

293. University St
Montreal.West March 31st

My dearest George

(97)

Your note of the 21st might have been answered sooner, the postmistress of the 19th however, left a residuum of work that occupied me for a week. The following Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday were wholly occupied writing thanks for gifts & answering letters & I still have a pile of congratulatory cards to be acknowledged. Last Friday again a great many people called, & having had a hint that to see the presents was part of the attraction I had laid

them out on the piano where they
 showed to advantage. The acacia
 & other flat-flowers gave me as
 were white fresh, & Miss Orkney having
 sent three dozen yellow roses, the drawing
 room was again en fête. Unfortunately
 I had caught a little cold during the
 week & by the evening was so tired that
 I resolved to stay in bed both Saturday &
 Sunday & afterwards I added Monday. So
 that I have had a thorough rest & my
 cold is better, & I am going to walk with
 papa at 12 o'p. He has passed thro'
 this ordeal wonderfully well, only
 grembling a little at the interruption
 to useful work. Which neither

of us ought to do as I think the
 unsought, spontaneous expression of
 true affection, as evidence of the appreciation
 of your father's work & Character. Comes
 like a Crown of glory, towards the
 close of his long unselfish efforts, for
 the benefit of Mr. Gill & the world, & his
 given, & then risks even in their
 acceptance is such his talent.

In regard to the plates you prefer it is
 in your keeping till you come to claim
 it, & the sooner the more pleased we
 shall be. Altho' I must like to use
 your tidbits as I know they are made
 at a sacrifice to your own interests

& with very little if anything to Compen-
 sate you. I can hardly even hope that
 they are a relaxation - they refresh you
 far further less work, as Florence
 tells me that the two days break, prove
 a benefit to Will. Bath. J. & Anne
 wrote an account of the 19th to Anne, & Clara
 did to Gb: I too wrote to Rankine & E.
 but not so fully as I otherwise ~~would~~
 had they not written - papers also were
 sent which supplemented all, & photos to both.
 We have had the large-sized photo duplicate
 in Cabinet size, they have come out very cheap
 & well & we have sent a copy of this to all the
 gift-givers & to many English & Scotch friends.
 Most affectionately yours
 Mathew