



McGill College,
Montreal.

June 2/86

Dear Rankine,

Your of May
15 was a welcome visit
& we got back in
Ottawa, and I now
write in reply, because
I have some matters
to mention to you.

I have a letter from
Rev. St. Crosskey,^x one of the
Worshipful Secretaries of
the British Association
for Birmingham, stating
that they are prepared

x 117 Sngth Road
Birmingham

to be very hospitable to
all worthy Canadians,
and are to send me
500 uncirculars to that
effect, which have
not yet arrived.
So soon as they come I
shall mail one to
you, and in mean-
time have asked
him to send some
to Colman. Will you
kindly confer with
Colman and make

a list of my Curadians
you know of, who
may be sent to Bir-
mingham, and sent
thence to Crosskey. I have
already sent the names
of Major Beverland (an
old anti-small-pox major) Sel-
wyn, Johnson, Bury, Mason
Adams, A. Robinson, Redpath
Lupper, Colman, but there
may be many others;

Young Alexander Robinson,
who has been travelling in
Egypt & Palestine, is to be
in London soon, and will
report to Colonel Peel.

find him out if you can,
and inform him as to
Mamma's son. He is a
very good fellow.

I have a letter from
Mrs Wells, Keith House,
North End Road, ^{West} Kensington
Sq. She is a second
cousin of mine, ~~and~~
niece of my cousin James
Dunsmuir of Banuffhill, and
her husband Dr Wells is
a thriving London physician.
She invites me to stay
with them in a very
kind manner. I have
not promised to do this,
but have said I shall

call and that I have
 asked you to call
 on them. Please
 do this. You may
 find the acquaintance
 useful, and in any
 case can tell them
 for and me
 of them. Mrs Wells' mother
 & family stays with them,
 and is a daughter & my
 cousin.

You do not say
 anything of Mrs. Fiske
 to me very especially to
 inquire as to her health,
 as to which I felt some
 anxiety when she left.

I suppose you take
no news for good
news; but shall be
glad to know of
possible help I so much
wonder what you think.

We are all well

As to reading, you say
you do not like it. Of course
not. You must get over
reading in the old Channing
way. I have not read a
book in that way for 30 years,
a man of your training &
experience should be able
to take the cream off any
book in an hour, and
then, if it is good for anything,
lay it by for reference. You should
skim and think and merely
skim books.

Yours & mamma's
Ever yours
Wm. D. Howland