

Charlotte to Bernard
June 1871—

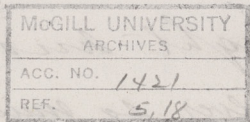
Re elections 5.18

Bellingham versus
Abbot.

Speaks of Uncle John
Uncle Eric (?)

also of Grand papa
going fishing & possibly

Prof. Ware with
him as guest



St. Andrews.

June 21st

My dear Bernie,

I have been trying, in vain, for some days past to write to you, knowing you must be anxious to hear how papa is keeping - but what with getting Maria ready to go to town last Friday and Lauree rigged to go tomorrow & Arr-prior with Auntie Sarah I have had my hands full -

Papa is slowly improving, yesterday he seemed discouraged & felt very weak, but I think the weather was the cause, in the morning it was very close & warm the kind of atmosphere that betokens thunder, and in the afternoon it came to good earnest & with it refreshing

rain, so today came bright and
cool, and papa feels ever so much
better and went with Uncle
John for a drive down to the
Prughil, to see about a barge
load of wood. The Dr says he
expects to get strong so fast
that it will take time to recover
from such a severe illness -
It will be worth a great deal
to see him able to go about
as usual & take an interest in
his affairs, for I tell you it makes
the barometer go down down
when the head of the house
is ailing, and the mercury
will rise in proportion as he
becomes perfectly well. - He
says he does not intend going
away anywhere, as he will
have so much to attend to
when better. - but we all

wish so much that he would
go to Burlington & see Dr. H.
Uncle Eric wants him to go
up to see them, but he says he
would be worried to death
with Mr. M. L. - as he has taken
a sudden fancy to papa &
calls him his best friend.
A note I had from Uncle E. today
says that he acts as if possessed
of the old —!

I wish you were here to see
Laura's delight at going with
Auntie - & Uncle John who is
sending her, and he is as much
tickled as the child - He says
"rather than not have her go, I'd
sell my best calf or even the
shirt off my back" They will
be away about a fortnight, home
in time to see you if you can
only come, Uncle will sleep

at the house but board with us
and we are going to revel in
all Auntie's Strawberries and
cream! Dont you wish you were
near?

The inhabitants of our usually
quiet village are all stirred up
about Election matters - Dr Bernard
blessed Bellingham is all the
Cry - as Bernard (Mamma looks
over my shoulder and says there's
one blot on that man's name!) I
I'm a remote specimen of the
family of Batrachia) has been
sent forward by Abbott -

Nearly everyone in St. Andrews
will vote for him - but Laclaire
and Chatham are for his
opponent - Strange to think
of the Custings using all their
influence for Bellingham,
but now they hate Abbott
as they formerly did Mr B.
It is thought that it

will be a closely contested
election - papa has taken
little interest in it, & neither
he nor Uncle John are going
to vote as they don't like either
of the candidates - They say
Bernard is in favour of the
North Shore railway & of the
million dollar grant from
the city of Montreal so I hope
he'll go in, but I think
at the same time hisa hypocrite.
Saturday he held a Prayer
meeting in La Cluete to please
the Methodists and on Sunday
has runners out soliciting
votes - Politics are a humbug
and I Waresay, I have given
you too large a dose, but
if it takes too much time
to read my yarn, throw it
aside and continue your

Thesis on "Simon Martin" —

I have just received another long letter from Louise, they were in Dresden when she wrote, and though she says nothing of coming home they seem to be wending their way Northward. Grandpa has been here for a week, but fishing nearly every day, but he seems at times to feel very lonely, nor is it to be wondered at, for Grandma always took such an interest in his favourite occupation — Young Barclay (the old parson) is going out with him tomorrow, he is up here for his health having been obliged to give up his situation in Montreal, I am sad to see all that family going just as they grow up — Grandpa is expecting Mr. English up to go out with him & perhaps Prof. Darcy, the Prof.

is anxious to get board for
his wife and children up
here for the summer - but
I doubt whether he will
manage it - I think they
would be such pleasant
people to know -

The house is fast lapsing
into quietness, so I must
say goodnight, first
mentioning you to be careful
not to over work yourself
& secondly telling you to be
sure to come home if possible
Mr paper says he will
be dreadfully disappointed
not to see you - With
much love

believe me

as ever your
loving sister
Charlotte.

P. S. Papa says you had better
let him know, as soon as
possible, how much money
you need to square up
there, so that he can
send it to you —