

Fairfax Hall,
Cambridge.

May 15th 1904.

My dear Mrs. Macnechan

Thank you very much
for both your letters. I got
them both in due course of post
and was I need hardly say
extremely glad ~~to~~ do so. Shirley
had casually mentioned the
professor's "trouble" and that
was what mystified me, but
your letter which came just
after I wrote to her of course

explained her reference. What a
time he must have had and
you too! I am so sorry and
I hope that he will soon be
quite well and fit to take pen
in hand. He is better too
you say and that is good
news.

I ought to have written
to you before but I have had
a good many letters to write
and thought that you might
rest content for a time with
my note from New York after
I got your telegram, which
came as such an unexpected joy.

I am very glad to have mon amie Grace's congratulations and indeed hers with the others that so many people have sent me have been half the fun. I had such nice letters from Kenneth, Garnett and Clarence Christie not to mention cousins, aunts, girls such as Shirley and sad news whom I have never heard of since I left school or they left College -

Shirley was good enough to ask me to spend my first holidays in Gananoque and I wanted to very much and also to put in some time in camp with Mack who leaves me lamenting next week en route for Michipicoten. But the father ruled that I must come home to Halifax so I can't do any of my programmes. However I shall be very happy at home and I am glad you are not going away. The only winter thing about the whole business is my instinctive thought and wish to tell Bob and then the recollection that I can't. But we can talk when I can back and I hope you will make Shirley come down but she said she thought not.

I had a nice letter note from
James Galoué. He must be
a happy fellow too these days.
I don't believe you spoke of
that engagement though
you mentioned the inscrutable
Ella's. She wrote to me and
I gave her my best wishes
in return but before that
I did not write as I could
not think what to say.

You may be interested to
hear that I had tea with
Iris last Sunday. She

wrote and asked me to go down
to see Nathé Albro. The lady
was there and she seemed to
be having a grand time. She
told me she would not go back
to live as before in Halifax for
wealth untold, that she was
happy in having an object in life
and more that seemed very
unlike the superficial attitude
that appeared but which must
have been there all along.

Iris's friend Miss Bullard
and Miss Agnes Crawford the
violinist of home was there too.
I had never met her but I daresay
you know her by name as I did.

I think that is the third time I have been
to see them this winter and I had them
to tea here when Ethel passed through.

Evelyn Morrison was there and the youngest
Miss Phillips of St. Louis the last time I was
there.

I think this is a pretty considerable
letter and I hope you and my guide
philosopher and friend will like it.

Thank you for writing to me. I know
that it is a great convenience for I know
that you are very often pretty tired, but
I hope if you write again you will
tell me how Mrs. Slayter and the girls
are - I dare say Hilda is home by this time.

My love if you please to your three
daughters whom I am proud to reckon
as my friends and may I say love
to you and the professor for though you
might not appreciate it if I said a filial
love I am sure it must be a love
of some kind that I bear you both and I
shall leave it to him learned in linguoes
to find an adjective for it -

Gilbert S. Stairs