Victoria

April 8th 1879.

My dear Mother,

You will think it a long time I have been silent, but our mail was very late in coming this Spring. I wrote a line, I think, in a letter of Mr Crosby's a month ago, thinking he had a chance to send a mail, but after sending our letters fifteen miles to catch the Str. they were too late and were returned to us — We had not then received any mail and received none until about two weeks ago. We were glad to hear from you all, you may be assured — How thankful

we should be that
we are all kept in as
much comfort and peace.
But I really think it
would be a good thing
if you could make your
home where your
health might be better
suited.
April 14th This afternoon
I received my father's
letter with the fifteen
dollars enclosed. We were
much pleased with both.
The parcels you have sent
have, I think, all come to
hand. The hoods you sent
last fall served the children
splendidly all winter – I
acknowledged them before
I am sure, also the
grey flannel &c. in another
parcel. This spring I

received a parcel of stockings for the children, a most useful gift, which deserves my best thanks. You will see my letter is dated from Victoria. We have been here ten days. We did not intend coming down quite so early, but we had a good opportunity to come down with very few passengers on the Ste., and we did not know when but that this would be the last chance before the Dis. meeting. We had a very good trip down — fine weather, and made good time, and having the boat almost to ourselves was a great advantage.

Jessie and Gracie enjoyed it splendidly, and behaved beautifully. My little Polly is teething and has not been herself for a month or more — still she did not do badly. Since we have been here she was very poorly for a few days, but has cut two teeth and seems much better. As to the two eldest they are enjoying themselves quite wonderfully, and are very well. They are to have their photographs taken tomorrow and I hope soon to send them to you. They are very good children — Ever

father is a great help in taking care of them or I should find it difficult sometimes to manage — as to little Polly — as we call baby — she wants no one but her mother. We intended to make our home with Mrs Wm Pollard jun. — but coming by the first train of the St. could make no arrangements beforehand, and found she was very poorly, so we have been at the parsonage thus far. We shall likely go to Mrs Pollard's after two or three days. The Dis. meeting is not for ten

days yet and, of course, we must stay in Victoria till that is over. Then we mean, if we have time, to go up the Fraser river to visit some old friends of Mr Lawrey's there.
I think Thomas will not feel like staying down long after the S. M. is over.
Do you remember a little lump that showed itself on the back of my neck just before I left home? Well, it gave me no inconvenience and I paid no attention to it until last summer when I found it was increasing in size, and more

recently I found some
weakness and aching in
the place. We thought
best to have medical
advice, and were advised
to have it removed. Last
Thursday it was operated
upon by two doctors. They
gave me chloroform so
I was spared the pain of the
operation, which occupied
about thirty-eight minutes.
It was a tumour, but
not of a malignant nature
at all — merely a collection
of fatty matter, in bulk
perhaps equal to a small
hen's egg. I think the
operation was skilfully
performed, at least the
wound has healed very

quickly – today (Monday) the doctor removed the dressing and it is almost well. I felt very poorly for about a day after the operation, but am now about as well as ever. I feel very thankful indeed that I have got over this so well. Mrs Smith and the girls were very kind in taking care of the children while I was laid up. If I can get up enough courage, I want to have all that remain of my upper set of teeth out and a false set in before I go home.

We are having really a very pleasant visit.

I have a carriage for baby so that we can take her out – I hope to send you photographs of all that there is next time I write. I think you may see the originals some time. I am very glad to hear that this female home of ours is so favorably considered. We hope to have it in operation in some shape next summer.

Kindest love to my dear father and also to your dear brother, from my husband and from your affectionate daughter

Emma.

think my letter was ~~[illegible]~~ May 2
the only one that came Victoria
this time April 9th

Dear Annie

I thought of sending you Emma's letter but did not know whether you had got one or not, I felt so relieved on receiving it, am thankfull she got over it so well. Mr Smith A McPsony from B C called the other day he had come direct from the district meeting

where he had seen Mr Cosby and Emma he was to tell me they were all well he says Emma as three beautiful children. they were going up the Frazer river to visit some friends what an undertaking ~~with~~ for Emma but hope it will do her good, I have been thinking about you this warm weather wondering if you were cleaning house, I have been packing up a little at a time am almost through love to all Mother