

Dresden

November 27. 1859.

My dear Papa

Yours of the 23^d arrived last night.

I doubt if I can leave Dresden before 27th, and I think the 28th is more likely to be the date; however this makes little or no difference, and I should like to know what you wish me to do in the way of visiting. It is exactly 24 hours from this to Amsterdam, which bit I will of course get over without stopping anywhere. I suppose a couple of days would do for Amsterdam, a day for the Hague and ~~or~~ another for Rotterdam. From the Hague to Calais is 13 hours. The best thing would probably be to sleep at Dover and from that either run up to London and down to the Isle of Wight (a very short days work) or skirt along by the coast line. This will of course depend upon the trains. I can then come back by Brighton and visit Lady Pendergast there if you think it advisable. I shall be in motion in a month from this date so it

is not too soon to begin settling these matters. I must make inquiries as to sending my books direct, for it would never do to be hawking them about in all these wanderings to pay nothing of the additional expense. I must endeavour to be at Bondwell as soon after 1st Jan. as possible for I suppose uncle Charles will return to London immediately afterwards on account of the Boys. Let me know what you think of all this in your next. It is now thawing here, but yesterday and the day before there was a little skating. I went out yesterday evening with Arthur to a pond about two miles off, to see if we could skate but it ~~it~~ cracked and gave way so much that we thought it better to give it up, and now we can hardly have any ice (supposing it should freeze) before next Sunday. It seems as if the Fates were against my learning to skate, but perhaps we may have some ice of before

Christmas. To day it is blowing and thawing as fast as it well can.

I suppose I shall find a good deal changed in Dublin and the environs, for a year allows of a great deal of building and alterations. The changes that took place here whilst I was away in summer were very considerable indeed, one large house was begun built, roofed in and nearly finished in three months!

If you see Mr Essell you may tell him that I am busy scrubbing up Quadratic Equations with Dr ~~Dr~~ Klein, but that with that exception ~~Handing~~ and that of Latin Composition, I am doing nothing that has reference to the College course. You might as well get a ^{Calendar at once} J. E. D.

28th I was with uncle Jeffrey yesterday evening; Miss Orusser was there too, but she does not seem very well.

There had been a letter from uncle Willie from which it seems likely that he will

leave Holland before I leave Dresden,
so you must consider if it would be
worth while making that detour merely
to see Holland. Supposing I travel
direct, the course is this. Leave Dresden
at 2:45 p.m. reach ^{Caloque} ~~Dover~~ next morning
at 8 and reach Dover at about 10 o'clock
at night; I would then sleep there
and proceed next day to the Isle of
Wight. The Dover line is said to
be much preferable to that by Ostend,
and luckily my passport is in order
to go anywhere now, which is more
than it was when I landed in
Belgium. This day month I suppose
I shall be off.

Francis E. Pendergast.