

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis.

August 21st

1908

My dear George

It was most gratifying to receive from you such a long & interesting letter as that of July 28th, & I grieved that it should have occupied a part of the rare half holiday time. Circumstances rather than choice had brought to you. Accept my thanks with the wish that your plans may continue to prosper so that you may be willing to take a leisure hour now in a while.

This has not moved a

Written by hand

particularly useful summer to me.
 It took a little more trouble than usual
 to settle at first - partly as Wape & Eves
 were to pay us a visit - & because I have
 in addition to the new duties of housekeeping
 had an ^{un}usual number of letters to answer
 & for the last two weeks I have had
 Mrs. Kegan - Mrs. Peter Atkins, Mother,
 from Halifax, as a guest. She is
 a charming old lady - very well
 informed & keenly interested in all
 natural objects & manifestly a
 worshiper of your father. So we
 both much enjoy her society. Only
 I do not feel equal to the address
 care & greater amount of talking.
 But the season draws to a close &
 my thoughts are now directed as to

how the Cattery is to be tickled
 & closed, & who, how & when the
 home at the College is to be opened
 & the housekeeping necessities got
 together there. No doubt I shall
 shuffle through some fashion & I
 ought not now to increase the burden
 by writing about it. In a note I
 had last night fr. Will. I am glad
 to find that he is relieved fr. the
 depressing strain of feeling that ~~there~~
 he cannot accomplish the work to be done
 in the time given to do it. You have
 having extended the time so that now
 he can do it satisfactorily.

Ever has had a very busy few weeks.
 Mrs. Keyser's nephews & nieces (New York
 people now on their wedding tour) here,
 at last accounts, came to visit their Cousin
 Mrs. P. Atkin & Hope has been taking them &

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Ever trips to Wales. In Speke house or
to Conway Castle - hurried ^{back} to be
feted & exhibited to the Duke's friends
at a large garden party - large dinner
party of 20. ^{while she is} struggling to get her own
house completed before the 18th at
wh: date she promises to be, "at home"
to receive her own visitors & "do the
worse ways". Anna & her flock are
well - she tells ^{me} the hawk you have sent
her wants purification - it has not reached
me yet. I have a few pieces ^{here} & twice weekly
to read Stanley's new book - well written
& full of interest - after bringing before
me what little I know of your difficulties.

I have also read with interest Remond's
"East life in Russia". wh: if you have not
read you sh^d read. Both of these wd give
models of what the public appreciate. I guide
you in writing your experiences. I cannot
venture to help another wh at th. I have lots
more to say. meantime believe ^{me to be your aff^l}
mother.