



London May 25 1871

Dear Papa

The Bill of Exchange ^(£40) arrived
safely last week just after I
had sent off my letter. I have
deposited it to my account in
the bank. I also drew sufficient
to pay the account to Mr Dallas
& have got the receipt (enclosed)
I do not quite understand what
drawings you have got back
from the feol Socy which you say
are going to be done in Montreal.
I asked Dallas when I went

about the account, when I could
have your specimens. They are
it seems at the British Museum.
But I am to get them on calling
at Somerset House any time
after this week. I will do so
after the Geology Exam, & if Mr
Etheridge has not said anything
about his parcel of specimens before
then will make them up, together
with the other little things (Such as
Brady's Carb forams. Cephalaspis &c.)
& as the parcel altogether will not
be at all large will send them
to Sampson & Low, & ask them
to forward them through Dawson
Brothers, which is I suppose the
right way.

The Low-cut notes arrived safely this week. I am afraid that I will hardly be able to do anything with them at present, as I have so much to do for the Zoology, & then for the Paleontology, which will be no end of a grind.

If you go to Prince Edwards Island.

I should think you might find some things of great interest. Especially if any Permian beds happen to underlie the Great Mass of Trias.

I think I told you something about Ramses theories last time. I suppose he would also give an "inland lake" origin to the P.E.I. Trias.

He seems to consider that the redness of a rock is almost absolute proof of its having been deposited in a lake, or inland sea, such as the Caspian. As so much iron could not be precipitated in the open ocean. I think

However that many rocks of undoubted
marine origin would contain a greater
per centage of iron, than many red rocks,
though not in the state of peroxide.
& that the Peroxidation of the iron is
an effect of the absence of organic
remains, instead of being as he says
a result, (together with the deposition
of iron in filicles round the grains
of sand) of a lake or inland sea origin.

It is true however that many such
rocks ~~have~~ have molluscs (marine)
of very small size, or distorted, in
such a way as to lead to the belief
that they lived in an area where
the waters were either too salt, or too
fresh for them.

Among other proofs of inland origin
he mentions. Red colour, Land
plants. Reptiles (other than those
living in an open ocean. Rain
pittings, & sun cracks; which he