

London Oct. 24th 1867

Acc. 976

Dear Mamma,

I received your kind letter dated Oct 9th three days ago. I am astonished that you had not by that time heard of the arrival of the "Lake Erie", as we got into Glasgow on the 4th & I believe she was telegraphed. However that now matters little as by this time you must have received one or more of my letters. I am very comfortably settled here now, at Mrs. Gresham's. He seems a very nice kind of person, and very intelligent, especially on everything connected with London, historical, antiquarian, or about the lines of busses, railways &c. I have a very nice room on the third, and top story, with two windows looking out on the street, which is very quiet. I have to go to my lectures, and return every day by buss as the distance is too far to walk. It is a nice airy locality not far from Regent Hyde Park, and the Green Park. The tables &c are very comfortable, & the only thing is the cost of which however you must judge

There is no person in the house but Mrs Guest
myself, a servant, and a Miss Pegg another
lodgee. who may be described as, fat, fair, and forty.
Another student at the School of mines is coming
here however next Saturday he is like myself in
the first year, and seems to be a very nice
studious fellow. Mrs Guest has had two
students of the Mining school staying with her
before a Mr Pike, and Mr Broom who I find
is the same person you wrote about. She talks
about him every now & then, and so without
saying I knew anything about him I found
that she had written to his father requesting him
to take him away. Which is no doubt the reason
why he did not mention this place. For as Mrs G
says she could not stand having a person in
the house who would sometimes not speak
to you for a fortnight, he was so huffy. And
would often go into exceedingly violent tempers
and say all sorts of things. You had better not
say anything about my location to his relatives
in Montreal.

We have breakfast at half past eight dinner
at six, and tea at eight on week days
and breakfast at nine dinner at one tea
at half past five and supper about nine on

Sundays. I go to my lectures which are
at ten Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday &
Saturday and after the lecture go into the laboratory
and do not generally get "home" till between
three and four. I buy a couple of buns or something
of the kind on my way in and eat them between
experiments in the laboratory. Many of the other
students do the same. There is always meat of
some kind for breakfast, and a very comfortable
dinner so that in the eating way I get on very
well. When I get home in the afternoon I
am usually tired and have besides a good deal
to read up, and write up in my note book, so
that I usually do not go out again, but try to
save time enough off the end of the evening to read
the paper ~~and~~ ^{or} do any little thing I may have to do.
There is no lecture on Friday but you count upon
it for doing extra laboratory work. On Saturdays
the lecture is mechanical drawing from 11 to 1
at Jermyn St and as the Chemical College in
Oxford St is distant about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and only
open on that day from 10 to 2 I never attempt
to go there and thus have Saturday afternoon
as my spare time for giving introductions &c.
My clothes arrived just in time from Edinburgh
as I had accepted an invitation for the same
evening to Mr C Lyell's dinner. Lady Lyell
wrote a very kind note inviting me to dinner

and to accompany them to the theatre afterwards I accepted the dinner, but declined the latter on account of morning duties. It was a sort of family party, Cal & Miss Lyell, and three children being there, on occasion of the birthday of Cal's son who is about 20 and attends some of the lectures (3rd year) of the School of Mines. It was a very pleasant party, and after the rest had gone to the theatre I had a little talk with his C and Cal Lyell, and then got home quite early. Young Lyell very kindly lent me ~~Frankland's~~ Frankland's note book of Chemistry, for which I was in great straits as it is out of print and not to be procured for love or money. Which, as he had formerly attended the Chemistry he happened to have. My clothes I think fit excellently which I am sure they ought, after all the trouble taken by Aunt Bell & the tailor.

I don't think your plan of my staying at St. Davis would work, and I am afraid you will trouble him by mentioning it, he has been so kind it is almost a pity to trouble him further. I have not seen him since you wrote, and almost dread to do so. I have not any time to take french or German, and they dine I know at 2 which would break up all my laboring work. Besides such a thing would be against all the College rules. Both him & Dr. Bury came from the other end of London to see if I was comfortable, the afternoon of the day in which I arrived.

With best love your affectionate

George.