

Re. Gloriana Coats.

Rankine's future wife.

293. University St  
Montreal.196  
Saturday Evening

Dear Mr. Gray:

Is it not rather curious that after years of unpaidd regularity in correspondence with Era, & when we were in on such a strain of anxiety to know more about Rankine's affairs than Era, having written what she had gathered from R.; on the 3<sup>d</sup> of January, was interrupted by visitors & prayer to mail her letters, as those yesterday's <sup>mail</sup> letters that I am dated 7<sup>th</sup> & now we are in possession of the following facts. Her name is, Gloriana McKenzie Coats. the granddaughter of his Peter Coats, of Cotton fame, but famous of a man of passion & a College graduate

She is named after Lady Coats - Plasencia  
 & after Lady Coats' father - Mr. King, a military  
 officer. Her father, George Coats, married  
 Miss Black, only daughter of Adam B., the present  
 proprietor, & sister to Adam B. the present head  
 of the firm. Both parents are dead & she  
 is the ward of her uncle A. B. she has one  
 only brother, who lives abroad. She lives  
 in a house of her own & has a small  
 independent income. But here comes  
 a funny thing. Adam Black is Peter Atkins's  
 husband's friend & finding that P. W. was  
 peculiarly attentive to his niece he wrote  
 some time ago to P. A. to ask about P.  
 as he knew something of shellans there  
 show coming lands, here miss a word  
 said he. Besides some years ago I fancy

before? Went to him in Rock Hery. Glo.  
 paid a visit to ~~Edwards~~ <sup>Edwards</sup> House as they  
 came to know her well & Cosmopolitan speak too  
 highly of her. Peter says she has force of character  
 with good sense & sweetness, as well as  
 full of fun, & Blanche tells that she is most  
 popular in society. In short of all quarters  
 accounts of her attractiveness reach us. I hear  
 no word of beauty or accomplishments  
 here she has travelled a good deal & must  
 I think be intelligent. Eva is filled with  
 delight. Hape, who writes to paper to express  
 his opinions, says it is quite amusing to  
 hear Eva ejaculate aloud, "how wonderful"  
 "how curious" - "I am so glad" & so forth. He  
 also says Rankine looks & speaks like  
 another man now that he has an object  
 & an interest in life. So how can we be

others than gratified me do great a  
 blessing to him, come into his life. It  
 has lighted a burden off me & I feel settled  
 when I have time to realize how much  
 good may come out of this happy & as  
 far as we can judge, satisfactory prospect.  
 It is not, P. deys, decided as to where they may  
 settle, but they intend to be married soon  
 after he returns fr. the present cruise.

I hope you will write to <sup>Fluorence</sup> "add your welcome  
 to her into our family. Geo, Fluorence, Anne,  
 Papa & I have done so & Papa has scandalized  
 me by addressing her "my dear new daughter"  
 while I write, my dear Miss Coats. I ought to have  
 added to the pedigree that she is <sup>Fluorence</sup> niece to Sir Tho<sup>s</sup> Coats  
 Bart; who married Miss Walker of Montrose, whom  
 you may remember - she was very pretty. Now excuse  
 an abrupt close. I want to mail this so that it may  
 go by Monday's early mail. With much love, dear George,  
 from  
 Mother.