

Montreal April 21. 1871.

My dear George

On Monday morning we  
 received your welcome budget telling  
 of mineralogy examination being over, & that  
 you were yourself feeling better. We do  
 not yet know the results of William's exam-  
 & he has got two to pass in honour math-  
ematics, but I have every confidence that  
 both good & his will prove very creditable  
 to yourselves & gratifying to us. I was sorry  
 you missed seeing Col. Haultain. Perhaps  
 there may be a future opportunity. As he is to  
 be in England for some time. The 19<sup>th</sup> inst.  
 brought the anniversary of our marriage & of  
 our arrival in London last year. This year

2.

the Spring here is as advanced as it was  
in England at the same date last year.  
The grass is now green. Snow drops first  
crocuses nearly over — in our garden the  
absence of Magaricæ & Hepaticæ will make  
a little gap until the narcissus blossoms.  
From year to year one can note the  
greater care that is taken to have vegetables  
in the market early. Salad, chard &c have  
been for sale for several weeks. The supplying  
private houses with a succession of pot plants  
in blossom, during the winter, was, <sup>also</sup> extensively  
introduced last winter. Goldwin Smith  
remarked that the profusion of flowers he  
saw where I was quite liked the character  
of the climate. While I am on this subject  
I may tell you the baskets of ferns the children  
brought from Murray Bay for me are now  
in the most luxuriant beauty with new  
fronds constantly unfolding: quite tempting one  
to try again to cultivate a few pot ferns or flowers

I had a long letter from Jane last mail. Amongst other things she tells me that she had had a fine patch of green wheat growing in the house as a table ornament last winter. I want to know if the seed is put into the water or supported on its surface. As I shall certainly try it next Autumn.

That affair I wrote about proved to be the work of Henderson. It has given rise to a great deal of wrong & needless talk in the City. Henderson was brought before the Justice Court & his exhibition of madness showed the necessity for Confinement. He was therefore sent to jail, & since arrangements have been made to send him to a lunatic asylum in the U.S. His Mother is a widow & lives so poor & a few people connected with St. Saviour's Church are to bear the expense. It has already cost poor a good deal but I am so thankful that this Cause of Impiety is now removed

that it helps us to bear patiently the money  
loss. George Redpath, who got my  
remembrance was waiting to receive his mother  
on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April last year, she having gone  
home to Condale with him on the recent  
death of his wife; has within a day of the  
same date left England <sup>this year</sup> ~~on~~ his way out  
to meet Miss Savay. whom he jilted some  
three years ago. Another instance of the unexpected  
turns of fortune's wheel. He remains I am told  
but a week returning with his new bride.

We are longing to know your decision  
about your Shroves arrangements. You  
must be gratified to know Huxley ~~has~~ J  
Ramsay have formed so high an opinion  
both of you personally & of your abilities. I am  
trusting in your good Character holding it up  
to Rankine as one incentive to follow after  
"all that is lovely & of good report." "The fear  
of the Lord is that beginning of wisdom". God bless  
you all. I make it the prayer of each of your hearts. "As  
for us we will leave the Lord."  
Yours lovingly. Mother.