

D Rae
Jan 192

14th January 1892

4 Addison Gardens

Kennington W. London.

Dear Sir William

Your welcome letter
of the last day of last year reached
me by this morning's post, and we
all thank you much for your own and
Lady Dawson's kind and cordial
season's greetings - What a wonderful
season of mild weather, you are
having all over Canada, for recent reports
from Toronto, Winnipeg, and Montreal
tell the same story of little frost and
less snow, whilst here we are having
fairly low temperatures for this
moist climate -

I am extremely glad and proud
to be told that you have found any
thing

thing of mine thought worthy of
a place in your most able and
interesting notes on the Post-Pleocene
of Canada - I regret now, as always,
my comparative ignorance of Geology
and the not making it a part of my
study when at Edinburgh University;
but I was always and still am a slow
person at study, - I am glad that
Dr. George, is with you, and carrying
out ~~the~~ excellent work done during
his recent visit to the Pacific Coast
and the fur seal home - Sir B. Powell
was fortunate in seeing him as
a colleague*. It is a curious question
altogether, and I am of opinion, that,
whatever precautions may be taken,
the fur seal is doomed, as was the
case with his kind in the Southern
Seas; possibly there were never so
many of them there, as in the Behring

* I have followed as closely as I could by the
Walker reports all his movements &c

sea - While I write, the sad and
distressing news comes to us that the
Princess of Wales is dead - What a terrible
event for that example of ^a good and
lovable woman her beautiful mother
& ^{the} charming Princess that was to
have been his ^{wife} and also as we all thought
our future Queen - High and low, rich
and poor all over Great Britain and
in the Colonies will ~~the~~ mourn the loss
as if it had been a fairly bereavement,
for never in this country or anywhere
else had there been a royal marriage
so popular - Excuse my writing, for
the terrible news has upset me.

Curiously, I too fell somewhat ill on the
same day as the Prince we have lost, and
have been in bed ever ^{since}, with I believe to be
influenza, various symptoms of which
I have, and my Doctor orders me to
keep my bed, and it is only now that I
am

am sitting, well wrapped up, beside
a good fire, ^{for a few minutes,} answering your letter,
about the pleasant way I could
pass my time as I am rather tired
of lying in bed, although I have one
of the best nurses in the world in
my dear wife, and I trust to be able
to go out in a few days.

18th Janry. - Circumstances have delayed
my finishing this letter, I began four
days ago - I am however now a little
better, and have my old friend Dr Pheadle
whom I presume you know, in medical
attendance, He and his carriage horses
are nearly worked off their legs, by this
fatal epidemic - ^{accept our} offer my kindest
remembrances to Lady Dawson and to
yourself and both Doctors,

and believe me always,

Very truly yours

John Rae

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P.S. Please tell Dr. George

that I ought to have, and intended to, have written him
before now, but I had hoped to have seen him in England
SR