

27 Rathbone Terrace

London. April 16/84

Dearest Percy

I am again at fault  
 as to the length of time since I last  
 wrote to you, but having received  
 a letter from you this week I long to  
 thank you for it. You apologise for  
 its shortness & plead want of materials—  
 were you only a little more self-satis-  
 fied & not <sup>pleasur</sup> throwing your personality  
 in entire obscurity you would  
 have plenty to say, & not the smallest  
 daily item of your life that would  
 not be interesting to me. You don't  
 think half really how little I know



of how you live in Ottawa, nor  
how longingly I wish that I did.  
This enquiry into Survey matters too  
interests me intensely & I have not  
been able to see one report of the  
examinations; and the Party & prog-  
mentary Receipts through letters reach  
us. I am sure the end will come & al-  
tho' we cannot influence the result  
by action we can pray that it may  
be such as will tend to make your  
position more satisfactory - or should  
you be called to take the highest place  
that you may rise heartily & cheerfully  
to grapple with the many difficulties  
which doubtless it would entail.  
We should all be so pleased & proud  
to see you at the head of the Survey.



Butlers you have heard that  
all our charming foreign travels  
are over & true. Masai London is  
again our temporary home. Papa  
has gone to Edin: for a week to attend  
Courtney Celebration of the Anniversary there.  
At first it was chieftly that I too shd  
go but the fatigue & excitement of  
my & Corriper's flighted me so I have  
remained here, altho' doing as does  
not mean entire exemption from  
society. all sorts of people find us  
out & offer us kindness & hospitality -  
we ourselves had a little luncheon  
party today the guests being Miss Mc  
Donnell of B.C. Mr. Heples. Lorne Campbell  
& Rankin. I think I tell you that  
we crossed with Mrs & Miss M. W.  
They are delighted with London.



wished to remain here & their wish  
has been gratified by a most extra-  
ordinary coincidence. They have met  
with a Mr & Mrs Hess who wanted to  
spend two years in B.C. so they have  
exchanged houses, servants & horses.  
The house the Mr. Hess have got here is  
quite near Hyde Park, beautifully furnished  
& having a complete staff of thoroughly  
trained servants. The rest of this family  
are expected early in May. As to papa  
being persuaded not to hurry back to  
Canada. One of us have used every ar-  
gument we knew of to keep him longer  
on this side & the most we have  
gained is till the 12<sup>th</sup> of June per which  
date he has taken his passage. He is  
busy here examining specimens at the  
Museum & writing out his notes on  
Egyptian affairs. he thinks that will



occupy him till about the 10<sup>th</sup>  
 or 12<sup>th</sup> of May. After that I hope he  
 will be quite at leisure for a month  
 before he sails. It is not improbable  
 that Eva & I may go to Edinburgh about  
 the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, partly because we  
 have our lodgings only till that  
 date & partly because our friends  
 there insist upon our staying  
 them a long visit & we have also  
 promised to go to Mrs. Kato's & to spend  
 part of July with the Craigs & our  
 passages are taken per July 24<sup>th</sup>. Eva  
 in writing last week gave you a  
 message from your old friend  
 Mr. Arthur Phillips to say, that he intended  
 to go to Montrose to the B. Ass: & that the  
 hope of seeing you had influenced



him in this decision. We are to dine with the Phillip's on Monday, but I don't suppose we shall see your friend: if you would like me to ask him to stay with us I shall be very glad to do so. The Williamsons who had promised to come to us are not able to come & we have not yet asked any one else. By the way did you ever receive an autotype we sent to you before Christmas? It is a photo taken in reds. & is rather expensive so that it wd be worth asking about if it did not reach you. We got a few beautiful photos in Venice where they are very moderate in price & have also got a Catalogue by which we could select others & easily have them sent to us.



But I am writing the least common places because

it is late & I am too sleepy to think so I had better

say - Goodnight. Ever yours in sending over

with love to your. I believe me as ever

your affectionately

Mother



occupy him the about the 11th  
 on 12th of May. After that I hope he  
 will be quite at leisure for a course  
 before he sails. It is not improbable  
 that he will go to Berlin about  
 the 1st of May, partly because we  
 have our business very little there  
 that I partly because our friends  
 there insist upon our staying  
 there a long time & we have also  
 promised to go to Paris about 1 to 2 days  
 part of July with the Countess & our  
 passages are taken for July at the  
 in writing but with some years  
 message from your old friends  
 Mr. Carter wishes to say that he intends  
 to go to Switzerland to the Alps  
 hope of being your son

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