~~congratulation of~~

1892
Crystal Route

February 14th

I ~~been~~ was very busy for the last 3 weeks improving the Sampson's Route. & ~~therefore~~ had no time to explore. While blasting in the North Dressing Room yesterday I opened a hole that seemed very deep ~~because~~ as I could not hear a stone strike bottom for ~~quite a while~~ a long time after I threw it down. There is a strong current of air going down it. My curiosity was excited &, this morning I & 3 companions took over 100 feet of rope & explored it. I went down first and found a water-worn channel leading North-west on the Main crevice Y. X. J. came down & together we went about 300 or 350 feet in the crevice & found it to be very pretty, but difficult to explore on account of small holes.

March 12th

Sampson's Palace Route.

Father & I finished the "oven" this evening. I am not a bit sorry that it is through with, in fact I had begun to get tired of it for it hindered the ~~progression~~ further of development for about 5 weeks. We now have the "oven" so that we can walk through it by stooping & it ~~may~~ needs more improvement at some future date but at present it is ~~very~~ in good shape good, considering other ~~powers~~ farther on