

Montreal Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 1871

My dearest Gary

I have the

pleasure of thanking you for your  
 very acceptable altho' somewhat short  
 letter of this week. We have looked  
 with some anxiety for your letters  
 since your return to London  
 knowing how great the change must  
 be from the free country life of the  
 summer. I am most thankful to have  
 continued good news. In a  
 most kind letter received by last  
 Cunard mail from Lady de la the  
 also testifies to your health saying  
 you look admirably well & bright  
 adding she did not forbear writing  
 to tell me how highly Prof. Ramsay  
 speaks of your diligence & attainments

was it not exceedingly kind of her  
to write to me. You complain  
of want of news — take an example  
by me — it is little I have to  
tell, only unimportant scraps of home  
doings & usually very egotistical. To  
avoid repeating the assurances that  
Anna & Papa are likely to tell you.  
I really like you to tell me when  
you lunch what you get. If Mrs  
Prest's table is better or worse kept  
since we were there. If your new  
black coat is smaller but it  
be news for my past week's diary,  
which up to Monday was one of  
unusual dissipation. Nearly every night  
we had company at dinner or in  
the evening. I sent out upwards of  
80 invitations for last Friday ev. altho  
as usual only about 50 came. I do not  
know whether to say I think or I hope the

of passing pleasantry. The hatter  
I find is two amateurs to be a good  
jolly. I have much enjoyed  
Prof: Armstrong's stay with us. He  
is fully instructed in the art of  
making himself agreeable. Nevertheless  
I was afraid the constant loop of  
preparing for company with two strangers  
in the house will lay me up  
so that I was not sure to be  
goaded. besides being milkers as well  
as housekeeper & professional cook  
& not one of us get provided with  
winks hats & hornets it has quite  
rested me to have Wednesday &  
Thursday thoroughly stormy days with  
not a creature coming in & no  
possibility of going out. I thus gaining  
me the opportunity I mentioned to me  
are now fitted out with the impor-  
tant covering above alluded to. This

Morning I went to market. I by the  
bye have I told you that we have  
now three butchers shops in Catherine  
St. opposite the Cathedral. each with  
fish, poultry & vegetables. They have paid  
a fine of \$500 but it is so convenient  
& so many people have availed themselves  
of the fine since that it is likely to  
prove profitable. I afterwards went  
to see Mrs Carpenter who is now  
able to sit up a little twice daily. Dr.  
Caraphell says his recovery will be slow  
I forgot to give her your message  
next visit. I hope to give it. She seems  
so truly happy to hear of you. Since I began  
I have had visitor after visitor & am  
now crowded into the last moment  
I know it is full of mistakes please  
excuse all. I love believe one  
yours affectionate

Peaches

P.S. am going to have a few pounds  
to the tobacconist I don't know when they

am going to write to you

Adelaide Campbell & Mr. Dunlop.

The day proved to stormy, that one of Mr Dunlop came. Lately Anne & I between us asked four people & all declined to let the weather continue as cold.

Probably tomorrow we shall be alone. Anna says she has seen several photo-albums illustrated by hand in the manner you describe. Those you see must be very pretty, only one must need be careful when they give their photos. I have never seen any.

I am very sorry to hear Mrs Bigsby is seriously ill. Dear old Mr Bigsby devotes himself to entirely to her he will sadly miss her if she dies.

You are right - I did mean Maria Clynborn. Lately I had a letter from Mr Pimrose. Mr Pimrose is not expected to recover. indeed you will probably have heard of his death before this reaches you. but happily for himself

as well as his friends he is a patient  
sufferer enjoying a clear view of salvation  
through Christ & longing to be "absent  
from the body & present with the Lord".  
The diseased organ is the liver the  
fatal symptom dropsy.

Your old friend Herbert (the porter)  
has been seriously ill but is now  
recovering. Charlie Davies also has had  
a severe cold. George Cornish is better.

While I write William Jones fellow is  
going down away for 4 mos expom. Rankin  
grooming over a difficult German lesson  
& has a little with a fit of toothache.  
She was very pleased to get your kind  
letter with the Crests.

Papa asks me - say what you see Mr. Bigley  
please ask if he receives a copy of his fossil plants  
& thank him for the Report of the "Royal Institution  
Proceedings" sent by this mail. I have been  
reading a notice of the lives of Babbage & Marchison  
in the "Times". They were born in the same year  
& died within a week of each other. However long  
a life may be, when it closes how short it appears  
& following it into eternity - how unimportant when  
it has been a happy one or one with many trials.  
The one absorbing question is. Happy or miserable now?