

April 19th 1886

"Lamia"

your affectionate
Father
George

Before I left Montreal

I think I tried to say "goodbye", now
 I should wish to greet you from
 the far side of a very large stretch
 of water, but being still swayed by
 it neither hand nor mind promise
 to be overstrayed. The passage across
 has been an ordinary one - beautiful
 calm between Portland & Halifax but
 gradually leading to an endless rolling
 of our ship as we receded from land,
 until Wednesday the 14th when nearly

We are in sight of land
 there is an excitement
 which makes it difficult to
 write but you will excuse
 me with you
 I am with you
 I am with you

all the passengers retired to their
 most private quarters, whilst every
 third or fourth man washed
 quite over the hurricane deck. I succumbed
 to the inevitable but was hurried
 by Polly & questioned how she
 he so imbecile as to undertake such
 a voyage! Better meet the rougher
 higher views of self & life however
 & as the Cap: took a very southerly route
 we had warm as well as fine weather
 so that we have been much on deck
 & have enjoyed lovely moonlight nights.
 We have an very entertaining passenger
 a Mr. Dick, from Halifax, on board who
 reads comic papers immitably well. He

with a Mr. Mc-Cartney? have edited
 a daily paper having in it some curious
 things - they speak of having them printed
 in Liverpool but predict a decided
 cooling down of the public enthusiasm.
 Another, altho' humble man, I have had
 much pleasant converse with about
 the Missions in B.C. His name is Greene his
 station - the Nass? river. He is taking over
 with him a fine collection of B.C. & Queen
 Charlotte Island Carvings & dresses of Chiefs.
 I have tried to persuade him not to scatter
 these around in England but to give them
 to some Museum, & told him the benefits of a
 complete collection. He had examined the
 gathering at Ottawa & complained of the
 fate of a collection he made with sincere

pledges to the Indians, who were unwilling to part with some of their treasures, even for a fair money value, until he promised that their names & something of the history of the articles ~~would~~ be written out & attached to them for ever after. His Complaint is that that has not been done. As an example Chief Magahon? (Longarm) gave him a large bone, curved & on the under side are about 37 nicks or notches each one representing a man who ^{he} had been killed with it. His name & his people were promised to be labelled on the bone. I told Mr. G. that if he ~~would~~ supply authentic information there you ~~would~~ surely see that these promises were carried out. He paid for the dress of one of the Chiefs wh: he is taking to England \$75: it is a wonderful piece of complicated weaving