Port Simpson.
Sept. 16th 1890.

My dear Susie,

I was so glad to get your letter - cannot reply fully just now - some sad things I want to reach you without fail before the Board meets - Miss Cartmell is here - came last Friday morning - this is Wednesday - intends to leave by a boat that is expected today or tomorrow - She has made her home with us as there is no spare bedroom in the Home - She comes introduced by a "resolution" which she gave us to read, but just what it was passed I have not learned - but she has such a sweet spirit

that it is easy to get on with her. I had a feeling, I confess, that she was coming to criticize, but I must say she has manifested nothing of that, but has met everything in a most reasonable conciliatory spirit. The site for the new building is one of the points she wants all possible information on & has also looked into the working of the Home with a view to reporting, I suppose officially. She has I believe been very frank and so have we. I think her visit may do much good. It has been a point with her to assure us most emphatically of the confidence & sympathy of the entire Society - and express the great pleasure the "Ladies" feel in being able now to

take more responsibility in the Indian work than they have hitherto been in a position to assume. Surely, what change has put them in this position? Is there anything of a reaction elsewhere? It is evident that the strong feeling that the energies of the Society have run too much in one direction is forcing recognition, and some change of policy has to be made. I hear too that a change in the presidency is more than possible. Probably you know of that.

We thought it only right to acknowledge that we had felt there was a want of interest in the Indian work, and I gave a little of my experience to show how coolly the President could ignore the whole work, and had done so, but at the same

since I assured Miss C. that as far as Mrs Strachan was concerned, while I thought I had missed of late the sympathy that there used to be in her letters, yet that she had always been frank & straight-forward, and business-like & we had no fault to find there. Then we talked over our relation to the Home, and Miss C. says she sees how Thomas must remain connected with it, for we had told her that we had felt that the Ladies would rather have it quite out of our hands - and Miss Ross, without saying so, acted as though she had nothing to do with it - Miss R. has not a happy manner - perhaps that partly accounts for it. Miss Hart thinks Thomas

should in no wise give it up, and at present I do not see how it can be. But considering everything, we feel that there must be an expression on the part of the ladies & a clear understanding as to our or the rather Thomas' relation to the Home, and that it ought to come before the Board. Now I want you to be prepared for it. Miss Hart has been appointed Treasurer - that is all right - let her hold the funds & keep the accounts & whatever may be sent directly to us from private subscribers we can hand over to her. And as to internal arrangements the ladies in charge can be guided by the wishes of the Society, but in dealing with the parents & friends of the children, and as

general advisor & referee
at present Thomas ought
to keep the position he has held.
Miss Ross has not got on
very smoothly - perhaps mostly
from want of experience -
and Miss C. seems to compre-
hend the situation and has
given good advice, so that
I hope things will improve.
No one seems to know much
about Miss Ross - she is active
and pushing I think, and
when she understands things
may do very well - but she
was inclined to find fault
&c - till it was very trying
for Miss Hart. Of course
these personal matters are
for yourself only. Miss C.
is certainly very nice, and
has a good deal of tact,
and a great deal of patience.
The weather has been mostly
very stormy since she came,
& we have not been out

much, but her visit has been really very pleasant to us. I invited Dr + Mrs Bolton and the ladies from the Home for tea one evening so that we might all be together. I have been taking the day school in the mornings for some time. Miss Hart takes it in the afternoon. The building such as Miss C. has in her mind will cost much more than we estimated, but if the society are inclined to work vigorously why all the better.
One evening last week we had the ladies from the Hut to spend an evening, including Mrs Hall senior, the two daughters + Carrie. Mrs Hall junr. stayed home with the children. Everyone was very pleasant, and we had a nice evening. I did my best at the tea. The Missionaries

were all invited to so we had quite a gathering.
I suppose the Children are settled now at Whitby - I am so glad they keep well.
While Judy about them. As to there being any preference between Whitby & St. Thomas I fancy there is not much - then if they were at the latter place it would seem to me they were among strangers.
Gertie & Harold had each a little sick turn week before last - but are quite well now. I have been very well lately. I am so sorry Eliza keeps poorly. How are you yourself.
Love from all to all
Yours as ever
Emma

Thomas is intending to go to Victoria right away - do wish there was a way here - my ankle getting quite -

Mrs G. P. McKay
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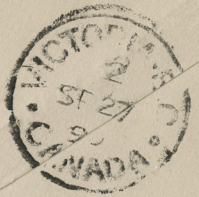
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