

Summer of 1877

Little Metis

Aug 2, 1877.

Acc. 976

My dear George,

I find myself again here after a very pleasant passage across the Atlantic. I came out by the "Peruvian", as I seem always to happen to cross on it, and although it is not one of the largest vessels it makes very good passages. This time we left Londonderry on Friday afternoon and reached Rimouski on Saturday morning about eight — quite a convenient hour. I landed there and came directly down here by an accommodation train. This made only eight days from Moville to Rimouski. The weather was fine all the way across so was a little rough just after leaving Ireland, but it soon

calmed down, and was quite smooth for the rest of the way. There was just enough motion to remind one of their being on board ship. When we came near the Strait of Belle-Isle on ^{Wednesday} ~~Thursday~~ evening it looked a little doubtful and as if it ~~it~~ might prove foggy in the morning, but it turned out quite the contrary, so that we ran through the strait without the least detention; passing the Labrador coast during the whole day. We also saw Anticosti nicely on Friday, & could make out Cape point before evening.

Mother met me at the station on my arrival here; & I found that Father & Rankine were still in Nova Scotia. Yesterday morning Father arrived without Rankine as he seems overcome with the attractions of Victoria, & has stayed a few days longer to have some fishing & boating with the trim roses. We expect him back about the end of the week.

Katie Galt has been staying

here since they arrived at the beginning of July. She is very pleasant indeed & quite an addition when there are so few at home. She intends to leave us tomorrow.

I have just been for a swim with Herbert Darcy, who swims better than I do, which is not saying much however. He came off first of the First Year if you remember.

This evening we are all going to the Majors' where there are to be a few tableaux in an extempore way. I am going to help with them and so are Eva and Katie. The Darcys and Redpatts are to be invited also.

The weather here is quite remarkable as it has not rained all last month and then seems little prospect of its doing so for some time to come. Everything is drying up; our well & the Majors' have both dried up, and we have to go about quarter of a mile down the road to a spring to get drinking water.

I still find myself rather sleepy here although it is now five days since I arrived. I should have

thought the sea air in crossing would have accustomed me to its freshness, but here it is much warmer which makes a considerable difference. The air on the ocean is so fresh and cool, that it is not at all the same as the air here.

We remembered your birthday yesterday although we did not do anything in its celebration. I wish you many happy returns of the day! I only wish I might have the opportunity of seeing you some time soon, it is so very long now since we have seen each other.

The baby is quite well, although he is beginning to become a little restless as his teeth are commencing to make themselves felt. He is a fine fellow, and can now laugh aloud, & he jumps most vigorously in a person's arms. Anna looks quite herself again and battles and walks about like any one else. Eva asks me to say that she intends to write soon and that you must at least give her credit for her good intentions.

I remain your loony brother
William.