

July 23

Metis Sloon

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July 23^d 1878

Such an eventful day, dear
est! - As I told you the
morning opened wet-cold &
stormy, the wind continued
to rise till the waves were
tremendous, no English resident
had ever seen anything like
it, & the natives said it was
like one of their winter storms.
Of course every one began to
fear for their boats, first the
Dary's boat broke loose &
drifting along the shore finally
was captured below the
Kottrell's, Mr Dary getting
rolled over three times in
his battle with the surf -
Then about dinner time we
descried a small schooner
drifting helplessly ashore - the
Wilson's were at dinner, &
Eva, Jamie, William & I instantly
hurried on our most water-
proof garments, & went to the beach

Oh how cold it was, rain driving
into ones face like sharp bits of
glass, wind howling, waves
breaking right-out-to a line
with the Baul - the men from
the drifting schooner had de-
serted her, & had their small
boat smashed, but reached
shore in safety, & the helpless
craft was rolled & tossed &
mumbled by the waves till it
was finally tossed up - on the
shore below the McVidlers.

Then we came back just-in-
time to see another wonderful
large-looking vessel, break loose
& the crew after a faint at-
tempt to head for the open
determined to run her ashore.
& in she rushed just-opposite
the Majors, they threw out a
rope with Percy Seluz & Hastings
in through a beam & houlders
to catch & all the English present
but a hand to help her bow
to shore, not very successful.

3 but - the crew managed to
get to shore along the rope
one boy was nearly drowned
he slipped, & lost the rope, &
was smashed down on the
boulders, another man however
seized him & Percy again
rushed in & the brought him
to shore gasping & shivering
he was trotted up to the
Major's to be warmed & dried
the Major girls had rushed
down with shawls over their
heads, till while Mrs Major
wept upon the gallery, when
the men got safely in; a poor
little dog was descried sitting
upon the stern the waves
dashing over. I thought we
should not to him not to, Percy
will go & get the poor little
beast; it really was dangerous
among waves & boulders & shawls
slip. planks & things floating
After that first, lastly
boat drifted past, then Mrs
Major, & Mrs Keelpattis - I had

came home by that time, wet
& cold, however Eva & William
& nearly every other member
of the community were down
swatching the boats, Astle's
came ~~on~~ shore with little
damage - but the Major's
skipped about - bottom up-
ward & was with difficulty
rescued by a line of people
holding on to a rope. Eva &
Chatty both were in the
water & Herbert-Darey got
a bad squeeze between the
boat & the rock - that is to
say his leg was badly bruised.
Henry got ducked entirely the
boat knocking him over - the
ears were gone & the upper
part of the boat - broken a bit.
The Harry Scott's boat - was
quite broken up - ours & the
Murrays are at dark were
still holding to their anchors

but were filled with water, ⁵
the latter had dragged down
^{opposite} to the Tugger's shore - The Red-
Heath boat was also there
the anchor seeming to have
caught; a 3^d. schooner, seemed
to have also become sta-
tionary after drifting from the
Baul to Surriff. W^h was
"the situation" at dark -

As you may suppose the
next day was not of the mon-
otonous order - W^h looked
out of the windows for a
full half hour, at the dashing
water, I saw "the wreck" a-
claiming 60. 60. - 60. 1 as the
vessel heaved, I rolled &
heaved to the shore - he has
been just a model boy these
2 days, he does not go to sleep
now till after 7^o. - lies in bed
talking to, & playing by himself
till finally he drops off into
dreamland.

Tuesday -

Our boat still holds & the storm is over, the only one except the Saveroy that has remained in place -

The Redpath's seems to be a boat still, the exact damage do not know. the Major's boat is split open - I have not hear of the Murrays -

Further particulars being wanted W. & Eve must go & gather them while I repair to the Post -

My love I hope this will find you well again, I am glad that papa is to be in town today so that he may report to me of yr. welfare -

By the way I left a pair of boots in the closet of our room with cork soles in them - I fear they may become the prey of moths, as the soles are covered with woolen - will you please take them out & wrap in paper

Fondly, in haste
Ann