

other influential people. I am sending you a piece that was posted up here fifteen days after he came. He had not yet seen Mr. Crawford and had merely returned my dear John's call. In fact, it would be impossible for me to tell you all his rudeness from the first day he came. Johnny removed the paper, a copy of which I am sending you, and we have not mentioned it to a soul, but the wretch worried all that day, wondering what effect it would have. He went to see Mr. Williams and talked about poetry and even loaned all the pieces he had written at York and even those about Mrs. Dawson. He asked the doctor to have tea with him, but the latter knew nothing so he could get no information there. He came to the office (too) and spoke of his affairs at York, but all to no purpose. Then he could bear it no longer and that evening went again to Mr. Williams and asked him if he had heard anything about some writing that young Askin had removed. Mr. W. was much surprised, for I had called on Mrs. W. that same day and said nothing about it. In fact, nothing was of any use for nobody had seen the paper. I believe he intended it only as a pretext to quarrel with my dear John, because two days previously he had asked the doctor to be appointed clerk of the court of requests and the doctor had told him to speak to Mr. Askin. So he did, and my dear John [torn] any answer, so you see that that paper [torn]

But it is time that I changed my subject, if only to tell you how surprised I was, some time ago, to hear that Dr. Richardson was paying court to Miss McGregor in three months after poor Madelaine's death, and now by this boat I hear that they were married on the eighth instant. I think he might have had more respect for his wife's memory. We feel badly about it, for we had always thought so well of Richardson, and I must say that the love he always showed his wife made us think that he would respect her memory a little longer.

I shall conclude by begging you to assure my dear Father of my love, also my brothers and sisters, and believe me, with all fond wishes possible,

Your affectionate daughter,

Madelaine Askin