

Cressington Park,

Aigburth Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1874.

My Dear Dawson,

I believe I have owed you a letter for a most unconscionable time, I have two excuses first I have had but little to say & secondly I believed you to be somewhere in the backwoods. I suppose, from what I saw in the paper you sent, that you have now returned to Montreal. I do not remember when I wrote you last but think it must be nearly 12 months since if so you ~~may~~ will not have heard that I went to London for a week last July & succeeded in obtaining my Mining Associateship which also turned up but had to be entailed with a second class, Law of course got both associateships, since which he has visited Liverpool & gone through some of the Wickes Works with me. Have you done anything in the Inceisopie line lately? I have done nothing, indeed I have but little time as the Governors book is going through the press, and I am also receiving German lessons, add to this

The fact that I am starting amateur Photography  
on a considerable scale & my leisure is  
pretty well accounted for.

I have fitted up a dark room & am having  
a camera made for views 8" x 5" with a lens  
by Ross; in the course of the summer I will  
send you a few specimen prints. I have  
also tried microphotography but without any  
very great success. I enclose a few proofs.

Last summer I took a trip to Paris  
stopping at ~~Be~~ Dieppe, Rouen & Boulogne  
I of course enjoyed myself, as it was a  
first visit.

I greatly envy you your trips to the wilds  
of Canada & hope to hear something of  
your adventures when you write.

I am gradually settling down at Wickes  
& altho' I fear I shall see but little of  
the world I hope to work my way into a  
good position; Wickes is certainly the  
most money making place I was ever in.

Have you examined the frames I sent  
you twelve months since? I have mounted  
plenty of slides from the gathering but devil-a-  
bit do I know the names of any of the "critters".

There is a small book on Analytical Chemistry,  
just published (Woods series) by Pinks &  
Webster who call themselves by all manner  
of high sounding titles, it is a splendid  
Burlesque on Chemistry, although intended seriously,  
there was a scathing review in Nature  
& if you ever see the Chemical News you  
will see a letter <sup>on the subject</sup> signed with my illustrious  
initials.

Is your work of explanation finished or are  
you permanently attached to the Geological  
Survey of Canada?

Our friend Law took his hand at teaching  
science at Dulwich College as professor  
for ten but he soon had enough of it  
and did not apply for the post permanently;  
he is now engaged in the interesting  
& probably(?) lucrative post of assisting Percy  
in passing his new additions through the  
press. Greenwood whose name you will  
remember has published a small manual  
of Metallurgy, chiefly consisting of notes  
taken at Percy's lectures, as ~~the~~ much  
of this information will never be published

De P is somewhat irate at having his  
"eye ripped" in this manner.

Have you ever seen any of the Phosphate  
from Bull Bay. I Carolina; from a  
manure works at W. Ches. I have obtained  
several fossils from this deposit, they consist  
of numerous & very perfect sharks teeth,  
vertebrae, I expect of some Saurians, &  
one well preserved horse tooth. I do not  
however know enough of such things to be  
able to form any idea of the former owners  
of the bones &c.

During the past few weeks we have heard of  
nothing but elections, thank goodness the  
furore has passed away at last.

Hoping that you & all your people are  
all well.

Yours very truly  
Arthur G. Phillips

G. M. Dawson Esq