

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis.

October 1<sup>st</sup>  
1900.

My dear George

I duly received your  
kind & welcome letter of Sept- 24<sup>th</sup>  
& at once wrote to Anne your  
suggestion about a tentative  
friendly talk with Colby as to  
his willingness & command of time  
should it be decided to ask his  
advice in the matter of the manuscript  
As we three are agreed to this as  
the best time seems to offer I suppose  
we need not say more till the



of its inquiries are ascertained.  
 I have partly been obliged to remain  
 here till I have the prospect of getting  
 a Cook. Pankue having undertaken  
 to try to get me one in London.  
 Only last Friday I heard that a hope-  
 ful one had been secured & was  
 sail by the Lake Champlain due to  
 arrive in Mont about the 12<sup>th</sup>. So  
 close & I propose to leave here by  
 the early morn train of Friday shipping  
 & breakfasting at Mary Ann Stetts before  
 we start thus following your thought-  
 ful advice of making ourselves com-  
 fortable. The weather looks fine &  
 upon the whole mild - or or two  
 nights have been decidedly cold.



here are chimneys now drawn  
 better & we do not spare the logs  
 here sit over the fire in the evenings  
 are receding about the other -  
 adjusting them to keep up the heat.  
 We take drives frequently - it is so peace-  
 & beautiful the leaves highly colored  
 the sea & sky assuming every shade  
 of color & all sometimes with the soft  
 dreamy haze of the so called Indian  
 summer. We are by no means an-  
 xious to have here a sense of neglected  
 duties or too much self-indulgence  
 upbraid us.

In regard to Parkine his decision  
 may appear sudden here I know he  
 has hankered after Montreal



few years past & I trust that now  
 he has determined to try he will  
 bend his energies to making a success  
 of the move. I fancy he is not unwise  
 in letting G's choose a house. Clara  
 tells me that she has excellent business  
 abilities & decides quickly. She brings with  
 her a nurse & an old much esteemed  
 servant who will be invaluable in  
 helping her to make arrangements. &  
 they have decided to take up to the Windsor  
 for a month till quarters are chosen  
 & furnished. P. has sent me a <sup>copy of the</sup> list of  
 directions as to locality, size of house - etc  
 things to be ascertained &c &c there is  
 most complete as a guide to her. He  
 remains to pack, settle all claims & business  
 matters & then follow her here. She furnishes



5.

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Will arrive two weeks later  
her so I think it will be all right.

I begin to feel somewhat  
nervous about Will. It is now  
three weeks since Florence wrote  
to tell me that he had reached  
Porteau Bay, but did not know  
by what means he would return.

I wonder if Florence herself is anxious  
I am sure she will let me know  
immediately she hears anything of  
him. Give my love to her as till  
her the date at which we go to  
Montreal. Accept all best love from  
Mother.

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*[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

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