

24 Hyde Terrace,

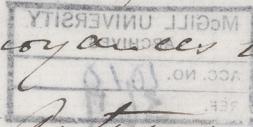
Leeds

England.

March 1877.

My dear Harrington,

I dare say that you
have come to the conclusion that
you were never going to see my
hand-writing again long
before you will receive this, and
indeed it does seem a long time
since I sat down to have
a chat with you. - Two of your
letters got mislaid, I believe,
doc. I fear, rather than to criticize
me of somewhat questionable
behaviour. - Now the truth is
that amidst all the business



I have had to transact duties to perform & pretty amoyances to undergo since last Autumn I have really not felt to have the time at command to write anything but the most scraps to my friends. This is my excuse for having neglected you so shamefully. - We are now getting pretty well settled in our house here, and my College duties are becoming of a more routine character & so cause me less trouble & anxiety, so that I am feeling more so, if I could give a little attention to other matters.

I must first of all thank you

for you kind words about my
translation. I assure you it was
the subject of very serious con-
sideration with both my wife &
myself whether we should give
up Canada for my present
post. And you will believe me
when I tell you that had we
followed our own personal in-
clination, we should still for
some years yet to come, had we
been permitted, have continued
to enjoy the society of those kind
& good friends from ^{a personal intercourse with} whom we are
now cut off by the broad Atlantic.

Many times indeed do we now
think of them, & frequently not
without a longing to be again

them again. I must say of
The work of all of us at the
Yorkeville College "is of necessity
I will continue for some time
of a very "up-hill" nature.
Everything has to be forced &
put into working order, and a
name & reputation for the place
have to be made. However
we are doing very well. We
have now nearly four hundred
students (night & day) all
told of these about one
hundred are what we call
regular students such that
is a steady & fixed number
of classes.
We are now trying to raise funds

for two Litterary Chairs (Classics,
& Modern History) & I think it
not at all improbable that we
shall get them before the beginning
of next session. - The idea now
is to develop gradually into a
similar place to Owen's Man-
chester - if we can manage it.
We are just about buying a
site for the College for which
the Council are to give £12,000
sterling. - So you see our aspirations
are not mean. -

For my own special classes about
forty tickets have been issued,
which is a very respectable start.
Half of these are for Evening Classes.
We were very pleased to hear that
the wedding went off so well &

that after experiencing you have
s'posed work to say for wedded
life. — Indeed it is not tested
after all, — is it? —

It was certainly very unfortunate
that you were obliged to go in for
a "separation" so soon after the
long-moon! — You may probably
have to come over next year to
the Paris "show". — Would you get
your differences settled, so as to
be able to come, so you should
do!

Whitecous, ought it seems to me
to think himself fortunate to
have dropped so comfortably
into poor old Billings's shoes. —

It would have been very nice
could your brother-in-law have

received the post. - By the way -
What sort of a Piano did you
buy after all?

The number of humors you will
have been compelled to eat this
winter must have reduced you
to a deplorable state of dyspepsia.
It's a terrible ordeal; isn't it?

Cyril is proving a very fine
boy indeed. - He will be two years
old on Saturday when an attempt
will be made to have him
"taken". - If successful, you shall
have a copy as you desire. - He is
no longer a baby, but quite a
roughing lad, never still for a minute
& quite a change to keep in order.
I trust you approve of the little we
sent to Dr. Gardner, is a sound of

pleasure & satisfaction to us. - Would
you make constant use of the
gift, - whereby the memory of two
old friends shall not be allowed
to fade altogether from your
thoughts.

I hope you have quite recovered
from the effects of Bell's surgical
interference with your jaw. He's
just an "awful" fellow, that,
when he scents a "weebit" of
"Dugan".

I should be anxious to hear
how things have gone on in the
Engineering Dept. this session. - I
trust well. - Dovey was here
the other day. - I am sure you
will become friends: he is a clever
& agreeable fellow. - His one drawback

is, I think, (between ourselves) a
decided tendency to affectation. He
is young yet, & this will right itself
in time. - He now talks of not
going out until August: at first
he thought of sailing in May or
June in order to have a look
at the States before settling down.

I have recommended him until
he has time to look round to get
put on the temporary list at
the Club & to get some lodgings
near, just as Norman & some others
I know do. - He talks about
starting a house of his own in
a little while. - He is not, I
believe, injured: - this for the
benefit of your last friends!
I think Landua injured &

profited by his trip:— he certainly
worked very hard.—

I was quite shocked to hear
of poor Frothingham's death.
How was he supposed to have
contracted the disease? They were
homeopaths, I think?—

Rubinstein is playing again
& will give a Recital here on
the 15th inst:— Margaret has
never heard him, We have
taken tickets in the anticipation
of a great treat. Don't you
wish you were going with us?—

You & I had once some cor-
respondence touching the Microscopic
Examination of Munich etc; &
I think you told me about a
good book on the subject. Do

You now know of one such as one
could use as a guide in doing
a little work in that direction -
I have the appliances, & I have
been thinking that I may as well
make use of them. My hints ^{or}
may be able to guide me, I shall
be thankful for, especially with
reference to the direction in which
work may be most advantageously
undertaken.

As regards weather we have had a
miserable winter, - nothing but rain,
continued damp, & dense fogs -
This week we have had our first
taste of frost & snow to speak of. To
day is about as cold as an
average Canadian winter day,
but not quite so bright.

1877. March, Armstrong

Are the Bond Bros: that have
failed, Col. Bond & his brother?
If so it is a very sad affair.

How do you ~~now~~ get on
at Faculty meetings. - All now
is peace & brotherly love, I thow. -
How Johnston must bless the
day when Providence removed
the thorn from his side! -

I must now close, with kindest
remembrances to yourself & wife,
& wife's family, believe that I
am always,

Yours truly yours,

J. F. Armstrong.

Mr. B. J. Lancaster,

P.S. Margaret Sprink has been writing
to your wife also. - You will have a surfeit
of English scribbling.

Remind me to Schuyler; they stand up for B. C.