

Little Metis -

July?
1881

Dearest Bernard -

We still have lovely weather, rather on the warm side for Metis, & continued draught & rain will be a blessing for all the country. Ericot Eric tells me that when Bernard comes down it will be oh very hot "when I ask why he says, "because it will be later in the summer & then mamma will be very brown & sun burnt" - I have no doubt - he will be right about that at any rate & ^{the children} they are as brown as brown can be especially Edith - Baly too looks splendid but continues to be troublesome at night - I have only had one really good night - since I came I fancy her missing tooth may trouble her, but she seems so well,

comfortable at other times & so remarkably healthy that I fear it is pure perverseness. However happily the air is sustaining here & I certainly ought to be used to it she has been so troublesome since through in that regard - Mary is very good with the children & takes the baby early in the morning, & makes her keep to sleeping hours in the day time.

I have not yet begun Warrard, but soon shall I think. The Welphates are to arrive tonight & if Miss Taylor smiles upon me I shall hope to be kept up to the artistic level by her.

I suppose you know that the governors have decided to take 8 per cent. off the salaries, & that papa has resigned his principal's salary so we shall have to mind our pence I fancy - still baby will be a big child then, & if I am strong & well, we might do with

less nursery attendance, I must
say I feel as if I must be stupid.
When I see how much more
other people do with their money
than we do - Nancy Dr Johnson
buying J. G. McKays house for
\$9000 & adding dollars, besides insuring
his life, & bringing up that great
family - & living in a large house
I do hope some one will give
some money to the poor college for
paper is distracted with it all
& quite worn out -

Mamma has delighted Edith
by presenting her with a remark-
able doll wh. has two faces,
one smiling the other tearful,
she took it to bed of course
& I found her quite rapturous
over it - Grandmama did give it
to me, & it she has sweet eyes
Baby Clare unfortunately adores
this wonder to, & Edith has to keep
it at a safe distance from her -
Eric got a flag which he considers

"beautiful"

I am anxious to hear how
your expedition prospered, it
was I hope a success. both as to
specimens & pleasure

Eva is better today & I hope
will soon be all right again.
It is so very unusual to have
her on the sick list. The place
begins to fill up, but I hope
we shall manage to keep quiet.
Mamma certainly needs rest, &
if I keep house I will not
permit tea-parties - The draught
continues, promises of rain failing
one after the other - Mamma
brought two Jacqueminot roses
down - the last of the season,
& small, but exquisite as to colour,
tinture & perfume. I was greatly
pleased to see them -

I wd be glad to have some
more money, I still have abt.
\$500 in change but regret finding
all before the berries appear.

I gave Mary her wages for June \$8.00, I also something to the helper, who I find a perfect Jew. I believe that Mr. C. however is the chief offender - He has sent me a bill for \$4.00 for bringing us & our things from Station, & the major part of our members came in Astle's carriage & so did Marguerite when she came. I must speak to him about it though it be unpleasant. I shall certainly have no future dealings with him that can be avoided.

Sunday
Another warm bright - Day with lovely white clouds all around the horizon. As mamma had to stay at home with Sue I thought I ~~would~~ stay too & kept the chocks out of the way. Eric & Edith were very good & I read a while to them on the shore - & they had a

little play there. I saw Mr & Mrs
Boby & Bees in the distance, but
did not speak to them. Mrs L.
is coming to tea. I am just
meditating a little rest as I am
somewhat tired & the house is
very quiet - by the way did
Dr Howard say I ought to move
baby, I don't know that I
will follow his advice if he did
but it would be satisfactory to know.
My knees have not troubled
me at all lately, but my wrist
is rather lame, & makes holding
baby even more difficult than
her heiness does - but I don't
hence her much. I leave her
mostly to Mary & take the other
out of the way, so that she has
a little quiet when baby sleeps
& make up for her busy times
in the early mornings, & afternoons.
Kate & Lena Galt are at Cacoma
settling the house for the rest
of the family who are to come later

Mrs Selwyn & Mary Hunt are
coming down - I scarcely know
what we ought to do abt. Mrs S.
I had hoped her father & ours
w^d lie apart, but she must
needs come down here, if she
clearly understood what I thought
of her & her boys I w^d have no
objection to be friendly for I mean
no ill will towards her, but I
certainly w^d not like her to con-
strue politeness on my part to an
admission that she was in the
right - wh. it seems to me she w^d
be exceedingly likely to do.

Monday

Baby was very good last night
perhaps a happy augury for the
nights of the future - I have
been reading a little more of
The Creative days, I like it though
you decided against it - proving
anything that is all the reacting
I have yet accomplished.

I hope the Keelfathes will have
readings again, I sh^d much like
to go, as it well brusts up my
Intellect & also is such a pleasant
time for working -

I am glad that Mary gets on
well with her oils - you must
not tempt me to begin such a
thing, it occupies too much time
for a mother in Israel - I must
reserve that for my old age like
Dr Leach. This is washing day
& so I am in a hurry, Eve is
better but mamma is still
dancing attendance upon her &
I have to make the rest of the
message go, but it goes pretty
easily -

With fond love
Cecilia