

London Nov 14th

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MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO.	2211 22
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Dear Papa.

My last news from home is dated 28th of last month. Before you wrote I had enquired as to a season ticket by bus, but none such it seems are issued, in fact the only way is actual payment every time.

I occasionally walk to Oxford st in the mornings, but as it is fully two miles, only when it is very fine. My way is across Hyde park, & along Oxford, or Brook st. I have finished last Friday the reactions of the common acetates, as in Furnius, & am very glad to have got it over, as it is such dull work. (Comparatively) I will next have a number of mixtures to analyse, & the "tables" to write out. These are the processes of analysis as pursued at the College, & each student is obliged to copy them for himself as they are not yet printed. After this I will go into the reactions for the acids. The formulae are the hardest things I find. I think Frankland's

way is very clear, when you once get into it
but the sitting in is not easy.

His book "Lecture notes for Chemical Students"
is quite necessary as an accompaniment to
his lectures, but is all sold out here. A new
edition is coming out, but no one, (not even
himself I believe) knows when. I have at present
a copy lent to me by Mr C Lyells nephew, but
don't like to keep it so long. If you could
obtain one in Montreal, & send it by book
post, it might be a good thing. (A second
hand one would do quite well).

I endorsed the bill of lading ^{for my chair} & sent it
to the agents of the London Steamers, & received
a note from them saying that they would
send it immediately the steamer arrived.

It has not yet however made its appearance.

I had twenty minutes at the London clay,
at Woolwich yesterday, & got a few shells.

It was very rich in numbers, but mostly
broken. There was an exposure about 30 feet
high with three distinct beds. First a conglomerate
full of rounded flints, then clay, with hard
layers here & there, & full of shells *Lunettes?*
Ostrea & one something like a *Yoldia*???. I do
not yet know what the beds were, exactly.

I took a sample of mud from the bottom of the
Lepantine, (which is drained, for cleaning out at present)
to the Laboratory, & got ^{& a great deal of Nitric Acids} a few diatoms from it. London
air ^{or water} does not seem congenial to them.
With best love to yourself, Mamma & all at home
George