



20 Halsy St. S.W.

March 10.72

My Dear Anna

I have just been reading over your letter which so solemnly announces your 21st birthday. I remembered the day but was not fully alive to its importance till I received the above mentioned. I hope you are mistaken about my being "quite changed". If my letters make you think so pray attribute it to nothing less superficial than a little extra stupidity on my part.

I was quite surprised yesterday evening by a visit from David Kemp. He was sent up here quite suddenly by the Bank people in charge of £40,000 in gold which they were forwarding. We went to the S. Kensington Museum for a while & saw what was to

be seen. He returns to Edinburgh by
tonight's train, & as I have nothing
particular to do I intend going up to King's
Cross to see him off.

I was up at the British Museum yesterday
afternoon about some shells of Dr Carpenter
& enclose a note for him concerning
them, which I dare say Rankine can
take down when he goes to School - tomorrow.

A young lady friend of Mrs Gueto's was
here tonight for tea. She went with her sister
& two gentlemen to see the illuminations on
the evening of the Thanksgiving. They got
into a great crowd near St Pauls. A
woman died just beside Mrs Briden-
back, which caused her to faint several times
in succession & she was with difficulty
got out into a side street. Another woman
was so frightened in the crowd that thinking
she could not herself escape she threw her
baby to some people & implored them to

Saw it. As it was being passed along from one to another it fell & was killed.

There were a great many accidents of one kind or another during the day & evening. I should think about 50 reported in the newspapers though only about 5 or 6 immediately fatal. In one place a mounted policeman sitting cross-wise to the current was thrown down & walked over horse & all, but fortunately extricated himself with only a few bruises.

The accidents are not many when one remembers that probably at least 4 or 5 million people were out to see the Thanksgiving & Christmas about in the streets.

I am working at time assay now at the laboratory & as I have had a good many failures in my experiments am rather tired of it. It is so provoking when you have been working a whole day at a thing & find it come all wrong & have to begin it again. However laboratory work is very nice on the whole & I would be quite sorry to leave

done with it at the end of this month, was
it not for the time it takes of every day.

As yet I have not begun to read up, finding
as much as I can do in keeping notes written
up to date. I will just have three months
altogether for reading, & probably only a few weeks
of this time for mining which is quite a
new subject to me. I cannot expect to
do much in it for there are several fellows
who have spent half their lives about
mines, & are practically acquainted with
the subject. Applied mechanics is a regular
bet noir & the Natural History is (as
you know) for the present all "up a tree".

March 14. I suppose you got the Graphis
all right. The figures are not very good.
The large plate which is the best part of it
could not be induced in any way to fold up, &
so you must wait for it till I come.

With love to all

Believe me

Your affectionate brother

George

March 72 X
Thanks giving illuminations

Miss Dawson
McGill College
Montreal
Canada

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