

Little Lutes

Aug 23/88

Dearest B -

We were all much disappointed to find that your telegram announced not your speedy return, but a still further absence - It begins to seem as if we sh^d not see you here at all - for if you only strike Winnipeg early in Sept. I have to stay over a day or two in Quonset it leaves almost no margin - if you c^d strike for Metis - I stay late till 14th or 16th I w^old be only too glad to stay - but if you think of coming solely to pack us up - do not add to your journey & tails for that, I can manage that very well - especially as Christina wishes to be left behind

If again you must spend any
time at N. A.'s I wd meet you
earlier in Montreal & go up there
for a little quiet before winter
begins. Hate wd come to N. A. or
Montreal as I wish - only
I wd need to write a full week
in advance for her - The books
I received notice of from the
Leduc Custom House have never
turned up & I have written again
to inquire why - C. Gibb appeared
yesterday, but declined to put
up here, I having been warned
by two long wet days - I did not
insist upon it - I asked him to
tea tonight but there is to be a
reading & mother wanted him to
go there - so I said tomorrow
but somehow it has got mis-
ed up - I am disgusted to find
he cannot come after all as

arrangements made - However I shall
see what I can do for him - Dr. this
king has also arrived, clad in
regular English shooting togs,
& very odd he looks - heather
coloured long stockings, coarse &
loose garments & a scotch hat -
so round & short & fat - I wd
like him so much better if I cd
add 6 inches to his length -

I believe Eric will be a 7 footer
if he goes on, today he ate 4
mutton chops & nearly half a
quidding not to mention various
flagons of milk - yesterday 6
slices of mutton, & other things
in proportion - he rigs & sails the
boats continually, my only ob-
jection to which is that he works
about so much - & I am sure
it is not healthy in this icy
water - a review of the summer

the weather, reminds me that it has
been very cool - much rain & only
spells of good bathing opportunities
no hot weather at all - & even our
baky punshons have supplied us
with enough water -
I have been thinking seriously
of Eric's coming winter - & still believe
that - two or three hrs of good tutoring
w^d be the best - ably regimen
for him - & say 5 or 6 hrs weekly of
drawing - also Mrs Dobell has
written offering to put Ceryon with
Eric, & suggesting Allan Law as a third
if we can make satisfactory arrange-
ments - this w^d lessen the cost, &
seeing as I do in Eric very decided
symptoms of ~~the~~ the development
of those Marcelline logic instincs
upon which he has been so unusually
free, I think a large school w^d
not be a good influence till he
acquires a little more independence
of thought & action. you spoke to
me once of Edwards as having
taught successfully w^d you think
him a likely person? w^d he have
swarming places free? w^d it be
wasted gas while writing to ask
him - I think we might get French
in a supplementary manner from
another if we c^d get the French
resistance from the tutor - for us
it w^d do very well to begin by Oct-
but of course Mrs Dobell or any other
w^d want to know definitely what
was before her early in Sept. Do
hear this in mind & do what you
can if in town, or by letter to find
out. I will meantime do my best
Had I not hoped to have you here to
talk the whole matter over with me,

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w^d of caecere have been on the
outlook before now - I hear that
Miss Murray, daughter of Geo. Murray
wishes to teach, & pursue further
Greek studies - I do not fancy
she w^d be a strong hand at dig-
resses - but - I dare say she knows
quite enough - I sh^d fancy her father's
easy lack of moral grasp might
be in her also - Mrs Geo. Kidgate
is debating whether she will ask her
to undertake her girls

Clara has been ill today seems
to have taken cold, & complained
of severe headache - I don't think
that child's nose & ears are quite
right - & I believe we shall have
to see to them next winter, but in
me I can find no belief in Major
I w^d prefer Buller or Dr. Sterling
if one began with ears, one c^d do
as they liked - but that is not
in the immediate present.

Papa has quite recovered, but
looks still very poorly, to me & I
greatly dread another winter
far than if the Anglic Dr. & other
wild beasts insist upon tormenting
him - he feels weak - & lies down
to rest quite often - No doubt he
has scarcely had time to recover
after such a shock - but the season
comes so near, & its burdens are
so oppressive -

We hope for better weather

We have again had heavy rain
this morning. The sky seems
clear tonight & a little gleam of
warm sunshine wd be most
grateful to us all -

I have received yr letter from
Medicine Hat - before your change
of mind as to the C.P.R. business.
I have no doubt you decided
wisely - but - we miss you very
much here - I hope you have in
any case got rid of your cold -

With love from all -
Anna -

Lorna seems uncertain when
to write to well - if with her in you
can report her well & flourishing
never saw her so strong & well
as this summer - Likewise
the little boys are in good case.