

Ironbridge Jan. 30th 1864

My dear Mamma,

Yesterday afternoon came a telegraph for J. F. saying he was wanted at Wenlock this morning, so at 8 I met him at Buildwas and we went up to Wenlock; with us were Mr Clark, engineer of the Shrewsbury and Hereford Ry., Mr Grierson Goods Manager in Chief to the Great Western and Mr Roberts traffic Manager to the West Midland. They wanted to settle about the Wenlock Station &c, and after we had

been at Wenlock for a short
time, the engine was ordered
out to take us up to Presthope,
it is a small engine with no
room for any except driver
and fireman so we, - there
were 7 altogether - stood all
round the framing outside
which was rather airy work.

We rattled up, spent a
few minutes at Presthope
and came back down to Build-
-was where Josselyn met us,
and we then walked over
the Dale line to Lightmoor.

Mr Grierson is one of the
pleasantest, quiet, gentlemanly
persons I have met this long

time and is rather a young
man. He is a very important
person and has £2000 a year.
Goods and traffic managers are
not generally gentlemen but he
is certainly an exception.
Roberts is a rough and ready
Englishman and looks after
the West Midland traffic.

Mr. Clark, though a very young
man has been in India and
seen a great deal; he was
much amused when I told him
of having drawn the lattice
bridge at Bewdley which is
on one of his lines.

I heard J.F. tell Grierson
that the C.B.D line could not

be open before July - generally
he says March! He did
not go to Ireland.

I am rather tired, having been
up since half past six and
walking or on an engine till
12 and then drawing till 4
and J. F. and Gosselyn went
home considerably the worse
for the wear of the day. It
was very cold and the windy
going up to Presthope and
we got the benefit of any
wind that was going.

your affectionate son

Francis E. Prendergast

What soppy, miserable paper!