

Monday, Jan. 31. 1846.

My dear Father,

I have just been making
up my account for December, &
find that my total expenditure has
been £208.90, which includes the
13 francs I gave for my hat, & also
6.50 for Anna's gloves. I have not
included £40. which I have borrowed
to renew my subscription to the Insti-
tute of Civil Engineers, (which I will
keep in mind.)

I received the "Gazette" which you sent
containing the account of the events of
the year which I have read with in-
terest. The "Witness" continues to come
regularly. I look forward to its arrival
with almost as much interest as that
of my letters, as the news lately has
been extremely interesting - I might

almost say exciting. Canada is a country
worth belonging to and worth helping on, as
there is some life & spirit in it; it has too,
public men who guide public opinion, where-
as here there is an absolute deficiency in
this respect. There are no public men in
the true sense of the term, & the whole
politics of the country consist merely in an
interminable wrangle over the form of govern-
ment. It certainly is cheering to hear
of a country in which real progress is
being made in the advancement of the
cause of liberty & freedom, and where the
end aimed at is pursued in a business-
like manner, instead of going round
with a pot of black paint as they have
done here to mark "liberty, equality
& fraternity" on all the public buildings
(fairs included) for the sake of dem-
onstrating that it has no real existence.

I will probably send my accounts
for this month by next mail.

I will also attend to your commis-
sion at the Jardin des plantes whenever
I have time.

Believe me

Your affectionate son

William

I received Mother's letter, & Rankin's
on Wednesday last.

The weather has been ~~very fine~~ all the
week. Temperature about the freezing point.

P.S. I have received this morning
(Tuesday) two letters from George, one of
Dec 5 & the other Dec 28. The former
seems to have been detained in some
way before leaving Canada, as they both
have the same Hamilton post mark.
He had been to Berrard Inlet, & describes
the weather as continuing extremely wet.

I received Mr. [unclear] letter & [unclear]

William

the weather has been [unclear] the
temperature about the [unclear] point.

I have received this morning

(Packing) two letters from George, one of
Dec 2 & the other Dec 28. The former
seems to have been obtained in some

way before leaving Canada, as they both
have the same distinctive post mark.
He had had to descend about 4 weeks
the water is continuing extremely wet.

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