isolated & destitute she was.  
The are still thinning out here. Miss  
Forbes has bought a farm near  
Toronto & she Mrs. Dickinson and  
family are going to it. The sale of  
all their effects will be tomorrow.

I am sorry about your hair coming  
out. Is it because your brain  
is too retia? - you cannot put it  
upon a tormented wife at any  
rate. If you have not got that  
recipe yet - perhaps ellary's remedy  
will do - Amica and water - very  
much diluted it is so strong.

Don't abuse your eyes by too much  
night work - make the most of day  
light. I often think I may spare my  
breath or my pen about advice as  
I find children grow up here a  
great deal of doing as they like.

Since the cold weather commenced  
Puss is again troubled with Catarrh.  
She gets on so well with her music  
& plays so naturally - I wish she

And a better teacher. Uncle and  
Auntie are painting and brushing  
up their house at a great rate.  
I hope Charlotte sent you a  
Photograph taken in Buffalo.  
She looks "splendidly" as the  
girls say, in it - too nice for some  
body. Miss Frothingham would  
have taken her with her if Mrs.  
May had not wanted to go.

Since we heard of the loss of the  
Combric I am as well pleased  
she is at home. It is late to go  
by the Gulf. I hope our good  
friends will be kept in safety.  
How very kind the Blackman is!  
It is not on your Mother's account  
in this case - I like <sup>it</sup> better when  
your own friends on the occasion  
for attentions. We had 3 inches  
of snow last night - but it is  
turning into s<sup>pl</sup>ash very fast  
this morning. I must go to my  
pupils and will not try to s<sup>pl</sup>ish  
after my town is done.

Write as often as you can and  
"particulars about yourself" of  
course. All joys in Sunday town -

Believe me your  
Very aff. Mother

L. Harrington