

London Feb 16. /71

Acc. 976

My Dear Mamma

I cannot remember exactly to whom I wrote last mail but am under the impression that it your turn. The mail is late this week & there is consequently nothing to answer, or very little to write about at all, therefore you must please excuse a short letter.

The Geology lectures began day before yesterday, & the Natural history have ceased. The mineralogy will be over by the end of the week & so I shall not have nearly so much to do in a little while. There is a great deal to be done however in the



way of becoming familiarized with  
the numerous minerals, & learning  
their various hardness's Specific Gravities  
&c I find the British Museum to  
be about the best place for seeing  
a good collection of minerals, &  
have been there already several times.  
I intend to pay more frequent-visits  
as soon as the lectures are over.

There will also be considerable reading  
up in connection with the Geology, & keeping  
up the Natural History.

The Queen opened parliament in  
person last week, the first time  
for several years back. She did not  
read her own speech however. I would  
have gone & wanted to see her go  
into the House, but unfortunately there  
were two lectures in succession just  
at the time. I'm going home however



in the evening I had a glimpse of  
her, as she drove past Hyde Park corner  
on her way to the Railway Station.

Last Sunday I was at Mr Lyells  
at dinner, (not Sir) It was quite  
a quiet family party & very pleasant.

My hippocynths are coming on quite  
rapidly, & some are even showing  
a little colour, on the buds. I have six  
altogether, two of the half dozen, of which  
I sent the rest to you, & four more  
obtained at a subsequent auction,  
along with some which Aunt was  
buying.

The weather is becoming  
to be mild & spring like now though  
still very gloomy, & I have seen some  
snowdrops which were grown in the  
open air. In fact they are said to  
be rather late this year. It is



Very different from our winter, &  
the intense cold which you were  
experiencing when you last wrote.  
Anna seems to have been making  
but a long stay at Toronto, but as  
you say in your last that you were  
expecting her every day I suppose she will  
now be home. Please give her my  
love & thank her for her long & interesting  
letter of last week.

I must not delay over my letters  
too long as I have a lot of notes to  
write out before lecture. So with  
best love to yourself & all

Believe me,

Yours affectionately

Geo. In. Davis