

McGill College, Montreal.

5 Dec. 1883.

Dear Father,

I enclose a letter which you may wish to see. I have already acknowledged it. — Amongst other things this week, a large 4<sup>to</sup> pamphlet by Dr. A. Fritsch, on Carboniferous Fauna has arrived — a magnificent piece of work, beautifully illustrated. The title is "Fauna der Gaschelle & der Kalksteine der Permformation Böhmens". The present part contains the Families Hyalonuridae & Missourinidae; it is the first part. Several of your genera & species are referred to; but most of those described & figured are named by Fritsch himself. — The present Medical under-graduates have sent a complimentary



You have given me St. Woodward's  
address as British Museum, S. Kens-  
ington. I have addressed South  
Kensington Museum, S. Kensington,  
which I suppose you mean. — I  
am very glad you have seen Mrs  
Elliot & Harry; I am only sorry  
you could not have seen Mrs Elliot  
in her present home in Grosvenor,  
where you will also have made the  
acquaintance of the younger members of  
the family.

I am now working up the details  
of the St. John Bridge. There will  
occupy about 10 sheets, five feet  
long and 2½ feet wide, each. The  
Superintendent of the Shop with whom  
I was talking over some of the intricacies  
of the work the other day, said my  
scale was not half large enough; he  
seemed to want each piece of the  
bridge separately on a sheet the size  
of the window, as the men do not  
get hold of the meaning of a draw-  
ing unless it is large. I said



ticket to their annual dinner. - I have also received an  
Ac for \$10<sup>50</sup> for interest for the 1/2 year due Stanley St  
Church. I have seen Mr. McCasle about it, & understand  
it is all right. - An Ac has come from D. Morice &  
Co for ice, dated this month; the month of October being  
added to the usual season time; amount \$9<sup>00</sup>. I do  
not know how this comes to be sent in at present, as  
it is stated that terms are cash in advance. I shall  
make inquiry about it; & wd be glad to know if you  
have any recollection of paying it in Spring.

I have received your welcome letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> from  
the Albermarle<sup>St</sup> Hotel. I am sorry you were so uncertain  
about R's arrival. He cd not take his passage till a  
day or two before he left as he was waiting for to con-  
clude some business here. He was also undecided till the  
last day whether he wd take the "Parisian" or "Dominion".  
I sent a post card at his request by the "Parisian" mail  
to let you know his decision, in the hope that it wd  
precede his arrival. - I have attended to the matters  
you mention. Mr. Baynes preferred to have the amounts  
in separate cheques. I made out the value of £16-8-6  
as \$79.17 at the present rate of exchange. (which happens  
to be rather low just now) \* & he has given me a cheque  
for that amount. I have paid him the \$250 as you  
directed, <sup>by cheque on City & District Savings Bk.</sup> & he has given me a receipt for it. I have  
also your salary, & shall endeavour to do the banking  
part of the transactions probably tomorrow. This will

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\* It is only \$4.82 to the £. } leave a balance of \$425<sup>00</sup>  
in the City & District Bank, }  
after it is drawn. } 23 6 30



he wd have to be content with  
the present shunts, or we wd have  
to move into a larger office.

Mr: Abbott has moved his own  
desk & most of his papers to the  
new office building at Lachine today.  
He will make this head quarters now  
& come into the city office part of  
each afternoon. He has engaged a  
short-hand clerk to push off cor:  
respondence; & things are beginning  
to assume more definite shape.  
I will be left in charge of the office  
here in Mr: Abbott's absence.

We are all well & enjoying very  
pleasant steady winter weather; not  
too cold. I trust you will have  
a very pleasant journey in leaving  
England, & spend a merry Christmas  
in some far off place. Adieu!

Your affectionate son,

William.

(over)



I have rec<sup>d</sup> several more book packets from you  
this week, 2 of which they kindly sent to the  
Custom House which was quite unnecessary. How  
ever, 17 cents duty is not very ruinous, tho' quite  
unfair. I sh<sup>d</sup> not think what could come when  
I rec<sup>d</sup> a Custom Ho<sup>se</sup> notice.