

LONDON
12
NOV



1869
Nov 7th

Miss Dawson
No 8 file Colley
Montreal
Canada.

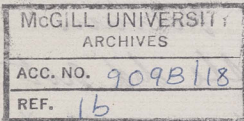
LONDON S.W.
12
NO 8
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MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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London Sunday Nov 7th 1869.



My Dear Anna,

Many thanks for the necktie which I received in good order, in my Aunt little poem book, I think it is beautiful, and it was a first-rate idea to put ribbons in the back, as the other was always becoming too long.

I have to stay at home this morning as I have an invitation from Lady Lyell to dinner at 1/2 o'clock & as it is a good distance by the underground, & then about half a mile to walk, I was afraid of tiring myself too much. I will go to church in the afternoon however if I get away in time.

Yesterday I am sorry to say I was an hour late, for my drawing at Jesuys St, but then I had some excuse, as I waited, opposite Buckingham palace, to see the Queen, & in

state to the city to open the Holburn
viaduct & Blackfriars bridge. She did not
come from the palace, but only passed it
on the way from the railway station, where
she arrived from Windsor. There was not
a very great crowd, as nearly every one
had gone into the "city". Nor did the "going
in state" consist of much; she was not ^{even} in
her state carriage. The whole procession
consisted of, first a detachment of horse guards
then two open carriages with the gentlemen
& ladies in waiting, then an open carriage
with the queen Prince Leopold, & princess Louise
& Beatrice, The duke of Wellington as Master of
the horse, in another carriage & lastly another
detachment of the horse guards. The queen
looked quite blooming, as some one
near me said, "how jolly she looks". Prince
Leopold looked very handsome & princess
Beatrice looked much prettier than I
have ever seen her in pictures.

"Truth is stranger than fiction" vide Mamma's
letter with regard to Dr & Mrs Potter. They ~~looked~~
seemed quite "spooney".

It is not worth sending you a plan of my bedroom, as it is a very ordinary one. It has two windows looking out on the street. a marble topped wash-stand, bureau & book shelves. Toilet, & one other table, a bed towel rack, two chairs. & a Closet for coats &c. I usually sit in the parlour, dining-room &c down stairs when there is a fire, & it is very comfortable as Mrs Grant either talks or remains silent as you seem to wish.

Prof Frankland showed us a beautiful experiment the other day, A large glass vessel which contained a dead cat, covered with a layer of charcoal. It had been so for three years, & we could not help laughing a little when he bent over it & began sniffing to assure us that no smell was perceptible.

Most of the students assured themselves still further by having a private sniff after the lecture. I cannot write more at present as I have to write a few lines to Papa & time is running short. Many thanks for your kind devotion to my interests, I cannot help thinking however that you have mismanaged a little in some ways. which please excuse.

When are my photos coming I only want one or two, but please send them just convenient opportunity.

I got the Bill of Lading of my Chair & should not have known what to do with it had not Mrs Fizer (vide Mamma's letter) found out for me; as I am as ignorant as an infant in such affairs. ^{Bill of Lading} Marked "Payable" - but it had ^{already been paid}

With much love

Believe mee your ever affectionate
brother

George Dawson.

P.S. I have hung your photo over my "one other table" at which I sit when writing &c in my room. But please dont imagine that it needs to be hung up at all. By Will's last letter (and the only one which I have received from him) I think that he is becoming cynical & misanthropic please dont let him relapse in that way, but try to cheer him by a little poetry, or music, or a judicious mixture of both.

G.D.