

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis.

August 16th

97

Dearest George

Your father is such a diligent Correspondent & I such a lazy one, that I too often shelter myself under his faithfulness, & now intrude at a time when you are doubtless overwhelmed by a multitude of distracting duties - wh: however we have confidence you will fulfil successfully - it will give me great pleasure when I can think of you as one of Mr West's engaging discussors

& giving information to congenial
 listeners. Clarence received his first
 budget of letters fr. Will last Friday.
 He has had a good deal of knocking
 about & has had to change his plans
 many times to get fr. one point to another.
 He had a hurried cold, foggy experience
 at Newfoundland. Strongly, but happily—
 as I am writing, H. sends us a telegram she
 has just received telling of his safe arrival
 at St. Paul's Island. He had not heard
 fr. here since he left Halifax & will be
 delighted to get a return telegram with
 good news. James' patient continues well
 & I think passes the time fairly comfortably.
 He deserves all praise for taking so patiently

his enforced absence³ fr. the B. St. meeting,
wh. is a deep disappointment to him.
Both of us thank you heartily for your
very kind present of peaches wh. we are
still enjoying, because you sent so many
that after dividing them & eating some
fresh we were able to preserve a few
for tarts - this pleased me, as shortly we
expect to get Wilson (by the "Lake Winnipeg"
due this week) & Mahaley Rankine & their
delicacies for them. I fear the latter has had
a most discouraging fight with his mining
interests - these unprecedented decreases
of the Klavelike have been injurious to
the prices expected for the Passland properties.
We do not know the date of R's sailing. This wish

was to come here for a week to attend
the Medical meeting at Montreal before
going West. Possibly you may meet.

The last news from Mrs Egerton
Gause, whose ~~she had~~ ^{she had} gone to receive Agnes before
she left England & to arrange her own house
ready to get the children back. She had been
ten weeks at Halyhead & was sorry to leave it.

We here are wholly dependent on Anna's plans
as it will not be prudent to deprive her.
Her present intention is to remain till about the
10th (if I mistake not) of Sept. I believe this the best
& most favorable place for paper, so much
in the open air & he quite likes driving with
fresh interests & brings us back ^{strongly} per tree.
With loving regards wishes for ^{your} success during
the voyage & much pleasure in the service of your scientific pursuits