Berlin. Sunday 25th Jan 76

Dear Will

I sit down this morning in hopes of finishing a letter to you in time to send it off by the steamer of the 4th of February, having also already despatched one to George by the same time since. The books I have had some time in my drawer but as Rouge is now in Switzerland and is constantly moving about I have not yet had an opportunity to transmit his copy to Lyons. With regard to Crookes however I will do what I can, [illegible] as he can be without being a Communist. My friends here all dissuade me as much as possible from sending the books to him without your special and repeated request as they say that he neither can nor will appreciate them and that it would be throwing them away to give them to him. They suggest either Odelling or Ulbricht both of whom are eminent leading liberalists. Lord Brooms is probably the most able and distinguished. Rouge shall have his copy as soon as he is within reach, & will wait your pleasure about the others. I am as busy as ever in the laboratory and Lothar Meyer works at the same table with me. He says he was but a day in Boston and had no time to call upon you. You tell me that friends are urging you to come abroad for the purpose of scientific study. If you were more thoroughly fixed and settled in your determination to devote your life to science, then nothing could be more advantageous to you. But if not that is without this final settling and concentration of your views, then to come abroad for such a purpose would only be to you a great loss of time and money. You spoke also of studying analysis with Jackson. From what I [illegible] of the way in which analyses are conducted there I soon felt my duty to advise you by no means to do so, unless indeed you do not purpose to devote yourself to chemistry as a profession. Bad habits in analysis are very easy to get but difficult to get rid of when once got, and I am perfectly certain that no analysis performed according to Jackson's methods of manipulating can have any claim whatever to accuracy. The same remarks applies to Silliman Jr. I will send you soon a little pamphlet by Mulder of Utrecht on inorganic disputation which contains some fine thoughts. He is the great moving power for Physiological Chemistry. Liebig's laboratory is by no means so full as formerly. He is in hot water with everybody in Germany and his students of a few months experience in analysis are furiously attacking all the older and more experienced chemists. They have already made one attempt to demolish the great Dutch Chemist Mulder but it resulted only in demolishing the individual who made it - a certain Chodnew Rose letter (Jun[illegible]) that all the analyses of the ashes of plants which have yet been made are incorrect. This is especially the case with the soda & phosphoric acid which they contain. I suppose I heard all I wish to on phosphoric acid, its separation and determination quantitatively. No easy work I of course you. I have devised a new method of which Rose thinks well a priori for it has not yet been tried. The old mode of separating phosphoric acid from lime by

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