

Dresden

November 2^d 1859.

My dear Papa,

Your letter enclosing the prospectus of the engineering school in T. C. D. arrived on Monday, and I have handed it over to uncle Jeffrey for his perusal. He is very indignant at your attaching so much importance to Latin as the language from which English is derived and he says if you ever learn German you will find that that is the language from which it is derived, uncle Willie mentions that the Dutch for what o'clock is it, is Hoe laat es eet? N.B. the spelling is mine as I don't claim acquaintance with the Dutch orthography. Last Monday was the Reformation feast here on which no work can be done or lessons had, and Stockton and I had a famous walk. We went left at 5.30 a.m. - in the dark of course for Freiberg, a place certainly not less

than 20 miles from this, reached it about noon, left at one and were back here at 7.15 p.m. thus having accomplished upwards of 40 miles in about $13\frac{1}{2}$ hours, including stoppages. Uncle Jefferys calculation would make the distance nearly 45 miles. We went the whole time at a tearaway pace and would have enjoyed the walk more had it not been that it was snowing or raining most of the time, and the mud on the road about an inch deep. We had nothing with us except our plaids and sticks. It was a splendid walk and we enjoyed it amazingly. Stockton is just the fellow I like to walk with as he keeps self to 4 miles an hour for any distance and never stops to look at anything.

None of the I's believed we could have accomplished the walk and Adolf declined having anything to say to it. Uncle Joe was greatly delighted to hear of it and says we must try something longer next time, but 14 hours is pretty well for one day. Tell uncle Frank of this. The plant I sent

you, I found just before I left in summer; it was growing at the bottom of a small valley about 5 miles to the west of Dresden and the whole place was covered with it. I never saw it before or afterwards. There is a regular gale blowing here to day; it is the first real storm I have seen in Germany and the I's are quite alarmed at it. I see uncle Joe almost every day in the Grosser Garten which is the regular walking place at this time of the year for everybody.

It is very remarkable that there has been
no frost whatever here as yet, the
weather is as mild as it well can be.
Uncle Jeffrey tells me that when I
am returning the best way will be
to send all heavy baggage direct to
London, as it will be cheaper and
more convenient, for on the German
railways they only allow a few pounds
of luggage free, and charge heavily
for all beyond that. Uncle Joe
had considerable trouble about his
fortuneteam when he was coming,
but that more by accident than other-
wise. Adolf showed me the other
day, a project for a railway terminus,
or large station which he is preparing
for the next exposition of work at
the Polytechnic; he certainly does not
err on the side of ornament, but
he says that when one has to make
the estimates as well as the plan one is
tempted to leave out most decorations,

Francis & Pruders. S. B.