

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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McGill College,
Montreal.

Sept. 20th / 75

that I can find
no words to tell
you the sum of
it, means you no
much, as much
of dear dear dear,
which shall be
me - again -
your loving
Annie


Dear George

our last
letter from Quersul
I as you warned us not to ex-
pect to hear again for some
time, it is all I can do to fill
up the interval with writing
to you. The house is dreadfully
dismal without you & Wil-
liam, sometimes I wake up
in the morning I wonder if
it is time to get-up, I then
find myself listening to see
if any one else is stirring,
till I remember that there is
no one to listen for - Eve has
moved into your room, so
I have mind to myself which
is no small comfort, I believe
I was intended for a hermit
I enjoy my own company so
much, - I have been reading
lately a very interesting account
of a mission near Ft Simpson

at a place called Metlakatlah - the missionary is a Mr
Duncan, & if the account is
at all true a most wonderful
work has been, & is doing there
a whole N-tian village well-
governed by themselves, & spread-
ing its influence around. I
also hear that Mr Good who
was here is not thought much
of in B. C., & indeed his name
is supposed to be anything but
a description of him. If you
come across any facts on these
subject do tell me about them
for I am so interested in what
I have already heard.

Mr Bird has been appointed
drawing-master at the High
School, & has gone to England
to receive models & materials
for his classes he is to begin
work in October. I believe
he is engaged to a excursion of
Miss Waters'. & therefore is very
anxious to get on.

I hope that my last letter
reached you in safety as it was
such a very solemn & important
one - I long sometimes patiently
& sometimes impatiently to know

what you think about it
all. My principal sensation
even now, is, that it is all
very strange, however I have
only engagement ring, five pats
with little specks of diamonds
between,  & the date inside
(Sept 7. 1875) - so, you know it
really must be true, & get on
capitally together & comes to see
me nearly every day, that is to
say every day that he possibly
can. & we have long talks about
everything, he is just as reserved
& finds it as difficult to talk
to talk about himself as
you boys do, & it is hard to
have to begin & train him in
the way he sh^d go, however
he gets on very nicely, so I do
not despair, one comfort is,
that he always knows his own
mind, so in future I shall
let him make up my mind
for me & it will have a great
deal of mental anxiety. Nothing
has as yet been said of when
the wedding is to be, so I can't
tell you about it. I wish
I did know, for I hate indecision
of all sorts, but of course it is

not my affair to arrange it.
As any one told you that
Alfred is again engaged to Helen
Cochrane. I have known
about it for some time being
in the confidence of both parties
but never, very few know, & very
likely they will be married
sometime this winter. They
seem to get on very well together
& the prospects of the College
are gloomy, such no one will
be left but the old folks.

The weather here has been
frightfully cold, & it has snowed
at Quebec, while five inches of
snow lay for some hours at
Rivière de Loup, that glacial
period is coming on with
frightful strides, & I do not
dislike this cold raw, mercurial
atmosphere. We have even
had deer furnace lit, & many
& my "young men" have had
colds - Today I went down
& had my photo. taken so
some time since you may
hope to see me keeping off
you over the top of an umbrella.
Perhaps I ought to keep it for

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N. mas, but don't think I shall
be able to - William seems
to find board frightfully dear
in Paris, ^{Mc Gill College} ^{Montreal.} people asking \$50
\$60 a month for our room &
board, his mind seems to in-
cline to taking a room, it
w^d be a good deal of trouble
as full paid attendance
w^d have to be looked after
but the other prices seem
outrageous. However he will
have to do what seems best
to him. Certainly the family
at home ought not to be nearly
so expensive as formerly, but
mamma's inventive powers
seem to find quite as much
to do as ever, her room is at
present being re-done-up
with yellow curtains, couch
chairs etc. & the jam-making
apple-drying etc take a good
deal of time. These devolve
on me as also the housekeeping
all such things being called
"good practice" till I hate the
ward I do see it in the same
light; it seems to me that now that
I have a prospect of keeping

house for the natural timing
my life, that I ought to have a
holiday now - Is that not logic,
& reason too I.....

Mrs F. Molson was up a
few days ago, I was out but
being a special friend of
Bernard's she felt it her duty
to enquire particularly about
me, especially whether I had
a good temper, fancy being
examined & criticized like
that. Mrs Harrington ^{indeed}
feels very anxious as to what
I may be like, but has written
me a rather nice letter, hoping
she will like me when she
knows me & praising up her
'only her beloved son'. I think
it is clearly your duty to
write a letter to her only &
beloved son & praise up your
eldest & beloved sister. There
is no fun in a game like that
unless both sides play at it!

You even being engaged
has not cured me of talking
nonsense, I wonder if it ever
will - at least - I have often heard
that people in that condition were
apt to be stupid, so if you find this
letter wanting you will know why
at least it is not lacking in love dear!