

William  
86 Bould. de Port Royal

Monday; Dec. 4; 1876.

My dear Father,

I have received no less than three letters last week; as it seems the one of the week before missed the mail. There was Anna's letter and two from Mother, besides your own. of the 16<sup>th</sup> ult.

I am intending to draw £ <sup>10</sup>~~20~~ about Christmas time. I suppose it will be more convenient for you, <sup>not</sup> to have ~~not~~ too large an amount drawn at that season; but as a usual thing it will be more convenient for me to draw £ 20 at a time; and I will try to remember to let you know

before-hand when I am going to draw.

I have not got my acct<sup>s</sup> made up yet for this month as I have still ~~an~~<sup>me</sup> Bradels bill to pay; but I think it will be something under £200. This is encouraging considering that it is the first month, & there are usually more in the way of sundries at first.

There is a work published by the late professor of Bridges, which is the text-book on that subject for our course this winter. It is quite an extensive affair, & consists of three quarto volumes of text containing in all about 450 pages; besides a portfolio of <sup>170</sup> plates about 22 inches by 14. We are not obliged to get it; but as it is really a thoroughly good work, & very recent I have decided to invest in it. The plates are drawn

of bridges of all kinds; stone iron & wood  
& contain examples taken from English  
German & American bridges as well as  
French ones. The price is £104, a consider-  
able amount; but still only a bagatelle  
compared to what it would cost in England  
or the States. The publisher allows us to  
pay it in installments. I have paid £40  
to begin with, and will give another £40  
in January & the remainder in February.

Of course I pay it with your money, as  
you advised me to do in such cases; but  
I consider it as a loan; and as I keep  
strict accounts I will not forget it.

Dr. Trunbull spoke to me about  
getting a watch for him for about  
£300; I think I mentioned this to  
you when at home; but I would  
rather ask you about it again before  
doing anything in the matter. If you

think he is quite trustworthy, and that  
altogether, it will be safe to invest so much  
on his behalf, I will write to him asking  
him if he still wishes me to get one for  
him, so that I may have his request  
in writing; & if he does I intend en-  
trusting the commission to Dorian when  
he returns for his Easter holidays; He  
is only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the Swiss frontier,  
& can get a watch much better than it  
could be had here in Paris. I would  
prefer an English watch myself; but the  
Swiss watches with "Anchor" escapement are  
very good. If I get it for him, I will  
take advantage of some one who may  
be crossing, to send it to you, and you  
can arrange with Furstall about it.

With much love, believe me  
ever,

Your affectionate son

William