

J. J. P.
36 Claverton Street
S. W.Sept. 20th 77

My dear Dawson,

I am really heartily glad to hear from you: I have wanted for some time to write but have not known your address.

What a lucky fellow you are to have such a splendid holiday! It isn't often one gets ~~the~~ such a chance of having the best sort of work & the best sort of recreation so agreeably combined.

I am sorry to say your

letter stopped short at London,
as I have been home for about
a week from my "mud retreat"
viz. Yorktown where I have
been spending a fortnight with
Perpet Jones. I am sure an
industrious man like you will
despise me when I say that
the only piece of science I did
while there was to see a
section of Bayswater sands which
happened to fall in my way.
All the rest of the time was
occupied in making myself
an efficient in the noble art
of croquet (which is very popular
in the neighbourhood) & in taking

walks either by myself or with
a pocket volume of Shakespear.
The country is very pretty
indeed, especially the grounds of
the Royal Military College which
are splendidly laid out, being
planted with fir-trees & looking
as wild as possible - I can
assure you I longed for your
power of sketching from nature -

I met while at Yorktown with
a Surveyor man, Mr. Bennett,
he amused me greatly with
the perfect contempt in which
he holds our good friend
& respected teacher Mr. Estlin,
he calls him a humbug &

all the
almost & other opprobrious names
you can think of - & scoffs
at his buttons & other insignia
ad lib. By the by I hear
Mr. S. is now with Ramsay
at Keswick: have you been out
with either of them? I should
that between the two you will get
some ideas.

I can't think what has become
of Miller. Carpenter came over on
Sunday & he hasn't seen or heard
of him - I should be afraid he
was ill, if he hadn't behaved
in exactly the same way last
year.

Shall you be up by the 2nd
(when the lab. opens) or not till
the 9th (when the lectures begin)?

I have just got my medal! The name
however, is not yet engraved on it - I hope to see
you soon, looking better than you did last session.
Ever yours, T. J. P.