

293. University St
Montreal.

October 27th 1898

My dear George,

As your father himself
now writes to you occasionally &
I also hear of Anne writing, I excuse
myself by the thought that our life
is now so isolated & monotonous
& yet, withal, so full of small inter-
ruptions & irregularities that strong
matter is wanting to incite to the pen.

Lately we have been interesting our-
selves in the "Dark hovers", these immigrants
from Russia, you may have read of,
who are shortly expected to arrive here.

They are a sect who take the command
 on the Mount as their Cross to be
 martyred. Thus they refuse to enter
 the Army, & for this Cause the Russian
 Government have imprisoned, fined,
 & tortured & banished them till, in a
 limited number of years, their number
 has been reduced from 20,000 to
 7,000 or 8,000. Chiefly through the
 work of Count Salostai permission has
 been got to allow them to emigrate,
 a difficult matter to carry out as it is
 quite illegal to write or communicate
 with them. Now however 2005 of them
 have been massed & are on their
 way

to Canada. They hear the characters
 of industrious agriculturists who
 prefer to live in Communities & share
 & share their profits. Eventually Falstair,
 & some "Friends" associated with
 him in the East, hope to gather the
 whole of these persecuted people & send
 them to our N.W. There is reason to
 believe that they will prove valuable
 settlers & as their children get some edu-
 cation improve.

Another minor matter of interest is the
 return of Mrs Albert Lewis of Yokohama
 where after a years wanderings through
 many lands she found her husband.
 She has returned intending to spend a

part of the winter with her mother
 & to settle some business matters & then
 return to Yokohama & join her husband.

Eva's early letters tell of a pleasant
 week spent at Halstead & later of settle-
 ment at the Maples. She has arranged
 to take advantage of the offer of a Mrs. Altan,
 to have Silvia & Grace join her children
 in their education, under an excellent
 resident governess.

For the past two weeks or so papa has
 notwithstanding the hot weather, been
 his usual ^{careful} bright. Whether this is due
 to the effects of a new medicine suggested by
 Rankine & submitted to Dr. Blackwelder, ^{at} Carmat
 tile. It sometimes to find some daily occupa-
 tion of a Ceryonial kind & has just received

his new edition of the
 "Principles of Scripture" — a copy of
 which I will mail with this.
 He is too in correspondence with
 Rankine who is to ascertain
 if he can get a publisher to bring
 out his treatise, "The Uses of Patience"
 with additional matter he is
 preparing to add to it.

Anna's family are well.
 They are enjoying the Season?
 apples, are sent us — they are very
 good when roasted & daily we
 get two of them so prepared & like them.

I hope you rejoice with Clarence
 & Will in this new acquisition
 of a little maiden. I long to know
 from some unbiased source
 if she is pretty & promising.

With all loving good wishes
 from Mother.

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