

Montreal February [1874]

My dear George—

On Saturday I had another pleasant welcome letter from you. I think it must have been a very agreeable change to you the continuance of frost for two weeks. Altho' I don't say it brought a similar experience to Anna's in Toronto of suffering from cold bedsores. As to the trouble it gives to housekeepers I had a touch of that myself last week. The water turned off—the Spring frozen & this added to our washing boiler leaking & was added a amount absent, plasterers & painters in the house. These experiences are very trying to the temper of maid & mother at the time but soon forgotten. As this week I am rejoicing over the return of my very absent daughter. The return of

my valued little table maid. The last day
of the painters residence in the house. He
is a good man who has suffered this
winter both from sickness & poverty to whom
I gave the job of papering & painting the staircase
& upper hall. We have put on a high
mangle paper & varnished it. So should
no accident befall it, it will last through
all the remaining years we may occupy the
house.

My dear — Mrs. Manning had
to stop because I had to leave
for my lecture at 4, and
it was the last chance
for the week. I said as
a ship is torn a few lines
today that you will find
it well covered & dried well,
under water. In some cases
they are better hardened with
spirit — I have seen the
mode of preparation of coal
for Menton. It answers
very well but pieces of coal
are at best very unsatisfactory

factory, and show little of its structure
in comparison with pyrene and acid
preparations. I shall send you
my paper on Spina² cases when
it appears. Some of its relations
as to the chemistry as well as
microscopy of coal will attract
thoroly and the rest - for the
body is beyond really known any-
thing of consequence about coal,
It is too common there and
has not been studied.

Please learn of me about people
in London think of the Crocoliths,
as to their chemical and physical
nature. They appear to me to be
very doubtful and uncertain things, and
I suspect they have been misunderstood &
but I have not seen mineral that
has been written about them.

Ever your loving father
W. Dawson