

Mr. Gill College, October 8th
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My dear Mr. Gary—

I should not have
arrived at Victoria before this &
been tempted to think me a most
negligent Mother, please excuse
the thought & extend your tender
Compassion to one who has within
less than four weeks done a year's
work — at least it seems to me
quite a year since I returned from
India, so many things have passed
before me. When we came back
with Anna now I had a Cook, &
she, & her nurse staid here for
a week. I we spent a great deal of
that week hunting after servants.
I to mind up quick by, only last
Friday I succeeded in getting a girl

who I think promises well. Amongst
 the important things that have
 occupied our attention the foremost
 has been William's future. We were
 very desirous that he should succeed
 in getting appointed to the Chair of
 Engineering in Toronto, & though we
 had pretty sure grounds to hope that
 he would be the successful Candidate,
 but it has not been so ordered. Mr.
 Galbraith (a mathematical gold medalist
 of Toronto University) has been appointed.
 but I am sure it is all for the best
 & it was really delightful to see both
 W. & Papa accept the disappointment
 without a murmur. I daresay you
 know that W. is also a Candidate for
 a similar Chair in the Military School
 at Kingston. I some trouble has been
 taken to promote his interests in that
 direction. The sudden change of Gov-
 ernment however takes us any party's
 ground that may have been gained
 & makes the appointment ^{ours} fall into new hands

the time of its being³ decided also becomes
indefinite, as it may take some time
for the new Government to shake down
into office, although the in general
family Council it has been thought
better not to lose more time but
to go to work at once. So William has
begun by asking Prof. Bailey to go into
partnership with him on a large &
varied Card of accomplishments. "Barkis
is willing" - the negotiations look serious
& in a short time I expect to see
"Bailey & Dawson". I trust conspicuously
before the public on St. James St.
As soon as you set foot on Canadian
soil be prepared to see W. cheerfully
imploring you for drawing, mapping,
measuring, calculating with un-numbered
fees. While at Metis W. went to Quebec &
Julesard the excommunications I paid his fee
as Provincial Land Surveyor - which now
adds another item to the list that may
bring work. But I need not speculate
further or I shall not have time to

Thank you for sending us back Karkine
in such good health & with such
precise punctuality. As you know by his
last Card, he arrived on Thursday
evg. at 11 o'clock & attended the first lecture
of the medical course, which is marked,
at 9 o'clock on Friday morn. & has gone
on with regularity ever since. By his
own confession I fear he has given
you some anxiety & a good deal of
trouble during the summer. He has
returned however full of good resolutions
which I trust he will be enabled
to carry out. Will it not be just
delightful if we are spared to be
all together again this winter! Do
hasten back lest anything happens
to prevent this pleasure. Please telegraph
when you reach Victoria; it will be
such a comfort to know that you are
no longer a "brancher" - but can
command authorized conveyances.

Grades Inman has returned much pleased
with his success & is now in New York trying
to get a company to work his mine. When

he intends to retrace his steps
to B. C. His sister Lillie is married
to Mr Shephard & settled down in
a nice house in Montreal. ~~Mr~~
Paul Julia Parker is passing
through some hard experiences
in life. She has gone home with
her intended & his family to spend
the winter in the south of France
on account of his continued ill
health. When she reached Mobile
a telegram awaited her asking
her to hasten to London as Kate
(her sister Mrs Hamilton), was dying.
Mr Parker has had one letter since
she heard this & Kate is still alive
& there is some hope of her recovery.
Julia will stay with her sister until
she is out of danger. & Mr Hamilton
her intended, who has got lodgings
two doors off from Kate, will wait
for her as long as it is safe for himself.

At Mobile this summer we
had altogether too much pleasure

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We had such charming friends as Mr & Miss Wilson. Miss Lunn & others but it deprived me of every chance of quiet. So we an expressive slang phrase, "we were always on the go!"

Our Ladies Educational Ass: lectures have fairly started with Dr. Beebe's Course on the Physiology of Digestion & I am about to busy myself with preparations for those on Cooking which follow in November. Ellen has entered as a student & I hope will take all the Courses. Have you been told that Dr. Beane is married? Sophia & her father are going out to Kentucky for a month to give Mrs. B. June full opportunity to assume the reins of Government. This is so good & thoughtful of Sophia that I hope it will be sufficiently appreciated.

I am feeling very tired tonight so altho' I might tell you many other little bits of passing news I must stop. Please accept my best love & believe me ever your affectionate mother.