

293. University St
Montreal.

Sunday May 3^d

My dear George

I have only a few minutes at command, & any thoughts I may give in reply to a subject I could have wished to answer thoughtfully, must necessarily be crude. . . . Patterson, as I know there the request is an honor as it usually is conferred upon the most distinguished members of either family, & before the child came I do tell me that if it were a boy they had resolved

to Cullen it after you. This, as you know, has been transposed to me. & they give you the most greatest Compliment. Besides I do: earnestly believe that hindering you to watch that he chief is being carefully trained, "in the way in which she should go", is a further safeguard to this end asth gives you the right to give advice, encouragement, or reproof, as you may Counsel me say. & are anyho- to respect his Conventions. Rankine must indeed be changed if he can subscribe to this! Has the full meaning & responsibility attached to this ceremony by English Church people

you any be to consult the Prayers
 Book which may also tell where
 documents, if any, are required & how
 substitutes are appointed for those
 unable to be present in person of such I
 am utterly & willingly ignorant. As to
 myself it is merely a Commandment of
 men without precept or example
 in scripture. & if you are puzzled how
 to act it will not be difficult for
 you to imagine the temporal perplexity
 I have if I tried to give you advice. I love
 Gls: & would gladly gratify her in any way
 that does not affect my conscience, but

in spiritual things, so far as I am
 enlightened to understand them,
 I trust I shall to the end staunchly
 adhere to God's Word rejecting all
 rites & ceremonies added by men, & are
 therefore unscriptural & vain. What all
 of us need is God's gift of spiritual life -
 which restores us to fellowship & communion
 with him. His teaching then becomes
 precious to us & we desire to be guided
 by his laws of which love is the centre.

It disappoints - very grieves me to be
 unable to help you to solve so difficult
 a problem as this in wh. Gl's request places
 you. But I am sure with much affection
 yours. Mother.