

Mc Gill College,  
Oct. 14. 1869.

Dear George,

Please excuse me for not writing before, but I had no time, ~~no~~ and nothing to tell you; and our lessons are so long that I am afraid my letters will be few and far between, this winter.

The prince, that is prince Arthur, came here on Friday, the 8<sup>th</sup> inst., at 3 P.M. There was a royal salute fired for him, & then he marched in what they called a procession, from the wharf to his residence in Simpson street. There were two triumphal arches erected, one across Beaver Hall hill opposite the First Baptist Church, & the other ~~across~~ across Sherbroke, near Simpson. The procession consisted of, first about 50 police-men, then some 10 or 20 mounted officers, & then the



prince ~~not~~ driving in the Mayor's carriage, with the Mayor, Colonel Holtaine, & some one else; & then followed a whole rabble of private carriages. All along the street opposite this grand procession (!! ) was a lot of people (mostly rowdies), who kept crowding up to where the prince was, to get a look at him. We got a holiday on Friday for this grand reception! After this ~~it is a day or~~ on Saturday & Mon. Tues. & Wednesday, there was a grand Lacrosse match, between the St. Regis & another tribe of Indians, & then whoever of those two beat were to get \$100 between them, & were to play another club, & then whoever of those two beat, were to play the Montreal.

It is very cold these days, & rainy; & we have a fire on every few days.

I have discovered a new place for snail-shells, namely the bank in front of the house. The only kinds of snail-shells to be found there are *Helix pulchella*, &



*Bulimus lubricus*, but as I had not got the latter of these two, & as it is rather rare, it is worth looking for.

I have been cleaning out your aquarium today before dinner, & I have put fresh pebbles at the bottom, & I am going to get some snails, from the ponds up behind the reservoir, to put in it. It is so curious to see the different kinds of shells, that you get out of ponds so close to one another! I was up there the other day, & in the first pond I came to, there were *Limnea clodes* & then in another there ~~was~~ was nothing but *Planorbis parvus*, & in a third there were *Limneas* & another kind mixed.

Papa & I have been sorted & arranged the shells that you got at Gaspe. Though you mightn't think so, there are some 40 or 50 different kinds.

The new museum is getting put in order, but it is very <sup>so</sup> damp, & that some of the things have been spoiled. The weather is extremely changeable;



for example the other night just  
before dinner it was quite clear  
& the stars were beginning to come  
out, & at about 7.30 it was raining

As I said before you must  
not expect many letters from me  
this winter as I have no time to  
write them, & nothing to say if I  
had. I have to go for Anna  
now who is out at the Hunts, so  
good by for the present; & remem-  
ber me as

your affectionate brother  
William.