

London May 19. 72

Exams  
walk to Battersea Park  
preachers in parks

My Dear Anna

Last weeks letters  
only arrived yesterday (Saturday)  
evening which is exceptionally late for  
the season. As I expected the letter  
which was promised by intermediate  
mail came also by the Canadian  
marked "too late". I also received  
a copy of the Canadian Naturalist  
& Gazette with an account of the  
Convocation proceedings. I like your  
lecture of the Post Pliocene Shells  
Very much,

It must have been a great deal of trouble to draw them so accurately "on Stone".

I have just come in from taking a walk all round Battersea Park. on the way I have seen no less than five distinct street preachings going on! The first man was a temperance lecturer & he had a pretty large audience. He was relating his experiences of selling funny stores.

Next there was a great discussion going on between a man who calls himself a "Humanitarian" & lectures every Sunday near Chelsea Bridge; & another man of more orthodox opinions. Then there was a man in a little pulpit with some texts in very large letters

pointed in front, discoursing away  
at the very top of his voice to a very small  
& scattered audience. I have seen him  
often before. He is always in a great  
perspiration & without a hat, has hardly  
any front-teeth. I conjecture they may  
have been blown away in moments of  
special vehemence. Going over the hedge  
I came on another preacher. He was  
talking in a more rational way &  
had a fair number of people listening.  
Lastly another man at one of the gates  
of Battersea Park preaching to a very  
secret audience in a public voice.  
I had quite a long walk altogether &  
finally got into a region of desolate  
fields waiting to be built over. Far  
dearer than the desert of Sahara  
could by any possibility be.

The Mining Examination comes off  
next-Saturday. I shall be glad when  
it is over for I really dont see how  
the Natural History & Applied Mechanic  
are to be got into Examination order  
before the exams in those subjects take  
place. The Mining seems a most-  
unsatisfactory subject, so little you can  
grasp, or get hold of in any way. So large  
& so intangible. It is a great-disadvantage  
to me that I dont know anything about-  
it in a practical way as many of the  
men do.

With love to yourself & all at Home

Your affectionate Brother  
Henry.

P.S. Please remember next-Night I feel  
very much ashamed of not having written  
before this.