

BRITISH ASSOCIATION  
EDINBURGH  
1871

Aug 3 1871

Acc. 976

Dear Mamma

I got here on Tuesday evening, or rather night, for the train was about an hour & a quarter late & so crowded that there was great trouble in getting a cab at the Caledonian Station. Yesterday I got out my ticket for the Association, had my hair cut & did other necessary little business. In the evening the inaugural address took place in the Music Hall when Prof. Huxley gave up his

post- as president- to Sir  
Wm Thompson of Glasgow.

Sir Wm delivered a very long  
& exceedingly interesting speech  
as you will see by the newspapers  
which I send, & which I hope  
you will forward to Papa.

All the arrangements of the  
Association are very good  
& it will be a very large  
meeting. Last evening in the  
Music Hall however there  
was some confusion &  
crowding which however will  
I have no doubt- be avoided  
in subsequent general

meetings. The Reception room  
& place for obtaining tickets  
is in the Library of the writers to  
the Signal, & from there I now  
write. There is a branch post-  
office, & telegraph office, & other  
offices for obtaining all  
necessary information.

The regular meetings of sections  
begin this morning at 11

It will be held in the University.

Ser. Alexander Grant seconded  
the vote of Thanks to Ser. W. Thompson  
last night. I did not know

who he was at the time  
but he made a remarkably  
stupid speech, & in some  
places the people quite laughed at

him. Fortunately it - was not  
long. Before leaving Keswick I  
heard that Sir C & Lady Lyell were  
there, & so went & paid a call  
in company with Mr Ward,  
who Sir C. wished to see about  
the geology of the district. He seems  
feebler & his eyesight - is much  
worse than when I last saw him.  
They are not coming to the Association  
meeting.

I had almost forgotten to say  
anything about Edinburgh friends  
or the kind welcome which I  
received. All are quite well.

Here. Uncle Rumerous however  
has been quite ill lately & is  
now only a little better.

Your affectionate Son  
George