

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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Jack Hatfield. Althornville St.

London Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>  
1883

Dearest George

Your letter, written  
after your arrival in Althornville,  
has been duly received & heartily  
welcomed. The good advice it  
contained commends itself to my  
best judgment & I shall endeavor  
to follow it. Of course shopping is part  
of the work of life - there is <sup>no</sup> entire ex-  
emption from it, & when Eric & I were  
having mentioned the question had  
to be settled whether it was to be done  
there or here & the many advantages  
on this side weighed the balance for  
this side, now we have completed  
our toilettes both for England & our Eastern

jawn, leaving out so much as a  
 pair of gloves to be bought in Paris  
 & its will certainly be somewhat to  
 boast of if we pass through Paris with-  
 out making a purchase. We have  
visited a number of friends, dined  
 out a great deal & this with the  
notes & calls incident to such a life  
 has occupied a large share of our  
 time here in London. It is however  
 an experience that I am glad to have  
 had, especially in the prospect of <sup>the</sup> B. A.  
 my in Montreal. We now know many  
 of the noted men of Science & better  
 still can connect them with their homes  
 & friends. Did I tell you that Sir A. Rensay  
 is very gravely - softening of the brain -  
 he will never do any more connected  
 work. Prof. Huxley looks quite old - They

have been most attentive to us. MCGILL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY  
 twice asking us to dine with them. CALLING  
 & unfortunately we have always been  
 engaged. but we have met them <sup>the ladies of</sup> at other  
 times. One of their daughters is now Mrs  
 Collins & both <sup>she & her husband</sup> are artists - we saw one  
 of her pictures at the Exhibition in Liverpool  
 & others have been accepted by the R. Soc.  
 She too has just had a severe illness & looks  
 most fragile. We met at dinner, as  
 Mr Hulke's last night, your old friends  
 Etheridge & Mr & Mrs Carruthers. all inquir-  
 ing kindly for you. You are by no  
 means forgotten in London. & it adds  
 much to the pleasure of a visit when  
 some one says - "how is your son Mr  
 Seeger, I knew him when he was in  
 London & am always on the look-out  
 for his papers." Besides now & then we have  
 little scraps of news - Miss Grant of Ottawa  
 tells us that you & Mr. Ellis were going

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to keep house together this winter,  
which if true seems to promise to be  
a pleasant arrangement.

We had accepted an invitation from  
his W. Siemon to spend a few days with  
them at their Country house near Tumbrey,  
Wells this week, but he has met with  
an accident - - - - - Oh Sorrow - at this  
moment Papa has come in & tells me  
that his W. Siemon is dead! it paralyzes  
me - they two have been so kind to me  
through the year - as only just passed  
I am shocked as well as deeply grieved.

Papa thinks we had better hasten  
our departure to the Continent & not  
make new engagements here. probably  
we may go on the 23 or 24<sup>th</sup> we shall  
be influenced by what news we may  
receive by the mail now due. I really  
am too much affected by this death to write  
more at present. Believe me, although  
closing so abruptly, ever to be your loving  
Mother.