

27 Sandyford Place.

Oct. 29. 1864

11.30 p.m.

My dear Mamma

Yours enclosing gloves arrived yesterday, many thanks for them. I did not get the letter till this morning having been working in the office from 8 p.m. till ten minutes to 12 so it was Saturday morning before I got home.

We have been working very hard all the week, seldom leaving the office till 11.30 or later, beginning the second edition of work some time between 7.30 and 8 p.m.

Blair works as hard as anyone, and though the first two nights it seemed a very heavy pull working so late, yet now I have got used to it and only

grumble because it leaves me no
time to myself. I have not even
read the 'Times' regularly much less
any of aunt F's letters which I
directed and posted yesterday to her.

I also enclose a map which you
can return to uncle Joe as I have
not time to write to him or indeed
to anyone but you, just at present;
- please explain this ^{in all particulars} as I owe letters to
him, aunt Flora &c. Josselyn
went down to Dalry & Largs on Tues-
-day and only returned ~~to~~ this after-
-noon. He was levelling and had
great difficulty in one part, where
the line runs through Lord Glasgow's
property; his agent had orders to stop

the engineers and keep them off the
property and had a gang of gamekeepers
and ruffians constantly watching Josselyn
and Simpson, however they managed
to outwit the watchers and after some
trouble and a good deal of dodging got
all they wanted. Lord Glasgow objects to
the line. This was at Largs & Fairlie
(Ayrshire). On Wednesday Carey and
I were down at Dalry correcting plans
in the field and Blair was with us most
of the day. On Monday night Gower
Carey and I are to go down to Dalry
and the country about there and stop
there till the section of 10 miles to
Fairlie has been taken, which will
take the whole week; I don't suppose
we shall be at Dalry all the time.
Yesterday I dined with Gower; I like

him very much, he is a good humoured
solid Englishman (Spawick) of about
28 and has been with Blair since he
was at Castletar. He is not very
polished and has seen some service having
been out in Portugal. Crouch, another
of our men was out in Piedmont last
spring. Please send P.O. order
for £ 5. 0: 0 when next writing.

We have passed to Dalry. (vide map
from Broadshaw in right hand drawer
of Drawingroom book-case). Blair
has gone to London to night.

Our bedrooms here are excellent - flats in
Glasgow (as at Dresden & elsewhere) have
kitchens on same floor and all just
like separate houses. We stopped work
at 10 to night and it seems quite
like a half holiday! My hand is tired
and cramped with constant drawing
Your affectionate son Francis E. Prendergast