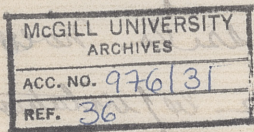


56 Regents Park Road. London

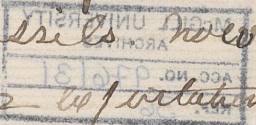
Nov. 7th 1883.



My dearest George

We heard with great satisfaction of your safe return to Ottawa & of a probable visit to Montreal. It is with a mixed & peculiar feeling that I contemplate your being there without my sharing the pleasure of your company. I have been trying more clearly to realize the time when all that are so dear to us will be of interest to one. Will I come or go & I shall have no part nor lot in the matter - for all, as we are now, will then be in the van guard of your generation - battling along in the wars of life. Since we have heard in England

we have seen quite a number
 of your old friends amongst others
 Prof Hughs who has invited your
 father to give an address at Chatter
 to a Nat: Hist: Soc: He was Chairman of
 the Comteeo Geomorph. Patrons. &
 President on the platform. We also met
 him at dinner at his. Mr: Hurst's when
 he arranged to accompany & guide us
 to the most interesting old Roman parts
 of the town wh: I enjoyed extremely.
 He also invited us to visit him at Barnet
 wh: papa & Eva did last week & I
 Chishurst last week. He was kind in
 his enquiries about you. ^{Wholey} At Chatterham
 we dined with Miss Coines & there
 met an old fellow student of yours Mr
 Witherhead? now son-in-law to Mr Wright
 the geologist there. He too wanted to
 know much of your history, & proved
 a useful friend to your father taking
 him the following day to some mineral springs

quarries where together they collected
 about thirty varieties of fossils now
 sitting at L'pool ready for  publication.

Then, again last evg. we had a
 party of noted men at dinner here.
 When Prof: & Mr. Huxley asked many
 questions about you & your work.
 In turn I asked about his nephews
 who I think were your friend & fellow
 student. I found that he is in
 sad desolation having lately lost
 his wife — one of the most charming
 women. Prof: Hux^{ley}'s distress has
 been so great that he looks older
 than himself, & that must be all
 indeed, because I see a very real
 change in him towards old age.
 The younger Huxley is happy with three
 little children.

I long to know what you think
 of Will's little wife. Anna writes
 that she has made an unusually

favorable impression on
 Montreal Society.

In regard to our movements
 I don't think it likely that we
 shall not leave the neighborhood
 of London until nearly the end
 of the month. We remain here till
 Sat: then go to a private Hall in
 Albemarle St, for a week or more,
 during that time we have promised
 to go for two or three days to Sir W.
 Siemens at Thurston. Then Tunbridge
 Wells, also to visit Florence's mother
 at Broadstairs. We have half a dozen
 other engagements of a shorter kind
 to Hamstead for a night &c. &c. I
 propose to loaf on friends here for
 the remainder of the winter! Our
 route both per the Continent & Egypt
 is wholly in papa's hands & he agrees
 is arranging with Cook.
 With very much love & earnest hope
 that you may have a happy winter in letters