

I received a letter from Papa written on his way to Portland. As it was written in the cars it was pretty hard to read as you may expect.

All the snow is off the garden except a few pieces making an total area equal to that of the library & dining room floors.

I do not think that this new currency will make much difference for I saw an advertisement that Pringland & Sweet will take silver at par + I think Joyce also will too.

Acc. 926
McGill College, Apr. 15, (Friday) 1870.

Dear George,
we are now enjoying our Easter holidays. We had've yesterday after-noon, Today & Monday & Tuesday of next week; i.e. three days & a half. Today is the day on which these celebrated shinplasters come into vogue. I will send you one this mail if I can get one, but if not I will send one next mail. I made ~~out~~ such a splendid bargain the other day. I was passing down Bleury street, opposite a second hand bookstore, when I noticed "Selling off at cost," stuck up in the window. I went in to see if there

Duadrant
Sixtant

Huovalips - Agency

Some snow-drops are up.
There is also a table in that book for collecting observations for refraction & paralax.
PPPS. I will send two stones instead of one, to make a pound.

was any book I would there that
I would care for. I happened to see
a book on navigation with all sorts
of tables in the end, (43, besides Lunar
Tables) such as Tables of Logarithms
of Numbers, natural sines, tangents, &c.
besides tables for ~~&~~ reducing Observations
made at the surface of the earth to the
centre, & for reducing the Equatorial
Horizontal parallax to any Latitude
&c, &c, &c, &c. ~~As~~ There were
60 pages of reading, ~~comprizing~~ rules
such as is generally in any book on nav-
igation, 278 pages of tables, & 78 of
Lunar Tables. I asked the price &
found it to be 1^l. 6^s!! Of course
I bought it, & I think I will
find it very usefull. Papa's book
~~on the~~ (Davidson's Mathematics) cost
15^s in boards, whereas this is bound
in calf & is the same size.

I have succeeded in making a quadrant which has only an Index error of about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a degree to be added to every observation. The only fault about it is that the mirrors ~~are~~ distort the image a little. There is also a great difficulty to get a piece of dark glass for observing the sun. I got some ^{pieces} at a glazier's but they were distorted the image so much that they were no good. I have some pieces myself but they have a little of the same fault. I went to an optician & he showed me a piece which he said was worth 25 cts. but it was only the size of ~~at~~ a pea (used for the ~~of~~ dark glass of a telescope) & was not dark enough. All the materials of the quadrant only cost 1st 6.

Nearly all the snow is gone now, & no sleighs have been seen for nearly a week. ~~When~~ When the sun comes out it is quite warm, or rather hot as one has his winter flannels on.

~~Tell papa that I will send~~
Papa asked me to send him a
"polished piece of brown quartz" which
he forgot to take. Tell him that
I will send him a polished piece
of "smoaky" quartz, I hoping that
that is what he wants.

All ~~A~~ great many birds have
come ~~back~~ back, such as Bohemian
warwings, &c.

I notice that the Mc Intoshes
have their shutters on. They are
rather early, but seem to believe
that we will have no more cold
weather which I doubt.

I saw O'Hara's Sextant. It
is a splendid one, with all the
adjustments, ~~and~~ 2 telescopes;
We have been taking some observations
but have taken no practical ones yet.
I intend finding noon by a solar
obs. if it is fine tomorrow or on Monday
or Tuesday. We intend going up the
Mountain soon to see if any wild
flowers are out.

Your affectionate brother

William.

P.S. I send the stone by
the Miss Gales, as requested. The cars now run on wheels.

MS. I received a letter from