



Rankine
Du/3

15, Strand, W.C.

London

Dec 11th 83.

My dear Father,
 Your letter
 with assurance of improvement
 in your letter with me
 from Cal, in which please
 thank me, was duly
 recd this morning.
 As I have been having
 rather a busy and rather
 time here in a quiet way
 however. Yesterday I
 took advantage of being
 in the city in order to
 go through the Charter
 House & Christ Church school,

put your instructions
 printing it - should carry

2) both as young know
old and well endowed
establishment, the former
providing instruction for
five hundred day
scholars, the latter
giving accommodation, food,
clothes, instruction &c. to
seven hundred and fifty
in both cases entirely free.
As I happened to be there
shortly before dining hour,
I remained to see the
"boys feed" in their general
dining hall, and had
certainly no cause to be
disappointed in the result.
The candidates at the two
are on a par in comparison
& I shall hereafter
consider it one of London's

providing the instruction
and the maintenance

3) rights. Saw I dropped
into Barto in passing
and saw Willie amputate
a couple of legs.

Today we go to Smithfield
Cattle Show at the Agri-
cultural Hall, for which
a friend kindly sent me
three tickets, and in
the evening have a dinner
in St James Restaurant
and a meeting in the
Princes Hall in connection
with the Colonial Institute.
The meeting should be of
special interest, as we
are to have a paper from
Lord Lorne on "Our relations
to Canada & the Great Colonies",
a subject now exciting
some attention & certainly

4/ of no small moment.
I am very anxious to hear
his views.

So the days passed, you see.
Do not suppose however that
I am dissipating my time
altogether, however, as I
have succeeded in getting
a number of stoms rolling
in other and I trust more
useful directions.

Mrs. Rae was good enough
to ask me to dine with
them on Friday last,
which I did, enjoying a
very pleasant evening,
but shocking the ladies I
fear by my entrees &
the Irish & Mornings, which
were hardly sufficiently
palatial to be palatable.
I also dined with Mr.
& Mrs. Smyth, who seem
somewhat original specimens,