

Birkenshats,

Little Metis, September 2^d
1885

My dear George

I think of you much today as there is a strong Easterly gale, & I am quite alone, all our party having left yesterday. I shall not however trouble you with harassing thoughts or moralizings such as the circumstances of the stormy weather induce, but try to keep to the small parts of my small sphere. Certainly it is wonderful how the summer, as we count it, has come & gone & how differently the time has been spent than, in prospect, I anticipated. The first month, whilst Florence & I were all alone, I worked diligently

in doors & out putting things in
 order & beautifying in various ways.
 These I completed in time for the arrival
 of Eva & papa. Then for a week after-
 wards papa & I had great discussions
 and the subject of opening up views, as
 well as the practical part - that of the
 trees being cut down - he then settled
 to his writing & a letter from Adelaide
 Cornphelt & some excursions to places
 of interest made a mark of how time
 passed in July. Not later than the 2^d
 of August little Miss Brooks appears
 on the scene, bringing with her a huge
 trunkful of apparatus, hustled about
 in a most businesslike way, choosing
 her room & her high as if she were
 fully mistress of the situation & finally

Captured & imprisoned me for a
 solid three weeks, a ~~rebut~~ following
 that I am thankful to say seems to give
 satisfaction to all of our family who
 are here. So that August brought a peculiar
 experience as well as a permanent reflection
 of one who at that date was an inmate
 of the Cottage at Inctis. Thank you, my
 dear Fanny, for this gratification for
 although at first I was quite averse
 to the proposition I have come to like the
 idea & am very much pleased now that
 the picture is finished to the satisfac-
 tion of most of those who are interested
 of course I cannot but feel it to be incom-
 plete without your father's & I had hoped
 to prevail upon him to sit while the circum-
 stances were all so favorable, but he stiffly
 refused & can I hardly hope that such another

opportunity will occur in his life. Miss
 Brooks remained with us till yesterday
 accompanying our party as far as Suelles,
 as her next engagement is at Matrimony
 Spalls. I remain behind for a week to get
 the linen washed & things in general tidied,
 whilst Eva has to put her shoulders to the
 getting housekeeping started in town.
 Bernard returned here from his European
 travels nearly two weeks ago looking, if
 possible thinner than before he left, having
 travelled fast, but he is well & seems cheerful
 & the intent, all of us, to go up together on the
 9th. Singularly enough Will, who has been
 detained so very much longer in the Lake
 Superior region than he anticipated, wrote
 last week that he would be home on
 Wednesday the 2^d of Fe. will arrive on the
 morning of the same day. You know, I believe,
 that he has made application for the office

Little Metis.

of, Inspector of Insurances. Made vacant
 by the retirement of Prof: Cherriman. —
 Previously Prof: of Mathematics in Toronto.
 Our hope of success has been so small
 that we have not been putting forward
 any vigorous effort until a few days ago,
 Sir Leonard Tilley wrote in answer to
 a letter I sent him on the subject, while
 he was in London, advising us to write
 to Mr. Bawell as he was acting for him
 in his absence & also to send it to see
 him. This stirred us up & your father
 wrote at once both to Mr. Bawell & Sir John
 but we are told that the Auditor General
 is a Candidate & if so I fear he has no
 chance. Dr. Johnson was also a Candidate

in the spring but we understood
 he had withdrawn. It would
 have been good if you had been
 in Ottawa to lessen your influence
 yet really I do not look for a favorable
 result.

Just before your father left he received
 a copy of his little book of travels which
 appeared as articles in the Leisure Hour.
 While here he has blacked out a larger
 volume on similar themes which he has
 made arrangements to have published
 about the time of his being in England
 next year. I only wish he would make
 this his last appearance, for I do not think
 he writes pushy now & he ought not to add
 outside work to Colley's worries, however
 this is a hackneyed story so better left unsaid
 & I shall close in the hope that you are
 not get tired of being told that I am your loving
 Mother.

Littlefield

of, reporter of business. Made account
 by the statement of Prof. Chas. Littlefield
 University Prof. of Mathematics in
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