

Went to  
Melles,

Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> /80  
(5. p. m.)

Dearest Love,

I am anxiously  
awaiting a telegram from you  
and hope it may arrive this  
evening. To write a long letter  
to you at the present moment  
is not my intention; it must  
only be a little billet doux  
proportionate in length to the  
time of your absence (17 hours)  
During that period I am  
not aware that any event  
of particularly great national  
importance has transpired;  
but steps have been taken  
to bring about results which

domestically speaking one of the gravest import: The "painter man" has been interviewed and is to begin operations on Monday. The refrigerator man has also promised his immediate attention to the fractured refrigerator, which he thinks may have to go to town to be repaired. The sweeps are to be here in two or three days, and the silver is safe in the safe at the Survey. Your parcel has gone to St Andrews, and now time begins to hang heavily on my hands; for I have nothing to do but to make silver & copper assays and write biographies!!

You left just one day  
 too soon; for this morning  
 "Pius the Ninth" was "delivered"  
 of two of the most lovely  
 ones I ever saw, while  
 a third has followed this  
 afternoon. How I wish  
 you were here to enjoy  
 them! But no, I do not  
 wish anything of the sort;  
 for it is hotter than mustard  
 and I am thankful that  
 you and the chicks are  
 away where it is cool and  
 comfortable. How I miss you  
 now, I cannot tell. Nor can  
 I tell you what I would  
 give at this very moment to

hear the pater and prattle  
of the dear little ones.  
God bless you all!

Your loving husband  
Bernard

---

6.50 Have just been down  
to the college. All well  
down there, but complaining  
about the heat. —

With kindest remembrances to  
your mother  
James B

---

