

G. M. Dawson London Tuesday
Papers
V. 2
Oct 14th 1869.

Oct 16th

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Dear Papa,

I wrote you a letter
from Edinburgh last Monday
which I hope you have
received safely. I sit down
now merely to inform you of my
arrival here, as I have not time
to write much of a letter, as I
have a good deal of work to do
this evening. I have missed several
of the first Chemistry lectures, and
have them to make up if possible.
I left Edinburgh last Tuesday
morning a little after ten A.M. and
arrived at Peterborough about eight
the same evening. I stayed there
all night to break the journey, and
got into London by ten o'clock
Wednesday morning.

I went second class from
Edinburgh to London, as it is a
great deal cheaper, and besides
as the seats have no arms you can
put your feet up if the compartment
~~is~~ is not too full. I was lucky
enough to have the compartment
entirely to myself for some time.
As soon as I arrived in London
which was about ten o'clock, I
left my luggage in the cloak room
at the station, and drove to Dr
Davies, as it was him who had
written to me at Edinburgh. I found
him in, and he was very kind,
he gave me the address of my lodgings
and said he was very sorry he could
not go with me there, as he had classes
he also advised me to go to Dr
Bigsby's, which I did. He was also
exceedingly kind and told me
all about the lodgings, which are

at a certain Mrs Quest who has
been in the habit of taking in students
of the School of Mines before.

I next went back to the station,
got my things and drove to the
lodgings. They seem very comfortable
and there is only a lady besides myself.
Mrs Quest was the wife of a doctor,
and I suppose may be considered a lady
in reduced circumstances. Board is
included. I have breakfast at half past
eight. Dinner at six, and tea at
eight. The board and lodging costs
£20 a quarter, which is at the rate of
about 30/ a week, they are I am
afraid rather expensive, but I suppose
I must consider myself settled
here at any rate for the first quarter.
I have to go to the School of Mines
and the Chemical College in Oxford St
by omnibus which costs 3^d each way.
Please write about all these things.
I called on Mrs Reeks the afternoon
of my arrival, and found ^{out} all about

the classes &c. He received me very kindly and told me that the council had remitted all the fees for me, except the laboratory which was the private property of the professor. He also introduced me to Sir R. Murchison, who introduced me in turn to Sir C. Lyell who happened to come in just then.

I took the opportunity of speaking to them about your papers. They said you could have any time you chose filled by writing, I think it was to the secretary of the society. Murchison thought the Geological would be best; Lyell suggested the Royal and asked if you were not in treaty with them for the publication of your Devonian plants, which I did not know how to answer. Both Lyell and Murchison said that a popular account of the Devonian flora could be made it would do for the Royal Institution, and be especially appropriate after Carruthers on the Carboniferous flora. Lyell said you might give a more scientific account of your new plants to the Royal or Geological, and an lecture on the Devonian flora to the Royal Institution.

Murchison said he was the ~~Manager~~
or President (or something of the kind) of
the Royal Institution, and could
get you an evening. He also said
that April was the best time to
come as all the scientific men
would be here then.

I attended my first chemical
lecture this morning, it was on
the atomicity of the elements
and compound radicals, very
interesting but a good deal different
to what I have been accustomed.
I was told there was no place in
the laboratory, but went myself
to see ^{this morning}, and found one.

Please excuse more at present
as I have used nearly all my evening
as it is.

My address will be

20 Halsey Street

Chelsea

London. S.W.

I have not had a letter from
home ~~for~~ of late date, and found

none waiting me here.

With best love to yourself & all
at home believe me your affectionate
son

George.

P.S. The bells were all exceedingly
kind to me, & I have written to aunt
to inform her of my safe arrival.

Y^r D.

P.P.S. Mr Etheridge lives next door to
where I lodge, I have not yet seen
him, but Dr Bisshy says he was
enquiring for me and offered to do
anything he could for me, or give me
any advice.

Y^r D.