

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis.

June 29<sup>th</sup> 1895.

Dearest Georgy—

Today we have been here one week. & it always takes about three times to get things into shape & materializing papers Columny I still think I have done my part towards "settling" with cautious satisfaction. In any case we are now comfortable & both of us seem to be well. Your father's determination to go to the jagging is somewhat of a trouble to us, as none of the family, who could be helpful to him in his proposed work,

as he refuses in case of failure  
 in health are able to go with him.  
 unless my uncertain services will avail  
 I don't do not consider these amounts  
 to much. He talks of Clara or Ruth  
 but on second thought either of  
 them will rather be a care than a comfort  
 I fear the best will be that he will  
 venture alone. He makes confident  
 promises to be careful.

As to Cancer it is now definitely  
 ascertained that he has had, or has,  
 pleuro-pneumonia altho I was not  
 aware that this disease is of a chronic  
 nature. He made the journey safely & without

appears fatigued, & notwithstanding  
 that we have had cold Easterly wind  
 till yesterday, he has improved in appear-  
 ance & appetite daily. The bad symptom  
 is that his temperature still rises to above  
 100. in the eves showing that something  
 is wrong. We long for high weather &  
 warm, for his sake, as he was allowed  
 to come here only on probation & it will  
 be awfully sad if the medical men  
 insist upon his being taken to mountain  
 air & Anna has again to be parted fr her  
 family. The others are all looking splendid.  
 Do you know that Bernard is adding  
 a lease to their cottage, at the end  
 nearest to us. Wh: will add too much

needed rooms. I will also enable  
 a few changes to be made in partitions  
 that will I hope make the house more  
 healthy & comfortable. Little Bernard  
 is an enthusiastic & really helpful appren-  
 tice to the Carpenters. Florence is most  
 excellently well housed this summer  
 in a large, new, well planned cottage  
 built last winter by one of the Clarks.  
 With spring water flowing from a tap  
 in the kitchen! & per Mrs. Miles it is well  
 furnished. She tells me that they do  
 not expect that the landlord of this house  
 in Ottawa will rent it to them for  
 another year or there, in a quiet way -  
 they are watching for a suitable one

I had pleasure in letters fr. Ann & Rankine at the beginning of the week. E. writes now fr. Holyhead where she seems to be showing her hospitalities to many friends & living an anti-claus life. The donkey, got for the benefit of the children, seems to afford constant pleasure & amusement. & as she tells me that a goat can be purchased for £1. I have made much foolish talk about getting one also for my benefit here. Rankine writes pleasantly fr. Guernsey! where they propose to cruise amongst other of the Channel Islands & then go North. I do not

6.  
know how far. He is with Lord & Lady  
Archibald. & the yacht is called "Selfrida"  
The time of the cruise about three months.

Last night's meal brought me  
a delightful treat - both for self &  
Clara & Rette, who sleep at our cot-  
tage. & who after dinner were early  
& talk a while before going to bed. The  
"Primrose" were admired & criticised  
but as in the lamp-light no yellow was  
seen quite a surprise awaits them  
when they see the picture in deep light. It  
is an unusually good picture compared  
with others accompanying the illustrated  
News & it was most thoughtfully kind

in you to send it to us. We spent  
 so much time on "Pimrose" that we have  
 got more than half of the other pictures as  
 a pleasure in store. Thank you very  
 much. I have ~~not~~ used much, as  
 you will easily believe, but I have  
 been keenly interested in one of the  
 books brought by papa. Called —  
 "A Daughter's Daughters." & the more so be-  
 cause it is out of the ordinary track  
 of thought being written by a Criminal  
 lawyer. We have both read it but I  
 don't know what papa thinks of it. To  
 me it appears to be cleverly written — short-  
 clear & easily read so I am going to  
 send it to you & ask you to do

me the favour to read it. You  
 may if you please, after reading it -  
 remark to us again as its easily under-  
 stood & perhaps suitable to some  
 friends here.

I hope that you may be able to  
 leave Ottawa with an easy mind  
 as to matters Committee - that the degree  
 if you have (as we hope you may)  
 to go to Edmonton? The change will  
 surely be a rest after the heat & hurry of  
 there. & then we still further hope that  
 you may be able to come here. At present  
 the trees look beautiful - so fresh & green.  
 With much love to you dear George  
 from  
 Mother.