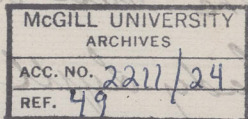


London Decr 5 1869.



Dear Papa

I received a few days ago
your letter, enclosing one to the Secretary
of the Royal Institution, & also
letters from Mamma, Anna, &
William. You asked me
to show your letter to the Sec to Dr. Bury
& he could give me his name &c
& I intended to do so; but just
the day after receiving it, I got
a very kind note from Lady Lyell,
saying that you had said in your last
to Sir Charles, that you should like
to have some public opportunity,
& asking if an evening or two at
the R.I. would suit you.
I thought the best thing would

The word
cuts are very
good, but I think
the division between
the en above & above
in the actigraphis
is rather to distant.
How are you going to
get the names of the
polypteras?

be to call, & accordingly did so
the next day, (yesterday) after drawing,
Lady Lyell was out but Sir Charles
at home, & I showed him your letter.

He said he had just received the
announcement of the Rt lectures
& that he was very sorry, that it
had not been thought of a
little earlier, as the list was
very full, & what was unusual,
tho many of the lectures after
Easter already filled up.

He said however, that if I would
leave the letter with him, he
would send it, immediately,
with a note from himself,
telling Mrs Deane Jones (the secretary)
what ~~an~~ important, & interesting

lectures you could give &c. And
that he would ask him to forward
his reply to him, (sic) & that
he would send it on to you
without delay. He seemed somewhat
doubtful about it, but you will
no doubt hear the result by next
Friday's mail.

I enclose the note from Cadiswell
& also the announcement of the
lectures, so far as yet arranged,
cut from a copy of nature, which
I bought yesterday, & which
I intend to send in a day or
two, as it contains some matters
of interest.

I find there is only a weeks holiday
at the laboratory, at Christmas, but
a months holiday from the Chemical

Lectures.

We have been having delightful lectures last week about the general properties of the crustals, with splendid experiments.

I called on Dr. Carpenter yesterday & gave him my letter of introduction. He is very busy at present working up the results of his last trip. He mentioned having received the note you sent him about ascertaining the presence of light at great depths, but said that the great difficulty was to get an apparatus to work practically. That one had been suggested, which involved the necessity of electric wires, & that if they went out again they would probably use it. He also said that it had been suggested that the existence of eyes might be to enable the animals to find their prey, which might be self-luminous.

With best love to all.

Believe me your affectionate son George Davidson