

gmd
Mines. July 17. 82

Dear Father

It seems true that I
do nothing but write now, &
that without having anything in
particular to communicate. I
have been at Marseilles several
days, in a very comfortable hotel,
but decided to leave this evening
& so came on here by the afternoon
train. Here are I believe some
Roman antiquities of interest
here, which I must go & see
tomorrow, & may then go on to
Cette by the evg. train. The
Fete National was celebrated
while I was at Marseilles, at

the expense of a great quantity
 of gunpowder & fire-works. The
 town looked very pretty, however, all
 illuminated. The weather was rather
 warm, but not anything like the
 best we experience in Canada
 at times. Today it is quite
 pleasantly cool, & beautifully
 bright & clear. I wrote a
 postcard to Arthur Crow asking
 him to send any letters which
 might have reached him to
 Marseilles, but heard from
 him in reply that there were
 none by the last mail. I may
 perhaps get some at Toulouse
 in a few days. I have not
 seen anything of particular
 geological interest lately, except
 the altered Chalk rocks of this

part of France. At Marcellles
 about marble. There are
 some lignite mines about 20
 miles north of Marcellles, but
 the weather was so warm, the
 train left so early in the morning,
 & soon all it was so stopped
 to fore to for all above that I
 did not manage to wake up
 my mind to for & see them.
 There is a very fine museum
 at Marcellles, & well arranged,
 but though in an exceedingly
 handsome building, from a
 Nat. hist. point of view the
 collections are not so good
 as those at Lyons. There

Particularly in univerts, are
 supposed the second way to Paris.
 What they seem to like best to
 furnish univerts with here,
 are old tombstones & such
 like. They dont 'appear true
 to the very interesting. "Sarcophagus
 of a noble Roman lady" might
 certainly be utilized as a
 home-tomb, but roughly bears
 out of a piece of sandstone or
 limestone possesses no intrinsic
 beauty. Kind regards to
 all
 Your affectionate son

George