

Montreal July 18th 1870
Friday

My dear Grace

We have in consequence
of the lateness of the mail before last
received two budgets of letters from you
since we last wrote. The last of these
was addressed to me & dated July 30 & Feb 2^d for
which accept my best thanks. Papa received
intermediate to these, by Amant's hands,
a charming letter from Mr. Bischoff, more
than half being filled with your praises.
Words could never express to you how happy
& grateful I feel that a good sincere man
like him, can write so highly as he does of

of your manners, your morals & your
progress. Of the two first you cannot have
too much, in the last do my dear boy be
careful that you do not outstretch your strength
to attain. Both papa & I have perfect confidence
that you will not take an improper place
from idleness & in your case health is
of first importance. It quite comforts me in the
prospect I have of seeing you & judging
for my self how you have stored this
winter's work.

In regard to your statements about
Mrs. Swift's as a place of lodging. I may state
plainly that, so far willing, we intend to
sail from Portland April 9th probably
we shall reach Liverpool about
Sunday the 19th & will proceed directly to London
so that as we should very much like
to be with you, & as other things seem

to make it a desirable locality, we shall
be very glad if she will accommodate us:
say from the 20th of April. Our time in London
will be about one month, altho' during
that ^{time} in intervals between Papa's engagements,
he wishes to visit other English Universities,
occupying a few days with each visit. That
of course will not interfere with our
payment for the room. You know Papa
too well to need fear his treating Mrs. Gust
in any way ungenerously. Should the engagement
of the room by any other ladies overlap this
date by a few nights, I would willingly submit
to a good deal of inconvenience. Such as
sleeping on a sofa & rather than go to a strange
place & remain afterwards. I am very glad
you would like us to come to Mrs. Gust's.
I hope she will be able to accommodate
us; & makes me feel as if I were going to a
home. I suppose the drawing room is

is quite respectable enough to receive any
notions in that might call upon us?

You had better make arrangements with
Mrs P. on receiving this to prevent her making
any plans that might interfere with this.
Papa I am thankful to say is better. but
his preparations to enable him to get away so
early will keep him terribly hard worked.
Last night Mr Douglas of Quebec lectured
at the Nat. Soc. on "Solar physics". I to give
Papa a quiet eve. at home. I went with
William as a substitute. It was a subject
near to the heart of the ladies so I will leave
it for him to eulogize. I invited Mr Douglas
& Mr Hunt to dine with us this eve. & afterwards
go to Papa's lecture on "Mineral fuel"; one of a
course of three he is giving at the College in
the eve. — Mr Beaman is now in Montreal,
one of the Geological Survey staff. He quarrelled
with the Upper Canada folks. I shall not be
surprised should he do so here too. Look in the

"Witness" for news of the progress of the
Endowment fund for Mr. Hill.

The Chemistry book you have so long
wanted was sent to the house late on
Friday afternoon. Papa immediately sent a
special messenger to the post office hoping
it will be in time for that day's mail. I
if you have received it.

Did I mention that Mrs. Redpath,
Seneca Bank, when she heard of our
intentions of going to England in April
expressed her wish to take the opportunity
of our escort to go too. She is expected to
spend tomorrow evening with us & will probably
talk of her plans. I told you we had asked
a few young people last Saturday eve. It proved
a successful & very pleasant gathering. Dickenson
Anderson was with us. He has been here
making arrangements to Commune ^{business} his

own account. We also had a Mr. Mackenzie
who came with Prof. Bell - a fine intelligent
fellow who has spent a long time in Australia.

Mr. Backman has begun to lay down stones
on the East corner lot of the Mr. Pike property
(at first bought by Mr. Brydges) to build a
very handsome house. He offers \$5000. to the
Endowment on condition that the rest
of the property will not be sold.

Rankine & Eva are quite well & go on
with their daily duties as usual. R. intends
to write whether he will accomplish it.
I doubt. It is raining & he has taken his
lunch to school today. It seems to me
quite a long time since I heard from Mother.
I am owing letters to several of the young people
am going to try to write to one of them to day.
With very best good wishes & constant
prayers for your health, bodily & spiritually I
remain your very affectionate
Mother