

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis.

Sunday.

Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> 99

My dear George

Anna has added  
to her thousand other kindnesses  
that of keeping you informed in-  
formed as to how matters were  
during the few days of his <sup>4<sup>th</sup> doctor's</sup> serious  
illness & part, if not all of the time,  
since each day has added distinct  
improvement in strength since he  
passed the worst. He is able now  
though more feebly - to walk from  
his room to the gallery & sometimes  
to listen to a little simple recelling

but he is thinner & still more of an  
invalid than when you were  
here. Rankine is most attentive to  
him. & perhaps, his constant presence  
relieves him of some of his apprehensions  
that he may suffer from not having  
immediate medical attention. Our  
chief endeavor now is by every care  
to get him able to bear the journey  
back to Montreal, for which we  
have secured the drawing room Com-  
partment of the P.M. train on the 13<sup>th</sup>,  
& Rankine quite intends to remain  
to direct & help us at that time if all  
magazines, as it has for the past week,  
you may follow our own plans at

at all in your mind about  
 us. — It will however be prudent  
 for you to send us, as leave with  
 Will, address, or addresses, by which  
 we could reach you by telegram.  
 Your kindness in thus replying to  
 us in these past days of anxiety both  
 about your father & the delay in p<sup>o</sup>  
 arrival was a comfort for which I  
 am sincerely grateful. Now I am  
 going to ask you to do me another  
 favor wh: will be great although  
 about a comparatively small thing. Will  
 you once more inquire if that new  
 book on Rome is now published.  
 Blanche is to be married on the 5<sup>th</sup> &  
 I sincerely hope that it will reach her

before that date as it necessarily  
 will have to be a leather-bound copy  
 not the ordinary cloth-bound one. If  
 you are so fortunate as to find that  
 this can be sent at once please order  
 it to be sent direct to Blanche. Egerton  
 Park House. York. & c. If not I must  
 apologise through Eve & do what I can  
 after our return to Montreal as it is  
 not in my power to decide on anything  
 else. Thanks also for your continued  
 thought for my welfare. I am very well.  
 I must take care that I was not <sup>abusing</sup>  
 she took all the burden of night watching  
 & the heavy work of all lifting & c. I have  
 only had love & blessings uncountable!  
 In all affection & gratitude I am  
 Yours Mother