

London Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1869

Dear Papa

I posted your letters to Ross & called there next Saturday. He or rather someone else who was there said that the reason the stage did not fit was because he did not know that your micr was of the old pattern, for the new ones are of slightly different size. He said there was almost sure to be a flaw in every such casting, but that they never sold any with flaws that damaged the strength or otherwise injured. I also selected the  $\text{\$ D}$  kelms as you told me. I looked through quite a number, on the micr case, but found them as the man told me I should all nearly alike, I selected one however which I thought dequid, & brought the whole field into focus at once best.

I forgot to tell you that shortly after my arrival here I received a note from Owen & Boyd saying that the electotypes would cost about  $\text{\$ 2} \cdot 10$  (I think) & would be heavy for freight

I asking if it would not be better to send the Original blocks for use. I did not know exactly what to say, but on thinking it over, thought that you must have considered the cost & before & that it would be best not to make any alterations. So I wrote back saying that I did not think you would like to risk the original blocks across the Atlantic &c and to go on with the Electrotypes. I don't know if this was right, but thought it best to do so under the circumstances.

Prof <sup>Huxley</sup> declined to give any opinion whatever on the cast~~s~~ but said if he saw the specimen he would have a decided opinion. I afterwards saw Prof Etheridge in the Museum.

I was rather in a quandary what to do, from what Huxley <sup>had</sup> said, and he, (without giving any opinion on the jaw) said that as Prof Huxley declined to give any, and as there was no hurry, no one being likely to describe ~~them~~ it before you, I had perhaps <sup>better</sup> write to Dallas asking him to put it off till further notice.

I did so & got a reply from him saying that Huxley as president fixed the reading of the papers & would no doubt know what to do with that one. So that I suppose it will

be all right. I will however try to call on Della  
Ross will no doubt explain what I said about  
the flaw & c in their letter to you. As you  
did not mention how the Kelner was  
to be sent I said that they had better  
send it in the usual way.

A very handy blowpipe burner which  
simply slips into a Bunsen, and which  
we use in the laboratory. I will send  
by sample port next Thursday if I can.  
It only costs 8<sup>d</sup> or 9<sup>d</sup>.

With best love

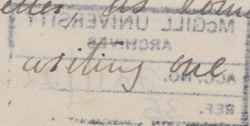
Believe me your affectionate son

George W. Dawson.

8 P.M.

I dined with Sir C. Lyell for the second  
time today. He asked me not to write to you  
without remembering him to you, & said that  
having so much on hand, he had not been  
able to answer your letters, but would do so soon  
& look up all unanswered ones, to see if  
he had forgotten anything requiring an answer.

Please excuse the disappointed character of this  
letter as somehow, today I do not seem capable  
of writing one decent sentence  
G.W.D.



G. M. Dawson  
Wu/69

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 2211/22
REF. 35