

68 Stanhope St. N.W.

July 18/66

My dear Maamma,

Griersons invitation was to a very pleasant dinner party, but seemingly had nothing to say to business. He has a nice villa at Kensington and there was a party of twelve. I had charge of Miss Clarke, and a young lady whose name has often been coupled with J. F's. Amongst the guests was a Mr De Leon, who said he had known some Prendergats at Reading School long ago, also the Butters - he was born in

1797. I forgot to ask what he is. The party did not break up till 12.15 <sup>when</sup> then, on the road home with Kilgour, one of Fowlers men, he asked me to come into his lodgings to get some sherry and look over some engineering drawings - this at 1 a.m.! I did not get home till 2.30 when it was already nearly daylight. I think uncle Willy has met Kilgour at Castlebar with Blair. He is an Aberdonian. This evening I had an invitation from Dora for some grand musical

affair at Talbot Square on Friday, which I have accepted. When at tea here just now, came a letter from uncle Joe, saying uncle Jeffrey was at the Burlington Hotel; this was the first I had heard of it. Uncle Willy I have not seen since Monday. I have heard no more of Cheyne. I enclose a note I had from Notcutt, please forward it and this to uncle Joe, he may return Notcutts to me at his leisure. I am working seven hours a day

- 10.30 to 5.30 - at J.F.'s tracing  
hard on my own account;  
before going there I spend half  
an hour at the Whitehall  
reading the Times, ~~and~~.

We dine in the middle of the  
day and after 5.30 I generally  
sit an hour or two at the Club.  
Your ink is very pale; I would  
suggest the gross extravagance  
of a penny bottle.

I had fancied Miss Erhard was  
older. The weather is perfect now.  
This is a tolerably "disconnected" letter  
but I think it contains all the news  
I have. your affectionate son  
Francis B. Prendergast.