Scutari [14:289]
Barrack Hosp
Dec 22/55

Sir
My duties are essentially
to the sick & Wounded
But, having seen wants
among the troops which
led directly to sickness,
I have in some instances
stretched my powers
to meet these wants.
I have been especially
alarmed by the large
proportion of Land
Transport men now in
Hospital & shall
therefore, if you will
be kind enough to

send me in a Return
of the Names of men
who want warm
clothing & the Articles
(by each) wanted, be happy
to supply these Articles
as far as I am able.
This Requisition has
been sent in to me in
every case.

I remain, Sir
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale
Add Mss 54221. Adam Matthew reel 86. 104 folios, Lytton Strachey Ms of Eminent Victorians chapter. Beginning is different:

f1 I. There are some who come to greatness by devious paths and accidental by-ways who linger for long - unconscious of their destiny, in idleness or in misdirected effort, and who drift at last into glory without provision and even perhaps without desire. There are others who bear, so to speak, the mark of Fate upon their brows, who, sealed form the first of the Tribe of Heroes, rush through thick and thin straight at their life’s achievement, like hounds upon their quarry and of these was Florence Nightingale. [above omitted]

[book begins] Everyone knows the otherwise a draft of the book. No notes from sources
ff1-1v, printed 1, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C., November 23, 1870 from Edwin Pears, general secretary of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science

Dear Madam

On Monday next Mr Ernest Hart (who has recently returned from the Continent) will read a paper on “Medical organisation in time of war.” Colonel Loyd Lindsay will be in the chair.

The Committee have directed me to make this known to you and to request on their behalf that you will do them the honour either of attending or, if this be not convenient, of communicating such remarks on the subject as your experience may suggest.

ff3-4, printed, Park Cottage, East Sheen, Mortlake S.W., November 22, 1870, from E. Chadwick

Dear Miss Nightingale

A paper is to be read tonight at the Association for the Promotion of Social Science, by Ernest Hart, on “Medical organisation in time of war.” Col Loyd Lindsay is to take the chair.

If there be anything that you desire to have said on the subject, and you can send me a note on it for the association, I shall be very happy to try and say it.

I have been trying today, mischief as well as to advance what I feel to be good on the education question, and have not been in the way of doing anything hitherto, for the advancement of sanitary principles in connexion with the war. I have imagined that if anybody in England had opportunity of promulgating doctrine upon it, you would have and would make the most of them.

Having done as much as I could on educational reform, I may now probably go back to sanitary reform.

Yours ever faithfully, Edwin Chadwick

since I wrote the above I have seen Rawlinson who tells me that it is known that the deaths, from disease in the Prussian Army, number 2000 a day.

If you have anything you wish read, the messenger shall call for it at any time you wish, before seven o’clock.

It would be open to you to say anything you thought fit to say yourself by letter.

f5, written in German from Karl Fliedner 27/6/71

ff6-7, Kaiserswerth, April 17, 1871, written in German from Karl Fliedner

ff8-8v, Kaiserswerth Villa, 6 Halliford Street, Essex Road, N., London, 27.7.1871 written in German by Theodore Fliedner (son of)

f9, February 24, 1872 written in German by Theodor Fliedner (son of), requests visit of mother in London

f10-11, printed, undated appeal on behalf of the Protestant Infant and Elementary School in Islington, signed Theodore Fliedner, pastor of the German Evangelical Church, Islington, 6 Halliford St., Essex St., London N.
f11v, undated from Hy Bonham Carter. Th Fliedner. It may interest you to see this, a translation for a German Prospectus which Th Flieder asked me to make for him. Re eliciting info about the school prayer, ff12v-15, pencil [4:109-10]

f12v
Almighty & merciful Father, grant that this the day/time of my Confirmation (Communion) may be the beginning of a new life to me that I may not forget the good lessons I have learnt - to be thoughtful & not hasty - to be as kind to all as if they were Jesus Christ himself - to be in submission to all that are in any authority over me, remembering that to resist them in anything that is right is resisting God, to prefer others in honour: to be as glad that they should be praised or happy as oneself - to listen to what is told me:
to be modest in every look & word: to have no jealousy or dislike, especially not against any who have offended me if any such there be, remembering that if I love not my brother/neighbour, I am a murderer in my heart & even that if I love not my enemy or any one that I dislike or that has done me hurt I am a murderer in my heart -

to do everything in my daily work in God's name, & particularly my housemaid's or cook's work as Christ would have done it & did do it when He was here as a village workman

to do God divine service every day & not only at Church - thinking of Him in everything, as the handmaid of the Lord, & doing everything as Christ would have it done; making it my Father's business as He did: & commending my mind & spirit, my whole life into my Father's hands as He did.

Grant me to renew these resolutions, every day I eat & drink the Lord's supper, & that they may be a guide & help to me thro' life, & at last bring me home to Thine everlasting kingdom, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A prayer to be used particularly before every communion: as a reminder of the resolutions I make at my first Communion March 1877

"You have taken pains & given thought to your preparation - It will be well for you to write out a prayer for your own use - God grant you grace to fulfil all that you have learnt" W.H.F.

ff16-20v, December 15, 1886, printed article in Italian about a School for Nurses

Add Mss 41977D

f22 Lucca printed newspaper article 5 Feb 1887
f25 excerpts from biography

{f28 is blank}

unsigned notes, ff28v-31, pencil

**f28v**

10 S. St. Feb 18-19 night 2-3 a.m. Feb 19-20 night 1887

[Feb 7 1887 - from 1837 - G called when I was 16 -

My Jubilee over - what have I done with my 50 years?

Feb 8  Sacrament  self in all: Harley St.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army San: Comm:</th>
<th>Sir A. V. Morey</th>
<th>very ill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

intense impression

Come O thou Traveller unknown  Whom yet I feel but cannot see
My company before is gone  And I am left alone with Thee
With Thee all night I mean to stay  And wrestle till the break of day.

Thy nature & Thy name is Love -

*I surrender to Thy love -*

O spare me that I may recover strength - this one more chance - & do
Thee yet a little service - never yet - never yet

To do the

best for Mrs.

Bathen -

To do the

best for

Mrs. Neill

**f29**

intense impression

Feb 19-20  “He will give thee all thou needest”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army San: Comm:</th>
<th>public &amp; bad houses (Glasgow): Chatham</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sany Commn in India - Hewlett</td>
<td>Aldershot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas’ Matronship:</td>
<td>servants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

all going by the board

Not mine, *but Thine & theirs*, Lord -

that all should be done “to the *honour & glory x of God*” -

not to work my own works but the works of Him that sent me -

Come in Lord Jesus, come into my heart now: what does that imply?

1. that I may love others as Thou hast loved me
   (this little household)

2. that it may be all x “*my Father’s business*”: I belong to my Master

[Behold the handmaid of the Lord “Lea Hurst - Shore, a child]

- alas for me!
f30v

-2-

"The Voice - in answer to my cry:

"Here I am, my child"

"Fear not, for I am with Thee" W. H. Smith

transferred from

W. O.

"Be strong & work, for I am with Thee - x x my spirit

remaineth with thee: fear not" - Haggai

India Mail day Feb 18/87

What wouldst thou that I should do unto thee?

Lord that I should receive my sight -

Am I to give all my time & strength, 10 a.m. - 12 noon to Mrs

Field, to Sir H., when such matters as India & Army San =

Comm: & Nurses are waiting?  

f31

What wilt Thou have me to do?

India, A.S.C. waiting

reprobate

f32, index, 1887

{f33 is blank}

copy of letter, ff33v-38, pencil [8:497-98]

f33v

Letter to C. Acland M.P.  from Dr. Curtis

Senior Surgeon, Cork General Hospl - in charge of Lock

Hospl  Cork

"Cork. Feb 21/87

"The greater the privacy, the greater the success in

persuading the present class of prostitutes to

enter an Hospl or Home for them; attaching Lock

Wards to existing Hospls could never be done here

A small house in a quiet place capable of working

from 12 to 20 beds; in fact a Cottage Hospital

& call it a Magdalen home [No: F.N.] In a week

every prostitute in Cork wd know what it was for
“And then the proper (i.e. the bad) cases who wd rather rot than go to the Workhouse or any other Hospital would go there - the young particularly - disease would gradually lessen”

“I have done my best to work the Hospital here Since the compulsory clause was withdrawn as a voluntary Hospl - & was very much disheartened - Applicants with only trivial diseases applying, trying to make it a place of rest - And the cases that were doing most injury never coming near the Hospl. It had been so long a compulsory & Govt Hospl that they shunned it. It is a younger class of females employed in public houses, stores, shops &c that are now doing the most mischief - the old hands during the continuance of the Acts having gradually passed away.

Mr. C. Acland whether any proper Hospl accommn had been provided at Chatham for female Lock Patients & if so what?

“Cork March 3/87
“Take any 20 cases in any of our Public Hospls - the cure in 15 out of 20 is retarded by Syphilis, either hereditary or acquired X X X
“The real good the compulsory clause of the C. D. Acts did was the/its deterrent power in preventing young girls from becoming Prostitutes X X
“A young Prostitute is more prone to disease than an old one - a young girl gets seduced; her first step is to plunge into drink, & take refuge in a Brothel - She soon gets disease, & if she wishes to get
cured or give up sin, & that there is no proper place for her to go to, she remains spreading the disease broadcast - What I mean by a proper place, I don’t mean a Union Hosp, or Workhouse, or any Public Hosp, for the nature of the sin makes her shun publicity - And they rather die rotten than go to such a place, perhaps to be taunted by their former friends -

2. What is the best & cheapest method of saving young Prostitutes both body & soul voluntary “Magdalen Home” for the cure of disease -largely subsidized by Govt 12 to 20 beds £500 a year” 15 at £33 “
less than half what it cost Govt under the C. D. Acts

unsigned letter draft, ff39-44, pencil [8:501-03]

10 South St  Park Lane W.
March 5/87
My dear Miss Hopkins
I fain would say what I cannot how deeply touched & greatly interested I am by your work & your letter. It is so kind of you to write me such a letter - It will inspire me to my life’s end.
God speed your brave work - & give you health to pursue it
It is one/a work indeed in which all the women of England should unite - you who can to address the men & form the White Cross - others
Add Mss 41977D

f39v
to influence the wives & mothers to keep up a higher standard, & to rouse those who have none to make as the standard for men as for women others to get legislation if legislation is needed - or to get it enforced. (the following lines are interwoven I have deciphered them as best I can) Eg There are two Acts most useful ones under one of which drugging beer could be prevented & under the other harbouring prostitutes in public houses but neither are always/is often enforced others to help poor women who live by hand-work & eke out their most scanty wages by the wages of sin, to do good work & obtain the market value of good work, by all means including combination - For the starvation pay of women's

f40 work is one great cause of her vice - & to help them by a house of call for industries - by good lodgings & the like not to fall/run into temptation while yet innocent - You are on the right tack who try to prevent it - Others to make a life, for soldiers & sailors especially, which will make it not so easy to sin - others to bring civilians, in co-operation with the Police The subject is as large as woman hood - & embraces all the relations, all the doings of womanhood. It is inextricably inter-
mingled with all that women have to think & say & do -
It is not like any other sin which you can 'go at' by itself - It is with us from the cradle to the grave.
For the question of a nation's health, the Sanitary point of view, is lines & doubles the web/warp & the woof, the web all through - It must be prevented as even is more hopeful than cures.
In Hospital work it meets one at every turn - Every Nurse knows that in a large number of cases this horrible disease is the complication which delays or makes impossible recovery or carries to the grave.
The weak health of infants who can have done no sin - there is another thing our cradle question -
foreign traffic in women is another cruel subject.
The new short service question in the Army - that tells against us -
Prostitution takes younger women & women of a somewhat higher class than it did, we are told.
Poverty & love of dress are the more common incentives -
Everywhere, at every turn, this
question - no question but this evil - starts up & meets us, if we/you who have but one the touch of the Ithuriel's spear - know this

Every minute of our lives
Then, it is so interwoven with drink, with the public - house business - The drink Bill, the gigantic interests of capitalists & brewers mixed up with the drink Bill, war against us -

drugging, using public houses for improper purposes

Here are but a few of the relations, touching us at every moment of our lives - almost -

If we could each do the part of our work which God, miscalled Circumstance has placed before us, as nobly as you have ---------

But, with regard to your request, I think you must let me go my own poor little way - Will you kindly thank Lady Laura Ridding - for doing me the honour of wishing for me to be upon her League, & say that ask her to pardon me & say that I think I must keep
f42v
to my rule of not giving my
poor name where I cannot
give my work -
   I am an overworked
Invalid, hardly ever going
beyond my rooms or even
my couch - with far more
to do than I can do justice to
- never seeing anyone but those/ only those
with long standing claims of
business upon me - I could
not join in any Meeting,
could not indeed see any of
those whom I so honour.

f43
  -3-
I grieve more than I can say
for your suffering - but
while I have but too much
sympathy with the longing
for rest, I cannot but
hope that you will have
those “ten years’ more work”
which you are so generously
willing to live -
   And surely that willingness
to live will be accepted
It is harder to live than
to die -
   Hurra then for the White
Cross - & the lady of the
White Cross -   Your

f43v
letter is so inspiring while
so suffering -
“Who follows in her train?”
   I say -
“A noble army, men & boys
   The matron & the maid”
will be your recompense -
I have to ask you a question:

Mr. Acland, MP. who is as you perhaps know, going to bring in a Bill, about which he & has consulted Mr. Parey Bunting & others about it - I do not enter into the contents of that Bill, because you probably know them:

asks “whether Miss Hopkins “is opposed to me giving/making “generally in our towns “the power of search of bad “houses, provided that “Civilians are in co-operation with the Police” -

signed letter draft, ff45-51, pencil

Please London. March 5/87 return to F.N.
a brave work in which all the women of England should unite some, for the “White Cross” - others to influence wives & mothers to keep up a higher standard & to rouse those who have none - to make same (purity) standard for men & / as for women others to get legislation if legislation is needed or to get it enforced - e.g. two most useful Acts under one of which drugging beer could be prevented & under the other harboring prostitutes in public houses - neither enforced others to help poor women who live by hand-work to help themselves
& to be helped by other women who would otherwise be a poor as themselves - to do good work & obtain the market value of good work, be every means, including combination.

For many, perhaps an increasing number, & of classes higher up in 'respectable' life, eke out their most scanty wages by the wages of sin. starvation = pay of women's work one great cause of "Social Evil" - to help them by a House of Call for Industries - where they can get information as to work to be had - by good cheap lodgings for single women - (not a charity)

by women's Clubs & recreation & refreshment rooms where they can spend their evenings respectfully & cheerfully &c &c to help them not to run into temptation while yet innocent - [those are on the right tack who try to prevent.] others to make a life for the young working-men (who flock into London & the great towns) where they can have similar advantages for their evenings, their meals & sleep (especially for soldiers & sailors, mutatis mutandis), {with the necessary changes made -GW} which will make it not so easy to sin & drink
f46v
others
to bring civilians into co-operation
with the Police
as at Glasgow -
The subject as large as woman
= hood or women kind -
embraces all the relations, all
the doings of woman kind -
inextricably interwoven with
all that women have to think
& say & do
with us from the cradle to the
grave
question of a nation’s health
Sanitary question, lines &
doubles the web all through -
prevention here too more
hopeful than cure -

f47
-2-
In Hospital work it meets one
at every turn -
Every Nurse knows the disease of
vice complicates the case, perhaps in 15-12/0
out of 20 men Patients, delays
recovery or hurries to the grave
And there the poor babies
who can have done no sin -
there is our Cradle question
- foreign traffic in women
- new short service in Army
against us -
Above all, protect the girls,
the young: help them to
protect themselves -
Poverty & love of dress - the
occasions of fall - not love
Everywhere, at every turn, this
question, this evil, starts up
& meets us, like Milton’s Devil
at Ithuriel’s spear
  interwoven with drink, with
the public - house business
The ‘drink Bill’, the gigantic
interests of capitalists & brewers
mixed up with the ‘drink Bill,’
wars against us -
  Here are but a very few
of the relations of this question,
touching us at almost every
moment of our lives -
  If we could each do the
part of our work which
God, miscalled Circumstance
has placed before us,
quietly, stedfastly, unselfishly -
And having done all, to stand

ask questions about Mr.
Acland’s Bill - do they approve?

sympathize with ‘longing for rest’
  but hope that you will have
those “ten years’ more work”
surely that willingness
to live will be accepted
  It is harder to live than
to die -
  Hurra then for the lady of
the White Cross -
“Who follows in her train?”

“A noble army, men & boys
    The matron & the maid”

The Socity called “Women’s Protective & Provident League: Its chief object is to enable women who work to gain the highest market-wage. Its chief champion was Mrs. Paterson who lately died - the wife of cabinet maker, an obscure socity; numbering but some hundred women belonging to various trades - obscure & the more remarkable - it has lived for 11 years a hard but healthy life on what has practically been its own independence & the sympathy of a few friends who have shared in its work.

The funds of its various Sections are created out of weekly two pences of its members - invested in Savings Bonds, & utilized when members are sick or out of work - Intended to have (x) Labour Registry Office where a woman can have indicated to her where to get work, & its value which both employer & employées can make a House of Call. employers to find hands - employées to find work - & money - wch they do not desire should ever come without it/work to a healthy working woman
or Women's Friendly Society

2. to be extended to a Fund
where any woman may by
paying in receive sick pay
- any woman, not necessarily
a member of the Women’s Unions -
- a Fund or Socy which strange to say
does not exist in this England
of ours - practical England?
3. where conferences can be
held of women of all classes
- where those who buy can
learn what firms & business
houses & shops give fair
wages & fair treatment to
their work women - are not
’sweaters’ - And this would
indirectly & gradually influence

4. Speaking quite roughly, 20-15 years ago, there was not
a decent lodging or a decent
place where the young single
working-man who flock/come into
London could have their meals
or spend their evenings pleasantly
without drink - or sleep -

Trained Nurses who first began
in Workho: Infies about that time
ago can speak to how the poor
fellows used to say: ‘Sister,
you don’t know what it is; -
we shall come in & come in
& come in again here till we
come in to go out no more’ -
And so they did -

Now things are different,
thank God, even in the suburbs
of London - ‘The Coffee- houses
(many of them only on the principles of trade) have done much something tho' still but a drip in the ocean. But, speaking roughly too, little or nothing has been done for single young women & girls - There are no women's Clubs, places where they can spend their cheerful evenings, with a good loving Matron-Manager to consult with & guide - [such an influence over young women] - where they can have meals or refreshments & pleasant, warm, clean amusement This in a dense working population is a sine qua non - when women earn their fair wages, this would soon become self-supporting

And so all these objects would work into each other's hands for each other's good - It is not intended to limit these Women's Clubs to members of Women's Unions. It is sought to add these to the Houses of Call, which is the immediate object of this Memorial God speed the right Florence Nightingale

ff52v-5, rough copy of ff48-51, pencil

{f56 is blank}
Dearest Mrs. Hawthorn

Mr. Acland brought me some interesting letters last night - I have to return them to night - with my criticisms, so could not send them to you -

But I have made some Extracts for you & me - (tho' we should neither of us concur with all the letters) - if you care to read them - And here they are -

Dr. Curtis is a C. D. Acts man - I am obliged to ask you to return me these pages with your criticisms.

Excuse greatest haste or information, if you will be so good.

F.N.

Closing brothels without a provision of Lock Hospls & Homes is simple cruelty. What is to become of these poor women, our fellow creatures? They suffer for us And we suffer by them. But the Lock Hosp is to lead to the “Home” & to rescue - not to re-entering prostitution.

Please return to F.N.
f58  
Private March 9/87

{printed address:} 10, South Street,  
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Miss Crossland  
Could you tell me what  
was the Staff of Magdalen  
Ward in Miss Rye’s time?  
for say 28? beds & 2? beds  
small Ward.  
[I am not wishing to include the  
Ovariotomy cases or attendants]  
Was it  
Miss Rye: trained Nurse : lady  
1 Day Nurse  
1 Night “ qy were these two  
always trained  
Nurses?
1 Ward -maid - was there one?
1 Probationer: was there always  
one?

f58v  
They had their meals, I presume  
from the General Kitchen  
but drinks &c from the Ward  
Kitchen  
They were generally BAD cases?
I suppose?
not allowed to do Ward work?
nor “ to syringe themselves?
or dressings “  
even under supervision?
were operations performed in the  
Lavatory?
were they allowed to attend Chapel  
without being in a gallery where  
they could not be seen, as at Kaiserswerth?
what objections would you or Miss Rye make to any of these arrangements?

was there any objection to the Students?

I am troubling you, because, tho' I have a particular dislike to giving advice, I cannot well refuse in this instance - a particular friend of mine, a Colonel's wife, in one of the worst Garrison towns in England, having thrown herself into the work, which she does admirably - If you return this to me I hope it will not give you very much trouble writing the answers - God bless you ever yours affly
initialled letter, ff60-1v, pencil

**f60**

10 South S April 6/87

{archivist: Recd 10/4} *Italian lady*

Yes, thanks; I have a copy of the “Quain” Article, & adopt your suggestion -

About the Sabilla Novello

translation of “Notes on Nursing”: it is 25-28 years since I gave her my leave & neither the letter nor my memory could possibly now be found. I do not know whether I have a right to give this new lady leave - nor, as you say, whether she would do better

**f60v**

Yes. I noticed about the Infirmiers -

Even at Paris, in the *Civil* Hospitals, there are in the/each male Wards, i.e. in my day, 2 Infirmiers to one Infirmière (under the Nuns)
in the/each Female Wards

1 Infirmier to two Infirmières

I know not what to recommend about training the Infirmiers

I presume but do not know that there is a Military Training School for the Military Hospital Orderlies - in Italy -
with Sisters (there were Sisters in the Crimea in the Italian War Hospls)
who gave the finishing touch to the Nursing - but had not at all the powers we had)
A Military Training School is a poor thing without Sisters - except at Paris where the Military Training School is or was so admirable that, tho’ there were Sisters, the men actually nursed better than the Soeurs -

Our Training of Orderlies here remains almost as bad as it can be - in spite of all the Doctors & all the Commissions

If you could kindly return me this with your remarks, perhaps it would help me in answering that part of the Italian lady’s letter

F.N.

unsigned note, f62, pencil

Easter Day April 10/87 Matronship

“Lord, Thou knowest all things: it is all Thy work; Thou that art Love, do in us what Thou wilt have us do. For the Father is the ‘irresistible King’
For Love is irresistible
Pray, pray
initialled letter, ff63-74v, pencil

**f63** {there are notes in ink by Hy Bonham Carter-I will put them in bold GW}

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**Immediate**

Matronship 25/5/87
Miss Crossland 
10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W. 

You said that I should wait
to answer Misses Solly & Scott
till it was known who our
candidates would be
Did you mean me to do
it now? **No Wait till Miss P**'s acceptance has been
received by the Treasurer &
has been in all known by him. -
I think you can scarcely
be thanked enough for having
conducted the negociation so
ably & so quietly - no clash
of candidates - in a position
so very difficult that one can hardly
rejoice.
If only poor Edinburgh could
be suited!

**f63v**
Do you think I ought to see
Miss Crossland now (I am
engaged to day & to morrow)
& talk it out with her?
I am cowardly;
but I suppose it would be
absurd & wicked for me now to
ignore that the formal offer
has been or is being made to Miss Pringle?
And, **Ought I to write to Miss Crossland at once, asking her to come ? in that case?**
Please say.

[xx I suppose all the Hospl knows
it at one/ by now?] **xx No, I think not.**
Yes: thank you - I should be very glad to see you on Tuesday, unless Miss Crossland bargains for that day.

May I write or telegraph to you? **Send on Tuesday morning to Hyde Park Square** -
ever yours gratefully

F.N.

Let everybody have their Bank holiday & Whitsuntide, including yourself, & don’t do any thing till after Monday.

If Miss Crossland wishes to come on Tuesday I think that you had better put her off, unless in the meantime you have heard that Miss P. has accepted. There is many a slip &c. & so much time is wasted & anxiety caused by discussing possibilities &c. I may say vague reports & gossip, to which I am afraid you are, from no fault of yours, much exposed by your visitors from St. Thomas’ & elsewhere.

HYBC
28 May

{f65 list of contents}
My dear Harry

I had much talk with poor Mrs. Wardroper on Tuesday.
- With regard to the Testimonial
  I have scarcely got much farther
She said first that she should like "something to "leave to my boy or the Probrs"
- perhaps a "tea-service" -
[I do not think really that the contributors ought to be asked to give money for the first purpose : "my boy"s future pleasure - But of course I said nothing of the sort

Then I sounded her about the "portrait". She said at first that really she "could not sit" then that she did not "like so much money to be spent on her" - But it appeared she thought it would be 300 or 400 - And I think it might be only 100 or 120.

Altogether she was rather hazy - no wonder, poor soul - And she kept falling back upon: "I wish you to settle - "you will know what is nicest."
She left promising to “think over it & write” -
But I know she won’t -
I believe she is incapable of coming to any decision -
She often promises to send me information which seldom or never comes -
I feel much in a ‘fix’ -

What do you think I should do next?
qy consult Miss Crossland
as to what Miss Wardr would really like?
or what?

I spoke to Mrs W on Wednesday or rather she to me. She seems to have set her mind entirely against a picture & I think that it would be hard to force it upon her. I have recd no other such difficulty in deciding on something else. She was rather musing about the proposal of a “pony illeg” to the boy. This can wait.

Miss Pringle  May 31/87
write to
W.I. Ford  x  Chairman of Committee
17 Grosvenor Crescent
Edinburgh
taking him with us
Mr. Fasson

Miss Spencer

x qy merely stating in an affectionate/sympathetic unofficial manner that we feel this loss to Edinbro’ the more, the more we felt after great consideration that she as the one for us.
- not to press Miss Spencer upon them
f69v
to Miss Spencer
  hoping but not pressing that she will take Edinbro’ if offered & feeling for her?

All communications to the Board sent thro’ Mr. Fasson -

such a true friend to Miss P.
such a gently considerate truthful head

unsigned letter draft, ff70-72, pencil

f70

Mr Ford

Dear Sir
  Your great & unfailing kindness to Miss Pringle makes & to all her Staff makes me feel as if I might approach you & yet I feel as if I were approaching you as a criminal in having so much as thought of disturbing Ed taking her/Miss P. away from you which we know she deeply feels.
  I cannot hope to carry you with us -
  so disturbing the great & important attempt at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh &
  I only trust you will believe that the more we feel the loss to Edinburgh the more we were convinced after long consideration that she was a/the

{f71 is blank}
necessary matron for St. Thomas'

I feel/know that we have no excuse except on your kindness - I cannot even urge the greater importance of St. T.’s as a Hospl - far from it - but only our need. You must forgive us for being selfish We have no other plea -

That the Resolution offering Miss Pringle the Matronship was unanimous show that all/ the conviction were united in thinking that St. Thomas’ was right /interest was deeply concerned/involved in asking for himself this sacrifice from Edinburgh

I assure you it was with no little pain & hesitation that we asked it

I hope that you will at least say God bless her future career as indeed

May I say, tho’ that is small consolation to you that in long & anxious thought about this matter, the wrench & grief to you were ever uppermost in my thoughts.

I would fain have found a better way - But Miss Pringle once proposed to St. Thomas., there was never any doubt in their minds that she was the one they must have if possible - This may be some small comfort to you, that, as soon as it was brought forward it was like fate which is God’s will to their minds tho’ others were in the field which she was not. But they were not entertained for a moment

I am with you if I might think you cared as the mother feels the operation to her child/son more even than that son/child does for himself I would gladly have bought at any sacrifice to myself your & Edinburgh’s immunity for/from this trouble. But it was St. T.’s we could not sacrifice - You will say we have sacrificed Edinburgh Then do not
Dearest Miss Spencer

What can I say? I come before you as a criminal/thief & a robber - And I can truly say I feel like one - If possible I feel more than yourself about this - We are taking away your spiritual/(practical) mother, your head under whom you were happy & oh how useful.

Can you say you forgive us? I feel for/with you more than I can say: But may we not hope that you will see your /there might be found a way to follow up that usefulness & take/in Miss Pringle's place at Edinburgh, if offered?

let us have sacrificed it - You are the person, dear Miss Spencer, who can prevent Edinbro' from being sacrificed, who can carry on Miss Pringle there - & who can save us half the pain of what we have done, & above all, above all to you & to me, save her the pain of having given up & perilled Edinbro'. She would be so relieved to leave it to you - Cannot you think of this? But let me not press you - I you must look upon us as the guilty ones - It is God who must press you, if at all

Miss Jones died yesterday morning - She is my oldest friend in the Nursing cause - When dying & apparently speechless, she said all at once in a distinct voice to her two oldest "Sisters", kneeling by her: "Little children, love one another keep yourselves from idols; "Little children, love one another" - What would one give to know what she is feeling now!

A certain sum of money has been collected
from a very large number of old Nightingales, for Mrs. Wardroper, on her resignation - & is to be expended, after consulting with her & taking her wishes, which are: for a Photograph after the sort of Sir Harry’s, & I have already written to Melhuish - & a tea service which has been already chosen -

- On the Salver there must be an Inscription - the larger longer the better, they say, because it hides scratches - & the Salver is large, plain Silver. But this is a very difficult matter -

The contributors won’t have the word “old” (her “old” Probationers) nor will they have the word “pupils” - (they say she didn’t teach us :) If you could help me : we have no one of the least literary ‘ring’ - I should be very much obliged.

- I send the enclosed merely for the facts - not for the language -

God bless you & Sir Harry: ever your old

Flo

{f75 is blank}
unsigned letter, ff76-77, pencil

f76

Most Private

Please “Aldershot Camp: [15:558-59]

return June 24/87 to F.N.

Genl Philip Smith went up yesterday after his Field Day to discuss the “two points” - (with Chaplain Genl [Public Houses viz. 1. harbouring prostitutes 2. drugging beer

“With regard to the Women, he has brought a copy of the ‘Licencing Act’, and is in correspondence with the “Hampshire authorities; also with Sir R. Thompson, “the very efficient permanent Under Sec. of War” - and as to the adulteration of Beer, he has applied to the Local Police & the Board of Guardians (?) “Adulteration is punishable by Law. It is the duty

“of the Police to get samples of the beer sold, have them analysed, & if there is adulteration, have the defaulters punished - [At the Quarter Sessions, there are always some Publicans fined for adulterated Beer]

Genl P. Smith. “With regard to all these Local questions, Aldershot is in a Ring - The authorities may be all in fault, but the difficulty is to make them act against each other: some outside authority is necessary.

There is the prospect that that can be effected, for there is a good deal of Government property here, to protect which is the duty of the Metropolitan see p. 2
Police; and the Home Secretary has been applied to, to send some to Aldershot. If they are sent, as Genl P. S. confidently anticipates, they will be the ‘outside authority’ to see that the Hampshire & Aldershot authorities do their duty.

The two objects are in train for accomplishment.

unsigned letter, ff78-9v, pencil

Genl P. Smith wishes for our “views” upon the state of things which is now as follows: “The Senior Chaplain who has been here for 5 years has just retired. And he intends to send to the Chaplain Genl a Report stating what are the chief causes of mischief in the place and what is most required to be done. This will be a great assistance to the Chaplain Genl. He intends to see Sir R. Thompson & Col Grove before he goes abroad”, (which is immediately) “& bring his views
to their notice -

There are evils in Canteens, Serjeants' Messes, Places of Entertainment in the town.

1. “It might be well to have a Aldershot or a WO much better COMMITTEE to take evidence upon all these, to draw conclusions & to suggest remedies

2. “It might greatly assist to have a Resident Stipendiary by the MAGISTRATE, and a detachment of Metropolitan Police under him - not only for the protection of decency, & the prevention of the infringement of the licensing Act, but also for the prevention of dishonesty as regards Government Property. They would also be useful for the detection of adulteration -

3. “In the mean while the Government have offered to the Board of Guardians the Lock Hospital, with an annual sum to assist in the expenses, and the Board have accepted the offer -

“As soon as the Hospital is opened, we shall be able to take measures for the protection of the men from disease -

4. “I am in communication with Mr. Foster the Clerk of the Board Dr. Coleman Barr & Captain Forrest first rate the Chief Constable for Lord Carnarvon Hants Ld Lieut’s some direct effort for the improvement of the situation which at the present moment is certainly disgraceful and scandalous”
signed letter, ff80-1v, pencil

f80
MOST PRIVATE 10 South St
Aldershot June 27/87

Dear Sir Douglas Galton

Many thanks for your letter on this painful subject -
I enclose you the news I have this morning, which is on the whole satisfactory - I think Genl P. Smith does not let the grass grow under his feet.

And it is a great thing that the "evils" are allowed, see top of p. 2, & admitted to be “disgraceful” & “scandalous”, which has been denied - (end) -

f80v

[O that we had W. H. Smith at the W. O.]

Would you give me your “view” upon (see) 1. “a Committee”
“ 2. “a Resident Magistrate”

- might he be a Civilian
- or would you push for a Military Officer? We need not wait for a your proposed “Act” to have “a Military Officer appointed as “Magistrate for that district “to deal with these cases” need we? as you propose
As to “3” - I am very glad they are to have the Lock Hospital &c. You know we knew that was pending - They could do nothing without it - If it would save you trouble to give me your answers by word of mouth, as I ought not to delay answering Genl. Smith, I could see you to-day or tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.15 or 6 - Please say.

I am nearly “hors de combat”

You have not told me what you have heard of Dr Sutherland & his plans - I have heard, & think I ought to tell you I do not think it will do to let slip Ld Cross & Col Yule - There is probably scarcely a month available before people go out of London yours sincerely F. Nightingale

Please return me enclosed when (if ) you come or with your remarks
unsigned notes, ff82-3v, pencil

**f82**
to get Hospitals for all the garrison
towns
& if possible Home in commn
with them
interchangeable
  beyond the sound of bugles
from Kent to Devonshire

Soldiers' Institutes & interests

Aldershot  increase of
Farnham  disease?

**f83**
  can't Acland make his Bill
touch the keepers of the houses
  rather than the individuals?

  place upon the Municipality
the duty of supporting these Homes
out of the rates
  make it part of the duty of the
SANITARY AUTHORITY to collect evidence to provide
Lock Hospls & Homes out of the rates
give them the powers to prevent the
necessity of having many of them
& to suppress the places

**f83v**
Acland to try & urge the W. O -
  to get some of the houses closed
by getting evidence against them
Philip Smith
do the houses often do such
  illegal things as to supply
evidence against them for the
Magistrate to close them?
then the W. O to write to the
Magistrates
{upside down}
Douglas Hamilton  Claude {Illeg Hern?}
{illeg Celerham ?}
f84 {archivist: F.N.'s Memm re Month of August
It is a draft of a letter to her
“Aunt Mai” - the letter
is in A.H.C. ’s possession }

[N.B. She died in August 1910]

unsigned note, ff85-6, pencil, also similar Balliol College [1:486-87]

f85
In this month 34 years ago she lodged me in {printed address: Telegraph, Harley St Aug 12 Steeple Claydon, Bucks.}
And in this month 31 years ago she returned me home from Scutari Aug 7
And in this month 30 years ago the work of the first R. Commission was finished Aug 7
And since then 30 years of work often cut to pieces but never destroyed
{printed address: Claydon House}
In this month 26 years ago Sidney Herbert died after 5 years’ work for us Aug 2 Winslow
In this month 24 years ago the work of the second (Indian) R. Commn was finished
And in this month this year it seems all to have to be done over again

f86
done over again
And in this month this year the work at St. Thomas’ Hospital seems all to have to be done over again after 27 years changing Matrons
And in this month this year my powers seem all to have failed & old age set in -

And in this month this year my work here seems as impossible as ever -

Justice And this is my Jubilee year Feb 7 1887

May the Father Almighty, Irresistible - for Love is irresistible - whose work & none other’s this is conduct it always, as He has done, while I have misconducted it -
May He do in us what He would have us do
incomplete letter, ff87-7v, pencil

**f87**

Ly Louisa Egerton  -2- {archivist: [bef. 14 Aug 1887]}

She did not say this in so many words, but another person did, that perhaps the higher kind of what we call ‘Ordinary Nurses’ would under supervision do the work in some parts as well as ladies - better than not highly competent ladies & some of a higher kind still of ‘Ordinary Nurses’ without supervision, as e.g. when one Nurse only is wanted in the country

I was struck by another thing my lady said,

**f87v**

that we have not yet succeeded in enlisting the better sort of trades women, that is women of tradesmen’s families, who generally lead, she said, the most useless or melancholic/uninteresting lives - unlike the lives of “ladies”, so improved in usefulness & interest in the last 30 years - & in what they are allowed by public opinion to do - while the little world of tradespeople does not allow any but the most energetic & individual - to be anything but “genteel” - The tradeswomen might lead such useful & interesting lives, if they would embark in the same sort of things - And she hoped it was coming

f88, {archivist: F.N.’s Criticisms on Plans sent by Louise, Grand Duchess of Baden for Hospital at Carlsruhe other papers destroyed on this subject}
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff89-91, pencil  [hosp80s]

f89
_Carlsruhe proposed Hospital_
{printed address:} Telegraph   Aug 28/87
Steeple Claydon, Bucks   Plans} {printed address: Claydon House,
   Sent you                  Winslow,
to day                     Bucks.

   Dear Sir Douglas Galton
      By your kind leave I
   send the G. Duchess of Baden’s
Plans for Clinique & Training School
for your criticism
   & also my notes which
are merely a Nurse’s Notes
   I hope that, however tiresome,
you will be so good as to
read them - as they must
have your criticism as well
as the plans -
   What you will do is to show
how these great defects can be

f89v
avoided or diminished
   I have taken up your time
too long
   & with love to Marianne &
      Gwendolyne
      pray believe me
      ever yours truly
      F. Nightingale

f90
   The first two pages, 1, 2,
are extracts from the Gd Duchess’
letter, necessary for understanding
the plans -
   A to H are mine
The plans were posted to-day
   to your address.
      F.N.
Training School

Upper Floor

Left hand Wing

- 9 beds
- 3 Windows
- Too little air for health

Supt: 1 bed
- 1 “
- Good

4 beds
- 1 “
- Not good

13 Stair-case
- Large window
- Good

Private Patients: Are they for men or women?

- 6 beds
- In 4 wards
- It seems good but same

Nurse 1 remark applies as to

3 bedded Ward, viz want of

ventilation - not even opposite

window in passage

Is not a Scullery wanted here?

W.C. Nurses one: Patients one: (If men, they must have one & women one)

Centre

18 Pupil Nurses appear to sleep here in 6 rooms

13 each

3 with only one window - & not an

uninterrupted window=ed Corridor opposite

Ample W. C. & Bath & Lavatory accommodation should be

provided for them [Certainly 4 Baths to 31 Nurses -]

No part of which of course should be used by Patients -

Ample Slop-sink accommodation also

It is considered better for each Nurse to have her own

washing apparatus, if possible, near her own bed - & for

this purpose each bed to have a window, & curtains to

make a compartment round each bed to be drawn far

back in the day-time. It is better still for each Nurse

to have a room to herself, however small, with a window

to herself - if possible. [end hosp80s]
unsigned letter, ff92-95v, pen & pencil

f92 {archivist: [Aug. 1887]}

Jubilee Fund see notes {the preceding not in FN’s hand}

Mr. Rathbone’s Memo

I see on p. (1) a pencil ? after ‘lady’ (Nurses)

which ? is I suppose yours

A little lower down comes, in pencil, “to train

“ladies & other intelligent women” -

[Mr. Rathbone has characteristically left out

Liverpool altogether (in this Memo) for training Nurses

not Superints

tho’, in his printed Memo, p.p. 2 & 3 , he has entered into it - viz. the training of Nurses as well as of ladies/Supts]

Practically, is it not the real difficulty of the whole affair? You cannot cook up your hares

f93

before you have caught them - You cannot

form your two new centres, er-at-er-pl

- much less "place out in new districts for work”,

your new Staffs - without trained “women”

as well as trained “ladies”

Hitherto Bloomsbury has trained only “ladies” for its own works, & has supplied Lady Supts to Liverpool (& elsewhere?)

Hitherto Liverpool is the only School of any importance which has actually trained “women” for District Nurses - [E. London’s, I presume, cannot be called trained women.]

Roughly speaking

M. & N. only trains ladies

Liverpool “ Nurses

where are these now to be trained? for the Jubilee Fund?

Would it be possible, as it would be so very desirable, for some Nurses (women) & Supts (ladies) to be trained together?

[Private - I have heard much from some of ours (from St. Thomas’) of the difficulties they found at first as Nursing Supts of Liverpool District work

These difficulties were very likely arose from themselves as much as from their Nurses

I am only noting what is however a very common experience in all Nursing Staffs not trained together]
A more practical remark is that Liverpool is really the only place which has large experience in District women = Nurses - the only place with which you, the “central school & agents” of the Jubilee Fund will have real, honest, systematic consultation & communication, (as compared, I mean, with the to be created “centres” of Edinburgh & Dublin)

Would not Liverpool be better to train the “other intelligent women”? - some of them at least? Bloomsbury certainly will not be able to train them all

I understand that Bloomsbury has expressed its willingness to train “women” as well as gentlewomen for the Jubilee Fund, if ‘room’ could be provided “in another house”. And possibly this awkward “St. Katharine’s” might provide that ‘room’ - tho’ it is rather far -
f95
p. (5) Mr. Rathbone’s Memo M.S.
   It is mentioned that “10 or 12” trained Nurses
   might be had sent out from Bloomsbury “yearly
   “or half yearly” - X X note And it is hoped that a
   “proportionate” number may be had from “ Dublin
   “& Edinburgh -
   This is certainly far better than Sir R. A. ‘s
   “1000! women in 2 or 3 years”!!
   [But it is not mentioned whether these
   are to be Supts or Staffs - “ladies” or “women”
   tho’ Mr. R. has entered into this rather
   fully in his printed Memo.
   Perhaps it is not wished to raise the
   question - And most certainly we ought
   not to raise difficulties, provided you are satisfied
   that the high standard of the M. & N. Nursing will be maintained
   But should we not have some clear
   idea in ourselves?] e.g. “10 or 12” trained
   Supts would be absurd & where are
   the trained women Nurses to come from?
   while “10 or 12’ would only make 2 or 3
   small Nursing Staffs - And ef are they to consist of
   ladies? Nursing Supts or pioneers are just what
   we fail in
   X X
   & agreeing to furnish these Nurses with a Nursing
   Supt.                   [end 13:789]

f95v {notes on ff92-5, not in FN’s hand}

unsigned notes, f96, pencil

f96       Sept. 1887
   It is His work
   not as an indulgent Father

He chooses to do nothing without us

{upside down}
Jacob wrestling
   & finding Him to be ‘Love’
   & himself blessed

f97, 1887, {archivist: notes &c by F.N. & 2 letters from Mrs. Sutherland}
f98, 1887, {archivist: Mrs. Sutherland to F.N.}
Add Mss 41977D

ff99-100v, Alleyn Park, October 18, 1887, from Mrs. Sutherland to F.N. thanking her for gifts sent and giving details of Dr. Sutherland’s illness

ff101-2v, October 30, 1887, telling of an improvement in Dr. Sutherland

f103, 188 [archivist: [Hints for Mr. Jowett’s health] He was ill at 10 South St this year October]

unsigned notes, f104, pencil [1:739-40]

f104
Meals - The rule for luncheon & dinner - is: to give
2 a whole hours at least to each - not for continuous eating but for
that function & digestion, before resuming the business
of life This ought really/certainly to be adhered too
An amusing book interesting enough to prevent the
thoughts from scraping about but not enough to excite the
labour of thought may be taken - &/or conversation
answers answering to this - or after lunch a little
easy walk.
but never hurry over the meal in ¼ hour -
All young meat, such as veal, is difficult of digestion Veal shd be prohibited
Eg Fish, game, poultry, mutton, were the articles put
down for his dietary
Stewed fruit is desirable 3 or 4 times a week, but probably

f105
better with luncheon than with dinner. Fruit is gold in
the morning, silver in the afternoon & lead at night is a proverb
But the main thing is to roll the food well about in the mouth
till it excites the saliva, & then it is/so becomes a pulp well incorporated with
the saliva before it is swallowed - And NEVER to drink with food in the mouth
which the main/great good of toast
Toast or a crust of bread is indispensable whether at
breakfast or dinner or lunch, as that must
be chewed ground with the teeth & chewed before being swallowed
It cannot be swallowed whole or nearly whole -
Avoid anything, including haste, that produces flatulence
I record with indignation that a plateful of jelly which is good
merely to take a little of when there is a bad taste in the mouth
is/was bolted by Mr. Jowett, standing up, in a plateful after a dinner of
fish - of course producing flatulence & sleeplessness
f105v
  Supplementary Instruction or for you to give Mr. Jowett - Information
  Much/Much better on the whole especially as to sleep thanks to some carefulness but too much inclined to presume on finding himself a little stronger than he was & to over tax himself, especially as these are the two heaviest weeks in the year in consequence of the fishing for men - He must not wait for signs of fatigue to appear for when such signs appear the mischief is already done - He works too late - He hurries his meals too much - He does not take exercise enough - yet he pays little Attention to cold

f106
  I say again : it matters very little what I think, It matters very much what Nature thinks - Nature sends in her Bill without asking whether you could not help it or no. And that is a Bill which always has to be paid. This is a supplementary Instruction merely to what has already been written

f107
  Exercise - It is very undesirable for Mr. Jowett to fatigue himself with walking - But ½ an hour a day cannot be considered enough fresh air - It is besides so very tiring to the brain to have always the same surroundings all day & all night - no break - no looking about. Take to driving - One drive cannot be supposed to supply air enough for 6 weeks - I hope Mr. Jowett takes care of his cough - & also record with indignation that he/Disapproval must be felt for his having heralded in his fortnight's fishing with coming to London on an early cold morning -

ff108-9v, Rushett, Faversham, November 7, 1887 from Mrs. John Howard to F.N. wishing to adopt a Persian cat
signed letter draft, ff110-1, pencil

f110
10 South St.  Park Lane W.  
Nov 18/87
Dear Madam
  First, let me thank you many times for your very kind note about Persian cats, & next let me ask many, many pardons for not having answered before, seeing I was unable to accept the most tempting invitation to send a kitten by your cook from Upper Berkeley St on the day you named, as I should so have wished By some mistake your note of the 7th arrived only a few hours before the 10th when your cook was to join you.  
  My only “he” is not a kitten but grown up, & is ‘boarding out’ in the country! I would have

f110v
had/sent for him back tho’ it could not have been in time to go by your cook to you; but I reflected that he was/is I fear too old/much grown up to be a good/nice companion for your children in the “School-room” or Nursery - My mouth waters at such a good home for a cat as yours - But I must be the more conscientious - I cannot conscientiously say that any cat I have now is a kitten - the more’s the pity -  
  But if you will allow me, I will claim the privilege when I have one/a kitten of asking you
f111
whether you would like it -
Pray excuse pencil - Possibly
Miss Irby may have told you
that I am always under the
stress of work & illness -
And pray believe me
yours very faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Mrs. John Howard

I will preserve your very
kind note as a Memo
that you are a lover of Persian
kittens for your children -
& would make a 'pet' of one -
F.N.

unsigned notes, ff112-4, pencil

f112
Nov 20, 21/87  6 a.m.
\{illeg\} The Lord = You are a broken vessel which can hold
\{illeg\} no water -
\{illeg\} "Come in, Lord Jesus, come into my heart now
There is no heart which I can come into - There is
nothing that I can enter into. *The heart is a sheet of
paper* - How can I enter in there? *a sheet of written
paper*, on which you write to others your grievances
& complaints & criticisms of others -
"O then Lord let me into Thy kingdom
He says,
Enter in.  Over
O then Lord

“I thirst, I faint, I die to prove
The greatness of redeeming love
The love of Christ to me”

O Lord, prove it - prove it Thy own way -
God only knows the love of God -
If Thou canst not enter into me, O give me a
place, let me enter into Thy kingdom

He will not refuse -

But I have no wedding garment
Save me & cleanse me
Save me & cleanse me
Wash all my sins away

Nov 21/87
He dragged me in at the door, into His kingdom
He knew he was the only One who could

cholera

Thursday Nov 17/87
Mr Cunningham: Letter to Lord Dufferin - They Could not find the Times (Galton) Cholera
Lizzie: indifferent
was I as bad?

Nov 21/87 The letter to Ld Dufferin - not yet written
O did I think what Cholera meant? Or was I merely thinking of writing a good letter?

Fire/Messenger
Punctuality
Cooking

Not what I am, O Lord, but what Thou art.
Not for my comfort but for Thy glory /love

Pray for
f114  Nov 23/87  
2-6 a.m. over night Miss Spencer, Miss Pringle
  Lord have we/I not done many wonderful works in Thy name?
I know you not; depart from me, ye wicked [I did it all for my
  own satisfaction,
  intense impression                     success
  or for sympathy]
Not what I am, O Lord, but what Thou art -
  Save me, rescue me - I have no offering to offer - It must be of
Thy own love -       I am 67
  Save her too, P. Mrs Neild
Shed peace into that sweet Saint’s heart, Miss Spencer - I can
do nothing for her - & strength & blessing to Miss Pringle
An oh write that Despatch to Govt of India
  & my letter to Ld Dufferin

{f115 is blank}

unsigned notes, ff115v-8v, pencil

f115v

1  Nov 29/87
“Bismark, “I remember at 14 thinking prayer needless,
“for it struck me then that God knew better than I -
“I think much the same now, except that the
“usefulness of prayer is in that it implies submission
“to a stronger power. I am convinced of that Power.
“which is neither arbitrary not capricious”
“Of a future life I do not doubt, the present is too sad
 & incomplete to answer to our highest selves, it is
evidently a struggle - then why in vain if it is to end
here; ultimate perfection I believe in”

f116

Bisk  “If Europe knew without doubt that England,
  Germany & Italy were firm allies, Peace would be
certain.”

Richmond : Friedrich’s ruh - “There is nothing
  artificial here - solid grandeur, simple dignified daily
work & interest make the atmosphere most agreeable
to me”     His Serene Highness
            Prince Bismark
            Friedrich’s ruh -
Bismark's remarks - of Nov 29/87
And is this all? Can Reason/Bismark do no more?

Is “prayer” only asking for what certainly God knows much “better than I” abt how to give?

Even the R. Catholic mystics knew more than this 3 centuries ago -

They said prayer is not to ask of God what we want but to ask of Him what He wants of us
And quite lately a Protestant has said:

The child must have a poor opinion of a Father's love who only communicates with his Father when he wants to get something out of him

Surely The “usefulness of prayer” is not because it “implies submission” to Power - even un=“arbitrary” power - but because it puts us into union with the interests, the life, the love of Almighty Goodness & Wisdom -

Is not this a want of thought in Bismark?

while the remark on a “future life” is capital

We have criticized very much Christ saying:

If ye shall ask the Father anything in my name, He will do it -

But what is “in my name”? Does He not speak with the exactest meaning?

“In my name” means with in union with ‘my’ interests, ‘my’ love, ‘my’ life - And these, He tells
us Himself, were always in union with the Father’s - Is it not therefore certain that the Father will act/do as Christ says?

unsigned notes, ff119-20v, pencil

Mrs. Scharlieb Nov 29/87 [10: some notes in]
free quarters
200 r a month stamped agreement for 2 or 3 years
Lady for Ahmedabad renewable
furnished home free
servants food 50r a m
Tamil Sanitary book up to 100
free passage out back
remaining languages if required to visit
5 years conveyance to the Patients
English Lady Doctor provided
does not know the languages careful to have it drawn up

In Presidency towns all but the old fogies will have Men Doctors
Mahometans of course will have only women/women but then they de won’t take English medicine only Greek
In the country ?? ladies
Native midwives ?? forthcoming a year hence Miss Hashew
Miss Scott Matron Madras
R. Victoria Hospl ？
Miss Stewart Bombay Matron

Books for Lady Dufferin
Playfair for Drs
Barnes Art & Science of Midwifery
Falconer. L.R.C.P. for Madras for 1st Class
Lady Drs
his book for Midwives to recommend to Lady D
f120v
No of abnormal Midwy cases inert uterus bad hæmorrhage
1 in 10
Miss Pechey - not more than in England
Time for Midwife’s training
Miss Pechey: 3 mo 1 year
Dr. Branfoot
Madras

then what does she do with abnormal cases?

any Statistics of abnormal cases at
English Lying- in Hospls?
in India?
Lady Grant Duff {the following notes are written on the side}
BP Supt for each Presy
European = Lady Doctor
Lady Doctor for each large
town or group of towns
natives
or Eurasians are being trained
to order
3 Decens ought to train the Dhais
not examine
them {written on the other side}
Miss Cock
Miss Buss {written at the bottom}
Miss Pringle
any Nurses to
out=door Obstetric cases
Add Mss 41977D

unsigned letter draft, ff121-22v, pencil

**f121**
Dr Cunningham Dec 1/87
Bangalee
plains people no observation
can’t tell you what they see
splendid memories
book learning
Medical students can’t tell you what
they

will look at a photograph upside down
can’t trace his journey on a map

sitting on bamboo bridge over open drains

no public spirit

**f122v**
Bhooteas: hill people: Turanian
powers of observation
deputation
photographs
maps

Eastern - no sense of individuality
Absorption
does not care to die/live - gives himself
up to die, without much the matter
with him - race : realism
Nirvana

Kismet: fate
does not signify what you do
local deities
Dec 13/87

Dear Madam

Mr. Richmond wrote me a most kind note about your charming daughter of 19 some time ago - telling me about her great wish to learn Hospital Nursing & asking me to see her -

I seemed so ungrateful to him; but it was not so - I answered as soon as I could, & wrote to him submitting the very strong reasons there are, moral & physical, against so young a lady being introduced to Hospital life even for a time too early - & offering to see her, when I could.

I am most anxious to make her

Thanks for letter & question Jubilee is to jubilate over fifty years progress in education civilization/2 and purity/1 under good Sovereign. this cannot be jubliated over in public houses. Pray suggest way out of it -

Nightingale
Signora Elena Comparetti  
Calle del Ridotto  
Madam Venezia  
Accept my earnest apologies for not having answered your letter sooner. My strongest sympathy is with you, with Italy, with this first attempt at Padua to form an Italian Nursing School. I have been making enquiries in order to be able to answer your questions rather more worthily  
1. as to books to translate which you wish/might be useful to translate for Nursing purposes.  
I send a copy of my Notes on Nursing as you kindly desire. But it was translated some 25 years ago by Sabilla Novello with my But it is however so long ago that I believe I might again grant leave to translate it if you wish it  
{written along the side} in the special conditions of the Hospl question in Italy where you see all has to be done.  
I also send a copy of my some “Suggestions” which perhaps might be of some use to you for translation. I have drawn the pen thro’ the second part relating to District Nursing in order not to confuse the two subjects.  
It has also been suggested to me to send you my Articles in Qua out of Quain’s Dictionary which I do - & another little pamphlet. Also a book on Nursing by Miss Wood’s Handbook of Nursing. This is all I have to suggest at present in answer to your kind question.
2 next as to sending a person an Italian to be trained in some English or Swiss Institution

This is the difficulty, as you say
You ask about Switzerland
We have made particular Berlin enquiries as to Nurse Training there, but can find nothing organized to answer your purpose - a few lectures, that is all. In fact they send their Nurses to be trained here
I should/might I suggest that it would be of advantage to send some intelligent lady who understands English well to pay a visit to London & she might learn more in a few weeks of the system than in any other way.

& might satisfy herself as to how far it would be possible for a Roman Catholic to submit to the routine of Hospital training here.
There are London Hospitals which admit Roman Catholics, for training, but scarcely as a part of the regular organization. Besides as you say it would not do to clash with the ideas of the public in Italy.
St. Thomas' Hospital in London is, as you possibly may know, our own Training School for Nurses - And we have from time to time sent from there Matrons to Dublin & Belfast in Ireland to take charge of Training Schools - I have even
written to the most considerable
of these to know whether they
would take in an Italian
as a ‘Probationer’ - They certainly
would. Still it could not/scarcely
be recommended it. There are/is no
country belonging to
England where division &
party spirit in religion runs
higher.
As to the Male Nurses: spoken of almost as if they were on a par with Female Nurses,
So far as our practice goes
we do not as a rule employ
male nurses in General Hospitals
It is very probable that men
nurses may be usefully
employed in Italian Hospitals
where the habits are so different

But we have not the experience
here to guide them, beyond
what may be drawn from
female Nursing & Military Hospitals
And the latter does not go for
much
Your letter, I as I am ashamed to think dated how long ago. did not reach me at once - I am always under the severe pressure of overwork & illness Then I had to make enquiries - This is only to excuse to your kindness my unwilling delay I trust I am not too late to be of use - May the proposed Institution at Padua, may Italy make the astonishing steps in Nurse training that she has done in everything else. But let her be ‘slow & sure’ - You have my best wishes for your success

How Padua & Venice live in my memory - as the perfection of beauty - May they be as useful as they are lovely is the warmest wish of your ever faithful servant

F.N.

I should be so glad to hear from you if you will kindly tell me what steps you are taking.
Despatch

In 20 Cantonments where Contagious Diseases Acts, over the supervision of prostitutes was in force still, ratio of Admissions rose in 1885 (from the last illeg decade?) & in one of these Bareilly rose to 527 in 1885 more than half the entire garrison in the course of the year men wi once affected with the more serious diseases are have to be invalided within 3 years.

But (he argues) it’s because Act not Sufficiently put in force while in Calcutta where Act is suspended it’s because it is suspended

31 per 1000 of population treated for Venereal within Calcutta Hosps in 1885 - only 7 in 1873

{f131 is blank}

Fault of water supply in Hill Stations the too high mortality

Abnormal sickness & mortality in Qualton Enteric & all Fevers appear to be increasing a third of entire mortality of Army in India due to Fevers “A young Army involves, as one of its conditions of service, the most rigid attention to every Sanitary requirement”

Runchorelal Chotalal Pres Ahmedabad
Despatch -2- if the mortality might by sanitation
be reduced by 10 only in the 1000
of 2 ½ millions preventible Deaths annual to late
50 “ severe sickness/disease
working power of the community seriously impaired by disease

f132
fever mortality of India within the last few years
represents fever attacks several times over the entire
population

of registered Deaths for 1885 78 p.c. due to preventible disease
38 millions Deaths
in the last 10 years

f133

f133v
villages 19? rural areas

one Sany Engineer
don’t exclude 2 or 3 Ld D has prevented
3 or 4 Par 20 doubling up of
most excellent San Comm
San Comm

After 25
go into action
for rural areas
see end of 27

26 ? 1879
Make where general pop begins
more prominent

p.12 Para 13

f134 is blank
Dear Lady N,

What can be said to such a parting as yours from dear blessed Lothian but that it cannot be believed that such love can be broken off all suddenly as it were. Rather may we not think of it as more intense than ever & that he is begging & praying of you not to allow grief to turn your love to loneliness - praying you to be still happy/blessed in his love - & his children too.

God bless He sends you these roses - God bless & support you all.

Roses in Lothian’s dear name
to his wife

Aug 17
Dear Mr. Morey
Sir Harry did look so cold. (for the Funeral)
Has he warm under-clothing on? or will he wear a cloak? No one but you could persuade him.
The day is not warm
F.N.
Muff - a Persian tom cat about between 3 & under 4 months old
has been brought up for cleanliness with a pan - with
an inch or two of fine dry sand in it - emptied every night
& morning a clean pan put into the room where he sleeps
in at night - & a clean one ready for him in the morning
But he could of course be brought up to other ways Only he must not be
He is always brought in at night & shut up in a
room not too cold (where he cannot throw down any
thing) for the night as these cats suffer from cold
punished if he is dirty till he gets accustomed to the new ways
He is a remarkably clean cat - has never made a mistake
in fact
He is so affectionate that he needs to be petted & caressed
& talked to. And he will require it amply Mufti has
been to me a great pet

He requires to go out in the garden & if not to have fresh grass brought him in the house
No cats are healthy without grass -
He will be happier if/when shut up if with a she cat
But two Tom cats are impossible
His meals He has been fed as follows
Breakfast 8 a m milk bread & milk
Luncheon 11 sometimes a little sop of bread
in beef tea or broth
but this not necessary
Dinner 2 meat chopped up small with
remains of cauliflower or asparagus
or potato or carrot
or chicken bones
or remains of fish
Tea  5    milk
Supper  8    same as dinner
but too much meat not good for these 
cats - 
no sauce or seasoned food or dressed fish 
or meat pie food ever 
Bed  10    milk left on floor for him 
& perhaps a little supper 
Always fresh water in some vessel he can’t upset 
put on floor for him at night : & indeed in the day 
where he can get at it in the house room he is most 
often in -

f137v

He always eats on/from a plate or saucer on the floor (with a 
little cloth (a newspaper) under it like a gentleman 
most sociable animal I ever had 
a little combing & brushing now & then 
  improves their/his coat very much
He has once or twice had something like a fit, rushing about 
& then hiding himself - But if taken on the knee or 
laid on something & covered up quiet, head & all, in the 
dark & {illeg} has always recovered directly
Oct 26
Dear Emily
Would you kindly see that Mrs. Verney’s temperature is taken to night, & indeed every night? Dr De’Ath is not afraid of feverishness, but he would like to know to-morrow what her temperature was to-night.

yours
F. Nightingale

Saturday
Dear Emily
The Inhaler & Friar’s Balsam & directions were to come from Dr. De’ath tonight (for Mrs Verney to use to-night if she coughed) to Verney Junction.
But you have an inhaler - could you get some Friar’s Balsam from Mr. Morey or Mrs. Broadhurst?

yours
F. Nightingale
Add Mss 41977D

Add Mss 59786, unbound materials, miscellaneous notes, drafts and letters, Adam Matthew reel 86

f1 ISC printed “Letter from Miss Nightingale”

f2 Table showing the rates of deaths per 1000 living at different ages. Note in FN hand: To be returned to F.N.

f3 Lord Herbert diagram, with FN corrections

f4 FN note: Cost of Regimental Surgeons for 1864/65
(not to be had for 1854/54)
excluded from the Estimates
  Regimental surgeons 142 at 15/a day £38,872.10
  " Asst Surgeons 176 at 10/ a day 32,120
  Additional Pay for Ditto 14,920

\[
\begin{align*}
85,954.10 \\
4,751.1.8 \\
90,735.11.8
\end{align*}
\]

Numbers of men
  119,000 1853/4
  146,000 1864/5

f6 Diagram representing the relative annual mortality ... printed, with FN corrections, used for comparison before and since Lord Herbert’s admin, pastes in several years of data

f8 Letter from W Farr to FN 17 Jan 1866 ff8-9, embossed General Register Office embossed stationery with note on method of determining prison mortality for Dr S., she to look through and a note from Quetelet. I enclose a note on the method of determining prison mortality for Dr Sutherland who will perhaps look through it and tell me to whom I am to address it.
You will perhaps like to glance through the enclosed note from Quetelet as he refers in it to a letter I wrote long ago mentioning the loss of the dear friend we all deplore,
You may perhaps recollect that you had the goodness tonight to Lord Palmerston who chief at your instance Lord Shaftesbury said put down Dr Thomson’s widow’s or children name for a pension from the civil list. Lord S told me that it would count from last year--so that the poor woman will be disappointed as well as deprived of pension if Lord John does nothing.
....P.S. Some of our best men have been helping the cattle plague problem I have thus left in with rough handy. Would that any good would come of it But I put no trust in illeg.
and re Palmerston.

f8v
You may perhaps recollect that you had the goodness to right [yes!!] to Lord Palmerston-who chief at your instance Lord Shaftesbury said put down Dr Thomson’s widow’s or children name for a pension from the Civil List. Lord S told me that it would count from last year, so that the poor woman will be ....
PS re cattle plague
black-edged paper letter from Quetelet to W Farr in French 14 Janv 1866 re English stats and international stats. When you think of going to Florence ..my health, re Dr Berg. I thank you for English Life Tables 59786 f10.

W Farr embossed GRO letter to FN encloses paper on jail mortality Jany 18 1866

Jan 19 1866 Farr to FN thanks for her letter, India report, hare and pheasants, embossed Gen Reg

March 14 1866 W Farr letter to FN re her forms, embossed Gen Reg. We have one copy of your forms. You cannot give that away--but may lend it. It will serve as a model to be copied in either illeg or print by hosp governors. I have had a note from Dr S who I am glad to see is returned from Algeria.

I have looked over “Statistique centrale de prisons.” They calculate the mortality at so much percent per annum, on the mean prison population. There is nothing in their sanitary forms

letter from Robt Hamilton, Southern Hosp, Liverpool to J Sutherland re adopting Classification of Diseases rec by FN, asks for forms, FN: to the returned to F.N. Jan 18 1866

We are desirous of adopting at this hospital the classification of diseases recommended by Miss Nightingale and for that purpose require the forms which she sent round a few months ago (we have mislaid ours) not knowing where to address her, I trouble you on the subject, perhaps you would kindly put me in the way of obtaining them. Yours obediently Robert Hamilton. Jan 16 1866

note JS hand re classif of diseases

letter Jan 30 1866 from Robt Hamilton, 1 Prince’s Rd, Liverpool to FN thanks for her letter recd today (missing) and forms. I have referred to your work on hospitals and one of the forms there given for the registering of hosp cases are adopted at our medical board last Saturday. FN note: To be returned to F.N.
f19 Feb 22 1866 W Farr letter to FN, re cattle panic, fruitless slaughter, asks for a line to say she is, hope better, embossed Gen Reg. I shd be glad when convenient to have one line to say how you are...We have been saying a word or two about he cattle panic and fruitless slaughter. I wrote a letter in the Daily News wh you did not see and with which you wd not entirely agree. The panic wd not have sprung up if we had known more about the matter and the cattle had been insured on a plan I sent G. wh he gave to Childers of the Treasury, where it was kept until the evil was done. He proposed to take the “premium” 5d per head of cattle and to pay anything in return unless the beast was slaughtered by order of inspector.

f20 March 16 1866 W Farr letter to FN re French prison returns, asks if cd not take list of diseases for her book, with annexed instructions, to accompany form, embossed Gen Reg. Cd not they take their list of diseases from your book with the annexed illeg/ Something like the accompanying form of sheet would do. If you will return anything you wish sent (unpaid post) we will forward the same from here. I have looked through the French prison returns. Our form containing all that they give and a good deal more. Mortality frightful!

f20v FN note pencil on back of Farr letter.

Walker has sent exactly what you asked for - & you make me ask Ellis for it And Ellis (as usual) has not done it & Walker has.
I beg your pardon- Ellis told us of this in this house.
You said: Walker, who was the Secretary to that, would not have sent you the M.S. (which you made me send to Lord Stanley) if it had not been necessary. What Ellis says (you said) does not alter the question- And you made me ask both Walker & Ellis for that then why did you make me write for that after Ellis

Write in pencil for me to write. This pencil lead is much better than mine. I am so very poorly.

f22 Robt. Hamilton letter to FN re hosp forms 21 May 1866, thanks her for several forms and papers she kindly sent.
“Carrying out the suggestions contained in your letter we shall be able with these papers to arrange a classification of cases as complete as we require.
We hope also that the arrangement will be in conformity with that adopted in several large Hospitals and so be available in a Statistical point of view." thanks esp for Bart Hosp report, a useful guide as Southern essentially an accident hosp

f24 March 28 1866 W. Farr letter to FN re Pall Mall attack of mgt of Fund, embossed Gen Reg. You have probably seen in the Pall Mall an attack on the mgt of your Fund, not emanating from St Thomas. I have a man here who wishes to write an article on the subject, if you think it wd be of any use. He has written to H.B. Carter and do not take the trouble to write unless you have anything.

f25 Robt. Hamilton, 1 Prince’s Road, Liverpool letter to FN re her letter of 24th (missing) and the two tables for operations reg. “We shall adopt them at the hospital and have sufficient particulars of the operations since January to be able to do so for this year.” March 28 1866
I have to ack your note of the 24th and the two tables for ops (reg). We shall adopt them at the hosp and have sufficient particulars of the ops since Jan to be able to do so for this year.
With many thanks for the great assistance you have afforded us in improving our registers.

f27 Aug 2 1866 embossed Gen Reg W Farr letter to FN re outbreak of cholera in East London, alas that we have no such organization as you would have produced. The case against the water is very strong. We are going to publish daily returns.
You will see that we have had a terrible outbreak of cholera in East London. Alas that we have no such organization as you cd have produced. The case against the water is very strong. We are going to publish daily returns.

f29 Sep 14 1866 embossed Gen Reg W Farr letter to FN re cholera down in London. “You will be glad to see that we have got cholera down in London. It ought not to have broken out. The Manchester Social Sc meeting is to come off Oct 3 -10th. Have any of your colleagues time to give any account of the results of your labors in India?

f30 Oct 17 1866 embossed Gen Reg W Farr
“I notice that your letters are post dated Romsey. To save time shall I send the inf which I wish you to see direct to Romsey?

F31v FN pencil note on back:
What the demand of the demander is has to be considered (in any question of progress) as much as the means of obtaining the supply.
In all questions of reform, you have to create the demand as well as the supply.
Hospital Governors & Doctors are such fools that, were there 200 places matronships at £150 a year to be given away--the most helpless brother’s & cousin’s widows would certainly have them.
f32 Nov 17 1866 embossed Gen Reg W Farr letter to FN. I enclose “article” as per order of today and I trust that it will answer your purpose.

with pencil note of JS on back

Dr Farr, In order to help on with the sanitary work here please send me the diseases, esp the zymotic ones which make up the Romsey death rate

f34 Farr letter to FN embossed Gen Reg Nov 29 1866

I enclose the calculated mortality for various diseases, and am ever your faithful servant

f36 embossed GRO Nov 29 1866

“I do remember the card, and when I get a copy of the proposed figures, which I am promised, will not forget to send it on to you.

Did you see in the Times of Tuesday a notice of the frightful amount of sickness in the 23rd at Juffulpore. I fear that there has been some juggling more than real work on some of the depts, or why is this regiment suffered to remain in such circumstances in such a station. I forbear from suggesting a note of interrogation, lest you shd consider yourself answerable for all that is left undone in India.

Thank God--cholera is down and I think that we shall now keep it down.

I know your fidelity to Lord Palmerston of old--and cannot help suspecting from paragraphs I see in the papers that some conspiracy is hatching, or being hatched. I do not know which, in the Island of illeg which Dr Mapleton has celebrated (vide polytheism). The spirit of good appears to be as restless in some people as the spirit of evil in others! There is a reflection!

Dr Mouat has referred his reports on Indian prisons to me, and I am going to look through them at his request...PS Wd you like to be troubled by the weekly at Embley?

f38 Dec 18 1866 embossed. Wm Farr to FN Will you take the trouble to glance over ... Mr Constance; JS draft reply. Dear Dr Farr, Your note about Mr Constance “in ’Middlebury’ is not the first card of the kind that has come to me, but you have only put your man up for secretary, while the elections are not in secrecy and general superintendent, an officer of a very different character. I have always refused in a heavily backed application that the sup for hospital must not only be a competent man, but must have had training and that in my position should do to recommend any ....

f41 Dec 31 1866 Farr to FN embossed Gen Reg

A happy new year to you! Happy as it can only possibly be made by consciousness of high beneficent life.

I enclose the proof of P Stat wh I wish you to see before I send my answer.

In re Constance, you did quite right not to stir w/o personal knowledge of the candidates’ qualifications. You know that I think well of him as a man and he has plenty of the right sort of courage, but he has not been tried in the office of supt any more than his rival Watson.

His prospects he tells me are good.

Sutherland promises me something good about cholera, resulting from his Gibraltar investigations. The Mediterranean medicine was never more imbecile [?] than it is in the present day, if we may judge from its display in Constantinople the other day. The Foreign Office refuses to send the Reg Gen a copy of their report.

JS note

f43 Husson to FN 11 Oct 1866 from Assistance publ. In London visit was at King’s College Hosp, midwifery. Lors do mon dernier voyage a Londres j’ai visite a KCH, le service d’accouchement qui a
ete fonde par votre generosite et comme je vais publier bientot une statistique tres etendue de la mortalite des femmes en couches, en Europe, je ne voulai omettre ce service, ainsi Je susite ileg pour que le Dr Priestley ou les administrateurs de l'hop vouluent bien me remettre la staistique des services ileg de l'hop pour les accouchements. Je tenai d’ ileg plus a en parler que l’ ileg d’un service interieur de ce genre ileg singlante ..les hopitaux ileg de Londres ileg de Dr Priestley les chiffres que je desirais mais qui les reporter au questionnaire qu ileg avai remi, et je ..... 

Dans la reponse a mon questionnaire qui s’applique a la nature ileg:
Le service d’accouchement de l’hopital de King’s College est une. charitable attachee a ileg . Il a ete fonde -- ..[long quote]
Et plus loin: “Les cas ordinaires ...sages-femmes....
Il semble d’abord qu’il a ..

Y a til des eleves sage femmes? Sans elles a l’interieur
[seems like Husson asking FN to get data for him Priestley would not provide]
f45 Nov 21 1866 embossed Gen Reg W Farr letter to FN, encloses calculations on mortality from various diseases
with a pencil note of JS on back

Here are true vital statistics which appear to indicate a generally depressed state of health and liability to epidemics if they are about
Could you prepare a sanitary sketch of the state of the town illeg drainage, water, cesspits crowding, paving, cleansing, the conditions of the houses &c
We want facts before we can answer at a illeg opinion as to what should be done.

f43 11 oct 1866 Assistance publique Paris A. Husson letter to FN, “Miss” in French 59786 f43, on last trip to London visited King’s College Hosp, midwifery (le service d’accouchement), founded by your quixotité. as I am going to publish bientot stats very widely extended of mortality of women in childbirth in Europe I wish ...visited Dr Priestley and the administrators of the hosp, re stats of service... re assistance of an interior service [this is a long, detailed letter, with questions] quotes reply to his questions, asks if there are student sages-femmes, asks if a school [seems does not know that the school/ward to be closed], also re workhouse

Je viens seulement de recevoir du Dr Priestley les chiffres que j’ désirais, ainsi sur les réponses au questionnaire que je suis avais remi, illeg je vois des remerciements à ce jeune médecin qui m’a paru très capable et très sympathique.

Dans la réponse à mon questionnaire qui s’applique à la nature du service on dit:
Le service d’accouchement de l’hôpital de King’s Collège est une fondation charitable attachée à l’école médicale de King’s Collège, Il a été fondé au moyen d’une parti des fonds illeg en l’honneur de Miss Nightingale, après la guerre de Crimée, et dans l’intention de former des sages-femmes pour la province. Mais tous les cas difficiles sont admis à l’intérieur pour servir de ces cliniques our l’instruction des étudiants.” et plus loin:
Les cas ordinaires .... [nothing on mortality]
Les cas ordinaires....on his last visit tried to present his hommages...

f46 memo to FN from Arrowsmith Bristol, at request of Miss A. Manning [?] sends revise for Indian journal

f47 printed form of Association for promoting Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries and Sick Asylums, pres HRH Princess Mary Adelaide, duchess of Teck; gen com: Acland, Surgeon General Bostock, Bowman, Countess Brownlow, Rev H de Bunsen, Lady Edward Cavendish, Lady Frederick Cavendish, Rev Dacre Craven, Countess of Ducie, Lady Camilla Fortescue, Miss Fortescue, Mrs Fox, Mrs Henry Grenvfell, Mrs Russell Gurney, Hon Mrs Vaughan Johnson, duchess of Leeds, Hon
Mrs Loyd Lindsay, Mrs Frederick Paget, Mrs C Whitworth Russell, marchioness of Salisbury, Mrs Hugh Seymour, Dr Sieveking, Rev Canon Spence, Lady Sarah Spencer, dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley, Lady Jane Taylor, Dr E Symes Thompson, Rev W.T. Thornhill Webber, working committee incl Constance marchioness of Lothian. Then printed statement, re training workhouse nurses. Council of Nightingale Fund, ex Highgate.... “This paper was read at meeting of house of Constance, marchioness of Lothian, 10 Hyde Park Pl 25 July 1879

Friday July 9. probably 1880

f51 printed form Assoc for promoting Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries and Sick Asylums, pres Princess Mary Adelaide, duchess of Teck, first Annual meeting, 9 July [1880] Kent House Knightsbridge, by permission of Louisa, Lady Ashburton, resolution proposed:
1. That as the Workhouse test is now being advantageously extended, it is desirable that the Workhouse Infirmaries shd be in all respects fitted to receive sick inmates and that a sufficient staff of trained nurses be employed to ensure their more efficient care and speed cure.
2. That as the working committee find great difficulty in obtaining properly trained nurses to meet the numerous applications they receive from boards of guardians, it is desirable that this association should train nurse probationers and therefore it is necessary to form a fund for this purpose.
3. That it is desirable to extend by all possible means the co-operation of private voluntary aid with the Poor Law machinery, in order to promote the objects of this Association.

f52 letter to FN 25 02 1881 C.E. Trevelyan letter to FN from embossed 8 Grosvenor Cres, re trained nursing for poor, with FN comments. FN und. Blue: Please return to F.N.

As I am sure you will not be indifferent to the undertaking wh has for its object to extend to the body of the people, of terms quite within their means and consistent with habits of independence and self respect, the adv of medical tr on the same satisfactory footing on which is now enjoyed by the rich, I venture to ask your perusal of the accompanying papers. The duke of Westminster and Mr Jones Lloyd have each taken 500 shares in the subsidiary financial company and the duke expressed a wish that a nursing assoc shd be engrafted on the undertaking, to which I replied that he wd see from the 9th Rule at page 15 that each dispensary will be a nursing venture in connection with any local arrs there may be for this special object, for it was considered that the machinery wd work with more freedom [FN und and added ?] if every dispensary committee was left to make the best arrs they cd with nursing associations, parish nurses or whatever other available means there mt be, than if we confined ourself to the reg of a single nursing assoc.... also send printed letter bearing on the interest medical men in the matter

[on top, blue pencil]
Please return to F.N.

f53, “Is it “freedom” we want or efficiency?”

ff54-55 Nov 26 1881 Louisa Twining letter to FN re a conference on extension of work. Assoc for Promoting Training Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries [printed stationery] Twining hon sec, patron Prss Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, pres Prss Mary Adelaide, duchess of Teck. FN und. I shd like to tell you about and enlist yr sympathy for a conference wh has for its object the extension of our work in wh I know we have yr kind interest and helpful advice...asks for “a few words of further encouragement wh can be read at the meeting “ how welcome it will be

“I should like to tell you about, and enlist yr sympathy for, a Conference wh has for its object the
extension of our work, in wh I know we have yr kind interest and helpful advice, I dare say you think it long since we have shown any signs of life--as I am not aware of any notice of our annual meeting in May ever reached you. I left England immediately after for 3 months rest abroad and left all the work to others.

In the course of one year and half’s experience, various difficulties [4 red und] as you may suppose have arisen and finding that they really block our way for further progress [red und] it was suggested that we should boldly bring them before a conference of Guardians & influential person who have the power in their hands [red unds]. This good suggestion of Lady Mary Scott’s was adopted, and I am glad to say it can take place at the new Marylebone Infirmary [red und] wh I feel we can in most [Twining und] respects (not [ref und] all [Twining und]) hold up as a standard under Miss Vincent’s excellent management. I am glad to say we have recommended 4 or 5 nurses to her from our Register.

I have written a paper on this conference wh no doubt will be printed and so bring the matter still further before the public. I doubt not we shall have a good attendance.

If you shd feel able and inclined to send us a few words of further encouragement wh can be read at the meeting I need not say how welcome it will be.

ff56-65 is report of that conf, with FN Report of a Conference held at the Board Room of the St Marylebone Infirmary to consider the question of Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries. Association for Promoting Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries. Conf 8 Dec 1881 20 pp. Has 1 page letter by FN, input into pub letters because charge of 12 for 1 page, letter read by L. Twining p 9

f57 printed form for 1st annual meeting of Friday July 9th [1879] check a Friday] to consider 3 resolutions:
1. That as the Workhouse test is now being advantageously extended, it is desirable that the Workhouse Infirmaries should be in all respects fitted to receive sick inmates, and that a sufficient staff of Trained Nurses be employed, to ensure their more efficient care and speedy cure.
2. That as the Working Committee find great difficulty in obtaining properly trained Nurses to meet the numerous applications they receive from Boards of Guardians, it is desirable that this Association should train Nurse Probationers, and therefore it is necessary to form a fund for this purpose.
3. That it is desirable to extend by all possible means the co-operation of private and voluntary aid with the Poor Law machinery, in order to promote the objects of this Association.

Letter of FN read by Louisa Twining to the Conference held at the Board Room of the St Marylebone Infirmary to consider the question of Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries. London: Association for Promoting Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries. 59786 f56

f60 letter read by Louisa Twining at a meeting 8 December 1881 [6:478-79]

Miss L. Twining, Hon. Sec. of the Association for Promoting Trained Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries [note phc3]

My dear Madam

Pray let me thank you for, and heartily rejoice at, the information which you so kindly give me respecting the proposed conference on the subject of trained nurses in workhouse infirmaries.

I am sadly afraid that it is not possible to me to answer your appeal, as I should wish, to any good purpose. Your association and your efforts have--I need hardly say how much--my warmest and
deepest sympathy in the aim they have set before them, to introduce trained nursing into these immense homes for the sick poor. Much good will, I am sure, arise from your practical work in providing nurses, but yet more by your having induced inquiry and discussion on this vital and mortal subject (for it is a subject of life and death, of recovery to work or pauperism for life in many cases), and by the more living interest which you have thereby aroused on the part of many who have hitherto been ignorant both of the evils existing and the remedies required.

All of us who have the work at heart must be deeply and truly grateful to the Guardians of Marylebone for the enlightened example which they have set in the organization of the nursing staff of this noble infirmary (said by those of the Americans who had been all over the two worlds in search of the best model, who were at the International Medical Congress last August, to be the first in the world).

It is not merely that the have employed solely paid nurses, but that they have acted on the sound because common-sense principle—first, that a nurse’s duties can only be learned by a thorough and systematic training, and can only be efficiently performed by good, trustworthy women, and secondly, that no staff of women can either be properly chosen or, when chosen, can properly be superintended, that is kept at the best standard of nursing, unless the head of the staff herself possesses the qualifications of a first-rate nurse in addition to the requisite administrative capacity.

Our great want now is a training school for infirmary nurses. Would that the Marylebone Board under its present most able administration could see their way to supplementing their good work by the addition to the infirmary of such a training school. Good speed to the work is the unceasing fervent wish of,

your and its ever faithful servant
Florence Nightingale

f66 Apr 21 1885 James Paget letter to FN with St Bart’s report, he used her name in the pamphlet. I shall send you today a pamphlet in which I have ventured to use your name. And in sending it I am ...

printed pamphlet. St Bartholomew’s Hospital and School Fifty Years Ago 31 pp. An address to the Abernethian Society. P 26 refs to nurses, sisters were good: The ordinary nurses were not so; the greater part of them were rough, dull, unobservant [27] and untaught women; of the best it cd only be said that they were kindly, and careful and attentive in doing what they were told to do.” Nursing then and never had been the subject of careful study. Orders. “It was not till twenty years later, in the Crimean War, that Miss Nightingale showed what might be done in hospitals by highly cultivated, courageous and benevolent gentlewomen, and the noble example which she showed had, I think, more influence than anything else that can be told of in the production of the happy changes in the midst of which you work.”

f84 July 5 1886 letter to FN from Octavia Hill, 14 Nottingham Pl, W. thanks for hers and for generous gift, sends “Letter to my Fellow-Workers” with accounts for 1884 and 1885 letters 59786 f84, [date not perfectly clear] FN gave a “generous gift” to Octavia Hill for use on her “far flock.” Letter 5 July 1886 to Nightingale from Octavia Hill, Add Mss 45786 f84. FN underlining. P7 has ref to need for poor to get away from smoke and see the sun setting in coloured glory wh abounds so in the earth God made, but of which so small a share remains visible to the inhabitants of our huge town. Thank you most sincerely for your generous gift, which was most welcome and for the letter which accompanied it. I shall be delighted to avail myself of the former for some of my large flock and the letter I shall always prize. Such words of enc from one worker to another are a great cheer, helping on the not always smooth path that lies before those who have anything to do wh is really worth doing.
I send with the greatest pleasure a few of my "Letters" which I suppose are what you have happened to see. If you referred to any other paper kindly let me know.

April 1859 FN sent her “mite” to the Neapolitans, after consulting Monckton Milnes.

f93 copy of FN letter to Fred Verney re Health at Home 17 Oct 1879, 59786 f93, original in 68887 f22

f95 Appendix B Memorandum from Indian committee of last International Congress of Hygiene and Demography. Signed by Douglas Galton (chairman of organizing com of ICH) George Birdwood, W.H. Corfield, W. Robt Cornish, W Guyer Hunter, W.J. Moore, Dadabhai Naoroji, G.V. Poore, W. Wederburn, Thomas Holbein Hendley, that the insanitary conditions of the rural villages in India is a very serious evil and that active measures are reqd to obviate the existing injury to public health, re funds raised and spent, only small portion spent on village san and water supply, removal of present san evils in the rural villages is the first necessity as regards these village, shd be a first charge on the cess raised in that village; “Until the minimum of sanitation is completed, until the cess of that particular village has been appropriated to this, while typhoidal or choleraic disease is still prevalent, it appears to the undersigned that the claims for any general purposes shd be postponed.” good local communications are desirable, but second in importance to removal of insan conditions wh are undermining the health of the rural pop

f98 typed copy of FN letter to T.G. Clarke (dup) re Balaclava anniv

f103 note poss by Sutherland on Alex Soyer, was trained to be choir boy at Cathedral of Meaux, parents wanted him to be a priest. Born at Meaux in 1895...
I would like to see you for half an hour before the post goes out tomorrow, but not while Mr MacDonald is there. If you are not well enough, will you tell me, & I will come to you either this evening or tomorrow morning?

Florence Nightingale

I have the very great pleasure of congratulating you upon your promotion-

Mr Herbert says "Dr McGrigor's promotion will go out to him next week. "You had better however not know it. As it will be attributed to you, & there will be jealousy and dissatisfaction."

Pray therefore do not mention this even to Mr Bracebridge.

It is the only pleasant news I had yesterday.

Florence Nightingale

February 21/55
Sir

My niece Miss Nightingale has desired me to send her thanks for the Photograph you have been so kind as to send her. She regrets that she is unable herself to write from illness.

I beg to remain, Sir
your obedt Servt
M. Smith
Add Mss 41977D

Add Mss 62711 1 fragment f29

10 South St.
Park Lane W.
Oct 1/79

with Florence Nightingale’s thanks
Messrs Isbister
July 17/67
35 South Street [printed address]
   Park Lane
   London, W.
Confidential
Dear Mr Rawlinson
   Our Indian affairs are going on but ill.
   But I have been asked by a government official in India whether a few good sanitary engineers who “know how to drain” & “can build” & are conversant with Sanitary works could be had out from here-
   If there are such, I know of none but you who would point them out.
   Also - what kind of salary they would expect.
   If you would be so very good as to inform me, I would transmit the information to India to my applicant.
   At present, as I need scarcely perhaps mention, it is a mere private enquiry - & no formal application is meant to be conveyed through me.
   ever yours sincerely
   Florence Nightingale
f25

I enclose a little book by Mr Rathbone of Liverpool, which I think may interest you. He has done a good deal in organizing the charities of Liverpool, & especially in Nursing (dividing Liverpool into districts to nurse the sick poor at home, the most efficient of all Nursing, & nursing the Workhouse infirmary, 1272 beds, with our Nurses) to realize his own ideal, as I dare say you know.

F.N.
Add Mss 68882, microfilm, 204 folios, 107 pages, correspondence with Frederick W. and Maude Verney 1870-82; Adam Matthew reel 39; volumes 68882 to 68889 "Purchased at Sotheby’s 27 September 1988, lot 207" available 1989

signed letter, ff1-2v, pen [8:880-01]

f1

35, South Street, May 1/70
   Park Lane, {printed address:}
   W.

Dear ideal maiden ("stella matutina", “ancilla Domini")
I come praying that your ideal may be accomplished, in this world & another - through all difficulties, through all troubles - through all joys & hopes & fears & sorrows. I pray not that you may be delivered from these, tho' gladly, if only you might go free, I would lay down my life -) but only that they may bear you safe

f1v

to your ideal in both worlds - & to your ideal for him whose “star” you are to be - "Soyez comme l’oiseau, perché pour un instant Sur un rameau trop frêle Qui sent ployer la branche et qui chante pourtant Sachant qu’il a des ailes.”
   May your Ideal always be winged!
   You will have pretty presents enough - darling of
many hearts - But I,
prosaic, sure that I can
find nothing worthy to
deck such a gem, &
mindful too that,
when you are an Ancient Briton,
you may not have a stool to sit on,
   humbly & like Caliban,
   tender a 5 'fipun note' to
   procure 2 such articles
   for you & Mr. Fred to sit on.

Does he know anything about
furnishing? This un-ideal
question rather engages
my anxious mind.

Though that 'ancient Briton'
Sheffield is a tough kernel
to crack yet I have many
dear recollections connected
with it. & almost look
on it as my native town -
   I rejoice to hear that you
are going to Lea Hurst. It
is of the most rustic, but, I
think, one of the loveliest spots
in England - tho' perhaps it
is only the eye of my childhood
that sees it so.

Will you thank Lady Sarah
Williams for a very kind note
for me - & will God bless you,
believe me, dear lady fair,
ever your affecte old 'aunt'

   Florence Nightingale
Miss Maudie Williams
I should like to have known how “Mrs. Fred” likes the rough but sterling Sheffielders.

My dear “Mr. Fred”

I have not received much information of very high value for you -

What I hear is that “the next thing” for you to do is to memorialize the Home Secretary stating the facts about the nuisance & the steps you have taken to stir the local authorities without effect -

But I understand that it is doubtful if the present law will reach the case.

A similar instance occurred not long ago, and “the Board” was made to work under threat of a Mandamus.

But this is a private remedy.

“The thing” to do however I am told is for you “to memorialize - & tell the authorities”.

If you are not much enlightened by this oracular answer, please try me again - I mean, if you wish to know the precise mode of “appealing to Head Quarters”.

And pray, if any expence is incurred in the appeal,
please remember that I consider myself a Sheffield woman & hope to be allowed to bear a share in the expence. A rude map of Sheffield with the bearings of your habitat as regards the main spots I know so well - would oblige. I scarcely ever regretted my disabilities so much as in not being able to see “Mrs. Fred “when here & Lady Sarah Williams - Pray make my best love accepted by the former -

I must tell you what wonders Emily’s sense & prudence & energy & wisdom are doing in restoring our affairs at 2 St. Martin’s Place. in greatest haste believe me - ever your affecte tho’ disabled old Aunt

Florence Nightingale
Lea Hurst
Matlock  Aug 25/70
My dear “Mr. Fred”

I have asked for information again from London and here is the second oracular answer.

that all you have done is quite right
& that all you have to do is to do it again.

or in official language you are advised under the circumstances & in the present state of the law to continue the pressure on the authorities -

both the cases could be dealt with under the existing law on informations laid by persons aggrieved by the nuisances.

but the existing law is so diffuse that a solicitor only, in a place like Sheffield, could tell where the information should be laid.

as next year the law is to be consolidated you are recommended to expect a full remedy then - And as, providentially,

winter & not summer is coming now, it is hoped that much harm will not ensue in the mean time - IF you cannot move the Sheffield authorities this year.

But if this should prove not to be the case, if the worst comes to the worst - & the nuisance becomes dangerous - then you are recommended, as before, to memorialize the Home Secretary.

The ultimate remedy at present is the Mandamus -

Repeat your applications in the mean time.
This is really the substance of the "opinion".
And I who feel as hot about your
"nuisances" & "grievances" as you do,
am quite ashamed & grieved to give
it you -

What a state of the law in a country
like this where the Sanitary cry has
become quite fashionable & in the mouth
of every body! "Much cry & little wool".
And your case is not at all an isolated

one which I tell you not to comfort
you but to increase your sufferings
for I have known many such, even in
the country - where the law is not so
complicated as at Sheffield & such like Boroughs, & yet
where it has been impossible to find
the authority whose duty it is to
redress the "nuisance" & where Fever
has been the consequence.
But persevere, I say: you will succeed
at last.

I have not returned your two copies of
letters, because I will write to-day
to the Local Governmt Act Office - in
London - & see if I cannot get you a
better answer. But I do not feel very
hopeful. However, next year, if not before,
it shall go hard but the thing shall be done
for which you are working so energetically.

Do you know that, in the last 22 years,
we have lost just half a million - of Scarlet
Fever, mainly owing to “nuisances” like these in this country -
‘Keep on going’ (I need not say that -) & keep me going - tho’ I have not been of much use yet.
Lady Sarah Williams delighted my father yesterday by her great kindness in sending him a book on South Wingfield
My tenderest regards to the “ideal” Maude
Pray believe me (tho’ in haste)
Ever your affecte old Aunt
Florence Nightingale
My sister is gone up to 32 South St. to keep Sir Harry & Emily company - And M. Mohl is there too -

signed letter, ff7-8v, pen, black-edged paper [6:546-47]

Lea Hurst Matlock Sept 8/70
My dear “Mr. Fred”
I have received my answer from the = “Local Govt. Acts Office” -
But I am afraid it is not more practically satisfactory than the other -
[They seem to know all about it, however. They state that Sheffield is not properly sewer ed -]
“Complaints as to nuisances which cause fever may be made.
by Memorial to the Home Office - or to the Privy Council Office” -[they say -

[this we knew before -]
“The Memorial need contain no more than is stated” (in my letter which was merely a summary of yours to me.)
But, as Local authorities
do not like to be complained
of to the Governmt Departmts,
you are again advised
(as before) to try the
Local authorities again.

This (private) note from
Mr. Rawlinson, the Consulting
Engineer to the L. Gt. Acts Office

This (private) note from
Mr. Rawlinson, the Consulting
Engineer to the L. Gt. Acts Office

Sheffield is enclosed for you,
in case you like to present
it.

[I think that your judgment
is better than theirs
as to whether it will be
of use or not.]

This is literally all.

At least they add that
you had better look at
the Sanitary Act of 1866
which I dare say you have

And that it is expected
that there will be a
consolidation of Sanitary law
next year - the R. Commission
reporting in time for Parliament
Here end 'my Lords'.

But never despair - Try me again.

As for the Pr. Council Office, you have probably seen Mr. Simon’s (its Medical Officer’s) résumé of powers to Local authorities for preventing the half million of death from Scarlet Fever, occasioned by such nuisances as yours. Not one word about removing them but “disinfection”, “special Hospital carriages”, not to shew oneself in public - it might have been the work/ advice of an old woman of last century - I only wish that you were the Medl Officer of the Privy Council or the Privy Council itself - & that the Govt Col: L. Lindsay & Sir Harry thought of Mr. Simon as I do - in great haste every your affecte old Aunt F. Nightingale signed letter, ff9-9v, pen

35 South Street, Jan 13/71

Park Lane, {printed address:}

W.

My dear “boy” (Sybil Maude - pray excuse me) I think I am even more disappointed than you can be, first, for the sake of Sheffield, & then for yourself - But I hope & am sure that you will not give up your plan of making “Education” the object of your life, on account of your not having this particular Secretary -ship Every young man (& woman too) who wishes to devote himself (or herself) to any particular branch of usefulness has
disappointments of this kind,  
in early as in later life -  
And, instead of shaking the  
purpose, such disappointments  
generally confirm it, where  
it is a real & healthy purpose,  
as I am sure it is with you.
I hope still to hail you: a  
great Educator, “making the  
education question your  
profession for life,” as you say.
God bless you & Maude  
ever yours  
Florence Nightingale
signed letter, ff15-21v, pen [5:212-15]

f15

Embley Romsey
Feb 23/71
My dear boy (if the dear lady Maude will allow me to call you so)

You will remember that you wrote to me 5 or 6 weeks ago that you were thinking of trying for the Clerkship of the Oxford School Board.

I felt then rather aghast - But, as I am quite sure my mission in this world is not: to give advice - and as it is an employment to which I have never devoted myself, - I held my tongue.

I sympathize too warmly however in your & Maude’s life not to be always anxious to know

how it is likely to go - And I asked privately the very few friends I have left at Oxford, not mentioning or mentioning (once) your name, what chance there was

They were not encouraging.

Those, to whom no name was mentioned, said that they did not think a clergyman would be taken as Clerk - because the High & Low Church parties run so very high in Oxford that they are less likely to agree on a clergyman than even on a layman -

They said also that a man must be living on the spot & work hard for himself to be chosen -

Of course you have better information for yourself than this. You have doubtless personal friends on the Oxford School Board -

And I only mention it to shew at once that it was not from want of interest in your plan that I did not write.

I own to a very strong feeling that, on the one hand, the quality of clergyman will not at Oxford contribute to the good working of a Sch: Bd Clerkship - and, on the other, that the quality of Oxford will not contribute to the good working of a future clergyman’s life.
I think it is not “opinions” which a clergyman wants so much now-a-days to form, as to work out habits of hard & wise action & knowledge of the ways to work -

[You tell me that you don’t like to have only “opinions recd secondhand & not worked out -“]

To win souls to God & not to discuss opinions seems to be the great, the crying want for the young clergy now-a-days. to ‘proclaim the name of the Lord’ - not merely by preaching, the like a herald but by studying the modes of Elementary Education, of Criminal reformation, of raising people’s habits sanitorily and in their dwellings & streets. For it is nonsense to talk of preaching ‘the name of the Lord’ to creatures who have not the faintest elements of education, who live in indecency & filth & degradation. They can as little receive ‘the name of the Lord’ as the brute beasts -

All this I think you were doing at Sheffield. And I very much applauded you & Maude for taking the hardest curacy you could find - - the hardest opportunity for becoming acquainted with a very stiff necked race, very unlike the peasantry of the South

I thought you wise too for taking it for 2 years -
At a place like Sheffield too, no doubt the Clerkship to a School Board, if it were to be had, would be the finest initiation for a young clergyman - just because it brings him into contact with Dissent of all kinds, on subjects which are not the discussion of speculative opinions but which are the first elements of our fellow-creatures education & welfare - ‘To proclaim the name of the Lord’ seems what is wanted - not to know that this or that verse is interpolated - that the four first Councils say this & not that - &c &c -

No doubt that there are great & masterly spirits whose very calling is to shake the human spirit loose from superstition, from blind authority, ‘assimilation, ignorant or bigoted sympathies & antipathies’, like Luther, Huss & Wycliffe, to whom this is ‘proclaiming the name of the Lord.’

And I, for one, believe that we want & shall have many more Luthers, & S. Bernards, & Reformers of all kinds. For I believe that there is now in & out of the Churches proportionally just as much error & superstition & slavish bowing to authority & indifferent flippancy for Luthers to break us out of as there was in Martin Luther’s time -

But that spirit is as far from the puny Magazine-kind of criticism of what are called the “Liberals “ of the present day as the awful mental struggles, - hand to hand conflicts “with the Devil”, as they truly call them - of St. Augustine & Luther & Savonarola & Whitfield are/were from the “cold goose” longings of a Hurrell Froude -

There is nothing very inspiring in examining the “Evidences" - there is nothing very inspiring in denying (or in defending) the Miracles - there is nothing very inspiring in having “opinions” upon this or that translation, text, Article, Council or Father -
3. If a man feels in himself an overmastering calling & power for Theological Research or for Religious Ecclesiastical Reform, then, in God’s name, let him follow it - let him be an Ewald or a Vico - or a Luther or a Wesley.

But don’t let him higgle-haggle at superficial criticism, like the “Liberal” Magazine writers of the day - which criticism is the very reverse of the spirit which animated the great Reformers.

Neither the Church nor the world can be reformed or even improved by discussing or criticizing “opinions”

'To proclaim the name of the Lord' or the character of the Lord (as in modern tongue we should call it) may be done in two ways:

1. by the great Theological Reformers who find out the ‘ways of the Lord’ for us & create Churches & doctrines & systems.

2. & by those who seek to win souls to God -

   But no approach to finding out the ways of God or the character of God is ever made by verbal criticism or technical or literary discussion -

   The making the clergyman’s a mere literary business is the end of all religion - & indeed of all Theology, or study of the character of God.

   But how much is included in the business of those who seek to win souls to God?

   Not only Education, Criminal reformation, Sanitary improvement - but Politics, Political Economy, De-pauperizing &c

   And if for the next 30 years, people would bestow as much painstaking in making discoveries how to depauperize England, how to raise the pauper & educate the pauper child, how to give industrial & elementary education which shall really make a man a man, how to reform thieves - in discovering the ways of God about these things, - as they have during
the last 30 years in making discoveries about
Steam, Telegraphy, Communications by Sea & Land,
Chemistry, Mechanics &c - it is probable that
we should make as much progress in the
former as we have done in the latter -
My dear boy - pardon your old Aunt for giving
you her experience which of course you need
not mind - I have no time to put it into
form - indeed have been interrupted 20 times
in this incoherent scrawl. Pardon me -
I feel sorry that you should be leaving Sheffield
before your 2 years are out - where I think is

much valuable experience to be gained more than at Oxford
But you will tell me that, if you did not
try for Oxford now, later it would not be to be had.
Of this I am no judge -
I am afraid I cannot do you any good at
Oxford - All my old Oxford friends are dead
And a new generation has arisen that ‘knows
not Joseph. They would look upon me as
a ‘strange woman’ - And I very much advise
you not to send the Lilly Scrap I enclose -
I have but one or two friends there now. -]

I am quite ashamed reluctant to send this letter as it
is but have no time or strength to re-read
or re-write illeg /it. I am afraid you will not sympathize
with it
At least you will see in it how much I
sympathize with your & Maude’s future
life - present & future - God bless you both -
& direct this ever your affecte old Aunt
matter for the Florence Nightingale
best.

February 24, 1871 re Fred Verney’s difficulties, as curate, with his Incumbent, the
disapproval of some for going in for the Clerkship, and his establishment of a working man’s “Club”

ff22-27v, Wednesday, asking for the return of various letters to Fred Verney
My dear boy Mr. Fred

As you well know, I am truly sorry that you have not the appointment to the Oxford Board. - first because you wished it; & next because I am sure you would have done it very well. But you were in an *honourable* minority. And *that* I am glad of.

I cannot say that I am sorry when a rising young clergyman does not spend his early Ministerial years at Oxford, or such like place I think he should always spend them in the

hardest, most practical work of his profession - just as you are doing at Sheffield.

Oxford does little else in such a case but encourage all that Magazine-y, critical, verbal, literary examination of texts, versions, opinions, evidences, which never brought one human being nearer to the character of God, & never taught one clergyman to win souls to God.

[You will bite me for saying this. But I can’t help that - And at all events you will quite acquit me of wishing to “give advice”.]

= I must say that I feel the very deepest interest to know that you will be able to finish your 2 years at Sheffield -  

*That* seems to me the real place to gain experience in really valuable things - now -

You say that the spirit of your profession is against your going in to such things as we have talked about - Education, Sanitary improvements, Political Economy & the like -

I don’t see that at all -

The “spirit” of your Incumbent & the circumstances of your position of curate may be -

But some of the very best things in the above lines that have been done have been done by clergymen -

And, my dear boy, you are still *under 60, I believe*
[I think, with you, that, while you are with
your Incumbent, you should not run against his views
& wishes -
But 2 years will not put you upon crutches -
And meanwhile you are gaining valuable experience -
- the most valuable perhaps you will think in after
life you ever have had - which cannot be {pr address: 35 South Street,
gained in books or conversation.} Park Lane,
Yes, I think the very best things, it may be W.
said, that have been done in unprofessional
clerical duties have been done by clergy -
E. g. Dean Dawes' School, at King's Sombourne -
He must have been 40 when he began that School,
as clergyman of the place -
Much of the most valuable information & help

received by the (first) London Boards of Health
came from young “Puseyite” curates -
And so on &c &c &c -
I do not think the worse for/ of Mr. Lamb for
staring when you said the Club was “religious”.
Nor do I think you can expect much from
governess-ing your Incumbent, even in the truth.
Great reformers, my beloved friend, “educate
their public” - And only D'Israelis tell their
“public”, while they are educating it, that
they are “educating their public” - And only animals
pounce, the moment they take a thing into their heads.
I read with the deepest interest all the letters which you were so good as to send me - & will return them whenever you tell me. You say: “keep them for me” - I like your friend Mr. Warren’s letters extremely. =

With regard to the deeper question of taking Priest’s Orders, it is one, of all others, on which I should not venture to have an opinion even, as applying to a particular individual.

There are only 2 or 3 things, quite general, which often strike me in these days of superficial discussion, when every body, even the Cabinet, is like a periodical & a Magazine - g - that is, getting up a subject from a little reading, whether a pauper or an iron clad - whether a soldier or a Colony - it does not matter - as people get up leading Articles, or periodicals - and calling that Administration -

[Ten years ago, we did the things people now prate about, write about, speechify, debate, report about.]

These 2 or 3 things are:

1. There is such a thing as truth of feeling, truth of mind, a far higher thing, a far higher truth than truth of words - People are such martinets about the truth of their words - words which (in spite of all the Johnsons, all the Académies, all the Lexicons, all the Della Cruscas,) every body has
And they think little of the great convictions, the great feelings & purposes, in which, tho' every body has different words to express them, every body, who thinks at all, thinks alike.

E.g. (it is an extreme example.) A very large proportion of the devout of our race call the goodness of God the Virgin Mary, while many of the orthodox in another portion of the race, while loudly asserting the “goodness of God”, practically deny it. Which of these two is nearest the truth of feeling? -

[There are words in the Ordination Service which we must deeply deplore as being a stumbling block, said to a young man at the most solemn moment of his life]

But is not this the case with all Services? Nay, we may almost say with all Institutions, all Societies?

Are we to live alone because of this? -

I agree with your friend Mr. Warren entirely when he says that people who separate themselves from others on the ground of opinion who try to do good alone seldom succeed in doing good at all.

To me such lives as Travers Madge, (whom I knew in early life a man/boy of uncommon mental power of unique moral power) or as le Père Hyacinthe are a great mistake.

I mean that negative & solitary Dissent is a mistake.
Every great Reformer began by being a single/solitary Dissenter, that is true.
Our Great Master Himself was a solitary Dissenter, to begin with -
But in every case it was a positive Dissent.
ending in a great Reform, not in a protest.
I do not understand people just separating themselves from their Church, party, Institution negatively -
as a mere protest -
E. g P. Hyacinthe does not intend, - I believe he does not wish - to make a schism.
Then I think he had much better have stayed where he was - & preached the truth, the truth of feeling in his own Church - where his great powers of preaching would have been useful.
The only other road that was open to him was, I think, to follow in the track of the Armies, succouring the wounded as many Benedictines did.
But what use is this mandering & wandering of his about England?
3. Tho’ I entirely agree with the words “one holy season lasting all the year, one temple including all the habitable world, one priesthood coextensive with mankind” -
I do not see why that should prevent a man from taking Priest’s Orders - He might as well say: it prevents him from Going to Church - because he must wait till the church “includes all the habitable world.”
“Holy seasons”, churches (or “temples”) clergy (or “priests”)
f36v
are on purpose to bring about, are they not? - in practical reality
what those beautiful words express as a
far-off idea -

My dear Mr. Fred, I will leave off here
partly because I have no time - partly

35 South Street, because I really have no advice, nothing
Park Lane. W. but sympathy to give in these great
subjects, especially when they concern
your & Maudie’s future life.

I do not think the critical, what are called
the “Liberal” discussions of the present day
contribute one iota to our knowledge, which
ought to be ever increasing, of the character of God.
(which is: Theology) - nor to our knowledge, which

f37

-4-
ought to be ever-increasing, of the ways to win
souls to God which is: the work of the Ministry - And, in both, there are still
immense discoveries to be made - And Christ
never could have supposed (I speak as a fool)
that we should have stopped short -

As to Renan’s “Life of Jesus”, I read it with a little
pleasure - not much - without the shock the
orthodox feel in it - at least not much -
It is an attempt to turn Christ into the hero
of a Novel - a very good Novel - which may
arouse a real, (not fictitious) feeling, in some.
But I don’t think he has in fact contributed
to our knowledge of Christ’s character, Mission,
ways of “doing good” -
I agree extremely with some of your friend Mr. Warren’s views as to some doctrines - e.g. about the Atonement - that “to lead a Godlike life” is what “it is destined to introduce man/us to” -

And is there one word, taking the Scriptures themselves, in them about the “Atonement” - which could arouse practical opposition in any Christian the most unorthodox?

I agree with you that the clergy would be quite as well (or much better) in the Ho: of C. as the Bishops in the Ho: of Lords - cæteris paribus - {things being equal -GW}

But that is rather beside the mark - I do not think that “faith” means “the enthusiasm of humanity” - but the “enthusiasm” of God - And that is what it was in Christ (And includes the other). And every body who, like Him, “loves” God with all his heart & soul & mind & strength & contributes to others’ knowing God’s character better, so as that they too may be able to “love God” - [ how can paupers & prostitutes & inhabitants of fever dens & the like love or know God at all?] every body, I think, whose object of life is to do that may enter or “join the Society, Church or Institution which enables him best to follow that path, without regarding differences of words - (tho’ they were best away) or metaphysical, not religious distinctions in metaphysics, not religion

35 South Street, I am afraid you will think this sounds like Park Lane. W. advising. But indeed it is not - It is only sympathy (& perhaps a little experience which you need not mind) for all those who are treading that path, as I am sure you & Maude are -

If you write God bless you both -
please write ever your affecte old Aunt

to 35 South St. Florence Nightingale
ff39-42, March 15, 1871, in reply to FN’s letter of March 12 and announcing that FV will leave Sheffield the next June since he wishes to defer taking priest’s orders

ff43-4v, March 17, 1871, re an essay written by Mr. Stubbs which FV is sending to FN

ff45-6v, the aforementioned essay

signed letter, ff47-8, pen, black-edged light blue paper

35 South Street, April 1/71
   Park Lane, {printed address:}
   W.
My dear boy Mr. Fred
   I hope that your interview
with Dr. Vaughan was satisfactory
& that the papers reached him
in time. But I have a
misgiving that the letter did
not go to the post so soon as
it should have done - And I
regretted afterwards that I did
not send it by hand. I should
be very glad to know that this
caused you no inconvenience.
   Also: I feel a little anxious
about your future.
   I never thanked you for your
friend Mr. Stubbs’ Essay - nor for

ff47
the short Poem, which is real
   poetry & philosophy too,
   upon Conscience & a Judgment
   I read it with the greatest
pleasure - & was very much
obliged to you & Maude for
sending it me -
So also the Essay -
   I do hope the prospect which
you say Sir Harry can hold out
to Mr. Stubbs will be fulfilled
& that he will be able to marry -
I feel quite interested in both
these conjunctions. [their?]
f48

This note which was to be one of enquiry & was written some days ago will never get itself finished - & must go as it is -

I shall really be thankful to hear what your plans are - & that they end in "health, joy" & all things good to you & Maude -

your ever affecte old Aunt Florence Nightingale

ff49-50v, April 7, re an offer FV has received from the Archbishop of a position at Middleborough which would be "practically a sole charge"

ff51-2, April 12, 1871 re FV's acceptance of the position at Middleborough

signed letter, ff53-56v, pen, black-edged light blue [5:219-21]

f53

April 16/71 [3:501]  
Well, my dear boy Mr. Fred  
You have "gone in" for responsibility "with a vengeance" - a responsibility which implies love of the largest kind - as where does it not? -

As it was not I but people whose {pr address:} 35 South Street, judgments were to be depended upon who [sideways] Park Lane, advised you to accept Middlesborough, W. I may say that I rejoice "with unfeigned joy" at your having done so - & admire your determination - I bid you 'God speed' with all my soul & strength -

"Behold, He sends you out as a "missionary" among "wolves" indeed! You have to begin everything
Add Mss 41977D

f54
from the very beginning!
You will find fine scope for your activities in
Schools & Clubs!
5000 is quite a town - [I do not know what there
may be in the way of a School Board at
Middlesborough]
In our Southern notions, a 2=membered Borough -
You will find your 2 year’s experience at
Sheffield very useful.
I agree with you that it is very difficult to
enter all at once on what is called “spiritual”
conversation with intelligent, thinking artisans -
some of whom, we know, have thought more
on some subjects than we have - who think
themselves (& perhaps are) quite on a par
with ourselves in intelligence & some kind of education -
& who perhaps may think, however unjustly,
that such conversation is “shop”
Nor am I sure that it is desirable -
To become intimate with them, as you do,
on political, on moral, on educational, on Sanitary, on
working subjects, is the way to begin:
Then, when they are sick, or unhappy, or in
difficulties, above all when they have a sick
or dying child, is the time when “spiritual
conversation, as it is called, comes of itself - not that
I allow that the other subjects are unspiritual.

f54v
Working people, above all things, I think,
dislike that we should seem to be using a
different tone & language of conversation for
them to what we do among each other - that
we should seem to be suiting or bringing down
our style, even altering the tone of the voice, to them -
They are so quick, like children, to perceive this -
If we talk about what interests us as well
as them, that is the way to their hearts.
Indeed no talk has any effect (but that
of weariness) which does not spring naturally
out of a man’s own thoughts & feelings or
character & is not verified by his own life -
Such talk is never “shop”.
I do not know what sprinkling of Wesleyanism there is at Middlesborough. Where do you mean to have Service? You say there is no Church.

I feel very sorry for the trouble that moving [pr] 35 South Street, will be to you & Maude - [address sideways] Park Lane, But I know that is but a slight things for W. your courage -

You have taken the hard in early life - And we may entirely trust that you will see of the travail of your soul & be satisfied -

My dear boy, instead of being a Curate - you will want a Curate - I wish I could be your Curate.

And now I will not chatter any more - (at present) for you must have enough to think of & to do -

I hope you will take a holiday between Sheffield & Middlesborough -

God bless you - and He will bless you - you & Maude - & give you all things - ever your affection - F. Nightingale

There is nothing in my youth that I wished for so much as such a position as the one you are going to have at Middlesborough, in a Northern town or in the East of London - beginning from the beginning -

God has turned my path another way - But I have an everlasting sympathy - still the strongest of all - with such a task - i.e. taking the thing from the very first & constructing in it as God leads the way - like a Missionary in fact. F.N. [end 3:501]

No man can do much good to others who is not constantly thinking about them, who does not consider their characters & temptations & thoughts & wants, as another man
f56v

considers his own interests - with all the minute thought
which a man would take in making money - who does
not pass them often in review before his own mind
before his own mind, as they & he himself are in
the sight of God - whose prayer is not / who does not pray that he may
be able to say ‘of them that thou gavest me I
have lost none’ -

I give you that thought as my life’s experience -
- how imperfectly I have fulfilled it!
but the substance of the thought was given me by
another who nobly fulfilled it in the heavy
charge of his own life -

F.N.

ff57-8v, April 27, 1871, re various friends of FV and the progress of his club for working men

ff59-60, New Club, 9, Spring Gardens, S. W. re FV’s proposed visit to Paris and his offer to do any
errand for FN
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, f61, pen, black-edged light blue paper

f61

35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
W.
My dear boy Mr. Fred

Barbédienne

30 Boulevard Poissonnière
is the address of the shop of the
“Collas” ‘Bronzes d'Art’.

The Ateliers only are at the Rue de Lancry
address which I gave you -

Now, tho’ these Ateliers are of
course very interesting to see, yet I
doubt very much whether they
can be going on now - Indeed I
think it is so doubtful whether the
whole thing may not be in ruins that
I almost regret having mentioned it
to you at all - The article varies so
extraordinarily in its excellence, because
of course it is the ability & finish of
each separate ‘ciseleur’ which gives to
the individual ‘réduction’ its excellence
My love to Maude, please - & to Lady Sarah,
if she will allow it - ever your affecte

25/6/71 F. Nightingale

ff62-63, {archivist: early July 1871}, asking to convey anything FN might wish to Claydon and sending
her a memento from Paris
Embley
Romsey Feb 9/72
My dear boy Mr Fred
I make an opportunity (of restoring to you a letter, which I think you told me ‘to keep till called for’) to congratulate Middlesboro’ and the Lady Maude upon your great doings there - I knew you would be successful, in the higher success -
A clergyman without real thought about any kind of knowledge human or divine, or personal interest in his fellow creatures is sure to fail & ought to fail, however many Bishop’s hands he may have had on his head. For a clergyman may call himself

a clergyman, but he will never really be anything unless he has a knowledge of business & of human nature & has worked out in his own mind some lessons or truths which he is able to impart to others (such as Clubs & the like.) But if he is a real clergyman, what glorious opportunities he has - call them secular, if you please - and the less he is bound to Conventionalism, the better. whether like Bishop Patterson he gives his life for the “little naked wretches” he was so fond of - whether he works nearer home,
f65
as you do, putting in light
in our dark overgrown towns.
However, I’m not going to preach -
  And as an atonement, I send
you two letters about your
belongings, which please return
to F.N. here -

I am greatly distressed about
Emily’s fever, which I fear
she has not lost at Athens.
She has suffered as every one
does who goes to Malta. They
have allowed the rock to become
a dirty sodden sponge & hence
the fevers - The question now lies
solely with the local people -
We have advised the Home Govt
to give them 30 000 as a
contribution to the improvements

f65v
leaving them to find 50 000
But they prefer crippling their
commerce by Quarantine. Strange
preference!
  And this has been no little
pandered to by the Health
authorities both here & at
Malta.

My writing days are over - & I
will ask your leave to finish,
here by being now as ever
your and Maude’s loving
& admiring old Aunt
  Florence Nightingale
I must add, tho’ I scarcely need to add,
that I entirely agree with your Keble Coll:
friend that the ‘secular’ duties must really
be inspired by love of God & man, or they
will be ‘drowned in bustle,’- but that the
‘reality’ of that love is best shown & known
among the ‘unconventional’ & in all kinds of
methods for raising them morally, ‘secularly’ &
spiritually, I also think.
ff66-70, Gunnergate Terrace, Middlesborough-on-Tees, February 10, 1872 re FV’s establishment at Middlesborough and his plans to establish a club there for working men

ff71-74v, Claydon House, Bucks, June 14, 1872 re the state of health of Emily Verney

ff75-78v, September 11, 1872 re Emily Verney’s death and funeral

ff79-80v, Grange Road, Middlesborough-on-Tees, December 20, 1872 re announcing his appointment as Private Secretary and Chaplain to the Archbishop of York

ff81-82v, December 22, 1872, re FV’s hope that Maude’s health will be improved by their move from Middlesborough

ff83-84, September 25, 1873, re a visit of Maude to FN

ff85-88v, October 25, 1873, re FN’s opinion of prisoners and criminals and FV’s visit to America where he visited Boston State Prison

ff89-90v, November 4, 1873, expressing opinions about American “thievery” and announcing his plan to leave the employ of the Archbishop

ff91-91v, 32 South Street, {archivist: January 4, 1874}, offering to take anything to Embley

ff92-94v, Embley, January 10, 1874 re funeral at Embley
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff95-96, pen [5:222]

f95

35 South St
April 16/78

My dear boy Mr. Fred
I feel very much interested in your
Mr. Headlam’s advocacy of good stage &
music entertainments for the working people
   Good Coffee Public houses & lodgings
for the body - good drama, music & literature
for the mind - really interesting discourse &
prayer & hymns for the soul - would go far
to moralize & spiritualize our working people.
   And of the two, I believe a man less likely
to get drunk after Shakespeare than after a Methodist

f96

Meeting. I am grieved & distressed that
some of our working young men at Lea Hurst
have adjourned from Sunday afternoon Meetings
in the Reading room, held by an excellent
Mr. Myers to the public house:
As to saying that there cannot be good Theatres
   because there are bad Theatres, it is surely as
ludicrous as to say that there cannot be
good Coffee houses because there are bad
   Public houses         or good Music halls because
there are bad ones -
In our humble way, we try to give Shakespeare
   & other Recitations & Lectures at the
Lea Hurst Reading rooms:   & other entertainments.
I enclose very meekly 1 for Mr. Headlam’s
   Fund, if you will be so very good as to give
it; but not with my name. This is not
any nonsense about ‘losing influence’: but
because I really do not agree with some things
   e.g. I dare say it is as disagreeable to us to hear
them shout: ‘Safe in the arms of Jesus’
   “as ‘Whoa Emma’”, but it is certainly better for them.

 ever affly your old
    Aunt Florence
4/8/79

My dear Mr Fred

I was just going to write you a line to say that Miss Simcox wrote me a very kind answer to my question to you. And I was going to ask you several questions of this sort: -

- how many years have your (most useful) Women's Provident Leagues been going?
- I mean, has it been long enough to prove them perfectly solvent?
- Are not (Men's) Trades' Unions, which give such very high advantages, often not solvent?
- Could you give me any information of this kind?

I have not been idle - I have seen all our Trained Matrons. And I saw Harry Bonham Carter yesterday who is going to have some actuarial calculations made for me -

I meant then to apply to Miss Simcox again who is kindly willing to answer me some further questions.

But I wanted to know from you on what sound & permanent basis the Women's Societies are, as to granting Sick Allowances & Superannuation Allowances & not becoming bankrupt. yrs ever F. N.
June 23/79
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear boy Mr. Fred
I delight in your Women’s Protective & Provident League.
Some day I want to consult you about all these women’s resources or no resources.
Working men have their Benefit, Medical, & Union Clubs: in Derbyshire where wages are high, every man can, if he please, by putting into his Club, have his Doctor, his 10/ or 12/ a week when he is ill, & his old age provision. Women have nothing; & for the old spinsters & widows, tho’ wages for women are in Derbyshire very high too, (3 girls may earn 25/ a week, sisters,) they have nothing but charity or parish relief for sickness or old age.
Owing to my want of time and strength to organize anything, Lea Hurst costs me £500 a year, chiefly among the old & sick women: (the Doctor’s Bill alone is £160 a year): & the children of widows. About our Trained Nurses, I feel there is no investment more attractive than the P.O. Savings’ Bank. There is no ‘Home’, where, in intervals between employment or in sickness, they could go. There is no sickness allowance or Old Age Allowance to be had anywhere. Employment we can find them more than enough: & well paid
But I have no time to organize any of the rest.
Mr. Gladstone was explaining to me that in the P. O. Savings' Bank every shilling costs the Govt eleven pence.]

2. I am obliged to refuse my name as Patroness so much (on the score that I don't like to give my poor name where I can't give my work) that I hardly like to give it to your Concert.
   But take it if you like it
   Only I had rather it had been in some other way.
   I send 1 1, & hope (when I am less 'hard up' than I am now, with Lea Hurst & Bosnia & some other things) to make it more

3. You “band together working women to lay by small sums to help themselves” How do you

invest this money?
   And what interest do you have? Please tell me.
   Please my best love to Maud & Ralph & to Margaret. I am so happy to think that they are well.
   ever yrs affly
   Aunt Florence
June 29/79
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
You were so good as to say
that you would send tickets
for the Concert at Mr. Brassey’s
wherever I would direct.
Did I understand you
that it was next Tuesday July 1, at 3.
I have just found out that
3 of our St Thomas’ ladies
would like to go.
If you have not given
away the 3 tickets you had
for me, will you send them
to me, or/or (whichever is most
convenient) to Mrs. Wardroper,
at St. Thomas’ Hospital,
naming, in either case, day,
hour, & place - may I trouble you?
But if you have given them
away, would it be possible
for you kindly to get 3 more
tickets for me? And I will send the 1.1 to you. Write me a post card, if more convenient to you that I should send for them tickets to your house.

Lord Lawrence’s death on Friday night was a great shock to me, as to all India. I had a letter from him, (received the afternoon after his death) dictated but signed by himself, with a parcel of Indian Famine Reports marked that he wished me to read, & the page turned down where he had left off.

He has gone into the presence of God, for which his whole life had fitted him.

My love to Maude & Ralph ever your affte
Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff102-05, pen [12:354-55]

TRAINED NURSES’ LEAGUE
July 27/79
7 a.m.
10, South Street, Park Lane, W.

My dear boy Mr. Fred. I cannot thank you enough for the trouble you have taken about this - viz. suggesting a Provident Society or “Union” among trained Nurses nor for Miss Simcox’s most valuable letter & promised help & also Mrs. Paterson’s.

You must not think that it has not been continually in my mind: t not that my delay in answering has been due to anything but a wish to consult with all our trained Matrons as to
what number of the Nurses of each she thinks would join.
& with our Secretary Hy Bonham Carter. But I have not been able to do much of this as yet not from want of interest, but because July is a month when outsiders, about to leave London all pounce upon permanent people like ourselves, bringing them work which might just as well have been done any month since January. And I am now only going to ask you one question: Miss Simcox says: I should say that a subscription of from 6 to 1/ a week would provide members of a “Trained Nurses’ Union” with everything Miss N. Mentions: a sick allowance a central “home” or Lodging House & an Old Age Allowance (& a Savings Bank) But would a sufficient number of Nurses join in paying such a subscription?” What is “a sufficient number of Nurses”? how many - tens? - hundreds? or - thousands? If I could have some general answer to this by tomorrow or Tuesday, I should be truly obliged. [I see our Trained Matrons, yesterday, today, tomorrow & Tuesday.] Miss Simcox is quite right in supposing that Hospitals would always receive in sickness Nurses connected with them.
I see that Miss Simcox most kindly says that she, having an "interval of comparative leisure" now, & would "hunt up any requisite information". But I am sadly afraid that we are not ready yet to avail ourselves of her generous kindness.

2. About "Mrs. Paterson" going "on a Missionary tour" among the "Derbyshire girls", that too is a delightful prospect. But I must go down first to enlist the "Mill" manager (a son of an old Schoolmaster of ours) who is the greatest man in the place, & who must think that HE has originated it himself, if it is to succeed at all. A thousand thanks for all you have done. God speed the Provident Leagues & all your works.

N.B. It will be a difficulty, I fear, instead of an advantage, bringing Nurses together of different Training Schools - You see the Nurses of any Hospital with its Training School must be an organized body. or they are nothing. with an 'esprit de corps' of their own, & a fealty to their own authorities. Nursing is unlike any other occupation in this.
If you club together the Nurses of different training Schools with an authority & an 'esprit de corps' from the OUTSIDE you run the risk of introducing a foreign element which may have the tendency of sinking the highest to the lowest, much more than of raising the lowest to the highest.

But this is too immense a subject to touch upon now.

in haste
ever yours most truly
& hopefully
Florence Nightingale

I heard of Maude from our Probationers who were (27 of them) at Claydon on Friday:

F.N.

ff106-09, Claydon House, Bucks, August 13, 1879, sending to FN the annual reports of the Bookbinders’ and Upholsteresses’ Societies and additional information about Friendly Societies for working people’s benefits
f109v

Apparently
the Mill (Lea)
is a sort of Provident
Socy for it professes
to give half pay to women
(sick) for 13 weeks: &
quarter pay for another 13 weeks
But this also prevents them from
saving. What relation has this to the Female
24/8/79 F.N. Friendly Socy
Who is its Doctor?
Does the Lea Mill provide
& pay a Doctor?
give 10 to Guarantee Fund
men. a third
13
a sixth
13
Guy's Hospl contemplates only superannuation pay
Female F. Socy only sick pay &
Medl attendance
which appears is given by the Mill
Why does it not contemplate old age pay?
Is it connected any way with
a Savings Bank?
Are there Crich Women's
Clubs?
Is this only for Smedley's?

signed letter, ff110-42, pen & pencil [8:74-85]

f110

Women's Provident Societies
Lea Hurst October
1879

My dear Mr. Fred
  I cannot thank you enough
for all the trouble you have
taken & are willing to take
for Provident Societies for
women in general & for
Trained Nurses in particular.
What you have done for
your Upholsteresses' & Book
binders’ Societies is quite extraordinary: tho’ as you say it does not give many data for actuarial calculations. Yet it does one good to see how much real benefit & of the best kind must accrue to these women by
helping them to help themselves.

   It is well to take care,
   as you do, that each
member is a "competent
workwoman". This is something
towards the same security
that we obtain by 'training'.
You cannot train your
Upholsteresses: but you do
the next best thing; &
you have outrun us
sluggards by making them
'save' -

2. Upholsteresses' Socy. The increment
   of Balance steadily decreases
every year during the 4 years.
This I think you pointed
out yourself. I suppose it may
be easily accounted for, & need not
continue.

3. The rate of Subn, 1/2d a week,
   to provide 5/ a week for 8
weeks in the year is wonderfully
small. In our Lea "Female Friendly Socy" for
   the same 2d, it is 4/ a week for 10 weeks
   3/ for 10 weeks more.

4. May you keep free from
   strikes! No: there is no
danger of Strikes among
Trained Nurses. Only imagine
if there were!
   Where the feelings are so
strongly interested as the Nurse's
about her Patients, there scarcely
could be, however, strikes
among Trained Nurses. And
the point of honour among
them is too high. To desert
her Patients would be like
deserting in the Army before
the enemy. The others,
instead of 'striking' with her,
would be more likely to execute
some kind of summary
punishment upon her.

5. Would you thank Mrs. Paterson very much for her kind trouble? It is impossible to over estimate the good that is being done by raising women not from without but from within -
- the employment register
- the sick or ‘out of work’ allowance
- the pleasant ‘tea’
- the lending library
- the co-operative store -

6. [N.B. I am sorry to say the Cooperative Store at Lea Hurst is going the wrong way like Turkey. And this from very obvious]

& rather disgraceful causes.
One is the men don’t know how to choose a Manager: they don’t like one above themselves: & they never have one who knows how to buy. It is said that the refuse, the rejected goods of Manchester are palmed off upon our Co-operative Stores: The Secy’s wife who knows nothing about it being now the buyer.

(2) They allow some members to run deeply in debt: & refuse others who might be better leniently dealt by. The consequence of this & other causes is that their dividends
are small & uncertain:
And the people do not make
it their Savings’ Bank,
with 5 p.c. interest, as
they used to do.
And a man I know, the
best man in the Village,
with drew himself first
as Secy & then as Auditor,
because when they could
not otherwise declare a
dividend, they grossly
over estimated the value
of the goods in store.
We have no clergyman & no resident
landlord or gentleman who ought to & generally
does see to these things.
It is well, when one
hears of “Cooperative Stores”
‘not answering’, to enquire
the homely causes: & to see
that it will hardly do to leave the
people altogether to their own management]
while carefully adhering to open, business-like ways

7. To return to your Women’s
Socies, I have understood
that the temptations among
poor young girls in trades
from the want of good
homes & interests are
untold & unknown.
that this temptation to vice
prevails even among those
quite ‘respectable’ in
dress & appearance.
I should think the good
of a well conducted Women’s
Socy is also untold.
And it is also well to enquire the
homely causes of Female Friendly
Societies not answering
of this more anon.
II. Thanks for the “Hearts of Oak” Friendly Socy book.

But, as you say, they only recognize the existence of women “in giving 10 to bury the wives when they die” - & apparently in giving Lying -in benefits to help them when they lie in.

Hy Bonham Carter had some indirect communication with Mr. Marshall as a very able, trustworthy man, the society being one of the largest in the Kingdom? is it not? after “Oddfellows” & “Foresters”. HBC did not however get so much out of them as you did.

We do not agree with Mr. Marshall that “women” are a “bad lot”, in being “so apt to be ill, or to think they are”.

Our experience is just the reverse. A Nurse will hold out at her work when ill, where a man would give in.

*Our* rate of sickness at St. Thomas' among our Nurses in Training is very much lower than it is, I am sorry to think, at some of our other Hospitals, e.g. Edinburgh. But in the new Edinburgh Hosp we trust it will prove otherwise.

The Nurse’s occupation is not necessarily an unhealthy one, I am sure: far less so than that of ‘mill’ women when Nurses are properly cared for.
f115

III. The South Bucks
Friendly Socy (Mr. Hardy)
gives valuable information,
because it admits women
But as you say, that
information is by no means
encouraging. And the
prolonged rates of illness
of women are indeed
alarming.
(a) Sanitary conditions & rules
should always be introduced
into all Benefit Societies' rules:
should not they? as
having a two fold advantage
1. increasing the allowances,
2. & encouraging Sanitary practice.
   It is done in Lying-in clauses
for wives of members. E.g.
the woman is not to be
employed, except at light

f115v

household work, within her
Lying-in Month. Or the
money is forfeited. But in Lea
   "Female Friendly
Soc'y" she is not to be employed even at household work.

    [This gives them some idea
    that women are not to be
    allowed to work in the
    mills or the fields or the
    wash-tub (Laundry) at certain
times, & so saves wives from
a common cause of "prolonged
illness."

    But why not make other
such simple Sanitary rules
or conditions for receiving
"benefits"?
rules about drainage
    sinks
    water supply
    vicinity of pigs
    &c &c &c
This would have extreme
Add Mss 41977D

value as a Sanitary education.
besides so facilitating the operations of Friendly & Provident Societies by diminishing this alarming rate of “Sick Allowance” for women as to increase their “benefits” all over town & country.

In this (Lea & Holloway) which ought to be the healthiest of all villages, I should NOT like to tell the experience of this one summer:

   a Typhoid Epidemic:
solely attributable to the most obvious causes:
   abominations of pigs percolating into the drinking water -supply (3 Patients in one room

Drink

overflow from cesspools allowed to lie: or to percolate poisoning water or air:
   contaminated “Holy” wells, which gives its name to the village (Holloway)
   sink stone drains not ventilated
   traps taken up & left aside
A woman, a farmer-ess on the estate, a Laundress, & altogether a substantial yeo=woman, is just dead in her first confinement of blood poisoning (baby dead too) under the most provoking circumstances of stupid blundering. There ought to have been an inquest.
A sink in the kitchen owing to the lead pipe being corroded & having been corroded for years, had completely saturated the wall of the dwelling-house. The smell had been smelt for years, & taken but little notice of. The Masons went to put in the new lead pipe & stench trap on the very morning the woman was taken in labour!! There was an immense fire in the kitchen: & thro' the hole in the wall, then open, by which the pipe passed, there blew in by means of the great draught created, all the foul air from the saturated wall & open sink=stone drain; & so up the stairs. The woman had a remarkably good confinement: but was seized within 20 hours by the most intense symptoms of blood poisoning & died within the week.

Death in the sink:
Had it not been for the most extraordinary neglect, she might have been here now.

[Possibly that poor Lady Constance Amherst Middleton’s heart-rending death may have had some cause akin.]

Oct 7. 1879

It is well too if these isolated cases do not become Epidemics of Puerperal Fever.
Would the enforcement of some Sanitary rules by “Benefit Societies” be an expensive & therefore difficult operation?

It would seem as if the same machinery which is or ought to be set a going by Boards of Health, or as there are in the country Boards of Guardians, - the same principles which are or ought to be laid down to govern these local Boards of Health. might be set a going for “Friendly Societies”.

There are Officers of Health, Inspectors &c - all the

Could “Benefit” & “Friendly” Societies, not large enough to have Sanitary Inspectors of their own, make use of the existing Health machinery?

It would be of countless importance.

Medical certificates are required. It would seem as if there should be no more difficulty in having “Sanitary” certificates.
f119
(b) Lord Norton, you say, has established a “Friendly society for women”: & you kindly promised me its Rules & Tables, worked out by MR. HARDY. Are they come?

(c) Mr Mark Knowles a most capital man: May success shower upon him “Women’s Lodge.” The wisdom of his rules strikes one especially: the power of leverage in a “Friendly Socy” for moral and sanitary purposes might be made much more use of. I see “improper or immoral conduct” comes under investigation.

f119v also: the rules about lyings-in: & again one asks: MIGHT NOT SOME SANITARY RULES BE ALWAYS (logically) attached to “PRIVILEGES”?

I note what is to be done with married women. & that he EXCLUDES women employed in “manufacture OR SALE " OF ALL SPIRITOUS LIQUORS BEER, &c as well as in “hazardous trades”.
f120

(d)

I wish 'Godspeed' with all my might to the proposed "Women's Division" of the "Church of England Temperance Sick & Burial Socy"

And if they have not completed their "Guarantee Fund" for it (25 guarantors of 20 each") I would gladly ask to be a guarantor of £20.

I enclose a Cheque which I shall be grateful to you to make use of. This is not enclosed.

Shall I Send it?

Or is it too late?

[I am rather 'hard up' this year: not tho' a course of 'riotous living": & should be rather glad if not called this year to pay up the money. But - the good of the 'Women's Division' before all.] Oct 1859
f120v

I see that “Total Abstainers” receive one tenth more sick pay than “general” members.

I do most strongly appeal to experience in favour of this rule & more than this rule being enforced in ALL “Friendly Societies.” it is a truly ‘friendly” rule.

[It is a common thing in our neighbourhood in Derbyshire for quarrymen to be in the receipt of 28/ to 40/ a week. If single young men, they as may spend all this, say from 18 to 32 years of age, in eating & drinking, but specially in drinking, - except what they pay to their Club. And this they often forfeit by not paying up.

f121

Is it not a crying shame that these men whose health suffers so much from drink (that the excellent Club Doctor told me he said to them: ‘Stick to your sobriety, & you will be able to stick to your work. Drink again = And you’re a dead man’) should have the same sick pay as those who have denied themselves every self-indulgence to bring up their families & that the latter should suffer in a lower (general) rate of sick pay, or of old age pay?

There ought to be a drunken sick pay: and an sober sick pay: ought there not?
In agreeably conversing with Quarry men, they have informed me that they could easily have saved 200 by the time they were 30, & have - not a penny:
  that the minimum loss every week of drinking on Saturday night & Sunday & making “Black Monday” is 6/ a week.
  & that they frequently attend neighbouring markets (hiring a fly for the purpose) after 8 o’clock p.m. for the sake of getting drink & not being seen: because the Lea Mills turns off drinkers:
  The terrible custom of being paid in gangs, & adjourning to the Public house to divide their money is the root of much of this evil.

[Much of the above may be said of the miners, too. And people call this a “civilized” country! & talk of us having a ‘Mission’ of ‘civilization’ in India!!]

But what I would ask again is:
  could those observing certain Sanitary rules, & certain rules about sobriety be entitled to a certain higher rate of sick pay?
  [It would be vain to have
an Abstinence or even a Temperance club in Derbyshire for it would starve for lack of members but something like the above must be possible.]

Just as it is hard that people who pay their Bills should suffer in high prices for those who do not, so it seems hard that those few who are in spite of us models of every Sanitary & moral principle of carefulness & cleanliness should suffer in a lower rate of sick pay or of old-age pay (I see there are prospects of annuities at 65 years) for those who bring on their own sickness by every kind of carelessness, dirt & neglect.

The ‘Allowances’ seem extremely liberal even for “long continued sickness”, which will be the main insurance in the way of sickness necessary for any Trained Nurses’ Socy, because, for all ordinary illnesses, they are provided for in their own Hospitals, & their pay not stopped. They would not be parted with while there was prospect of recovery or death, if they wished to remain.
f123v

Would you kindly thank Mr. Knowles for his great goodness in being willing to obtain information for me? & say I shall no doubt avail myself of it. Probably the progress of his own “Women’s Division” will be my best information.

I suppose we could not tack ourselves on to them? “Entirely self-supporting”. - that is the thing to aim at. - & that he does aim at.

f124

-8-

You see we shall for our Nurses necessarily labour under a disadvantage as to numbers, because we do exact the conditions as to morality as to sanitary & other good conduct involved in the circumstance of her being a trained Nurse It is the highest & longest test of her being a “competent workwoman”, a good woman, &c &c. (because all are dismissed who do not fulfil our requirements as to “duties”, competence & good conduct, whether during the year’s training or after. And the
grand difficulty will be
how to prevent these dismissed
ones, who are all taken
on without a “character”
by the Advertising Nurses’
Offices as “Trained Nurses,”
from entering any Benefit
Society of ours.)

The tests which are required
more or less feebly in
other Associations are
in ours necessarily most
strictly carried out -
during a year of constant
testing under organized ‘eyes’,
& during subsequent service
& promotion.

IV. At my request, Hy
Bonham Carter sent the
following questions to
Mr. Sutton the Govt. Actuary
for Friendly Societies on this
subject to whom you also
were so good as to apply.
‘Do the Friendly Socy returns
afford any data on which
to base allowances to women
during sickness or by way
of superannuation?
‘It is desired to establish
a Provident Fund for Nurses
with these objects.’

[Hy B.C. did not mention
the proposed Central Home for Nurses
permanently infirm or Sick or out of place - (While
actually serving in Hospital,
a Nurse, i.e. a trained Nurse,
would always be cared for during temporary sickness) And he did not mention the Savings Bank movement which might be connected with it.

I think we should call this the growth of the Woman Thrift Movement. And you are its 'prophet'. Is it likely that any existing Friendly Socy would admit women? Or if a Union of say 50,100 or 200 members or more were formed from women employed exclusively as Nurses for the sick either (a) in Hospls or (b) as Private Nurses or both, is it likely that any Friendly or Provident Socy would affiliate such an Union? signed Hy Bonham Carter.

Mr. Sutton replies to Hy B. C.'s enquiries in the same sense he says that he did to you when you were so good as to go to him.

That the Friendly Socy Statistics afford no trustworthy data, in fact no data as to female lives:

That in his opinion the best course to pursue would be (1) to deal with Superannuation Allowances by providing for each individual separately thro' the means of the Govt Deferred Annuities granted by the P. O.

This would be very unattractive to Nurses: a few of our Nurses insure their lives: but as far as I can make out only for to bury themselves. One only of our Nurses, a lady, has a deferred
Add Mss 41977D

Annuity: (& that is not a P. O. one): that is, as far as I know.]
f126v
‘(2) to provide for Sick Allowance
by an annually divisible
Fund until such time as
sufficient experience shall
have been acquired to found
a permanent Table.’

[This would be more attractive
owing to the ‘division’ but then,
as Hy B. C. knows, this is the
thing which is least wanted
because a Trained Nurse
was never otherwise than
cared for, & her pay continued,
in the Hospital where she
was serving, as long as
there was any prospect
either of her returning to her
post, or of death.

F.N.]
‘Assuming that there would be
always sufficient new
members coming in to maintain

f127
-10-
‘the original number, he, Mr.
Sutton, considers that the
plan of dividing any surplus
annually will not give
rise to any great inequalities,
while the division avoids
much difficulty as to rate
of contribution, the members
getting back the surplus.’

signed L. Sutton

Excuse all repetitions:
I have been so interrupted.
V. Shore Smith next went to the “Prudential Assurance Office for me, “a sound concern, which takes something like a million a year in pennies or small sums’ & “do every sort of Insurance.”

The “Prudents” however came to the conclusion that there was no way in which they could bring it/us in with their own business. They recommended that the Nurses should be formed into a separate Benefit Society for themselves: & thought there was no difficulty about their being women & since sent their Industrial Tables. Since this however the Secretary of the “Prudential”,

(who must be a good fellow,) has written to me, saying he has made further enquiries. After mentioning that there are Friendly Societies “who do the class of business referred to”, but do not “warrant unlimited confidence in their stability’:
& that “most Insurance Offices only transact ordinary Insurance business (together of course with the granting of annuities), & do not make any provision for being laid aside by old age, sickness or other cause,” he says “There is one excellent Office however with a “Benevolent Fund” attached to it viz. ‘the Provident Clerks’ Mutual
Add Mss 41977D

*Life Assocn*, which might answer the requirements in
Add Mss 41977D

f128v
“some degree”
And he encloses their Prospectus.
 This Fund seems to grant
“Annuities to distressed members
“Annuities to Widows
“Annuities & Allowances to
distressed members
“Loans &c.
  DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING
ABOUT THIS ‘BENEVOLENT
FUND’?
  [The Prospectus gives their
‘Deferred Annuities’]
Mr. Goodman, my correspondt
 goes on to say:
“If you thought it advisable
to adopt a separate scheme
for Nurses, & the numbers
are not sufficiently large
to warrant its being floated on

f129
-11-
“a sound actuarial basis,
I feel confident that the
public would readily supply
the deficiency & thus enable
the amount payable to be
much more liberal”
And he actually goes on to
offer his own subscription:
& also his “services” in very
earnest words.
[I should however, if it is only
possible, try to make this
NOT a charity - by taking only
business & not charitable subns.]
  I think ‘charity’ is particularly
to be avoided here, because of
its probable effect in
preventing Hospitals from
raising the Nurses’ wages -
if they see us stepping in
with pensions & the like -
thus doing what they ought to do.
Already we, i.e. our Training School, have an effect we little anticipated in keeping wages down instead of keeping them up.

Not only does St. Thomas' Hospl take advantage of our Probationers to do at least half their Nursing. But it takes advantage of a clause by which we bind our Probrs to take service for ___ years to engage them at a lower rate of wages than the great Hospitals give our Trained Nurses & all the Nurses in St. Thomas' are of our training.

Liverpool illeg/obtains higher wages for its Nurses than we do/St Thomas': & gets HyBC itself repaid for its training by the Institutions which it supplies with Nurses.

VI The Autumn

Guy's Hospital
the only Hospital I know which has a Provident Fund for its Nurses:
but it is compulsory for 'Sisters' & not one Nurse has ever joined it.

At Guy's the principle is that the Sisters contribute one half (& it is stopped out of their 'Quarter') "of the amount that will be necessary", & the Governors the other half. [Virtually tho' not nominally it is, I suppose, a deduction from their pay]

I had thought of for ours (& that I thought was high)
1/ a week for Nurses (or 12/6 per Qu.)
2/ " " Sisters (or 25/ " " )
Guy's payments are: from 6/3 a month, (18/9 a Quarter) entering at the age of 30 - (they only allow Sisters to enter between 30 and 40.) to 10/9 a month (32/3 per Qu.) entering at 40. that is 3.15.0 to 6.9.0 per ann. for 12/ a week Pension at 65. The Nurses' payments were to have been 12/6 a qu. entering at 30 21/6 “ ” 40 for 8/ a week Pension at 65 But as I said no Nurse has ever joined. [Our Sisters now pledge themselves to save 1 per qu. Nurses 10/ “ ” More anon of this.

It's simply a Superannuation Fund & not a Sickness Allowe. Fund. That is fair enough, because Guy's like all other Hospitals of any repute takes care of its Nurses in temporary sickness. The Pension (Superannuation) is 12/ a week at the age of 65. Or in the event of death or of leaving the Hospil before 65, the amount is returned with 3 p.c. interest (except in cases of misconduct.) Owing to the number of Sisters dying or leaving, [the contributions of the Governors are invested] Guy's can now afford to give each Sister £36 a year Pension (instead of £30.)
f131v
[A great Mill Manager in the North told me that he had wished to do this with his own “hands” but found that it was “illegal”
But Hy Bonham Carter says that it cannot be illegal if it is made a matter of contract.]

f132
VII Now we come to our own affairs at St. Thomas’ Hospital.
after great delays & questionings (which I shall afterwards explain), the Matron was persuaded to go round all the Nurses, taking their views:
‘In case we marry, what portion will be returned’?
was one common question on the Nurses’ part.
‘In case we leave the Nursing Service, or in case we could not afford to pay up our Subn, what then would happen? should we have the money returned to us? or a portion of it?’
was another universal question.
[As needs scarcely saying, the case of women & especially of Nurses is so different}
f132v

from that of *men*. Men
do not change their professions
when they marry: nor
do they give up their professions
till old age becomes disabling:
perhaps not even then.

Nurses must of course
leave their profession when
they marry: but, less & less,
perhaps in consequence of the
very excellence or rather
*advance* of the training now
given, is it looked upon
as a *life* profession. A woman
over 40 can scarcely obtain
a new engagement as Matron
or Sister, or obtain a training.
Nor will private sick people
take a sick Nurse over 40.
Because, they argue, training
makes such rapid strides
we wish to have the last
& best.

Besides,

f133

-13-
in Hospitals generally, if not
in ours, Nurses wear out
sooner than in other professions.

But so much the more
reason for making them
save & lay by for a provision

[It is sometimes made a rule
that Matrons & Nurses must resign
at 60. In that case Superannuation
allowances shd begin at 60 instead of
65.]

Of their own accords, as
a New Year’s day (delightful)
surprise/ gift to me: & it was [surprise back in....]
delightful; the Nurses
of St. Thomas’ sent me under
the following heading, a paper which
was signed by about 60.
(out of a number of about 70:
Probationers *not* counted
Add Mss 41977D

in either case: who number about 35 more)
f133v
“We the undersigned Sisters & Nurses of St. Thomas’ Hospital, from the Nightingale Training School, & others, agree to enter into a ‘self-benefiting’ Provident Society, by depositing in the P. O. Savings Bank or other safe investment x a sum quarterly in proportion to our means
Sisters not less than 1
Nurses  "  "  " 10/
and as much more as may be convenient.”
x as I devoutly hope some better investment & (as safe) may be devised for them by us with your help & that of Societies.

f134
[I must premise that, in the autumn, I had received a petition, signed by between/ a few less than 200 & 283 of our trained Nurses, at St. Thomas’ & elsewhere, for me to ‘sit’ for my ‘picture’ for them.
And I had responded that, if they gave me some assurance of saving (some ‘saving’ assurance) then I would think about it.]

Appended to this document, besides the names of the 57 undersigned were notes of those who already saved 23, some two who had insured their lives (but chiefly to bury themselves) & one or two who had ‘gone in’ for annuities not more (‘not more’ encircled) i.e. one for a life annuity one had invested
f134v

To return to “Matron’s investigations among the Nurses:

it would seem as if - with almost all - the sine quà non were to have/ the power of taking THEIR MONEY OUT again WHEN THEY WANT IT: -
as in Savings’ Banks.

[More than you would believe have, too, relatives depending on them] 5 out of 68 of St. Thomas’ Nurses.

For disabling illness they would like an ‘allowance’:

for superannuation:

[for Convalescence the Hospital provides]

for being bona fide out of place there is not so much call as you would suppose for an ‘allowance’ & for idlers it would not be desirable.

A Central ‘Home’ smiles to some;
but it was agreed to put off
the consideration of that for the
present.

But The scheme does not seem
applicable to Hospital Nurses
viz. of sinking their individual
interest in a Common Fund
for the sick ones, or those
suffering from other
contingencies to profit by:
(the Hosp is their ‘Common Fund’ for this)
as in a Women’s Club,
or Men’s Friendly Society.

Nurses must have their
money out again when
they want it. [They were told this
wd necessitate a larger contribution to any
Provident Fund.]

In Hospitals where the food
is not very well served, Nurses
frequently buy the food which
tempts their appetites for themselves

And their annual holidays
(which are quite necessary)
cost them something.

Altho’ Ultimately there
seem to be 3 things desired:

1. keep to the Savings’ Bank
   or as I fervently hope
   some as safe & better
   investment.

2. allowance or insurance
   for superannuation,
   permanent infirmity
   disabling illness

3. Central Home for
   Nurses infirm & out of
   place.
f136

-15-
N.B. [Causes of this great delay in answering you:
- autumn: holidays in all Hospitals
  for Matrons & Nurses
- Winter Session very busy time
- All our trained Matrons
  were to ask their Nurses
whether & what they would
subscribe to a Nurses’ Provident
Soc'y.
- Nurses asked: for what
  contributions what advantage?
Societies asked: what numbers
  & what contributions do
  you offer?
Nurses what advantages
do you offer if we contribute?
This was rather awkward.

f137

-16-  Lea Hurst
  10 South St. March/80
LEA HURST
WOMEN’S PROVIDENT SOCY
The excellent Mrs. Paterson
was actually so kind as
to propose coming or
sending on a Missionary
visit: Would you thank her?
The state of things is as
follows:
  there is a “Female Friendly
Soc’y”: but the numbers are
very small.
only 78 members altogether
  of whom
only 45 in Lea & Holloway
  & only 265 fund
benefits: Medical attendance
  annual Subn 2/6 to Surgeon
benefits: sick pay 4/ a week for 10 weeks
    "    " 3/ "    "  " 10 more
  20?
on death 30/ to next relative
monthly Subn eight pence
  or (weekly: 2 pence)
There are other small Subns & small benefits
Yours gives 5/ a week for 8 weeks for
2d. a week Do you give a Doctor?
Last autumn I went very thoroughly into the case (in order to ascertain the reason of the smallness of the numbers) with the mill women I knew, & with the Manager of Lea Mills himself, & told him in guarded language what I had ascertained from the women.

1. They have no confidence in the ‘Master’ (Secretary) of the ‘Female Friendly Socy’, who is a/ one of the mill officials/ warehousemen, & capable of injuring them. These homely reasons are good to know.

2. No Annual Meeting is held: & no statement of funds read out with balance sheet & rules &c. And they commissioned me to find out!! whether the Socy was not ‘insolvent’.

[I ascertained that the money was in the Mill Manager’s hands: & the Lea Mills paid 5 p.c. upon it]

These things are typical, & show how very careful we/one must be, in village politics, to let the whole thing be placed in open business-like form before the village ‘commères’, the members.. They feel It is their money. It is not a charity.
f138v
3. There were other things:
Such as that the sick
Allowance was not paid/stopped,
if the Sick Member
was even taking exercise out
of doors by Medical orders.

Then the Lea Mills Manager
himself complained to me,
that married women
always took themselves
off the Socy's books.

The reason appeared to be
that, if a Lying in woman
could occupy herself at
home in household work & about her children,
altho' she could not go to work or out,
she ceased to receive the
Lying-in allowance.

[There is so much to be
said on (3)/this on both sides]
But your Bucks Socy gives sick pay
to Lying - in women doing household work.

f139
-17-
[Also owing to there being no annual gathering,
no regular reading out
of the Rules &c, they
fancied that only mill-
women had the right to
belong to the Socy, which
is not the case.]
Still, the fact is that Lea
Mills is itself the most
important enemy of its
Friendly Socy: for it professes
to give half pay to its women
in sickness for 13 weeks:
& quarter pay for 13 weeks
more.

This appears to cut both
ways: neither good ways.
(1) It is not certain: it is
a matter of favour: not of
claim.
(2) And it prevents them from
saving: & even from putting into the “Female Friendly Socy”, which, as you see, contemplates only sickness, & not old age or Savings Bank.

Besides, all is uncertain & confusion:
There is no fixed claim:
I have often paid for Medical attendance & all its concomitants for Mill-women. And then but not till then the Mill Manager has written to the Doctor that he would undertake it.

Latterly I have made it a condition of my help that the young women should put into the Friendly Socy; & they & the young men into the P. O. Savings Bank - I doubling the money in the Savings Bank.

It is a sad unsatisfactory & anxious place: is Lea Hurst.
The women earn as much in mill-work as men earn in agricultural counties.
They spend on dress much more than I do: & they come upon me for Medical attendance & sick comforts: They come upon the parish for old age.
What is wanted is: a safe & attractive means of saving: or INVESTING SAVINGS. The Co-operative Stores used to afford this: but they too have been mismanaged, & no longer afford it. Their dividend is uncertain.

I look upon you as the Apostle of the Women Thrift movement: & appeal to you for a this scheme for investing women’s savings: as well as for information for all my ignorance.

I see there has been much discussion lately about modes of investing the People’s savings: -

1. Could you send me a Report of a Meeting (not at the Mansion house) on Thrift some 3 months ago, where Prof. Bryce & Mr. Blackley were ?/& spoke?

2. And is there any published Report of the Mansion house Meeting on thrift of March 12?

3. Please also tell me IN WHAT TRADES were those two Women’s Strikes? & what was the result?
   [It is a curious fact that there has never been a strike in the great Lea Mills.]
4. Please also answer
question about Cheque
for £25 (“Women’s Division”)
p. 6 "guarantee Fund".

You see what Ld Derby
says that, if there were
a Penny savings' Bank
in every mill or workshop
or place of employment or Pay office
some millions of £ would
be annually added to
the country's riches -
Q.E.F. I would we could say
{there is a line drawn from here to attach this paragraph to the former; f141v continues}

I had to ask your forgiveness
for my long delay. I have
now to ask it for my
long letter. Give it me
for both, dear Mr. Fred.
I have had 6 years &
more without one day's rest
of body or mind, ending with
dear Mother's death/going home. Dr.
says my future work will
depend on being "free" for at
least a year 'from all the
responsibilities that have been
forced upon " me, (& he might say
that I have so badly fulfilled)
& from "letters". When is that "year"
to come?

Success, Success, success
to the ever young & gallant
old Paladin for Buckingham: it must
be real success whether
the Election is lost or won.
ever yours & Maude's
& Ralph's loving old
Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

Fred Verney Esq
ff143-44v, 139, Sloane Street, London, S.W., March 23, 1880, acknowledging receipt of FN’s long letter on the Trained Nurses’ Provident Society and FV’s political work in the election in Buckingham and Portsmouth.

ff145-46v, April 8, 1880, re the reasons why FV has not replied to FN’s long letter: a sewage case in which FV is engaged and a lecture on Plato’s Republic he is to give.

ff147-49, April 12, 1880, re FN’s long letter and his proposal to have a tea to discuss the issues she raises.

Address, signed letter, ff150-53v, pen, black-edged paper

My dear Mr. Fred

Thank you very much for your two notes about the “Woman Thrift movement” - & our trained Nurses in particular regard to it.

I am in the greatest hopes that something good will be worked out, thanks to you, not only for Provident Funds for women: but for as far as regards Sanitary & sober ‘conditions’ & allowances, Friendly.

Address
10 South St
Park Lane W.
April 16/80

My dear Mr. Fred

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Address
10 South St
Park Lane W.
April 16/80
Societies & Benefit Clubs
in general.
But so much the more reason for not hurrying yourself to your inconvenience.
Pray do not trouble yourself till your great sewage case is over.
It is I who ought to apologize for having sent in a document at such a time as this when all sorts of gravest interests are at stake. But my time (for work) may be short. And I

was anxious to ‘lodge a plea’ with you where I know it will be safe for development.
But it is a matter for years not for weeks.
Things are fructifying - As far as the Nurses are concerned, those of St. Thomas’ are not now throwing away their money but obliged by themselves to put it in the P.O. Savings’ Bank. - & I am corresponding with others of our Trained Matrons to join.
As far as Hy Bonham Carter is concerned, I am always afraid of him: he is so overworked. And, with ten sons, he as it were dreads some new thing to attend to. And as to Provident Funds he thinks the difficulties so great in the way of Nurses. [You know how I try to find some younger man to take a part at least of his duties on the “N. Fund.”]

I propose now to send him a résumé of your papers & mine, such as I sent you. Except his own part, he has not seen any. He has always been too busy.

Then, if you are so good as to carry out your ‘tea’, if he can attend, he will be at least insensed: & would be in many respects an excellent “Nurses’ delegate.”

I scarcely know how it will do to have a ‘delegation’ of one or two trained Nurses to represent the Trained Nursing interest, as you are so good as to invite. The Matron ought to be their Delegate. But I am afraid she, Mrs. Wardroper, in the multiplicity of her affairs, would not make a good Delegate, tho’ I have of course, as in duty...
bound, put her forward, as is her right, in this matter. And she has entered heartily into it for the moment.

I put down, in the paper of deplorable length with which I troubled you the MAIN WISHES of the St. Thomas' NURSES, as far as they could agree upon them/se at present.

But I quite concur that it would be much better to have “some one who would be ready to undergo cross examination on the details of a Nurse’s life”, as you invite.

Perhaps I may have time to think about it, please ? & to insense Hy Bonham Carter [I wish I could be that one myself. In Derbyshire the women of the ‘Friendly Socy’ make me their ‘Delegation of one’ to find out how their funds stand with the Treasurer at the Mill. &c &c &c. But then I have only to cross examine & be cross examined by the Mill Manger.]
II. I very much give us joy that you are going to ‘do’ Plato’s Republic to the people ‘in the East’. And I very much wish that, as you ask, I could make some suggestions, (tho’ I am sure they are not really needed.) But I have not my Plato with me: much less my notes.

Pray thank Maude very much for her kindness in going thro’ my letter. Money market not so tight, now: quite ready with my £20 for Mr. Knowles.

ever yours affly
Aunt Florence

ff154-55v, 4, Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C., April 21, 1880, re statistics produced by Mark Knowles for the Trained Nurses’ Provident Society

ff156-56v, 139, Sloane Street, London, S.W. April 22, 1880, re FV’s planned supper
f157

Woman Thrift Address
35/10 South St.
April 24/80

My dear Mr. Fred

Very many thanks for your note & its enclosures.

At present I will only trouble you with one or two remarks, pending the arrival of your great ‘tea’, which I hail.

1. I have always felt what you say about the ‘total abstinence’ & ‘temperance’ question: & about the “premium on falsehood” if/in the consequences to/of confessing to a glass of beer"
This especially for women, as you say. It is a choice of difficulties. And I was chiefly thinking of men: of illeg/excellent (North country) young workmen squandering yearly on drink what is in fact a good income: & falling back in sickness, the result of drink, upon the same say “Hearts of Oak” allowances as the sober worn out striving father of a family.

You understand that, for “Trained Nurses,” the question does not come up at all. The Total Abstainers are few or none. The intemperate are none.
For they are dismissed. But we have not had a case at St. Thomas’ for years.

Mr. Mark Knowles.

2. Thanks for the “Rules” which I have read with great care & interest.

Of the 3 objects, (Short) Sickness Pay
Burial Money Allowance
Long Sickness Pay
we should only want the last: (for our Trained Nurses) and Old Age (Superannuation) Allowance, of course.

I have some letters from our Trained Matrons which I will abstract for you.

Since I began this this morning, your letter received about Wednesday’s “supper” come in. I have written to Mrs. Wardroper, as you desired: & asked her to write to you, whether she can come “& a friend”. Must catch morning post. This prevents me from finishing this.

Delighted to be a guarantor for Mr. Mark Knowles: Shall I send you the Cheque?

Should like to see your lecture on Plato.

ever your affte
Aunt Florence
signed letter, ff159-63v, pen & pencil, black-edged paper

f159

Address
10 South St
April 28/80
My dear Mr. Fred
I have sent to Hy Bonham Carter an Abstract of the answers of our Trained Matrons.

Edinburgh Infirmary:
(135 Nurses, & Assistants & Probationers included)
- All without exception warmly in favour of a Provident Society.
- "If we never need it ourselves, it will be all the better: & we shall be helping those that do need it."
They want to know

f159v

"what the rules & conditions would be - what they should have to pay in. & what they would be entitled to in illness and old age - (that is, permanent/disabling illness or incurable infirmity
-- "say they have often been surprised that there was not such a Society
-- "a great many old pupils would like to join
-- "all at Edinburgh would join, if allowed.
-- "Nurses' hearty approval
-- "waiting for more information
[You see Edinburgh Nurses don’t make the condition, as St. Thomas’ do, of being able to take their money out, as out of a P. O. Savings Bank]

St. Mary’s Hospital: London

say much the same thing - Nurses wish for the same information before giving their promises to contribute.

Lincoln Hospital
(about the Nurses)
all sign same paper as the St. Thomas’ heading which I sent you -

St. Bartholomew’s: London
wish to hear more our Matron has been there too short a time

Good cheer for your Thursday’s supper (Marriage of Cana between provident tendencies & Trained Nurses)
And God speed the work!
ever yours & Maude’s & Ralph’s
Aunt Florence (F. Nightingale)
Do you know anything of the Liverpool Penny Banks’ Association: supposed to have been extraordinarily successful? I have just procured an introduction to the Actuary, Mr. Newton, at Liverpool, & propose to follow it up by correspondence. The questions I wanted principally to ask him (he is an enthusiast) are: 1. whether they can possibly be made to answer in a business point of view - & if so on how small a scale?

[the Liverpool Penny Banks, I believe, number upwards of 13/00: of which 30 [100?] in elementary Schools -] And what is their machinery? especially in Schools? [Mr. Gladstone told me last year that no Penny Bank could answer whose machinery was not unpaid: & that every shilling put into the P. O. Savings Banks did cost, or might cost, the Govt elevenpence]

2. whether there could be a Penny Banks Assocn in a rural District, as e.g. that about Lea, Holloway, Crich & Cromford: thickly peopled
Success to your “supper”
(the marriage of Cana)
I have writ to Mrs. Wardroper to put her off to Thursday & asked her to write to you.

Aunt Florence
23/4/80
in great haste

But I have no doubt that you could suggest to me many questions out of the experience of yourself & your “tea” friends, which would not occur to me - if you would kindly do so - Or that they themselves are sufficiently acquainted with its working.

F.N.

I should like very much to see your Lecture on Plato: & give you joy of that & of your Sewage speech.
I shall be delighted at being a Guarantor for Mr. Mark Knowles’ “Lodge”: I think I had better send you the Cheque for £20? (I enclose it)
F.N.
ff164-65v, April 29, 1880, re the results of the evening meeting about the Trained Nurses’ Provident Society and the difficulties raised

signed letter, ff166-68, pen, black-edged paper

f166
TRAINED NURSES April 29/80
PROVIDENT FUND
My dear Mr. Fred
In case this should arrive in time for your “Marriage of Cana” Supper, which may God speed: -

I venture to trouble you with an Extract from a letter from Miss Pringle, Matron of EDINBURGH INFY, in answer to my enquiries based on the Extract which I did send you:

She says:
“I called a Meeting of the day Nurses in the afternoon which most of them attended, & I met the Night Nurses

f166v
“when they were assembled in the evening. After reading your letter to the day nurses, we discussed it & found ourselves in one mind as to NOT WITHDRAWING THE MONEY, ON ACCOUNT OF MARRIAGE OR ANYTHING ELSE but leaving it always FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ASSOCIATION.

“This was expressly declared by Nurse M.F., a plain woman much given to grumbling in speech, but known to abound in kindness of heart (one of those who saves and helps relations)
And it was heartily agreed to by all -

“The Night Nurses all agreed to the same recommendation & had nothing further to ask: except that a dear illogical Night Nurse (M.Y.), speaking with a great effort & burning blushes, said:

“Surely old Nurses that have worked already many years won’t have to pay in so much as us young ones.”

“Miss P. (the First Assistant Matron) “asks further whether there will be the option of INSURING also for a sum of money at DEATH AS A PROVISION FOR those who are DEPENDENT on us”.

I will write today to some of the Hospitals we have supplied or helped with Nurses.

“I do feel now quite bound to this mutual provident bond, & I earnestly hope the dear Nurses will remain on the spirit they have shown. None of them being pledged to the scheme, it is very possible we may have some disappointment when it comes to action; but some will be very stanch, I know.”

“One of our Nurses also asks whether the fund would PROVIDE FOR BURIAL.

“[The custom of the INFIRMARY CERTAINLY is to pay & provide for the Nurses DURING TEMPORARY ILLNESS & also ORDINARY CONVALESCENCE]”
Would you kindly communicate this to Hy Bonham Carter, who is, I rejoice to hear, to attend the "supper"?
   I have the highest hopes of your success & will not trouble you with more at present
   ever yours sincerely
   F. Nightingale

ff169-70v, 4, Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C. April 30, 1889, re the difficulty in providing a sound basis for a superannuation fund for nurses

ff171-72v, 139, Sloane Street, S.W., May 2, 1880, re additional difficulties with the Provident Fund

ff173-74v, May 16, 1880, re a draft proposal for the Nurses' League and mention of FN's disappointment at Lord Ripon's becoming a Roman Catholic

ff175-75v, August 10, 1880, asking for the return of his MS on Book IV of Plato's Republic

signed letter, ff176-77, pencil, black-edged paper

My dear Mr. Fred
   I read your lecture on Plato with the greatest possible interest - seldom anything have I read with so much. I hope you do not think I have forgotten it. I kept it that I might make some Extracts which I have never had any strength to do, except a page on the mission of the newspapers in national education which
I particularly liked -
Also: do not think I forgot your hint about
Mr. Hardy, to whom we are so much obliged.
- I forwarded it at once
to Harry Bonham Carter.

God bless you all:
  I am a wretched selfish
old creature -
  but still your affecte
    Aunt Florence
Many thanks for all:

unsigned, incomplete letter, ff178-80v, pen [8:882-83]

Mrs. Brown
27/4/81
10, South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane. W.
My dear Maude (if you will allow me to call you so)
I come to your kindness to ask you to give me a
searching character ‘ of
Mrs. Brown.
  If it had not been that you were her last mistress,
I should not have had the courage to try her: I, an incompetent, tho’ I hope careful mistress.
  1. You see her antecedents are: 2 places of 5 months
before that 1 " of 6 weeks
before that 6 years with an old gentleman who is dead
    - no mistress at all -
These are such very poor references.

2. Add to this, she was so excessively nervous when with me jumping up from her seat & bursting once, à propos de bottes, out into tears, then begging my pardon for her “nervousness”, that indeed I should have suspected - - ? drink. But it is such an immense thing to me to have a servant from you, - who I know will take pains to tell me the truth, & kindly allow for my ‘incompetency’ which makes me ask

troublesome questions, - that I very much incline to Mrs. Brown, if you know her thoroughly.

3. She told me that she left you because it was “such very hard work” during your “confinement.” This seems a queer assertion. Will she leave me in the same way?

4. She told me that you gave her “25, everything found” ex/including “beer”. But “there “was beer, but she hardly “ever drank it.” [This was the very thing told me by a cook who was never quite sober.] I foolishly did not ask her who kept the “beer” with you. With me it is the cook.
5. She confessed to taking “perquisites”, but said she “never asked for them” - (from the tradesmen)

6. She said she was “used to cooking for Invalids”: but could not think of anything she cooked for them, except “Mutton Cutlets” & “Beef Tea”.

7. She said she was “a Brother” - [I always give a seat to each servant wherever she is accustomed to attend: but am not fond of “Brothers”: & don’t want my poor little foolish Derbyshire girl=servant to become a “Brother.”]

It is so difficult to ask you questions when they are “confidential” ones, other than by telling what one’s impressions from seeing her were. do you feel you know her enough to be sure that she is a perfectly trustworthy upper servant, in all the senses? 

I liked her dress: not much, as I have said, her manner: 

the cook has so much in her power, as regards the other servants. How does she behave to them? What is her temper?

What is her principal fault? Everybody has faults. 

Is she punctual? She came long before the time appointed: a very inconvenient time.
Is she a good cook for an Invalid, that is, in making tender little dishes of meat, so as to be able to cut it with a fork & not with a knife - delicate, not sauce-y, little dishes of fish fillets. minced, quenelle & warmed up dishes, rather, common things, done exceedingly well, than “made” dishes - She could not tell me any Invalid’s dish. [I told her that I had only one thing at a meal, so that if it was not good, I had nothing.] Forgive me, dear Maude,

ff181-82, May 8, 1881, acknowledging FN’s willingness to contribute to the Journal and enclosing the Balance Sheet for the “societies”; women are now to be admitted as representatives at the annual trades’ congress
Add Mss 68882 unsigned letter, ff183-87v, pen & pencil [15:534-36]

f183

**British Army Leading Article**

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane, W.
Sept. 6 1881
6 a.m.

My dear Mr. Fred

I think that this is most excellent as a Leading Article & as such I do not think that you/it could go any further. The end is capital.

People do not at all estimate the force of your point that in our possessions “abroad” the English standing army is always in an “emergency” - in that “emergency” which calls out our Reserve at home.

I have often wished that some one would, not too professionally, write something more than a Leading Article.

f183v

on these points -

dwelling perhaps particularly on India.

1. you know that in our Indian Army Sanitary Comm: we have especially worked out the point of the destruction it is to these very young soldiers to be sent to India [I think we found 23 to be the earliest proper age - but we are not now insisting on details.]

2. Maiwand, one is told by Officers & alas! by the German Militär Wöchenblatt, was a yet more disastrous illustration than S. Africa of all that is imperfect in our British Army, including the
unprofessional character of
our officers - & the terrible chaos results of seniority. The man in command had never been anything but a carpet knight in his life. It was yet more disastrous, because the old soldiers fought like heroes.

3. The whole question of age both in the Civil & Military Service for India is now rising to the surface - & must be settled.

[I showed Sir H. a letter I had been advised & compelled to write to the I.O. about the young Civil Servants in training at Oxford - age too young - two years quite too short to teach them what they must know - for India. ]

4. The present necessity for British Officers, especially Company Officers, becoming professional as they are in every other Army but ours, & not leaving every thing to Colonel & Adjutant - this everywhere in British possessions but especially in India - the Captain to teach himself

Musketry
Military Geography
Military History
the art of throwing up small defence works & entrenching - (plain Fortifications)

5. The revolution of the whole practice of Musketry drill Instruction to the common sense one - (as practised in Germany -&c)
6. the absolute necessity of keeping middle aged experienced trustworthy N.C. Officers in the Army [in my day the British N.C. Officer was the most valuable of men: he was a prince of men] - not a boy. I believe Mr. Childers is awakening to this fact. Without such men an Army is not an Army.

8. the increased necessity especially in India, especially with these short service boys, of making the Regimental School a real Institution, which it is not as long as the Officers never enter it. The Company Officer should enter it everyday. see after it.

9. the terrible results, especially for these young men, Privates, especially in India, of the Government keeping canteens, of these youths not being ordered up first to the hills, & encouraged to shoot about - & wander about there & catch butterflies.

These & many more points there are.
You have touched upon all these points - & quite as much as could be done in a Leading Article.

But every one of them might be extended into an Lead Article.

10

The age of enlistment has been raised one year, has it not? - And the term of short Service extended one year - this Session?

But there need far greater reforms than this.

11. As for the Army Hospl Corps, it is a mere drunken rabble & worse. They are well paid. And these boys find themselves in the possession of money, without any proper
f186v
N. C. Officers over them, just at the age when money is most misspent - This was notorious in S. Africa.
12. Two small illustrations I have been told on almost unquestionable authority:
   a. N.C. Officers have now to be chosen merely because they/se boys can read & write instead of fathering the boys -
   b. Even Artillery Officers at Woolwich think not of their men but only of getting up to London to their Clubs -

13. We are revolutionizing our Army - & it is necessary But by abolishing Purchase - by Short Service - by greatly altering the Regimental system, as a {printed address, upside down} 10, South Street, family, as its Park Lane, W. Officers’ family, possession, as their levy, property, estate.
f187

But we do not see the results of all this: & that one of them is: our Officers must become professional especially the Company Officers - professional in the sense that lawyers, tutors, schoolmasters, even school mistresses & Head Nurses are professional. They must not lurk behind the spirit of the age - Why even we women are becoming professional - thank God for it - it is what I live for.

N.B. the misery of the wives & children when our Reserve was called out was untold This detail must be settled if the Reserve becomes an Institution We are mocking old Roman

f187v Institutions without differentiating the difference. [end 15:536]
Lea Hurst  
Cromford Derby  
Oct. 3/81

My dear Mr. Fred  
Many thanks for your  
most kind note.  
I am very glad to think  
of Maude again with her  
children: [to her my great  
love, please.] You know  
that I think Ralph, little man,  
requires 'intellectual' society  
Will you not take this place [see]  
on your road from  
Pleasley to Rhianva?  
It will be very dull:  
but Aunt Florence would  
gladly see you for an hour.  
There is a bed: & the

Butler = Valet = Coachman =  
Relieving Officer, aged 14,  
of this Genteel Establishment  
will gladly take care of you.  
I wish I could be sure  
that the Shore Smiths will/ould  
be here.  
Mr. Jowett was here for  
a few days: & I talked to  
him of Mr. Stubbs -  

ever your affte  
   Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, f193, pencil

**f193**

Lea Hurst  
Cromford: Derby  
Oct. 6/81  
My dear ‘Capt. of Cavalry’ Mr. Fred  
I am very glad that you are coming tomorrow. I hope to hear by morning’s post at what hour. that I may send for you at Whatstandwell or Cromford Station.  
There is no fly to be had at either Station.  
ever yours  
F. Nightingale

initialled letter, ff194-95v, pencil

**f194**

8/10.81,  
My dear Mr. Fred  
Give me the benefit of your help.  
E. Brooks is a poor girl from a bad family at Crich whom I took, all but naked, 5 years ago & provided for in various ways. but inveterate habits of lying & unstead: =iness & a sort of malignant way of currying favour with one servant & setting her against any other servant who had offended her, E.B., & various other faults - made me feel it would be
better for her if I could find her another place. [Also, I found that she thought whatever she did I should always provide for her]

With the greatest difficulty I found her a good place with this Mrs. Whitfield. And, having been kept 'au courant' by Mrs. W., I believe that in this County Court suit matter, Mrs. W. is the victim & not E.B. Altogether it is a bad job -

[You will say: & I feel:

"in 5 years could you do nothing better for this girl?"]

Tell me what I should do: - should I not answer at all? Should I write something like the enclosed? could you give me another word for "not dishonest" - I mean not stealing - I am so very glad to have your advice - I fancy that Mr. Chambers (who is for aught
f195v
I know, a pettifogging attorney) has found out the case will not hold & wants to bring me into it
My great misery is what will become of this girl without a character? She is unsteady enough already
Yrs F.N.
8/10/81
initialled letter, ff196-97, pencil

f196
E. Brooks 8/10/81
My dear Mr. Fred
E. Brooks “never was admitted into Mrs. Whitfield’s service” - It was a series of blunders (on Mrs. W.’s part as well.) She, E.B. wrote from home after an interval breaking her agreement to enter Mrs. W.’s service - In the mean time, Mrs. W. sent her 1 which she had asked for (the letters crossed) which E. B. chose to take as re= engaging her. [her real
reason being, it was understood, that she tried to get another place & failed.]

She arrived at Hastings at night without warning: & Mrs. W. had engaged another servant, but offered to put her into the Servants' Home till she Mrs. W. could part with the pro-tem servant.

E.B. refused, & was, Mrs. W. says, abusive - went straight with the

f197

*Cabman* to an Attorney & has been staying since at the Cabman's - (about 3 or 4 weeks)!!! after making Mrs. W. pay her fare to *London*. (where I am thankful she did *not* go) & threatening Mrs. W. with proceedings

It is a long story but this is the outline.

Does this modify your view?

F.N.

You *may* not find Dr. Webb at home.
10/10/81
My dear Mr. Fred
  I hope Dr. Webb gave you a good account of yourself yesterday?
  What time will you have the Waggonette for Maude to-day?
  Do you approve of this arrangement for yourselves?
[Please go over the rooms with Fanny & tell me.]
Nursery Bed-room & Nursery for 2 chicks & their Nurses - a sofa made

Gwendolen (I cannot find, alas! a Crib) to be by the Nurse's bed -
the Nurse-maid to sleep either in the Nursery or a small room opposite which
Fanny will show you -
I am going to put up another Iron bed stead side by side with yours at 10 this morning - for Maude
I propose that you should have the Study for your dressing-room - & the Study & Garden Hall for you & Maude & ‘Strad’ -

[I will put more furniture into these rooms which were my Father’s - & I can make them pretty comfortable:]

I deplore the fact that the room you are now in is so small for two -

Would you think it better till the chicks come for you & Maude to have the Nursery bedroom?

[The large bed is a good bed, recently had by myself from Maple’s]

I wish I could give you better rooms & not change you about

There is one other plan, viz. that you should have the whole Nursery floor for
f200

-2-
yourselves. [Fanny will show you the “Long” Room with 2 beds] for the children] & you the Study for your dressing-room - But I don’t think this will be so comfortable for Maude as the other - I have not yet heard about Shore’s man servant. ever yrs affly Aunt Florence

ff201-02v, October 11, 1881, re FV’s plan to see Mr. Wildgoose and enclosing a paper about coal dust

unsigned note, f203, pencil

f203 {archivist: 11 Oct 1881}

Dear Maude I think it was very rude & bad manners of Aunt Florence not to furnish Ralph’s drawing-room Table with the “Periodicals of the day”. Will this do?

11/10/81 Mrs F. Verney
signed letter, ff204-05, pencil

f204

11/10/81
My dear Mr. Fred
I hope Maude is well & that you have good tidings of the chicks.
How I wish that you would, if agreeable to you call upon Mr. Wildgoose, the Manager of Lea Mills, (at the “Poplars”, not 5 min: from here) & perhaps go over the Mills with him.
As for the 1/6 Porterage, I am ashamed to say I have always paid it. You, village

f204v
Hampden, are quite right.
But, I am sure I should not fight it after you were gone. I have so many fights. I should question if any one in Holloway had Telegrams, except Mr. Wildgoose, Mr. Yeomans, (from me in London which of course I pay) & I - & Mr. Sims
Would you mind delaying the fight till Shore comes, or till you could see Mr. Wildgoose & Mr. Yeomans & learn what they do?

f205
with best love to Maude ever yrs affly
At Florence
Would you like the Shandrydan to have a drive to day?
Thanks for the Stamps wh I am sure I ought not to accept.
Add Mss 68883, 294 folios, 92 pages, microfilm, correspondence with Frederick and Maude Verney
Part 2 1881-86, Adam Matthew reel 39

signed letter, ff1-1v, pencil

f1

12/10/81
My dear Mr. Fred
   I think this note is very neat & appropriate. As you are so good as to ask me, I think, if I were writing, I should leave out the word “flagrant” in the last line but one. I think it reads almost stronger without it.
Thank you 1000 times for the pens. A good pen is the Summum Bonum of my life - I shall try them & then ask you for the address - Claydon has kept us

f1v
most magnificently in game - And we are indeed thankful. Ralph brought a pheasant yesterday - & Baby a pheasant And Nurse a hare - This was an unlooked for generosity I hope to see you this evening before dinner - yrs affly
   At Florence
13/10/81

My dear Mr. Fred

I have read this Report with the deepest interest -

How many hitherto unaccountable explosions it must account for!

[Abab we used to have a great deal to do with at the W.O. & particularly with his father who, poor man, destroyed himself -]

I should have liked a copy -

Do you suppose it possible

that in neglected basements in London where a gas escape produces an explosion, the dusty state (including even coal-dust) of the premises, may have anything to do with it?

F.N.
Dear Mr. Fred

I am so sorry about Maudie’s tooth ache -

There is a first rate Dentist at Derby who ‘removes’ with Gas -

[Derbyshire people come from London to go to him!]

Is it quite wise for her to go down ‘the pit’ at all?

Thanks very many for Institute news -

I am sending down Mr. Hey’s paper -

Aunt Florence

14 October 1881

I am so sorry

The Dentist’s name is Murphy.

But I should like to have telegraphed to him.

He is so much in request that he goes to other places.

I think however that Friday is Derby Market day: in that case he is sure to be there -

Will you take the risk?
Or shall I send down to Cromford & telegraph?
And will you not put off the fête to-night?
Add Mss 41977D

f5
Will it not be too
much for Maude,
(to whom my best of loves)?
Shall I send up to
Yeoman’s to know if
this is Derby Market day
&c &c?
At Florence

f5v
Mr. F. Verney

signed note, f6-6v, pencil {archivist; [14 Oct 1881]}

Dear Fred It is Derby
Market - day to-day, I
find. Murphy will be there.
I am afraid it will rain again
Will you not have Young’s
Shandrydan -
& to meet you in the
afternoon?
Will you have some
food with you, illeg what?
It is no use telling you
how sorry I am.
At F.

f6v
a verbal answer
Mr. F. Verney

ff8-9, October 14, from FV, re Maude’s visit to the dentist

ff10-10v, {archivist: October 1881}, re personal news of the children and their visit to FN
15/10/81
My dear Mr. Fred

1. how is Maude? in the very first place?
   and 1001 best blessings on you for the entertainmt
   I should like to see the Programme of what you & she did.

2. Must I order you Shandrydan for to be at Whatst: at 12.10?

3. Did Shore give orders about removing the fallen tree by this morning?

4. I shall trust to

5. The next question is about the chicks' Railway journey without you:
   if you will give me exact orders, I will send an astute female to help the Nurse with the children and

Here I received yr note
Dear Mr. Fred
I had got so far when I received your welcome note -
I assure you the *only* thing you *can* do for the relief of Aunt Florence’s mind is what you propose: viz. return here on Tuesday. And I bargain that you come in time to see her, At. F.

*This* will wait - I wanted you to explain to me about the Undergraduates’ (Cambridge or Oxford) Course of Ethics: what are the books read? What the effect on the Undergrad: mind? &c &c

ever yours
& Maude’s
Aunt F.

ff13-14v, Station Hotel, York, October 16, 1881, re Maude’s recovery and the illness of Mrs. Monk

ff15-16v, October 18, 1881, re visits made by FV and Maude

ff17-18, October 19, 1881, re family news
Lea Hurst
Oct 19. 1881
My dear Maude
   God speed you both & the chicks.
   Give me a post card from Rhianva to say that you are alive & well.
   You were so good as to offer to show me the Stradivarius
And if I might hear the mistress of the Stradivarius
draw from it a little Mozart or Beethoven - & then
“Home, sweet Home,” that would be indeed a pleasure.
You will smile, but there is perhaps nothing in the

world I should like so much to have heard as you leading ‘Home, sweet Home’ &c & the people singing -
I heard last night an ecstatic account of your performances & the Entertained from Mr Haywood, the Schoolmaster,
by no means an ecstatic person.
Thank you a thousand times for it & again 1000 times
To Maude
Does Mervyn look in that spiritual manner?
Some day perhaps you will
f20
tell me exactly how you
feed him - with what
biscuits? qy sopped in
milk?
  To Mr. Fred
   The County Court suit for
that girl, E. Brooks, has
been decided
  1 month wages (only)  1.3.6
Rec'd from Mrs. Whitfield  2
          Court  3.3.6
Paid Solicitor’s & fees  1.19.6
barely paid, she  1.4.0
says, her journey home
  What will become of her?

f20v
  To Mr. Fred-
    If you have a moment to
spare, please tell me what
you thought about reading
Ethics at Oxford -
  - the books read:
  - the effect on the mind
    of the Undergraduates &c
I have seen Ralph &
baby. I hope baby has
not a little cold.
  They excited so much
interest at the Sunday
School singing on Sunday
that the boys could not
sing, but kept looking up at
Ralph. God save them both:
(as we say, without thinking, of the Queen)

ff21-24v, Rhianva, Bangor, October 23, 1881, re the uses of philosophical studies
My dear Mr. Fred

Thank you very much for your Aristotelian letter, in which you have put much better what I have felt the greater part of my life, & what I hope to have some talk with Your Excellency some day about - For the moment I must descend from Ethics to a vulgar subject. But what a pity that we cannot put Ethics, as we might, into vulgar subjects. Anent Mr. Young's Bill, if you do that 9/, you will compel me to keep a carriage - And who is to manage the coachman who is to manage the horses? Besides they will always want shoeing just as I am sending down for an elderly or sick friend, & no time to order a fly - Now, Mr. Young manages me - And his horses never want shoeing - As he says: in answer to kind enquiries,
'My 3 horses are quite well, but I've got the Rheumatisms'.
So if you are not too fine to ride in Mr. Young's shandrydan, please let him be my coachman -
I send 10/- the extra 1/
is for Ralphinello, not for 'goodies', horrid thought -
but for mud-pies, a little spade, or any thing that has to do with out of doors dirt
which so delighting the youthful mind &
embrowning the youthful hands & cheek -

to whom, Ralphinello, illeg/Aunt F's best love, & also to Gwendolen
And especially to Maude
& very many thanks for her dear little notes. It was a great relief to my anxious mind that she arrived alive - And I ought rather to ask her to forgive, (and but I know she does) the discomforts of this half monté house
And I hope to hear the Stradivarius & its mistress some day -
And does Mervyn have his Albert biscuits soaked in
his milk?
And I wish I had time
or strength to write about
more worthy subjects than
“shandrydans” at present.
but am always & ever
yours & Maude’s affecte
Aunt Florence
if you will have such a
poor old Aunt

with love to all the
dear people at Rhianva
& thanks for the Harrison book
very interesting

signed note, f28, pencil

Lea Hurst
28/10/81
In my letter (in the Registered
ever) I forgot to say:
you left here a beautiful
piece of fernery from
the depths of the
Pleasley pit-
Shall I bring it to you in
London? It will not
tavel safely in the
Reg. Env - Meanwhile
I keep it as a memento
that Maude came safe
“out of the pit”
Aunt Florence
What the Health Missioner is to be paid: how Supervised &c &c

Claydon House, {printed address:}
   Winslow, Bucks. 5 Nov/81
   7 a.m.

My dear Fred

   I have consulted with [6:584] Margaret.

1. The Health Missioner must certainly be paid, otherwise it will be mere amateur work. She should be paid certainly not less than the other ladies who would be teaching cookery & other subjects.

2. She should be under the Medical Officer of Health for supervision - but sent by the County Council. For she might be serving

[f29v]

under more than one Medical Officer of Health

[But I strongly feel that IN TIME TO COME (as it is absolutely impossible for the M. O. of Health to supervise the minutiae which this women is there on purpose to carry out) perhaps a Lady Supt. more perfectly experienced than herself will be required to look supervise -] But say nothing about that at present]

The Village Committee or whatever you call it which you have so wisely
instituted will no doubt look sharply after her in some respects. But as the supervisor ought to know more than the supervised, real supervision of domestic sanitation cannot be exercised by them, any more than the Governors can really supervise the Nurses in a Hospital.

3 "How she is to be fitted into the system." Will not the same machinery that works the cooking & other classes do for this? Those districts who ask

for "Nursing", by which we understand they mean Health in Home, will have the Health Missioner. A lady must go from house to house, as we understand has actually been done in any other case & announce time & place of class to the poor rural mothers & women.

4. But what Margt and I both most strongly feel is that, in a perfectly untried scheme (perfectly untried except by failure - that of the Nat. Health ladies from London) we must find
out what local material there is before to make Health Missioners out of before we go abroad, & invite them from Liverpool & London. We must consult Dr. De’ath too ever your affte Aunt Florence

ff32-33v, Claydon House, Bucks, October 11, 1882 explaining why they have not been able to pay a visit to Lea Hurst

ff34-35v, 4 South Street, Park Lane, W., December 9, 1882 re Sir HV’s state of health

signed note, ff36-37, pencil

10 South St.
12/18/82
Thank God that dear, dearest Margaret is coming to-day!
It was more than I had dared to hope - How loving & noble of her! & to leave Ellin!!

The night last night was rather worse than
better -
If there was any hurry or ruffling of the Patient before the Subcutaneous, it would account for it - - I do not know that there was - but it is difficult to avoid, without Hospital discipline, or a lady's supervision.

f37
Thank you all: ever yrs gratefully F. Nightingale
I was quite in real despair when I heard of the bad night till the news that Margaret was coming.

f38, 139 Sloane Street, February 6, 1883, re a win at Nottingham and a reminder of a note to be written

ff39-40, Travellers’ Club, Pall Mall, S.W., March 18, 1883, re FV’s willingness to read a paper of FN’s and to take greetings from FN to the Hague

ff41-41v, March 23, 1883, re FV’s travel plans

ff42-43v, 139 Sloane Street, London, S.W., April 23, 1883, re lodging arrangements for Sir HV and a suggestion that Stubbs read FN’s paper

ff44-44v, The Siamese Legation, 14, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., April 7, 1883, re a chest of drawers for papers

ff45-46v, 139 Sloane Street, London, S. W., June 1, 1883, re his reading of FN’s paper

ff47-47v, June 9, 1883, from Maude Verney, re some papers FN wanted and offering to take anything to Claydon
My dear Maude

How very good you are to me! I was so sorry not to be able to go to the window yesterday & look at the little people in their panniers - I will send down to you a very small parcel of books (returned) for Claydon to-morrow, according to your very kind desire - Do not trouble to call.

2. Please in thanking Margt tell her that “la reconnaissance”

Could you & she ascertain when it will be best to fix the day for our Probationers to go to Claydon? You know they were first most kindly asked for “early in June” - - then for “late in June” - Miss Crossland must go on her much needed holiday not later, I believe, than July 1 - We have
no one but her to bring
the Probationers - Probably
Sir Harry’s time & my sister’s
may exactly fit in with
Miss Crossland’s - As Sir
Harry will kindly run about
with the Probrs, I hope
his shin will be well
first -

3. I trust he is not
using my “Calendula”
without constant supervision
from Dr. Denton -
No doubt Margt sees to
this - She is like an
angel from heaven - healing
our wounds - setting the captive
free - bringing the year of the Lord

Please do not let me
bother you - there is
still an instalment of my
Indian paper - the last
part - not come - Please
do not hunt for it. But
if it should fall under your
hand, let it be put out for
my Messenger, who will
call with the books about
12 tomorrow -

Thank you, thank you: &
Forgive me. Success to
all you love - I was going
to say - but that would
not include one very dear
(yourself) to Aunt Florence
I hope Ellin is better.
June 11/83
My very dear Maude
I troubled you yesterday
with a wish that the day
for the party to Claydon of the
Probationers might be
settled so that it might
annoy as little as possible
its kind invités & hosts.
Miss Crossland does not
go way before Monday
July 9: so if any
day of the first week
in July would suit Sir

Harry & my sister
better (who asked
them for June) there
seems nothing to hinder
it.
Success to you all, all
you dear ones -
I heard from Sir Harry
this morning.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Aug 7/83

My dear Maude

Are you pretty well & strong now? I hope so - I am rather in trouble about fixing my movements with regard to my going to Claydon - not in reference only to my Sister but also to dear Margaret’s convenience & movements - Could you kindly tell me first what day Capt. George Verney’s party leaves Claydon? [I cannot learn this from Sir Harry]

If you are going out at all events & could see me for a few minutes today at 4 or 5 or at 6, should be very glad - but not unless you are coming (permiscuous) in this direction - If you are not, may I write to you?

Aunt Florence’s Love to Mr. Fred who I believe is returned ever yours dear Maude

F. Nightingale
10 South St
Aug 10/83

My dear Maude

Dr. Acland was here yesterday. He is in England for one day on purpose, among other things, to see my Sister - I telegraphed to Claydon - Dr. Acland will go down to Claydon to day (Friday) at one to stay till five o'clock - Would it be possible for you to be there? I think with joy of your going. [I do not think it is much use his giving directions unless there is some one who will remember accurately what he says, as you do]

But I do not know by whether you go early in the afternoon.

I hope you are pretty well & not over hurried.

Sir Harry's anxiety must be great for he not only writes to me twice a day but telegraphs
f55

I telegraphed to Dr. Denton to meet Dr. Acland [I hope they at Claydon will not take this amiss].
Both the Nurses are new: a Nurse Boomfield from Oxford instead of Nurse Dare - I am afraid my Sister may refuse to see Dr. Acland.

Would you be so very good as to take the Review enclosed to Sir Harry? my sister?

God bless you both, dear Maude. I am so very sorry Mr. Fred loses his Prince -

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

signed note, f55, pencil

[8:884]

f56

Aug 15/83

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude: just starting for Claydon,

-What a Godsend you have been at Claydon. I hope you are not the worse.

Would you be so very good as to tell me what you think of each respective Nurse at Claydon:

any hints I am to observe about them: & what hours on duty each Nurse is, I mean whether day or night.

I wish I could save you the trouble of writing this: God bless you:

ever your affecte Aunt Florence
signed note, ff57-58, pencil

f57 {archivist: 27 Sept. 1883}

My best love to Maude & little God-daughter & Margt and best, best wishes for your Dutch journey & all your Siam reforms.

I cannot express my thanks for what you did for me last night, nor my Sorrow that it should have been at such an inopportune time for you.

How is your cough?
& I hope you are none the worse.

f57v

I send last page of Proof, apparently left out by mistake dropped off the pin

God bless you all.

ever affly

Aunt Florence

Sept 22 83

7 am

f58

Since I wrote this, I have your kind packet.

This is the missing Sheet.

F.N.

ff59-60v, 139, Sloane Street, London, S.W. September 29, 1883, from FV re his return and Maude’s recovery and a speech he will make

ff61-62v, 4 South St, October 22, 1883, from MV re some stockings for Parthe and a photographer

ff63-64v, November 12, 1883, re Fitzjames Stephen’s Indian letter to the Times
ff65-66, November 28, 1883, from FV re a book called “the Expansion of England” and his wish to discuss laissez faire & laissez défaire with FN

ff67-68v, December 4, 1883, re FV’s wish to have the Queen invite a Siamese prince to dinner

signed letter, ff69-70, pencil

f69

Dec 5/83
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred I feel almost as anxious as you that Prince Prisdang should have what is so right.- a dinner with the Queen. I wish I could help you. but I hardly know how.

Lady Biddulph, the widow of Sir ? Thomas Biddulph (she lives in Henry the VII’s tower at Windsor) is, I believe, the person who fills most nearly “the place of Lady Augusta Stanley “with the Queen” - but with a difference -

Sir Henry Ponsonby is undoubtedly “the right person” to ask - but I am afraid you will think him “too official”

f69v

When is Prince Prisdang leaving? [- To my sorrow -] How much you have done for him! And how I hope that you may be the means of doing great things for Siam -

How vulgar, rude & brutal is the tone of the Times about Lord Ripon’s policy - Yes, I could never have thought that Sir B. Frere would have written such a letter.

God bless you ever yours affly
   Aunt Florence
I want so much to see you as you kindly propose - & dear Maude & hear about some important operations of my God=daughter’s - And I have so much to hear from you - I hope to compass it soon.

But I am pretty bad - And now is come the flood of work for the Offices which I am unable to do - I am at my wits’ end.

My poor Fanny at her own eager desire & by Doctor’s orders went to St. Thomas’ Hospital on Monday - & the on Tuesday wanted to come out - And the Senior Physician came to tell me so last night.

My dear Mr. Fred I feel almost as anxious as you do that any such recognition as that of dining with the Queen should be given to Prince Prisdang. I did write [there has not yet been time for an answer] but am quite uncertain as to the result.

I am so little knowledge=able that I do not know whether you had better employ any other (better)
agency at once - it is always well to have two strings to one's bow - & could do no harm - or wait for my answer -  
  When does Pr. Prisdang leave?  
  You see the Q goes to Osborne in a week or ten days  
  ever yours  
  Aunt Florence

I am so pressed this ante-Christmas time when all the Offices are getting up their work & people are going back to India  
But I should like "our" engagement to come off  
If you are at home about 6, would you look in for half an hour? But don't come home on purpose - I might not be able to see you  
F.N.
My dear Mr. Fred

I have failed miserably in getting Pr. Prisdang a 'command' to dine - I am so very sorry.

"The readiest way," I am told, is "for Sir Harry Verney, "as his host, to ask Lord "Granville to bring it about," as if you could not have thought of that for yourself, if it had been desirable!!

I am reminded that the "approaching anniversary of the Prince Consort's death makes this a bad time" - & your letter is returned to me as being "very interesting", which indeed it is.

I am afraid I can do no more. How gladly would I have done it you well know-

I know how very difficult it is for any one now to persuade or bring about these things -

I hope you were not hurried or wet last night on your Eastern expedition.

ever yr aff

Aunt Florence
[8:884]

21/12/83

Thanks very much dear Maude
I think about 25 or 20 Xmas cards would satisfy my rapacious maw, (if you are getting some for yourself -)
I have a good many already - but they are always the same things - a trailing flower & a text - not always well chosen especially not for children - who like faces & ever yours gratefully scenes Aunt Florence

[f76]

Dec 22/83

PRAY, my very dear Maude, don’t trouble about the Xmas cards for me, unless you are getting them for yourself. I will never give another Xmas card again, if you do - You are so very busy - Mervyn says you must not. Last night, when your kind message came, the Chairman of the great St. Marylebone Infy (which we nurse) was settling
with me the details of
the building & the Regulations
for a new School for
Probationers which we
are going to help in having
there -

And I did not know
what I wrote to you.
It is wonderful, it is
extraordinary that after
20 years that trained
Nursing has become almost
a fashion, the difficulty of

getting Nurses for Workhouse
Infirmaries whom you
can bear about a Patient
unless you train them
yourselves is almost
as great as ever

with love to chicks
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

initialled note, f78, pencil

Please tell me if Capt Verney
is not now, as I hope & trust,
pursuing his canvass from
his father's house - & if
Margt is not coming back
to Claydon -
F.N.
If you come on Sunday,
will it be at 5
or at 6? And, please,
I am afraid I must say
that I have no strength now
to go on longer than 7.30,
however willing.

ff79-80v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., April 3, 1884 thanking FN for a tablecloth
signed letter, ff81-81, pen

f81
10 S. St. April 27/84
Thank you, thank you very much, my dear Mr. Fred
There is scarcely any thing in this world that I should like better than to attend your Buddhist conference, so valuable & so important with its knowledge from the source -
But alas! how is it to be done? I am ordered never to be in company except with all the precautions you see when you are kind enough to visit me. You will say that I break these now every day of my life - Yes; but with the effect of entirely destroying my power of work - All the same, I would have come, had it been only possible, to enjoy your Symposium. You will gather for me what books there are to read for "my Sam". And you will tell me all about it.

f81v
you are kind enough to visit me. You will say that I break these now every day of my life - Yes; but with the effect of entirely destroying my power of work - All the same, I would have come, had it been only possible, to enjoy your Symposium. You will gather for me what books there are to read for "my Sam". And you will tell me all about it.

f82
in haste not to keep you
Ever your affte
Aunt Florence
My dear Mr. Fred

Please to give me those valuable hints for the letter to be written to the Committee - v. the impending conversation -

We both of us know how entirely a Constitution, supposing one to exist, may be over ridden by “Instructions”

- how the way in which “Regulations” are carried out wholly depends on the “Instructions”

-[many years of my life were spent in writing, inter alia,

“Regulations” & “Instructions” ordered for the War Office & India Office.

Sanitary & Administrative Departments - & this truth has been burnt home to me]

I think all Girton Constitutions, if they exist, have been superseded by verbal Instructions given by a person of the Committee supposed to be paramount, in this case which interests us both -

The more I think over my 3 years’ experience, the more I believe that the tradition which has existed since Gn existed, altho’ Gn is young, has over ridden everything else. And the more I feel
our friend’s position -
Please help us as you
*have* done - I am so helpless.

I was sorry to interrupt
the music last night
but this is so important -
And I have so illeg
[I am glad I did not
remember the music.]
But I am *more* sorry
that you are going to -day.
I quite understood that
you were staying till Saturday
I wanted to talk to hear you
about many important things
specially Buddhism
God bless you
your affecte helpless Aunt Florence

signed note, ff85-85v, pen [8:885]

Aug 16/84
Dearest Maude I trust
that you slept & are not very
tired. You did all the work
- all our work & made the
Nurses so happy - Our very
best love & God’s blessings
on you -
You have to command the
Light Cavalry to-day - & the
Heavier, in the person of my
distinguished God-daughter -
You & they will be so missed
here where every face is
wreathed with smiles as they
Add Mss 41977D

f85v

go by the carriage -
Gwendolyne behind with 22
able-bodied females to keep/required to
maintain order in the House
(i.e. the Dickey) - & Ralph
in front: ‘Mr. North, will the
horses stop while I ask
Granma whether we may
all have whips?’

You will think of Mrs. Green -
& pray that the thing may
come to good - It is so
important -
God bless you dearest Maude
ever your loving old
Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff86-87v, pencil

f86

4/9/84
Dear Mr. Fred
You were once good
ever enough to help me with
writing a difficult (servant’s)
character -
May I ask you to
help me now?
I am wavering between
the fears of giving a too
good & a too bad
character.
Ellen Merritt is
unfit for any charge - &
unfit for Mrs. Custance’s
place where the servants are on board wages all the year round - Col & Mrs. Custance are absent half the year: & no supervision - She let a woman sleep in my house over my head without my knowledge - she has been unsatisfactory in almost every way except dishonesty of her charge. And yet I think her more weak than bad/sinning - She is a religious woman - I would have kept her myself but I cannot/ with difficulty recommend her - I received an unsatisfactory character with her. But it is for her own sake that I dread Mrs. Custance's place for her. It would be easier for me to let her go to it. Would you be so very good as to criticize? But you know I have far more important things to ask you about ever yrs affly F. Nightingale Excuse my troubling you.

ff88-90, October 6, 1884, discussing whether one can judge England or America by its fictional depiction

ff91-92v, The Siamese Legation, 14, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., October 24, 1884 re FV's return from Germany and a verse about Lord Lucan and Nursing

ff93-94v, October 24, 1884, re FV's diet
Add Mss 41977D

signed note, ff95-96v, pen and pencil

f95

Nov 21/84
10, South Street, {printed address:}
  Park Lane. W.
The majority is always in the wrong.
A minority is always in the right.
Perhaps not exactly true: but this is true; Every right begins
by being in a minority - perhaps
by being in a minority of one -
  How are such minorities not to be quashed?

f95v
The fault of all Redistribution schemes is that it/they considers
only "Seats", not members.
only quantity (numbers) not quality. Yet numbers MUST be represented.

Your "self-adjusting Candle" shines clearer than the other lights. But is it not probable
that the "seat" transferred to the

f96
-2-
new Borough will not be occupied by a better man
possibly by a worse, than that "seat" disfranchised?
  Any "Redistribution" will, however, it is to be feared, eliminate many/ some valuable
members from the Ho: of C.
  Is it not a mistake to rest "Seats" solely on numbers - 20,000 children
do not make one man: nor 10,000 'roughs' one Patriot - but the contrary
f96v
You know that I have always avoided (glittering) politics & faithfully served administration
My political opinion is not worth a straw - You have doubtless consulted better men.
But no one has a warmer wish for your success than, my dear Mr. Fred, your affte
10, South Street, {printed address: upside down}
Park Lane. W.
F. Nightingale

signed letter, ff97-98, pencil  [8:885]

f97
10 South St
Dec 9/84
My dear Maude
I wanted to have caught you before you left South St, not only to have the great pleasure of seeing you but to ask you what I should do about giving leave to have my poor "private" letter to Lady Stanley about Mrs. Green’s candidature printed.
Mr. Fred knows pretty well what was in it. Indeed
f97v
it was concocted by him
 & me - And I dare say
you do -
 I cannot of course remember
the letter exactly -
 What shall I do?
With a kiss to the childer 3,
 & especially to my
distinguished God-daughter,
 & kind regards to Miss
Shalders
 ever your loving old
  Aunt Florence

f98
 I have just had a
message thro' Mr. Gardener
from Mr. Green that
‘all her difficulties with
‘Mr. Freeman are settled’
‘(overcome)’ - Does this
include the possession of the
letters? I thank God.
 F.N.

signed letter, ff99-100v, pencil

f99
PRIVATE  10 South St
 Dec 21/84
 My dear Mr. Fred
 May I ask your advice?
 My quasi-nephew, Arthur
Clough, is a candidate for an
Examinership at the Privy
Council, (which post his
father occupied)
 There is only one rival
candidate, a Mr. Lockhart:
but Mr. Lockhart is an
unusually good candidate
& has higher claims on 2
grounds
 Arthur Clough’s claims rest
on his father's name & on his being undoubtedly competent for the post. And Mr. Cumin would be very glad to have him. [Till yesterday we thought he was secure]

I am asked to write to Lord Carlingford about him - & also to Mr. Mundella. There is no time to be lost.

My only acquaintance with Lord Carlingford is that of a beggar - Sir Harry took my letter - But he/L.C. did what I asked.

I believe you are all intimate with Mr. Mundella
- I thought of writing a letter to Sir Harry for him to forward to Mundella by tonight's post.
   Should I do the same for Ld Carlingford - or write to Ld C direct?

Any advice - & any hints how to put the case to both Ld C. & Mr. M. would be most acceptable to your helpless old & affect

   Aunt Florence
My dear Maude

Mr. Fred says that you will be so good as to take some lots of Xmas presents (if I send them to-night) to Claydon on Tuesday - But pray leave them behind if you find them too heavy - Would you be so very good as to choose out of the Picture Books I send 1 for my beloved Ralph I wanted a *Bird* Book for him, because he used to be so fond of hearing about the little birds whispering to God before dawn at Aunt Florence's window 1 for Gwendolen 1 for my distinguished God daughter and 1 for little Morforwyn (G Verney) whose name I can neither spell nor pronounce If you wish their names written in their books, would you kindly return them with
f102
the Who’s who? marked -
    and all the other books
which I shall give to less
worthy but perhaps more
necessitous applicants -
    ¶ I am afraid the G. Verney
parcel will be rather bulky.
That is to wait ¶ at Claydon till they come]
The Of course you are
kindly to keep these most
important secrets in deep
in the caverns of your
breast till Xmas morning
    Xmas Cards will come
too -
    And I will if you give me leave
send the whole parcel tonight -

f102v
for your kindness to take -
    And that a joyful
Christmas & peace & good
will & a blessed new
Year & many of them
may rest upon you, dear
Maude, is the faithful prayer
of ever your affte
    Aunt Florence
Pray don’t take the G. Verney
    parcel if too heavy -
They are books the boys &
Catherine suggested they
shd like, when I saw them at
    Claydon
f103

favoured by Mr. & Mrs. F. Verney

1 large parcel - the George Verneys
to wait at Claydon
till they come
1 “ ------ Mrs. F. Verney
for Xmas Day
1 very small ----- Sir Harry Verney
1 ----- Mr Morey
1 ----- Mrs Greig
5
F Nightingale
with many thanks
Dec 22/84
Please leave/send back the heavy
one behind, if too cumbersome
to take F.N.

ff104-05v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W. {undated}, from MV, re news of MV’s children & their illness

ff106-06v, {undated}, re news of MV’s children

ff107-08v, {undated} more news of MV’s children

signed note, f109, pencil

f109

10 South St
Jan 6/85
My dear Maude
Mr. Fred said I might
send this little parcel if
you would be so very kind
as to take it tomorrow to
Sir Harry -
I am so very sorry that
beloved little Ralph is not
strong - entailing upon you
perhaps the some separation
between him & home. I
will not talk about it.
God bless you: ever your loving
Aunt Florence
ff110-11v, January 8, {archivist: 1885}, re a concert given and the health of the children

incomplete letter, ff112-13, pencil

f112

10 South St
Jan 8/85
My dear Mr. Fred

I think your enclosed per=oration will 'do' very/admirably well. I have only hazarded two verbal alterations - which may be quite wrong.

I send you a copy of the Pioneer which Lord Reay lent me. Please read at p. 622. "If it be real, what does it mean?"

It is by Auckland Colvin,

f112v

the Financial Member of the Viceroy's Council -

I thought it might give us some hints for our Crusade -

[ Eyes have prevented me doing more than glance at it.]

Please return it to me in 2 hours, read or unread, to return to Lord Reay -

Eyes have also prevented me this morning doing what we intended: sending
f113
you Ld Ripon’s principal measures with a word or two to each.
I hope to do so in a few hours.
But I send what is probably perfectly useless a hint or two such (in order to do as you asked) of the sort of things which would be “a welcome” to Lord Ripon.
initialled note, ff114-14v, pencil

f114
9/1/85
My dear Mr. Fred
I send you an Extract from a very private letter which was shown me from a very high authority indeed.
I thought you might make use of it in the “Articles” - I could not because the words would run in my head.
It seems

f114v
excellent common sense
Please return it to me. It is quite Private.
2 is what I mentioned in great haste ever your F.N.

{f115 is blank}
f116

Jan 11/85
My dear Mr. Fred

There is the ‘Devil & all ‘to pay’ at one of our Hospitals
And I am sorry to say
that that gentleman, of
whom I see a great deal,
will take up the whole of
my Sabbath.

I will read your paper
with thanks tomorrow
morning before day light
It is beautifully/exceedingly clear -
Please thank Maude for [8:887]

f116v

Kathleen (the Rape of the
Lock) Her Godmother
thinks her hair beautiful
- Titian would have
painted & poets sung it.

Excuse great haste
as the Dr is waiting

ever your affte
Aunt Florence

f117

I hope little Ralph is
better & Gwendolen hurra-ing.
signed letter, ff118-19v, pencil

f118

10 South St. W.
Jan 12/85
My dear Mr. Fred
    I have read you ‘Letter’
with the greatest pleasure.
    I tried in vain to limit
my ‘Observations’ which your
instructions were to make
‘fierce’ to separate
sheets of paper
    But I was obliged to write
on the fair sheets themselves -
so beautifully written. Pray
forgive me & rub the out my
remarks - And don’t attend
to them, except for matters of

f118v

    fact or at least put
them in your own words -
As to the Queen’s Proclamation,
it is strangely difficult to
get a copy. I have one
somewhere - but know not where.
But I send you a ‘XIX
Century’ with my “Indian
Stewardship” in it. Perhaps
at p. 332 & Note you
may find the words of the
‘Proclamation’ which you
want
    I think there is another
Add Mss 41977D

f119
quotation from the “Proclamn” in the Article.
Please restore me this ‘XIX Centy,’ as soon as possible, as this is the only copy I have left.
Success to the newspaper letters - May I do something more? ever your affte
Aunt Florence
Sir Louis Mallet writes
that what I say of “Lord ‘Ripon’s Government is quite
\[10:329\]

f119v
“true & very important” -
I mean what I have said in recent letters to him -
That is a great deal from him in favour of Ld Ripon \[end 10:329\]

I have been interrupted at every line of my work
Pray excuse - in greatest haste ever your affte
F.N.
I should show my God daughter’s legs to Dr. Brodie.
signed letter, ff120-21v, pencil

f120

10 South St.
Jan 13/85

on

My dear Mr. Fred LD RIPON

About the publication of the letter concerning Ld Ripon you say ask

1. in MAGAZINE?
   Is it not a fact that only the best monthly Magazines have any influence - that this could then at all events not appear till February: perhaps not till March, because they tell you they always make up their No by the 7th of preceding month

f120v

Also: a Magazine Article - should it not be more full & precise? These are only, of course, 2 or 3 of the remarkable Acts Ld Ripon has passed

2. in PAMPHLETS?
   Is it not true that a pamphlet has no circulation, unless ‘outed’ in a way we could not do?
   Also: I could not put my “name” to a “Preface”

3. in DAILY PAPERS?
   Are not these the only means for getting up such a feeling for Ld Ripon
on his arrival as he deserves? & we desire?
[He was to be in England this week]
You kindly said that you would see Editor of D. News, D. Telegraph, & one other you mentioned - I am such a very poor adviser on these subjects. The thing would be, I suppose, to get a different letter into two of these papers, [would this letter cut into two?] & to get one or more Editors to write a Leading Article on based on/ in a similar sense to the letter. At least I think I said so Must it not be done THIS WEEK? Two or even one daily paper THIS week wd be better than many later, I suppose. And then later we must do what else we can Success to your efforts for Ld Ripon

I am afraid I have not a moment till “Thursday “4.30” (as you kindly propose) to see you: in haste F. Nightingale I have made only one or two more alterations
signed letter, ff122-23, pencil

f122
10 South St.
Jan 17/85
My dear Mr. Fred
Would you be so very
Good as to take this
Calendula Cerate for his
chapped Hands to
Sir Harry?
You see in the “Times”
that Lord Ripon is expected
at his house in Carlton
Gardens on the 22ND
that is, Thursday next
A thousand thanks for
all the trouble you have

taken about articles in the newspapers
Thank you for sending back
my XIX Century.
If you have any scraps
of mine by you, & could
‘lit’ on them without trouble,
& send me them back,
I should be grateful -
But don’t trouble about
it. I cannot at all
promise myself to write
an Article -

f123
Love to Ralph &
the ladies
ever yrs affly
F. Nightingale
You don’t think that the
Editor of the Pall Mall
will suspect Ld Ripon
to have prompted your
letter in/for his paper?
signed letter, ff124-25, pencil

f124

10 South St.
Feb 2/85
My dear Mr. Fred
  I like your letter
enclosed very much, particularly
the part where you say the
Land Banks can/might do (in principle)
without the Govt. aid.
  But I think it will
hardly be held to be an
answer to the question in
the P. M. G., which I re-inclose,
Nevertheless I think it can be
completely answered
  But you may judge better
than I that it is an answer

f124v

The only remark I should
make is: (p. 2 - line
4 from top), the transaction
between money lender &
ryot is entirely on paper,
no money passes at all.
  I like your word “commercial
success” - Rothschild
did actually offer Mr. Bright
capital for the purpose,
provided &c &c

f125

We must remember that
the Land Bank project
as yet belongs to
Bombay alone, not to
“India” -
  How long shall you be
absent?
  ever yours affly
  F. Nightingale
incomplete, signed letter, ff126-27, pencil

f126

-2- {archivist: [?2 Feb 1885]}
Have nothing to do with
the R. C. unless Ld
Ripon is Chairman -
or names the Chairman

f127

-3-
I am glad you think well of
this Ministry. I am so anxious
to do so.
One cannot help feeling sorry
for Childers & Broadhurst,
Chamberlain & Jesse Collings,
beginning their administration
in such troubles -
troubles made almost
ridiculous by our want of
administrative power.
Please take care of the knee
ever yours affly
F. Nightingale
You see the Article on Maine -
- XIX Centy for this month.
My dear Mr. Fred

My Doctor entirely repudiates the idea of any possibility of my doing any work “under pressure,” such as writing & reading within a given time, for the present. I should not mind what he said, or what any Doctor said but that I feel so ill & suffering that it ‘points his moral’ - And I have this morning,

after telling Mr. Knowles, of the XIX Centry, what you said about the two Articles, with drawn - with what feelings you may guess - from writing the his Article myself at this time. I have not told Lord Ripon yet, & know not how to do so. But I have left it open to Mr. Knowles to suggest another writer - ever yrs affly

F.N.
signed letter, ff129-32v, pencil & pen, Feb: 26.95

f129
Most Private 10 South St.
Ld Napier Feb 26/85
My dear Mr. Fred
You asked me to let you know about Lord Ripon
‘before/by to-day.
He was with me on Tuesday
It was finally settled that an Article in the *Fortnightly*
should comprise the
- Diplomatic - i.e. Afghanistan & relations with native states
- Finance
- Military policy of his Vice-royalty

f129v
- that you should, if you would be so good, write to Mr. Escott & suggest as from yourself to him - that if he will propose/likes to select a man to write an Article on these subjects, he may go again to Ld Ripon, & propose him the writer to him -
  Ld Ripon does not wish to be the instigator
[It was Mr. Escott who went first to him]
Add Mss 41977D

252

f130
that the article in
the Fortnight XIX Century
should comprise
- Land questions
- Local Self- Govt (Sanitary
  included)
- perhaps short bits on
  Education Promotion of
  Natives, Local Industries
  And it seems settled
  that I am to write it -
  It is thought better to
  postpone it till May -
  both because the fate of
  several measures, including

f130v
the Bengal Rent Bill, will
  then be known
& because it is quite
  impossible for me to write
it by March 15 -
  I fear the over strain
on my head, with all
I have to do especially
at this time, both as
being dangerous & as
being likely to incapacitate
me from doing justice
to the subject -
  Nothing could be more
full, or more kind, than the information with which Ld Ripon supplied/gave me with by word of mouth. But I was a little disappointed - on account of my eyes being so bad - to find that the “materials” he proposed to “supply” were: Blue Books & printed Minutes - It is true that he offered if when I had “got” my “Article into shape”, I would put down the things on which I wanted more information, to come & give it - & to look over my Article. But I have terribly little mind at leisure to write, or to con Blue Books, in these terrible times - N.B. I did not enter into the question whether the “Fortnightly” Article should appear in April or May.
f132

Please if you have any conversation with Lord Ripon on this subject, let it not be before any one, not even Sir Harry. Ld Ripon wishes - & I think he is so right not to appear in the matter at all - which is much the most dignified course, we shall agree -

ever yrs affly

F. Nightingale

It was decided that the

f132v

Ilbert Bill question should not be treated of until the enemy attacks - when a full answer can be given -

F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff133-36v, pencil

f133 {another hand March 5. 85

10 South St.
Miss N to Self March 5/85

Article

My dear Mr. Fred
In answer to your question:
e.g. “Fortnightly” was to have
- Diplomatic Native States:
  Afghanistan
- Finance
- Military

“XIX Century”
- Land including Revenue
  (Land Banks) but I say only
  incidentally as regards e.g. Bombay
  Settlement Dept &c
- Local Self Govt: including
  “Sanitary”
& (treated in a cursory way)

f133v
- Promotion of Natives
  (not Ilbert Bill)
- Education (Popular)
  - perhaps Civil Service Candidates
  age &c (about which he Lord Ripon gave me
  papers)
- Encouragement of Native
  Industries
But I am now anxious to point out

1. ‘XIX Century’ Knowles knows nothing at all of the scheme compared with ‘Fortnightly’ Escott. Mr. Knowles knows neither that another Magazine is to have an Article - much less that there is a common plan & division of labour - nor that Ld Ripon is to give materials - I trusted Mr. Knowles with neither -

- no information -

Nor did I give him my subjects -

Will it not be extremely awkward when he finds out not only that there is to be an Article appearing simultaneously, but that Mr. Escott (who is very likely to tell him ) is cognizant of the whole scheme - & that I am one of the perpetrators - Any how
he will know when the Articles come out - for then he will ask me

2. you are so good as to ask & to offer help - which I shall certainly accept - indeed I could not undertake the common/my article scheme without - This will give a similarity in the style of the Articles - let alone our names which will reveal a good deal -

All this makes me more than ever anxious to withdraw myself - not you -

N.B. Mr. Knowles whom I know well is not at all the man to forgive himself not having been taken into the secret, while Mr. Escott was - And Mr. Escott, you see, resents because the plan altogether, and there being a common scheme.

Altogether, I think, from these considerations, which will certainly strike you too, I must re-open the question - My head & eyes which were kept going for 26 years by limiting myself absolutely to work have failed during the last two under a different régime.
Lord Reay has just been. so this was interrupted -
    in haste
ever your affte
F. Nightingale

Have you the/my paper (M.S.)
that was to have gone
into the Spectator?

The “Times” never prints a paper when it finds that
something similar has been
sent to other newspapers.. I believe “XIX Century” may do the
same - It is specially jealous.

initialled letter, ff137-38, pencil

10 South St.
April 1/85

My dear Mr. Fred
    I am afraid that even if I could see you, my head is not
in the state to bear reading aloud to it or to be of the least use to you if it did.
Yet I am - you know how much
- deeply interested in your Article -
    Could you lend it me to read? & me discussing it afterwards with you?
I am getting so much worse & more useless that I am really thinking of going out of London for the Easter for a week or 10 days; it seems my only chance.

So you know that I have not written to Lord Ripon, telling him that I have been compelled to abandon all idea of his Article for the present?

Ought I? - & that Mr. Knowles is determined to wait for me?

ever yrs affly

F.N.

signed letter, ff138-38v, pencil

My dear Mr. Fred

My foolish young woman does not seem to have said that I am going out of London perhaps tomorrow (Friday) And I feel that I can do no good by staying -

But I would read what I could of your Article tomorrow, see you tomorrow at 6 - I should have some one at 5 - if I could be of the least
f138v
use - but I fear not -
   & go out of London on
Saturday (for a week) if
any how I can restore
my failing powers for
work
   God bless your work
I should not go if it were
not imperative & I quite
useless
   ever yr affte
   Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff140-40v, pencil

f140
   April 3/85
My dear Mr. Fred
   Very many thanks for your
report of Sir Harry. And
please give me another.
   You see I am not gone -
I read thro’ your M. S. before
7.30 this morning - And
it strikes me as remarkably
good but wants working to a
point.
   I have nothing to say worth
your hearing - tho’ I have
made a few notes, & would tell
them, If you w/could find time
to come in about 6.15 or 6.30,

f140v
& you would tell me about
   Sir Harry -

   ever your affte
   Aunt Florence
My dear Mr. Fred

I feel rather uneasy about Sir Harry in this bitter North Easter. I have not heard to-day.

No doubt you will take an opportunity of pointing out in your Article the burst of loyalty in India (& native Press) towards England in this Russian Crisis - & the offers of troops from Mahometan & other Native Rulers. Now this is entirely Lord Ripon's doing - It is he who conciliated India to British Rule. Before he came home I used to hear from India: " Lord Ripon is worth an Army in himself." "While he is here, England need fear no danger from Russia" - &c &c &c

It is more remarkable than the colonial outburst of loyalty because the Colonies have certainly no love for Russia - & India always had till Ld Ripon's reign - owing to Russian intrigue & cleverness, I suppose.
You see how yesterday's 'Times' has changed its coat - remarkable only because the 'Times' *is* the times - But it still worships at Lord Dufferin's shrine - & carefully avoids justice to Ld Ripon.

[How calamitous the turning of attention from internal reforms in India]

Love to Maude & childer three

ever yr affte

F. Nightingale

initialled letter, ff143-44, pencil

April 19/85

My dear Mr. Fred

I am so very sorry about Mr. Escott's proposal, because I think with you that to curtail it much [I thought *some* might have been screwed up with advantage] will take the life out of it - And it is none too long - the facts are so important.

I should prefer putting it off - But I am no judge.
I have heard people say that an Article upon any thing but Egypt or Affghanistan or European policy would be wasted - on people’s minds for the next month or two - Lord Ripon would be the best judge upon the curtailing or delaying -

I should be so very glad to see you but this morning I am too ill to see any one except

Miss Williams who has been expected to come here home (in/from the Iberia) every hour since Friday night - no tidings of the Iberia - I could gladly see you this evening about 5 or 6, IF she does not come, for half an hour - But that would be inconvenient to you? I was so very sorry about the miserable reception & tea at Ravensbourne But - I was so ill And your gallant walk so unexpected.

F.N.
My dear Mr. Fred,

The circumstances make your question very much more difficult to answer, for me always stupid. but on the whole I incline to your own view to send the “Army” alone to Mr. Knowles - & not the Finance.

But do I understand aright that Mr. Knowles will only take an Article “Army” for June, only if you have no other Article “under your own “name” in any other periodical for June?

Also: that Mr. Escott will not take “Finance” & “Public Works” without “Army”?

This makes it rather serious -

You run the risk of “Army” alone appearing - anywhere -

Would Mr. Escott take for July Diplomacy Public Works Finance?
f146
As you say, “Finance” has less to do with “Army” than with “Public Works” - which is a reason for Finance & Public Works going together.
Would it be possible for you to assure yourself that Mr. Escott who I think has not behaved well would take D P. W. F.
in July?

f146v
I like them all - & the Quotation from Mr. Gladstone much It would be a thousand pities they should not appear.
Afraid that I have made darkness darker.
ever yrs affly
F.N.

f147
N.B. - I see that I had read ‘Finance’ before & I think it much improved - ‘Salt’ strengthened &c &c - Finance of the “16 millions” & India Council added or rather worked in - very well I see my question about the number of mills in Bombay still on the margin - unanswered
Add Mss 41977D

f147v

‘Public Works”

I have put, as you desired, a ? & + ‘off’ the passages about Lord Hartington - They scarcely add to the strength - And even “says Lord Hartington” is I think doubtful.

F.N.

f148

Private

Mr. Godley says that the India Council Office does good in preventing financial ‘jobs’ of the Local Governmts.

signed letter, ff149-50, pencil

f149

10 South St.

May 16/85

My dear Maude

If you are going to the Max Müller’s, would you say to him that ‘Sam Shore Smith has taken seriously to Sanscrit - & Buddhism! - & thank Prof. Max Müller very much for his assistance in recommendg books on Buddhism: a curious taste in an idle boy. But his grandmother & aunt (à la mode de Bretagne) had it before him -

Let us hope it will come to something real - The Blavatzky
taint is, I leg/trust, dropping off. It was at your house that Prof. Max Müller gave his help - & thanks to you - With love to childer three, ever, dear Maude, your affecte Aunt Florence I hope the Yeomanry will be a beneficial change to Mr. Fred.

To mix matter & mind: do you have meat/mutton & chickens from your Bala butcher in the summer? & would he supply so very small a consumption as mine? & would another customer not rather interfere with your supply? If you approve, would you be so very kind as to give me his address again? You probably have a hamper twice a week? do you have anything besides mutton, chickens & eggs? F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, f151, pencil

f151
Address 10 South St. Sept 16/85
My dear Mr. Fred
  Welcome home and
welcome home to Maudie -
And the children were so dear
& delightful here at Claydon
  I return some letters of
yours -
  And remind me to tell you
of a letter about Lalmohun Ghose
I received some weeks ago.
  God bless you & yours &
your work:
  ever your affte
    Aunt Florence

{f152 is blank}

signed letter, ff153-54v, pencil [5:348]

f153
    10 South St.
      Sept 22/85
My dear Mr. Fred
  All hail to the Tonbridge
Division - And may it live long
to rejoice in being reigned
over by you - & you live
long to reign over it -
  Tho' I trust in a seat for your full
success, yet I will not
allow that the greatest
successes in the world
have not oft times come
out of failure - as I am
sure you do not - And
f153v
surely there will have been
much political truth &
principle spread among
the uneducated by the
speeches of the Liberal
candidates whether
they succeed or fail at
the Gen. Election
But I stoutly expect
a success - [end 5:348]

f154
I very much hope to see
you soon: but have every
day this week taken up
with Matrons & ladies
from a distance.

Is it very bad of me
to send you this letter
from a Cavalry soldier
who has had & wants
to have again some
appointment (store keeper
or other) in the Bucks
Yeomanry or otherwise?

f154v
[It is impossible for me
to do anything for him & I
suppose of the 20000 Patients
who passed through our
hands at Scutari, some
thousands have in 30
years asked me for
"appointments" -]
But you will probably
find it equally impossible
to serve him. Don't trouble.
ever, dear Mr. Fred
your affte
Aunt Florence.
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff155-55v, pencil

f155

10 South St. Oct 6/85
Good speed to Kent & N. Bucks.
All hail to Maude & Margt
as Electioneers - And may not
Kathleen too?
I return 2 letters I ought to
have returned before -

Sir Harry says, as you know,
that he is coming up “for a
few hours” on Thursday to Lord
Shaftesbury’s funeral. It is
bad for him: unless he
slept at your house.
I have one of my Matrons
of whom the air is full at

f155v

this season sleeping here.
so cannot offer him a bed
Shall I lunch him?
or will you? -
in haste
ever your affte
Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff156-57v, pencil

f156

10 South St
Nov 1/85
My dear Mr. Fred
I am so really grieved,
but I have a man here
to-day on War Office
business whom I cannot
put off, for he is only
for a day or two in London.
Had I but known that
you were here, I think I
should have tried to make
another appointment with
him.
Three times three for
your candidature. Success & good speed - And thanks so many for your speeches. It takes one’s breath away to think that this day four weeks we shall know the “Great Secret”.

I have been seeing the Indian Delegates sent over to urge the claims of India on the candidates. You are put down as one to be depended upon

I send you the Report of a Meeting of the Bombay Association, in which Capt. Verney’s name seems to be put down by mistake for yours p. 7 -

I long, too, to see you.

- I heard from Margt a capital account of your speech at the Buckingham dinner -

Lalmohun Ghose’s brother Man Mohun Ghose, is here. He is 52 times the man his brother is. I have seen him. I wish he were the candidate

Is Maudie in London? Success & God bless you again & again -

ever your affte

Aunt Florence

ff158-59v, 6 Onslow Gardens, November 8, 1885, from FV re a visit to FN and family news
f160
10 South St Nov 11/85
My dear Mr. Fred
   On Sunday next my
doors will be closed to
every one but you -
   ‘Blow me’ if I let any one
else in, angelic or
diabolical, but you -
   [I have already put off the
    Lea Assistant School=
    =mistress coming up to London
to me till a later Sunday]
   I am miserable because
Sir Harry is so unhappy -

f160v
It is his brother much
more than P. who pitches
into him about his
candidate=sons & the
“Church in danger”!
   And I can’t help thinking
that, if he Sir Harry could but see
it so, it is a mistake -
   - a hopeless confusion
on both sides whether
Disestablishment includes
Disendowment -
   on Lord Grey’s side
a more than hopeless
confusion between
Disestablishment &
“overthrow” of the Church,
including “overthrow” of all
religion! (sic)
And - but I must stop -
I read your Address - &
like Warren Hastings, I
think you must say:
“I am astonished at my
own moderation” -
I hope Sir Harry may see
it so - But he complains
of Mr. Calvert’s Toryism -
& then lets his ‘old Whiggism’
be guided by it.

If you could but be
‘moderate’ with him?
He says he wishes so
much to help “exert himself for” Capt. Verney
& you - but, as he cannot,
being an “old Whig”, & you, “Radicals” -
he wishes he were “out of
“the way”!! He is quite
miserable.
Some of the best friends
of the Church, & I think
I am one, consider that
her power for good would
be vastly increased by
dis establishment!
She must have a poor
opinion of herself to be so frightened -
But all must wish that this agitation had not come on now -
Can you tell me Mr. Lal Mohun’ Ghose’s address?
It is not 14 St. George’s Sq now - I think I told you that his brother, a most capital man, had had a long talk with me, & wanted to introduce his

wife, an educated native lady - & two other Delegates (from Madras & Bombay), one by one -
I sent to 14 St. George’s Square yesterday to make appointments - but Indian - like they are gone off without leaving any clue. even their English ‘God-fathers’ did not know where they are - And they leave England in 2 or 3 weeks!!
If you could give me Lal Mohun Ghose’s address, you would much ‘oblige’ your ever affectionate Aunt Florence

Success to your campaign & to Capt. Verney’s
How I wish Margaret were back at Claydon!
Is she?
Best love to Maudie & the chicks - Are they in London?
Thanks for the newspapers
signed letter, ff164-64v, pencil [8:887]

f164
10 South St  Dec 24/85
My very dear Maude
  So many, many thanks
  for your two dear
  comforting letters from
Claydon: so many thanks.
  & for your kind trouble
about the Xmas cards
which were just right -
  And the happiest
Christmas that the
Almighty Father can give
be yours - & the best New

f164v
  year for you & all
  yours -
Fare you very well -
  your loving
    Aunt Florence

10/ enclosed
  in another cover
with thanks -
  The new 'constituents'
cannot commit any
excess with the 1/ over.
incomplete signed letter, ff165-65v, pencil [8:887-88]

f165 {archivist: Found at Dec 1885}

but that God is listening! -

more than listening - sitting

as close as the man by the

‘refiner’s fire’ that it

should not be a bit too

much

The country is coming thro’

the “refiner’s fire” - We cannot

keep the present generation

back. We would not wish

it. How! Would that the

dear old people of my

generation here could see it

so!

Fare you very well, dearest Maude

f165v

Thanks for all your dear kind

notes -

I am afraid I must come to

London on Saturday - But

I hope I shall leave them

all convalescing, except

indeed my poor sister

She is no better -

ever yours lovingly

Aunt Florence

ff166-67v, January 7, 1886, re difficulties with an Eastern (Siamese?) appointment

ff168-69, January 10, 1886, re a proposed visit to FN and a book, Maine on Popular Government

ff170-71, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., January 13, 1886, re some intrigue about a recall to Siam
unsigned letter, ff172-73, pencil

f172
10 South St Jan 22/86
My dear Mr. Fred

I am so grieved about the knee - I am afraid your visit to me & other things have not had a reparative influence - in this weather when it, the knee, ought not to be out -

Sir Harry's cold is, I fear, no better - Sir A. Clark came late night -

Pardon me for not sending your notes on Sir H. Maine back yesterday
It was the first moment of leisure I had had to look

f172v
at them & Maine together,
(which Maine Mr. Jowett brought me ) -
I concur with your "notes"
altogether - & should very much like to look at them again -
It seems as if the Periodical Literature of the day which requires a condensed literary treat, but by no means considered conclusions - on the contrary, rather a flashy, flimsy treatment - were bearing its fruit in all branches -
The admirable clearness of
f173
Maine’s & Stephen’s ‘form’, its charm, at least in Maine’s - its brilliant illustrations & simile - their its total disregard of depth & almost equal disregard of truth - are all “periodical”-ly, if I may frame a word. Periodical-ism which = criticism, conscientiously disregards considered truth, because it aims at keeping the ball going. Criticism is like cricket - Answer & retort are the conscientious aim of Periodica;=

=ism

f173v
Still Maine’s book, besides being eminently readable, has its value. As Mr. Jowett, who won’t allow criticism of Maine’s criticism, says:
It shows that the essence of a Govt does not go with its name. The U.S.A. Republic has the greatest amount of political, the least amount of social or individual liberty. No one can doubt that France, tho’ a republic, has is less free a country than England - I like your notes immensely & am sorry to part with them.
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff174-75, pencil

f174
10 South St   Jan 23/86
My dear Mr. Fred
   I admire your goodness
about the poor knee - &
prophesy its reward -
   Here is Messrs Street's
post-card about the
Official Gazette of India -
(which I had stupidly
mislaid.)
   If you will be so very
good as to write & order
the Gazette for one quarter

f174v
for me - the Qu including
the Proceedings in the
Council (including Ld
Dufferin’s speech) on the
Finance & Income Tax, -
I shall be very much
obliged - & will forward
you the money - 17/6
   Success to the knee -

f175
   Sir Harry much better,
Sir A. Clark says, if he
will stay in bed till
tomorrow afternoon, he may get up
to dinner
   ever your affte
   Aunt Florence

ff176-77v, January 25, 1886, re a crisis in Siam and the return of the Siamese princes there
10 South St   Jan 28/86  
My dear Mr. Fred  
   I hope the poor knee is doing its duty & making a royal progress not with 'éclat' but with quiescence -  
   Thank you very much for letting me see this most sorrowful letter - It is lamentable that Siam's welfare should be so compromised - Let us hope that the presence of the two Princes in Siam yet
   may work some favourable change yet.
I would gladly see Prince Swasti (you ask) if it could be arranged some afternoon before he goes - Is he in London? I would put off almost any appointment to see him.
   [Mr. Jowett comes here to-day- ] Is Pr. Swasti to give up Oxford?
What do you think of the political outlook?

The first Meeting of the National Indian (Native) League (at Poona at Xmas) passed off most satisfactorily - worthy of what shall I say? we must no more say of an English Parl - They were practical, sensible, constitutional, loyal -

the one question asked me by Anglo - Indians & educated natives is: can anything be done to put LORD RIPON into the INDIA OFFICE? It is the one thing which would keep India satisfied in hope & loyal & progressive

[Their great dread was, Ld Lytton - Nothing cd have secured their loyalty then.]

I echo their question: Could anything be done?

ever yours in much sympathy

Love to Maude  F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff180-81, pencil

f180
10 South St  Feb 6/86
My dear Mr. Fred
   I am so thankful the knee is going on well -
   As for the Ministry administratively, my
disappointment is deep,
but it is heart breaking when I think of the grief,
“curses; “not loud but deep” in India which had
shown such admirable self-restraint. To put
Ld Ripon to mend boats!!
& it appears really out of

f180v
fear? of the India Council,
& with a sort of idea that they wanted him/he was reserved for
Ireland! And to put Ld Aberdeen in Ireland!
But this is not all the blunders -
It is the worst Ministry administratively in my
time, i.e. more than 30
years - don’t you think so? Thanks for these interesting
letters -
   & thanks for the “Radical Programme” & your comments
f181
   My love to Maudie & Aunt Florence’s love to her three young friends who she hopes are returned in great force - four, including Mervyn -
   Pray take care of the knee -
I feel incapable of sense, see Ministry but am
ever your affte
   F. Nightingale

initialled letter, ff182-85, pencil

f182
   Feb 10/86
My dear Mr. Fred
   Prince Swasti will be welcome next Monday “15th” - Would 5 p.m. suit him?
   The enquiry into Indian Govt. is a very serious matter - Unless it is a R. Commn & unless Ld Ripon is Chairman, it can but be a failure -
   If it is a Commee of Ho: of C - there are but 4 men in the Ho., who know anything recent about India, & they are all sold to retrogression.
- Sir G. Campbell is no use, if
only that he has been 12 years out of India.

Ld Ripon

Sir E. Baring, to represent finance
Ilbert, " " Law
Sir W. Wedderburn " Judicial
Sir L. Mallet " everything
I.O. (land tenure &c)

these would be the Progressists

If there is a strong element
of the strong members of the
I. Council on it we shall
be ruined - of course there
must be one or two - Strachey is
too strong powerful -

Then there must be
Mr. Bright " " Ho: of Co

& a strong business man, who
knows all about exports &
imports - crops - silver - wheat &c
Sir Jas Caird might do, but he
has his head too full of Famines -

There should be one or two
distinguished natives - men
like Sir Salar Jung, if we had
them. Mr. Ranadie might do
But these men won't come to England.

a good Military man of high
rank - how well Sir Nevill
Chamberlain would do it!

there must be a man to
represent Diplomacy & foreign
affairs? Agriculture (Buck)
[not less than 3 of the number
must go over to India to
take evidence on the spot
from distinguished natives]
there should be a good
Educational man - ? Wordsworth
of Bombay
But if Lord Ripon is not
Chairman, especially if, as is
probable, such strong men as
Strachey & Maine are on it,
to represent the Retrogradists
the R. C. will be a great
deal worse then useless -
The worst of India is, as
you know, there are none but
officials who have experience
- no public element, as in England

2. What do you think of the
Queen's Speech? Maude was
so very good as to bring it me
- & of the Debate last night.
I was very glad that the
enquiry into Indian Govt
was mentioned in the Speech
Mr. Gladstone, I think, did
exactly as his best friends
expected of him -
Else - all dark -
How very good of you to
tell me various things
I was so anxious to know
- & also to take trouble

[end 10:835]
Add Mss 41977D

f184v
about the India Proceedings
in Council -
I will subscribe for this Quarter,
please, to Street for the
Gazette of India, provided
it takes in the Speeches,
including Ld Dufferin’s,
on the last Finance, Budget &
Income Tax debate -
[I will return Street’s
Post Card immediately -]

[end 10:835]

f185
Ld Randolph’s conduct of the
enquiry (Queen’s Speech)
cannot in the least be
trusted - And there is not
a single M.P. except
Mr. Bright left in the
House who could be
trusted on it as far
as we know -
The Council here will
override them all
ever yrs affly
with love to Maude
F.N.
signed letter, ff186-87, pencil

f186
Claydon May 9/86
My dear Mr. Fred
I was very glad indeed to have your “notes” which I shall carefully study - I was always going to write to you to know the success of your last 2 speeches
Would that I could give a better account of my sister! Would you be so very good as to put in the name of Dicey’s book on Popular Govt, or whatever he calls it, & post the enclosed note?
She has not yet seen it, (Dicey’s book)
We have anxiously watched

f187
whooping cough at both houses - May it be now disappearing! Poor Ellin & Gwendolen seem to have been the worst with best of loves to Maude ever your affte
Aunt Florence How anxious is to morrow

I gave Sir Harry Honble Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji’s X present address for you to wit 35 Hogarth Road S. Kensington X Member of Legislative Council of Bombay - father of the Reformers - wants a seat in the Ho. of C. (Parsee
f188
Claydon May 19/86
My dear Mr. Fred
  Some years ago Lady Blomfield wrote to me for advice about establishing her Fund - And a great corresponde followed - & some, I believe, Meetings - But no good. It seemed, - it, her Fund's course very impracticable - Latterly, Mr. or Dr. Burdett, who is busy in these directions, & has organized a sort of Hosptl Nurses' or Matrons' League, with Committees

f188v
has taken it up - & there is a sort of Association between him & Ly Blomfield And latterly he wrote to Hy Bonham Carter for leave to address Mrs. Wardroper to see if the St. Thomas' Nurses would join it - which leave was of course granted
  You know our general difficulties in Nurses' payments - Nurses marrying, not remaining in Service &c &c
I do not remember the particular difficulties - & have no papers with me - But if you can wait I will find out something of what passed among us -

I cannot at all give a Good account of my sister But she has been going out in the rain - She saw Sir H. Acland yesterday - It was impossible to go on without her seeing some one

She is so set against the babies going to Rossshire - fears it will be so cold - wants to have them here, separate from herself -

Best love to Maude. We have been following the whooping cough lovingly ever yr affte

F. Nightingale

Thanks for your List of Indian books - It makes me sad -

I entirely agree with your estimate of Home Rule Bill & Parliament

ff190-91v, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburton Place, London, S. W., May 20, 1886, re a family visit to Scotland
Add Mss 41977D

initialled letter, ff192-92v, pencil [8:888]  290

f192

Dictated

Claydon House, May 28/86
Bucks. {printed address:}

Dear one

I am very unhappy about
the poor babe - & am so thankful
that Margt is with you -
Pray do not scruple sending
the two elders here, if they
are not ready for the great
journey. The nurseries & the
garden-room are like
another house. And I will
avoid my babies as if they
had the plague -

end

f192v

Dearest Maude

My little God daughter
lies on my heart - We pray
God that she & you may
come well thro’ this -
well it will be, we know.

The Doctor & Nurses think
her not worse by your account.

To Margaret

My dearest love to Margaret
I wish I could give a
better account of my sister.
She was very seriously over
tired the day before yesterday
God bless you. ever yours F.N.
f193
Claydon May 29/86
My dear Mr. Fred

Don't think that my sister is
too poorly to have Ralph &
Gwendolen. If it is thought right
for them to come here, it will
do her good, not harm, to know
that they are here - She has
been longing for them -
She is thinking so much of dear

little Kathleen-

I am in a state of abject
penitence that you were with
me instead of with her till so
late last night, when y she was so

f194
poorly & you so tired - I did not know it was so late.

Dear love to Maude
& pray remember me to Miss
Shalder

ever your affte

Aunt Florence
Claydon  June 1/86
Dearest Maude & Margaret

How good of you to write so/us much about the darling little child. Your anxieties are our anxieties. Your relief ours - The Telegram this morning an inestimable comfort. The wind here this afternoon is S. W. & balmy: quite a change.

Pray God it may be so with you -

We hope for a Telegram this evening: but if Mr. Fred has one, he will send it on here-

He came/rode over this afternoon for a couple of hours - was satisfied with the looks of Ralph & Gwendolen - Their Grandmama is so very glad to have them here - She sees them thro’ windows

They arrived all right last night+ evening about 5 - were very merry over tea had a capital night - have been out since their dinner to-day: splendid afternoon -

“Hobby Gee gee” transferred to their nursery.

They are relegated to the rooms beyond the back stair-case - & to Miss Shalders’
room - the one over Cedar-room
-- but do not seem to regard themselves at all as convicts -
Miss Shalders gave me a long account of all three, including dear Babe, last night. She is, as you know, so very interesting. Her narrative of Gwendolen’s tastes, of her suffering with others’ sufferings “as much “as they do” - of her love for the poor people - is wonderful
Mr. Fred looked, as you may suppose, rather grey

with anxiety - but much cheered by this morning’s Telegram - (God grant the improvement betters itself-) & able to care a little about the amazing turn of the political tide - and alas! it appears prospect of dissolution ??
Fare you very well you pair of Sisters dear to the Almighty Father. May God bless you - and He will bless you - I always think of you two as standing on green grass plots let down from out of Heaven
signed letter, ff3-4v, pencil

f3
Claydon June 2/86
Dearest Maude
  We hang upon your notes & Margaret’s - How kind of you to write -
   The darling little child seems to keep her ground And that is much -
   We must not be discouraged, I believe, because no steady progress is yet made - but thankful that these most distressing attacks of fever in the afternoons seem not to leave exhaustion

f3v
behind -

   Ralph & Gwendolen have been hay-making in the little mounds of grass mown & left for them on purpose on the lawn both morning & afternoon which were still & very warm & delightful to-day - their little voices sounding so illeg/cheerful. Now it has turned to rain
O thank God, thank God, thank God for the favourable blessed Telegram just received. Thank you so much. We give you joy & put our trust in God ever yours. Aunt Florence

I almost hope Margaret's children may not be coming for a day or two that she may be able to be more with you -

I wish I could send a better report of their Grandmama -

Bless God -
Dearest Maude

We trust & believe that it is very good news about Kathleen since Margt & you are coming to the Ball.

I think I must go to the Ball too & dance to Kathleen’s recovery.

Sir Harry has a bad cold - obliged to give up Buckn dinner tonight.

Thanks for this morn’s telegram.

Yours ever

F.N.

Dearest Maude

It was a great disappointment not to see you - but no doubt you were wishing not to leave Kathleen for a night - (who, I trust, is in no way worse) And we hope that it will not worry you too much to hear that Ralph had a little eruption this morning out behind his ears, & watery eyes, & a cold in his nose, which made us (Miss Shalders & me) send for
Dr. Benson, who pronounces it, as we expected, to be Measles - but of a very mild kind - He says: “keep the “child warm in bed - The Eruption “will be all out tomorrow - “& it will in all probability “be but a short attack” - He sees nothing at present to be uneasy about & does not expect that there will be anything to alarm you - Miss Shalders separated Gwendolen from him Ralph

as soon as the Eruption appeared. And as soon as we found you were not to be here to give your orders, we felt sure that you would wish Harriet to be sent for from Marsh Gibbon - And Miss Shalders is now writing to her. She will probably be here as soon as you receive this - Mrs. Broadhurst is as helpful as possible - My sister knows that Ralph
f9v
is not so well. But we
have told her nothing
more - nor Sir Harry who
is laid up in two rooms
with a very bad cold,
induced by the circumstance
of his being only 8 years old
& 5 months - which justifies,
you know, the most extraordinary
proceedings. My poor Sister
also is 6 years old & 7 months.
I have seen Ralph twice
to-day - & also Gwendolen -
taking care not to go to
my sister immediately after

f10
-2-
Ralph And I thought
well of its not being to be a
severe attack -
I trust that you are
pretty well - You may be
sure how much we grieve
that all this anxiety should
come upon you, who have
too much already -
& that every thing will be
done for the two dear little
souls - Every body is
helpful -
God bless you
    in haste
    ever yours
    Aunt Florence
Give us a good account
    of Kathleen
Please not to mention the
Measles in writing to
Parthe or Sir Harry -
    I am so glad that you
    will soon have Mr. Fred
    with you again .

Dr Acland is coming here
tomorrow to sleep - and
I am very glad of it -
on my sister's & Sir Harry's
account - And he will
see Ralph, if there is
occasion
    Of course Scotland is out
    of the question for the
    present.
Harriet is come, as you know & will be glad.
Would Maude like Sir Henry Acland to see Ralph to night?
Best love to your childer
F.N.
5/6/86

ff13-16v, June 5, 1886, re the sickness of the children
ff17-18, June 7, 1886, from FWV, re Kathleen’s condition
ff19-20v, undated, from MV, re Kathleen’s sickness
ff21-23, June 6, 1886, re Kathleen who now has measles

signed letter, ff24-25, pencil [8:889-90]

Claydon June 7/86
Dearest Maude
I felt quite appalled at this new trouble come upon you in Kathleen’s measles. But really these young people of yours seem to know their own affairs best. Or rather
God our Father does -
I should call Ralph’s measles indeed I shall advertise it as - “A Simple & Natural Cure for the Whooping Cough”
He never coughed all night till 8 this
f24v
morning - And your Circus
is a delight to him
He orders his own meals
   with a judgment which
nature might envy - & is
to have Jelly tomorrow -
He asks after Grandpapa
who is out riding -
    Gwendolen “as fresh as
a daisy” still - playing at
ball very happily on the lawn
by herself -
    I am sorry to say it is a
bad day with Parthe -
We have got a fresh Nurse as third from Oxford - The two were quite worn

f25
    I do trust Kathleen is
developing recovery as well
as measles -
    But it is very sad that
you should be separated from
Margt
    Miss Shalders will write you
all details of childer dear -
    Sir H is here (Blue Room)
in haste
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence

ff26-27v, undated, re Kathleen’s worsening condition

ff28-29v, June 7, 1886, re Kathleen’s condition

ff30-31v, June 8, 1868, re Kathleen’s sickness
Claydon June 8/86
Dearest Maude
So thankful got this morning’s Telegram about the darling little child - “From her enemies defend her, O Christ" - Ralph had not a very good night - but to-day is the best day he has had - Doctor not coming tomorrow, he is so well - And on Thursday, please God, he is to get up for awhile “To verify quotations,” I am to tell you that I found him in great delight putting your Circus performers mounted on their heads, on their stomachs, in their proper way, on horseback that he is going to teach Aunt Florence a game, a “very difficult game”, where you must “keep” your “head cool” - He has taken all his food well to-day - & been asleep - no company - We are a very fortress of Carbolic Thank Mr. Fred for his box - But the “pure Carbolic” I have absconded with - he must let me pay Cooper’s bill - Gwendolen as well as possible
Miss Shalders gone to bed (by my orders) in another room, but quite well.
Gwendolen sent some May by me to Ralph. She is so very tender to him -
Grandpa much better -
Poor Parthe so very bad, but I trust to-day will be the turn -
Please tell Mr. Fred I will answer his letter to-morrow, if not to-day - but things are going to go better -
There was enough to account for it in her bodily state

We are so grieved for your separation from Margt except by shouts - It is so difficult to shout one’s love.

ever dearest Maude
your loving
Aunt Florence
not by shouts - but in spirit always -
Gordon wrote to us. “I come daily to see you in spirit” -
So do I -
I take daily messages from “mother” & “father” to Ralph
June 10/86
{printed address;} Claydon House, Bucks.
Dearest Maude
  Ralph up & looking charming
- sends all sorts of messages to "mother" -
  Gwendolen will write to
"mother" to morrow if I will
tell her "the spelling" - charmed
with her new doll.
  So thankful, so thankful for
Kathleen's wonderful progress
  Poor Parthe as bad as ever -
  God bless you all -
  ever yours lovingly
       Aunt Florence

ff39-40v, June 10, re Kathleen

ff41-42v, June 12, 1886, re Kathleen and a slight relapse

Claydon June 14/86
Dearest Maude
  I hope you will not be too much distressed to know
that Gwendolen has measles -
You would not be if you saw them as I do -
  Gwendolen's face is as fresh & as beautiful as if she
were running about the lawn. And General, Major=
General Ralph is exercising on his charger, the hobby
Gee-gee - You understand
that they are both now in
the inner East Nursery - since this
morning.
Gwendolen in bed, of course,
with her doll and two picture books -
but without a trace of apparent
illness - And Dolly “has not got measles”!!! Aunt Florence’s orders
were to come back & read
to them. “Mother’s birth-day
Review” - And of course she
obeyed her General & General’s
sister - ‘Them’s my orders’.
Both send “love & kisses”
to “mother” And I think
there is some idea of
getting up a “birth-day
review” with 7 donkeys

for mother’s next birth day
in Onslow Gardens .
You see we’re not very bad
Ralph, on being told that
there were hopes that baby
Kathleen would not
“forget her English” - said -
“what language will she
speak? oh French” - in
his dear little funny voice
You would never guess
they were ill -
The rash on Gwendolen
will be more ‘out’ tomorrow -
Dr. Benson has seen them
We have put Miss Shalders to bed in the Wainscoted room - But I really hope there is nothing the matter but what she says she has often - tho’ one is very much concerned to see her, so spirited, so sick. She is now going to sleep over Brandy & - no the last was Milk & Soda Water And we trust she will be up tomorrow - tho’ I think we will not let her sleep with the children again

Harriet sleeps with them to night. And Kate in the outer East Nursery

Miss Shalders says that you know that she has these attacks of sickness - & will not be frightened -

You know we are expecting Aunt Margt (& Uncle Edmund) tonight. And the Invalids will be delighted to see her -

My poor sister is very bad indeed - And we have telegraphed for Dr. Acland
Sir Harry is depressed & looks feeble. But I know I am always told & am glad to believe that I exaggerate his state -

He does suffer so very much with his poor wife -

The third Nurse from Oxford is a nice person -

Sir Harry has no cold now - And Mr. Calvert who is here is good company for him, (tho' one would not quite have selected him as

a "jolly good fellow," in the absence of everybody else upstairs

God bless you all -

Bank Holiday has deprived me of Kathleen’s news -

God grant it may be good!

ever yours lovingly

Aunt Florence

I would tell you if there were any cause for uneasiness - But there is not. We will telegraph tomorrow.

ff47-47v, June 14, re Kathleen’s slight improvement

ff48-49v, June 15, re the conditions of the invalids

ff50-51v, June 16, re Kathleen and FWV’s candidature at Bath
f52
Claydon  June 16/86
Dearest Maude
We have measles out very fully,  
   not room for one more:
   temperature  102.4  
   pulse  130
still no complication at all  
cough rather troublesome, but  
kept quiet by poultices -  
only an ordinary attack of 
   measles, tho’ rather heavy - 
She is not at all unhappy - 
views with interest the 
removal of her bed to a more 
airy part of the room - 
has Dolly in bed with her -

f52v
With regard to the great 
question, Miss Shalders & I 
have meditated & consulted, 
(& admitted the Doctor to 
advise). And I really think 
that what you would wish, 
could we put all the 
circumstances before you, would 
be what we here submit:
   Ralph, who would have been 
allowed to go out to-day, 
were there not a N.W. wind, cold - 
to remain at Claydon for the 
benefit of summer walks some 
little time longer - not to live 
in Gwendolen’s nursery - but to
f53
remove to-day to Miss Shalders’ room (the wainscoted room) - Miss Shalders to remain here - She does not seem to think she can go home - Kate to remain here, because she is wanted to wait on Harriet & Gwendolen - And the little maids here have not had measles - Miss Shalders seems pretty well now - She will only go into the Nursery on visits to Gwendolen - And I hope will not be overdone - She will go out every day - Dr. Benson, tho’ he says Gwendolen’s

f53v
attack is heavy, does not anticipate that it will be longer than Ralph’s - The rash is well out. It is possible all may return together - or at least that Gwendolen may be convalescent before Ralph returns - Dr. Benson decidedly prefers Claydon to London for Ralph at present - We are so thankful that Kathleen is “waving” a “hind quarter of beef” - That is a flag of peace & farewell to fever, I hope. What a blessing the fluid in the lung departs
Claydon June 17/86
Dearest Maude
Nothing but good news of Gwendolen:
   Yesterday To-day
Pulse 130  104
Tempre 102.4 99.4
rash fading
cough much better - [It was not a whoop but only the cough of measles] - on the road to convalescence - the high road
   It was only the bad weather prevented Ralph from going out to-day - He is bonny -
   Miss Shalders well -

Would that you could say the same of Kathleen!- as we can of Gwendolen -
Parthe is very bad - I cannot speak to her at all of the coming-on elections so near my heart. Sir Harry is very dear & gentle but lachrymose, about them
What can I say about Mr. Fred? I believe it is as much the calling of God when Capt. Verney is/was appointed to the (?) Growler - do you remember Margt was upon her knees praying
in the bed-room here when news was brought her?
or when Mr. Fred stands for Bath - may he prosper? -
as when an Apostle starts on a Missionary tour -
the plan, the life-plan is in God’s mind all the time -
& has been from all eternity -
When a Claydon rose delights you or me, or a violin-
tone speaks volumes to you, don’t you think that it was in God’s mind from all eternity when He made the laws that created that rose or that chord. the pleasure

that it would give to you or me? It would not give me half so much if I did not think God was thinking of it - Last night at midnight a Nightingale was singing his song, his prayers to God, out of pure joy & devotion singing by himself in the moonlight - But was not God thinking of it?

Dearest Maude: I could not bear to think of the desperate anxiety & fatigue you & Margt will have, complicated as it is by so much
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, f56 pencil  [8:893-94]

f56
Claydon  June 18/86
And oh! I shall miss your letters
I go to 10 South St. tomorrow -
Dearest Maude
God be thanked for the good
Telegram - May all Kathleen's
improvement continue! -
Nothing but good news from here
Gwendolen
Pulse 86
Temp:  98.8
rash fading rapidly - cough
much better - everything in a
state of improvement -
I am afraid this is the last
letter you will have from me
from here - And oh how sorry
I am to leave them - God bless them
ever yrs most lovingly F. Nightingale  [end 8:894]

ff57-58v, June 18, re MV’s concern about FN’s added responsibility and Kathleen’s fever

ff59-60, June 18, re Parthe’s vexation at FWV and Kathleen’s fever

initialled note, ff61-61v, pencil

f61
Nothing but good news  June 19/86
(printed address:) 10, South Street,
Gwendolen -Pulse   Tempe  Park Lane. W.
80 Normal
cough better - is progressing
rapidly - will get up a little
tomorrow -
Ralph was to go out to-day -
Miss Shalders quite well -
Harriet says: " no chance of my
“being over -tired - Gwendolen sleeps
all night - we both have slept
all night these last two nights -
In short I have nothing but good
- Excuse a scrawl - I am only this
moment landed - How are you?
So thankful Kathleen is better -
Is Mr. Fred returned? What
prospects? with very best love
dearest Maude, ever yours F.N.
Poor Parthe bad

ff62-62v, Sunday, {archivist: June 20, 1886}, re plans for the children

ff63-64v, Sunday evening, re Kathleen’s improvement

ff65-66, Monday, re MV’s plans to join FWV at Bath because of the election

ff67-67v, Monday evening, re MV’s decision to go to Bath

signed letter, ff68-69v, pencil [8:894]

Dearest Maude

Thank you much for writing -
I am so very glad that you are
able to go to Mr. Fred -
But pray, I trust, that, as the
physical work will be lighter -
no driving home/14 miles after meetings
in the winter nights in a cart
or a tent - how thankful we
are for that - so the desperate
mental anxiety to exhausted
bodies will be lighter - You
said you would take “mental
chloroform”. Please do
f68v
  My fervent ‘God speed’ is yours -
  I shall send to enquire after
Kathleen - Good speed to her -
  Might I have your address
at Bath?

  Please tell Mr. Fred that
Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji has
written to me to day or& yesterday
about his having accepted the
candidature for Holborn -
wants me to “support” him,
which I don’t know how to do -
but suppose he wants me to
write him a letter - If Mr.

f69
Fred’s hand is in, perhaps he
  would help me with a few hints
of how one should write to Mr.
Dadabhai - but don’t let
Mr. Fred trouble himself, he &
you must be so busy.
  Further, Mr. Dadabhai wants
me to “attend” his “first
Public meeting” (Holborn Town
Hall) on Thursday which of
course I can easily do -

capital news of Genl Ralph
& Gwendolen from Claydon
this morning
  Good bye - All joy & peace
throughout whatever clamour

f69v
  ever yours lovingly
    Aunt Florence
ff70-71v, Tuesday, {archivist: June 22, 1886} re MV’s departure for Bath and Kathleen’s continued improvement

ff72-73v, 11 Russel St., Bath, June 25, re the election campaign in Bath

signed letter, ff74-77, pencil [8:895-96]

**f74**

10 South St  June 26/86  
Dearest Maude  
I have just received my answer from the little woman at Onslow Gns - the little woman whose “smile” is priceless - more precious than the Imperial smile which made & unmade nations - She says she is much “better” & went into the next room yesterday morning with great advantage - & is “much more like herself” for it -  
I think it is a grand thing

**f74v**

to teach the multitudes great political “principles” apart from the “local gossip” & animosities - which animosities alas! reign in circles which think themselves higher than “local” - - - to speak of Ld Hartington & Chamberlain as they ought to be spoken of - & show the multitudes what they ought to think of them -  
And if it could but be without the agitation & fatigue to you, I should say that this in
itself is a great thing to accomplish - a great victory won -
   It is not so everywhere - not even among the best men - I saw some one yesterday from Edinburgh, saying that Mr. Goschen had been speaking as men speak in public houses, saying what “men said” of him “in London”, & how unfair it was &c &c &c instead of enlightening his audience on political principles.

Please tell Mr. Fred I give him joy - & tho’ I hope, oh how I hope for success, yet surely this is success already. The Press is getting an awful hold upon us. It is like the “Pieuvre” enveloping us in its fearful legs & arms - And only such speakers as you describe can stop the creature -

A thousand thanks for your most kind, too interesting letter -
Good news of Ralph & Gwendn to-day
I am so ashamed of myself that I cannot write a proper letter
Tell Mr. Fred that Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's meeting at Holborn was a very crowded & enthusiastic one - Mr. Naoroji spoke exceedingly well - in beautiful English - “it was a wise, great speech” This I hear from the people to whom I gave my platform tickets - I am sorry he read a letter from me

À Dieu - À Dieu - À Dieu
God is in the train to which we are coupled if we are really going for truth & principle - This is a great crisis in our history - but the greater the crisis the more God is in it - It will be success

whatever happens
The train in which God is cannot be smashed or wrecked
Great love - yours ever
Aunt Florence
ff79-79v, June 28, 1886, from FWV, re a letter he wishes FN to write to the Liberal ladies of Bath

signed letter, ff80-82v, pencil  [8:895-96] [1:711-12]

f80
10 South St  June 28/86
Dearest Maude
  I was very glad to see Mr. Fred, but afraid he had a slight cold, which however I hope will come to nothing - Or rather I think he is coming to great good; let what will happen.
  We had so much to talk about that I did not mention to him that Surgeon Major Evatt is 'standing' on the Liberal side (Unionist Home Ruler) at Woolwich - Dr. Evatt is the reformer of

f80v
  the Army Med: Dept - of Army Medical administration - a man of singular talent in the reforming administrative line - & in speaking - He asked me for "a line", of course - I know nothing of his chances, (but should have liked to talk him over with Fr. Fred) in unseating the present C. member Hughes (?)
  I am all on the administrative "go" - for India - for Army Medical &c -
Sir Harry comes to morrow till Thursday - when he attends the Conference on Imperial Federation - on Wednesday the Gordon Boy's Home Comme You saw the letter of the Pr of Wales to the D. of Buckingham, prompted by Mr. Fred, in the D. News - Sir Harry has about 8 meetings on Wednesday
   I am greatly alarmed - Sir H. is a magistrate - and I think my sister will have me taken up. The Pall Mall Gazette has done worse than I hinted to Mr. Fred. It has put in my

Que diable allais-je faire [Molière] dans cette galère? Those "hatreds" are certainly not mine
   I shall be imprisoned in a Claydon dungeon -
      I cry Hurra! to you with all my might. Don't you hear me afar off? I think it is a grand thing to be making speeches on principles
Thank you so much for you lovely views of Bath - I cry again Good speed! ever your loving
   Aunt Florence
f82
I have two pieces of good news for you:
one that a Home Mission clergyman, without a Church but only a school room, is making quite a Reformation among the very worst in the circle round our St. Marylebone Infirmary - he has something every day, not only on Sundays - among other things he is forming a Provident & Temperance Union, called, called the Sisters of the Phoenix Socy, which admits the very poorest women, & which is begun to be managed by themselves with by a Committee, elected by themselves - He is as poor as a rat - & has of course 3 children every year

f82v
The other is that our Nurses at St. Marylebone Infirmary are reviving the desire of a Provident Union among all trained Nurses - for granting pensions & for sick pay - upon the principle of never drawing out their money - but, whether they cease to subscribe, upon marriage, or giving up the profession, or not, leaving whatever they have subscribed in for the Common Fund - You may perhaps remember that our Edinburgh Nurses said the same thing -

[end 1:712]
321

signed note, f83, pencil

f83

29/6/86

My dear Mr. Fred

O cruel man to ask me for a letter - I only write not because I have sense to give you but only/ just the deepest warmest sympathy for such a canvass - the true success - Tear it up -

Your letter came just while I was preparing for Miss Crossland whom I expect every minute

God save you & Maudie

Aunt Flo

signed letter, ff84-87, pen [5:350-51]

f84

London June 29 1886

My dear Mr. Fred Verney

Accept a woman’s warmest good wishes for your canvass, no less than for your return for a Liberal seat for Bath - for your canvass conducted on such noble principles/lines as to make it a good & no evil - a triumph in itself - (- I will not say ‘whatever happens,’ for a seat in Parliament must crown it) - for your canvass which, teaching principles & what Liberal principles mean
as it does - *is* a success, & not only a road to success. Instead of criminating & recriminating, which alas! our greatest men have hardly avoided - instead of counting up how often G. or H. or I and J. have contradicted themselves & disinterring the corpses of their inconsistencies - instead of local squabbling & gossiping - & the whole art of abusive Politics - instead of floundering in this 'mucky' puddle, to sail

(not with the 'filthy rags' of party politics but ) with the swelling sails & "bounding breeze" on/f the great principles of Liberal politics & statesmanship - on the Great principles of all administration & Government - leaving, at this solemn crisis, detail to the time when the representatives of this country will have to decide upon detail - instead of despising "Dissentients" & calling names to show, as you do the difficulties where they may
help the practical truth with their opposition - Her Majesty’s Opposition, so truly, so fondly called best understood here - H.M.'s 3 or 4 Oppositions we must say now - to dwell, we say, on the great principles of law & order & justice & love of justice - this, this is success - this is the noble canvass - this is your happy path, your fair voyage -

If this be the 'new life' which the present Election is to inaugurate - which women as well as men may join to promote - then we say: ‘God save the Election a good & not an evil - A Great & a noble Education in something higher than party Politics - in practical Politics for the good of mankind - (taking away from "party what was meant for mankind") in Government for the right.
And each Election instead of being the sink of corruption & vicious gaiety we know it was will be a time of meeting of different classes for the highest purposes of instruction & of sympathy [when, in the language we love, 'the lion shall lie down with the lamb']

This is our beloved Queen's jubilee. Let this be the beginning of the reign of high politics which in their turn shall have their jubilee

God save the Queen
God save the new era
God save all those who wish to save the "Union"
May success be yours in Parliament - The greater success of a pure canvass is yours already

Florence Nightingale

ff88-88v, copy of ff84-87v, not in FN's hand, with some changes

ff89-90, June 30, 1886, from FWV, explaining the need for the changes made in ff84-87v

ff91-91v, June 30, from MV, re the campaigning in Bath

ff92-92v, July 3, 1886, from FWV, re his failure to be elected
Dearest Maude

I heard that you did not wish to bring the children back to little Kathleen yet, & that you wanted some air for them more bracing than Claydon & not so far as Scotland -

Pray remember I am not advising - I know how happy they at Claydon are to have them - And there is always a risk in sending them to a strange place -

But it occurred to me that, as our Miss Crossland had been on her holidays one year with a sick "Ward Sister" of ours to a farm: house half a mile from the sea on a breezy common in Norfolk - yet undiscovered by watering place goers - with a sandy beach - at/near her brother's - & both recovered health & spirits - you might like to hear about it.

I enclose the brother's letter
& Miss Crossland’s - [ Miss C. 
  goes on her holiday to 
Ireland tomorrow morning]
  The brother was a Missionary 
in Borneo & those parts for 
many years - lost his health 
- came home & is/has now a 
small living in Norfolk - [see 
his date] - Ridlington N. Walsham -
  He is an excellent Doctor, 
which I only mention, 
because the “farm=house”, which 
you will see Miss Crossland 
recommends, is five miles 
from Doctors - “Bacton,” 
which she does not

recommend so much as 
the “farm-house”, is a large 
village=town & close to 
the sea, much nearer 
than the “farm=house” -
  If you would not think 
of this (Bacton) for a moment, 
I think I will write to 
the brother & tell him so - 
[You see he asks.] Otherwise 
there is no occasion for 
you to trouble yourself to 
take any notice. Forgive me if 
this bothers you -
  Good speed to all three darlings 
- ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
Dearest Maude

Thanks for your most kind note. We grieve together over your fatigues, anxieties, disappointments - They are mine - But they are God's too.

the party I should not think Miss Crossland, an unmarried maid who has fought with savages, keenly alive to such risks for children
And Miss Crossland, whose careful vigour is up to anything, has not been at the country place for

How I grieve over your fatigues; & of course I cannot help a little tear at the result But good work is never wasted. A canvass, rightly & nobly carried on, tho' it ends with what is called defeat, really contributes more to the good cause than a dozen of so-called victories, impurely won - I trust you are not much the worse. I was so grateful to you for your letters. FN: I had
f97v
a letter from a candidate
(on the right side) who
is not yet beaten but expects
to be on Tuesday saying
“No one has learned more
than I have from the
whole campaign”

and
“I think it (the battle) has
been of an educating
character to many people
& questions have been
discussed before great
audiences which whether
I fail or succeed will
waken up thought.”

    That is what I feel so
    strongly - but,
Aunt-like, I wish you had
had the success too -
a little success too -
    But I won’t be done
out of my conviction that
the victory has been
yours -
the Good speed has been yours
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
10 South St  July 9/86
PRIVATE
Dearest Maude
I wish I could give you
better news from Claydon,
so will say nothing more
than that it is kind & pacific.
Shake paws with Mervyn
for me. What does he say
about the Election?
I return Mrs. Gladstone’s
letter to Mr. Fred, because
I am afraid of its being lost.
I send only love to Ralph
& Gwendolen, because they
will have their mother -
1. If you have quite made
up your minds about
Norfolk, would you kindly
let me know that I may
write to Mr. Crossland,
whose letter you have?
But don’t let this bother
you -

Might I trouble you
with these 3 small parcels
for Claydon? - 3 -
2. And might I trouble you
to tell me of some book
Mis Shalders would like?
f100
I fancy it would be
German - But a generation
ago closed my knowledge
& repertory of German -
Give my love to the
morning thrushes at Claydon.
3 -
Also: might I ask you to
kindly find out any book
that Good Davidson,
Parthe’s maid, would
like?
O that it could be settled
that Emma, the excellent
little nurse, (housemaid), might

f100v
be the third attendant
on my sister! Three
are quite essential - Or
she will lose Davidson -
& also every Nurse (one after the
other) - broken down, just
as she wants them most
Please destroy -

ff101-02, 6 Onslow Gardens, S. W. Friday, {archivist: July 1886}, from MV re her decision not to go to Norfolk
Dearest Maude

Thank you so much for your letter - I was so grateful to you for telling me the whole scene & so anxious about Margaret. When you hear of them from abroad, I am sure that you will kindly let me know.

I cannot yet think of it without tears; but they are tears of joy & admiration as much as of grief & astonished disappointment.

We should wave our banners & strew our flowers not for the winner: he has a (so-called) Success - but for those who have the something higher than Success -

There is an old Italian hymn which I dare say you know - not about a Saint, but about one persecuted unjustly: “Martirio in terra appella si, “Gloria si appella in cielo” -
That which is sometimes called “defeat” or “failure” here we shall come to call the only real glorious success. The crowning Victory of all in man’s history was apparently the deepest defeat & destruction of all hope the world has ever seen - And He had palms strewed in His way to it
I keep all these things in my heart -

I send you a charming letter of good excellent sensible Mrs. Robertson which please return to me - I should like to send it to Sir Harry, but dare not, on her account. Sir Harry & my sister are, I am sure, genuinely sorry/grieved - Sir H. dreadfully so -
How sorry I am Ralph & Gwendolen still look so delicate And how are you? And Kathleen still progressing? ever yours
Aunt Florence
signed letter, ff105-06, pencil

f105
10 South St  July 24/86
Dear Maude
   I have not liked to ask you or Mr. Fred to come & see me because I thought you were so much better both engaged in seeing the Thames!! (if possible) together; & were very busy besides
   But Sir Harry tells me that you are both going to Claydon on Tuesday with Kathleen, & I hope going on to Rhoscolyn & perhaps Scotland.
   I should be so very sorry

f105v
   not to see you again for some months perhaps, when so much has been gone through in these last weeks. Could you or Mr. Fred come, one this afternoon, when I have an unexpected vacancy, & the other tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon, if you are so kind?
   But you can’t think how entirely I waive my claim if you are going somewhere nice together, to some Forest or River.
Add Mss 41977D

f106
I have heard from dear Margt, but she gives me no address to write -

I hope Kathleen is almost off the Sick List

God bless you
ever yours

Aunt Florence

If you can come, would 5 or 6 suit you?

signed letter, ff107-08, pencil

f107
Private 10 South St
July 28/86
Dearest Maude

How good you are - Do not trouble yourself to “send here”

I will send to you by “one “o’clock”.

I feel so very anxious that you should not tire yourself by going to Mrs. Grey’s, as you so kindly propose, on my account - But whether you are so good as to see her or write to her,
f107v
I think we must be
careful not to tell her
facts, but simply to
ask her how she found
those certain things -
And if you only write
as I hope you will
perhaps you will let me
suggest some things
before you do -
I cannot say how grateful
I am to you -
And I am afraid you are
so tired

f108
At Claydon, besides
the Nurses, could you
let me know how the
new Sofa & Water
Mattress does?
God bless you
ever yours
Aunt Florence
Love to Kathleen
& good journey
ff109-10, Claydon House, Bucks, August 4, re the state of affairs at Claydon

ff111-12v, Friday evening, {archivist: August 6, 1886} re the nursing situation at Claydon

ff113-14, 6, Onslow Gardens, August 12, 1886, from FWV re a letter from Prince Prisdang, Siam

ff115-16v, Plas Rhoscolyn, Holyhead, Sunday evening, {archivist: August 15, 1886} from MV re her stay at Rhoscolyn
10 South St  Aug 18/86
My dear Mr. Fred
  Miss Masson is at Edinburgh (at the Masson’s there) I will send to Miss Crossland the first thing in the morning - & she Miss Masson shall be written to. but I hardly think they will let her go out on such a chance at such short notice. but - we shall see -
  Miss Greenfield I have sent a word to tonight - But if the boy is a young man,

I am afraid she will hardly do - She injured herself slightly while lifting, in one of our Adult Wards - There must have been some weakness before - And her brother, Professor of something in Medicine at Edinburgh, has forbidden her, tho’ she is quite well, having anything to do with adult Patients for 6 months - Yet she will not leave us -
  It is so inconvenient having
anything to do with 
Great relations -
I will also find out in 
the morning from Miss Crossland what scale 
of payment they will 
consider sufficient. 
And I will write 
to Miss Webber’s Doctor 
But we are the true Doctors - And we must guard in both these two Nurses against any

risk of a 
break-down in/on the voyage, which would be very awkward - 
I have another in my head but she has no organizing power 
ever your affte 
F.N.
10 South St  Aug18/86
My dear Mr. Fred

I have been busy about your Siamese student
(please tell me his age)
And I have found two ladies of our own with whom I have communicated
- one of whom I think will do - She would
nurse him at Watford & go out with him to Siam. but she so clings to the idea of being

that she will make no promise to stay on at Siam in any case -
I think she might be ready “in ten days or a fortnight” - She is a Miss Greenfield - has a sister, a Missionary, in India - But I doubt her having the organizing power to do anything in Siam, even would she stay -
On the other hand, we have a Miss Masson, just gone for her holiday, (with whom I have not communicated) who, Miss Crossland & I think, might possibly do all 3, Watford, Siam & stay there. She has organizing power. But how could she be ready “in 10 days or a fortnight”? [The second with whom I

have communicated, a Miss Webber, would accept it. But she is at this moment in bed, & tho’ she thinks she will be ready “in a week”, I was just going to write to her Doctor who, I am sure, will not.]

I think it/ the Nurse must be a lady, unless you could get hold of a woman like Kathleen’s Nurse, if she is
f121
-2-
to stay out in Siam
especially
[No one can “go to Mrs. Wardroper” or “ask” her for anything - She is away & has been very ill]
I am very sorry you are not in Scotland, & also that Pleasley is not to be done -

f121v
ever your affecte
F. Nightingale
I will write to Miss Greenfield (who is at Croydon) tonight - shall I?

initialled letter, ff122-23v, pencil

f122
10 South St  Aug 19/86
My dear Mr. Fred
I have two misfortunes to announce - One is: we can't have Miss Masson - I have been busy about it
Since 8 am for we had first to get Hy Bonham Carter's consent [And he is now at Woodside] Of course we do not meddle with the ‘Staff’ without his & Mrs. Wardroper’s consent. And he will not give it.
f122v
I have telegraphed to Miss Greenfield - Could you telegraph to me the age of the poor youth? I have asked the Doctor of Miss Webber, who belonged to St. Marylebone Infy, questions about her health. But I am almost afraid you will have to be advised to ask the Sister Superior of University Coll: Hosp or St. John’s - whether she has a nurse who would do - I am so afraid the last part of

f123
the scheme (the organizing in Siam) will tumble through.

2. [Your Gordon lecture]
Lady Ashburton has made for me a collection of ‘slips’ of all kinds on Gordon - But the new baby is in the Library! And I cannot have these ‘slips’ till Monday - too late for you. I have sent for them again & again. But I should be better pleased to know you in Scotland than at Aldershot
Mr. Potter, M.P. for Rochdale has written me an enthusiastic letter on my election to the Cobden Club. Do you know him?

ever your affte
F.N.

unsigned letter, ff124-27, pencil

Aug 20/86
My dear Mr. Fred
I have telegraphed to Miss Greenfield that the poor Siamese student’s age is 20 - & I expect that this will put an end to her - 
I do not think that Miss Greenfield is a lady with organizing power. & I think in some things she would be likely to be rather to-ing & fro-ing, & swayed by adventitious things

I am do not think that she is more worth your taking (& paying more for), for the
**f124v**

*ultimate* object, (which is only a chance & a chance dependent on the organizing & initiatory power of the lady) than a Brompton Nurse

And if she goes to the East at all, to *stay*, she would wish to go to the Punjab, where her Sister is a Missionary

I am trying to judge quite dispassionately, as if my people were not concerned. And I think between Miss Greenfield & a Brompton Nurse, I should choose the

**f125**

latter, tho' I am sorely sorry to give up the ultimate object for the present - But it is so likely to be 'intrigued' away, *any how* - is it not?

What will your Brompton Nurse go for?

It is ¼ to 12 now - St. John’s House is in Norfolk St. Strand - No: Hy B C has not the "absorbent power" - But I always consult him on every important matter - We *must* have unity - or every
stick of us would be broken -

The others I mentioned
to you, *not* Miss Masson, are
not on the Staff - &
therefore more independent -
But, had Hy B.C. been
at Hyde Park Sq, I should
have written consulting
him as to those - And as to Miss
Masson I should not
have moved at all without him.

You see it is a very
great (& wearing) consideration
for me to consider who
can be as it were set

---

down in Siam & have
to grow the rest herself.
I consult Miss Crossland,
Hy B C every body -
*That* does not signify
explaining - But it
signifies very much
choosing the female -

I should reluctantly give
up the *Bro* ultimate object
& take the Brompton Nurse,
I think
f127
How long do you stay at Aldershot? - What is your address there?
if in London on Sunday would you like me to get the Gordon slips I mentioned & go over the subject with you? Supposing you to give the Lecture on Monday
Shall I see you before you go to Scotland?
I wrote to Sir Harry on Monday, thinking he was going to Pleasley!!

initialled letter, ff128-29, pencil

f128
10 South St  Aug 25/86
My dear Mr. Fred
You know when I preached fresh air & rest before going to Siam, (if you do go) - last night, I was preaching in Maudie’s name - To her my thoughts flew at once - Shall you tell her before you know more that there is a prospect of your going to Siam?
Could you go to Rhoscolyn next week till the “instructions” come?
I send you General Gordon at Gravesend, which is the
book you wanted - to see
I believe
I sent down to Moorfields
this morning to claim my
(several) hundreds of the
penny Gordon, of which
you took a copy. Unluckily
the only partner who knew
of the transaction was away
in Scotland. And the wretches
don’t seem to know whether
they have not sold them,
but to offer to replace them
at their own expense -
That can’t be done by Monday
The partner is to be pursued

At all events, you shall
have all the copies I have
by me at Aldershot on
Monday
I am all anxiety about your
last night's Telegram from
Siam -
God bless you - Good speed
ever yours
F.N.
f130

Aug 30/86

Good speed - good speed
to you - And thanks from all -
Could you look over this
letter, striking out any thing
superfluous - especially
any thing the Prince has said
- IF it is printed, I had
better look over it first, &
add some things in Gordon’s
own words - had I not?
Good cheer - & success
to the movement - God
be with you -

F.N.

initialled letter, ff131-39, pen {this does not appear to be in FN’s handwriting} [5:505-09]

f131

London. Aug: 30th 1886

My dear Mr. Fred Verney,

Perhaps my tie with the troops,
whose faithful servant I have been so proud
to be, may excuse my sending a few words
upon Genl. Gordon who so interests us all,
whom I had the privilege to know.
What made him what he was?
Courage in so many senses. The courage
of numbers is common. But his was the
courage of utter loneliness, rising with
loneliness. His very friends were enemies.
English soldiers are rarely called upon
to exercise courage in such positions.
Gordon made his rough materials loyal to a higher self while he had his hold upon them. In China he reorganized a defeated mob against the troops of an able fanatic who had carried everything before them. He was Commander in Chief, Engineer, Banker, Head of the Commissariat & the Arsenal - in the Soudan also Civil Governor General. He was the bravest of men where God’s cause & that of others was concerned - the meekest where only himself. He had no self. What made him what he was? 

Sympathy in so many senses: care
for others, carelessness for self. Gordon's work was a living work of continuous
sympathy wherever he was, whatever he was doing: sympathy with the oppressed
in China: sympathy with the oppressed & the slaves in the Soudan: sympathy with the
miserable at Gravesend & everywhere. It was enough to be miserable to be beloved of Gordon. Misery was the safe passport to his heart. His very name was Victory against a hideously cruel rebellion in China & the weary slavery of the Soudan. Gordon's fighting was chivalry. As a leader, all his exploits were those of a

Paladin. They say that fighting is a blood thirsty trade. With Gordon it was sympathy & benevolence in action. So may it be with every soldier. Like him, every soldier may be, & many a soldier is, loyal to the highest feeling of Chivalry. The lives of those he took were infinitely fewer than the lives of those he gave. If he slaughtered thousands, to tens of thousands he gave the blessing of peace, & of a rest which he never claimed for himself. And from his hand spread broadcast the gifts of prosperity & wealth which he never would touch. In the Soudan he carried the “poor old bag of bones” & the babes into his
camp & fed them up.
What was it made him what he was? Disinterestedness. The Chinese found it "so convenient" to have an honest man who wanted nothing & who gave everything; who cared neither for money nor place. His generous use of money, & always his own when possible, was coupled with a persistent refusal of money as a present to himself, for his own services, at the risk of losing favour with the highest authorities in China. The Khedive assigned him 10,000 a year of which he would take only 2000. Here again was his sympathy, for he remembered from whom the money was wrung.

His disinterestedness raised our character in the East, often alas! so pulled down, until to many millions of men, the word Gordon meant chivalry, honesty, sympathy, purity, faith. And as these men came to know him they came to trust him with a perfect trust. That kind of goodness, that wonderful combination, could not be narrow. No one knows to what class of faith he belonged, yet believers of every class have claimed him. Every act to him was a religious act. God was everything, Gordon was nothing to him. "I do nothing
of this: I am a chisel which cuts wood: the Carpenter above directs" -
"I have an enormous province to look after; but it is a great blessing to me to know that God has undertaken the administration of it. And it is his work & not mine."
If all Britain, all the world one may say, has proclaimed him the perfect hero, the whole Army has proclaimed him the ideal soldier - Were proof needed, is this not absolute proof that the highest qualities, & all of them, are, or may be, at any moment required for a soldier's life?
Gordon's battle field in time of peace was the Hospital, the Workhouse, Slums, the Street Arabs, the Ragged Schools.
His love of the sick, his experience, made him of the same profession as I am. He carried the wounded soldiers in on his back. He carried the dying old women-slaves & the deserted children into his camp in his arms. When he went to Palestine he said to me that, if his country demanded no other service from him, he hoped to devote the remainder of his life to Hospitals. But I know that the cause of the destitute boys is his cause, is carrying on his own living work. He who took the Waif & Stray boys at Gravesend into his house & lived with them on the commonest food, nursed them
through fever, himself taught them
with the same cool ardour as he led the
“Forlorn Hope”, called them his “Kings”,
marked the voyages of those he got out in ships
with pins on his map, & prayed for them all
wherever they were, has left this work to us
to carry on for him.

Pray believe me,
the faithful servant of our troops - [end 5:509]
F.N.

initialled letter, ff140-43v, pencil [5:244-45]

Claydon Sept 9/86
My dear Mr. Fred

Many thanks for your two
letters about Gordon Boys' Home,
which much engageth our
attention - But the Gordon
Boys' Home itself has been in
jeopardy.

“Field Marshal” Lord Napier
without any consultation with his
Committee wrote to the Home
Secretary accepting on their behalf the grant of the
“permanent use” of the “Woking
“Male Prison” for the Gordon Boys -
!!!
Had this been allowed to pass, most of the Committee would have resigned - And - a small matter - I could have done nothing to engage the Army to subscribe to what Gordon would so have disliked -

All the experience we have gained during the last 30 years proves that health, morals, discipline, have to be obtained in huts or small buildings/Pavilions - not in a huge edifice containing 500 cells, however re-arranged

The gallant father went up to London yesterday by the first train without his sandwiches or telling any one but the pony - attended the Meeting where he was Chairman - & a copy of Ld Napier’s letter was written/ read - & then on to Woking to see the Prison!!!

But I forestall - he told the Meeting roundly that Ld Napier had done what he had no right to do - the Tory [?] Colonel, I mean M. Genl, backed him. ‘Hig’ was not there, but a letter on the wrong side was read from him. However the Noes had it - And Hallam Tennyson offered to go off at once to...
Ld Napier & ask him by word of mouth to withdraw his letter - which offer was accepted - We have not of course heard the result - But the “Mutiny” was successful so far.

Arrived at Woking, the gallant Father called a cab, but perched himself on the box by the cabman, in order to “see better”. The cabman turned out to be a soldier, a R.H.A. man, who was side by side with the Shannon brigade in all its work in India. ‘They tossed their guns about as we could not do’ says he.
He also told Sir Harry a
good deal about Woking
Prison -
I am writing in haste just
to account for my silence -
I will return all the (most
interesting) letters. I have
not had time even to think
of your stirring proposal to
write a sketch of Gordon
& an 'appeal' to "chivalry"
(for the pamphlet) You would
do it much better than I -
Would we could do it together
Could you tell me from
your leaflets what is the
scheme - whether to give
one or two years' training - or

what? - whether then
the Committee intend to
'place the boys out', as
Gordon did, according to
the bias of each?
I can never find a
Committee man who can
tell me
Don't suppose we are not
intent on the subject
which you have started so
well
I am rather afraid of the
22 per Regt - 20 would
require 800 sixpences -
I think the men would subscribe so much better if it were not asked in that way. However, that is not the A. A. G.’s business of mine.

I trust it will be a grand movement, as you well deserve, embracing the whole Army - in great haste ever yours affly

F.N.

I write gaily - but indeed am in great anxiety about the whole matter - & about what you asked me to do - (not

about Col Robinson who seems doing so well) & want you to tell us your mind I hope you are imbibing ozone - & not writing letters

One man at the Meeting yesterday said we must succumb to the Pr. of Wales who was for the Prison - !! Gordon wd not have done this
f144
Claydon Burn Sept 19/86
[Gordon Boys' Home]
My dear Mr. Fred
All the leaflets have been sent me by your kindness regarding this G.B.[H. And Mrs - Hawthorn has also sent me a number]
Thanks for Genl Philip's two notes. N.B. You should not have told him that I was going to do a "pamphlet", seeing I am such a wretch.
100 of the "Allen" 'pamphlet' are gone to Col. Robinson

f144v
already, with a note from me, asking him to send on a post-card, 'if he would like to have more, what number?'
And I wrote to the Printers, telling them to keep the type up, for I might want more than my 700 -

And now for the "penny "pamphlets", soi-disant by me, to be "brought out under the Sanction of the G.B.H. Comee"
if I am to do it, it must be
done by you - Q.E.D.

[How busy you have been -
 I hope the newspaper
 has come out well - I
 have seen a copy here]
Your view of the pamphlet
 is this -
“to help to secure the general
 good will of the Army for
 the G.B.H.”
to contain
1. the “proceedings” of Aug 30
2. “a short sketch of Gordon’s
 life”
3. an “appeal” to the “sympathy”

of every soldier for Gordon’s
 work - which “each one of
 them might help to do”
4. for “love of Gordon’s memory”
 “British Army” to “become
 a school of chivalry”, in
 “which every noble quality
 that makes a man is in
 full & constant use” -
This is your Programme:
 & it is a glorious
Programme -
How is it to be carried out
Add Mss 41977D

f146

-2-
If you could do what you did
  for the letter at Aldershot
on Aug 30, viz. *dictate* to
me heads (but that can’t
be done now) or send me
those kinds of heads,
hints, & tails - all in fact
- it might *get done* somehow

But I have had heavy &
despairing, not hopeful war/business
sent me down by W.O. - &
for India -
*And* - the {the rest of the page is missing}

f146v

  How soon will this
pamphlet be wanted?
  I am most anxious to do
what you want, but fear it
is impossible unless you
could kindly do, as here
proposed -
  I send you an “Allen”
pamphlet, in case you are
so good as to put down
hints for “2. the short sketch
“of Gordon’s life”
  What I had *meant* to
{corner of page is missing} (your)

f147

  letter of Aug 30, with
quotations of Gordon’s own
words -
  for the pamphlet - But
Your Programme is so
  magnificent that I wish
there were some one to do
it full justice -

[end 5:511]
f148
10 South St Oct. 29 /86
Dearest Maude

How more than charming your Princess is - She is a *divine* woman: *God dwelling in* her, whether she calls it by that name or not. It is a lesson & a sermon to be with her even for an hour or two - Luckily for me, I was so be-cough-ed that I could not talk much - And *she* talked, O so beautifully - the gentle Reformer of Siam -

f148v

What she told me that you had taken her to a Club - I suppose Miss Maude Stanley’s - And “little books”, what she calls the “arrangements”, for this, & for a Lunatic x Asylum, & for a Board School, She means to translate for the benefit of Siam

x The Lunatic Asylum book told “how they were to be fedd,” &c she said.
She asked me for similar "little books", for a Hospital, a High Class School, (Female) - and we talked about Coffee-houses, because, she says, the drink & the opium - smoking in Siam is so frightful - & makes them so "lazy"

Have you see her little books? And could you give me an idea what they are?

1. *What* is the "Board School" book? [I think she said you took her there.]

What she wants of me is,

I imagine, a book of the Regulations, Course of Study, & "arrangements" of a High School for girls - X I suppose that is this, do you think, the needful thing?

(or- as she says a School for high-class girls) - I suppose that in England where all is done by private means or Societies, there is no similarity between these - Girls But I will do my best to get her something from Miss Buss - X [is this, do you think, what she wants?]
2- unless you can kindly explain to me what she wants - better - Is it to comprise cooking & needle work?

[It is so touching her learning to cut out &c in order to teach - O what Christian so good as she?]

2. There is the same difficulty about Hospitals. These being all the result of private effort, there is no Manual common to all - [Were they Manuals what she has?]

And I don’t think our Army Hospital Regulations at all good - Nor those of St. Thomas’ for that matter - Perhaps the Workhouse (Poor Law) Infirmaries come nearer to what she wants - I will write to our St.

Marylebone & elsewhere, & to our St. Thomas’ Treasurer for what she wants.
3. **Coffee-houses:**
   the best introduction to them
   is the series of books of Lady
   Hope of Carriden - But these
   are so strongly impregnated
   with Bible teaching that -
   - would they do for Siam?

**Opium Smoking**
You know that 2 or 3 years
ago, 6 vigorous young
graduates of Cambridge
went to China - o why
did they not go to India?
- as a sort of Lay Missionaries
  And only last Sunday
week an Australian lady,

**f151v**
now returned to Melbourne,
told me of an Opium *Refuge*
2 of them had set up
Your Princess seemed to
think the drinking & opium
smoking quite hopeless -
Our undergraduates don’t
think so - But perhaps
it is not the business of
the Gentle Princess -
I could easily get
information about the
Opium Refuge in China,
(I have got down the name)
if you thought well.
Please don’t trouble yourself about these things -
Only I know that, if you could help me with hints of what she wants - to get her what she wants - most lovely being - You kindly will -

Perhaps it would give you least trouble to return me this letter with your kind reply.
O pray excuse this rigmarole written under interruption [PTO

ever dearest Maude with love to chider 3,
your loving
Aunt Florence

I had a touching letter to Parthe from Margaret last night - not much better.
Do you suppose that Lettice is never moved at all? that the bed is made with her in it?
that everything is done for her in bed?
Or is she ever lifted off to an adjoining bed while her own is refreshed?
Brave, brave Margaret - what a terrible illness it is.
Have you ever heard what they call it? [Is there any danger of
[ bed-sores?
ff154-55v, Wednesday evening, from MV re family news and a proposed visit by the Princess to FN

ff156-57v, Thursday, re Lettice’s illness

ff158-59v, Friday evening, re the Princess and Lettice’s illness

signed letter, ff160-62, pencil [8:901]

f160
10 South St Nov 4/86
Dearest Maude

The enclosed papers of the Wesleyan Girls’ College at Milton Mount, near Gravesend, seem to me to denote a Girls’ College so much more like your Princess’ requirements, & to be so much fuller in detail than any I have seen, that I send them for her -

If she cannot see the College, they may be useful to her. If she is going to see it,
they may direct her attention
as to what to look at -
[P. 17 in the Report, which I
have turned down, gives
some idea of its objects
- more at least than most
Reports do.]
Four papers I send with
it -x & a card
[I have been unsuccessful
in getting anything from
Hospitals worth her having.]
x
The 4 “Milton” papers embrace,
besides the College,
Day School for Girls & Kindergarten
Technical College for Women
High School for Girls & Kindergarten

I will write again about
Hospitals - But they have nothing.
I am writing to Calcutta for a
Report about their Hospital,
& to Poona for one about their
High School -

I trust you are better

I am so sorry that I have
not seen Capt. Verney before
he went - I suppose he is
gone (to Leipzig) - I wrote to
him the day before yesterday,
begging, if I might, to see him -
& sent him a note by hand
this morning - But I suppose
he went last night?
They did not seem to know
whether he was gone abroad

All good be with you -
ever yours
F. Nightingale
If your dear Princess has
been to Gravesend, &
got papers of her own,
might I have these papers
back?

F.N.

-2-
Thanks for Prss Narès
most kind note -
Would you tell her so
with my very best
wishes? I hope she is
well again - May she prosper
as she deserves!
O dear Margt - how sad
the account of Lettice -
ever yours affly

F.N.

ff163-64v, November 4, re the papers for the Princess, and news of Lettice's illness
ff165-66, November 10, re Lettice's illness and a visit to FN by Mr. Morant
Add Mss 41977D
initialled note, f167, pencil

f167
10 South St  Nov 12/86
My dear Mr. Fred
   I send you Mr. Jowett’s budget. They testimonials seem to me
(almost intentionally) colourless -
   I received your two budgets
If Mr. Anson could come at 5.30, instead of 5,
   this is one of my excessively busy (Indian) days -
But don’t ask him if that will cut short my time
with him by half an hour - I will send at 3 to you’s
to know -
   Oh how sad the account of Lettice. Dear Margaret
Thank Maude for letting me know very much -
   F.N.

ff168-69, Friday morning, re Lettice’s improvement
signed note, ff170-73v, pencil

f170
10 South St  Nov 13/86
    Private
My dear Mr. Fred & dearest Maude
   Mr Anson was here yesterday
& was very interesting. I hope
to see you about it, Mr. Fred.
   In answer to your last
two notes, & as for your in regard
to my “helping” to “choose” the
Tutor & Private Secretary for
an Eastern prince, it is not
of course to be thought of for
one moment. It might as
well be asked that I should
help to choose a Secretary for the
Pope, or a priest for the
Grand Llama - I have
never seen Prince Narès. I have only seen the Princess once - & these two Englishmen once each - I know absolutely nothing of Siam except from you - And to you then I must report. I undertook to see these two Eng gentlemen on that ground alone - Any other ground for me would have been my acting on false pretences - I do not know the duties of a Private Secy to an Eastern Prince - & scarcely those of a Tutor. And the combination seems the most difficult imaginable.

I regret that it was mentioned to the Princess at all that I was seeing these gentlemen; without its being expressly told me.

You will see all this as I do, I am sure.

I do not think The same principle does not apply to Maude at all. She knows Prince Narès & all the family thoroughly - & has influenced
the Princess to be what she is. And she knows Mr. Morant & Mr. Anson at least as well as I do. She might help Pss Narès greatly in her decision. I could It is an honour and a pleasure to see the Princess - But I could not even see her without seeing you, Mr. Fred, first. - & then only on the understanding that I could in no way “help in the choice” to a situation all but totally unknown to me -

Mr Anson told me that you had said I was up in the literature about Siam - And he asked me to recommend books to him I do not know a single book about Siam, (except a very foolish one I saw upon Parthe’s table, & did not read) [It is not Bouddhist literature he wants, for I asked him.] Would you kindly tell me yourself, & ask Consul
f172v
Genl Mason & the Chargé
d'Affaires, & Interpreter
or whoever it is you think
well informed about books,
& let me know what books
Would you telegraph to
Mr. Mason?
[You see tomorrow is
Sunday -]
f173
I could see you, Mr.
Fred, at 5 “to-day”, if that
would be possible to you -
And to-morrow, “Sunday”,
I would see the Princess,
if you then think well,
because it is an honourable
delight - not because I
could help her in her choice
Would 5 be too late
for her?
I trust Maude is better
& am so thankful about
Lettice -

f173v
I do not confess to the
“copper-colours” - My work
& it is very pressing, is
now of the white, whiter,
whitest: the “Indian -
None but a white Finance
Committee could threaten
the work of 30 years -
None but a whiter Ind. Off.
could propose such minutes
as I am now looking at.
None but a whitest ViceReine
could make such requests
Besides, yesterday, was Indian
mail day, you know - which
always makes pressing work
- ever your affecte F. Nightingale
initialled letter, ff174-75, pencil

**f174**

10 South St  Nov 17/86  
My dear Mr. Fred

I am very sorry, but tomorrow (Thursday) I am entirely engaged in a most disagreeable affair - trying to save the Army Sany Commn  
They are trying to abolish it & undo the work of 30 years -  
Secies of State are worse than Leipzig Doctors -  
On Saturday at 5 I will try to keep open, & gladly see you, tho’ I don’t know that

**End 9:662**

**f174v**

I can do much/any good

Thanks very many for offering to get something for Mr. Morant, which I accept. To so young a man I should naturally send a 5 note - “from a friend” “for outfit” - Do you think he would run restive & tear it up?  
As he is so poor -  
If so, then please get him something, as you kindly propose

**f175**

Many thanks for Leipzig news -  
So glad Maude is well in haste  
ever your affte  
F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

ff176-77v, November 17, 1886, from FWV re a Gordon lecture, Lettice’s illness and a gift for Mr. Morant

ff178-78v, Brooks’s, St. James Street, S. W., November 22, 1886, re a school map and family news

ff179-82, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S. W., December 4, 1886, re the Prince’s political opinions

ff183-84v, Rhianva, Bangor, December 20, 1886, re family news

ff185-86v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S. W., December 7, from MV re the state of Parthe’s nurses at Claydon

ff187-88v, Washerton House, Warwick, December 13, re Miss Shalders’ imminent departure

ff189-90, Rhianva, Bangor, Wednesday, re MV’s arrival at Rhianva

ff191-92v, Saturday Evening, re Lettice’s illness

ff193-94, December 23, re a great improvement in Lettice

ff195-96, December 30, re the death of Mervyn

ff197-98v, December 31, re good wishes for the New Year and family news
f1
10 South St Jan 4/87
Dearest Maude
    Thank you for your
gracious letter -
    Indeed, indeed, I do so
grieve for you & Mervyn -
    But you had given him
such a happy life. It is a
great thing to look back &
feel that he had never been
unhappy - I sometimes think
that the loss of a faithful
animal is felt almost
more than those of a
human beings, except the
very greatest, because we

f1v
are not sure of their
    living again - But I
can never believe, can you?,
that those animals who
are so much better than we
are, their faithful love,
their forgiveness, their self-sacrifice,
in devotion to duty, will not
live again -
"And thinks, admitted to an
equal sky
"His faithful dog will bear
    him company."
When I see the Hansom cab -
horses, the fineness of
whose legs shows them
Add Mss 41977D

f2
to have been hunters or
riding horses, running to
the last their very best, in
what is must be to them humiliation,
for duty’s sake, I think
how much more fit for
heaven they must be
than the masters who
sold them -
And a faithful friend like
Mervyn - - - !! he is
without price.
The dog or the cat which
will die rather than
leave a the death-bed or the
grave of a human friend,

f2v
“Greater love hath no man
than this” -
their patience in suffering
- my dear Bismarck who
nursed his mother when
she was ill, tho’ she did
nothing but snarl at him,
- which nursing I never saw any other
do - whom I gave away,
to a sick lady 7 ½ years
ago - he is just dead,
after much suffering - And
she wrote to me that he
preserved his courteous,
kindly manners to the last,
& was “so much more patient
than” she was
f3  
   -2-  
   I had a cat friend, who 
lived with me 17 years -
the most faithful - I cannot 
speak of her even now - I had 
to have her laid to rest -
But I found out afterwards 
that she had not been 
kindly treated while I was 
away - And she might have 
lived for years -
   But your Mervyn was 
always happy - always 
kindly treated -
   No cat can fill her place 
to me - no Mervyn to you

f3v  
   I am very glad you stay 
at Rhianva till you go 
to Claydon. What a 
comfort to Margaret to 
have you there - filling 
her place, if only for a 
time.
   Does Ellin make at all 
something of a mother/mama-kin 
to the children?
   And what is Capt. 
Verney doing? Pray give 
him my love, if I may -
Can you tempt him out, 
as you say?

f4  God bless you  
ever your loving  
    Aunt Florence

ff5-6v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S. W., January 12, 1887 from MV re her sorrow at the death of Mervyn
Dearest Maude

I do feel that you must not "force" yourself about dear Mervyn - It is true that, in real losses, every year only makes one feel the loss the more. But then one learns to think of those who are gone as happy now, as perhaps waiting for one. The pang is not so rending - one even thinks of them as rejoicing in doing one some good - They are not under the soil, extinct for ever - Do Ralph & Gwendolen try to make up in some measure for Mervyn?

What ARE we to do with these letters? You are wise - You have seen my sister lately - I have not You are wise - What would you think best for Edmund to write? It would

ff8-9, January 15, 1887, re MV’s feelings of loss regarding Mervyn
f10
10 South St Jan 24/87
My dear Mr. Fred
Your letter-kin appals me. Have you let your house? & are you going to live at Goldings Hertford?
I have not been able even to look at the Queen’s River question yet; I am sorry to say. Since the shuffling of Ministers, & the Bombay Chief Secy being here, I have lived in a sort of whirlwind of work in bed - (not neglecting Miss Crossland.)

f10v
Chief Secy gone, I had Mrs. Hawthorn all Saturday afternoon (also in bed) on the most horrible of all subjects - which always makes one ill - It was a relief to turn to Gordon, the very Antipodes of that subject -
She will be delighted to have your Meeting [I told her she must not call it Lecture] She thinks the great hall, in New Brompton (the R.E. Barracks, but the best for the purpose)
must ask Col Brine, the Commanding R.E. first. She is extremely distressed that the R.E. officers have decided on the form of memorial, of all others most distasteful to Gordon, a statue in the Barrack Square. The men must of course subscribe to this - which makes any subns to Gordon Boys' Home very precarious. But I told her that, however disappointing, Subns were not your first aim in having a Meeting

I think she is one of the very best & most energetic stuff: & very like him in some qualities - exceedingly witty too, like him - She hopes you will come & stay with them -

What a noble speech of Trevelyan's (in to-day's Times) even if we venture to differ in some things.

ever yours
Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

signed note, f12, pencil

f12
10 South St Jan 31/87
Dearest Maudie
    Poor Ralph & poor you?
Please, just a verbal message
to say how he is -
    I hope Gwendolyn & Kathleen
have not much amiss -
    God bless you
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence

signed note, ff13-13v, pencil
f13

10 South St. Feb 3/87
How good of you to write me
news of the “dauntless Three” -
I am so grieved for this
outbreak, but hope for good
news to-day -
    I send 3 “picture books”,
but am sadly afraid they are
all old to them.
    Please tell them with
Aunt Florence’s love I am
making a collection of these
books for the sick children
in “Babies’ Castle” - & there
Add Mss 41977D

f13v
are 60 little children in
60 little cots - And
some of them are very bad
with whooping-cough.
And the Head Nurse who
is very fond of them is one
of the Nurses whom they
have given cups of tea to
on Claydon lawn -

God bless you all, my bairns
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

signed letter, f15, pencil

f15
10 South St March 6/87
Dearest Maude
Sir Harry has rather a bad
cold, & has condescended to
take Sir Andrew Clark’s
medicine - breakfast in bed
As the medicine is a sudorific,
if he gets up to day (he is
not up yet, 11.30) the last
state of that man will be
worse than the first -
At present he keeps himself
in a warm perspiration
& me in a cold one -
remembering the history of
two neglected colds & two E.
wind
Marches - ever yours Aunt Florence
March 25/87

My dear Mr. Fred

I am in very poor case:
& to-day is India mail day -
But if you kindly wish to
come about 5.30 or 6, I would
gladly see you - And won’t
you have tea?

I have not had a moment
to explain that your poor
old Aunt Florence is more
matter of fact than you
know - I did not mean
anything of “doctrine” by
“you must not stop there”.
I mean simply what I wrote

in Nos 2, 3, 4 - that Nos
2, 3, 4 must follow No 1,
the House of Call; Or it
will be a poor thing -

Your foundresses, as all
pioneers generally are, always
among working-women, were
heroines - But, that won’t
go on, alas! [See men
in similar positions] And
a Home & Club under a
really good Matron Manager
is in my opinion with other
things, a sine qua non
You don’t know what
experience we have had
of a Nightingale Home under a nobody & under a woman who, without one word of “doctrine”, is really a Xtian guide to them. Yet our Probationers are as old as your women. They vary from 25 to 40 years - are often older than their guide the "Home Sister"

I don’t think I could “write” you “a letter” - Pray forgive me. But any thing that cd de-w be of the least use to you in the letter I wrote to “Purity” is yours - And I hope you will allow me to give my mite - Not to keep you ever yours F.N.

Best love to Maudie & children

signed letter, ff18-19, pencil

Dearest Maude

How are you & the children three? And is Mr. Fred gone to Edinburgh?

I think he said that Miss Morant was coming to see you to-day or Thursday. Would you kindly give her a message from me - & say I did not write again to Thena, because Mr. Fred meant to call at Cambridge on his way back from Edinburgh - was this not so? had they been still at Newnham,
& the telegraph to Mr. Morant at Bangkok if the account was good
I hope the account is good. I feel very anxious to know exactly how far the sister has recovered from the terrible accident, & what are likely to be the results. But I don’t like to trouble her to write nor you either. I shall see you some day, dear Maude.
I understood that the sister was to stay a fortnight at the friend’s home at Cambridge - & then go to Sevenoaks.

I feel just so anxious as ever to know how Margaret & Lettice are ever dearest Maude
Your loving
Aunt Florence
signed notes, ff20-21v, pencil

f20

May 15/87
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
I am anxious to know
that you are not having your
throat cut on account of
aggression against drinking
by Yeomanry &c & public houses
It is something not worth
while to make a raid
if there is not good hope
of making an impression -
It is worth while when there
seems an up-rising of
public feeling in the same

f20v

direction - That is why
I mentioned Ld Wolmer’s
Article in ‘XIX Century’, which
is all in that/ your direction.
viz. the immense harm done
to the Militia by the
abominable system of
billeting on & paying in
public-houses - & the
deterring thereby of just
the steady young fellows you
want in the Militia from
remaining in it or entering
it.
Women’s Unions &c
   My dear Maude Thanks very many for the new Circular you were so kind as to send me - much to be preferred to the first - but I should have liked a little more about the Women’s Club & - the place for meals & evenings -

Dear Mr. Fred
   I think “Personal Rights” - may his grandmother’s shadow perish from the earth! - was quite justified (by the first) in saying that “Miss N.

“had addressed a Circular to “the women of England” &c
Dearest Maude I hope you have better news of Ellin & Lettice
   Poor Margaret ever your affecte
      Aunt Florence
May 20/87

My dear Mr. Fred

I hope the poor knee is making progress.

Is not the Devil very busy this season?

I will return the Pigott’s very excellent letter x [You shall tell me exactly who is is when we meet]

I wish it could be followed up at once I am afraid, do you know?,

that, if the things he speaks of “which will scarcely bear repeating,”

taking place “in public houses “(many of which are brothels),

very many are going on even now - Why do the “Colonels object” ?/to

x tomorrow
f22v
paying the men by P. O order?
   Have they brewers to their
   brothers or wives' brothers? - -
as the French judges say: ‘who
‘is she’?
   There is always a ‘brewer’ as
there is always a ‘she’.
   I hear nothing from Genl
Philip Smith - re Aldershot
   Sir Harry had a bad fall
as you now, mounting a
new pony to try it, on Tuesday
   - But I have a telegram
from Morey this morning

f23
   “much better
   accident not a serious one
   out walking as usual”
Have you better news from
Rhianva?
Best love to Maudie
& children
   ever yours affly
   Aunt Florence
June 16/87
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
I did not know till I saw
dear Maude that your next
winter & her next winter were
decided - you in Siam, she &
the bairnies at Nairn. How
brave she is - how calm.
It is a noble crusade you
are going on - so full of
usefulness. May all good
attend you. I can scarcely
conceive a more important
mission with all its side
issues -
That your Prince is a good
one I am most thankful - It
makes all the difference -

2. I give you joy with all my
heart that ye Jubilee Fund
undertakes you. Now the
Jubilee Fund is something
worth having.
One of the three which it
patronizes I could not quite
read. there is “Widows’ Pensions”
& “FREE” (this is the word I could
not make out) “Nurses”
I do think, with Lady Fredk
Cavendish, that if this Women’s
Provident Fund /Union &c &c & House
of Call &c can be carried out, it
will make a difference in
working women’s existence - They
are now slaves to the competition
for employment - [end]
  But it will miss you in Japan
& Siam.
Do you mean that you have a third of
the Jubilee Fund?
3. And now a weighty question.
   What would Maude, if she
were I, allow her maids to do
on Tuesday, as to seeing the
Procession, or more particularly
the Illuminations? [I have
no man servant, & the Messenger
I have had for 11 years, & who
ought to be trust-able, is fond
of the drink.] I expect that the
Cook=Housekeeper - the one Mrs.
Grey recommended - & who is of
little or no use as an upper servant,

will ask to go out to see
  the illuminations, & take a
maid with her. [the three
are all young girls] & stay
out, as she boasts, till 2 am
The very idea of it sends a cold
perspiration down my back
Ought I to permit it?
  If there is an accident, it
will be my fault -
    I can’t control her; but I
must govern the maids -
    Yet I should like them to
see something of the great day.
    What would you, in my
circumstances, permit?
  God bless you all
    ever yours affly
        Aunt Florence
In this difficult and growing age, of all clergymen who have an understanding knowledge of the wants of the working classes, and the wish to open a good way to them - not because they are afraid of them and of ignorance getting the upper hand - but because they see how to enlighten ignorance, and because they have a hearty sympathy with the men (including the women and children) and the age. and because they wish to turn inevitable change into progress, and progress of the best sort - Mr. Stubbs with his deep religious convictions and his keen and practical insight and interest (both for the high and the low) is perhaps one of the most remarkable in whom the strongest confidence can be place

(signed)

Florence Nightingale
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff28-29v, pencil

f28

_Private_ 10 South St.

    July 13/87

    Dearest Maude

I was so much obliged to you
for coming yesterday but
yet more so because _then_ I
did not know what your
plans were - before -
I think I gathered that you
meant “only the difference
“between Monday & Thursday”
“to go to Claydon”.
& that your principal necessity
at Claydon was the “functions”-
I feel most impertinent in even
suggesting to you about plans:

f28v

but I am sure that the _best_
  _rest_ to you & also to
_Margaret_ would be for
you to be with her at
least 10 days _or more_.

No one can grudge you that -
You have only seen her one week in a year _X_
    And tho’ I feel that you are
heroic yet you will be very
much tried just now -
Won’t _I_ do at Claydon for
  a bit? not to replace you,
that is impossible - but just
_X_ And Margaret said to me: ‘When
  I got in at Onslow Gardens, I felt
my burden rolled off my back’
f29

to be a stop-gap to allow
you to stay with Margaret.
I promise to telegraph to you,
(if I see a ‘function’ looming,)
at Rhoscolyn - IF you wish it -
I did not understand whether
the dear children three
were going to Rhoscolyn or not
with you - I hope so But if they
are coming to Claydon before
you, I will do my best too
(to be a stop-gap)
Dearest Maude, pray
think of staying with
Margaret for her sake as
much as your own - a fortnight
or as nearly as possible - either after or before Claydon

f29v

My best love to Mr. Fred.
I hope he will not overtire
himself before he starts -
The going to Siam & Japan
is a heroic necessity - It
is the most interesting thing
in the world. It is the most
indispensable thing in the
world. To you & him a great
trial: but you say, like S. Paul,
‘Rejoice & again I say unto you
Rejoice’ - He is the creator
of the Siamese Mission.
I am so sorry not to see him
again before he starts -
God bless you both
ever, dearest Maude, your
I am in the agony affecte
of St. Thomas’ Aunt Florence
Private  
Claydon  
July 19/87

Dearest Maude

Thanks for your dear note.
- I offer to tell you what I
could glean about the
“functions”: they only know
at present of the Flower-show
on August 1 & something
(?Blue Ribbon) same day.
- They/My sister says that the ‘villages’
have spent so much this year
on their Jubilee that they
don’t expect many ‘functions’ -
- Of course I know that
‘functions’ crop up by Telegram

Still, tho’ I have no right
to say this, it does seem
hard upon you to have
only “from August 16 to 24”
with Margaret -  And if
‘functions’ are the reason,
‘functions’ be drowned -
- Dearest Maude, I do
think so much of you &
Mr. Fred - now more than
ever  
Great love -
- I shall write my farewell
to him - & my Au revoir -

Sir Harry is full of him
& you -
  Atmosphere pacific -
with love to childer 3
  ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
f32
Claydon July 20/87
My dear Mr. Fred
   Success to your goings out
& your comings in - Your going
on this Great Expedition is a
thing which is eminently
right to do. So it must be
successful in the highest sense.
God bless you both all the
day & all the night - And
as somebody says, ‘then you
must be safe all the time’.
   As for Maude going to
Nairn, I think it is heroic -
rejecting the lesser consolations
in the Nairn Expedition

f32v
   She is not obliged to stay
   if she does not find it
agree with the childer quite
so much as may be hoped.
She is not going to build a
Balmoral on the Dunes of sand,
nor take a house on lease
That too will be successful.
   This is in answer to your kind
of apology for the Nairn Expedition
I enclose a note for Ld Dufferin as you desire - Maude will tell me where & when to address you in India - I suppose you will stay a few days in Bombay - Bombay is so much better worth knowing than Calcutta - it is the birth of a new nation - a new political system - despotism, like the lion lying down with the kid, shaking hands with the rising educated native nationality - You will not need an introduction to Lord Reay - I will ask Sir Wm Shall I?

Wedderburn for some others-introductions Ask Grant Duff [I have seen Lady Grant Duff too this last week - she is worth 22 of him] & ask Mr. Henry Cunningham for introductions at Madras - Or shall I? You have, of course, got introductions from Mr. Cunningham for Calcutta & Ld Dufferin - Ld Dufferin says:’A Viceroy must have not female friends, but as Mrs. Cunningham was Ld Lawrence’s daughter, I used to ask her for a cup of tea always once & sometimes twice a week.
I will try & send you introductions “for the line “from Calcutta to Bombay”, but am very much afraid I shall not be able
Also: My friends at Madras are not now in high places -
    But I have native friends at all the Presidency towns.
Please send any messages you may have for me by Maude - brave Maude - Don’t trouble to write ever your loving Aunt Florence
If you like it, & should like, as the

time for your being at Calcutta waxes nearer, to write another letter of introduction for you to Lord Dufferin, which will be later & fresher than this, the cream of which will ‘turn’ passing thro’ Japan & Siam.
    F.N.
Claydon July 20/87
Dearest Maude Will you kindly use the enclosed to get Mr. Fred something useful for the Great Expedition. It was very stupid of me not to send it before. Or, if not too late perhaps he would get himself something odd & appropriate at/in Siam or Japan.
Pray do not take the trouble to answer this till we meet.
We think of you hourly. I

wish even poor I were in London next Sunday for you to see somebody besides packages - Kind Sir Harry says perpetually about your stay here, “we only want Maude to do what she likes best for herself.” And in his morning talks with me it is always about Mr. Fred - I have heard from Margaret - good accounts she & Ruth & Harry wading without shoes & stockings in bogs after flowers - That sounds delicious.
Sir Harry says: ‘how I should like to be going Fred’s expedition ‘- just what I should like ‘a sacrifice & a risk - & so much ‘important to do - so much ‘hanging upon it’
God bless you again & again ever with great love
Yours
Aunt Florence

signed note, f37, pencil [8:905]

No, dearest Maude, the children’s sweet lovely voices “in doors” & “out of doors” are delightful to me - to me who never hear any but the poor little bodies crying in Hyde Park on a Sunday Please let me enjoy them as I hope to tell you soon & hope soon to hear what Mr. Fred tells you. I am so glad you have a cheery letter - To-day he is two thirds on his way. Does he write - his post town, Queenstown? ever your loving Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff38-40v, pencil [8:905-06]

f38
Claydon Aug 20/87
How can I thank you enough, dearest Maude
for your letter some days since?
God bless you & the children & Mr. Fred
   With you two I can feel more than I can say.
because I have known what it is to have the
War Minister & the India Office Minister removed
every 4 months - to have the War Minister taken
away just as he is carrying measures you have
been hatching for years as e.g. W. H. Smith
was taken away from doing what nobody else could

f39
   do at the War Off: to do what nobody can
do as Leader in this (wild beast sort of a)
   Ho: of C -
But take courage - Or rather you have more
courage than any one -
That Mr. Fred is not going on to Siam with
this excellent Prince D with whom he has
already done much good is grievous indeed.
But then it is impossible that this Minister
who is like a man without ears or tongue
could carry on the most important business in
England at all without Mr. Fred that is
obvious.     How could they send such a
man? [How could they put Ld Lytton in
India]
   I do trust Mr. Fred will yet go to Siam
& make the King’s acquaintance
while Prince D. is prime minister, with whom
he has begun so well
   What is it that Gamaliel says: If it is
of God, no one can overthrow it - If it is of
'man, it will come to naught.'

Mr. Fred’s letter is courageous & gallant & true - Thank you for it 1000 times

[Am I to understand that I must not communicate it here or anywhere?]

As for Nairn I suppose that it is of the first importance that he/Ralph dear laddie should be set up in health, & ozone now - & Gwendolen too

But one must sympathize, alas! with you being rent in twain. But you throw

-2-

your ‘body’ in the ‘breach’ so gallantly -

I am glad you are with Margaret now during this time of strain - But on Wednesday next you will be starting - God speed you!

Aunt Florence’s love to all -

I have written to London to send you a July Fortnightly. You do not mind? I have written all over Seeley’s Article in the copy you left here - Fare you very, very well ever your loving Aunt Florence -che pensa a voi

ff41-42v, Elm Bank Cottage, Nairn, N.B, August 31, thanking FN for picture books sent to the children and about their life at Nairn
f43
Claydon Sept 2/87
6 a.m.
Dearest Maude I come as welcome, I know as your Telegram & your account of the nice little house with sea & shells & common (& no Parade!) at Nairn was to us For I bring in my hand a letter from Mr. Fred -
   Ah me how strange is the trial - He all strung & ready to go to Siam & achieve good there - (& you) - & yet the necessity of his return, for Siam's good -
   Well - we shall see even here that it is for the best. But it is very grievous - 'cast down but' still upright & lively -
   Sir Harry is at Manchester - Mr. Calvert gone - My sister & I alone here - I return to London on Tuesday, where St. Thomas' & India call -
   I have thought it best not to mention Mr. Fred's letter - Please return it to me -
I was so grateful - we were so grateful for your delightful scraps on the journey - & for your safe & happy arrival.

Is Elm Bank Cottage the place you took while you were here?

God bless the dear children & their dear mother.

I sent two books on the Sea Shore for them to the P. O. not alas! the books I meant - not books for children at all - but the best I could get with coloured plates - Coloured plates is the necessity - I remember when I was a child how I used to toil over the uncoloured wood-cuts (without proportion) in a Conchology book & never identify a single shell.

Catalogues are aggravating - I ordered the books I wanted at different places/reprises for the children - answer always "out of print" - At last I found a Routledge Catalogue of last year - answer "out of print"
Add Mss 41977D

f45

-2-
I want particularly a book on
  Sea Weeds which thro’
Margaret’s kindness I hope
to get in London - But it
is not for children - & to
send that, & one on British
Butterflies - But there is no
science for children, except
in Margaret’s head -
We have a tremendous storm
  here how thankful
that you had it not at
  sea-
I trust that you are able
  to do the Music - Music

f45v

without instrument - that is
  so wonderful.
& that the sea=breezes are
  blowing ozone into
darling Ralph & Gwendolen
  & Kathleen -
& that the lessons do not
  worry you - I am sure
they must be good for
  them -
I cannot say what I fain
  would say, dearest
Maude, how much I am
  ever your & their loving
    Aunt Florence

f46

The early post is leaving.

ff47-48v, September 11, re MV and the children at Nairn
f49
10 South St  Sept 18/87
Dearest Maude
Thank you so much, so very much
for your letters & Mr. Fred’s -
Indeed it is coming very near,
Sept. 24. But I hope the
Equinoctials began so early this
year & so unreasonable &
violent that they have
spent all their fury. & have
not a breath left a piece -
We have actually had here a
fog - that most provoking of
all things, a fog with a high
barometer. But it presages
well for the sea - The air was
perfectly still.

f49v
I delight in you & Ralph
taking your bath on the Pier -
Still I may hope that a more
‘fashionable’ way of bathing &
promenading may succeed now.
Aunt Florence’s best love to
the 3 little robust=growing
dear Ozone=seekers - & to their
best beloved mother God speed -
Thanks too for the nest in
the tree - the cedar at Claydon
- the most delightful, I think,
of the Photographs - of the Mother
& the three -
f50

Thank you so very much for Mr. Fred’s letter which I return [And Margaret was so good as to send me one on the “Rockies” which I sent on to Col? George Verney, as bidden - I think I have missed the one before that] I do not like to delay returning you this letter any longer. But I should so very much have liked with your leave to have printed a leaflet from it for private use as to Emigrants (as I have printed a leaflet from a letter of Margaret’s for private use with her leave as to botany - which I enclose.)

f50v

Three men came over to me at Claydon from Whatstandwell. That was a little deputation about the Coffee-room - But I learnt from one of them a good deal about the emigration of young men/stone-masons (always the best go), & married men with their families, which is taking place from Whatstandwell (Lea Hurst) - To Canada? I asked - No, he said: to O-hi-o- Why, said I? Because, he said, the sort of work they want is not to be found in Canada - And they get work
-2- Sept 18/87

work such as they are used to, -

instantly in O-hē-o - generally
before they arrive, friends,
often relations who have gone
before them, find it for them -
And they settle down without
a day’s delay to high wages -

My mouth watered - And
all these fine young fellows
are lost to our country
who might be saved to her
in Canada - And the
drunkards are left to us
in Derbyshire -

Please bear in mind that
in this letter of Mr. Fred’s, Aug 17/87, is

the very valuable part about
Emigrants to Canada - if at
anytime you would let me
print it as a private leaflet
But all his letters are
valuable & most interesting -

I think he has behaved
like a man & a hero
about this strange trial
in the matter of not going to
Siam - May he be blessed!
& he is blessed -
I have been breathlessly busy, since I came back to London; as I am sure you, dear soul, know - for I have not sent dear Ralph his Algae yet. but they are coming. Only I hope all the real Algae are not lodged on your roofs, & on your gardens by the storms - For one thing, I have had to do some Indian business before our "ministers' separated for holidays - all were off yesterday - & much hangs fire, & much is done all illeg awry, & necessitates - such a deal of letter writing as 'requested'

For another, our new Matron, dear Miss Pringle, whom/as you kindly remember, has arrived at St. Thomas' - an anxious job - Dearest Maude, fare you very well - I keep wondering what your plans will be - In the meantime, good speed to Ozone, & to music. And I am so glad the lessons are all right. God for ever bless you ever your loving old Aunt Florence

ff53-54v, September 30, re more news from Nairn
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff55-55v, pencil

f55
10 South St  Oct 4/87
Welcome back! welcome back!
  altho’ it is very bad that ‘house’
should be let, & ‘wife & bairnies
three’ in Scotland.
  Maude is in a loving tumult
of expectation -
  But you have done it like
a man - You are doubtless
essential here. And you
will turn it to the best
account.
  I wish I could send you
some food.
  Many thanks, dear Mr. Fred,

f55v
for your most interesting letters.
  I thought we were going
to have you at No. 4 - where
you could be fed from here -
  Give me a post-card when
you can kindly some & see me -
I should not like you to
find my head under water
with appointments, which,
unluckily for me, is my case
at present.
  God bless you & yours -
  ever your loving & sympathetic
    old Aunt Florence

ff56-57v, October 7, re MV’s plans to join FV in Manchester
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff58-58v, pencil

f58

Oct 7/87
10, South Street, [printed address:]
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
   When you went away, Sir Harry
said so tenderly: “I shall never
see him again.” Now he will
see you again - I am glad you
go there tomorrow - It is a
compensation for much that
is unfortunate in bringing you
back
   I did not tell you how
much struck I was with
your ‘daughter’ Gwendolen -
“Struck” is the word, tho’ she
is but 6 years old - Last
year she was in the philanthropic

f58v

line. She wanted a ‘house’
-ful of ‘poor sick children’
to ‘nurse’ - This year she is
in the motherly: Kathleen
is a great care to her, bodily
& mentally, particularly the
latter - She is the little
Mother - She is the
Dresden Raphael’s Virgin
Mother - What will she turn
out?
   Good speed
     ever your affte
       Aunt Florence
Dearest Maude

I have seen Mr. Fred
& he looks even better than he did
when he started: well & full
of vigour. I think the
seeing you again & the childer
makes up to him for all
the disagreeables - He does
not even regret the letting of
Onslow Gns

He was so pleased to hear
what I was able to tell him
from your letters, so kind,
about Ralph’s improvement

particularly.

I trust that all these
worrying alterations in your
plans will not tell upon
either you or him too
severely. His eagerness to
be again with you overcomes
all else with him.

My love to babies three -
I am obliged to write shortly,
tho’ my thoughts are never
short with you - I will
tell you another time why -
God bless you, dearest Maude - I hope Nairn has really done a good deal with / for the children. 
ever your loving 
   Aunt Florence
I return with many thanks the only letter I have now of Mr. Fred's
 F.
ff61-62v, The Clarendon Hotel, Edinburgh, {archivist: October 17, 1887} from MV, re her departure from Nairn for Manchester
signed note, f63, pencil [8:909]

Oct 18/87
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred
   So you are together at last! I give you joy, joy, joy - And old Aunt Florence gives herself joy & trusts to this compensation for what was indeed a strange trial.
   God bless you
ever your loving old
   Aunt Florence
How are the bairnies three?
My dear Mr. Fred & Maude

How can I thank you for your magnificent offer of hospitality at Pine-Acres? By thankfully accepting it for the time you are absent, i.e. from the 20th, & perhaps for a little after your return as you so kindly ask me? and so I shall see a little more of dear Maude & the chicks? But I could not possibly quarter myself on you for
“3 months”! and indeed
I could not be absent
from my work for any
thing like that time -
Yes: I could bring a cook
  i.e. a kitchen maid, Nelly
Owen from Rhoscolyn, whom
we have taught - who has
a true feudal feeling to
all of you - but particularly
to Lettice - & my own
Lizzie - from Claydon -
   Will there be any one
left in the house besides

the new house maid? &
  shall I be enough to defend
the spoons? I will bring
  Messenger, tho’ not of much
use. But he can ‘bark’
about the house in the
day time.
  I am afraid it will
give dear Maude some
trouble to arrange about
starting me, as there is
no old servant in the house
But I fear I could not
leave an accumulation of
f65v
work here before Tuesday
the 20th
I could take down some
cooked food, if she liked
it. to start us with -
& Coffee & apples & ink & the like.
But I dare say the
tradesmen call at the Pine Acre door
quite natural - under
Maude’s excellent arrangements
  Again God bless you
and a thousand thanks
  from your ever loving
    Aunt Florence

incomplete, signed letter, ff66-67v, pencil

f66
Pine acre
  overflowing with every thing
that is pretty, useful,
charming or eatable by
dearest Maudie’s generous
care - How can I thank her
for all the trouble she has
taken! It is too much; & then
the Larder!!
  “Faithful Nature” in her
winter’s garb is very beautiful
  I am so touched by Gwendolen’s
room, her bed & Kathleen’s crib.
I see my little mother =Gwendolen,
big with the responsibility of Kathleen’s moral & physical welfare, doing the little mother’s part - dear little Virgin-Mother! I could not help going out to look at the pines & bracken - so long since I have seen Bracken - I know, dear Maude, how worried & now poorly you have been - I trust you are better - & am so happy to think of you at Rhianva -

Very many thanks for your most kind & helpful letter - about the good things of the world - I have heard a bird chirp - I have not seen big Mr. Tomcat yet - but my kitten has - he would make three of her - first she kissed him & then she boxed his ears - But he did not give it back - only walked out of doors - You will see Mr. Fred tonight. Please thank him.
for his letter - tell him 
how I sympathize with him 
- & thank him for his 
kind Envoi - 
    My love to blessed Margaret 
& to all the seven - 
    I am writing in the dark, 
but at your table - 
    God bless you all - 
    ever your loving & grateful 
Dec 21/87 Aunt Florence
Mr. French has been most 
friendly - May I ask Mr. F 
to a Xmas dinner? I will 
certainly ask the Gardener - 
signed letter, ff68-69v, pencil

Pine acre Dec 31/87 New Year’s Eve/88
Dearest Maude
Poor Miss A. M. coming to day till 
    Monday with maid - 
    We have done our best - now 
it is in the hands of God 
My Nelly Owen will not do for 
    you for a single day as cook - 
I ought to tell you now. 
    She plays the most excellent 
variations on rice & apples - She 
can roast & boil a chicken now - she 
can make a seed cake & sundry 
other good things 
    But she would get your 
breakfast quite & completely 
ready just as Mr. Fred was setting
off for the Station -
Your children’s dinner might be one hour,
two hours late, because she
would not reckon the time it
took to do - She has been 10 days
in conquering the Kitchener.
You would write the order for
the butcher & she would tell
him to bring it when she told
him -
And then she would tell you
there was nothing in the house
for dinner -
And all this with the most
perfect good faith & perfect
temper, tho’ cool in the world-
She is a good, religious
girl - But slowness &
unpunctuality & a little denseness
are her bane - They must be

conquered first before you(any one
have/has her as Cook -
French & Rosa are now singing
morning prayers with my two girls

I will send Mr. Fred’s copies
of letters to
Siamese Legation
Will not that be safest?

May all the blessings of the
New Year be poured upon
you & yours, upon Margaret
& all hers, is one of the
deepest thoughts of the heart
of your loving, troublesome
old Aunt Florence
May 1888 be yours - in the highest sense
It was deeply ‘concern’ed/ing; at the defeat of Dadabhai Naoroji in Holborn, & of Surgeon -Major Evatt at Woolwich - Each had a part to play in the House which no one else could do
But please tell Mr. Fred that I have had such cheery, sensible letters from each of them Dadabhai says his position has been made such by this canvass, honourably carried on, that he can try again &c

&c[I will send Mr. Fred the letter by & bye]
Dr Evatt says that much has been done & said that wanted saying & doing - whether he failed or succeeded He is coming to see me tomorrow - [as Mr. Fred says; men are falling around us, but the truth will stand]
Now, good hope to those who fight for the truth -
And oh please enjoy Claydon for Ralph’s &
Gwendolen’s sakes.
and remember me on Wednesday. I know you will - & let me hear - how is my God-daughter? remember me to “Genl” Murray, who generalled Kathleen fare well -fare well ever your loving Aunt Florence incomplete, signed letter, ff72-74, pencil

In India however the soldiers were kept in Barracks (eating & drinking) during the hot hours, which ruined all their lives And careful kind Comms Officers used give them a day’s shooting, which, heat notwithstanding, keeps them going & well. So everything has to be done judgmatically, of course. I had a nice note from Mr.
Morant - & wrote to ask him to come on Sunday - to which I have as yet no answer - I think I shall send the 'fi pun note' by post - But I should like to give the money for the flannel besides, if he has not yet provided himself with it. I can hardly doubt about the flannel belts being necessary He strikes me as a youth who would be careless of himself tho' not of others - Don't laugh

It is said the Woking Prison would hold 1000 boys - re-modelled - There are good houses for Matron, Chaplain, Doctor, &c - all round the Prison - all that is most contrary to Gordon's way of doing things - ‘You want a pony & they offer you a white elephant' as one man said have been so interrupted
I hope Louis Shore Smith has been to you about where to hire & where & what to buy in the Tricycle line for his father (Shore). I know you would kindly direct him ever yrs affly Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff75-76v, pencil

Pine acre Jan 5/88
Dearest Maude How can I thank you for your most kind letter? If the dear childer stay at Claydon till Monday, as I earnestly hope they will for my sister’s sake, let me arrange to stay her till Monday - It will not be proper to leave Rosa alone with French in the house. You are so good as to wish me to have a quiet
Sunday here -
I think we can get the house
decent for you & the
children to come in to on
Monday, even if we don’t go till
Monday
Tell me if you object to
Rosa being here for a few
hours alone on Monday -
with French -
And forgive all short-comings.
How can I thank you for all
your kindness?
This letter will be posted
before the 2nd post comes in
which may bring letters from
you -

But please consider that
to be settled in my mind & body,
if it is what give your least
trouble
that childer she &
yourself come on Monday,
that I & we stay till
Monday which will
leave them only a few
hours alone.
[I could leave my Nelly
with her - but I don’t think
it would help much]
I am sure you would think
it very undesirable that your
Add Mss 41977D

f76v
cook should come before
   yourself - or that she
should inhabit the inn -
   you who are so beautiful
in all your arrangements
   [I wish mine were like
yours. They would be
better if I could be ‘about’
I hope. but I can’t]
   I can only say God
bless you -
   ever, dearest Maude,
your loving & grateful
troublesome old
   Aunt F.

signed letter, ff77-78v, pencil

f77
Pine acre      Jan 6/88
Dearest Maude
   I am so very, very sorry &
grieved. I am afraid it is
my arrant stupidity that has
occasioned this change in the/your
plans for the children dear -
When we heard this morning
   that they were coming tomorrow
(Saturday), we were delighted
And Rosa ‘set to’ ‘with a will’ -
   I was very much hurried
with the morning post ‘out’
And my Telegram ought to have
begun: ‘Delighted that the
children are coming - But I
thought that you know that -
& that it seemed like inviting
your own children to your own house - So my stupidity began with my own movement - & your cook’s sleeping here - O what an idiot I am - Then I am afraid you took my writing that you wished kindly me to have a “quiet Sunday “ here - which was only a quotation from your own dear letter - that I wished not to have the darling little children - Alas! nothing could be farther from my thoughts I did not like to telegraph again - But I do hope that it was for my sister’s sake & the children’s that they stay till Monday at Claydon -

I am so sorry for Mr. Fred being poorly - I am afraid it is partly harass - You would not both go to 10 South St. would you? till he can travel - There are two servants there & will be three (3) We should be so proud & happy it made you “warm’ both inwardly & outwardly, if we could. Please telegraph to Mrs Neild 10 South St. if you will Miss M. Morant writes to me that A. M. did go to “Virginia Water” on Tuesday. Thank God! thank God - But she gives but a poor
account of her prospect of cure

[She evidently knows nothing of the long week of telegraphing between us & her - & nothing at all of her going to South St & having the 2.2.6 - I am afraid I must tell
She supposes A.M. to be without “funds”, because she, M. M. has not supplied her -]
O me what a tragic story it is
Alas! for the brother & the sister
And oh how sorry I am for all your harass -
God bless you again & again - your loving, penitent & grateful

Aunt Florence

I am cultivating the small birds for the children

unsigned letter, ff79-80v, pen

Dearest Maude
How can I thank you for all your goodness? And how can I beg your pardon for all our badness? & idiocy?

[But that was a mistake about the dear children not coming on Saturday]
I had a cheerful note from Mr. Fred this morning but saying that he was in bed at Bridge St.
If, dearest Maude, you could make any use of 10 South St., it would make
me so happy. The house has been kept thoroughly warmed if you would take him there; or if you do not like him to move for a day or two, if you would make any use of the house yourself that you could - - Please telegraph to Mrs. Neild, 10 South St.; if you will, as I hope. [She will have had a Telegram from me] -

My best love to the dear children -

I trust you are pretty well

There is a blackbird who brings his wife when he finds anything nice. And plenty of robins & dear little Tomtits whose acquaintance I have been cultivating by articles of luxury, chopped lard & fat, potatoes, & brown bread & butter for the children. but your white pigeons are destroyers of my blackbirds. They come & snatch up the tit bits - And so does the black dog. Still the singing birds have been encouraged
And it is so delightful to hear them whisling & whispering in the pines.

Dear Maude, we have broken two bottles in your beautiful little cruet stand! your wedding present! You ought to stamp upon us! They will be replaced within 10 days - [And we have broken a plate]. But we ought to be in sackcloth & ashes, - & are.

signed letter, ff81-82v, pen

Pine-acre Jan 8/88
My dear Mr. Fred
I am so grieved that you are "ill in bed" at Bridge St. I want you to come to 10 South St where they have had fires all the time I have been away - & the house is warm with Maudie. Or if you do not wish to move that she should make all the use of 10 South St she can. I write this to my housekeeper at 10 S. St. And I have written it to Maude, but
f81v
fear she will only get my
to day or tomorrow.
 & the childer dear will
be here as you know at
2.33 tomorrow (Monday.)
And I shall be at Claydon
half an hour later.
Pray do let me be of
some little use.
I have been so troublesome
 & such an idiot.

As to your “illness being
“selfish”, if I were giving
an account of you to Dr.
Townsend, I should say;
my dear friend:

f82
“he has been doing a
great deal too much for
other people for months,
which, with a very great
deal of most responsible work, harass &
& anxiety, is enough to make
him ill. he is besides
habitually careless thro’ business, of
irregularity in feeding -
& I am afraid breakfast
is the only regular meal
he has -
“I am very glad that
this has happened here
& not in America or
at Paris or the Hague”
Them’s my sentiments.
I wish you have let Mr. French stay with you, this past week - I am afraid I am the cause of this.

I shall be very anxious to hear of you further - & look upon it as quite a Godsend that before you crossed the Channel & not after you are put into a warm bed -

God bless you ever your loving but anxious old Aunt Florence

Remember me to Nurse Murray

initialled note, f83, pencil

Jan 9/88

Nelly Owen will take any message from you to Mrs. Neild, 10 South St., this afternoon, dearest Maude, saying what message use you will make of the house & what you will get ready for yourself, if you will be so good [I have written & telegraphed to her]

F.N.
My dear Mr. Fred

I was so thankful for your Telegram - & so anxious - It was very good of you to send it.

At Oxford I found that the children had passed through on their way to Sunningdale but that “Mrs. F. Verney was/had not joined them.

I hope & I fear that she has gone to you - I only stipulate that you will

make as much use of 10 South St as you can.

[I left two letters at Pine acre to Maudie to beg her to do her best for 10 S. S., which is thoroughly warmed, & to telegraph to Mrs. Neild, the housekeeper, what she would have; & I wrote & telegraphed to Mrs. Neild the same]

Your children left Claydon this morning - & my sister, who has a very bad cold & is up-stairs, is full of their dear praises & of
f85
Maudie's - & anxious about
you - Sir Harry looks well -
What a gem of a place
your little Pineacre is. &
the pines were whispering
as if there were 3000
acres of them - & the birds
whistling & almost carolling
God speed -
Nevertheless we are very
anxious to hear of you
again.
   May God bless you both -
      ever your affectionate
         Aunt Florence

incomplete, signed letter, ff86-86v, pen & pencil

f86
   -2- Jan 9/88
French has been most
attentive. But my
conscience is disturbed
because I think he
ought to have been with
Mr. Fred, & would have been
but for me -
I do like to hear Rosa talk
about the children. She
says it does her good to
see them. “to see Miss Gwendolen
“talking so gently with/to Miss Kathleen
She told me about your Sunday
evening hymns with the servants.
   I have left Nelly till this
afternoon to prepare the children’s
dinners; when she will go quietly
back to South St. where
f86v
I hope you may go, if it
can be of the least use to you -

I want much to hear of Mr.
Fred, but cannot ask you to
write even a Post card -
All good attend you
dearest Maude
And it will -
ever your grateful old
Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff87-88, pencil [8:909]

f87
Claydon Jan 10/88
Dearest Maude Thank you
so much for your letter &
Telegram - It is the greatest
possible relief.
He will get well twice as
quick for your being there -
But I fear it will be some
little time yet -
Blow the “Minister”! he
must wait.
Please order whatever is
right for Mr. Fred from Mrs.
Neild who will be delighted
to make little dishes - She
tells me she is making jelly -
I hope you are sleeping
& breakfasting & supping at South St.
I was very much flabbergasted by Temp. 104 - & am thankful that Temp is resuming its duty -
It does my old heart good to hear my sister talk of you & Margaret & your little 3 - as she does -
Now my sister has sent for me & I must go -
Sir H. is very anxious about Mr. Fred -

Please let me pay that poor little sum for poor Miss Morant -
I fear her prospect is not very good -
O what a tragic thing this life is - & how comic -
But I must finish my lucubrations tomorrow -
ever your loving
Aunt F.
Dearest Maude,

Thank you very, very much for your letter & this morning's Telegram -

I hope that you will kindly order everything that is right or that you like from 10 South St. It makes me so happy that they can give you something -

Would you take something for yourself too?

I trust that Bridge St can give you a tidy room, if, as you so wish, you can stay there.

The fog has been most unlucky. Of course it is worst
in London, alas! alas! & near the river. But it seems all over the country - for 48 hours it has not lifted here - & scarcely since Monday -  
My sister's cough is exceedingly bad; & she has been exceedingly worrited by some passages of arms between the new Vicar of Grandboro' & poor Mrs. Newcombe. I was glad that Dean Fremantle was here as he was the man's Godfather and it does distress Sir Harry.  
My sister is not by a long way so good a Patient as Mr. Fred, I am sure, is -

Indeed she will do nothing that Sir H. Acland tells her - but, instead, does what Sir W. Gull told her 6 months ago - You know the worthy Lieutenant in command of a vessel who had different medicaments numbered 1 to 9 for specified diseases of the crew. No 9 being exhausted, he mixed together 6 and 3 - and administered. So, says Dr. Acland is my sister's practice x Yesterday she was so bad that Sir Harry came to fetch me almost before I was dressed. And I could not

x She actually took Homoeopathic & Gull & not Acland
f90v

leave her before post time
Hence, tho’ I was writing to you,
dearest Maude, in my heart,
I could not accomplish it on
paper - I was the more obliged
for yours -
I hope you will take any
books you like from Dining,
Drawing or Bed rooms in South St. but
it is a sorry collection.
When the time comes for you
to go to South St, please choose
the rooms you like best. I think
the ‘Green Room’, 3rd story, will
be the best for Mr. Fred, because
my room, I am ashamed to say
is so littered with parcels of papers
- both sofas - [I was a tidy woman
once]

f91

-2- Jan 12.
And your dear self in my littery
bed-room - dressing in my
dressing-room -
In either case, you will see there
is a room on the same floor for
Nurse Murray - But do you choose
Now, good cheer - And good
escape from both fire & water - for
fog is water - Thank God.
The birds are all silent here
- not a twitter -
God bless you
ever yours
Aunt Florence
ADD MSS 41977D

Signed letter, ff92-93v, pencil

f92
Claydon Jan 15/88
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

I shall be so thankful
& grateful if you can
accomplish the move to
South St to-morrow, yet
not resigned if it is put off
till Tuesday - because for his
good - May the heavens
be propitious!
    I am sure you will kindly
give us a Telegram in the
evening to say if move successful
    Dear Maude, I hope you
will fix the rooms which they
    will suit best

f92v
yourself - I have told Mrs
    Neild to have them all ready
& to clear paperasses out of
    my bed room -
Dear Maude, please make
    me happy by considering
the house as your own -
There is some Brandy much appreciated by Doctors for Invalids in the house. Being of a spirituous turn of mind (as a little girl-friend of mine said to her Nurse) I please myself with putting it in Mr. Fred's egg.

How good you have been in writing & telegraphing. And how we have enjoyed your Elephant & Vaseline, & your Baron Surijis in the kitchen=drawiing-room. But I don't approve of Mr. Fred seeing visitors.

Perhaps you will give us just a little Telegram in the morning as we can't have Sunday letters -

God bless you both & thank Mr. Fred for his letter.

ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

That was a nice little visit
to Pine acre - tho’ well I know
how tantalizing to the dear
children & to you -

How rejoicing are Mr. Stubbs’
prospects with his great Italian
basilica (S Paolo fuor le mura
at Rome) at Liverpool. And he
has written a most affectionate
& inspiring letter to my sister,
which, like Gwendolyne’s beauty,
‘ne nuit rien à l’affaire’ -

Her (Parthe’s) cough is, alas!,
no better. And a nurse has
come from London, a nice woman,
for Davidson was quite worn out.

The trio are gone; Dean (& Mrs. Fremantle, Mr. Calvert, & Mr. Battersby - And Sir Harry is quite relieved, because the ‘Imprimatur’ of the great man is put on Mr. Battersby, his sermon, & all - And Sir Harry applauds (he too has a bad cold which he treats by an open Phaeton) Capt Verney’s choice -

Mrs. Neild is only too glad to be your (qy) “victim” - And I feel like the stoker of a fire-engine: ‘keep your fires alight keep your steam up’ -

Please, you must just let me have my own way - & let the things come from the Farmers’ Assocn. [I have a small Deposit Acct there -] We found the larder stocked for gluttons - & we embezzled it all into our own stomachs, like gluttons -

It was I put off the order’s execution by Telegram, when I found you had outwitted me (as I outwitted the black dog, in feeding the birds)

Now it only awaits your order
f95v
I earnestly hope that you will be able to move Mr. Fred tomorrow (Tuesday) But I know you both are wise as serpents & will do nothing rashly - and qy harmless as doves? Is the “Minister” gone to Holland? Sir Harry asks me daily - & I can scarcely prevent him making a descent on him at the Legation. God speed you [I feel all pulse & am as blind as a beetle] Remember me to Nurse Murray yr loving old Aunt Florence signed letter, ff96-97v, pencil [8:910-11]

f96
Claydon Jan 18/88 My dearest Maude Joy, joy & thanksgiving: how thankful I am that the move is made & successfully - May God give a good night For so He giveth His beloved sleep How canny it was of you to move him so And now I do hope you yourself may take more rest. Dear Maude - it is quite out of the question for you to make the Dressing-room your bedroom & sitting room. The room & the bed are alike impostors - The room looks
cosy, & is not. It is either hot or cold. The ventilator, if open, give a draught right on the bed - if shut, it is close - The bed looks comfortable & is not. The street is often very noisy. You would have no proper rest. It would make me miserable to think of you there - Besides, it is important to the Green Room to have a fire always in the room under it.

You could not write in the Dressing-room. Please, You must sleep in the Bed-room, write your letters there; [you may dress in the dressing-room, if you like -

as Kathleen would say.] Please., You must receive your visitors & otherwise disport yourself in the Drawing-room. Please have the large sofa there taken up into Mr. Fred's room - Please, You must feed in the Dining-room. And mind, dear Maude, you do feed.

Now you would do me a great service if it does not bore you, to go down into the Kitchen & larder every day to order your foods. [I can never be there]. Mrs. Neild would take it from your
f97v
kindness very kindly -
   And you would say a
good word to “Nelly bagh”,
who was most anxious to
serve her liege lady, poor
child -
   Now God speed & thank
God -
   If you are in the Dressing room
you might just as well be
at a Hotel. But I know you
won’t grieve me - Please
   I sing a Te Deum in my
heart.
   ever believe me
   your loving, rejoicing & grateful
      Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff98-99, pencil

f98
Claydon Jan 18/88
Dictated
   My dearest children
How rejoiced we are that
the move is to be made
to-morrow
& that the fog has gone-
I have a great belief
in the mountain air of
South St. & am going
immediately to calculate
the exact number of inches
it is above the region of the
Thames.
I am very bad - “not
“quite better”
To Fred & Maude
You must come into to No 4 whenever it is desirable ever your loving (signed) F.P. Verney

This was written before your welcome Telegram came - thrice welcome

signed letter, ff100-01, pencil

Jan 19/88
Dearest Maude
So very thankful for your letters - So thankful for the move but very anxious how he passed the night. Hope to hear tomorrow morning. Have been with my sister: She says: ‘tell her how glad I am that the move is accomplished - & that she is relieved from the turmoil of the Railway Station’ - _So sorry for the difficulties_ of your move - Make [Over] May God bless you both ever & ever your F.N.

Make No 10 your own - blessed No 10 to have you F.N.
Dearest Maude

Your good news is as welcome as flowers in May - I had taken it into my stupid head that he would have a bad night after his move. And as light to idiotic people, so are your letters to me.

Some little plants, I hope, came creeping to his your door this morning & humbly asked to be let in to his room, if suitable. There is a basket table in your bed room for their use.

The sun glinted at us this morning for the first time since Jan 10. I hope you have him. And *that* brings me to this: it is contrary to my principles - and you would not pull down my principles - I haven’t many - that you should seep in a north room. after all (God only knows how many your anxieties for the last 6 months & more)

Your bed room which is to the South will be cleared - ought to have been cleared last Monday - The fire must be kept in, because of the room overhead, to keep it warm. You must be in your bed- room some times. And then you will
see whether you do not like to sleep in it.
My kind regards to Nurse Murray who is a great friend of mine - I need not say to her that I hope she will be comfortable because you will make her comfortable in your own house - blessed house to have you!
Thank God - ever your loving Aunt Florence

initialled letter, f104, pencil

“When am I coming to London?” My dear friends, I consider that an impertinent question from a young fellow to his Aunt. In '60 - 61, which you can scarcely remember there was some famous thing which I forget, in which Baron Parke had to give judgment. And some other impertinent young fellow asked him at a dinner table what judgment he would give. “I shall “give, he said, “the judgment that “is right.”
I shall come to London when I come. And I come when it is right. F.N.

ff105-10v, 10 South Street, January 22, 1888, from FV to FN, Maude supremely comfortable, comes to see me every morning
signed letter, ff111-11v, pencil

f111

Jan 23 88
{printed address;} Claydon House, Telegraph Winslow.
My dear Mr. Fred
Thank you so much for your delightful letters.
I agree so entirely with you about Lord Shaftesbury - I scarcely ever was so interested in any life. But that must wait till tomorrow.
Also: Lady Anne Blunt's [15:1017] letter which I will return I agree about the blunder of the Govt which is lamentable making him into a martyr - a very honest goose who did us a world of harm in Egypt. [end]
I'm not trying either by fair

f111v
means or foul, to drive my blessed Maude out of her 'little room" against her will -
May all divine blessings attend her every foot step
She blesses every house, cot or den she is in
ever your & her loving venerable Aunt

ff112-13v, January 23, 1888, from MV, re FV’s progress
Jan 23/88


Most Private

Dearest Maude

So many thanks for your delightful letters.

I do hope he will not part with his Nurse too soon - he talks of it -

As the Doctor says, it is impossible to overstate the care required in the recovery from this kind of illness. but then I know he will have it.

I am so glad the Berlin man has been to see him

Sir Harry is very restless to do something - He has, I am sure, given up writing to Minister or Legation here. But he talks of writing to Prince Narès at Bang-kok -

Would this be unwise? He would give it up directly I believe -

He asks: is the mail to Siam the same as the mail to India - every Friday?

Alas! for poor Miss Morant - Could we but hear that Dr. Maudsley has given his certificate?

Maude
ff116-117v, January 23, 1888 from FV to FN doctor said this is the most beautiful sick ward in London; sun streaming in, window wide open, flowers look lovely in the sun; on comfortable sofa, been reading Mazzini's essays to Maudie while the nurse has gone for a walk; re class of sorrow that oppresses me, all sponging on you, intention to housekeep on our own account, too good of you

unsigned letter, ff118-19, pencil

f118

Jan 24/88

{printed address:} Claydon House, 
Telegraph Winslow. 
My dear Mr. Fred  
Your letters say to my heart -  
'Rejoice evermore'  
But - shall the sun of  
heaven turn micher &  
eat blackberries? a question  
not to be asked  
Shall you talk of eating?  
beef tea & paying for board  
in the house of your  
venerable Aunt? a  
question not to be asked

f118v

- the house you bless by  
being in it.

I do so agree with you  
about the Epistles -  
One is never tired of them  
- ever fresh ever new  
Fresh meanings dawn  
upon one every day -  
One gets a fanatical  
enthusiasm for that  
hero-saint - so manly  
& so passionate in his  
human attachments.

f119

- so divine in his mission
unsigned letter ff120-21v, pencil [8:912]

f120
Claydon  Jan 24/88
Fair lady, you drop manna in
the way of starving people -
Your letters, dearest Maude, are
real Gospels to me - I do thank
& bless God that He has blessed
your Good Nursing so remarkably
- I thank Him all the day long -
  The chart is the loveliest
sight that Nurses’ eyes can see -
It is worth a National Gallery -
  I will return

I know how tantalizing it must be
to see the dear chicks so
But, please God, Gwendolen
will be clinging round her

f120v
father’s leg & looking up in
  his face with unspeakable
love, before many weeks are
  over -
It is such a thing for children
to have a tender, joyful father -
In after life they who have had it
not, can hardly believe in the
Heavenly Father’s love & tenderness -
And as for the mother what
shall we say?

You will make little Nelly dance
  with joy by talking Welsh to
her.
f121
About the bed: the position I thought best was with the head to the wardrobe, feet towards the fire - This gives the window light on the right side, & not in the eyes - screen between bed & door. But Patient must choose - I am so thankful that he likes the room. Yes, the weather has been really like May - hot. But poor sister has made cough & pain worse with resuming carriage - And the house is so close with hot air. Even in these May days they ventilate ? the rooms when she not in them with this

f121v
Sir Harry rides to-day & yesterday again - almost rid of Cough - Still I fancy he looks older

Does Dr. Townsend think that any defect of drainage or the like in any of the places he Mr. Fred has been in has given the typhoid tinge to this illness?

I don’t insist on lighting the fire in rooms underneath when the Green Room is ‘too hot’ - But who could have expected this celestial weather in January?

ff122-22v, January 25, 1888, from MV {incomplete} re FV’s improvement
ff123-30v, Fred Verney letter to Aunt Florence from 10 South St. pencil, re Maudie and her Stradivarius, saw Stubbs yesterday, cheerful, well, hopeful, new and larger life before him, double the net income of Stokenham and high class working men

unsigned letter, ff131-32v, pencil

f131
Claydon Jan 26/88

Gordon’s Day

My dear Mr. Fred & Maude

Thanks a thousand for the Asiatic Quarterly - I did not know it came from you - It is a most interesting number - Every article so - I clawed hold of it as soon as it came - And tho I have no eyes (or very few) I read first of course the “Representative” article which is by the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality - the very one that has been so abused -

Then there is an Article on Agricultural Banks - alas! against them - unwise - but it is better for the subject to be discussed
Add Mss 41977D

f131v
than to be shelved - It will probably be answered -
Then there is an Article by my friend Mr. Pedder - the best Collector we ever had - on Village Communities in W. India -
one on Child-Widows by the Prime Minister of Indore - so temperately written - It is full as a butcher's shop of "prime" joints & pieces Thank you so much - I should most likely not have seen it but for you -
I have been hearing a good deal about Gordon's death from one of his Serjeants, now at Souakim, who was with him when he was killed at Khartoum

f132
2. This is a sad letter from poor lady Anne Blunt I cannot be called a sympathizer with Mr. Wilfrid Blunt: whose/his blundering recklessness in upholding Arabi Bey whose only "Cause" (with a great C) was that of a needy condottiere against a penniless Govt, has helped to involve us in this Egyptian quicksand But I entirely sympathize in what you say that the way Mr. Blunt is treated is not a question between rich & poor as the "Times" puts it, but a question between
f132v
honourable fanaticism & crime in rich or poor.
And surely the Govt have many poor men in prison now,
have they not? - not for crime, like the maimers of cattle, the murderers of men,
the boycotters &c &c but for what may be called their political opinions - [end 15:1018]

ff133-33v, January 26, 1888, from MV, re FV's sortie in a hansom cab
unsigned letter, ff134-35, pencil [8:913]

f134
Claydon Jan 27/88
Dearest Maude
A ‘Te Deum’ for the first day out -
I was only sorry he did not rest in the Drawing-room (which they call the ‘merry room) till he went to bed -
Now that he is able to leave his room, you will, of course, use the Drawing-/merry room for him, please - Don’t waste the room. It is made for him. I shall hate it if you don’t use it. I have written to Mrs. Neild -
With unparalleled impudence, I wish you could
Add Mss 41977D

f134v
  keep Nurse Murray a few
days more - It will save
you anxiety -
  Nelly is in ecstacies at
your talking Welsh to her -
  I return the Chart (with
my compliments to Dr. Townsend)
The last lines are so beautiful
in their outline, so easy in
their flow, M. Angelo never
produced better -
  The first are produced
by his “spirits of hell’
  I can’t say my sister is any
better -
  God bless you all } Aunt Florence

f135
  I with the utmost astuteness
put off a letter half written
to Prince Narès by Sir H.
till next mail.
  Give me my orders

ff136-37v, January 27, 1888, re a visit to Pine acre by MV and FV’s progress
ff138-39, January 28, 1888 re the departure of the nurse, Mrs. Murray

unsigned letter, ff140-41v, pencil [8:913-14]

f140
Claydon Jan 29/88
Dearest Maude I earnestly hope that you
  will use the Drawing-room. You do not know
how important in that illness, especially in
convalescence, is light & sun & air all day -
The walks are good; but they give light & air
for half an hour. The Patient wants it for all
day. Air & light & food are 3 of the first
elements of Nursing. The Drawing-room
is healthier, lighter, sunnier, airier far than
the Dining-room. Indeed I think he had better
be in his Bed-room than in the Dining-room
He should always be in sun=purified air.

The proximity of the front door is also bad.
Let him come in from out of doors & sit in

the Dining-room, and if to have his luncheon there if
you like it, & rest - then go up stairs to

the Drawing-room & have the rest of his
meals there - [There are little tables enough-]
It will make all the difference; it will indeed -
in his convalescence. The Dining-room is
not a healthy room

[It is odd indeed if with a Messenger & a
Charwoman in the house they cannot
carry up these little meals to the Drawing-
room door:] & Frances take them in]

He should never see a Visitor without being
asked first - The Visitor should be shown into
the Dining-room: then he Fred be asked in the
Drawing-room whether the Visitor shall be
brought up to him. [You say truly you were in
an"agony" on Friday when the 4 Visitors came]
It is so bad for a Convalescent, every time the
door-bell rings, to think ‘who is that?’ - & for the
‘Who’ to be marched straight in to him -
Please, dearest Maude, humour me in this;
even if you think me a ‘fool’ - “Ye suffer fools
gladly, seeing you yourselves are wise -
And do not hurry about fixing the day of the move
If you do, I will bite you, as Mr. Quilp said to Mrs.
Quilp - Convalescence & the weather will have their
own way. But the Drawing-room will help the weather
to be good.
I am glad Mr./the French is coming - He will of course
have his meals at your house - I shall tell Mrs. Neild
- I wish I could offer him a bed. But there is no difficulty
at No 4, Sir H says I am sorry Nurse Murray is gone - &
greatly disapprove of Mr. Fred’s reason for jubilation.
ever your loving Aunt Florence

ff142-43, 29 Jan 1888 FV to FN

ff144-45, January 30. 1888, re the Verney’s use of the Drawing-room and FV’s improvement

ff146-46v, Maude V to FN February 1, 1888 re the use of the Drawing-room
‘Nature has responded enthusiastically to all the kind arrangements & highly sanitary surroundings of
this dear convalescent home. I am sure he is now imbibing beef tea and sitting in the sun and writing
to you.
This is a day full of strange effects, the snow storms in the night have given a great interest & detail
to the bold perspective of Halford House and the blue gauze work of the air is lit up with sparkling
shiny points as the hansoms drive along Park Lane

ff147-50v, from FV to FN 1 Feb 1888, Life of Macaulay
My dearest Maude

Tho' I did not mean to compel His Highness the Convalescent, (the greatest potentate of all, I am so glad you are in the Drawing-room - so thankful for his letters & yours -

Pray don't fix the day for going - you must not convey the Convalescent even to Pine acre on such a day, e.g. as this -

And pray remember
Waterloo Station is draughty & generally ill managed in
comparison with Euston -
& the carriages are so cold -
You must not think of
going this week - if the weather
is so cold - And you must
have an invalid Carriage
well-warmed beforehand - when you do
If you would allow me to
charter this for you, you
would be doing me such a
favour -
I am ashamed to think I
was so hurried as not to write
yesterday or the day before
But you know my heart was
with you
ever your loving Aunt Florence

I know the Miss/rs. Murray
is the most delightful woman
- such a Xtian -
Claydon Feb 2/88
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

Thank you a thousand times
for your delightful letters - all delightful
excepting poor Miss Morant’s sad tragedy

Pray take any of my books
you like - they will be honoured
by going with you - only leaving
me a little Memo of what are
gone. I am delighted with
your ‘reflection’ on Macaulay &
his father - It is so true -

But first I must beg to
observe - not for the consideration
but for the guidance of H. H.
the Convalescent, that here there

are 20 of frost - that the
snow is frozen on the trees -
that it really is exceedingly cold
- that the crows & sparrows are
besieging this fortress for food -
& that there is no reason to
suppose the Pine acre is any
warmer.

that Waterloo Station is
exceedingly cold - & so are its
carriages, tho’ the latter may be
warmed - but the former cannot
- nor can the road from Pine acre.

Whenever you go - & I am
much mistaken if Dr. Townsend,
who is the proper person to ask,
will let you move in this cold -
whenever you go, you must have an Invalid Railway Carriage, which you will allow me & Gwendolen to provide, & a Brougham from/to Pine acre - both well warmed. It is the proper frame of mind of a Convalescent to be extremely cross - to abuse his food & threaten to throw it out of window - to kick the fire-irons, & the cat & declare there is not a book in the world worth reading. I am afraid Mr. Fred is not in this proper frame of mind. I think my sister is better.

Poor Miss Morant. O how tragic this here world is - & how comic - how grave & how grotesque - what dreadful things people do, & what idiotic things - how our lives, our minds, our happiness seem to hang by a thread; & how awful this would be, did we not know that Infinite Love has spun this thread, irresistible as Love - what a common place trivial surface the world seems to have, & what unexpected tragedies crop up under one’s feet all at once, which perhaps after all, are less
tragic than the trivialities &
the indifferences of the world -
I remember when I entered
Hospital life, half the Nurses
were fallen women, & the other
half, deserted wives - Perhaps
every one of those wives had
her tragedy, tho' a sordid one -
The best wardmaster in Scutari
had 8 wives, I mean 8 wives
alive, at different Stations -
And he regularly sent home
tho' me 5/ a week out of a scanty pay to the
child of one/a ninth who was not his
wife, a mere school-girl
out of Mrs. Bracebridge's School

He was tried when he came
home at Warwick Assizes
for what was euphoniously
called bigamy, but was octogamy.
He was a good fellow -
There have been wives more
maltreated than his -
There were 9 tragedies in
one opéra comique -
Every one perhaps has a
skeleton in the house - or in
the Lunatic Asylum - or somewhere.
The greatest sorrows are those
one can never speak of, as
somebody says -
I have known sorrows
unspeakable in many a Hospital,
many a house, many a Workhouse.
I think madness is the worse
I am so very sorry for that
young Rathbone. I wish that
dear good Mrs. Richmond every
success -
I must not take to moralizing,
except on snow - I assure you
frozen snow particularly between
London & Pine acre, is very cold.
It’s all the fault of that Eclipse,
but the weather is impassable
for a Convalescent on that
road - The black birds are
starving - And the crows &
sparrows take the food I provide out
of the mouths of thrushes &
blackbirds - It is evident the
animals think the cold is to last

God bless you both
ever your loving tho'

What a sweet & capital
soul that lady of Wasperton
must be.

ff157-58, February 3, 1888 from MV, re the Verney’s departure from South Street

ff159-60v, Pine- acre, Sunningdale, Berks. Fred V to FN from Pine Acre 3 Feb 1888

ff161-62v, Friday, from MV, re their return to Pine acre
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

Tho' justly indignant at your absconding, yet I do believe you seized the right moment, & I am pacified by Dr. Townsend’s adhesion. And your Telegram & dear letters from Pine acre were so welcome to us; thank you, thank you a thousand times. And I know “with what intense desire he wants his home.”

that is, the children “want” you, their “home,

& you the children -

But I hope you will not quite desert us but give us a bulletin that you are going on all right.

The weather here is like April - Parthe is better -

Sir Harry thinks himself much older. I never know exactly how far his feelings are a safe-guide

He is, as usual, naughty. My best love to childer three

God bless you all ever your loving

Aunt Florence
f164
I hope Mr. Fred is not naughty but obeys a judicious rein

All are going to London this week

Please tell blessed Margaret when you write that I was so grateful for her dear letter - but have really been unable to write as I wished.

signed letter, ff165-65v, pencil

f165
Claydon Feb 8/88
Dearest Maude
   I am so grieved about this Lumbago - It is a draw-back.
   Have you thought of writing to Dr. Townsend? I think you have great confidence in him - & he knows best what the 'case' has been during the last weeks. [I am sorry to say that it is not uncommon after Fever] & how to treat it.
   A new man perhaps might not know/guess the previous history of the case. [Turn Over
   Sursum corda - God bless you both - ever your loving
   Aunt Florence

f165v
We shall be very anxious to hear again if you will be so good -
ff166-67v, February 6, 1888, re the details of FV’s lumbago

signed letter, ff168-68v, pen

**f168**

Feb 7/88

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

All will be, please God,
in South St. tomorrow
by different trains

Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

We feel a good deal anxious
about you. Please be so good
as to let me hear, as above.

Thank Mr. Fred for writing -

But I want to hear more about

the Lumbago -

**f168v**

Yes: Macaulay was a most disagreeable
companion, to my fancy. His rude
imperiousness to good men was
intolerable. but the episode
with Zachary is beautiful.

When I compared him with
Sidney Herbert, I cd scarcely
stomach him. His conversation
was a Procession of one.

God bless you

ever your faithful

Aunt Florence

ff169-70, from FV to FN 7 Feb 1888 Pine Acre
f171

10 South St  Feb 9/88
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

How can I thank you for the noble rug which met my astonished eyes at the drawing-room hearth?

Indeed, indeed, I do not deserve it. And dear Maude’s choice too. How can I thank you?

I trust the Lumbago is somewhat going off but it requires care.

My sister seems none the worse for her journey - tho’ she is certainly worse than some months ago.

f171v

But Sir Harry’s finger is worse & more swollen. he saw Mr. Savory for it yesterday who told him to eat & poultice. Eat he did here - & poultice he did. But it is no better and Mr. Savory has been sent for It is the right hand.

He is not aware of any prick to account for it.

He is now resting.

I am so glad that Maude & Gwendolen go tricycling.
f172
I have had the most terribly insane letter from poor Miss Morant. She wants to come here & pour out all her wrongs. I don’t think I can refuse to see her but this week it is impossible. On second thoughts I think I will enclose her letter - You will judge. Please return it with advice.
God bless you ever your loving & grateful Aunt Florence
She has sent me besides a

f172v
common-place rant *(printed)* in verse addressed to her “brothers”
initialled letter, ff173-74v, pencil red and blue pencil

f173

10 South St   Feb 12/88
Sir Harry going on quite well
purely a surgical case-
poisoned finger-no
scratch or previous sore
place treated
admirably by Mr Savory
who lanced it on
Thursday. Still some
inflammation & swelling
but not extending up arm
“Dr” Morey as usual
first-rate. Savory not
coming to-day. Sir H. Has
been in here as usual

f173v
the morning reading
   but not to church
looking remarkably well
   - likes (tender) meat &
it is best for him, best
of all foods.
   Thank God, I believe
he is quite past all
risk. Lucky h
was not at Claydon
but within reach of Mr
Savory. It is his
right hand &u he cannot
use it yet.
f174
My sister pretty well
Could you send my
letter yesterday
Hope lumbago
disappeared.
Pen & pencils at a
premium-you see-
Like Paradine, 'I take
the potatoes, (Hubbard's)
but boil them in a
red pot' re pot =
Verney
i.e. votes for Verney

f174v
Thanks about Miss Morant.
I am afraid we have
gone too far for me
not to see her
but not yet
God bless you
Love to children
F.N.
Thanks for newspaper
cutting.
What do you think of
Lord Dufferin
10 South St  Feb 16/88
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

I am very glad you are able to think of resuming your sway over Siam “soon” - But I entirely forbid any vibrating back to Pine acre at night for the present, or any irregularity of meals. I wish I could ask you here, but Louis, of Corpus, Shore’s 2nd son, has a nomination to a Clerkship to the Ho. of C. with only 6 weeks to prepare for the Exam. Their flat is let & they have no pied à terre in London now. So I have
f175v
asked him & his father who
means to help in coaching
him to come here. I hope
he will tricycle for at least
1 ½ hours a day. I shall build
a stable for the tricycle.
But to reason: Sir Harry
has told me how they wish
to have you at No. 4 - And
Mr. Calvert, I believe, wants
you too. And remember you
are not to go to Siam except
thro' South or Grosvenor St.
and you are to lunch at the
Travellers' if South St is too
far. That is the only way
to Siam.
And God be with you!

f176
2. Thank you very much for
Reece's Essence of Beef. Tho'
I deal much in those articles,
yet I never saw it before.
But I am very sorry that
Maudie requires that sort
of sustenance: invaluable as
it is in acute cases -
It does not set a-going
the digestive arrangements.
Fresh meat, tender, well-hung, well
cooked, alone does that.
The bullock, stewed down to
a lozenge, does not.
But I do trust Maudie is
restoring, not her soul which
does not need it, but her body
Thanks for Burdett's pamphlet, Pension Fund -
There is a great split: a Batrachyomachia - Burdett & 20 000 on the one hand,
The Matrons & Princess Christian on the other. Both are going to set up Nurses' Registers. Both are bidding for popularity on all sides. Hy Bonham Carter has declined to be Vice President to one side - & I to t'other. We will talk about it when we meet.

It is a formidable movement which I regret. It will do the Nurses great harm. But I have great faith in Progression by Antagonism.

Popes called forth Luther & Luther Loyola - Loyola Jansenism & Pascal. Jansenism was destroyed by but destroyed Jesuitism & good I suppose came from it all. They are trying to make a republic of nurses, with a Princess at its head perfectly incapable of governing themselves or of knowing how to raise their own standard. Yet doubtless will good come of it all. But meanwhile training will
be destroyed by registering.
    A truce to moralizing: the symptom of age -
    My love to childer three -
    Sir Harry is blooming - my sister better
I have returned her her Edinburgh Review for you to behold the stars.
    ever your loving
    old Aunt Florence

How does that 'brick' the Lady of Wasperton, do?

initialled note, f179, pencil

My dear Mr. Fred
I looked over my books last night for the children -
    - could not find Miss Yonge's "Stories from English History" -
    but will order them -
    Do you care to have Church's Stories from Virgil & from Homer (enclosed) for them/Ralph? God bless them
    in great haste
    F.N.
23/2/88
10 South St  March 28/88
My dear Mr. Fred
   How is your Minister?
I mean how is his temper?
   I had hoped, as you know, to see dearest Maude when she was in London & to thank her myself for her most kind invitation to our convalescent Sisters - but they have been provided for elsewhere. And I could not trouble her.
   As for your & her most gracious invitation to me, I cannot thank her enough. But there is no earthly possibility of it for me, alas!
I have read as much as I could of delightful, wholesome cheerful Rogers - how wise about Education, how wise about Church Disestablishment, how wise about Sunday opening. to read a little more of him when I can I should like But shall I send him to No 4 now? Poor Morison: surely his view of Xianity is almost inexplicably superficial But I will say my say about him another time. Shall I send that in to No 4?

Poor Germany it is like a Greek tragedy - a trilogy

Play 1 William Emperor
2 Present "
3 young William " which you will live to see - the tragedy but I shall not. It will be a bitter one - and their Empire at an end

I am so sorry that I cannot do your Gordon - which I like - I am afraid my notes on poor Miss Morant were harsh - But indeed I am not harsh to her - Has she the so-called maid the Nurse,
f181v
with her still? I hope so
with dearest love to
Maude & chicks
ever yours
F.N.
Dearest Maude I am very much exercised in my old mind about the Gordon Boys' washing & whether there is anything to wash
Sheets: yes, perhaps none
But Blankets: must be washed at least once a century
Ticks have they any bolsters?
you say no mattrasses?
Towels perhaps they have only one round Towel
& Cloths to 20 boys but these must be washed occasionally

I suppose mugs & plates are sometimes washed
Then they must have cloths to wipe them & themselves

Table Cloths do they have any?
Dusters I suppose they have some housemaid's work?
Under-clothing
Shirts? Yes, I am sure Soldiers wear shirts
Because in all Wars, we, the women, have have had to supply shirts (for lost kits) & washing
And the men could not lie naked in their beds when they had any -
Do the Gordon Boys lie naked in their beds? I am sure that is bad & immoral
If they don't their shirts must be washed

Stockings I think certainly they must have - stockings (or socks)? Then these must be washed.
Linings? these must be washed? sometimes?
to trowsers to caps -

&c &c How can we find out?
I can't ask Genl "Hig" -
& Mrs. Hawthorne is in Jersey

Rags for the Hospital?
I think the boys must have under-clothing, because Mrs. H. said: Stand fast for Matron to teach the boys to mend their
underclothing. It brings them in contact with Matron.

Hospital Linen - There must be some, I should think

I am so glad we had that bit of conversation about the Gordon boys. But I am afraid I kept you too long - & you were very tired - I am sure, are not you?, that the Matron must be a woman of strong sense, character & kindness to hold her own, herself the only woman, among the Serjeants especially, who will probably hardly acknowledge her, or else make her one of themselves -

N.B. My Nursing instincts are rather appalled by the broken leg being left alone in Barrack Ward.

Had he an Electric bell to make himself heard?

One would have thought that unless the "slight" cases in "Hospital" were infectious, they should have been/had the training of waiting upon him in Hospital -

Even in the worst Barracks, a broken-legged soldier would have had a comrade or orderly to wait upon him.

No better training could have been given to a "Gordon" boy - could there? And could not Mrs. Tyndall have come in?
May 8/88
10, South Street, [printed address:]
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
   Unspeakable thanks for
all your letters, & for
dear Maudie’s most
generous invitation to
one if not two ‘convalescing’
Nurses. I write at once
for fear she should in
her overwhelming kindness
be making preparations
for the same - because I
do not think we shall
have any worthy to avail
themselves thereof. And I
as so afraid she should be
taking trouble. It would
   indeed be delightful -
I am afraid I could not see
you, as I should wish,
before “Friday”. But try
   me when you come back -
I hope, then.
I was so very much obliged
for the letter about the
creatures’ bedding, under=
clothing & washing at
Gordon Boys’ Home - It
   seems they are very
amply supplied. And
I do not know what I
should have done without your letter. I am literally & not figuratively in such a 'fix' about the Matron. I had found the very Matron of Matrons for you - one of our own people - devoted to soldiers - devoted to boys - a gentlewomen, a motherly woman, and a housewife. Happily she will not come x - I say *happily*, because it is *quite impossible* to bring the 'Hig' & Co thro' Sir Harry to state *duties & terms*. And no sensible woman, of x she will not leave her post in a Military Hospl except to return to St. Thomas'.
f186v

course, will come without -

I have another, a cousin of Miss Crossland's, also in our work, but not half the woman the first is:

who would come as Matron, but & she requires "details" -

details of what she is to do - details of what she is to receive. It seems most absurd, but tho' I see Sir Harry so constantly, I cannot get there.

They cannot decide between 30 & 50 a year, tho' I saw the latter 50 in Genl 'Hig's' hand writing to his Colleagues -

And/Another thing: they keep repeating: she is to have charge of the
“Laundry” - “not washing with “her hands” -[ No: they could get a woman at 18 to do that.] apparently ignoring their “Mrs. Marshall” who teaches the boys. Is the Matron to be over Mrs. Marshall? &c &c I am literally at my wits’ end. And our lady sister is waiting for the information. I am afraid, you know, that they will see quantities of women with such written Testimonials as they have shown me - And, tho’

I am not at all enthusiastic about my second woman she is an Archangel compared with what the others are likely to be. But - we can get no information for her - And - I don’t see how you can. It is a miserable state of un-business-like-ness. N.B. The only Obsn I have to make upon the under-clothing is: they, the boys, ought not to sleep in the same, tho’ flannel shirts they wear by day - The day shirts should be aired at night - the night shirts by day -
2. Is not my contribution, poor little thing, to Mrs. Paterson's memorial due & more than due? And how is that affair going on? I have a great deal more to say - but must put it off. Rosalind is staying with me. She is going next week as Delegate to the Co-operative Congress at Dewsbury.

initialled letter, ff189-90v, pen

Gordon Boys' Home:
June 6/88
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

My dear Mr. Fred
Thank you very much for sending me the Hospital plan, which I have made great use of in my letters to Genl. Higginson - & for your letters. I saw Sir Harry twice after his return from your haven of peace which he enjoyed with intense enjoyments. - Maudie, the children, all as well he might. I don't think I ever saw him enjoy anything so much. He also gave me an account
of the Gordon Boys' Home:
but I wished I could have
gained more particulars
from him, on account
of this anxious Matron
business - the serving of
the boys' dinners seems nasty
enough - & much to require
a Matron.

You have not the merest
scratch of the disposition
of the buildings, have you?
Could you give me a
rough sketch guess how
many hundred yards from
Hospital to General Kitchen,
which she will have to
overlook -

from General Kitchen to
Boys' Dining Hall -
to Dormitories - I hope
the Dormitory of new arrivals
will be under her -

I suppose there is no kind
of covered way from one
building to another -
that the boys must get wet,
if weather is bad: does
this hurt them?
You know half naked or
all-naked boys don't
get ill from getting wet,
but clothed boys do.
And the Missionaries have
materially damaged the
healths of some native
f190v

tribes by introducing clothes, & consumption with clothes. Now as the Matron will be clothed, what kind of distance will she have to encounter without cover from Hospital (which is, I suppose, quite outside yard or enclosure) to Kitchen &c &c

There are many other questions I should like to ask you.

ever your affectionate

F.N.
Add Mss 68886, microfilm, 190 folios, 97 pages, correspondence with Frederick and Maude Verney
Part 5 1888-90, Adam Matthew reel 41

ff1-1v, June 6, 1888, from FV, about a very tender chicken

signed letter, ff2-7, pen & pencil

f2

*Private Matron June 10/88*

*Gordon Boys’ Home*

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Mr. Fred

I am afraid this taking S. Constable so kindly to Gordon Boys’ Home is very inconvenient to you. But you will agree, I am sure, that it is entirely out of the question for the “formal offer” to be made to & accepted by her at Wednesday’s Meeting, without her seeing the Gordon Boys’ Home & also you & I say, being seen by Genl Higginson.

Genl Higginson appears to have forgotten that *he* properly stipulated & we properly stipulated that she should be taken over the Gordon Boys’ Home before any decision was come to -
that further I stipulated “very
“properly” in accordance
with your advice that
he (& his Home Committee probably)
should see S. Constable
& should also take her character
from her employers
independently of us -

On Friday morning I received
a letter enclosing Genl Tyndall’s answers to questions, - telling me
he was to have a “Home” Committee
on that day, asking me
to “send Miss Constable to see
“Gordon Boys’ Home as soon
“as possible” - & that she should “report
“quietly to” me afterwards -
that he would “warn Genl Tyndall”
& that they wanted her to come
in to the Hospital “at once”!!
I immediately sent down a
letter to catch him at his “Home”

Committee - saying that I would
do all he desired -
reminding him that she must
give from one to three months’
notice to her present employers
that he must see her & must
also take her character before
engaging her.

&c & &c
& saying that I would ask you
to take her over / very kindly over G. B. H.

Late on Friday night I received
a letter from him, apparently
forgetting all this, & merely
saying that she was approved
by the Home Committee &
would be approved, he supposed /
hoped by the Wednesday’s Genl Committee
But she was not to “give
notice” till Wednesday!!!
(yesterday)
On Saturday morning, I telegraphed,
as you know, to your kindness,
f3v
- to Genl Higginson at Marlow,
- to S. Constable & her Matron
at S. Marylebone Infirmary
It was impossible to get her off
to Gordon Boys’ Home on
Saturday (yesterday) of course -

But this is not a satisfactory
way of doing business at all.
Unless you could put off the
proposing her at Genl Meeting
on Wednesday, how are all
the preliminaries to be
got thro’? on Tuesday?
I have now, according to your
kind Telegram, sent this (Sunday)
morning the following to
S. Constable & her Matron:

f4

-2-
- *Tuesday* morning a.m.
to be at Waterloo Station 7.35
Sunningdale 8.37
where you “will kindly meet her” &
“take her in a fly to Gordon B. Home.”
[of course you will let me pay all
expenses]
Sunningdale 11.
Waterloo 12 noon
then come here, to me & “report quietly”
to me “what she thinks” (see Genl. Hig)
I wish she could have had more time
at G.B. H. - & more leisure at the
Hospl, & to see nasty dinners
which I presume are at 12 or one o’cl

I have also told the Matron Miss Vincent that
there is an “epileptic” case - & some
“wretched lads” I wish she Constable could
have time to take all this in -
I think her slow - & I think the
position with such masters as
Genls Tyndall & Higgn exceptionally difficult - tho’ Genl H. has been kindness itself - but oh so unbusiness-like, forgetting all his own arrangements - Of the two, Genl Tyndall has been the most business-like. And his ‘answers’ which must be the correct ones differ widely from Genl. Higgn’s

[I have my reasons, in connection with your letter, written from Travellers’ Club, for telling you all this]

I think Genl Tyndall would make the best master of the two.

2. Also, what is eminently unsatisfactory, the Matron’s duties, which were laid down by Genl Higgn himself, modified with some difficulty by me, accepted by Constable with conditions, have been presented as my by Genl Higgn, as he writes to me, not only to Genl Tyndall but to his “Home” Committee, as laid down by me!!

I am sure this is not done from any wrong motive but from forgetfulness & want of business habits -[It is not uncommon in a Military Officer of rank: because you see soldiers & young officers must not “remind” him of lapses or changes. “Theirs not to reason why” - But it is a terrible man to have to do with. And on this occasion singularly unfortunate]

Yet he has been most efficient for Gordon Boys’ Home.
3. Apparently he expected S. Constable to come in as Matron on Thursday - & lighted all the fires in the Hospl last week. You see he throws the whole responsibility of her on me -

I have sent G B H Matron’s duties in writing, & a copy of Genl Tyndall’s answers to our Questions, to S. Constable & her Matron Miss Vincent that there may be no mistake at their end.

4. I hope S. Constable, who struck me as being rather mentally slow, will have time to take in the distances between Hospl & Genl Kitchen, “Boys’ Dormitory, &c as you kindly said.

This is the only point on which Miss Vincent, her Matron, hesitated at all. She says Constable is a “strong” woman. but the only illness she has had was a fortnight of slight Rheumatism (which however has not recurred). She says, however, that she did not understand the “Buildings” were “detached”, till I reminded her of it by letter on Thursday.

Altogether, I feel I must insist distinctly, thro’ your kindness, ef/on her having a good look at the place before Wednesday - inconvenient as I am afraid it is to you.
4.5. Please do not (this is in reference to your letter to Genl Higginson, which you kindly sent me) write of a “Matron” to him as likely to work a great change or “avert a disaster” - silently & quietly she will make a change. But, as you said, what/how can one Matron influence & “mother” 160 boys? And if they do, as I think they do, expect a kind of miraculous change in discipline from the presence of one trained woman, that in itself will bring difficulty to her, & disappointment to them - It does bring this change in Infirmary Wards. But then there are no such restrictions as Genl Higgn gives -

I should so astonish & puzzle her, if I were to tell her, as Genl Higgn told me, that she “must not be too strict with “the boys for fear they “should desert” that she must do everything “by tact” & with the soldier cook too - that I have not told her. [No such caution is needed in Infirmary Wards - tho’ of course N any Patient may “discharge” himself any day] I think that Genl Higginson having said this must be taken into account if you think well to write to him, as in your letter sent here - It is indeed on that account that I write this long letter - I mean I don’t think the state of things is all Genl Tyndall’s fault - do you? ever yours F. Nightingale
Private Your letter to Genl Higginson
10, South Street, June 10/88 {printed address:}
Grosvenor Square. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
I think your letter to Genl Higginson excellent especially where you say that the worst punishment to a boy ought to be to be dismissed from the Gordon Boys’ Home -
But is Genl. Higginson the man to write such a letter to - or to write at all, on this subject, to, until he has been led by careful conversation from yourself to propose from himself what you propose?
Even then must you not be most careful to frame your letter so that he cannot by showing or reading it to others bring about if something quite different from what you intend?

Will he not forget what y he has told you?
And is it not most probable that, whether you mark it “Private” or not, he will read or sho it to his “Home” Committee?
I have written, not without intention, a (too long) account of my very brief experience of him in my other letter to you because it is instructive, & because it has put us into such a fix?
And will he not do the same to you? throwing upon you the responsibility, (if he does any thing,) of getting rid of Genl
Tyndall & finding his successor? Besides, is it quite certain that “economy” is the source of the mischief; or that “expenditure” would mend it?

They have two men already, 1 General at how much a year? and 1 Staff Officer? Secretary where one would probably do better

And is it quite certain that expenditure would find such a Chaplain as you want? And you do not, I believe, wish for a Chaplain of your own -

However that may be, please consider very well how you would put such a letter as this into Genl. Higginson’s power. Will it work what you wish? And is it not almost certain that Genl Tyndall will hear of it as an attack from you?

Please do not mention the Matron at all in this way (for reasons mentioned in the my other letter) - It might be very well to bring it/her up afterwards - in the sense of wanting more Assistant Matrons to influence the boys - At present, I believe we have carried the woman-servant & laundress - But I cannot be sure, because Genl Higginson’s letters ignore each other - Therefore I am on tenterhooks about this Matron’s business, as you see - I am
writing to Genl Higginson to
remind him of all he stipulated.
If he does not do it - and
how can he now? - he
ought not to ask his Wednesday's
Meeting to confirm the
appointment of S. Constable
as Matron by the/his Home
Committee.
What an acre of writing
he does impose upon one!
And yet I like him so much
I have written to him your & S. Constable's
houses on Tuesday that he may
warn Genl Tyndall
ever your affte
F. Nightingale

ff11-12v, Fred V to FN from Travellers' Club, Pall Mall, S.W., June 18, 1888 re a meeting with General Tyndall and the death of “unser Fritz”

ff13-13v, Fred V to FN, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., July 7, 1888, re the Paterson Memorial Fund [presumably FN was one who “promised donations towards” f13
unsigned letter, ff14v-14, pencil, on FV letter of July 7

f14v
Dear Sir
I believe I may claim an old acquaintance with you - & that your father was a farmer of Lea with a as I am a daughter of Mr. Nightingale of Lea Hurst.
We are now looking for/assisting the School Board of Lea & Holloway to look for a School master. And Mr. Arthur Clough of the Education Dept has kindly seen among others Mr. Burton of Linton School x Grandson of the present owner of L. H.
Might I ask you be so very kind confidentially, if you prefer it - as to give me your opinion of Mr. Burton of Linton School, both as a schoolmaster & as a man who

f14
would like to be friendly with the schoolchildren parents & would take his place in any plans for the improvement & pleasure of Lea & Holloway which you know so well
For instance there is an Institute now in Holloway -

who would not only bring the children on for Examinations & grants but interest himself in their tone of mind & character in what they will be in this world & a future one. He would have girls as well as boys in his classes who would lead their games & care for their health & vigour
Dear Sir

I believe I may claim an old acquaintance with you & that your father was a farmer of Lea with as I am a daughter of Mr Nightingale of Lea Hurst.

We are now looking assisting the School Board of Lea & Holloway to look for a School master And Mr Arthur Clough of the Education Dept. X has kindly seen among others Mr Burton of Linton School x grandson of the present owner of L.H. Might I ask you to be so very kind-confidentially, if you prefer it--as to give me your opinion of Mr Burton of Linton School, both as a schoolmaster & a man who signed letter, ff15-16, pen

July 15/88

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Mr. Fred

I have paid in 17. 10 being the third part of 50 guineas, - a more easy sum for my faulty arithmetic to trisect than 50 - towards the "Paterson Memorial "Fund" to be paid, in 3 years How are your Women’s Unions getting on?

Lately, I have been instructed that Trades’ Unions divide classes still more & set capital against labour more - whereas Co-operative Societies bring together capital & labour, make the labourer a capitalist, & heal the divisions between classes.
you see my manners & principles have been corrupted by my youthful cooperative prophet, Rosalind. And if you observe aberration, lay it to her door & not mine. It is sad when youth corrupts old age - She is entirely given up to Co-operative Societies.

Now I want to ask you how it is.

And how about the Match girls’ strike? Poor Match girls!

Many thanks for your kind contribution - troublesome to you, I am afraid, in your business - to my letter for new proposed Women’s Hospital.

I return Mr. Morant’s letter with thanks. He is a noble fellow. If he is made Tutor to the Crown Prince, he must have full assurance that he is to be Educator & not merely Professor or Lesson - giver, like a Music master - must not he?

A great deal is thrown upon you. Success to all your efforts.

I was going to rave against the Siamese. But I really think our Govt beats the world in delays. & some Departments in want of /or in want of integrity ever your affte old Aunt Florence
signed note, ff19-20, pencil

f19

10 South St  8/8/88
Thank you so much for your letters, my dear Mr. Fred -
Poor Miss Morant: yet you said the right thing to her.
I return two books you kindly lent me. I like your letter in the Fortnightly so much and I send you my sister’s little book - I go to Claydon to morrow.
You paid for S. Constable -
I repaid her what she paid herself - & now please let me repay you what I can - I enclose 1.

f20

God bless you & Maudie & children 3 - to you all
Aunt Florence’s tender & loving love
Calladine has written to me again for a Subn I think I shall write to him that I am not political
F.N.

ff21-22, Fred V to FN, The Glen, Inverleithen, N.B. September 3, 1888, re some grouse being sent to FN

ff23-24v, Fred V to FN The Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, September 17, 1888, re a trip around Ireland FV and MV are to take
Dearest Maudie

It is a great help to have seen you -
The two old brothers - the dear old noble head of the family - the tortured body of the struggling wife, with her unfailing courage - it is all so piteous - & so check-mating - as you said -
I think Sir Harry altered -
it was a responsibility to lay the situation before you - tho' I should so have liked to hear of you tricycling thro' the Irish villages
And I had

so much to hear from Mr. Fred. & could not stay
But do you know I found her better when I went down after 7 than I have seen her for some days - I am sure your visit did her good.

God bless you both
your grateful
Aunt F.
10 South St. Oct 25/88
My dear Mr. Fred

I have read thro' your Memo once, but only once. It seems very plain & clear a case to an outsider - But I could not, without reading it 2 or 3 times, say more -

There are a few little inverted commas, & such things wrong.

To morrow I shall not have a moment - having myself a heavy mail -

[Do you happen to know whether Ld Ripon is in London?]

I could perhaps look at your Memo a little later on, but

f26v

fear I should be of little use -
You have got up the case energetically - Why don’t we know what case that confounded F.O has?

You will give Mr. Morant the best advice - And please give him a warm message from me -

ever yours

F.N.
signed letter, ff27-28, pen

f27

Gordon Boys’ Home  20/11/88
Hospital  10, South Street. {printed address:}
       Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
   Sir Harry brought me
the amended plan. The
extension has been made
in the only direction possible
& that which Sir D. Galton
pointed out. But it
makes the Matron’s duties
nearly impossible - I sent
him my criticism which
he approved; but said
nothing could be done -
without remodelling the
whole building, which is
ture.

f27v 2
I bought a clock yesterday
   for the Matron which
   she asked for - And
the people/clock maker kindly insists
on sending down one
of his own men with it to
‘start’ it.
Could you kindly tell me
   which station he should
land at nearest to
Gordon Boys’ Home - &
   how reach it?
   [The clock master who
insisted on bringing me
a selection of clocks himself

to choose amongst was
very much interested in
the Gordon Boys - I was
quite touched]
Would you give me the
   proper direction of the
Gordon Boys’ Home for
Add Mss 41977D

myself?
  ever yours
F. Nightingale
5/12/88
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
Thank you for your most interesting letter about Siamese girls -
I enclose Hy Bonham Carter, & do not think I have much anything to add except what I have said before
The “London” has about 100 Probationers - of whom about 20 I think but am not sure are these “Extra” Probrs - have had friends there
They live all in one great ‘Home’ [P.T.O.
There is no one at all corresponding to our Miss Crossland F.N.

These “Extra” Probrs do not give trouble & seldom take it.

ff30-31, Estimate for the cost of training as Nurses 4 Siamese girls, HV hand?
My dear Mr. Fred

I thank God that Margaret is here. I do think we shall soon see a better day now -

Will you tell your Father that I will certainly see the Nurse from Oxford tomorrow (he asks) & see her every day which will be much more to the purpose - & yet more to the purpose that Margt will see her -

But will you ask whether

she is intended to be the Night Nurse & the present Night Nurse to assist Julie in the day time - or how?

The most valuable Nurse should be the Night Nurse because then nobody is “about” to control her And Patients are always worse at night.

Or is she to be introduced first in the day time & then succeed to night work?

Did the Doctors see or at least feel convinced of the painful wanderings of the Poor patient

Thank you all
f34

Xmas Day 1888
10, South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
    Thank you, thank you
    more than I can say
    for your two last accounts of
dear Sir Harry. I need
    not say how anxiously I
    shall look for the morning’s
    post. But you are all
    on the alert. And Morey’s
    nursing is so wonderfully
    excellent. Is Edmund there?
It was so good of you to write.
    ever with best love to
Maudie & Margaret
    your loving Aunt Florence
My poor sister’s cough is so
    trying - And those little devils of
brysae on her back!

f35

26/12/88
10, South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane. W.
How can I thank you enough
    my dear Mr. Fred, for your
Telegram of this morning?
    I hang upon your words-
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
What room is he in? I always
    regretted that he would, not only
    at South St., but also at Claydon,
sleep in a N. room -
I hope Sir H. Acland is not going
to Genoa, not only for his/our sakes
    but for his own.
            F.N.
Dec 28/88
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred
How good you have been
to me. I did not have
Sir H. Acland’s promised
letter this morning. But I had
his Telegram yesterday after
the visit, & your dear letter
& Mr. Fred’s last night -
so I could have no later news
till Margaret came.
Delightful news - Thank God
But Sir H. A. impresses upon
me as he does upon you
that “(if all goes well, it
will be a long & tedious Nursing.”
And now I want to ask if

I might see you & also
Margaret to morrow -
[I do not propose putting off
my long=made appointment
with a District Matron
to day because you will
have your Great Tea,
which all will enjoy-]
But any time to morrow (Saturday) if
Margaret could spare me
¼ hour -
or any time on Saturday
or Sunday if you could
Thanks, thanks for all -
ever your loving & grateful
Aunt Florence

I will send down this
afternoon for Margaret’s
news.
f38

15/1/89
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
   Very many thanks for your
letters. One cannot help
feeling very anxious - There
is no one to say: you must
& you must not-
   Do you hear when Sir H
Acland is coming back? I
think my sister must have
heard from him - He is the
only person who can -
   Dr. Benson has no
authority; tho' he is sensible
& watchful & clever. Sir H.A.
says.

f38v

   How good you have been
in writing.

   My aunt at Embley is
dying - she can hardly survive
this week - And I cannot
get rid of the thought that
before the earth, as you say,
has put off its solemn
winter's sleep, these two
homes may have been
broken up -
   We must trust them with
God
I return Princess Narès’ lovely letter. It is the heavenly ‘possibility’ of her life that she has you & Mr. Fred - [For her boys, what would she do without you?]

I send “Daisy Doll” (Mother Grumpy) sung & acted with triumphant success by the Board School children of S. Thomas’, got up by themselves after school hours under their own Master & Mistress.

God bless you, dearest Maude.
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence

Love to Kathleen  1 p.m.
Thanks, thanks for this morning’s note. One must feel very anxious - with these shivering fits, however slight, & temperature going up & cough, there must be some mischief going on - easier to lament than to stop, as you say. What does Dr. Benson say?
10 South St Jan 26/89
My dear Mr. Fred
Thank you so very much
for your Telegram of victory
yesterday - I was so very
glad of it. I wish
you & your constituents &
Council joy & success
with all my heart.
I was also very glad
that 'our man' Perkins
was returned.

Jan 27
Late last night I had
a Telegram from good Morey
“Decided improvement to-day”
Thank God!

How are the children?
Best love to Maudie.
Sir Harry has written
to me continually & has
mentioned often his close
interest in your Siamese
work.
Do you know anything
yet of your Minute to
Ld Salisbury - & that
strange business? Tho’ I laughed, I felt
it deeply - & could have cried -
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Yesterday was the
anniversary of (4 years ago)
Khartoum & the death
of that hero=saint.
What a state is all in
now in East Africa -
& indeed Central Africa -
10 South St  Feb 7/89
Dearest Maude

There really seems to be some real improvement to-day

She is so anxious lest you should all be hurt by her persisting in declining “the “dear ones” - “who all offer” -
I have a letter from her by afternoon post. She says “Dr. Benson says: It is a most critical moment - a little thing may turn the balance the wrong way - Ask them to put it off 4 or 5 days” -

I have assured her that you only want to do what is decided as best -

Thank God if the improvement is real - And thank God esp too, whatever happens - For what He does is done in His love -

in great haste

ever your affte

Aunt Florence

She feels it like Niagara, she says standing on the brink
And so do I
initialled letter, ff44-45v, pencil [black-edged stationery]

f44
{in the top margin}
I give 12/2/89
you joy  10, South Street,
of Wol=     Park Lane. W. {printed address:}
=verton
My dear Mr. Fred
I return Mr. Morant’s
most interesting letter
which I ought to have
done before.    May God
prosper his pluck.
Also please to ask
Maudie for her receipt
& her promise of a butcher
I heard from my sister
of her inviting you & of
your putting off your visit
which, she says, is better,
because then Harry will
be able to see you

f44v
Nothing can be better
than the account - no
fever since Friday - no
excitement - but, he tells
me himself, he must
not talk - looks more
like himself than he has
done for 3 weeks -
But the cold makes the
greatest care necessary.
They talk of letting him go
into Parthe’s bed-room to day.
he says himself (to me)
Feb & March are bad
months for me. So I hope
no care will be relaxed
Lung satisfactory
f45
I am afraid Edmund goes home to morrow. He read battles (in India) to Sir Harry yesterday - interesting without exciting him -
They want Margaret now. But I am afraid she is too anxious about Lettice.
I hope you two will be able to go.
I could see you for ½ hour to day. say at 5.30, if convenient. (you kindly ask) But I am afraid my “diplomatic” faculties are not in good order. I think you are a great man, & have won a great position in Burmah by careful choice of persons & careful “home” influence as well as by other things.
Your account of Mr. Morice most interesting but oh the telling you (in a week) about Genl. T. & Major C -! And oh the dreadful mistake of talking in Commee about this man superseding Genl T.! Genl T. must be an angel, if he likes him -
ever yours, F.N.
10 South St. Feb 14/89
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred

I am so glad you are going tomorrow to Claydon. I think Sir Harry is in a most unsatisfactory state. Every thing lung, tongue, temperature, &c, is improving except himself. No apparent reason exists; but he is more feeble than he was 3 weeks ago. He was most eager to go another room daily, but now, tho' authorized by the state of lung &c to do so, - to go into the next room - he feels quite unequal - & does not go. Morey says, he is certainly making progress, yet he is weaker than before -

Do you know I sometimes think that certain difficulties filter into his room, & cause this in part? Parthe's state of mind, I assure you, is not what I'd you think - This is what her letters have always conveyed to me: - 
‘Edmund so kind, so judicious;
&c &c -
- reads to his father, without - exciting him (another day) &c &c 
‘The dear ones all offer to come - It is so painful to have to refuse them. but Benson &c &c [She may have said, tho’ not to me: - I am 'bothered' to have to refuse them - Some people, not Irish, always say that they are ‘bothered’, & that people are ‘queer’]
What she said to me was about your coming this week, was:

1. she asked you on Monday, but ‘not to see him.’
2. She was disappointed at your not coming on second thoughts, it was better you should come a few days later (than Monday) because he would be able to see & enjoy you -

As to Edmund’s visit re Claydon alas! we all knew his visit wd be distressing - seeing things in disorder- appealed to to set them right - - unable

She also said that she had asked Margaret for this next Saturday - but was afraid she could not come because of Lettice. tho’ Harry would be able to see & enjoy her

But how could that be helped?
I hope you will go, forgetting all these things - or rather seeing the reality thro’ them - the reality towards “the dear ones”. She has always called both families so - during this illness of his - I don’t know whether his life can be saved; but I am sure it will be lost if he has an inkling of things not being kindly & loving - And he is so quick to see - I don’t say: Pray be careful - But please feel what will be love - [Much of her bitterness she was caused because she thought Maudie had ceased to love her - Such delusions are not unheard of -] ever your loving (pardon what I say) Aunt Florence
f48

10 South St Feb 27/89
My dear Mr. Fred
I am a very bad Critic - But
such as I am give I thee
I think Col Yule: inscriptions so
laboured - so far from Gordon’s
own sympathy - unsuccessful
imitations of the Latin:
inappropriate of the English -
striving after antithesis when he
ought to be straight forward -
heaping up adjectives or epithets
when none work would be better -
regardless of the axiom: ‘never
put in two words where one
will do’ -
e.g. “vast & ancient -
“pestilent” ? adjectives, I say -
“weakness, treachery & perversity”

f48v

[I know I am prejudiced: to
which I will return ]
e.g. bathetic & inappropriate
“brave, just & upright ge’m’men”
“I have done my best for H. of C.
(they were not “his last written
words”) & if they were, H. of C. looks
“a-blaze &c &c like House of Commons
[“Shame” must of course come
out.] It is wretched

Compare it with what he strives
to imitate
si qua fata aspera rumpas
Tu Marcellus eris

Excuse my forgotten Latin.
[I did not like that "Stories from
“Virgil” for Ralph - because Dean
Church's paraphrase of that splendid epitaph is so bad - How well I remember my father's rendering of those lines where 3 words tell what 30 of Yule's do not

Please ask Maude however to keep "Stories from Virgil & Homer" - My studies are ended.

Now I think that many especially foreigners, might like Col Yule's Inscription - My prejudice is this: a delightful old gentleman who has been for some 20 years the Ind. Off. Member of our Army Sanitary Comm; (20 years

which he has spent in elaborating this sort of work & in neglecting ours. At this moment this neglect has been so outrageous, that during 3 whole months, in not starting a Despatch ready written, fr to be from Lord Cross to Lord Dufferin, that, taking into account what those two noblemen are I very much believe he has ruined our cause. Week after week I have received the most wretched excuses from him

I can see him night after night, polishing, labouring, niggling at that Inscription - This is my prejudice - Two Inscriptions: I quite agree with the proposal

You will say I am worse that Col. Yule
f50
10 South St March 22/89
Dearest Maude & Mr. Fred
How very very good of you to offer such an arrangement to enable Sir Harry to stay at Claydon - I fear they have declined it.
I am afraid it is impossible to urge it further - They have consulted Sir H. Acland who concurs with Dr. Benson, with whom he had a long talk, that Sir H. may come to South St.
Then, as you know, Mr. Calvert is there & has had the Builder there (at Claydon)

f51
My sister writes: “the drainage must be looked to & we must be out of the house for it x x x x
“We ought to come away on April 1 or there will be no time for the workmen.”
I have heard also twice from Mr. Calvert He gives a good account of Sir H.
The risk of the weather & of Sir H.’s North rooms will at South St with N. & E. winds pouring down Park St. & South St E. remains unchanged.
But what can we do? I am very very sorry. Parthe sends a delightful account of your two children & of their improvement in health
God guard us ever your affte & grateful F.N.
10 South St. April 7/89 Private
My dear Mr. Fred

I meant to have sent you this little sum long ago for a prize for Mr. Morice’s games. Or if you only give part of it for that, the rest towards anything else of Mr. Morice’s conundrums for the Gordon Boys.

It is really appalling to think that on Wednesday his career & influence at the G. Boys' Home may be cut short & the boys fall back into their unfair, nasty, perilous ways under what is called military discipline which means indiscipline -

[O if you were to see a Military Hospital even at this day]

I don’t know what to wish but that, if nothing can be done, the Gordon Boys' Home, as it is now, should cease to exist.

but if Mr. Morice could continue his life - giving influence, & be so insensed as to behave himself, then may it live & prosper for ever -

My dear Mr. Fred I have carefully read over your M.S. - which deserves to be studied by every body - it is most effective & convincing. And I only trust you will work it out as forcibly as you have begun it. & publish it in some accessible form -

Blind economy on the subject is dividing people more & more - And it is very good to show them that Ld Hartington & Mr. Parnell
are terms synonymous or convertible -
also to pin down Mr. Parnell to what he has spoken. Whether he is sincere or not would be a secondary consideration, were it not that sincere people have always more influence. Go on & work it out, pray -

Since I wrote this, I have your note. But I really have nothing to “criticize” - You can work it out - I can’t -
The smaller of the two small pieces - the one that does not begin with Mr. Chamberlain - you will work out well. On the first page there seems a little repetition of a sentence in the body of the Article - about Ireland being “on her trial before the whole civilized world” &c - & on p. 3, “This is an addition in “substance” &c seems a little “obscure”?

But this is hypercriticism. It is very important that you should finish it. - I return it in haste, because I promised.

Good news of Sir Harry this morning - I hope you will compass Venice & not travel too fast.

ever your & Maudie’s

F.N.
April 19/89
Good Friday
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane, W.
Indeed I do, I do feel with you & for you, dearest Maude, at Ralph going to School - his new life & his “new portmanteau” - and that little mother, Gwendolen, at his side, who is still cogitating her plans for being the ‘mother of the world’ - (& not only responsible for Kathleen’s salvation). Those children are so interesting they would fill volumes, let alone hearts.
Still I hope, if you don’t overfatigue yourself, that it will be good for you both, & even for Ralph, not to be overstrained, as you say, for you to go to Venice. Fifty years ago, we spent a month there. Then it was half in ruins.
& wholly under the Austrian hoof. But it stands alone, alone in the world, its history - its churches - its pictures - S.S. Giovanni e Paolo - S. Marco - the old Palazzo Foscari - the Doge’s Palace - the Bridge of Sighs the Rialto - Rome itself is not so absorbing. But you will know all this. But what there was when we were there - the Piombi - the slaughtered Italian Patriots, who poured out their life blood in the field, in carcere duro, in exile & in imprisonment in a life long slaughter - from the Piombi to Spielberg at Brünn, where they, Silvio Pellico, Maroncelli, Confalonieri & all the best of

Italy left their bones or came out again after long years maimed & invalids for life. Most of these men we knew afterwards. These were the intensity of interest to us in Venice, then. I would gladly have laid down my life to have saved one of them a day’s suffering.

You know S. Pellico’s ‘le mie Prigione’ - In our days any of these books had to be hidden in our, the foreigners’, receptacles.

Are the Italians worthy of these men now? Is Italy ‘united & independent’ worthy of the lives that have been ruined for her? Ruin?

Martirio in terra appellati
Gloria si appella in cielo
And Manin - & the siege of Venice. If Manin could only have lived to see what we see now!

But I ask that question - & I never get an answer: - has Italy free made the progress Italy enslaved expected?

You will say I ought not to say to you what made the intensity of our devotion to Venice enslaved. No one can fancy it now - And I pray God you may really enjoy Venice & not tire yourself.

Aunt Florence’s love & best wishes to you both. Forgive me: God bless you both - & the childer three. All success to you.

Make my compliments to the Canal Grande - When we were there, there were no rail roads. [end 7:346]

initialled letter, ff57-58, pencil [8:919-20]

Welcome home again. And I do trust that you have had a refreshing as well as most interesting time among the never-to-be-forgotten splendours of Venice & Genoa - & have not committed suicide at Monaco -

It was so kind of you to write - And I shared my joy, of course, with No 4, as they did with me And how is, Italy? in good health? the patriots, now in heaven, ask.
Thank you for sending Mr. Morant’s noble, most interesting letter, which I return - I have read it most carefully. I sympathize most deeply with him & with you - But such work, springing from such a spirit, such minds, cannot fail to bear fruit a hundred fold, even if the harvest be sometimes delayed, sometimes blighted.

I never liked fashion. Humiliation is more fruitful than fashion -

God will grant His highest success to what you & Mr. Morant are doing for poor Siam.

But I was not going to moralize - Miss Amy Morant paid me an unexpected visit while you were away -

And a great deal came out quite naturally in our long conversation, such as she would say to a person who greatly sympathised with her & did not think she was going to be mad, of which there was not a trace - But that ‘great deal all told one way, that she is perfectly unfit to go to her brother, that she could not be a week in Siam without getting him into some scrape - There is a certain silliness about here, (not incompatible with genius,) a certain credulity, a want of that uncommon quality, common sense, a total want of knowledge of the common motives of common humanity - And all this without the slightest excitement - as if she were telling you that black was black, white was white.
By her own account, her companion who came with her is just the same (to her satisfaction)
She talked about going to her brother, but not as if she longed for or expected it much.
[I did not of course say anything against it, nor anything for it.]

I ought to have returned his letter sooner, but
I have been engaged in anxious (& humiliating) work
God bless you - And He will bless you -
How are the children three? in haste F.N.

signed letter, ff59-59v, pen

My dear Mr. Fred
I sent to Sir Robert Rawlinson quite early this morning. And he answers: “You may certainly say that you have consulted “me” -
I also sent him Dimensions of Dormitories as given me by you He says: “You may also say from me “that Boys require as much “cubic space as men.”
He continues: “The Wards are too small for the number of beds to be put in.”
& that no Dormitory should be “less than 18 ft wide, and 13
“feet in height” -
   This is past praying for -
but the light of natural reason
might tell us that 18 feet
should be the minimum of width.
   “The Sherringham & Tobin
“Ventilators should be put in,
“plus the windows. These,
“the Ventilators, do not cost
“much & are easily managed”
[I hope you read what he
said about Sherringham, p. 2
of the two sheets pinned together]
   Pray believe me
         ever yours sincerely
              Florence Nightingale
F. Verney Esq.

signed letter, f60-61, pencil

G.B.H. & June 16/89
My dear Mr. Fred
   I think your letter to Genl ‘Hig’ excellent.
I am afraid you will think I have not ‘fired’
‘shot’ enough at/into Sir D. Galton. But one is
obliged to ask of rather than ‘fire at’ so great
an authority!! I send what I extracted from
him. More open windows, more outlets,
abolition of bed-rolling - in another Envelope
   Now, isn’t it the oddest thing that these men
whose business & profession it is to house men
& boys should have left all this to your sheer
benevolence to do?
He asks: Do the boys “roll themselves up” in the
2 blankets with the sheets inside the blankets?
However, this makes matters worse if they do. For
blankets let their perspiration thro’, better than
such sheets as theirs do.
   Success to you always
2. I send Mr. Morant's letter for your kind hints. I do think his is a sacrifice something like Father Damian’s -

3. I send Sir Wm. Wedderburn’s printed Memo for an India Reform Socy.

ever yours

F. Nightingale

initialled letter, ff62-62v, pencil

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10 South St June 17/89

My dear Mr. Fred

I hope you had my two letters yesterday -

Douglas Galton now adds:

“If these boys stink so badly, it is clear that they require more floor space” -

He recommends: “In any case the clean boys should be sorted & put apart - & the dirty boys all put together with more space” - Sir D. Galton is coming here to morrow (Tuesday) afternoon on other business - Do you want me to pitch in to him more, & ask him more questions about the ventilation of Gordon Boys’ Home? & if so what?” F.N.
unsigned letter, ff63-63v, pencil

f63
10 South St. June 30/89
My dear Mr. Fred Many thanks I have always been anxious that your M.S. (recast) on Home Rule should be published, but am no judge of the publishing question. If you can trust F Harrison, by all means publish it.

The fury & the ignorance at once of woman Unionist & Woman Home Ruler is disheartening - Neither knows what she or the other wants, or knows what she is really asking for - what is feasible - what has been done - what has failed. - what is historically true or false - what is possible Is there any training in politics, administration, contemporary political history - for women? There is fury - not discussion - on both sides - Such articles as yours will do much good -

Where & when was “Balfour’s speech” - I have no eyes for the "Times" -

Alas! I have no prospect of “seeing” you “to day”
I have a War Office official - And, before that, my sister. And I must keep myself in my senses.
I want very much to hear what you alone can tell me about G.B.H.
but am immersed among many other things in a dreadful schism in the Nursing ‘interest’ - two rival Assocns, touting, canvassing, furiously abusing each other - all/mainly for want of the simplest knowledge of admn, (management).

*Private*

G.B.H. - I don’t think it would do to have in a Civilian Sanitarian - None of them know half as much as Douglas Galton - When I saw him last, some two weeks ago, he said - & almost told me to tell you: “It is no use doing anything now. All the things are made for this new block - It would save no expence to alter it now - But Butterfield says he will do nothing after this block - And then will be our time to alter, renew, reform, modify” - Valeat quantum -
July 21/89
Dear Mr. Fred & Maudie
I give you both joy of your & Mr. Morant's pupil.
   Prince Cheroon  Thank God!
You two & Mr. M. have formed him to all this
& formed him to what is best of all,
manliness - I hope his finger is
getting well - [It is always said that
the Hindoo will lie down & die for an injury
which would not take an Englishman off a
day from activity] Now you see you have
made a man out of good little Cheroon -

   I return with thanks a number of your &
Maudie's papers -
   Have I returned a letter of dear Ralph's
to his mother? If not, I shall be sure
to find it.
   Have I any more papers of yours to
return?
   Hurra for Ralph & Cheroon!
I want to hear about Gordon B. H. - & ABOUT your Home Rule Paper
   Excuse great haste but not of heart

or thought  ever yours Aunt Florence

initialled letter fragment, f65, pencil

f65

   -3-
I will return all your letters
& Ralph's
I return F. Harrison very
good
Please thank Maudie - &
say I could not take
a whole Secy now - She
would take up all my
time & strength -
   I must begin some time
with a half -
   ever yours & hers
   F.N.
How is Gwendolen?
signed letter, ff66-69, pen {most of this letter is not in FN's hand, but there are some insertions written by her, and the closing is in her hand}

f66  
Private  No 2 Miss Nightingale  
Gordon Boys' Home  
Matron: {printed address:} 40 South Street;  
G.B.H. Park Lane W.  
Matron Aug 25.89  

My dear Mr. Fred  
You ask for the conversation as  
far as I can remember with  
General Higginson about what  
the Matron for the Gordon Boys'  
Home was to do over & above Hospital proper. It was, I believe,  
I. briefly as follows. 1. That she was  
to be called to any boy taken  
il at night in his dormitory.  
that she was to have the power  
of inspecting the dormitories  
ocasionally at night. (I can  

f66v  
hardly believe that what you first  
discovered of abominations, for which  
may your shades never be less!) could  
not have been, had a trained woman  
had this power of inspection ) - That  
any boy on first arrival where it  
was judged necessary, should spend  
a few days in the Hospital under  
inspection; that she should be brought  
into contact with the boys in  
every way. She would of course be  
so with those who do ‘fatigue work’  
in the Hospital. That the boys with  
cut fingers, colds, sore heads & stomach  
aches should go at once to her in  
the Hospital without being admitted,  
if unnecessary, as patients.  
2. that she should inspect the general  
kitchen - make varieties in the diets,
(on this General Higginson laid particular stress) according to the time of year, and in the modes of cooking, and making the most of things, for example, using up fat instead of letting it go in to the boys’ dinners &c &c. See to the serving of the meals, that it should be nice, clean, hot & palatable etc etc

I especially remember General Higginson dwelling on all this con amore -

3. That she should have an eye upon the boys’ work in the general Laundry.

4. That the Matron should exercise some supervision over the boys’ underclothing and its mending etc. (I am glad to hear that she is to be autocrat if only over the socks)

This with a view to bringing her into contact with the boys.

II.

But I am bound to say that General Higginson made so many qualifications & “oh! ahs!” , that at the time I felt certain that little or nothing would be carried out. E.g. as to 1. he said that if she were given any power in the dormitories that was infringing on and lessening the responsibility of the N. C. Officers in charge of dormitories, to which I responded that we found in Military Hospitals that it increased their responsibility. I little thought then, what you discovered, that the N. C. Officers exercise no responsibility at all in the most important matters. I rather think now that what you said about inspection from WITHOUT will be necessary in the dormitories too - and by night.

As to 2. which General Higginson
was most strenuous about, I heard afterwards that Gordon Boys' Home had changed its cook for the better & that the cook did not need or like a woman's supervision. Indeed I think you told me so yourself. Anyhow, you remember what I mentioned confidentially about the difference of opinion between the two heads.

As to 3 - about the same objection was made as to her supervising the work in the General Laundry. (You know what I fancy about the supreme offices giving the order and the second offices silently preventing its being carried out.)

As to 4. We were told you know by General Higginson afterwards that he thought all the mending was done either in the tailor's shop or the laundry, and he

astonished my economical weaknesses by telling me that socks were not mended but new ones got. I do not pursue this subject because "tears inhibit my tongue", because I have so preached on this, both to the women in Derbyshire & in the Army. I am happy to think that the "socks" have escaped from this rule.

You see, I feel rather diffident & rather despondent about this matter, but I would, if you choose, talk it over with the Matron's former Matron, (only she is now on her holiday) I feel, I have not helped you at all.

And I must remind you of the great difficulty of making rules now instead of at the beginning, And yet more of preventing their becoming a dead letter with the second officer in command, and with
the sub-officers.
Tell me what I can do -
If I can do it.
& believe me
ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
with dear love to Gwendolen
    Good news from Claydon

signed letter, ff70-71v, pen {most of this letter is not in FN’s hand, but there are some insertions written by her, and the closing is in her hand}

Gordon Boys’ Home Miss Nightingale
Private Gordon Boys’ Home
{printed address:} 40 South Street, Park Lane W./Matron:
July 25.89

My dear Mr. Fred
Your messenger & letter arrived quite in time yesterday, and I pitched into Sir Douglas Galton, tho’ I had a great deal of worritting business with him, with all my might, like a man. First of all, he will certainly come to the annual inspection at the Gordon Boys’ Home, on August the first, as you desire - and he will talk to Revd Mr. Pine, & Mr. Trevarthen of Redhill as you order. He went in to a most unusual rhapsody for him, as he is (the greatest frondeur I know, about you & your
work at Gordon Boys’ Home, (and how they were indebted to you) really, seriously.

2. He was really & properly excited about the “No alteration” proposed in opening the windows in the dormitories. I do hope his just rage will not ‘fade as a leaf,’ but that he will do something. He seems quite disposed to do so. He approves the Sherringham Ventilators. He does not approve the Ventilation over the doors, which, he says, will only let in the staircase foul air. He says the staircase foul air can only be carried off by a tube going out at the roof. F And that perhaps they will not do.

3. He is rather despairing about the Ventilation of the Workshops, especially of the shoemaker’s shop. Are the windows the same as those of the dormitories? He thinks not. He thinks that they can’t open them because of the draft,
and he says how uncommonly difficult it is to ventilate tailors’ & shoemakers’ workshops. But perhaps he will look into this.

4. With regard to your question about dimensions of dormitories, windows, etc. for young men & boys, in buildings erected during the last ten years, he says: (like the man who wrote a chapter on snakes in Iceland: “There are no "snakes in Iceland."”) “There are no buildings erected during the last 10 years.” but the dimensions etc which he did give me, I do not quote; because they are against us. They are in fact worse than those of the Gordon Boys’ Home.

5. He did write a tremendous letter to Colonel Beaty - Pounall about the abomination which you discovered. I think he is a great deal more aware, thanks to you, to the Butterfieldian evils, & Gordon Boys’ Home backslidings, than he was. A good deal may be gained by pitching into him from time to time.

   ever with love to Maudie & childer
   yours
   Aunt Florence

I hear with joy from Parthe that you are going to Claydon “on your way to Scotland”

   F.N.
f72
10 South St  Aug 13/89
My dear Mr. Fred
    I am so very glad that you
are to take your Princes to
Mr. Jowett & Oxford tomorrow.
    & that you are going North
on Thursday with Maudie &
the childer - my love to them
all.
    & so very sorry that I shall
not see you before you go -
& hear about them all (& Ralph)
- & about the Gordon Boys' Home
& many other things.
    I am afraid that to-day I
am more than full - & I might

f72v
even had to put you off
tomorrow -
All The harassing things the
W.O. puts off to the last.
And we are too glad to get
them done at all, IF we
get them done -
Thanks many for your account
of Claydon - I feel with
you about the coming winter.
I shall go there, I believe,
on 22 or 24th or 26th.
    I don't like their being alone
They have greatly enjoyed
your party -
Ralph is a brave boy -
I am sorry that I know no
one at Chatham now -
Mrs. Hawthorn is travelling
with her husband in
Switzd I believe, now - &
I don’t know her address -
But when she comes back,
I will gladly ask her
to introduce your Siamese to
some one she knows there -
I think I know whom she
will say.
God speed -
ever your loving Aunt Florence

My dear Mr. Fred
I return with thanks Mr.
Morant’s most interesting letter -
It is certainly hopeful - The man
is a sort of hero - and out of
him you have made Cheroon
& are making the Crown Pr.,
please God, by rendering Mr.
Morant’s position possible with
a great deal of trouble on your
past.
I hope you will allow me
to make my poor little
contribution of a ‘fi pun note’
towards the things he mentions in
his P.S., or books or anything you like for him. It is indifferent to me whether he knows it is from me or not, but not indifferent that you should not add anything out of your own monies -

I see no chance of my being able to write to him. Would you be so kind when you write to him as to make up a message from me which you will do so much better than I can - of great sympathy in his most difficult & lonely life (but I am so thankful his sister is not going out to him)

but God is dwelling in him, the real Friend & Inspirer. (I wish I could be as confident that He is dwelling in me) - And while it is His work, of course it will have the highest success, of which he is allowed to see a part, but there will be more - WE are part of His “Evolution” - let us never forget that - if we are fellow-workers with Him - If not, we are still part, against our wills -

I should feel very much interest (but this is not for him)
in his idea of conquering “hard prejudices” & “violent superstitions” by a book on the ‘Evolution Theory’, of on the ‘Childhood of the World’ - but that I do not believe that that is the way to conquer ‘prejudice’ - - he is conquering ‘prejudice’ by living -

For 50 years almost I have had the idea of always asking questions - which nobody answers - what is God’s moral Gov. of His world? seeing the divine?! eternal damnation - moral Govt theory is quite exploded - & of writing ‘a book’ upon it. But it is not even begun - And perhaps we must find out what His moral Govt is by observing individual lives & the results on masses of lives of political & social conditions à la Quetelet for a long time first - & above all by practising.

I venture to send 6, if you or Maudie will get something you like for brave little Ralph (out of the 1) on his return to school - It is so good to hear that he goes on with his lessons, (including
no doubt the religious one) with his father & gets up to prepare his lessons before the Expeditions. But I feel a little for my dear Gwendolen left out - But I suppose she mothers Kathleen - Aunt Florence’s best love to Maudie & Gwendolen & all -

ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Sept 18

The Nurses from St. Thomas’ are coming here to-day - Edmund & Margt & their 4 for the day. Pray God it may go off well

My dear Mr. Fred & Maudie Thanks for your “Washington” letter in the excellency of which Wisdom (like mine!) entirely agrees. but Feeling plays her part And I am rather aghast to find from Maude’s letter to my sister that you are to be away till “January” - However you are unquestionably right to be going. And there remains the children. You must feel a good deal at
sending them/two away “to Normandy’ with”Mlle “du Perrut” whom you know so little as yet - My sister is cordially anxious that dear Gwendolen & Kathleen & Mlle should come here for at least 6 weeks - But she cannot receive them till after Oct 11, when the Episcopal party ends. If you are going to let or shut up Onslow Gns, there is 10 South St with servants & fires & open arms to receive them till Oct 11. I should need but an hour’s notice only there are workmen in the house. As it is, give me a few days’ notice. The house will sing for joy so loud that you will hear at O.G or in Americay - My sister will also be so glad to have dear Ralph when his Xmas holidays come, with his sisters, be it understood. Of course she is writing to you herself - And you must not mind if she ‘cuts up ‘rough’ in the form: in spirit she is cordially anxious to say: please remember that whenever

f82v
the dear 3 are in London, going or coming or any how, they & Mlle, or any fraction of the 3 & suite, must come to 10 South St.’s welcoming arms - And I shall hope to be there - Aunt Florence I write no more - because you must be overdone with arrangements & reading & writing - but to send best love & best blessings on your expeditionary force which is strong, consisting as it does of you two - but I can’t conceive what the Siamese will do without you in London, or we - ever your loving F. Nightingale
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff83-84, pencil

f83
Claydon  Sept 29/89 S. Michael’s Day
My dear Mr. Fred & Maudie
    Success to Dinard. I am sure you
know best what is best for the dear things -
And I hope they will come back wonders of
wisdom & of health. Only I rather grudge
Mlle de Perrut being the only ‘family’ that will
see them during their delightful year’s months -
    Success to the great doings at Washington
Your valuable Form anent “Dimensions” &

f84
Gordon Boys’ Home safe for Sir F. Goldsmid
    I wanted to keep a copy for D. Galton &
engaged an Ager boy - But the excellent Morey
would do it himself -
    Success too to Gordon Boys’ Home & your
activity.

    May the winds & waves be propitious -
And may all the best blessing be upon
    you two

Weather here rather less stormy -
    & gunpowder is so explosive -
Grandpapa quite anxious for Edmund’s success
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
It behooves us to be strong on S. Michael’s Day

If Mlle de Perrut would send me their address
    at Dinard I could insense Grandpapa -
who otherwise I fear might lose it
    I am glad you go on Tuesday - not to have the
hurry of embarking same day.

ff85-86v, Rhianva, Bangor, January 2, 1890, from FV re his return from Washington and MV's rough crossing
signed letter, ff87-88, pencil

f87

29 Jan/90
Dearest love to Maude
So sorry that my dear Gwendolen wants an
Oculist -
The man that the medical faculty employ for
salves & families is
Henry Power
37a Great Cumberland Place
W
(I don’t know that it is specially for what
you say: but I am rather afraid of
specialties Many cling to

f87v
‘old’ Sir Wm Bowman, as they do to ‘old’
Sir James Paget for an opinion merely - And with reason
I know Power personally & think highly of
his care & keenness
“Collyrium” is only their name for
certain sorts/ a whole class of preparations
Please let me know when they the little girls arrive
how they are. I thought they were
coming to day
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
To-day is our day of Crucifixion
May it be a day of salvation

signed note, f88, pen

f89

10 S. St Jan 25/90

Dearest Maude
Might I see you to-day
before you go to realms
unknown?
Anytime you would fix
after 4.
just for a little
So many thanks
Aunt Florence

ff90-91, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W. February 20, 1890, from FV re the return of the Verney girls
f92

24/2/90

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Grosvenor Square. W.

My dear Mr. Fred

I hope you noted first Reading of Lord Cross’
Bill on Friday night in the Lords
on Legislative Council Reform

Have the two Bills, on same subject, by Sir W.
Plowden & Mr. Bradlaugh been
moved in the Ho of C. yet? I
am unable to read the papers

I think we are getting on

Lord Reay is to be entertained
on his return from Bombay
next month: Lord Kimberley,
I believe in the chair. as
some answer to the malignant
attacks made upon him.

f92v

Sir W. Wedderburn will
have “much pleasure” in

calling upon you at Ashburn Pl.

As regards your question,
the full report of the I. Nat:
Congress has not yet been
received from India; but
the first No. of “India”
which I will send you
contains a summary which
gives Sir W. Wedderburn’s
speech in full - & also all
the Resolutions passed.

A copy of this No of India
is being sent to each M. P.
A thousand thanks for your proposed introduction of Mr. Bryce. which I shall be so glad to accept. But please wait a few days till I am a little better. Many thanks too for the Protocol. Have you heard from Rhianva? I must finish this note later.

ever yours

Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff94-95, pen

March 31/90

10, South Street, {printed address:}
My dear Maude Park Lane. W.

I trust my Gwendolyn is getting strong. & Kathleen as witty & robust. Great love to both. And I hope your dear eyes are coming all right.

Now I am writing about a selfish business. Blessed Margaret gave me a dear little girl as kitchenmaid, Nelly Owen from Rhoscolyn. After having been with me 4 years, on the score that she does not learn enough, she has given me notice. And I am sadly sure she is right - the fault of Mrs. Neild, whose sin has been, I feel morally certain, gaining upon her.
f94v
And I have taken this opportunity of giving her notice. I ought to have done this long ago. But her only son was dying whom she supported And partly because I could hardly cast her off at such a time partly because I thought he would have cured her of it, I waited for 4 years. The son died 6 months ago.

You will have Ralph in a day or two & Mr. Fred, I hope, before long.

f95
Now, don’t think, dear Maude, that I am pursuing you. You are not, unless you know of somebody, to take any trouble or notice.

My wants are:
1. a cook=housekeeper for my very small place, instead of Mrs. Neild.
2. another Nelly Owen as kitchen maid.
3. a place for Nelly Owen in the kitchen of a great house.

I cannot say much for my poor sister. Her cough is so bad.

Sir Harry has rubbed his knee & is confined to the house/Dining room for a day or two. He has been all over London for weeks without cold.

ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence

I have written to Margaret.
April 11/90
10, South Street, {printed address:}
My dear Mr. Fred  Park Lane. W.

I am grieved that you
cannot all together live in
London. It is a great
split.

Harriet shall be
recommended. But I sent
five places or servants
for this household-ettins.
Yes, I should dearly like
“to see Ralph before he
“goes back to School” Is
he going to stay at No 4
- & when?

They are in rather bad
case - both are having
Sir Andrew Clark - But
he is better (Sir Harry) - Both will rejoice in Ralph

I am going to send
Gwendolen a Book of
Fashions !! in dress!!

New Matron (St. Thomas)
not yet installed
Farewell agonizing

Great love to Maudie
& all chicks
ever your loving

Aunt Florence
signed letter, ff98-99v, pencil & pen

f98

18/4/90
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
   Mr. Fred whom I had the
pleasure of seeing last night
says that you are coming
up on the 26 with Ralph,
& that No 4 is to have the
joy of housing you partly
[I don’t suppose that means
Solomon’s famous verdict
to be cut in half]
   I have not even the country inn “stabling “Stabling
“& Clean Beds” But I have Mr.
Fred’s room here   with 2 beds
which should be “clean,” much
at your service

f98v
They at No. 4 will quarrel
with me if you do not feed
with them.
   But tho’ we shall be
“changing horses in a ford”
just at that time, there
shall be some food here -
   [I have no cook yet
Dear Margt has given me
a kitchen maid -]
   The Drawing - room will
be at your service as
well as the “Green Bed-
room -
f99
I sent a book which
if not improper - will it
do for the little girls?
    I was charged with the
new version of Snow-drop -
the little boy Snow drops
charging with their scimitar-
leaves at the Frost
"en avant - Allons, enfans
de la patrie"
    & the glorified Q. Elizth
under Chrysanthemum -
    But I think there is a
mistake in the title
I send another title

f99v
    I hope to see Gwendolen
quite rude & ruddy
by & bye but still, but
still, thinking of the “old
“women” & the “blind children”
She is going to house
& mothering Kathleen
    Sir H. wonderfully well
Poor Parthe very bad -
And I in a dilapidated
condition, forbidden by Drs
to get up just now -
    St Thomas has lost its
Pringle & is motherless
    ever with great love
    Aunt Florence

ff100-101, 23 Ashburn Place, London, S.W., April 28, 1890, from FV re Prince Caroon’s success at
Harrow and Ralph’s visits before returning to school
Add Mss 41977D

initialled letter, ff102-02v, pencil

f102

May 10
My dear You were alas too right. The journey to Claydon seems to have taken away the little strength she had - Telegram from Morey 8 p.m. "No change we are very uneasy" But good clever little Lettice telegraphed my request to Margt. And blessed Margt goes in from Marsh Gibbon to Claydon to night. [I have just had a Telegram from Marsh Gibbon] I tell Sir H. as little as possible. My sister does not wish him to come down - I did not know what to do - But Margt will tell us

Best love Parthe will have Sir F.N. A. [?] Clark

Parthe does not know that the servants (good Morey) write to me And Morey says she would be very angry.

initialled note, f103, pencil

f103

May 11/90
My dear Fred & Maude
Telegram this morning from Morey "No improvement: have sent to Sir Harry: Dr. Benson is here. Sir Henry Acland comes at two - Mrs. Verney is here.” I think it would be such a comfort to Sir Harry if you could seen him directly (at Mr. Calvert’s) & perhaps go down with him to Claydon to take care of him even if you came back at might. What a comfort that Margt is there ever your affecte F.N.
initialled letter, ff104-05v, pen

f104

10 South St May 13/90
Dearest Fred & Maude

I send by your kind leave to Claydon my white wreath & cross in a box by you
And I shall send tomorrow early some red Rhododendrons from Embley which she was particularly fond of
And if you could kindly see that on the grave the white wreath & cross were mixed up with the red rhododendrons, because that is the colour of love, I think that is what she would have liked.

f104v

The Embley flowers with white Azaleas come with Shore’s love & his wife’s Louis Shore Smith sleeps here to night on purpose to carry down by 9 a.m. train tomorrow these flowers, & the wreaths of natural flowers wh. the tenants & servants of Claydon have ordered thro’ me.

As He/Louis is a little shy at going instead of his father & is deeply distressed about “Aunt Parthe”. Might I ask you to be kind to him,
as you always have been, & take a little notice of him, tho' I know how busy you will be.

Remind Sir Harry that tomorrow is Ascension Day.

But indeed he needs no reminder. He writes to me as if his grief were swallowed up in her joy.

I shall have much to hear from you.

God bless you ever yours

F.N.

You see Louis goes down to Claydon tomorrow before the others, because Morey particularly stipulates to me that the tenants’ & servants’ wreaths are to arrive at Claydon Station at 10.48 a.m.

Please give my kindest thanks to Sir Henry Acland.

Please remember me to the servants, but particularly to Mrs. Davidson & Morey.

Sir Harry says, in his every letter, what a "comfort his "sons" are to him.

F.N.

Let the dear room be cleansed & disinfected as if after an infectious disease, please, as soon as the funeral is over.

Sir Henry Acland will say. (F.N.)
My dear Mr. Fred (& Maude)

I can never thank you enough for writing to me yesterday morning - I had only had then Sir H’s Telegram - & for coming yesterday evening I am afraid you are very tired.

It is so very kind to think of asking the Nurses. They would be so deeply touched - they were always so touched at being asked to Claydon especially after she became so ill. But I have been thinking it all over. It would be difficult to choose

Miss Crossland as their representative whose affection for Parthe was great indeed. But then you see, would she not be rather in the way? Would not Sir Harry’s overflowing kindness think he must take care of her? She must lunch with you; & perhaps if she came you would think you must ask ladies of your own surroundings - I know
nothing would touch Miss Crossland so much as being asked. And she has been with us for 15 years.

But I would not do it without asking you more - particularly - what would be best for Sir Harry

A good letter from Sir H. this morning
I will write again

ever yours

F.N.

Lady Ashburton has written to me - her mind full of Parthe’s rest now - but she

Ly A
was in the act of writing to Parthe that she would come down to Claydon this week.

F.N.
signed letter, f108, pen

f108

June 30/90
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Mr. Fred
   Pray let my dear
Gwendolen & Mademoiselle
   come here. [And we
will give them a little
refection.] after Mr. Power’s
interview. And may God
grant her health & eyes
& every other blessing -
She has the elements of
a great woman.
   ever your loving
      Aunt Florence
I am so happy
about Mr. Croft & Sir H.

ff109-10v, Fred V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W. July 20, 1890, re news of the family

ff111-11v, Fred V to FN Norwich, July 23, 1890, re FV’s candidature at Norwich

ff112-13v, Fred V to FN Pleasley, September 9, 1890, re the reclamation of a dam there
My dear Mr. Fred

Thank you very much for your letter about Pleasley - My feelings are much aggravated about the Mill - dam. Sir Harry is quite anxious to have it cleared out: (by a Contractor - bad animals) And I have only to say that I will willingly contribute 10 to such an indispensable work - and - that the most terrible catastrophes have happened from doing such indispensable work (in taking away what never ought to have been there.)

work - and some Sanitary authority - absolutely trustworthy - not “the best a man” who has been appointed by the inhabitants as Officer of Health (? to save their rates) must overlook a “contractor”. Is this a thing which the Local Govt Board would send down a man about - not to tell you to do it but to tell you when the time comes how to do it without injury/catastrophe. [Good Sir R. Rawlinson R.E. at past 80 writing to me: “O for 10 years more life to do my work”]

2. The idea of the “fountain” of “good water” in memory of my father & sister, smiles to me much. [Sir Harry “won’t hear of it” - this is just what happened.] I should be good for 50, or even 100 - if you would be good enough to start it. [I have no doubt Sir H. would come round & give something, seeing whose Pleasley was.] But I can’t ask him]

The sooner it is done the better, if it *is* done:
don’t you think so? It is very good of you to start it. I conclude it is both Sanitary *and* practicable and convenient for the inhabitants.

f115v

Margaret is come & looks better than I expected.

Mr. Devine from Manchester was quite a success - tho’ exhausting.

Blessings on Maudie & the three - And perhaps Maudie will send me a word-picture of Gwendolen.

My love to Mazelli, as Kathleen call Mlle. what a pretty name! - & I hope Mlle is well -

Ruth & a white dog are here -

Success to your candidature!

Sir Harry is well.

ever your loving

Aunt Florence
Anent the Mill-dam: What is the Sanitary Authority over Pleasley under which the Abomination has arisen?
   Is it not the case that at the instance of even a single inhabitant a Local Govt Board man might have been down upon you? - I believe, however, that there may have been a fortunate case of Typhoid, where this has been done - And I am afraid you have had no such case at Pleasley -
   2ndly Do not let

2. Do not let Maudie be restive about that poor little bit of paper of mine, (now hers) - Even if Gwendolen does not have to go to the sea again it may be wanted where you are
   May your stay be prosperous.
   F.N.
   Margt goes to London on Thursday to meet those two chevaliers errans (preux chevaliers) Ralph & Harry

ff118-19v, Fred V to FN Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks., October 14, 1890, re family news
My dear Mr. Fred

I was very sorry not to see you this morning. Thank you very, very much for Lord Ripon’s Article (& the new R. Cath. Review) - also for past favours.

2. Well done, Norfolk, for its Officers of Health Report for 1889. It is excellent. [I do not suppose, however, that they allowed their opinions to leak out to any unprincipled reformer like you, member of the C.C., before the C. C. saw them in a body.]

3. You ask for “hints” before

“Novber 7” (for your own C.C. Do see Douglas Galton again, whenever he is in town. He is the best authority (except for suavity) on the subject And he has now experience of his own C.C. And they have a Sany Comm: have not they? He will give you “hints” how to work on the C. C.’s fears, & show reform as the best policy & economy

We think calling together “a Special Comm:” & getting an “expert” for/ to refer any “particular ”complaints”, a very feeble proceeding. We have always resisted it at the W.O. In the first place, it is never done - Unless you have a standing
Commee, to which you are obliged to refer all “particular” “complaints” cases, they never so get referred.

To return to the Norfolk Report, it is admirable. I do not know whether what I am going to ask for is at all practicable.

It is this: that the Medical Officers of Health should have to report upon Dietary, especially of children, especially of examining Infant throats & in Schools - The absence of milk in their Dietary gives rise to all sorts of complaints - the food is perhaps worse than in Ireland - People are beginning to turn their attention to this - Mortality may be small, & feebleness great. Throats & teeth suffer. Ill cooked potatoes &c &c cause Diarrhoea - May Officers of Health meddle with Personal Hygiene?

But Infant Mortality is always taken & justly so (& in this Report as in others) as a test of the state of the country/people. - & I cannot see how the "infants'" Dietary can be excluded.

The Deaths from Diarrhoea in the towns in Norfolk were of under 5 to over 5 as 21 to 3 - but splendidly low altogether was the mortality.
Norfolk deserves the V.C. for sanitation &c. In 1889
Death rate per 1000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rural Districts</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Whole country</th>
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<td>14.9</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15.3</td>
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<td>1878-87</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15.3</td>
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10 years

Norfolk 19.0
All England 19.8

But it does not say what "all England" was in 1889

At all events Gwendolen’s arms & legs in 1890 were a proof of Norfolk’s health, thank God!

I am afraid this letter is illegible - I have no time to re write or to finish it.

Sir Harry rather so-so-
Margaret just come back from Anglesea School Board
ever your loving Aunt Florence

ff123-24, Fred V to FN, The Lodge, Old Lakenham, October 23, 1890, re Gwendolen’s throat problem and difficulties with the Siamese
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff125-26, pen & pencil

f125

Claydon Oct 26/90

Dearest Maude

Margt & Ellin go alas
tomorrow to Lpool. All
success attend them.

Lettice who was so happy
with you is in such distress.
As a small diversion, I want
to give her what she wants,
viz. The Martyr of Antioch
arranged for all the Choir,
by Sullivan

and

The Scotch Symphony by

Mendelssohn -

I throw myself on your
kindness, because you will
know the very best Editions
of both - And I want LARGE
good Editions, not trying to the eyes.

f125v

Margt says it may be
really less trouble to you
to get them at Norwich
than in the ‘mart of fashion’,
the ‘Metropolis.’

I tell Margt I am like
a sucking pig for ignorance.
But she thinks the simile
dirty, tho’ correct.

If your kindness can get
them, will you ship them
off at once to me here?

Aunt Florence’s best love
to the two dear sweets
G. & R. I am writing
to Mr. Fred about G.

ever your loving

Aunt Florence
Maudie’s editions tho’ beautiful are such very small print for Lettice’s eyes

letter fragment, f127, pen

But it is God who holds the balance not we - It is Infinite Love who makes the plan of the battle, who is Commander in Chief, not we. And He, the Almighty, will carry us through.

ever your loving
Aunt Florence

We earnestly hope to see you & Maude on Saturday

ff128-129v, Fred V to FN, 6 Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., November 1, 1890 re the necessity for tonsillectomy for Gwendolen & Kathleen

ff130-31v, Fred V to FN re another opinion of the girls’ throats

ff132-35v, Fred V to FN The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., November 6, 1890, re arrangements to be made for the family and FV’s own work

ff136-39v, Maude V to FN 10 South Street, London, November 7, 1890, re Ellin’s illness and MV’s installation in South Street

ff140-40v, 6 Onslow Gardens, November 8, 1890, from FV re MV’s comfort in South Street

ff141-42, Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks. November 9, 1890, from Sir HV to MV, FN glad you are at her home, her visit this time has been a happy one to me, she has enjoyed much fine weather and many glorious sunsets in her elevated abode, the blue room. Re children. The Miss Spring Rices go away on Wed but will return, have done the good work on Parthe’s papers that no one else cd do. They have so sorted and arranged them that if Margaret wishes that anything shd be done with them, the first stage, the least amusing and interesting has been done with them.
unsigned letter, ff143-45, pen

f143

Telegraph  G. & K.  Nov 9/90
Steeple Claydon. Bucks. the two dears  Claydon House,
   Winslow, {printed address:}
   Bucks.

My dear Mr. Fred
   Dr. Ord answered by
return of post. He says: “8 Nov/90
   “In reply to your letter I
“have to say:
   “1st that I have the highest
“opinion of Dr. Semon’s diagnosis,
   and skill in operating; and
   that I should trust to him
for help in any case, similar
to those mentioned, occurring
in my own family. “implicit”
   “is a strong word, but it
“would be hardly too strong.
   “2nd Dr. Semon’s opinion is
“better than mine. I was
   “clearly of opinion, when I

f143v
   “saw the children, that both
   “required the operation
   “for the adenoid vegetations,
   “and one at least for the
   “tonsils. In my experience
   “removal of the tonsils
   “is not followed by
   “disappearance of the
   vegetations. The diagnosis
was founded on certain
obvious symptoms. It is
confirmed by technical
observation. I believe
that the full & complete
operation is necessary, and
will tend to improve the
“health of the children, the
“elder of whom is certainly very
“delicate”
   signed “W. H. Ord”
Dr. Ord returns Dr. Semon’s ‘picture’ which I enclose.
[I should like some day to have again your lucid explanation of it: but this is, of course, only for my own information]

What can I say?
I was very much impressed
by what Dr. Semon said, as you told me:
backed as it is by the opinion of a man of such careful insight as Dr. Ord:
one of the last men to be carried away by a fashion (if Dr. Semon is ‘the fashion.’)
‘Find out who it is that Doctors employ/consult for themselves & their families’ is I believe a pretty safe rule, where no ‘rule’ can be quite safe.

I feel for your & Maudie’s anxiety more than I can say. Indeed I feel just as anxious myself. I have been going over all you told me to myself-

[Can I write to any body else?
I would write to another man I know very well as St. Thomas’, if you like. But I do not see any use in multiplying opinions more than these -
One thing, only for my own information, & at any time:
Did Dr. Townsend tell you of these adenoid vegetations (in the two childer)? I never heard anything about them or about aught but Tonsils: or about any operation but on Tonsils, till you told me on Friday]
Tho' I by no means adore Semon, I think perhaps his charge is not so extravagant as it seems. Margt paid 17, you say. But, as far as I understood, Pritchard's operation was a much smaller affair than Semon's intended one - You will allow me, if it is done, to bear a/my small share in the expense - we all wish we could take the whole affair into our throats.

ff146-47v, 10 South Street, November 10, from MV, re the children's throats

ff148-53v, Fred V. The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., November 16, 1890, from FV re the children's throats, whether to remove both tonsils and adenoids or simply tonsils, and Prince Cheroon's progress at Harrow

signed letter, ff154-55, pen & pencil

Telegraph Private Nov 11/90
Steeple Claydon, Bucks Claydon House, {printed address:}

Winslow,
Bucks.

Dearest Maude
You ask my plans. It is quite impossible for me to leave Gdapa He is so piteous: he says: You can't leave me till Margt returns at least. No: I can't. And I have this day written to put off business. If you were here, you would see I could not leave him.
without Margaret or you - tho' that is
I believe an Irish bull.
Make yourself 'asy, my darling -
   as 'asy as you can at South St.
ever your most loving
  Aunt Florence
Is the Commr coming to do his work?

initialled letter, ff156-57, pencil

{printed address:} Telegraph, Nov 11/90
Steeple Claydon, Bucks Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.
Dearest Maude
I do owe you money
   (don’t say I don’t)
but thanks more -
   Poor dear Lettice! she
was so pleased with
the “Martyr” - “Mendn’s
Scotch Symphony” which
you so kindly got her.
   But I won’t say “poor”:
I say “rich Lettice &
richer Ellin & richest
Margaret: tho’ indeed I do

think/fear the Lpool Telegrams mean
bad.  Margt is so
kind in telegraphing -
   Margt always says:
how your visit cheered
Ellin -
   Margt is the richest
woman I ever knew
Her cruse of oil never fails,
nor her handful of meal,
Tho’ she is torn in pieces,
for all the pieces -
   The miracle of the loaves
& fishes is fulfilled in
her- & she has baskets
of fragments over for all of us - No one is left out unfed by her. And so is it with you, my darling -

Better Telegram much better from a post since I began this, thank God!

F.N.

unsigned letter, ff158-59v, pencil

My dear Mr. Fred
In this most difficult, anxious yet dear & deserving all thought loving business I can only try to set before you for you to judge the considerations which I have thought over & over before writing my tiresome Telegram

May God decide:
Maudie is like her sister - so valiant -
God favours the brave -
in haste ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Much better Telegram from Lpool to day, thank God
As I understand Dr. Beverley suspects recommends urges “imperative necessity” Ad. Vegetations (growth) Dr. Semon of having growth removed at once, as well equally important” with “reducing tonsils”

Dr. Ord “clearly of opinion” recommends in his experience removal of that both required operation for “ad. vegns” & one at least for Tonsils”

Dr. Semon discovers recommends you can fill unmistakeable Ad. Vegns immediate & this up as well as enlarged Tonsils complete operation better than I in both cases on both

Mr. Townsend “never mentioned” X when informed leaving Ad vegns to “Ad Vegetations” at all - strongly recommends Nature only enlarged Tonsils removing Tonsils condemns Semon, will not work after him will but does not believe he will do “actual harm”

X If the two last opinions were shown to any “first rate Surgeon, as Mr. T. wishes, can it be doubted what his opinion would be? Would he not say: it is a totally different question dealing with Tonsils & with Tonsils and “growths”
As far as I understand: the 3 first authorities have considered the “growths” as of equal or greater importance than the Tonsils - operation ditto.

As collateral evidence

Dr. Pritchard (whose position in Medical world we took particular pains to discover) a man of a different School - an authority of King’s College Hospl spoke of “Ad. Vegns” in Harry’s deafness case (i.e. as I understood of obstruction in passage between nose & throat) as imperatively necessary to remove - And he did.

Mr. Townsend says: ask Sir W. Savory It is perhaps owdacious in me to say: I would not ask Sir W. Savory or take his opinion. I would have asked “Nestor”, my dear Sir James Paget, but he has lost touch with the present state of knowledge

ff160-61, 6 Onslow Gardens, S.W, November 11, 1890, from FV, re the operation on the girls’ throats

ff162-62v, Fred V. To FN November 11, 1890, re the decision to go ahead with the operations

ff163-64v, 10 South Street, Park Lane, November 12, from MV, re the arrangements for the operations

ff165-66v, Maude V. To FN November 12, re the successful result of the operations

ff167-68v, November 12, 1890, from FV, re the successful result of the operations

ff169-70, Fred V to FN The Siamese Legation, November 13, 1890, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., re the successful result of the operations
Dearest Maude &
Mr. Fred
Your Telegrams & letters
are so delightful
that I am singing a
Te Deum in my heart
as loud as I can -
Now you are full of
music. Do write
us a Te Deum on this
joyful & timely
occasion. And your
children shall learn
it. And the violins
shall celebrate it -
I shall tell Sir Harry
to night, I think,
(without laying stress
on the Operation) -
especially as I have
a sad Telegram from
Liverpool to read him
Hitherto I have told no one.
Please give my
love, after that to the
darling children, to
f172
Moizelli, with whom
I got intimate here
(when you left us),
& my kindest regards
to Nurse Murray. It
was such a relief to
know that she could
be had.
O be joyful: sing &
give thanks unto the
Lord.

f172v
Edmund writes not
happily from the
deluges at Pau
Lettice is bright.
Probably you hear all.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

ff173-73v, Fred V to FN November 14, 1890, re the excellent progress of the children and their
projected reunion with MV

signed letter, ff174-75v, pen

f174
Claydon  Nov 14/90
My dear Mr. Fred
A million thanks for
letters & Telegrams. But tho’
well I know that even ‘when
‘the burden falls off, the back
‘is sore’, I am afraid you are
not quite satisfied.
Still it seems such a
lovely success -
And what a relief, the much
better Telegram from Liverpool
to day.
Do you think a tea dinner
a wholesome thing? It
always seems as if tea
& animal food did not
live upon amicable terms
when swallowed together.
I am afraid too Mrs.
Burge's meat dishes
may not be good. [They
were diabolical food
before she went to Travellers']
And that is why you don’t have meat.
  Don’t you think too
the Drawing - room much
healthier than the
Dining - room?
  Do behave yourselves -
  The Messenger is to be at
Maude’s disposal all day.
If he has another engagement
at 7.30 p.m., he can find
another man to do it.

My love to Mazelle.
I know how anxious she
must have been.
  How anxious all have been
while the darling little
children have gone free.
How true it is that
nothing good is done, but
“the Lord” “hath lays on others
the burden of it all.
  Post card from
Lettice - Weather looking up at
Pau - in a better temper
  N.B. If Maudie is impervious
to reason you will hear that
hideous roar I told you of
across the fields of space. It
approaches. It draws nearer & never stops till it stands on the door-step of 10 South St. And then woe to Maudie in haste ever your loving Aunt Florence

ff176-77, 6 Onslow Gardens, S.W., November 15, 1890, from FV, re the progress of the children and three men chosen for Siam

unsigned letter, ff178-79, pen

Claydon Nov 17/90 [12:437]
Dearest Maude
Blessed news. But pray don’t settle to go till you distinctly hear that the two dears’ throats are “entirely “healed” That will hardly be before Wednesday or Thursday
I think the rapid progress is due to the quiet & warmth Little Harry with a much less operation suffered a good deal & longer - The poor little lad could not bear the “noise” at Bridge St, & so came down here - & ran about the garden &c
f179

-2-
I think your patience is equally wonderful. Do you remember telling me that we must make our minds perspire an hour daily?
to be healthy. I hope the counterpoint has made this a healthy perspiration.

signed letter, ff180-81, pen & pencil

f180

PRIVATE
Claydon Nov 26/90

My dear Mr. Fred

Accept my share of the expence of successfully cutting the two dear little throats.
I can’t think why I did not send it before, except that we always live in a crowd (figuratively) and in a drive (literally) Forgive - [I admire Pr. Swasti’s excuse: “I didn’t do it. Don’t ask why.”]

The second operation is over: Maudie knows what I feel. And I know what she feels about blessed Margt. So I say nothing. I have had a long letter & Telegrams twice a day - just like her blessed self.

Good Telegram this afternoon. [end]
Thank you so much for Mr. Morant’s admirable letter. How much I have learnt from that man. Sidney Herbert used to say: ‘we went about fishing in the German States for a Queen’s husband - And we fished up an Albert’ - So I say: ‘Siam has fished up, thanks to you, a Morant. [He must not think of leaving] But I do not see my way to “showing it” to Sir Harry. There are parts which would do such injury/harm if he repeated them to Englishmen in office for the sake of doing good. And certainly all these young ladies, including Ruth, would hear them. It would be different if you were there to read it for Siam to him.

Sir H. is well, thank God, but always doing “giddy” things - Maudie taught me that word, (as Adam said) - It wasn’t my fault! He is dreadfully worried about his affairs to which Mr. Calvert greatly contributes. I have a deep sympathy for Mr. C., who seems to me grievously altered - & unreasonable ever with love to all including Mazelle your loving & penitent Aunt Florence
signed letter, ff182-83v, pencil & pen

f182
{printed address:} Telegraph, Nov 30/90
Steeple Claydon, Bucks St. Andrew’s Day
Claydon House, Winslow,
Bucks.
Dearest Maude
  Thank you oh so much
for your letter.
  I had two Telegrams last
evening from blessed Margaret
- not quite so good the knee
had had a painful little wrench
- only a little one
  I am apprised that
Wednesday is Margt’s birth day
- & I want to send her
something - you who know her
best will know best what it
should be if you will kindly think
  Shall I send her some roses
from London? But then you see

f182v
I have sent these every week
  There must be something
more.
  Do you recommend “Lecky
“on the 18th century”? She was
reading it here, and attending
the Univ. Extens: Lectures! at
Winslow!!! because as you know
she has so much time on her
hands & so little on her mind.
But she has not a copy of
her own, I believe?
  Or what should you recommend?
I do not like to trouble you
to order it, unless you think
of something better than Lecky,
& will kindly send it down
straight to leg/Liverpool to
arrive there on Wednesday morning. Perhaps you will think something for her rooms better - to serve here afterwards. I want something to cheer her now & occupy her mind as it is so idle & dull. O how can people call life dull? It is too full, too full. Yesterday & every yesterday seems to me a year ago.

I enclose a line to send with the present, which indeed would not do to write in a book.

I think Lecky’s 6 Vols costs 5 4/or 4.5 & that would be about the ‘figure’

for my offering, whatever it is, according to your kind opinion.

I enclose a note to my faithful bookseller, if you think that the best thing, & will kindly post it at once.

How much you do for Siam -

I can find no words for Parnell’s Manifesto, so able & so diabolical, but Chief Justice Erle’s on the Bench to an attorney: “Sir, you do not ‘know the strength of the “expressions I am keeping back.”

I must break off

Best love to G. & K. & Mazelle, 3 loves which I hope you will remember from the rarity of the times I have sent them from Aunt Florence
My dear Mr. Fred

Welcome back again!
I have read the letter you entrusted me with.
I am interested & delighted with it beyond measure, because I know so many instances of what those “Indianized Englishmen” do & are -

The only thing I have to say is: do you think your facts are such as will impress some “Indianized English” official to whom Ld Lansdowne must refer your letter.

But one thing is certain: the 3 last Indian Viceroys,

including the present, are of a far more progressive & liberal & human stamp than anything in the Indian Council at home.

2. Did you not mean to put in something more from Pr. Swasti, after the Extract from your other Prince?
3. Is Ld Lansdowne a K.G.?

I think nothing could be better expressed than your letter, if only it rests on a solid foundation enough - You yourself believe that your authorities are entirely
to be depended on. And that is a great thing - O that Parnell! if he is the devil, the Times is the arch-devil. What will be the end of it? [I will return your two letters] ever your loving Aunt Florence

initialled letter fragment, ff186-87, pen

I should be so glad if you could tell me of Margaret & Morfy, & if Fred caught Col. George - But I must not give you writing to do.

Sir Harry’s letter this morning is sad; he says "I am really fit for nothing but to remain here." And one would almost urge him not to come, if it were not that he ought to come & execute that Will (with Mr. Weston, as you said.)

He speaks of the great & “efficient” help, “comfort & advantage” of having Edmund - & of the “precious presence” of Margaret & Edmund. God bless you ever yours F.N.
Think of Sidney Herbert's splendid Royal Commissions which struck the key note of progress in the British Army both at home and in India.
- think of the unwearied toil of the Sanitarians
- & they ask for the photograph of a rat.
- And this is not even the moment - when there is the plague at Bombay.
    O these enthusiasms without facts!

I am sorry that Lady Wantage who has some of the elements of greatness of blessed Margaret is at me about the same thing. And I have to see her this week. And I write in haste to you because, I want to take a firm footing in you. I am so sorry about Kathleen - but I hope she will soon be well. Pray say. (best love from "Aunt Florence")
My love to Margaret & Ellin & Lettice & Miss 'Uth, & baby. & my kind regards to Capt. Verney - please And my best blessings on you all is all that Aunt Florence can say

You must have thought me a brute not to send you sandwiches yesterday. But Young set off at an unearthly matutinal hour before my boy aroused I hope there was not a fire 'to roast an ox' in your bedroom last night.
ff1-2v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S. W., January 3, 1991 from MV with thanks for flowers sent by FN for Ellin’s return

unsigned letter, ff3-4, pen

\textbf{f3}

Claydon: Jan 4/91

Dearest, dear Maude

\begin{quote}
No words to say how thankful we were for your Telegram last night: And your dear kind letter this morning! & Fred's Telegram, Thank God.
Margaret, blessed Margaret will know that she has our dearest love - ( & thanks for her last Telegram from Liverpool 2 min before 11 yesterday morning - it seems years already since that)
And we follow her every step of her way to Hyères - & every day after - & we augur all that is blessed
\end{quote}
for all three -

And as for Ellin you see
she was borne on the wings
of God's wind - He rides
on the wings of the train
& the ambulance. What
divine things they are. These
are our miracles worked
by God. It is Elijah's Chariot
of fire. These are Thy glorious
works Father of light!

Grandpapa & Ralph & I
spent the evening till dinner
together. Ralph was interested
in all - did not talk unless
he was asked - then always
gave a brisk & thoughtful
answer - He is grown quite manly.

Gdpapa & Gw. & I the evening
before.

They have skated twice (every
day since you went. I was
going to say forgetting you
only went on Friday) - I have
seen Kathleen perfect in
every limb. No one has been
in - We had a dense fog
and rain yesterday, celebrated of course
by Gdpapa by going out, then to Mr.
Ager's, sitting there in his
wet clothes, being late for
luncheon, coming in wet,
& having a heavy cold in the
evening - but all right this
morning - Do you know the
taste of your heart in your
mouth?

But that taste now ought to
be a sweet & thankful taste.

You are very full tomorrow
morning - So I stop Aunt Florence's
chatter.
Jan 11/91 {printed address: sideways} Telegraph, Temple Claydon, Bucks.

Dearest Maude, I am appalled at Margt's plans -

Will you forward enclosed if you don't think it injudicious? {printed address: sideways: Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks.}

I have told Sir Harry that I will write to you that he cannot come to dine on Tuesday [It is madness] es and you not at home!

ever yours Aunt Florence

{in the top margin}

Rosa Sear died yesterday: sent messages to the “Miss Verneys” - Please tell Margt & Ellin.

It was quite peaceful - & sensible to the last.

initialled letter, ff6-7, pen

My dear Mr. Fred

Gordon Boys’ Home

I entirely concur with your letter,

I had no time to write.

I think if you have a Chaplain, you will have parted with the last remnant of likeness to Gordon. {printed addr sideways} 10, South Street,

1. Gordon was his own Chaplain Park Lane. W.

2. Gordon had no military discipline

G.B.H. has no other discipline than military -
f7
3. Gordon never, I believe, put one boy into the Army. He put, I think, a few into the R Navy - many into Merchant Marine, & into Thames Marine - & into Civil places.
   G.B.H. has just twice as many boys in the Army as in all other places put together - And then it says - - -
4. Gordon lived with his boys
   - took their meals with them

f6v
-3-
G.B.H. has 1 General Officer,
1 Major, & 5 drunken
N. C. officers (or HAD)
& wants a Chaplain.
   I have no time for more.
   Good speed to day
   & every day -
   ever yours
   F.N.

ff8-9, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W. February 20, 1891, from FV, re FV's wish to have a country cottage, and his willingness to remain as candidate in Norwich
April 9/91
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude
I was so much obliged to
you for your letters - I have
heard or seen nothing of Mr.
Fred: And you will guess
how anxious I am to see him -
Now I am writing merely
to torment you. My dear
little Under housemaid, who
has been with me 3 years,
Elizabeth Hubbard, of Barford,
age 18, wants to leave me
to better herself - She has
looked after many places to
worsen herself - & got none -
But still she wishes to go -
I fear she was spoilt by

Claydon independence -
Could you kindly tell me of
any nice girl of 15 or 16,
like your Nelly Owen, who
would come as my under
housemaid? E. Hubbard was
so innocent of evil, gay,
nice & obstinate (wilful) I should
like no London girl - one of
Rhoscolyn, or Claydon, or Barford
- If she had been in a place
before, I should like it to
have been a poor place.
E. Hubbard was like a
savage when she came to me
Now dressed in clothes
She walks with beaux
In England
I would write to Mrs. Broadhurst,
if you wished it, about a
girl from Barford, or elsewhere -
she got me E. Hubbard
Forgive me for troubling you.

I had an unexpected visitor last week: the Empress Frederic - a broken hearted widow - not otherwise altered - but like one who could never know a gleam of sunshine again - She is simple & natural as ever; spoke without the least agitation in the same broken hearted way of her great griefs - She asked particularly about my sister & after Sir Harry - said if she had been 'going to stay longer she would have asked to see him. When 'she came again in the summer, 'she would do so' - [I am going to write to Sir Harry as

soon as I can - Aunt Florence’s love to the dear 3 - ever your loving Aunt Florence

Please give my love to the Miss Spring Rices to morrow - tell them I am so glad to think of them at Claydon - will write as soon as I can.
unsigned letter, f12, pencil

**f12**

July 11 8 p.m.
My dear Mr. Fred I have had a driving day all day - did not get your letter & Maude’s lovely note & roses till between 4 and 5, have been driving ever since without stopping - & cannot think that anything I could say oh so gladly {archivist: 11 July 1891} for Mr. Stubbs would have “weight” with Mr. W. H. Smith - rather, tho’ I am so fond of Mr. Smith, the other way - Such as it is give I it thee. Best love, dearest love to Maude.

signed letter, ff13-14v, pen & pencil [8:921]

**f13**

Private July 19/91
10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.
My dear, dear Maudie and Fred
Thank you, Maudie, for all your dear letters from Claydon. Your care has saved Sir Harry’s life & health.
Thank you, Fred, for your letter about Godfrey Lushington &c. You have done all that man can do, & more. [I thought I never saw blessed Margt so distressed as when she went to Westgate]
But, as you told me Mrs. Daniell said the worst [several lines cut out]
f13v
2. Thank you, Fred, for your letter about the Will business. Of course I agree with every word, & except I think you very moderate. Something may be done, I think.
   I commit our way unto the "Lord" in both these dreadful things./entanglements. He knows.
3. Thank you very much, Fred, for your note about Toynbee &c -
4. I have seen your Mr. H. Smyth, & like him so/oh!
{part removed} He asked

f14
But oh what a boy he looks.
There seems so much to talk about -
Of course the thing most to be anxious about just now is: {the next two lines? have been removed}
   I don’t like to hint at either of you coming, because you have been so little together lately -
But if you were coming this way this afternoon & could give me ten minutes, I should be thankful
If not, could you write?  
I hope to see G. & K. before they go. But I have been so driven.

Dear Fred, your notes {lines removed} lay up a question of Nurses pro...

valuable

The last of My wonderful old Crimean Sanitary comrades, Dr. Sutherland, is dead.

ever your loving  
Aunt Florence

When are you going to have your holiday?

ff15-16v, Claydon, August 21, 1891, from FV, re the loss of Embley

signed letter, ff17-17v, pencil

Oct 5/91

Claydon House, {printed address:}

Winslow,  
Bucks.

My dear Mr. Fred

Here are the two pamphlets you wished to have -

No 3 is only the original which you & I amended into the “paper” read (with Sir B. Frere in the chair)

Unhappily the 2nd part of No 3 on Agriculture is/was not/never finished - & only a few pages in type - Still I may perhaps send it/that to you?

ought to write to Sir Jas Caird to thank him - Shall I say anything about you, Mr Morant or Prince Damrong
seeing him in London - I have to him explained about them. 
Pr. Damrong cares much more about Agriculture than Mr. Morant - It was the Prince who asked me to find out what is being done in India in Agriculture. And I thought of Dr. illeg Voelcker - I will write you a few words more before you go, please. 
F.N.

initialled letter, ff18-19, pencil

I am going to send you, dear Fred, unless I hear you have these books:
1 Hunter’s “IMPERIAL GAZETEER OF INDIA” 14 Vols
2 his little “History of the Indian people” quite a small book -one Vol {printed address: sideways} Claydon House,
3 I will send, if you like, his Winslow, “Statistical Account of BENGAL”Bucks.
20 Vols - said to be the most complete thing of the kind ever done in any country

but you scarcely wish to make such a study of Bengal, do you?
4. Hunter’s little Vol. of Lord Dalhousie’s Life 
O poor Parnell! is this the end? Sir W. Hunter is coming here to dine & sleep on the 15th.
I hope you will be able to meet him -
Mr. Jowett is dangerously ill.

ever your loving Oct 9/91 8Aunt Florence 7 a.m
Sir W. Hunter writes that he has written to Mr. Godley to send a copy of his Education Commission Report to 6 Onslow Gardens. If it "does not come in the course of a week," you are to let me know, please. Please take all Sir W. Hunter's books that you can find at 10 South St. drawing room - in tray, top of long book-case, I think there are several - only leaving me a list. Please order & send me

Sir W. Hunter's LITTLE life of Lord Dalhousie or Lord Mayo - the latter issued this year by the Clarendon Press - (not the larger of 16 years ago) I want it for the List of Sir W. Hunter's books at the end.

F.N.

Sir W. Hunter writes most kindly, wishing to serve you.
Oct 17/91
Claydon House, {printed address:}
   Winslow,
   Bucks.
My dear Mr. Frederick Verney
   It is scarcely needful to say to intelligent people that *Health at the Home* is one of the most important questions for any one charged with the duties of Local Government. But while Sanitation has actually become fashionable, while we are choked with the flood of Sanitary books, pamphlets, publications & Lectures of all sorts, good, bad & indifferent,

we have remained a book and a pen. We have not become a voice and a hand. What is read in a book stays in the book. *Health in the Home* has not been carried *home* to the hundreds of thousands of rural mothers & girls, upon whom so largely depends the health of the rural population - In fact, they do not believe in Sanitation as affecting health, as preventing disease. There has been a melancholy instance near here.
At your special request, I have been making assiduous enquiries for educated women trained in such a way that they could personally bring their knowledge home to the cottagers’ wives on a mission of health for rural districts. For this they must be in touch & in love, so to speak, with the rural poor mothers & girls - & know how to show them better things without giving offence.

We have, tho’ they are but a sprinkling in our great towns & in London,

excellent Town District Nurses, but for many obvious reasons, they would not be quite suitable for your proposed work.

We can find no one woman for this ready made. She must be created for a rural Health Missioner.

Knowing how deeply interested you were in the/is subject e/in its practical side, we have consulted a number of the most experienced people. And we have arrived at the conclusion that, to make [your]/the movement a success, we must find some gentleman apt to teach, & educated women
apt to learn - in other words we must train them for the purpose. And we must not mix up Nursing the sick with Health in the Home - It does not appear in the least necessary to go outside your/this County. It is/seems far better to utilize the ability at hand for teaching & the capacity for being taught. With this object I have made enquiry as to who there may be in North Bucks who would be willing to give time & trouble to teach, & who is qualified by knowledge & experience & caring for this problem as it deserves.

I had already been much struck by a report of one of the North Bucks Medical Officers of Health: Dr. De’ath. I made enquiries from independent sources. I have seen him, and, as far as is possible under the circumstances, have a good hope that he is competent, as he certainly is willing, to undertake this work - the work, that is, of training those who are to teach practical domestic
sanitation to the mothers & girls, and who will be qualified by a course of work theoretical - that is to give them the 'reason 'why', and practical, to show them how to do it, under Dr. De'Ath.-

I know of no such School of health now in existence for teaching of this kind, as would be started at Buckingham, if this your project is carried out. And if carried out successfully, Buckingham may become a centre of supply of trained Health Missionaries - not for its own immediate neighbourhood.

only, but for many parts of England where such work is sorely needed. It seems hardly necessary to contrast Sick Nursing with this - [Sick Nursing requires at least a year's Hospital training.] The needs of Home Health bringing are quite different - require different but not lower qualifications, - and are more varied. They require tact & judgment unlimited to prevent the work being regarded as interference & becoming unpopular.

{printed address:} Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks.
They require an intense & real belief in Sanitation, & that Life or/Death may lie in a grain of dust or a drop of water, or other such minutiae which are not minutiae but Goliaths. And the health Missioner must be a David to slay them & have his sweet voice and must be trained, as he was, to fight the giants with the simple weapons of every day use. She must create a new work & a new profession for women. And she must make her work acceptable to women of the labouring class.

I trust that your County Council will not think me one of your interfering Health Missioners. I know your wise & high interest in inaugurating a vital work among the rural poor women. And I have therefore done your behest with alacrity. May North Bucks distinguish itself by its wisdom & success in giving such an education to rural mothers & in waging the war against national deterioration of health & vigour! Infant Schools do show such a leg of mothers' ignorance in its pristine ugliness.

Pray believe me dear Mr. F. Verney yours & the mothers' anxious & attached friend Florence Nightingale Frederick W. Verney Esq.
Nov 8/91

My dear Mr. Fred

Should some one write TODAY to DR.

DE’ATH (before your Bletchley Meeting)
& ask him whether he can recommend any
women - out of his Ambulance class or
otherwise - not I should say Schoolmistresses
- for the Health at Home Missioners -

We have not one female ready - while
the machinery & the money, thanks to you,
is almost or quite ready. But it is like a
Steam-Engine without coal or fire - but
with a driver -

Also: should not Proof of Syllabus
be sent to DR. DE’ATH to see if he has
anything to say - TO-DAY - before printing?

You spoke of Miss Beale of Cheltenham
- an admirable woman, who might help
about the “agnostic” lady for Bang-kok -
(I am afraid that is what she will be
called) - but not about the rural Health Missioners.

She probably knows nothing about the
subject.

When such women as Miss Calder & Miss
Add Mss 41977D

f30

-2-
Wright of Manchester do not, how should
she?
I attach much less value to the women/Missioners [6:590]
“lecturing”, tho’ if they are gay & lively,
the mothers may like to go to them,
than to their visiting in cottages -
Lectures are only for those who know.
I think, having paid so much attention
to the machinery, we should now set to
to FIND THE MACHINES - I do not think Londoners
much use in rural parts - (witness the Devonshire

f31

failure)
I do hope & trust that the M.D. diploma
will not be held sufficient for the teachers
of the females. These men know nothing,
care nothing for what we want. Else
why do they not do it themselves in
houses & cottages?
I think you said that Miss Brooke Hunt
had been consulted (as well as Mrs. Plaj?na)
upon what subject? - by Glostersh: Co. Co:
What time shall I see her?     F.N.
Claydon Dec 1/91

My dear Fred

I remember now Nurse Franklin. We sent her from St. Thomas’ to our Matron in Paddington Infy. I don’t think she was more than an ordinary good Nurse with ordinary education. But I will not say more till I hear from St. Thomas’ -

2 - I have a perfect nosegay of introductions from Sir W. Hunter - (two you have already - Lee Warner - who is now Political Secy i.e. Foreign Secy but is unfortunately coming home on leave end of Dec - 2 - Sir Raymond West)

The others are: 1. Director of Education 2. R. C. ditto -

the an improving Raja with Schools & Munics on his own land - All, Bengal - Campbell, Collector of Bombay - the most useful man going

Sir W. H. says

Sir W. Hunter has really taken a great deal of pains -

I am so very anxious that you should have a good introduction to Sir Evelyn Bering - I don’t know that I dare write to Ld Northbrook, tho’ he has been kind to me.
I wish Sir Louis Mallet were not dead -
I am thinking of Lord Dufferin
You know he was in Egypt,
thon' his famous Despatch
turned out a great mistake -
Shall I write to him? He
will see you both at Rome -
& ask him for an introduction
It is so important, because
you know what the Indian
reformers, Dadabhai Naoroji &c
say is: we want you to
govern in India as you do
in Egypt.
Or I think Lord Dufferin
would give me an introduction
from for you, unless you
would ask him for one your=

=self, or unless you could
think of some one else to
give one whom I know -
So me & Mr. Marshall
are to be a consultative
Committee - But I am going
away -
I have written to Lord
Rosebery - & dipped into
“Pitt” which looks splendid
Many thanks.
Best love to Maudie
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Dr D Scullery maids are to
have Diplomas now, you
know - & will cut your Nelly’s
tail off.
signed note, f34, pencil

f34

Claydon Dec 14/91
Fare you very well, dear Fred.
   You are going on a noble mission
God bless you - He does bless you,
   by enabling you to do so much good.
This will be Maudie's joy.
   ever yours loving
       Aunt Florence
{archivist: 14 Dec 1891}

{f35 is blank}

ff36-37, Hôtel Quirinale, Rome, December 17, 1891, from FV, re Lord Dufferin's reception of Prince Damrong

signed letter, f38-39, pen

f38

Claydon New Year's Eve of 1892
My dear Fred
   I wish you all the highest blessing for the New Year which we may hope for, nay expect from God's love.
   Gwendolen & Kathleen are making a famous noise on the lawn. Maudie looked very tired when she came on Monday, but I hope is somewhat rested now. Ralph too is quite another boy since he came. Our pilot, Margt & her crew, left for Rhianva unwillingly yesterday. Ellin looks very much better - Sir Harry has been flirting with Miss Lückes, the London Hospl matron,
persecuted of “Lords” & Princess Christians - ‘persecuted but not forsaken’ - a very admirable woman And he went out with her in the Brougham to day.

Dr. De’Ath and I continue as bosom friends - I pushing the book line & the Diagrams & Models. But Dr. Ord says the best models are the “internal organs”, “freshly “taken” of a sheep. And I am communicating this to Dr. De’Ath, who begins on Monday; Gwendolen’s birth day.

I send you a copy of my letter to Poona - because Sir W. Wedderburn wants you to press it on “Vishnu”, & make him ask questions of you But we must be humble with these Orientals I write in haste

God bless you ever your loving Aunt Florence
Private 10 South St. Feb 4/5/92
My dear Fred

God bless the solid enterprise -

The great split about whether the natives do or will ever care for local self-government is flanked by another, more prosaic but even more important which has only struck any one of late years & then very few. It is this: some few have perceived that as it is quite impossible for the sub-administration of India to be done by Europeans - & as we could neither pay them nor high=class natives to do it without impossible
-2-
taxation; - who really administers India? who really represents the British raj to the popular Indian mind, the raiyat mind, the working - day mind, which perhaps may see the European District Officer once in their lives - possibly never? Is it not the low-paid, corrupt, bribe-taking petty native official, who supplements his low pay out of the people’s bones? I believe the ideal in the soul of the great man who shall be nameless (for fear of setting up the hue & cry: Great is Diana of the Ephesians)
was to substitute for the said low-paid corrupt petty official the decent villager (habituated to Village Self-government when we were painted savages)

However these are the things which do touch the native mind - whether Local Self-Government does or not.

And what a beneficent revolution this would be! the greatest of all! But we have destroyed the Village Community as much as we could -

And then we must remember the difference in different parts of India.  

Douglas Galton did his best. He tried at the Meeting to move a Resolution to say that any Commandant should have had previous experience with boys. But tho’ “Ryan” was of same opinion, he wd not second: So it was not put or recorded. They urged that his motion ought to have been an instruction to the Committee - before reporting. & that he was too late. He merely said: ‘Les absents ont toujours tort’ -

Col. Walker R.A. (the one elected) of Aldershot, has only the experience of boys
that all Regimental Commanding Officers have - 2. he founded the Ch. of E. Institute at Aldershot - just what one does not want - 3. he was elected because he can recommend Instructors &c from Aldershot, who are all to be Military!!

The most aggravating thing was that two letters of excellent sense I wrote to Genl. Hig he told Sir Harry were “delightful letters” - & did not.

So much for Military sense & business-power - like, as Ld Clarendon said 200 years ago, of the clergy.

I am delighted you met Sir Roper Lethbridge - You are to tell me all about Bengal Tenancy Act & Bombay Village

You will remember the Parsi Mr. Behramji Malabari, the Editor of the Indian Spectator, as the life-long champion against child-marriages & the oppression of child widows - by no means always judicious but untiring.

I wrote a Preface at his earnest request at Claydon which was published as an Introduction to his “life & work” (by Mr. Dayaram/a Hindoo) He is a terrible bore but certainly a prophet.
3. Dr. Hayes who you will remember was recommended by Philip Smith, the Director Genl, & Sir T. Crawford for the Court Doctorship at Bangkok but declined on account of his wife’s health, now writes to P. S., who writes to the D. G., who writes to Sir T. C., who writes to me, that he can patch up his wife’s health by the autumn & go to Bangkok if you can wait till then. I should think you cannot wait till then, if Dr. Gowan is going. I think there is no doubt that Dr. Hayes is a gentleman, of pleasant manners, & accomplished, has been in India, a good Doctor & a good Sanitarian, but of that firmness of character which makes a man actively moral I hear nothing. He may be or he may not. His wife is a lady,
But tho’ Sir T. Crawford is in favour of Dr. Hayes, he said to me: “Even if Hayes is available, telegraph to Mr. Verney,” as I did. “He will have a much better choice “from the Govt of India”.

4. Mr. Robertson writes to me after having been to Pleasley that the cleaning of the dam is going on spiritedly “There was a solid deposit of matter “5 feet deep” &c &c &c. He denies there being any smell, But my biography of the dam is this: it was smelling when you were there, it has been smelling vigorously ever since, it is now, & will be till the work is completed, that is soon

Mr. Robertson conferred with Allsop, the Sanitary Inspector, who only complained “that the drainage from Mr. T. Crooks Homestead x x “passes direct into the stream”. It is now to make a tour underground before doing so. The water supply to the Park Farm is a great success. “The Ram throws up 1400 gallons of water per day of the finest & purest quality.” Sir Harry “has given his consent to the new Railway” & the Colliery Manager is in ecstasies at the Coal going straight to market.
5. I have got into a scrape with Sir Lintorn Simmons about the Gordon Boys' Home which is to be remedied by our Meeting!!! They seem in blissful ignorance of the opinions of their own Committee. One of the Committee of Selection told me himself that Colonel Walker knew nothing more of boys than every Regimental Officer. He said moreover that there were two Naval Officers who had commanded Training Ships among the candidates, & several Army Officers better than Walker.

What always strikes me is that the constant subserviency

rightfully demanded for men - seniority or superiority in Army rank dwarfs all independence of mind in Military & Army Medical Officers -

I am going to knock under to Sir L. Simmons, because I am only Brigadier, (my rank in the Crimea) But “E pur si muove” I shall mutter to myself like Galileo -

I have however made some enquiries - And the Training-ships are not so successful as we think, I am sorry to say.
signed letter, ff46-49, pen & pencil

f46

10 South St  Feb 12/92
Peace & the highest success
to you, my dear Fred
I am sorry you could not
take more than a week
at pushing Bombay. But
it was very necessary to
see Oriental Hyderabad
It is continually said -
and I am afraid with
too much truth - that the
people on the Hyderabad
side of the Deccan are
much better off than on
the English side of the
Deccan - I hope you
will have been able at
least to touch this question
- and whether the English
Deccan ryots do not try
to abscond to the native
rul Nizam’s Deccan
I am afraid your principles
- your Municipal & Village
principles - are getting
corrupted by the Siren of
well=bred Toryism.
I see there is coming out a
fresh report on Deccan
raiyat indebtedness - that
is, on the way the Relief Act
works. I shall expect
to hear from you a complete
account not only of the
Bombay Village Sanitation
Act, but also of the Deccan
Indebtedness Relief Act.
If not, I shall be obliged to
cut your acquaintance,
when you come home -
I wonder whether any remains exist in Hyderabad or other native state of the old Money-lending system where the money lender was the benefactor, not the oppressor, (whom we have to legislate against) of the raiyat. Was it not in old native times that the money lender was appointed to a village - if when the native authorities went round, his raiyats were found to be FAT, he was appointed to ten cities (hence the parable) - if his raiyats were lean & poor, he was struck down without mercy. What a good plan! But we come in
Add Mss 41977D

f47v

with out "Stamps" & our
Contracts & our Law Courts
& the poor raiyats are choused
& perplexed on every side.
I suppose you are now
touring North -
Your trio of ladies for Siam
is complete:
I. Miss Blanche Smith
II. Miss Shakespeare
III. Miss Cole, daughter of an
Indian colonel, age 21 - no
training - learning the Kinder
garten now. liked by both ladies.
I have seen Nos II and I.
No I has decidedly good
qualities - Miss Shakespeare
I am quite in love with -
Maudie is made so happy by
your letters. Sir Harry rides
& is well. Violent threats had
to be used to prevent him coming
to London last week but succeeded.
{from f46, written in the left side margin}
God bless you ever your loving F.N.
We have been writing up to Feb 12 and including Feb 12’s mail to Bombay, (P.R.) having no idea that you were leaving Bombay so soon. I trust that my Telegram of Jan 26, & subsequent letters if they reached you were of some use. They were all to the effect, after great consultation with others, that the man Ld R. recommended for Court Doctor at Bang-kok was not suitable, that Dr. Hayes could not come till autumn, & that even if he were available you had much better apply to the Government of India to lend you one. You would have a much better choice. They would lend you one without striking him off the strength. He would have had native experience. And they would for their own credit’s sake recommend a good one - My Telegram which was concocted in conclave raw:

“Would Government of India lend a Medical Officer experienced in Civil & Political employ and liked by natives”? Sir Harry well
Maude & Lettice had two field days here yesterday & the day before - & looked I thought remarkably well & Maude remarkably pretty. She in morning to Gompertz’ Violin Lesson - then to see Cheroon at Harrow - then both to Henry VIII - yesterday to both to see Ralph & Harry, then to Gompertz’ Concert.

Weather detestable - hard frost, snow & blizzard but warm & sunny in their hearts. Maude revelling in your letters.

God bless you ever yours

very stupid Florence Nightingale

unsigned letter, ff50-51v, pen

My dear Fred Thank you a thousand times for your two most important letters which are a corroboration from native and European sources of what we learn from men like Sir W. Wedderburn who have gone behind the curtain in sympathy and experience & from all really cultivated natives.

And thank you for your beautiful little Roman scarf.

You know, I dare say, that the commission for enquiring into Deccan indebtedness under the new Act reports, among other things, that it was just as bad under native rule & that when we took over the native Deccan
f50v
in 1818, I think, & put it under Mount Stuart Elphinstone, he said just as much about the distressed Districts as we do now. One would like to know more about this - not that it alters what we have to do. Europeans doubt, you say, whether the Village Communities ever were the efficient self-governing bodies supposed - But, you say, that in Baroda & other neighbouring native states Village Communities which have never lost their self-governing powers are far better governed than many in British India. This tells much historically.

f51
We who have much evidence at our disposal which also exists in the I.O. are so convinced of the truth that to restore the Village unit & rather than the creation of large Local Boards is the key to the situation that we are trying to get them back their Village cesses. But of this when you come back. We are painfully aware that our letters are always 6 weeks after date. When you receive this, you will be at Calcutta; and I trust you will get much out of Mr. Manmohan Ghose, and much about the working of the *Bengal Tenancy Act* -

f51v
We have been
signed letter, ff52-55, pen

f52
10 South St   March 4/92
My dear Fred - All blessings
   attend you -
Very many thanks for your
letter from Mount Abu of Feb 5
It is most important. And
I was delighted with our
old friend, (whose religion, to
which he is devotedly attached,
must I think be a good
one, for it brings forth fruits),
Mr. Runchoralal Chotalal,
& his success in Ahmehabad -
   Alas! your valuable account
of Baroda Village Self-Government
or non Self Govt, throws rather
a gloom over our ideas of
possibilities in future. But
I admire so much what
your friend Major Macpherson
says.
We are petitioning Lord Cross (by desire) that the Cesses paid by villages should be charged in the first place with the minimum of sanitation required by the village that pays - I have got the figures of the amount of village cesses paid & the amount of expenditure in the village on cleansing, water-supply &c. The proportion is very like Falstaff’s of ‘sack’ to ‘bread’ -

Sir W. Wedderburn read me a letter from Miss Hurford of Poona. She was quite delighted & comforted by your visit & Prince Damrong’s whose appreciation supports her soul, which is more than the Govt of Bombay’s does.
Add Mss 41977D

f53
Miss Hurford’s work at Poona in female education give us more weight with the natives & makes us more popular than all the Departments put together. We are trying whether the India Office could not be addressed in her favour, obtaining the interest of the heads of the Ladies’ Colleges at Cambridge & Oxford also of some great Educational Society, with the names of great ladies, such as the Duchess of Connaught, upon it.

But the death of Miss Clough, the Principal of Newnham, (containing Clough Hall, Sidgwick Hall & Old Hall) at Cambridge, is a severe loss. The influence she exercised, & the consternation (I can call it nothing less) of her loss are immense - I have often thought of here in relation
f53v
to Oriental countries, like Siam. She was not a woman of commanding abilities; she was the very reverse of a learned woman: her manners were not attractive. But her intense sympathy with & interest in all young women - not only those under her charge - her absorbing interest in Education for its own sake, like Lord Lawrence's (who took the London School Board after saving India), made her a power - Like him, life was nothing compared with her work. She had an insight as to what every woman who had been under her charge was fit for. Her last word, a few minutes before her death, was to go on about some building she was doing for the girl-students - & the day before about a ring she was ordering in London for the lady she has recommended to Mr. Moran for Siam. [I have seen both the ladies, the first, & the second for Siam].
Mr. Jowett has been here, looking better than he has done for months & months, the result of enforced rest.
He talked about your Prince Kitiyakara, & gave a good account of him & his industry, & said he was getting over his reserve -
He said he must have ability, or he could not have passed the Classical Examn, as he had not had the usual instruction beforehand - [But I suppose he Mr. Jowett meant the Public School or other English education, as Pr. Kitiyakara had had a Tutor, had he not?]
I hope if you see Pss Narès you will remember me to her most devotedly.
And you will make a proper
message for me to Prince Damrong.
Mr. Morant has told me a good deal about Siamese Land Tenure - And you will tell me more -
And I hope you have been able to get a great deal out of Mr. ManMohan Ghose at Calcutta about Bengal Tenancy Act &c. I trust you have my kindest regards to both Mr. & Mrs. Ghose.

Yesterday March 3 I telegraphed to you at Siamese Consulate, Calcutta, a repetition of my message about applying to Govt of India to lend a Medl Officer for Court Doctor at Bangkok, which I telegraphed to you at Poste Restante, Bombay, on January 26, & which I heard on February 29 only - was “undelivered” because “unknown”
I wrote to the P. O. for explanation, & the answer was that it had not been “called for” (at Poste Restante, Bombay): & that they only let the Telegrams “remain “a month” “before being “advised as undelivered”
I am afraid this must have been inconvenient to you; but I hope you received 3 (I think) letters from me telling the contents of the Telegram & explaining the state of the case -
   I am afraid yesterday’s repetition of the Telegram will be too late to do any good -
But I am so glad you were going to Darjeeling - I presume you to see the Viceroy.
   God bless you -
Maudie & Sir Harry well -
ever your affectionate
   Florence Nightingale
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff56-59, pen & pencil

f56
10 South St  March 11/92

Private

My dear Fred  Good speed in Siam - as we may rejoice in your past good speed in India, we will rejoice in your present at Bangkok. But be cautious about the heat - prudent about times & seasons of exertions, tho' I know well you will not relax exertion.

Maudie goes to night to Mr. Morant's farewell dinner to his three ladies - put off from last Friday on account of the funeral of Miss Clough who recommended Miss Blanche Smith. But she will tell you all about that.
I was rather appalled by your last note, dated Delhi Feb. 10, in answer to my letter of Jan 22, (4 days before my Telegram of Jan 26, which it appears never reached you.) - your note saying that you mean to put off all action about appointing the Bangkok doctor till you return to England.

The unqualified opinion of the experts I consulted, including Sir T. Crawford & Sir W. Wedderburn, (tho' clearly against some natural prepossessions) was:
“don’t choose in England:
“choose in India: consult the “Govt. of India” ask them to recommend & lend you “one.” And this was embodied in my Telegram of Jan 26 -
Sir T. Crawford adding to me “EVEN IF Hayes is available” -
& both of them saying: “why, “Mr. F. Verney is on the very spot in India to have a choice of experienced good men”.
[“Hayes” will not be “available” till autumn]

On March 2 I telegraphed again the same words to c/o Siamese Consulate, Calcutta -
“Would Government India lend “Medical Officer experienced Civil “Political employ liked by natives”?

Then I heard that you would be gone to Darjeeling - which I was very glad te/of - But still I hope you got my Telegram.
The mystery is solved of your non-reception of my Telegram of Jan 26 - I wrote to the P.O. The answer was that a Telegram addressed Poste Restante is kept only one month - & then, if not called for is reported “undelivered”, because “unknown” - and that the/my Telegram to Poste Restante, Bombay, tho’ delivered there, could not have been called for.

Yet you received Maude’s Telegram about Wolverton & Co. Co., sent Jan 28 or 29, & answered it.

You see, at the date of your letter of Delhi, Feb.10, you had only received mine of Jan. 22, in which
Add Mss 41977D

f58

-2-

I suppose we had not come to our decision viz - ‘apply to Govt of India; ‘not to home’:

I have written two, I think three letters, expounding to you that, my Telegram, of Jan. 26 - & one since my second to Calcutta, addressed to Bangkok, expounding that. And I still hope some may have reached you in time, if you wish to apply to the Govt of India.

I am afraid you will have been hurried at Calcutta - & not perhaps have been able to see the ManMohun Ghose’s -

Strictly

Private

We are making an effort

f58v

to bring the case of that splendid woman, Miss Hurford of Poona, before Lord Cross, so that he may get support for her from the Govt. of Bombay. She has written to Sir W. W.

So no more to-day except another God speed you from your affectionate Aunt Florence

Sir Harry well - very naughty at times - will go out at 6 p.m. in the fog - say before yesterday applauded his own virtue very much because, snowing and blizzarding all day, tho’ not so much as in London, he did not go out but played battledore with Maudie -
f59
Coals is riz.
Coal porters’ strike
Great love to Princess Narès
   if I may

signed incomplete letter, ff60-60v, pen

f60
   all these tiresome questions
   [I have lately lived almost
     entirely upon biscuits - not
     being able to digest my cook.]
   If it would be less troublesome
to you to see me than to
write, I could, if quite
convenient to you, see you
at 1.30, or at 5 or at 6
today, or at 4 -
   With love to the children
twain, & to Mr. Fred,
   ever your affecte
Aunt Florence
   P. Turn Over

f60v 2. Would you be so good
   as to tell Mr. Fred, with
my best thanks, how
much I was interested in
   his paper on the Irish Land
   Bill? But is it so that
improving landlords will not
come at all under the Act?
They think the “Court” will
have to decided that, & don’t like it.
3. Would you also tell him
   that, according to his request,
   I would gladly, if I could,
write some day in his
Women’s Unions papers?
There is scarcely any movement
that is of so much importance.
   {printed address: 10, South Street, for women as his
   upside down:} Park Lane. W.
{tho’ I don’t believe in ‘strikes’
being necessary to raise wages)
- see Hospitals & domestic servants. F.N.
May 10/92
Dearest Maude
I thank you so much for your letters, tho’ they are sad enough in some things - But I do so rejoice that Fred is coming home - not only for you but for every body & every thing.
Yes, poor Mr. Morant - I have not been so long the Govt’s jackass, without knowing such a thing as Pr. D’s translation - aggravating thing - happen many a

time here - as when Mr. W. H. Smith was taken away from the War Office which no one but he could do, to be Leader of the Ho: of C. which no one could do & which killed him.
But I never found it the less aggravating for that -
However, we will rejoice at Fred’s return -
I am so grateful to you for all you tell me. And you are so good about writing to me of Sir Harry ever your loving Aunt Florence
Dearest Maude

I have had a letter from Fred: Bangkok Ap 9, chiefly about Court Doctor for Bangkok - I am very sorry to think that Dr. G. is actually “re-instated” (tho’ perhaps “only partially”) - Them Easterns are somewhat aggravating.

I suppose we may actually think of Fred in Europe on Thursday.

are you going to put up at the Siamese Embassy/Legation or where?

How many God speed s have been said for him -
And thank God who has sped him.

[As the last man I should have expected to make that sort of remark, Mr. Knowles of the XIX Century, once said to me: “Thank God there is a God”]

Mr. Fred made a nonsensical observation to me in one of his letters, for which you must chastise him. He said, he hoped I would not destroy his letters till after he came back, he wanted to look at them. Tell him I have kept all his letters in a portfolio to themselves: but
I don’t know that I *shall* let him see them after that absurd remark. I hope you will kindly telegraph to us when you have seen him again.

Excuse me if I don’t send back the Sonapundit & the Devawongsee nice letters to-night - They shall come without fail tomorrow.

Thanks, dearest Maude, for your letters & post-cards - very great thanks - I do think he is going on well - And Fred’s return will be an immense delight to him - But I feel what you say about the silent solemn figure of Death coming up the big stair case -

But I hope he may be spared a little longer yet - And I do want him too to do the cottages at Steeple Claydon before he dies - &c &c

Dr. De’Ath has sent me Dr. Wilson’s certificate of the 5/6 young-lady teachers of Health - It is very satisfactory - And this too will please Fred & I hope Margt.

I feel as you once said that we are entering a fog & don’t know when or where we shall come out: But Margt is a light in herself - a burning & a shining light.
f64

Very many thanks for “Rogers” & “The Service of Man”. I will transmit them presently to No. 4. Did you not want “Sidereal Photography”? It is here -

Many thanks about poor Miss Morant - I think you & Maudie are of opinion that I had better let her alone for the present. Shall I take any notice of her letter or not? God bless you & Maudie & childer 3

Aunt Florence

f65

10 South St May 7/92

Dearest Maude

Many, many thanks for your letter of this morning. “The mind shrinks appalled” from the “18 butlers” & no less from “the Drawing room. Isn’t it worse than Bangkok? Pray keep yourself alive. Have you something to eat? I was just going to return you these two nice letters from the Bangkok ‘big man’ by rail -

There would be a letter from me for you by this morning’s post at Claydon - not at all interesting for your eyes but quite unfit
for your/Margaret's - Perhaps however the post reached you before you left, & you pocketed it.
  Might I hope to see you for even twenty minutes before you leave for - Jerusalem/Zion? no, Paris.
  But I know how busy you must be - ever your loving
  Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff67-69v, pencil

10 South St  June 4/92
(Sir Harry's  8000 a year)
My dear Fred I am very penitent for having talked business to you last night when you were tired -
  But I thought you might not be seeing Margt again, blessed Margt, before they go abroad. We must not do anything without her of this kind, for she has spoken, I believe, both to Sir Harry & to Mr. Robertson about it & is not very sanguine of making “his affairs straighter” Mr. Western, I believe, receives the Dividends, which come in
at all different times - &
pays them into Smith & Paynes
- & perhaps ‘advises’ Sir Harry
of them. *But this is of no*
use. The thing is that
Mr. Robertson or some one
at Claydon should keep
an account of what does
come in - & apprize Sir
Harry of what he has
every quarter or oftener -

*It was supposed that
Sir Harry had authorized
Mr. Western to do this with
Mr. Robertson, but it does
not appear to have been so]*

To suppose that Sir Harry
will send in his Banking
Book to be made up (without
Margt) is quite futile.

II. May I tell Sir Thomas
Crawford that Dr. Gowan
is reinstated for a time
(he probably knows it)
& that you are come
back - (wh. he probably
knows too)
Good speed in all your
acts - & take care of
yourself - or rather let

Maudie take care of you
My love to all at
Claydon
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Lord Shaftesbury’s Life is admirable, delightful - I am so glad of your critique upon it - critique in the true sense of extracting the spirit, the highest meaning - not of exposing the surface faults. ‘Genius is the power of taking trouble’ - His was ‘genius’ in the immeasurable pains & labour to gain the most exact information, tested by himself - to prepare himself in the most complete manner for pressing it on Authorities And the other part of him was as remarkable - his absolute dependence on God - It was like Christ’s “I speak nothing of myself” - His morbid self-distrust only quickened his labour - He would have been in a Lunatic Asylum if he had not devoted himself to reforming Lunatic Asylums. 

June 13/92
My dear Fred
  I do beseech you, I implore you, I command you, I instruct you to keep quiet. Pray do *nothing*. It will only *you* throw you back - It will indeed. Go to the sea to-morrow, & behave like a wise man, one of the Magi. And come back well - I am sure you were the worse for seeing of me last time: we talk about exciting things - Now let us

both be good. I see Margaret tomorrow, and Lady Wedderburn - So you & I have no chance to see one another - And to-day I am sure you ought to be quiet & be good - I should like to stand over you like a roaring lion - I am sure Maudie prays you to be good So no more at present from your loving Aunt Florence

When you come back from the sea we will both roar -
10 South St July 29/92
Dr. De’Ath
2 letters returned
No 1

My dear Fred
I have never had time to
answer - and it is most
interesting & most difficult
to answer, & most important.
1. “How many lectures”? Dr. De’Ath & you will be best
able to settle this -
2. How to start the work?
Ditto ditto - I suppose he
means how to give notice.
Also: it would immensely
facilitate things, if a lady
of knowledge, sympathy &
enthusiasm, & not brusque, not
patronising or pedantic, could go round
in each village & explain to
f72v
the cottagers’ wives what is coming.
3. most important of all “Systematizing” & “supplementing” the “course” by “personal Home instruction”
a. I saw a M. S. book of Lectures by Miss Bartlett which I thought quite admirable - lively, dramatic, practical [I don’t think say these were the best, for I think I did not see the ‘books’ of the two first ladies on the successful List]
They/These were conversations between two poor women/mothers, a Mrs. Brown and a Mrs. Smith, about the sort of clothing to buy, & about Sanitary

f73
things in the house &c &c one all ignorant, the other all practical This is the sort of style to attract the attention of uneducated people.
[A Sanitary catechism which has just been sent me from India, asking me to get it used in Indian Elementary Schools, is the exact reverse. It is in this Style: Q."How do you get rid of foul air?” A. “By ventilation". & in an adjoining page: Q."What is ventilation?” A. “The getting rid of foul air”. Such books ought to be carefully improved off the face of the earth]
b. To supplement by “personal Home instruction” is the essence of the whole thing - just as training Nurses by the bed-side in actual Nursing is the essence, & lectures only the supplement.

In Dr. De’Ath’s letter, No 2, I rejoice to see that he speaks of “taking the pupils in groups of two or three to go over some cottages with the teacher”. This I should call the essence.

[Do you remember a story which some eminent Master, I think it was the great Dr. Arnold of Rugby himself,

-2-
used to tell (& which is now in print)

He was teaching his Class, & he saw a boy absolutely in attentive. He immediately changed his teaching to drawing on a slate Caesar’s bridge, or something of the kind - Afterwards he spoke to the boy about his inattention, who said, without meaning to be in the least impertinent, “O I thought you were only “talking, Sir.” With ignorant cooks & under servants & Nurses, & with the uneducated generally, they think we are “ only talking” - & at church
they think the clergyman is “only burrowing away “over my head” But you will say *I am* “only talking” - The fact is without talking it over with Dr. De’Ath & you it is difficult to do otherwise. [I have just had to look over the Exam: papers of Nurses, splendidly taught *clinically* - but I think the papers are just “only talking” hard words -]

I am keenly anxious that the “Health at Home” ladies should do real work - & that Dr. De’Ath should continue the Teacher.

As he says: “Now is the “plan of campaign”. Now the lady=soldiers are on their trial. The way must be shown them, & then the responsibility thrown upon *them* of making themselves interesting & efficient, *after* Dr. De’Ath & you have discussed it with them. But for any sake, don’t let there be ‘certificates’ *at present*, or ‘honours’ from the Local Govt. Board or from London

F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

inscription, f76, pen

f76

Offered to my
dear boy
Ralph Verney
with Aunt Florence’s
dearest love
God bless him
Sept 16
1892

ff77-78v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W. {archi: ?September 1892} from MV re thanks for a present to Ralph and Ralph’s return to Harrow

signed letter, ff79-80, pencil

f79 {archivist: 25 Oct 1892}

Claydon Oct 25/92
Dearest Maude We trust that dear Fred
is not the worse for Oxford. Sir Harry
had a little cold & breakfasted in bed;
but rode this afternoon!! & has just left me!! Margt is decidedly better -
but saw Dr. De’Ath to-day & yesterday
- & will see him tomorrow. She is not
to go down-stairs & not to speak - She
is according to her own account, in
“robust health & in rampant spirits"
& doing her book -
  Miss B. Smith has chosen a book.
- a “Tropical Flora” - but does not tell me the price or send
me the Acct. Miss Shakspear has not
written - As the ladies are going to
tea with you tomorrow - happy ladies -
I ask you as a favour to pay their
Accts & enclose 5 - but please
advance the money for me, if more
is needed.

    in greatest haste
    ever yours
    Aunt Florence
How is your cold?
    Please say everything that is warm
& earnest for me to the ladies -
if I do not write, which I hope to
do by early post under cover to you.
I wish I might send my love to the
    youngest whom I do not know

signed letter, ff81-82, pencil

Claydon Oct 26/92
Dearest Maude I know not what to say
about your coming on Friday - It would
be such a displeasure to everybody if
you did not.
    If she talks, she barks - & throws
herself back - There is one person
she takes no care of - you know who
that is - She is constantly extolling her
own goodness, well-ness, good spirits -
All fibs except the last - When I hear
{archivist: 26 Oct 1892}
her raising her voice, I run howling along
the long passage to find Lettice - If I
can’t find her, I catch Edmund - And
we turn out the offender -
In my distress I asked Dr. De’Ath
who sees her every day - She has been
below par - & the congestion has settled
at the top of her throat - But all the
rest is better - He says:
every time she coughs, she delays
her recovery - every time she speaks
she coughs - But it would be a great
pleasure to her to see Mr. & Mrs. F.V.
What can I say?
She is so happy doing the old Verneys’
who have been eaten by worms
200 or 300 years ago - What a thing
it is to be interested in these who
give no one care, no responsibility,
no anxiety - Bless the worms -
ever your loving Aunt Florence

The lady from whom I had
her, Mrs. Shore Smith, was
here last night - talking to
her. And it was to her this
she seemed/instance of her being so slippery
Mrs. S. S. thinks that
I ought to give you this
warning that she repents
signed letter, ff84-87, pen [6:593-94]

f84
Claydon  Nov 7/92

PRIVATE

My dear Fred

I am exceedingly obliged
to you for sending me
these valuable & most
interesting letters.

The necessity, absolute
NECESSITY, of a Sanitary
Committee to the County
Council presses upon us
here with a ferocious
power -

The Local Govt Board
refuses, as far as we
understand, to inspect or
to enquire about Steeple
Claydon -
And as far as we understand
an interview between the
Local Guardian & Sir Harry

f84v
is all the step at present
contemplated about Steeple
Claydon
But more about this anon -

I send you the Minute/sheet
Edmund kindly drew up -
on the Sanitary powers &
duties of a Co. Co.

& in another packet
the “Sanitary Record” Vol -
which is Dr. De’Ath’s -
where at p 430 are
summarized the duties of a
County Medl Officer of Health
(as mentioned by Edmund)
I was told by another person to tell you (privately) that the appointment of a County Medl Off. of H. by the Co. Co. is a ticklish matter, because the Co. Co. is but too much inclined to appoint any man who has a Diploma. That however will not come on directly -

P.S. When Cholera is on the tramp, Steeple Claydon will catch it. But you will save us. I return your letters but should like very much to see them again. your affectionate F. Nightingale
Dr. De’Ath has asked me to say
A Sanitary Committee should ask someone to report upon the condition
- of the county
- of the districts of N. Bucks
Some one for each division of the County
But as you ask him to guard you against the Bd of Guardians, he says - the reports of the M.O.s of Health are like a Queen’s speech - “She is “on terms of friendship “with all the powers”

- get the M.O.s not to write “friendly” reports Their Reports are too glossy - they hide, they do not expose, defeats “We M. O. s don’t tell the truth,” he says - And then the Bds of Guardians crow & say: look, that is all the Health Officer has to complain of.
[You desired Dr. D not to allow you to say what could be refuted: about Bd of Gns having received reports & done nothing -
you cannot unfortunately prove a negative] The Reports don't ask them to do anything]
P.S. [Dr. De’Ath evidently thinks there is no necessity for a County M. O. of Health]
P.P.P.S. Dr. De’Ath has given me the particulars for you how to dry earth - you asked - in a cemented shed

signed letter, ff88-90v, pen, printed in Bucks, where titled Health at Home Visitors

London Novber 21/92 [13:885-86]

Health at Home Missioners
My dear Mr. Frederick Verney
Tho’ I have recently left Claydon, it was not till after I had had the advantage of much information thro’ Dr. De’Ath of strict independent enquiries, & of personal communication with the three ladies at present at work - as regards the Health=at= Home Mission The result for the short time is more satisfactory than you could have dared to hope - The Technical Education
Commee may be quite confident that good work is being done -

But an extension of time, your Committee will readily see, is most desirable. The term of 8 weeks - (in FV's hand: their present employment) - is already drawing to a close. And this, just as the Health Missioners are beginning to gain the confidence of the Cottage Mothers & girls -

If we consider how many sceptics there still are among those even who are called educated as to the vital

necessity of Sanitation & the almost immediate saving effect of some Sanitary measures, we must not be surprised that those less educated whom we have to deal with do not understand or assimilate these new ideas at once - It requires the continued work of a friend, not a mere Lecturer.

The friendly visiting of the Lecturer Missioner at the Cottage Homes by invitation has been a marked success. It has also been found by experience that the all the practical teaching which
it was intended that these ladies should give could not be compressed into the number of Lectures so as to receive the illustrations & definitions by anecdote absolutely necessary - an additional reason why lectures which have been in most places well attended should receive an extension which it is hoped the County Council under whose auspices this experiment has been so happily begun would willingly approve. For Your Technical Education Commee would in their intelligence

see that RURAL training must be given in rural health to rural Cottage women - & that London physiological Lectures without any training at all in Cottage Health=at=Home visiting are worth little or nothing for rural life. Its conditions, it need hardly be said, are so different from those of large towns. I trust that I shall be forgiven by your Technical Commee if I appear intrusive -forgiven on account of my deep interest in the
Add Mss 41977D

f90v
instruction to rural poor
    women, for whom so little
    has yet been done - so
    wisely set on foot by the
    Bucks County Council -
'May their shadow never
be less!"
    Pray believe me
the humble & anxious friend,
dear Mr. Frederick Verney,
of yourselves & your Bucks
Cottage Mothers -
    Florence Nightingale

{f91 is blank}

signed letter, ff92-95v, pen

f92 {in FV's hand, Miss N. on San: Comee for Bucks}

    London   November 23/92
My dear Mr. Frederick Verney
    Every man & woman now
must be a Sanitary Officer.
    We must create a public
opinion which must drive
the Government instead
of the Government having
to drive us - an enlightened
public opinion, wise in
principles, wise in details.
    There was a man in
India once - only lately dead
- first the Health Officer
of one of her Presidency cities
- then Sanitary Commissioner
of the Presidency - I had the
privilege of knowing him well
When he first began, there
might be at times 200 or 300 Cholera deaths a day. The people remained passive: they only said “It is the Goddess of Cholera”, or “the Goddess of Small-pox” (if there was a Small-pox epidemic) “who has been offended - Let us go to her shrine with votive offerings - to propitiate her” -

But latterly after seeing & knowing him, if there were two or three Cholera deaths, they would cry out: “Sahib, bestir yourself. Don’t you see we are all dead? What is the Government about?”

We hail the County Council

is being or becoming one of the strongest engines in our favour - at once fathering & obeying the great impulse for national health against national & local disease -

For we have learnt that we have national health pretty nearly in our own hands: local Sanitation, national health. But we have to contend against centuries of superstition, & generations of indifference.

If however the immoveable Hindoo - with his centuries of civilization when we were painted savages - made a Sanitary stride so unusual to him - shall
we who call ourselves the most wisely progressive of all nations lag behind in our rural life - we who have such opportunities now of learning our Sanitary business - certainly the most important of all, for we must live & be well in order to work.

The Technical Education Committee has shown its practical skill in starting Health-at-Home village rural Missioners - But we the villagers need Sanitary works too - Let the County Council take the lead as that Health Officer in India

-2-

did - Let it represent us, command us, instruct us by a Sanitary Committee in our struggle for health. We do not ask at present for County Council executive power. But what a moving power would such a Sanitary Committee, if wisely conducted, be. gathering experience every day, encouraging the true reports of able Medical Officers of Health, instead of quashing them - saying: 'we will not have Cholera, we will not have Fever - nor infantile complaints, the true test of what is sanitary or insanitary - sickly children
f94v

growing into sickly parents.

We will have good
water-supply, good drainage,
no overcrowding - pure
air, pure water, pure earth
For disease is more expensive
than Sanitation.

We will be able to say
to Cholera, if it comes:
“there is no room for you
here - there is no place for
you to plant your foot-
Scarlet Fever, Typhoid,
cannot come here”

‘Bucks shall be a county
of healthy villages, instead
of must we say? the reverse {strike out by FV?}

f95

God has put it perfectly
within our power to
learn how to govern thus
the march of disease -
thus to lay our commands
on the Spirits of the Air -

Then let us do it. Let
Buckinghamshire say:
‘there shall no village
of Bucks be left a
prey to disease. We
will learn; we will speak
-we will do”

We are waiting for the
manifestation of the Bucks
County Council.

Make the first step.

Give us our Sanitary
Committee
The Sanitary reform must be a work of years - not of a day. Other Counties have undertaken it. But there must not be a day lost in beginning it. Cholera may be upon us next summer - Disease is always with us - Give us our Sanitary Committee - Good speed to you - God speed you

Florence Nightingale

signed letter, ff96-99v, pen

Dec 3/92 8 a.m.
Private 10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred
In answer to your letter, it is most important to form a plan for “the extension of the Health at Home work “within & without the county” And it is practically even yet more important to send “without the county” only Missioners fully trained & competent to address & visit the poor mothers & girls.

We have two powerful old established organizations against us in London if not more - & others are
rising all over the country

Only on Thursday last, I was appalled at finding in one of my own (old) Counties the following scheme actually started with approval:

one or two Lectures are given by a London lady - & part of the audience are Lady District Visitors - These then in the course of their visits go & “find fault”(sic) with anything they think wrong in the Cottages - This was told me as a thing they thought I should rapturously second.

It would be fatal if N. Bucks sent out any ladies of this sort &

imperfectly trained

Unquestionably the “best plan would be to retain all four “Health Missioners in the County, “say for “ I am afraid I must say for more than “another “term of 80 days” - tho’ that will be a little more than 5 months which is much better than half that time “that two or three out of “the four should take “Probationers who have “attended a course of Lectures” (& Classes & Cottage Visiting) by Dr. De’Ath at Bletchley. tho’ how is he to manage the Cottage Visiting? - he must take them to at least one
Village he knows" & have passed an "Examination as did the others"

‘Passe pour’ the Examn but it is not that which makes a Missioner -

"non-residents should give "a fee payable to our "Com mee” Yes.

But could there not be some further fee for Dr. De’Ath?

“When second set of Health “Missioners ready” for “the “County” “spare one or two “of the original ones to go “out of the County. x x x

“They will have had experience “not only in the practice, “but also in the teaching” - very little I am afraid - “of their work”

Dr. De’Ath’s letter

2 I think Miss Deyns would be a “half-fledged Missioner” She struck me as having more knowledge than either of the two others - but less flexibility to adapt herself to the poor mothers - tho’ as much devotion - & she is a very charming person. But I would rather trust Dr. De’Ath’s judgment than mine - tho’ I scarcely think
his reasons are more for sending Miss Deyns than for sending a competent Health Missioner
3 Unquestionably if any one goes she must "return to Dr. De’Ath "her form" that he may have "an eye on the work"
4 "Can you grow Health Missioners “for other places out of “your County funds”? I suppose not. but your plan of "fees" must come in
5. I trust Dr. De’Ath may be authorized to do as he says & “supplemented by “visits here when necessary”
6 Make N. Bucks a “centre” - & let it be a “centre” for thorough work.

I had hoped that you would anchor a certain number of Health Missioners - - teachers in N. Bucks to hand down the good traditions [The temptation or the fault of all Training Schools is: not to keep a nucleus but to hurry out half fledged women to frantic friends - is it not?]
2As for Miss Negus she is of course entirely untried, tho’ Dr. De’Ath will fashion her - And Miss Rowland had only had 2 ½ villages when I left Claydon, tho’ her visiting had been wonderfully successful.
Miss Calder wants a Health Missioner for Wiltshire in January - wife of Marlboro' College {in FV’s hand: ask} I will send you particulars she told me to Claydon, tho' I feel as if I were the Tempter. Success attend you - God speed you - ever your affecte Aunt Florence {printed address: upside down} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W. I hope you will be able to consult Margt.

unsigned letter, ff100-01v, pen & pencil [6:596]

6/12/92 10, South Street, {printed address:} [6:596] This is what Miss Calder Park Lane. W. said: Mrs. Bell The Lodge Marlborough wants a teacher of Cottage Hygiene very much for 3 months from January I understood Miss Calder to say that Mrs. Bell was/is the head of the Ladies Commee of the Wiltshire Co. Co. (of which the Commee the Bishop’s wife is President) [Miss C. reminded us of the Technical College at Trowbridge.] She says Mrs. Bell is a woman of great activity, success & wisdom - & worth serving - & would be of use to us -
I think if you have made up your minds that you ought not to give her one, (Health Missioner), it would be well to do as you say: would Wiltshire pay for the making of one, either a Wiltshire lady to be sent into Bucks, or a Bucks lady to be trained for Wiltshire? But, as you say too, it is terrible if they send you a “lout”-a or idea (“feminine of “idiot”, see Dr. Johnson)

[Most Training Schools now won’t take a Probr without seeing & trying the Candidate] But I shd think Dr. DeAth might try her.

fees: fees (yours)

I have sent 7 Health pamphlets to Miss Calder by Margt’s desire

“Silvanus Trevail” has sent me his papers (7) which I thought admirable - I answered by asking him to send them to you & by sending him a Health pamphlet - I must write to-day, under cover of sending him Dr. DeAth’s pamphlet “Organization of Village Sanitation”, to say I know you have his papers.

[Dr. DeAth has not sent me copies of his “Cholera” pamphlet for which chastise him.]

You will observe, on Sylvanus’ papers, that their Co: Co: pays £50 of the M. O. of Health’s salary £100 -

You must tell Mr. French of Winslow to send me his whole Bill for the 600 pamphlets - Or I shall strike work.
My dear Fred  Park Lane. W.

I wanted to say in as impressive a voice as I could - Aim at forming centres of Health Missioners rather than at covering Bucks with H. M.’s -

With terror I see increasing even among clever people the idea that they can learn how to practise arts, agriculture, & various trades & professions by attending lectures - They little know: This view is spoiling all the good work

They are covering the earth with amateurs & professors - What a good word that is “professions” - people who profess -

It occurred to me to say this - but you cannot tell the quantity of it that I see -

Have 3 or 4 good Health Missioners planted Don’t scramble over the whole County

But I know how difficult the Co. Co. is
f103
Please let me see Miss Deyns' letter again You only read it to me
Also Mr. Fosbroke's letter.
I sent 25 copies of pamphlet to Dr. De'Ath

f103v
I hear a very bad account of the Sanitary meeting at Steeple Claydon. They have only appointed a Sanitary Committee - have they? to "look into things"!!!
I am interrupted ever your loving Aunt Florence

f104
Miss Deyns
I sent your letter to Miss Lückes - It was a difficult one to write - & I don't know that it could have been better - I send you her answer which please return -
1 You see every thing has been at 6s & 7s from the beginning - I believe the belief in N. Bucks that she x was to be made capable of x Miss Deyns
Nursing Epidemics continued to the last - & off & on in her own mind
2. Miss Lückes named “next week” for her coming - Months afterwards no word had been sent to Miss L that she was not coming.
When she came, or soon after, Miss L. was just going for her holiday - & then came October - [You see Miss Lückes speaks of the “detail” she & I went into anent

Miss Deyns’ training]
Now Miss Deyns & even able, impetuous Dr. De’Ath have not the least idea of what an overworked Matron’s life is Miss L. has 300 Nurses minus 4! under her! She has 700 beds- !! And Miss Deyns wanted to wait till October, because there wd be 50 or 70 Patients more (in 700)!! Strange imbecillity.
f105v
3. You see Miss Lückes is not at all discouraged:
And I think there is
truth in her remark -
that perseverance will
win tho’ progress is slow.
I wish I could see her,
but that is impossible
at present - I hardly
know how to answer her.
[She has so much
against her] In answer to your remark
34. I have been abused by my own people which I think I deserve - “You always
“stood out for a year’s training
“at the very least - And now you
“are satisfied with 6 months”!

unsigned letter, ff106-07v, pencil

f106

Jan 22
{archivist: [1893]}
My dear Mr. Fred
I really cannot make
up my mind to sign
my letter with my name,
if that is what Mr. Escott
means -
You know it is ‘nuts’
to a Newspaper Editor
to get you/one into a scrape
And this would be a scrape.
Lord Ripon is conscious
himself that he will
require knowledge - able
advocacy when he returns
even with Mr. Gladstone

Such advocacy from me would be quite useless if I were committed to a newspaper by name - - do not you think so?

Nor do I think the risk worth running for a paper like the Standard - - nor indeed for any paper -

I shall have to give facts to Mr. Gladstone, the India Office &c

If these facts have been previously torn to pieces by newspapers, they will be worthless - And this (the one enclosed) is the best of two not good papers -

I am so thankful & so sorry for the kind trouble you are taking, which I hope will yet be successful -

But I cannot see it

right to give my name

I am so sorry
Dearest Maude

I feel so much with you about the disagreeable & “intensely interesting” business you have been on.

Health pamphlets
1. In accordance with Fred’s wish, I send
   12 Health pamphlets
   6 “ ” paper
   6 “ ” stiff

But tell him that if he will send me word by Messenger I can send him almost any number he will name of “paper” ps & of “stiff” ps - but especially of the former (they are of more importance in his hands than mine) & still have enough for myself.

Dr. Whitelegge’s letter
2. I return him with thanks Dr Whitelegge’s which is so important that I should have a type-written copy made of it if I were he -
   I am glad Dr. W. includes Derbyshire in the industrious Co. Co.s -
   I also return Miss Hubbard Miss Brooke Hunt’s paper
3. I send Miss Brooke Hunt’s Club paper for Chicago, if you & Fred could be so very kind as to look it over. Her work is so very good that it is a pity her paper is not better. [N.B. I asked her
in accordance with Fred
not to lay so much stress
on a lady being at the
head of affairs. But she
would do it. And you
know I do so entirely agree
with her that there must
be a lady for Clubs - &
for Reading & Coffee rooms
a Manager & a lady
over him or they
degenerate into places of
selfish comfort. x [There are
so few gentlemen even curates who have
time for these things]
I must send in her paper.
for Chicago as soon as
possible to Lady Burdett Coutts
x The great thing is: not to give a
boy or man up because he has
been expelled the club.

Mr. Buckmaster
4. I did not know that
the Bucks Co. Co. had
got Mr. Buckmaster
for Agricultural teacher
I see with some uneasiness
Sir Harry’s letter in the
Times.
I have more business
but will not worry now.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
With all the force of my
heart I wish Fred his
deserved success about the
Sanitary Committee Co. Co -
F.N.
G.B.H. Feb 7/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
Mr. Jowett was here last night And I asked him all your Questions & wrote down his answers from his lips.
1. He answered at first that he could not answer, because he did not know the state of your “general funds”. But when I told him, he said: to the “special fund” yes: certainly
2. He said at first:
   The General Committee of the Home should appoint some one to be approved in each case by the Ch. of E. or the R. C. Bishop of the Diocese

But, after a little conversation he said: The Committee should appoint some one to be approved in the Ch. of E. case by the Bishop of the Diocese [is he, he asked the Bishop of Winchester?] in the R. C. Case by the R. C. Bishop of the Diocese (or the R. C. Archbishop) should appoint some one to be approved by the Committee
3. He said at first Yes: but afterwards he said: If they have not anything in the Charter (or whatever they call it) of the G.B.H. or any understanding with
Mr. Saml Morley or other Noncomformists that it should be undenominational I do not see that there is any breach of faith.

F.N.
God speed you

Committee shd appoint some one to be approved in each case by the Bishop of the Diocese or by the R. C. Bishop of the Diocese with the approval of the Committee

If they have not anything in the Charter, or any understanding with Sam Morley that it should be undenominational, I do not see that there is any breach of faith.
Your meeting tomorrow 8/5/93
Your request 10, South Street, [printed address:]

My dear Fred
I began a few notes
for you which I enclose -
But it occurred to me
that it might be of some
use to you to see the
Proof, as you asked, of
my paper for Chicago -

But tho', "s'il y a de l'esprit, c'est vous qui l'y auriez mis" -
But you must not quote it, please -
By an inexplicable mistake, which I will tell you afterwards, of

the English Commission,
it is the English papers are all to be bound up in one book of hundreds of pages! And the copyright has been sold to Sampson Low -!! [I am very sorry]

Even the Review was not sent to me to correct!
Success to your Meeting - tomorrow -
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Could you return me my Proof tomorrow (Tuesday) night? It only reached me yesterday today F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff115-16v, pen & pencil

f115 {in FV’s hand, Miss Nightingale:}

May 19/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

Thank you so much for the
Sanitary Committee’s questions.
I think the getting these
filled up pretty fully is
already a great step in advance.
[N.B. I hope that Qs 6 & 8
include cess-pool privies,
of which 109 of Sir H.’s cottages
still rejoice in - and in these
little or no progress with
dry earth closets]
I shall be so much
interested in seeing the
Tabulation.
Some kind person sent me
the Fenny Stratford
Technical Education Secretary’s
Report
I wish I might see all those of North Bucks-
This is valuable - but how much more valuable it would be if all were to stated the reasons as some have done e.g. *Cookery* Classes
Revd — Field. Woughton on the Green
“"Demonstrations' are *almost useless*’ (underlined) & that the "pupils only retain the knowledge which they gain from the "practical lessons, *when they themselves prepare & cook the dishes x x”*
[This I am sure is true with regard to every thing technical - *Health=at=Home* included - I am appalled by a

**f116**

voluminous report just received from the “Ladies “Sanitary Assocn”, in which 15 “courses of Lectures” here & there - & many hundreds altogether are mentioned with sickening self-applause. Tho’ they mention Dr. De’Ath with praise, not *one has* seized his point] I am afraid of missing you - so will only mention that there are equally instructive remarks (& failures in remarks) in your “Secretary’s Report” as I have mentioned.
Letter from Margt this morning. The plan of Dr. De’Ath meeting the Parish Doctor for poor Jennings of Botolph Claydon has fallen thro’ - I am afraid she is much worried. But she always succeeds at last - Success to you all along the line.

Alas! for poor Siam But still hope ever your loving Aunt Florence

f117-18v, 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W. June 9, 1893, from FV, re improvements at Pleasley and problems in Siam discussed with Lord Salisbury

signed letter, ff119-20v, pen & pencil [6:602]

Inspection of Health Missioner’s work June 23/93

10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

You asked me to consider & enquire about this most important subject - which is absolutely in its infancy as regards all the C. C. Technical Education work - altho’ the most important of all, as we have on the highest authority-viz. whether a tree bears fruit or only leaves -

I return you with thanks all your letters (6)

I scarcely think that it will be of any service to send a lady round, even without the Missioner - far less to give notice that she is coming to question the
Cottage Mothers - No such formal questioning is of any use - is it? Rural Mothers are like Hindoos - they say nothing but what they think we shall like to hear. & that they don’t know how to express. They think we have a right to apply the screw - & they have a right to conceal. It is no use sending a lady from the great house or the Rectory - however kind - Nothing but a long, & intimate & confidential friendship, accompanied by a personal, informal eye & help, will unlock their lips - In their Domestic habits you have centuries of ignorance, generations of superstition to get over - In their habits with us, you have centuries of an unnatural respect for what was by no means always their “betters”, - a respect for mere position - to get over. And I do think this is in some respects worse than it was. The respect for rank, mere rank, & the defiance of rank, mere rank are increasing in all classes. But I am prosing - Of the 3 letters you sent me, Mr. Dale’s is the best. Mrs. Battersby’s is far from worthless. She/It is a kind good letter. But she does not know her business.
I send you a letter from Miss Hubbard: but she has always struck me as a person with very peculiar insight into the poor mothers’ & children’s feelings & ways - (tho’ I have never seen her) She wrote to me about H. M.’s And I answered at considerable length about Tech: Educ: lack of fruit, (as far as their Reports go.) And then I wrote for her advice - And I send you her answer. What a miserable thing that “bad, heady beer” is - as a proof of Mothers’ ignorance - Can we not glean something from her letter? I have been so interrupted ever your loving Aunt Florence So glad Sir D. Galton is going to your conference

ff121-21v, Fred V to FN June 29, 1893, re condolences on Lothian Nicholson’s death

ff122-25v, Fred V to FN, from Lawers, Killin, Perthshire, August 27, 1893, re the family holiday, the cultivation of allotments, and the French dealings with Siam

ff126-27v, Fred V to FN 6 Onslow Gardens, September 7, 1893, re FV’s return to London to support the Siamese against the French, and the family holiday

ff128-29v, Fred V to FN from OG, September 28, 1893, re a request for FN to write a paper on Rural Health Missions which MV would read at Leeds
Private 10 South St 7.30 a.m. Oct 20/93
Lectures on Sick Nursing
My dear Fred,

On reflecting on what you read to me & said to me & asked me last night, it occurs that I ought to explain more - to you I hope it will occur how difficult it is for a tired person to give advice on what is only read TO her - & on what you yourself consider only a makeshift, dragged in in order to enable the Tech: Edu: to contribute - I then - I think I caught that Mr. Battersby’s letter was written in “90 - And I think I heard the words Middle Claydon & another Claydon
Beware Mrs. Davidson was not then appointed, I believe. 

_Beware of meddling with Mrs. Davidson - you will never get so good a woman._ Part of Claydon is I believe in Winston Parish?? I should extremely deprecate having one part under the new fangled methods, & another under the good old Common Sense.

II. I mentioned to you the great benefit that the instructed (Lady) District Vis Nurses of Bloomsbury &c &c have been of to the poor bed-side in instructing the relatives or neighbours how to take care of the poor Patient - [Other uses have been:]

The check of drunkenness - NOT by direct preaching; a thousand times No - but because the man & still more the woman are ashamed to be drunk before the Nurse who is as their friend.]

_The Nurse does gives the instruction_ quite informally AT EACH BED-SIDE IN THE COURSE OF HER OWN Nursing work _X_ She does NOT LECtURE. _God save us FROM THE LECTURING Nurse. X_ It would be all lost if done formally

[I think I mentioned to you one notable instance where a Nurse was sent straight from St. Thomas’ to undertake]
a District in Yorkshire -

“O there was such a
good Ladies’ Commee! It was
quite safe”

The Ladies’ Comm: employed
her in lecturing all round
the place. There was
nothing left of her but
a spoilt Nurse - a woman
who had missed her
calling - a conceited
self indulgent itinerant.

“O she had an Assistant”.

And what was the Assistant
doing?]

III. The Lecturing on Sick Nursing mania
is spreading like a leprosy
all over Great Britain -
perfectly regardless of
“results” Or rather we

-2-
are already reaping the “results” in a very sensible
deterioration of/in the
candidates who present
themselves as Probationers
for Hospitals & District Nursing

IV. Please remember that
Nursing differs as much
from say Agriculture &c &c
as human body & soul differs
from vegetables, grain &
manure - & Human life differs
V from every other life.
does it not?

V. I think I caught in
Mr. Battersby’s letter or I had heard before such
words as these: that the
poor should be taught by
Lecture (illustrated, of course)
Such things as changing a
Patient’s sheets with him in bed - & he enumerated other such things. most necessary
Believe a woman of 40 & more years’ experience, such things can only be taught in Hospital upon the human Patient’s body & by the Hospital trained Nurse upon the same in the/each Patient’s own home.
I think the fatuous 'lay'
reached its climax last year when sham Nurses operated upon Sham Patients in a sham Hospital in Windsor Park before the Sovereign & the Princess her daughter!
[When I remember that the greatest Operator we ever had said that he never
operated upon the LIVING human body without the shudder coming over him that he did not know what he was about, I do feel that these fatuous people do not know “what they “are about” when they talk so glibly about teaching the poor Sick Nursing by Lectures.
Every case differs from every other - as you have well said - And what do we mean by a “trained Village Nurse except one who is to attend such cases ?herself?
VI. We do not think two or even three years’ Hospital training enough without a
6 or months', (which we should like to make 12 months') training by the poor bedside at home. VII. Without proper trained supervision the ordinary nurse degenerates easily to the level of the poor she nurses - the gentlemen less easily. But no gentleman’s or lady’s Committee can find it out or keep them up - nothing but the supervision (even periodical) of one who herself knows the difficulties, what is to be done or what is not to be done.

-3-
I do not want to deter you - far from it. But people should know that it is very easy to set up a Village Lecturer - England now swarms with such. & very easy for her to do more harm than good And that it is/means nothing to say: oh the people “appreciate “ her Lectures!
A thousand thanks for your letter - & its contents received before I wrote this. But we cannot call Mrs. Battersby’s letter, interesting as it is, a test or criterion of “results” You remember we remarked this at the time - And she thinks herself a Nurse? I should like the Report you mentioned when convenient I am ashamed to ask you to give me this letter back again, when done with ever your loving Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff136-37, pen & pencil

Dearest Maude & Fred
I am quite scandalized at myself at what I am imposing on you & Fred -
I think the best test would be: what you Maude like to read & what you don’t -
& to leave out what you don’t And if that is all, then to leave out all -
What I send now is the part left out after p. 14 - It is of course immensely too long. I took it chiefly from our pamphlet - And as to what the mothers want, it is perhaps the most important part -
These Lady Lecturers seem
not to know in the least
what the mothers are
without, tho' they do not
want it.
I have no time or strength
to shorten or to correct.
You must be: 'Hew Agag in
piece before the Lord.'
Don't bother yourselves
about 'Agag' - above all,
not to do it by to night -
You can, at any time,
*put it into a Hansom
cabman's hands & tell
him he will be paid
here -
Only 'hew' enough -

& make a wind - up -
*plus “how are we to
test results”
ever your & Fred's
loving but troublesome
Aunt Florence (Agag)
I can’t work by candle light -
I have no eyes - But I begin
when I can as soon as it is
light in the morning -
I never said how delighted
I was with Ralph’s ‘remove’ -
10 South St Nov 3/93
Dearest Maude & Fred

You say “The new returns send back early” -
   I do so  I wish I could have thought
more columns for the Health at H. (for the sake
of results) possible

Leeds: I don’t know what you will say to me
   I did send the Telegram to Miss Janes -
And she answered: Two: yes - & send to
me at Leeds.
   I then sent the M. S. to Spottiswoode’s

   And he actually returned it printed - it
was only sent late in the afternoon - the
next day at night.
   I purpose sending you these later
   TO-DAY - you to choose which you like -
   I to send one to Miss Janes - which
ought by rights to go to-day - I to
keep the third -
   ever your loving
       Aunt Florence
   I do feel like a wretch to have
accepted your kind offer to go to Leeds
I hope you won’t be very tired.
unsigned notes, ff140-43v, pen & pencil

f140

Cookery: New form: Excellent
   on the whole
   particularly Remarks
1. Were these “Artisans” men?
   Or does it only signify wives
   & daughters of “artisans”?
2. Does each “lesson”) include
   “Demonstrations” and
   “practice classes”?
   It is curious & characteristic
   of the age that “the girls
   “would not attend” the
   “practice classes” but only
   the “demonstrations”, which
   are amusing -
   And yet there are many
   good folk in the North
   who think the “demonstrations”
   ‘most useful’ & ‘all that is
   ‘wanted’
   Suggested other columns

   over

f140v

Suggested Columns
1. Could there be another
   column indicating what
   class of cookery?
You know you have
   Cottage Cookery
   Higher Class Cookery
   &c &c
And you will remember
   that we were told a
   year or two ago that
   the farmer’s daughters &
   the cottagers would not
   attend the same class,
   because of this distinction,
   & they thought that one
   sort was infra dig.  {beneath their dignity -GW}
2.
2. Should there be a column indicating what the *Cooking Materials* are? We have received repeated warnings that some were too expensive for the people to get.

   This is repeated in the other papers you have kindly sent me.

3. *How afterwards?*

   Does the *Cottage & Farmers’ Cookery* improve?

   This is a most difficult matter to ascertain. Because if I understand right you do not ask your Cookery teacher to *visit* - And there is nothing Cottage mothers are

---

**f141v**

I believe so offend=able in as our ‘prying’ ‘about’ into their meal arrangements.

   I believe there is no cooking in the world so bad as in England - And in Derbyshire & Yorkshire where the food is *extravagantly good*, it is the more deplorable.

   [E.g. I asked our family Doctor at Lea Hurst to visit a family (at my expence) of whom I had received a miserable account from their daughter who was then in my service. And he did so & told me they were sitting down to a better joint than he “ever saw at his table”.

---
I cannot find the other "New Form filled up" of which you speak unless it be this (enclosed) But is there anything new in this?

From the other papers I glean as to Health at Home that the people would pay more attention if the teachers were of greater "age" & "experience" I think this applied chiefly to Miss Rowlands & to Miss Deyns & the "EXTRA" Lectures.

1. Home Treatment
   What to do till the Doctor comes

2. Infants & Children

I think this is not unnatural because in Miss Rowlands & I believe Miss Deyns these things can only be book learning. How can they have experience? tho' I much admire Miss Rowlands & Miss Deyns. But in accordance with your kind wish I asked separately & saw two of our most experienced Supts of Bloomsbury/Queen’s Jubilee Lady District Nurses, - who now do a good deal of Maternity (not Midwifery) Nursing among the poor at home, - whether the Lying - in women objected to unmarried & in some cases young Maternity (Lady) Nurses - And each said: "Nor in "the least. They know the "good the Nurses do them;
& it never occurs to them"
But I don’t think the
two cases similar - You see
our Maternity Nurses
never LECTURE, tho’ they teach
in the sick - room - And
the poor feel directly
that they the Nurses are fully trained
by their doing for them
what no man = doctor nor
Midwife ever does.
I do not feel as if any new columns could be added to
the “Health at Home” - tho’
it would be most desirable
to have the results of the Visits
But it would be morally
impossible to submit these
to any “Secretary” - But

your H. Missioners do keep
Private Diaries - don’t
they?
Summary (P.1)
is excellent - cannot be softened down as far as I can see - On the
contrary - The only thing that struck me as skull=staving=in
was p. 1 Buckingham - Sewage Disposal 1891
But p.2 “Water Supply 1891 [3 wells cleaned out!
is scathing as a comment!
You can’t soften a creditor -

p. 3 Aylesbury Sewage Disposal 1891-2 Quainton
“ Water supply 1891-2 “
This is very shocking, if as I suppose “Similar report to last year”
p. 3 Buckingham Sewage Disposal 1891-2 Steeple Claydon
“ Water Supply 1891-2 “
Do you know I think this is letting off Steeple Claydon very
easy? for Sir Harry’s sake?
How many “Pail closets” were “substituted” for Privies in 1891?
how few I am afraid to say - “Entire district defective” 1892
What does he mean by a “complete system for St. C. begun” 1892?
There was a carrying away by pipes of liquid stuff, including
pigs' liquid manure, to the “strong resentment” of the people, was it not?
What was done in “substituting earth closets for cesspool privies
was a mere nothing - Was it not at the end of 1892 that we
counted 409/109 privies/cesspools to 120 cottages in the Claydons- not quite all in St. C.-
P.T.O. I think -
Pray don’t take this former page on my authority alone about Steeple Claydon

Water-supply: They are “grateful” for “small mercies”, if they call it an “improvement” “
p. 5 Winslow Sewage Disposal 1891

This is severe enough - but it is milk & water {printed address:} 10, South Street, compared to the
L.G.B. Inspector in [January?] 1893 Park Lane.W.
in the Report you gave me & which I abstracted

Winslow Water Supply 1892

This is milk & water too compared with L.B.G. Inspector

January 1893

(January) ’93 not better but worse than ’92 in Water Supply & Sewage Disposal

[p. 3] Henley. Sewage Disposal 1892 “In Himbledon no complaints” !!

[I have a very vivid recollection in my Military life of

seeing the men sitting at a dinner not fit for pigs.

& the Officer for the day going round & calling out “Any

“complaints?” No good soldier will make “complaints”

The bad ones do over everything -

Aylesbury

Urban cows drinking sewage - I suppose this does not

come in for ‘92. What a pity!

Was it not currently believed that there was scarcely a pure

well in Steeple Claydon, even in 1893?

X
f145
10 South St Nov 3/93
Leeds
Dearest Maude
You were so good as to say that you wished to read from my M.S. If you still do so, I could re-write by tomorrow forenoon (when you begin reading from the “roof”! & I shall come to hear) some of the scrappy bits - But now, honour bright!, which do you think really best?

which for you?

which for Miss Janes, ? which I ought to send by to-night’s post to her at Leeds - & the third I should wish to keep for myself - [I have already applications for a

f145
copy, but I don’t expect I ought to give one till their Vol: is published?]

I enclose a sheet of notes which I want your & Fred’s judgment on - I am particularly afraid - (almost as afraid as that the journey to Leeds is a very long one for you) - of getting the Local Govt Board & its excellent Inspector, into a scrape by directing attention to them - ever your loving
Aunt Florence (Agag)
Add Mss 41977D

f146
Agag will send at 6 o’cl or so
for the one for Miss Janes -
But don’t bother yourselves, please
- I could send it, I suppose,
tomorrow morning to get to Leeds
? by Saturday night -
F.N.

unsigned proof, ff147-48, pencil

f147
p.6  [Proof - “For Leeds Conference”
p.7 &c
do you think it wise to quote
a “Local Govt Officer”?
It would be easy for any
enemy to trace the narrative
to Bucks - I have been
told by more than one that
the L. G. Board must be
careful - because it has
been ‘cast’ in so many
suits. Suppose an
action is brought about
against it, by my
quotations - & suppose
the excellent “Officer” is
injured! It is so easy
to pick holes - It is
none so easy to mend
them.

f147v
p. 22 (9) I have made
only a botch here - I wish
we could say something a little
more precise & to the point

p.3  The purist Spottiswoode
thinks that fag end is better
than tag end
What do you think?

p. 8  Is it wise to put the
exact price of hiring a cart? Sewage
cart?
Add Mss 41977D

f148
Last Para. p.27
   Do you approve of this?
p.1   Shall I omit:
      “O wonder of wonders!”

signed letter, ff149-52, pen & pencil

f149
10 South St Nov 4/93
Dearest Maude
   I hope your Dentistry expedition with G. & K.
was successful -
   And I trust Fred & Mr. Curzon were, last night.
   Many thanks for your note.
   When people ask me after/how Sir Harry is, 9 times out of 10 I have to answer ‘Incredibly naughty’. Now isn’t it ‘incredibly naughty’ of you to go to Leeds & arrive just an hour or two before Agag comes off - And I dare say you mean to
come back next day.  
   Or rather it is ‘incredibly ‘naughty’ of Agag to have allowed you to go -

Now about Agag’s paper: I sent the other Proof to Miss Janes at Leeds by last the night’s post - (& told her you had the other one to read)

1. And, referring to my former notes to you - p.p. 6 & 7  
I thought it too risky to leave in about the Local Govt Official, for the reasons I gave you, & I scratched out both allusions -  
   Please do the same unless Fred thinks “strongly” to the contrary.

As for “Dr. De’Ath”, there is scarcely a word supplied by him in the whole paper.  
   And the descriptions do not refer to his Division at all -  
"I shall not tell" you to what Division or County they refer, in order that you may be able to say that you do not know. for people will be sure to ask you.  
I know people who would give their ears to hunt me up, which would be very easy & signifies little to me - but probably signifies a great deal to officials.
2. I put in an extremely awkward fresh botch to (for I was tired) to IV. 9. I wish very much we could improve that, because you see I have been questioned about it. I forget what else I altered - I was so interrupted. But I would gladly IF YOU & FRED WERE SO GOOD AS TO SUGGEST, put in your suggestions into your Proof - if you like.

3. One other thing I put into Miss Janes’ copy - After the story of the poor woman who took the medicine for

her husband’s ‘bad leg’ because she thought she had fever, & it made her feel so peart - a Derbyshire word - I put in ‘The peartness ended in ‘fever’ - Peart means lively. The people in Derbyshire are so interesting, tho’ I can’t at all say they are good - And the betting & the drink among the Miners certainly increase: And the dressing among the girls I’m not at all a ‘high=wage’r -

But I won’t bother any more now - ever your loving Aunt Florence (& hateful Agag)
It is 39 years to-day
Nov 4 since we
arrived at Scutari -
& it is 39 years
tomorrow Nov 5
since the “Soldiers’
battle” (Inkerman)
when a handful of
men saved the
Army & perhaps Europe
It was greater than
Thermopylae -
How A few, standing to
their duty, can change
the course of history

signed letter, ff153-54, pencil

10 South St Nov 6/93
Leeds
Dearest Maude & Fred
I have had an exceedingly
dnice acknowledgment of
our paper (from Miss Janes,
the Secretary), & of your
coming.
I hope you will cut it as
short as you can: (tho’ Miss
Janes does not so much
as allude to its length:)
compatibly with its being
for “Women Workers”.
[The original M. S. was only
27 pages - the one the Proof
was printed from, 43 pages]
tho’ I should not have thought,
if the former were only “20 mins”
f153v
the latter would be “50 min”
But I think a paper longer
than 20 min. should not be
read.
I accept all Fred’s emendations
with a loud purr of
gratitude, such as the best
fish elicits in the cat -
but Agag still feel “hewn in
pieces” about IV 9 p.22
because, you see, Miss Hubbard
& others, have asked so many
questions about this -the
“independent test of the
“RESULTS in cottage homes.”
And even with Fred’s constant

f154
help, we have not come to
a distinct conclusion.

Now I shall pray God
that you have a fair
journey, and, worldly woman!
a good luncheon on the
road - & a place to
sit down in between Arrival
& Agag
ever your loving
    Aunt Florence
Love to chicks
ff155-55v, November 7, 1893 from FV, re Gwendolen’s excellent results at half-term

signed letter, ff 156-56v, pencil

f156

Nov 12/93

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude

If you will be so good as to
give Messenger the proof you
read - were so good as to read
- at Leeds -
& if you would kindly say
whether you & Fred think the
additions & alterations he so
kindly made should all be
put in into a paper not to
be spoken but read -
I should be deeply obliged
I hope the parts you so wisely
left out are marked on the
proof -
You know, if you could
kindly spare me a visit - not
only about Leeds - how glad I
should be - But I have a conscience, tho' you do not know it, & I know that Sunday afternoon ought to be Fred's & the children's ever your loving
Aunt Florence

ff157-58, Fred V to FN November 13, 1893, re the death of Vortigern Verney

ff159-60v, Fred V to FN November 14, 1893, re Maude's third class train trip to Leeds and FV's last sight of Vortigern

signed letter, ff161-64v, pen & pencil

f161
Nov 14/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
I do indeed feel with you & for you, dear Fred, in the fearful shock for yourselves almost as much as for his immediate family - of dear Vortigern's so sudden death.
You had made a second home for him - you had been a main element in his happiness & his goodness this last year. And it is a touching thing that the last token of his love not 12 hours before his
f161v
fatal illness should have been to bring a musical toy for Kathleen. “O insupportable & touching loss” seems to sound in my ears.

Afflictions & comforts are so mingled together - or rather all the “Blesseds” given us spring out of ills. It is a comfort as well as a trial to look back & see how large a share yourselves had in his life - temporal & eternal - For we can never speak of a life ended. It is only begun

f162
What can the “crown of "life" mean - such a favourite expression. It can’t mean rest or absorption - Life is life. He was the ‘life’ of us all, we say. The ‘crown’ of life must be a larger, nobler, freer, more earnest activity in the cause of God, the Almighty Friend - “Therefore” “my beloved “brethren”, as St. Paul always ends his exhortations after death with, in some words or other, “be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the
work of the Lord,
forasmuch as ye know
that your labour is not
in vain in the Lord."

[I read that with the
servants this morning.
They were very much moved
by Vorty’s death]

O that dear James
would take a lesson of
activity from the
“wholesome” life of Vorty -

But - Mrs. T. H. Green
(who nursed Mr. Jowett
in both his illnesses) said
to me: “I did not speak
“to him much in his last
“days. What were my thoughts

so I feel now with you
You have your own
thoughts about this
terrible blow. What
are my thoughts to yours?
Forgive me.

Maude, when she was
so good as to come on
Sunday, was asking me
about Mrs. T. H. Green;
& I was going to tell her,
when something interrupted;

After her husband’s death,
she was quite prostrate for
a while (she is still quite
a young woman) - then she
picked herself up, & went
to the London Hospital!
   as a Probationer Nurse -
& finally as a Ward Sister
   She was recalled to Oxford
by the necessity of taking
charge of an Invalid old
Aunt- & so was stopped
short in her Nursing career
to my infinite disgust.
   But see, how wrong I
was!
___I think we must not let
   Maude go to Leeds at
her own expense. She went
for our good, for the public
good. Still I feel as if
she had given me a

splendid present, & I
   were to give her sixpence
   for it.
But I enclose it to you
   Ought she to go in
Omnibuses?
___I do so feel for G. & K.
dear souls -
   If any body is going to
the Funeral from London, I should
like to send an immortelle
for our Vortigern -
   I have been so grateful
for Maudie’s letters -
   Do you know whether
Margt is going to Morfy?
poor Morfy - how will she
bear it?

ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Thank you very much
   for the Sanitary Reports
     F.N.
{printed address;} 10, South Street,
{upside down}       Park Lane. W.
signed letter, ff168-69, pen [8:923-24]
f168

Nov 15/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
How good of you to
take my Cross. The
inscription, too long, is
within - Dear Vortigern -
Please thank his brother
Harry for his most touching
note to me - How I pray
that the brothers may
be lifted by God’s own
hands over this
terrible time to
Vortigern’s joy in life.
It seems years since
I saw you on Sunday -
You know perhaps that

f168v

Mr. Jowett’s successors
are appointed -
Caird of Glasgow elected
by the Fellows as Master
Bywater appointed by the
Crown as Greek Professor
- both such different men
& types from Mr. Jowett.
But there was no one -
I pray for you all.
Vortigern remembers you
all.
God bless you
Don’t tire yourself too
much
I hope you saw blessed
Add Mss 41977D

**f169**
Margt in some peace
ever your loving
  Aunt Florence
with love to all at
  Clockfaen

{f170 is blank except for printed address: 10, South Street, Park Lane. W., and date: 19 Nov 1893}

signed note, ff170v-71, pencil

**f170v**
  Thanks, thanks, everlasting thanks -
  There is a black bird
  singing here - no doubt
  in honour of the flowers.
  I have never heard him
  here before.
  ever your loving
  Aunt Florence
  The flowers will be
  company to me for a

**f171**
  long while - as long as
  they live. And they
  shall live long.
  Love to all
  ever your affectionate
  Aunt Florence

envelope, f172, pen

**f172**
  *by Hansom Cab*
  Mrs. Frederick Verney
  6 Onslow Gardens
19/11/93
10 South St Nov 19/93
Dearest Maude  You must have had a sad, sad time at Clockfaen, except for the thought of dear Vortigern - How are you all? And will good James be more serious about life? I don't mean about death.

I was going to send yesterday to enquire after you, but could not.

In answer to your question, I have never known a case where of fatal apoplexy in one so young- But I asked Dr. Ord, (who is attending me) who had seen the death in the Newspaper, & who said that if it happened it was generally the result of valvular disease of the heart & a 'clot' finding its way wrong. But when I told him the few particulars I knew about the dear boy, he said it could not be that - it must be “hæorrhage” - He asked anxiously if there had been a Post Mortem?

I have not seen blessed Margaret. She came on Friday about 2.15 - in a great hurry to get off by the 2.45 - but offering to stay till a later train - I had no
alternative however, for I had an early afternoon appointment, impossible to put off. [I did not get your kind telegram till later.] She *must* be tired - I fear you are, too -

ff175-76v, December 9, 1893, from FV, re a letter from Mr. David Dale, an labour employer and re FV’s Radicalism

initialled letter, ff177-78, pen & pencil

*Health at Home*

&c &c *Missioners* 16/12/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My Dear Fred

Thank you very, very much for your account of Claydon Conference - I was very anxious to hear. I wish I could know what Mr. Herbert Dale said about “Organization” It might be very useful to us. “Lady Lecturers” on “Health” are more rife than Influenza. It is a perfect pest. They send their Programmes to me! at Claydon! which is adding insult to injury, as they Parrot said when they brought him from his native shores to the British Isles, & then made him learn English.
The Lady Lecturers pursue me as fleas do in Italy - One of our St. Thomas’ training, a quite common-place woman but good Nurse has left her Nursing to lecture! & for a country County Council! as 2.10 a week for 3 months - & all travelling expences paid - & promise of another 3 months i.e. 65 for 6 months

Our Oxford Matron lectures to a Class of 250!! in the country on Cottage Sick Nursing! but then she does it very practically - & is shy about it - not triumphant.

Moral &c &c &c
to do what you propose as soon as possible - & get

out a pamphlet - & a Fund, if possible - for Health Missioners

I believe our Leeds Conference paper is to be published as a Pamphlet very soon.

I am overdone with work of other sorts - And so are you -

I have Douglas Galton tomorrow (Sunday)

F.N.
My dear Fred

I have carefully read & with mingled fury & pleasure your excellent Summary - And you will see that for the places that I know, I think it is rather understated than overstated.

Having adorned it with some remarks about Steeple Claydon cess-pools, & not having much time, “I deliver the “Staff to you, Sir” -

ever yours & Maudie's loving Aunt Florence
Mr. Morant 23/12/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
Here is Mr. Morant’s
most touching letter - I
could not lay my hand
upon it last night.
I ought to have returned
it before
I have not yet written
the letter to you for Lord
Rosebery - but will.
Mr. Morant is a
gallant fellow, thro’ all -
& will yet work out his
life -
He owes you great
thanks

Do you think he is right
about M. Jacquemyns
being so ignorant of the
real state of things?

ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Your magnificent offer
that I should come to
your dear house in a
fortnight Yes - but alas!
I cannot accept: millions
of thanks
We have been excessively pressed lately tho’ I dare say not so much as you - 

Love to every body at Claydon - 

I understand Lettice will be back this morning & Margt waiting for them at Euston Hotel - 

How I should like to know how they are & what they do - 

We have paint in the house - cannot ask them.

My very dear Fred

Thank you, thank you for your two dear letters, - grateful to you for ‘ever for the one written the night before his death or rather as you say of the beginning of life to him.

It is true, it is true: his character was almost unique in some things - 

He had I will not say the art, nor even the gift, but the grace of attaching people to himself. It was the grace of God. Every one loved him who knew him. 

The world is poorer without him.
He was ever young, ever fresh.

Please tell Morey how I feel for him - how we thank him for his ever ready care of him keeping him alive & vigorous - & how sorry we are for his anxiety about Edith.

And please give a message for me to Mrs. Davidson & to Mr. Robertson.

You know what a loss he is to me, but when I think of the loss, the break up to his family, I cannot feel my own.

Words are so poor -

Either Sam or Louis Shore Nightingale wishes to come to the funeral, and I know that you all will not forbid but take their true feeling as it is felt, as their father cannot come - I will telegraph who comes -

How many true mourners there will be -

I cannot write much now.

I do not like to think of tomorrow. The funeral will be the least trying part -

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

Thank you very much for remembering at such a time
Add Mss 41977D

f186v
to send me Miss Rowlands’ most satisfactory letter to Dr. De’Ath - I will send Dr. De’Ath our Leeds paper -
   Pray thank dearest Maude for her dear, dear letter - I am writing to her - I do feel what she says so very much -
   I enclose 2/3 letters for you to deliver, please, to Margt & Ellin & Maudie.

ff187-88v, April, 1894, re political meetings at Norwich

signed letter, ff189-90v, pen

f189
   August 27/94
   10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane, W.

Dearest Maude & Fred
   Thanks for your most kind invitation & for his so interesting printed papers.
   You perhaps may have seen Shore’s death in London on Thursday night last, so that I could not write.
   Just at last it was very sudden - only 24 hours’ illness but very suffering. Only he was simple & good & kind & gentle to the last just like himself. It was Pneumonia & heart.
   Only his wife & Louis (& two Nurses) were with him. Unluckily Sam, the eldest & Barbara were in Cornwall
for a much needed short holiday. They came back as fast as they could, but it was too late to see him alive. Their mother went up herself to Hampstead to tell it to Rosalind (the married one) who came back with her - All the burden of the day fell upon dear Louis, who was everything to his dying father, & afterwards did all the sad, sad business in the most efficient way, & joyfully, tho’ he came here to cry - And he kept his mother calm -

The funeral is to-day at Wellow (Embley). They persuaded their mother not to go - And I hope she will go up to Hampstead & stay there with the baby and a lady friend -

I am in Fred’s debt for several letters. But I will only say now that, about the Bucks Council, a great authority said that, instead of being discouraged, he ought to feel very much encouraged & to think it a great victory, if 13 men voted with him, only one less than the other side,
Add Mss 41977D

f190v
knowing what people
  County Councillors are -
& that soon, soon he
will have a complete
victory - only he MUST
stay as Chairman of
the Committee -

  Aunt Florence’s love
to the three dear chicks
  No more at present
from your ever loving
  Aunt Florence

unsigned letter, ff191-92, pen & pencil

f191
Dr. De’Ath’s
  big scheme  Sept 29/94
Private  10, South Street, {printed address:}
  Park Lane. W.
  My dear Fred
I am very sorry I cannot
agree with you quite about
Dr. De’Ath’s scheme - I have
consulted experienced people,
who say (in which I entirely
agree:)
1. the only upshot of it will
  be: free country Lectures
  by trained Nurses !
2. the first question will
  be: “what have they done
  “in Bucks?” and what
  have we to show? that
  they will not pronounce
  a failure ?
On no one that we know of
has the plan of real
f191v
Health Missioners *laid*
any hold - Lectures, lectures, lectures is the only thing in any one’s head - There have been 3 reviews of our Rural Hygiene since it became a pamphlet - One (Lady Henry Somerset’s) says ‘Miss N’s scheme is free public Lectures, (sic) to country women - !!! but the *practical* consequence, & the only one I know has been - that I have had letters from National Health Socy ladies saying - ‘Here is my Programme ‘here are my terms - I ‘understand you want ‘lady -lecturers for the country’
You say “The wider
“the base, the greater
“the certainty” - Certainty
of what? There is no
kernel, ne/little seed to begin
with - no “base”. That is just
what we want -
“A dozen County Councils
“in union could do
“wonders in this direction”
In what direction? The
Bucks Co: Co: has not
supported us - tho’ I
am sure you have
worked “hard & well
enough
{written sideways in the bottom margin}
I cannot
write more
and I have
just received
your note
about
“Opening
“Address” at
“Aylesbury”,
which I
answer on
another sheet.
initialled letter, ff193-94v, pen & pencil

**f193**

*Claydon* ) 29/9/94

“All the descriptions of the "Closets from Cesspool to "dry earth ones" have been "altered." (in the Acland Form which I gave)

This is good news.

“As regards the condition “in which they are kept, “the whole of them have “been inspected, Philip “Tomes being present”. and a most creditable report given of their condition. They were found without a single exception in a perfectly sanitary state - & no unpleasant smell to be

This is better news still

**f193v**

“detected in any case - “very different from the “old cesspools”. It is not known who can take the credit of this, “whether the Sanitary “Inspector exercises any “great influence” - but it was more likely to rest “in great measure with “the people themselves - “They did not know “that they were to be inspected “so they were found just “in their normal state”.
[F.N. thinks that when the people do otherwise, it is more the fault of some other than their own.

But your question is the great one of this age - how soon are/can the people be sufficiently informed for responsibility to improve them?

You know in "Rural Hygiene" we have put that out of 120 cottages (those were Sir Harry’s - chiefly in Steeple Claydon) are counted 109 cesspit privies.

It was in Sir Harry’s time, as I understand, that these were altered into dry earth closets.

I think we ought to record this somehow. It is not recorded in your "Summary".

Dr. De’Ath writes a kind note, acknowledging my warning about his proposed great scheme, of which I wrote to you -

F.N.

Thanks for Mr. Morant’s letter. I cannot lay my hand on it just now. & worse, I cannot see him just now. Will you tell him how it grieves me?

I am so very glad the Bangkok people propose to give you your money - why, you ought to have 1000 a year. F.N.
My dearest Fred

Thank you so much for your dear letter.
And thank you so much for telling me about Philip. He & I had so much in common when he was at Aldershot & commanding the London District. He was the greatest loss to us - Alas that his precious public life was ended then! But I know what he was to you. And your character of him is so just & loving.

They did not know of his death here. But Ellin came yesterday & told us a little more which she had heard from George.
I assure you there are a great many besides “Maudie” who don’t “boycott” you! & none less than your ever loving
Aunt Florence
Death follows death
40 years ago to-day
we landed at
Scutari Hospitals -
How God has guided us!
I hope Siam is not
very bad -

O if Philip had but
been the next
Adjutant Genl!!

My very dear Fred
Thank you very
much for your Report,
which blessed Margt
has also enjoyed - I
think we should
like a few more
copies, please - as
you kindly offer them.
Pray rejoice in your
magnificent conquest
of the "devil": that is,
as some philosopher
explained, not a
f197v
personality, but a
principle of evil
which, alas! finds
itself room in many
personalities -
I have had a long
conversation with
Dr. De’Ath, who is
very keen about the
Health=at=Home vs -
& who with Margaret
wants several things
which you will hear
when you come -

f198
Also: I am to see to-day
Miss Janes, the Secretary
to the Leeds Conference,
who was much
impressed with the
paper which Maudie
read, & who has
“thoughts” - She is
staying here till
tomorrow - [I suppose
the fact was she was
“much impressed” with
Maudie -]
I was very glad to
hear about dear Genl
Philip - O that he could
have recovered to be Adjutant Genl. What a 'find' for us would that have been!
I fear Margt is far from well - Maudie's letters cheer her very much - Also, she, Margt, condescends to take some little care now.

Ever, with love & thanks,
to you & Maudie & to the childer love,
your loving Aunt Florence

initialled letter, ff199-99v, pen & pencil [8:924-25]

Dec 22/94
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
You ask me to write something in Gwendolen's Testament. I have no words about Gwendolen. I have not seen her lately - but when I saw her last, she had got back that wonderful look in her eyes like the Infant Jesus in the Drn. Raphael which embraces the whole world -

[I remember her in the days when in that low solemn inward voice as if she were singing to God she used to talk about having blind people in her house & poor people - not that I want her to be only that] What can I say to her but 'God bless thee'? That takes in all - But on the birth-day of the child Jesus, I would wish her His
f199v
simplicity - not multiplicity
innocence - thinking no evil
purity - or seeing God, not self.
“I must be about my Father’s business”
& all this to lead to a love & devotion which takes in the whole world - (or the world around Him)
I did so hope that she might have remained under your wing (at least till past her teens) that she might have preserved that wonderful mixture of genius & simplicity (like yours) which all the world cannot give but can take away.
Do what you like with the inscription - I am afraid it is wanting in that very simplicity
F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

Add Mss 68888, microfilm, 203 folios, 93 pages, correspondence with Frederick and Maude Verney Part 6 1895-96, Adam Matthew reel 42

ff1-2v, 6, Onslow Gardens, January 5, 1895, from FV, re changes at Pleasley, and a secret about Lettice. I enclose Dr Bulstrode’s letter on his Isolation Hospmemo. Kindly send it onto Dr Death; re farmers rent dinner

ff3-3v January 14, 1895, re a letter from a little Crown Prince

signed letter, ff4-7v, pen & pencil  

f4

Bucks Lunatic Asylum

My dear Fred

I am somewhat excited by this Report - I hope & believe we could not show a similar one in Derbyshire -

You ask for hints:

1. If they have Nurses, how could one fourth AT LEAST (see Report) of the deaths show “Bedsores”? This recalls our worst Military times -

f5

2. What were the Medical Officers about ?

3. Where is the Matron?

   It is however but fair to say that Margt reports most favourably of two cases & their treatment which went from here -

   & suggests that Maude should see Mrs. Davidson (whose address she knows, I believe - close by you/O.G.) who accompanied to the Asylum one of these (Mrs. Hogg, I think) & was impressed with the kindness & care.

   4. The “wet beds” tell a sad tale. Workho: Infirmaries tell a sadder. But then they have such a large proportion of old infirm cases - But even then this can be prevented by care & sympathy.

   But what Margt and I feel most strongly is that you should
send a small Committee, say three, with a Doctor among them or even two, - a small Committee out of your own Committee to enquire in a FRIENDLY manner & into such questions as these, among others: No. of trained Nurses? Where trained? Who is the Matron - & what her duties - & what amount of supervision?

Where there are considerably over 200 women Patients, this is very important. But it is scarcely less important among the men - Patients - or at least among the men Infirmary cases, & where the Total Deaths are one in ten -

Note: It occurs to one that perhaps “Mrs. Hogg” was a “Private” Patient - Her Nurse appears to have been a cultivated woman
N.B. The great advantage of a Committee visit over the written Report you will receive is
1. that it tells so much more than a written Report.
2. that a written Report so often makes bad blood, whereas a friendly visit from some of your own Committee need not - any more than if you went yourself.

Good speed to this as well as to all your other undertakings, my dear Fred
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

We have long recommended a Training School for Nurses for Lunatics, to begin at some place like Hanwell - I have heard that a beginning has been made but I do not know about Hanwell

Will you tell dearest Maude that I was going to write to her to say that I could not give your too, too generous contribution to St. Thomas' till we know that something sufficient will be raised for their necessities - but I will tell the Treasurer that you it is here - Claydon
Feb 10/95 F.N.
Add Mss 41977D

report, ff8-9, pen & pencil

f8

Report: Bucks Lunatic Asylum - 1

- apparently constructed & opened in 1853. In upwards of 40 years, while our knowledge of requisites for Asylums & Infirmaries has so vastly increased, have these requisites here been brought up to date?

It is necessary to know this to answer Nos 1, 10 &c

No 2. Is the County Surveyor to decide upon the no &c of W.C. s? see also No. 10 has this an indirect connection with the "wet beds"? No 10

No 12. [reminds one of a criticism made on a Military Medical Report: “Ventilation sufficient, because it is not.”] Attendance sufficient, because it is not Also: are Patients’ ears to be “bitten”, even "slightly", because there is not attendance suffi to prevent it?

The “epileptic” & “actively suicidal” cases make this a truly alarming question -

- go on to 2
No 13. “expence is not absolutely an answer to the “need”.
   An “Infirmary” is usually now considered “absolutely necessary”.

No 14. “Notes too meagre”
The reply reminds one of the child: “We always burn our mouths in the “nursery”.

No 16 is a curious commentary on the reply to 14:
7 Post Mortems without any “notes” at all

Nos 18, 19. “Bed-sores” & “wet beds”
   were ordered not to come; but did come.
   “Ventilation” Attendance sufficient because it is not. [Are there any trained Nurses here?
[N.B. We have this difficulty continuously confronting us in Poor-Law Infirmaries but successfully combated in some by the attendants (trained Nurses)]

ff10-11v, Fred V to FN February 12, 1895, re miscellaneous news of the family

ff12-13v, Fred V to FN re the election contest in Norwich

ff14-15v, Fred V to FN February 17, 1895, re a Lunatic Asylum Report and a small sum sent to St. Thomas’ Hospital Fund, and the election in Norwich

ff16-17v Fred V to February 22, 1895, re the Lunatic Asylum Report and money spent
Dearest Fred

I had a long talk with Dr. De’Ath yesterday. He says: Mr. Humphrey, the Rest Medl Supt, is a very “rum” customer indeed. He advises that one lady, at least, if not two, should be on the small Sanitary Commee, if you send one to inspect the place - He says Dr. Osborn (the only Dr on the large Sany Commee) is not a ‘persona grata’ - He anticipates ‘bad blood’ any how, but not a ‘scrimmage’, if there is a lady.

He says the small Commee should be

1. yourself
2. “Taylor”
3. Lady Verney
4. another lady outsiders

I told him 1. and 3. were impossible
he wants very much to see the Report of the Commissioners in Lunacy
- I told him I had returned it to you -
Could you send him one?
On other subjects in our talk another time
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
I have seen Margt since
I wrote this - & she says she would go to
the Lunatic Asylum with you, if you went.
But she rather recommends Lady Addington, if you asked her yourself,
& if you went yourself She would not go

with Alderman Taylor.
or Mrs. Horwood (is that the name? / of Aylesbury, wife of Major Horwood.
She Margt thinks a lady who is quite out of it would be better than herself
I don't think
Margt is very well.
writing in the dark
My dearest Fred
    I sing O be joyful
for the day which has
given you to us And
I wish you God speed
in all your undertakings
for our good.
    We shall miss you
sadly at C. C. Committees
here. But the work
you have done can
never die.
    Sir H. Acland writes
to me to ask you to
"strike off a large
“number of copies in
    “small octavo” of the
    Introduction - it is
    chiefly yours - to your
    “Bucks Sanitary Conference”
Sir H. Acland “would
“like 100" - & as he
has put it into my
head - & I find such
“pessimistic” views
of Parish & District
Councils, I should
like 100.    I wish
I could save you the
trouble of doing this.
You will let me of course pay the expense.
I am trying by such small books as Fowler's Poor Law Chalmers' Local Self Govt, which is being reprinted with an additional Chap. on "Parish Councils" &c &c &c &c &c
& by sending them to country Libraries that I know, to insense the people as to the "duties & responsibilities"

of Parish & District Councils - Could you kindly tell me of any other such books you can recommend?

It is not a little alarming your view of James Verney's situation & his own. I hope you were pleased at the Govt victory on Indian import duties.

ever your loving Aunt Florence

ff22-23v, Fred V to FN March 10, 1895, re the death of the Dean, died in harness
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff24-25, pencil

f24

Bucks County March 21/95

Asylum

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

According to your desire,
I send a few notes on
the extraordinary replies -
But I could have summed
them up in 3 aphorisms:
1. (Ventilation) sufficient,
because it is not=(my own
on some Military Medical
Reports sent me to review)
2. the child’s “We always
burn our mouths in the
nursery”
3. “There were much
uglier in the shop”

f24v

2. Thank you very
much for your Address
to Wolverton -

f25

3. After your giving
me your kind message
to Sam Shore Nightingale
on Sunday, I addressed
a little heap of Telegrams
to him, but failed to
see him till yesterday
(Wednesday) He then
went off to see you
at Onslow Gardens -
He wished to try for it
your loving
Aunt Florence

ff26-29v, Fred V to FN March 31, 1895, re a cancelled visit of Prince Swasti to FN, news of the health of Gwendolen and Kathleen and a search for a man of general and special education
April 9/95
10, South Street, Park Lane. W
Dearest Maudie

I have seen Morfy, & she looks quite cheered up, George being better to-day. And there seems to be no undue excitement in seeing James, which is a great comfort - He had 3 three hours’ good sleep this morning from 10 to one. He keeps his room.

I hope dear Ralph will be in the same “shell” or “remove” (or whatever that my {illeg eterious?}

thing is called) as Harry at Harrow - I did not express my ‘sentiments’ on this point.

I send a bit of paper which is to be used as the law directs - And if it is not I shall prosecute with the utmost rigour of the law. Don’t pinch.

I have not used your beautiful cheque for St. Thomas’ yet - But I have told the Treasurer that when his Subn shall have
f31
reached a serviceable
sum, then these will
come in - I have it
quite safe -
How sorry I am - I think
it was Edmund told me - that
an unlucky investment
has been made with
Sir R. Western in Essex
How touching was the
speaker’s farewell
where is "Gully"?
Fine weather for Lowestoft
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff32-33v, pen [5:533-34]

f32 [in FV’s hand: On Peel’s retirement [Apr 14]

   Easter Day/95
  10, South Street, {printed address:}
  Park Lane. W
I turn from all this
farrago to echo your
feeling about that
great man’s farewell
speech, the Speaker’s.
It is the Ho: of C.’s
farewell to its past
great life too -
   An inferior man
would have scolded
the Ho; well, tho’
majestically, for all
it had made him go
thro’, during the past
11 years - for its school-boy
tricks instead of being an earnest House of gentlemen, seeking with the solemnity/dignity which marks the deepest earnestness, the nation’s weal, the weal of an Empire which counts a fifth of the world’s population.

But this Peel, the last of its great men, points them to the grand & splendid traditions of their past - & appeals to a future of “centuries” when they must be the

as they were the

first, the model of the representative Institutions of the world.

Then, farewell Gladstone, farewell Peel

Who is this Gully? They say that Peel had no more “experience” when he began. That’s not true. But if it were Peel had the most magnificent Parliamentary antecedents, while Gully’s father whom I knew well was a charlatan, a Hydropathic very clever quack - [end 5:534]
Best Easter love to Maudie
& childer three, & particularly to Kathleen
I wish to know who are the crew of your Yacht - Are you the ‘Master’? & Ralph the ‘Mid’? I hope there are ABs of skill besides Kathleen ever your loving Aunt Florence

ff34-35v, Fred V to FN April 10, 1895, re Peel’s retirement
ff36-36v, Fred V to FN Brookes, St. James Street, April 28, 1895, re Ralph’s return to Harrow
ff37-38v, Fred V to FN The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., re training for Miss Deyns

unsigned notation, f37v, pencil

Miss Lückes
? 1. 1 a week
Mrs. Cheadle ask about “Expansion” Miss Deyns Hospl training
Mrs. Cheadle - ing May 13/95
Miss Lückes 10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W

My dear Fred

Mrs. Cheadle accepts all our additions & suggestions & comes here this evening to discuss “Expansion”

If you could give me some hints, I should be grateful

Miss Lückes: Matron of the “London” - sent an ecstatic account of Miss Deyns on Saturday night as a “Paying (temporary) “Probationer” - & this morning

sends a whole sheaf of papers - [I only send you two - but I can send you more if you wish to forward them to the “Soames” - I shall take out a Certificate for reading papers - which is the devil]

Miss Lückes comes on Thursday.

If Miss Deyns is required to enter on the “Preliminary “Training” and waste 6 weeks out of her 3 months here, I do not think I can go forward

x which I shall know on Thursday
with this sacrifice of Miss Deyns - Miss Lückes has raised the “London” de profundis - but is apparently carried away by the wave of the day

[I go into a Lunatic Asylum on Friday -]

I would recommend that you do not bewilder the “Soames” with the “Preliminary Training” paper - He might think it all so beautiful.

Nursing is to be taught by Physiology !!!

unsigned letter, ff41-47v, pencil

Cheadle-ing May 14/95

Her own training 6 a.m.

Private 10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W

Mrs. Cheadle reminded me that she WAS TRAINED AT ST. THOMAS’ for the purpose

[You wished to put this in your speech] then came her 15 years in superintends & inspecting District Nurses

[She spoke in the highest terms of St. Thomas’ training, adding, I am sorry to say it, that there was nothing like it in the other Hospitals I know]
If I asked her (by your desire) about the Expansion, proposed the School of Health at Buckingham - a small house, a resident Supt for teaching cleaning &c giving all her time with a small salary - 5 lady Probrs to begin with paying fees - enthusiasm
She approved it warmly - I pressed her to think it over & give us the disadvantages - she will do so: She thought ladies would come, paying fees but that it must be made known it might be the beginning all over the country

Miss Deyns to have Hospital training for a few months. Mrs. Cheadle told me, greatly to my surprise, that Miss Deyns had said to her: "O if I could "have even a month or two "at even a Workho: Infy " - because the women will "ask me Sick Nursing "questions - & I cannot answer."
[F.N. "Well, you see," Battersby & Co, Soames & his Doctors, & Co., (all of whom know no more about it than my cat, or rather less,) have dragged our necks into this noose, & all we can do is to make it fit as cleverly as possible.]
I told Mrs. Cheadle what I had done about Miss Lückes whom she
knows - & asked her whether she would prefer sending Miss Deyns to Miss Lückes - or to Miss Vincent, for whom she, Mrs. Cheadle, has had some “excellent” District Nurses for Bloomsbury.

After some consideration, she said: “If the County Council would give her (Miss Deyns) 6 mo: at the London, I think that would be the best on the whole because for such a short time she would see more variety of cases.” I asked her what would be the disadvantages: she said at once, of course: “She will be called a trained Nurse” I

Cheadle-ing 2-
{printed address:}10, South Street, Park Lane. W

I said “Miss Lückes won’t grant her any kind of certificate”. She, Mrs. Cheadle, said: “that is well: & Miss Deyns is too honest to call herself one” -

[F.N. to herself - Yes, but Soames & Co: will call her one - & Battersby & Co: will call her one - And so we have got our heads into the noose, & cannot get them out.]

Mrs. Cheadle was quite strong on the point that, if Miss Deyns has to waste “6 weeks” in the “Preliminary Training” at the London, she would not let her go at all -
IV. **Report**
Mrs. Cheadle has inserted in her Report all our points, & has sent it to be typed - She will look it over to-day & send me two typed copies this evening - which I shall transmit at once to you - [I asked for 4 or 5 copies]

V. I return you two letters - Prince Devawongse’s - the ex-Speaker’s because I am so afraid of their getting mislaid But I have many more to return you

-2- 15/5/95 10, South Street, Park Lane. W
Would you kindly suggest points, if any, that you wish *attended* to in Miss Deyns’ training? Miss Lückes is coming for this among other things to morrow Thursday, when you will be at your Meeting then
The gentlemen’s views are so very peculiar that I thought you might help me
Miss Bartlett’s letter
{printed address:} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W
I think she always told us that she could not “live away from home” -
   It would be the strangest mistake, I am sure, of the Tech: Educ: Com:
to remove her from Buckingham or to get rid of her.
   So far from what Mr. Soames says, there are “many villages” which want the Health Missioner

Will you tell Miss Bartlett (see her letter) to send her little bills to you? And I will tackle Miss Deyns.
   With regard to Miss Bartlett’s last question of course I do not know:
   but I always understood that that was Co. Co. work, in which Mrs. Cheadle was allowed to join.
I was so thankful for Maudie's letter. 

With regard to Professional Lectures for Probationers, please understand that they are deluged at St. Thomas' (as at all great Hospitals) with Physiology, Anatomy, and Hygiene. 3 Courses a year from 3 Professors - besides Miss Crossland's Classes, which are worth them all.

But to give them these before they enter the Wards is ver as "Preliminary Training" is very much like as if you taught a baby to walk by giving it "preliminary" instruction on the bones of its legs, or as if you taught a soldier the structure of his gun before you taught him to shoot is it not?

Good speed to you & M. Rolin Jacquemyns.

Fred V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W. June 4, 1895, re George's health and Margaret at Claydon.

Fred V to FN June 8, 1895, thanking FN for her love and sympathy.
To Frederick and Maude Verney
       June 8/95
       Oh blessed Silver Wedding
       Oh happy pair of pilgrims
to whom the hard trials of life are
       without thorns
       always intent on good work
       never hindered by self
who passing over the stony highway
of existence make it a well of living
water - to yourselves & to all you reach
    May your Golden Wedding be the
    complement of this -
    the genius of marriage
to yourselves, your children and
the world
    is Aunt Florence’s fervent prayer
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
{printed sideways} Park Lane. W

ff52-53v Fred V to FN Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks., June 9, 1895, re MV’s piano playing and FV’s journeys to Greenwich and Norwich

ff54-55 Maude V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., {archivist:June 9, 1895} from MV, thanking FN for anniversary flowers and greetings

ff56-57v Fred V to FN The Siamese Legation, London, June 12, 1895, from FV, re the appointment of a new Siamese Crown Prince, presently in England

ff58-59 Fred V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., June 27, 1895, expressing FV’s gratefulness for the blessings he has received

ff60-61, Fred V to FN The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., June 29, 1895, re the possibility of a clerkship for Lewis S. N. at the Siamese Legation
signed letter, ff62-63, pencil [1:713-14]

f62

June 29/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W
My dearest Fred
   You left your coat here
last night which I send
   I hope you got some
dinner some time -
   You "is to take your
"beer reg'lar"
   I do "pray" & "thank"
for you, my dearest Fred
I have been so much
struck by these Mahometans’
call to prayer - It is not
"Listen God, I’m going to
‘pray’ Still less; ‘I’m

f62v
‘putting on a new hat to
   go to Church’
It is imploiring God to
take the whole thing into
His own hands -
like S. John of the Cross, a
   Spaniard of the 16th Century,
who said: Prayer is not to
ask God what to do what
we want, but to ask
Him what He wants us
to do -
   All success attend you
ever your loving Aunt
Florence

f63
What a curious selection
   Lord Lansdown for the
   W.O., & Ld George Hamilton
for the I.O.

ff64-66 going to Sunny Hill, Thorpe, Norwich, July, from MV, re FV’s campaign in Norwich
Miss Deyns

“Health Missioner”) July 12/95
Hospital Training) 10, South Street, {printed address:}
“London” Hospital) Park Lane. W

My dear Mr. Verney

As you will suppose, I am

a little startled at the
want of knowledge betrayed
as to Hospital Nurse-training
& as to the immense pains
taken by Miss Lückes to
try a new experiment for
Miss Deyns’ sake in forming
her for a HEALTH MISSIONER
It is now two months

since

Miss Lückes
Matron
The London Hospital
Whitechapel E.

(you ask name
& address)

met me here at my request
& made out a clear and
well-digested scheme for
giving Miss Deyns a quite
exceptional course of
preparation as “Health
“Missioner” for 6 months
to begin immediately, -
because she was told that
immediate action was
necessary to save Miss
Deyns’ calling.

She kindly said that
there was no occasion
for Miss Deyns to do more
than fill up the Form
she gave me - & that she
might then be admitted
at once - (on payment,
(But Miss Lückes made no difficulty about that.)
At your suggestion I wrote all this to Miss Deyns & sent her the Form to be filled up - & received from her a satisfactory letter. I cannot of course say whether Miss Lückes would take her now, Miss D having heard I believe nothing in the meanwhile. And as for ‘October,’ there is a total misunderstanding on Miss Deyns’ part. It would all have to be done over again. It is not at all the question whether there are more “cases” to be seen on October or in May, but whether

the quite exceptional course of instruction will or can be given now. One thing is certain that there is no Matron but Miss Lückes who will take the trouble Miss Lückes would & has done. [True, Hospitals are now so poor that there is perhaps not one except St. Thomas’, who would not take for money a person for — months for pay - to be made - anything? - a Doctor for India? or to take a Voyage to the Moon? But what arrangement is made for their instruction?

- None can be made & none is made - They are just left to “pick up”]
My dear Fred
The questions now asked me are Park Lane. W
‘if I think there is sufficient
‘in Miss Deyns’ suggestion
‘to make “delay advisable”.

Somebody has probably put into her head that she can be taken in any October like a Medical student - completely ignoring the fact that this is an entirely new experiment & a carefully planned one, for a Health Missioner & no one else.

It is a very narrow pinch whether delay has not already made

made her entrance impossible.

It will be obvious that Miss Lückes would not have taken the trouble she has as a mere matter of business with any stranger for any stranger.

‘Begin her course at once, if even that be yet possible

Miss Deyns’ remark (on the yellow scrawl) that it is due to the Council” &c &c - only shows that they all together misunderstand the question - what is “due to the Council”, is to accept the exceptionally favourable opportunity.
f70

I am asked
2. “how the arrangement
   “should be actually made?
“Is the Matron now ready
“to hear from Mr.
   “Williams our Secretary?”
The “arrangement” was made -
   I must answer it by
another question:
   Has Miss Deyns sent in
her Form duly filled up?
   accompanied by an
   explanation of delay?
   It is most difficult to
advise: The most
business-like thing would
be probably to send it in
(accompanied by a note from Mr. Williams)
through me - but I

f70v

1. I have not a moment
to spare
2. I have excessively
distressed my “party”
by giving way in the
matter of 6 months, when
they hold out for a year’s
training. I answered like
an idiot; ‘but this is only
‘for a Health Missioner -
‘not for a trained Nurse’,
And they party justly replied
‘but THEY will call her
’a trained Nurse.’
And if I back out of it
now, the ‘party’ will say
that I am ‘well out of it’
My dear Fred {printed address:} 10, South Street,

I would gladly have Park Lane. W
written you a letter which you could have sent on to these untoward people, without trouble
[perhaps p. 1 would do]
& another to yourself,
explaining what a ‘fix’ they have got themselves & me into.
[perhaps p. 2 would do -]
But I am so driven -
And today is Indian Mail day - I have no time to make it any shorter
And you are so driven -
Good luck to you
P.T.O.

If it is étiquette, as it undoubtedly may be,
for Mr. Williams to write still it must not be done quite coolly like a customer And it is very unlikely that a lady so supremely busy as Miss Lückes with some 200 Nurses should remember exactly an offer made so long ago I have pointed out the difficulties - but none would be more disappointed than I - if it were entirely
to slip thro’ - none knew so well as I what an unique offer Miss Lückes has made - And none seem less to understand the position than Miss D. herself - so much so that I almost hesitate to inflict such a person on Miss Lückes to whom I had given such a good account of Miss D.

initialled letter, ff73-74, pencil

Miss Deyns ) July 13/95
       Mr. Williams) 6 a.m.
         10, South Street, {printed address:}
             Park Lane. W

My dearest Fred
    Please be careful of me with these misunderstanding people -
    The last sentence on sheet 1 of my letter of yesterday where I said ‘that they would take any b"lady who paid for anything, pretending to teach her & leaving her to “pick up”, would be ruin to me in their hands. hey n
    I wanted so much to write something that you could forward to them without
Add Mss 41977D

f73v
trouble. But I was so
hurried & interrupted -
Please do not send anything
to Mr. Williams or
Miss Deyns
with which they could work
harm
As for Miss Deyns, to whom it
was so fully explained two
months ago that she was
admitted by Miss Lückes
on a proposal entirely
appropriate to herself alone,
as a Health Missioner,
she is unintelligible & her
yellow scrawl -
[Of course the delay occasioned
by the uncertainty of whether
the payment would be

f74
sanctioned is no fault of
hers - But]
I could not allow her to go
forward with Miss Lückes
in or out of my name with this
scheme as shown by the
October proposal. Now,
could I?
Probably Miss Lückes has
forgotten all about her as
Miss Deyns - I do not think
she took any note of her
name - because she, as
she expressly said, expected
Miss Deyns to send in
the Form filled up - And she
has 200 Nurses to think of
I am so sorry for all this
imbroglio to you at this time.
F.N.

ff75-76v Fred V to FN July 28, 1895, re FV’s unsuccessful efforts to obtain a seat in the House of Commons

ff77-78, Fred V to FN August 12, 1895, re George’s health
ff79-80, Fred V to FN The Auld Hame, North Berwick, August 19 1895 from FV with holiday news
My dear Fred

Hurra for the Norwich Meeting to morrow, I say - tho' you find it oppressive, I am afraid. It is rather trying & touching than oppressive, I think. You meet your friends, you who have fought the good fight so well & meet them who have also fought it so cheerily - & you encourage yourselves for another time. I should like to be the man of the Beer meeting his friends, the Publicans. If the old noble of past times could say: I had rather
'have my dead son than your
'living ones - how much more
should you whose son Norwich
is not dead rejoice over your
possession tho' lost for a time
only a time.

One great lesson this General
Election has or should have
taught us viz: that the
working man knows nothing
of Politics - in the higher sense
that Dr. Arnold of Rugby
put to them: Religion & Politics,
he used to say, make up all the world,
Religion to teach us God: Politics
to teach us our fellow - creatures.

I always think of you &
your saying: when does the
working - man know enough to
make him know more by giving him responsibility?

This is the question of the Age
When you hear the “Labour” party
contending for more wages, fewer
hours, to take the freedom from
every body of taking their work
as they please & domineer over
every body to do as the “Labour”
party please, you see they
know nothing at all about
it. If they had really studied
the subject, whatever conclusion
they came to, one would have
no more right to interfere than
to quarrel with a Russian for
talking Russian. But it is
vain to think that the Elementary
Schools can teach politics. We
have to teach them - to teach
the village young men - And truly
the sooner it is begun, the better.
Village Clubs won’t teach them -
all success be yours - your loving Aunt Florence

Sunny Hill, Thorpe, Norwich, July 14, from MV, re FV’s campaign at Norwich
July 22/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
My heart is with you & Fred - But still, as you I know feel, there are the greatest of consolations in the way you conducted the contest. But I should like to drown B. in Beer & am constructing an apparatus similar to that of the Prince who was
drowned in Malmsey.
Thank my Fred for his letter - Could you tell me how you thought poor George - & how you thought Margt? Just a word, please - if you will be so kind.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff93-94, pencil

f93

_Private_ Augt 24/95

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

I have not yet had
time to write my letter to you
But could you do me a
favour? They want me
to write a letter of
condolence & appreciation
to the _D. of Cambridge_ -
His was so colourless of
a life that it is extremely
difficult to do -
Every body will admit that
- he was no jobber
- he stood up for
everything for the men's
comfort
- he was a first rate
man of business - never

f93v

spared himself the most
tiresome detail -
he was a good man - a
moral man.
but he had no power of
conceiving or exceeding
any reform
& if any is to be made, _he_
must go -
he was exceedingly popular
among the soldiers - (as
popular as his successor
is unpopular - deservedly
unpopular, I believe)
- the Duke was most feeling
& kind - but he had not an
atom of a/the soldier in him
- he failed at Inkerman
  where he commanded -
  (a Division, I think) -
because he could not bear
  to have his horse tread
in the blood of the
  fallen men
Could you give me a sentence
  or two?
    ever your loving
    Aunt Florence

unsigned letter, ff95-97, pencil

-2-
Private Letter 27/8/95
  to D. of 10, South Street, {printed address:}
Cambridge Park Lane. W.
O no! the “Nurses” have
nothing to do with it. I don’t
suppose they know who the D.
of Cambridge is. [When he held
a Meeting on their behalf,
there were not Nurses]. It is
simply a private letter of
my own to the C. in C. And
if you want to know who
suggested it, it was a man
who, having been many years
in a superior’/greater’ appointment in
the W.O. knows more of the
way the mouse runs than
any body - D. Galton - And,
when he asked me the second
time whether I had written
& I said ‘No’ - I asked/consulted a man who is one of my few surviving advisers - & he said ‘Write; - & at all events it can do no harm’ -
But I only “speak” in my own “name” - [I suppose the D. of C. knows that I have been employed for 40 years more or less in the W.O. - because he is a sort of master of detail. But ] it is none the less “difficult to “concoct” - That’s the reason why I come to you - that, & because when I see the two men the “Times” is writing up now, I think the D. of C. deserves a better pen than mine.

There is something great in a man who has never jobbed in his life. When all the R. Family are jobbers.

_Gwendolen_
What you say about Gwendolen is true ever since she was 2 years old - And a very few years later she had all sorts of philanthropies in her head of which she rarely spoke - I am not alluding to all that gabbling & acting about Dolls’ Hosps. Besides, her philanthropies were not on those lines. They were about the blind & old - & about Kathleen whom she used to teach - And even now, tho’
f96v
I see her so seldom, I can see the wonderful look return of the Infant Jesus (in the Dresden Raphael) whom she was so like - the look of saving the world, but not by talk. Never let a child of that sort have dolls - Live pets but not in confinement, should be her play - & taming them. And a few good poor people if such are within reach, & teaching their children.
  People thought she did not mourn her grand mother/mama - She used to retire between the double doors, of which there are enough at Claydon, & cry, & say nothing to nobody.
{written in the left side margin} Margt always said G. was the gem of the whole lot.

f95
{written in the left side margin} Best love to Maudie & the children
I find in the 'other papers' X
“Agriculture” “Mere book knowledge of no use in such a case as this. Examinations by Science & Art Dept considered too difficult for agricultural students.
“Cookery” - “Demonstration lessons in country places useless -
“For classes for poor people useless to deal with food & materials beyond their reach”.
X (in Maudie’s dear hand)
These remarks are most pregnant. Could we have more of them for Health at Home?

signed letter, ff98-99, pencil

My dear Fred
I hope you are not the worse for coming to me. I think I ought to have shut my window.

Private
Let me say about ‘Master Ralph’. He has a great quality which is magnanimity - He is like a father to a boy who has outstripped him
“I don’t think much of a boy who is clever” said to me one of the wisest people I have ever known - “I always
f98v
“ask: has he attention?
“And attention is a
“moral as well as an
“intellectual quality - Boys
“with attention never go
“far wrong.”

Now I think Ralph
has attention.

Boys of 16 are often
very slow & succeed
well & make remarkable
men in after life -
whereas it is very rare
for a precocious boy
to make a great man -

f99
I back Ralph -
& want to send him 10/

ever your loving
Aunt Florence

ff100-01v en route to Pleasley, Mansfield, September 22, 1895, from FV, re Sir Harry Verney’s debts to be paid, Miss Bartlett’s dismissal at Buckingham and a visit to Ralph at Harrow
signed letter, f102-03, pencil

f102

Sept 23/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
   Thank you very much
for your letters.
   I am aghast at Miss
Bartlett’s dismissal. The
worst of it is that one
does not know what to do.
- I thought she did good,
& what was much more,
Mrs. Cheadle did. Dr. De’Ath
said she taught “Bartlett”
& not Health Mr. Soames;
I think if you were to
examine her centres, you
would, as the Anti-Jacobin
did, find that
“There was a hole for his tail to
come through”.

f103

2 Nationalization [5:198]
   Mrs. Rosalind is at this
moment at Beauvais (in
France). She will not
return from a little tour in
France with her mother & sister
till quite the end of the
month. So meanwhile I
asked the best educated I
know of the Radical M.P.s
He says: “By nationalization
“of minerals they mean
“that individual land owners
“should not monopolize
“them but that they
“should be made
“available for the enterprize
“of the whole nation under
f103v
“proper regulations.
“ Practically they are
“ nationalized in all
“ European countries &
“ the owner of the surface
“ is not allowed to claim
“ exclusive right to all
“ below the surface. The
“ result would probably
“ be to cheapen coal.”
[I think I ought to
receive a small pension
for translating for Radicals.]
Best love to all
ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence

initialled letter, ff104-05v, pencil

f104
Oct 4/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
I am so very sorry to
hear (half an hour ago) from
Miss Lückes that Miss Deyns
has an attack of Scarlet
Fever - & th' very mild,
they have been obliged to
send her, as they do all their
Nurses, to the London Fever Hospital,
Liverpool Road, Islington. I am afraid it
is a great disappointment
to Miss Deyns - She had
just completed her month -
& very well, in the Children's
Ward - And Miss Lückes
says that they always
reckon 3 months f before a Nurse can resume work - Miss Lückes asks me to "let the Chairman know "what has occurred" And I am afraid I must ask you to do this. They have communicated with Miss Deyns’ relations "in the routine way" They say they do not know how she caught it But that is all the old fashioned idea of Infection. They say there was no Scarlet Fever in the Ward.

But there is always S. Fever when the first rains come after the heat. We have one case at least, among the Probrs at St. Thomas. But then we have the advantage of a separate block for it. I hear a rumour that you are going to the S. of France - That is not true, is it?

writing to save the post with great haste
F.N.
Miss Irby is in England Miss Lückes hopes that they will give Miss Deyns another 2 months to make up all for this lost 3 months.
Add Mss 41977D

incomplete letter, ff106-07v, pencil

f106

    -2-

10, South Street, {printed address:}
so many in England Park Lane. W.
with no (or little) knowledge
of the facts are hounding
us on to War - the great
Sunday "Demonstration"
in Hyde Park - but not only
that - but popular ladies
of authority &c &c &c -
One gentleman of authority
told me that we could
have no idea of what an
European War would be
now with our long range
guns, our frightful instruments
for blowing up by the thousand,
our Ironclads - no hand
to hand fighting

f106v

I cannot get the D. News
And I could not read it
if I had it. You say
that is "solid" -
Other people say: "Every
"body" says so & so -
"Every body" is always wrong
which is by no means
saying that those who go
to make up "every body"
are wrong - But there
is such a great deal
in enthusiasm without
facts - like the cry:
'Great is Diana of the
Ephesians'.
How is Ralph?
With love to all
    your affecte
    Aunt Florence

I have read your Chester McNaughton book with
the utmost admiration
That is the true Missionary
I have ordered more - Sir W. Wedderburn knew him
very well, & was instrumental
in getting him the post
over the College of the Young

Rajahs whom he so
nobly instructed
Thanks too for Sir W. Hunter’s
“Thackerays in India”
What a condition of things
    (the “private trade” &c) it
reveals among our officials
in early British rule -
Do you know I can
remember Ly Ashburton’s
mother accepting a bribe
or present, call it which
you will! But what splen=
=did individual heroes
among it all.
Have you heard anything more
of Ly Ashburton’s affair?
Thanks also for “The Old
Missionary” - a book I have
long thought the best thing ever
done of the kind - so pathetic.
Oct 19/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

I return 6 letters of the Norwich time which you & Maude were so good as to send me to see. me

It is impossible to express one’s admiration of Mr. Hoare’s letter. It reminds one of the good old times of 30-40 years ago - would that that chivalrous time would come again in the Ho: of C., which was due entirely to the

Peel school & to Sidney Herbert, when they did not care for place, but worked as hard when they were ‘out’ for the measures of those who were ‘in’ -

The Ho: of C. now is like an unreformed Workhouse Infirmary.

I hope you are all ‘reformed’ in health now - Aunt Florence’s best love to all.
f109
Don't go to the London Fever Hosp., even to see Miss Deyns - the French call our Fever Hospitals "foyers d'infection" - And they are right.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
We have been & are
very uneasy about Shore's Louisa, tho' she is better. She was stopped by the sudden cold "with one of her larynx attacks - at Bretagne - on her way back from France.

f109v
Rosalind Nash is with her, of course - But they want Sam who is worth 20 Nurses - who is in Scotland - And they won't let us telegraph for him but I should catch hold of him in a day or two. Don't say anything about it, for we don't want Louis to know, who is away for his holiday, of his mother's illness. She is better. F.N.
f110

Oct. 19/95
10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

Thank you for your letter -

If you are quite sure that your lady, Mrs. Curzon’s mother, wants to see me, I would see her either tomorrow (Sunday) or Monday at 5, if I knew beforehand.

But I have broken thro’ my rule lately, & have seen American Doctors. They are delightful people, so full of enthusiasm.

But they have not even a glimmer of an idea what Nurse training means - It is all Lectures, no Matron, no beds, no Homes on any principle - And they expect me to teach them in an hour how to train - the Lecture system again

f110v

delightful people, so full of enthusiasm.

I will tell you more when we meet -

One man says "Hygiene depends “entirely” on a knowledge of organic Chemistry (sic) & of Bacteriology (sic)

ever your loving

Aunt Florence
Private  10 South St  
Oct 24/95

My dear Fred

Thank you very much for your letter about dear Ralph, which I will act upon gladly.

Yes: I liked Mrs Leiter very much: we will speak about that further -

But the one thing that I find about Americans is that they are beginning before the Flood; that is before what we conquered with great difficulty,

beginning 40 years ago

This brings us in any conversation upon our haunches just as if we were horses pulled up suddenly by a sharp curb upon their haunches.

They have not learnt their A B C - but are full of enthusiasm to read without it -

Mrs. Leiter asked me to give her copies of the two pamphlets you lent her - Bucks Sany Conf - Health at Home which
f113
I am doing - adding
to them what she has
not seen “Rural Hygiene”
& “Mrs. Cheadle’s Report”.
She asked me very
earnestly whether she
{the next 5 lines have vertical lines beside them in both margins}
might quote what
you send her as being
my doctrine - or at
least quote it in her
own words - as such.
I did not know what
to say: so I said I
would ask you.
Please answer at once.

f113v
Sir T. Crawford’s
death is a great
loss to us - we have
no one to replace him
with his great Sanitary
knowledge and his
charming temper -
which sets up no
one’s back against it.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

ff114-15 Fred V to FN, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S.W., October 31, 1895, from FV re a letter to Prince Devawongee, and a thank you for FN’s kindness to the Verney children, and notes on Lunatic Asylums
My dear Fred

Thank you very much for the copy of your letter to Pr. Devawongee, which I will speedily return.

2. I send you to read the D. of Cambridge's letter - very pathetic - which I have not shown to any one. [I put it by in such a safe place to show you that I could not find it till this morning] Please return it to me as soon as you can - for I suppose I must send it to one or two.

3. I have received from the good man at Birmingham (of the Balaclava Feast) a copy of my letter, as by request, for you. It is copied by himself & the hand - writing is so bad that I must have it typed; when done, I will send it you. I cannot read it myself as it is
f117

4. Have you read Mr. Gladstone’s letter to Mme Novikoff in last Sunday’s “Observer” - To find Mr. Gladstone spurring on to War, ‘shaming’ England, - & at the instigation of an exceedingly clever, exceedingly unprincipled woman, - is something so dreadful that one could almost wish it had pleased God to take him first before he had forgotten all the principles of an ex- Premier - & the Greatest leader of the Ho: of C

end 5:475

f117v

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

ff118-18v Fred V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., November 1, 1895, re FN’s letter to the Duke of Cambridge

signed letter, ff119-20, pencil

[8:926]

f119

Private  Nov 1/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
   G. is more beautiful than ever - that is with being with her mother -
   But I wish I could help you to find a lady-governess - how I wish!
   She has, I should think, quite as much power of reflection, making progress now every year.
   I hope I did not excite her.
   She would not have
any tea - And I am afraid there was nothing to tempt her appetite - But there was a horrid fog all night here -

It is difficult not to talk to her, because she asks such searching Economic questions -

There are Graham Wallas' Economic Lectures going on now at the Socy of Arts I do not think the Nash baby attends them yet. But its father & mother & grandmother do - I hope they are not too radical.

Fine weather to you ever your loving

Aunt Florence

Thank you so much for your List of books - How good of you to think of it.

Aunt Florence's love to K. & kindest regards to Mrs. Davidson, please I hope you will not be too tired
My dear Fred

Thank you very much for your letter about Miss Bartlett & the Buckingham Vicar - How glad I am I wrote to you - And you will kindly write to Dr. De’Ath

But I shan’t let you “guarantee” the 10. You have given too much already

2. I send you the typed letter for the Veterans (I wrote the M. S. of) by

your kind desire - It has been a long time typing, because the copy was do infamously written I could not read it myself x

There are also two or three bits left out by the copier which I can’t remember: but as the Paris hair-dresser said: ’The less of your face you do see, the better you do look’-

x I have never seen my own written letter again
3. Please tell Maudie that her book about the "briar = bush" which she lent me is beyond all price.
   And I send her a book "The Old Missionary" which I think is also beyond all price - I could not have conceived Sir W. Hunter writing such a book: so full of sympathy, insight, & real tender understanding.
   But 4.

4. is of most importance You & she have been at Claydon. Please consult her there.

   I am afraid I could not possibly leave London before some time in December -
   If Margt is going to have any kind of Xmas party, I assure you then I am only an encumbrance - not because of rooms or vittles but - because Margt has to entertain the people, of course - & it is
Add Mss 41977D

f123
-2-
{printed address:} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
only when she is alone that I can be of a little use by talking about interesting things to her &c
Maudie! Maudie!!
Now do speak the truth - Is she going to have a Xmas party?
You are a bad lot not to have written

f123v
to me - And how is she?
ever your affectionate Aunt Florence

f124
5. Have you seen Mr. or Mrs. Man Mohun Ghose at the Alexander Hotel? They enquired after you.
You know their worth - I have seen them each separately
F.N.
I was very glad to read your letter to Pr. Devawongee which I return.

I would just call you attention to Mr. Gladstone’s letter to Mme Novikoff in the Observer - Perhaps you don’t attach much importance to it - but many people do.

I felt quite frostbitten.

You mention “Gladstone” in p. 2 of your letter.

In my heart that the gallant old ex-Premier could appear in such a coat - cursing the Turks Sultan - crying shame upon us - & calling down God’s vengeance - & that he should show himself the tool of such a woman.

ff126-27 Alenho, Ridgeway, Wimbledon, November 12, from MV, re MV’s thanks for a book, and news of Claydon

ff128-28v November 12, 1895, from FV, re the absence of a Christmas party at Claydon

ff129-30 Fred V to FN November 28, 1895, re some pens FV is sending FN, and a proposed trip to Paris to see Rolin Jacquemyns before his departure for Siam

ff131-32v, November 28, from MV, re the Verneys’ trip to Paris and the happiness of Gwendolen and Kathleen with Miss Douglas

ff133-34 Maude V to FN December 5, re a suitable book on Confirmation, Nurse Murray’s serious illness, and news of the Verney’s visit to Paris
10 S. St Dec 6/95

Dearest Maude

Many, many thanks for your note.

I do so want to send you something you will like (for the children’s Confirmation) for daily duties, as you say.

I have looked thro’ several of the S.P.C.K.’s books - In all is something good - In all is something Ecclesiastical - Also, they are too much for poor children -

Nevertheless I think I will send you two or three.

But what I have found the best for poor and rich is:

“Jesus the Carpenter of Nazareth”

which gives the idea of the busy life of daily hard work for God & man -

I dare say you have it. Nevertheless I send it. Also the 2nd Edit. of
f136
Jowett’s Sermons - The first & indeed the second sermons are, I think, worth your reading for the children. But I do think your talk with your children better than all the books in the world.
I send Jowett. A friend of mine said to me, ‘It’s not like preaching It’s not a Sermon - It’s like an undergraduate talking - especially “Eating

f136v
“& drinking”. [He shows them the Act; he shows them the Life & not the dogma. He does not say: Do this & do that - But he says: Here it is - What do you think?
I have written expressly for books for the Confn of educated boys of 16 - & girls of 15 - not the poor - books which will tell what the daily duties are & inspire how to do them - But I

[end 8:927]
signed letter, ff137-38v, pencil [8:927-28]

f137
Dec 10/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
One does feel so very sorry for the terrible disaster to dear Mrs. Davidson; but her stedfast mind is much in her favour - & for you for I fear you have no one but Mrs. Davidson to place over Mrs. Davidson's sick-room with unbounded trust - My best love & prayer for her - I send you 4 books But I wish I could send you books that were all good I think “The Laying “on of Hands” has good things, because

f137v

f138
the writer was a layman before he was a clergyman - there are not so many stock phrases - The habit of giving “addresses” takes away a good deal of the individuality, the main instrument of good in 3 & 4
f138v

I wish I had an American book which converted me in 1836 - Alas! that I should so little have lived up to my conversion.

"The Cornerstone" - There was such a striking chapter. Pharisees, Peter, & Judas even, all live now - And, then it gave them as they appear in these days -

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

ff139-40 December 18, from MV, re family news including a visit to “The Mikado” by the Verney children and 4 Siamese boys

ff141-42 December 20, from FV, re a talk between Prince Svasti and Lord Wolseley, and a request for Ralph to see FN

ff143-44v Kerris Vean, Falmouth, Cornwall, Christmas Day, from MV, re news of George and thanks for the children's presents

ff145-47v Christmas Day, from FV, re George and the presents, and problems with Harrow’s regimen for Ralph
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff148-52v, pencil

f148

Dec 28/95

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

I feel most deeply for
the difficulty about dear
Ralph’s health. And
Dr. K. Barker’s is a
most sensible letter -
one which cannot be
neglected. But it is so
hard to advise when
one does not know the
people. 1. I do not see
how you can avoid
writing to Dr./Mr Davidson,
 tho’ I doubt, as you do,
whether it will do any

f148v

good - Can he (I speak
as a fool) alter the hours
of foot - ball & dinner
for one boy, unless
indeed a fortunate
conciliabule of parents
had written all at once?
And if the other boys
with ostriches’ stomachs
did not for some reason
like the change, could
the one boy stay?
The season of short days
makes the difficulty
greater -
If I wrote, I would make
the letter less that of an instructor God speed -

2. Dr. K. Barker's letter -
   You would not send this telle quelle, would you? even with Dr. K.B.'s leave - Probably he is one of those men who say: Fiat justitia, ruat caelum. But this would not carry his point (I speak as a fool) while, as he goes slap-dash, & very wisely, at the whole of Harrow School, it might ruin his practice [Valour succeeds, better] I would copy the verdict about Ralph - it is you not his name who answer for Dr. K. B. - but not the signature

I return Dr. K.B.'s excellent letter - & the "Draft" (of which I cannot find the 2nd part) You cannot think how London servants suffer from something of the same causes as Harrow school boys. But doctors know - tho' they do not say for fear of being sent away - I fear dear Ralph will have to leave Harrow
1. Army Class: will he have Gymnastics there?

2. Home & McGuire
You know that Crammers give no discipline - indeed they are the very reverse of discipline.

   But it would be extremely difficult, I am quite aware, to get Ralph at 17 into a School - They would not take him at Clifton, because that would be cramming

illeg

Sandhurst & Militia
Ralph says, & he does not generally speak without knowledge, that Military Surveying is now taught everywhere -

   Is it taught in the Militia Classes? Except at Sandhurst, where it is taught & practiced to perfection, it is not supposed that it is really taught
The Militia is generally credited with words &
theory, but not with
real practical knowledge/doing

It is true that it is
now
Sandhurst
or Militia
to get into the Army
& that half the men
in the Army have
got in thro’ the Militia,
but Sandhurst, thorough
Sandhurst, looks down
upon them - And is
there discipline in the
Militia?

At Sandhurst they go
out on Military Surveying
2 and 3 times a week,
they have plenty of space
& ground for real
surveying - But in
scarcely any other place
have they this last?
The discipline at Sandhurst
is splendid - It makes
a man of you.
5. Rifle Brigade
   You know these are almost all London men.
   Did you ever think of a Line Regiment?
   The 19th Line Infantry
   Yorkshire - Col: Bruce
   is an excellent Regiment
   So is the West Kent
   2nd Batt: Line Infantry
   In both these Regiments all are country men
   A Yorkshireman is always good - remember that I'm a Yorkshireman

For the Rifle Brigade you must send in your name early “on the Duke's “List” as you know -
But Regiments & Schools change so much according as their present Officers or Masters are - One can only speak for the present year

ff153-54 Fred V to FN December 31, 1895, re FV’s & MV’s concern at FN’s ill health, and family plans
Jan 8/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
   Thank you very much for your note. I should particularly have liked to have seen you today not only to talk about family but about this extraordinary mixture of heroism & blue funk as you say which nobody seems as yet to understand & which nobody delights in but the newspapers, who

have the pleasure of contradicting themselves. But Doctors are inexorable, ‘be quiet & ‘silent & don’t even write’ they say.
My love to all yours - And tell me, please, about dear Ralph’s fate, when decided In my last letter to Maudie, I was just going to send a message
Add Mss 41977D

f156
of regard & surprise,
delightful surprise,
to Mrs. Davidson at her
being able to go to
Falmouth, when I
was interrupted. I hope
she is now well. Please
give her my message.
Is your address
Debdale
Mansfield?
Good speed to all
ever your & their
loving Aunt Florence

signed letter, ff157-57v, pencil

f157
Private Jan 19/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred
Thank you for telegraphing
to me about Harry & Vienna
It will be the making of him,
if he can keep straight
Vienna has not a good character.
When does he go?
You know that poor Miss Deyns
has “Modified Small Pox”
- only a few days after
returning to the London -
& is gone to the Small pox
Hospl. She is unlucky
indeed
Miss Lückes of the London
wishes to know if you would like her to take some one else during poor Miss Deyns seclusion.

ever your loving
Aunt Florence
I hope you really think that the Mekong business is settling better than you expected

signed letter, ff159-60v, pencil

Jan 30/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
Good cheer for Siam if you are even tolerably satisfied with the Mekong business
Poor Margt - I am afraid it is a great wrench for her, parting with the 4 children for 2 months - But she is blessed Margt all the same - I hope it will do him good
Ralph I enclose a sordid little bit of gold for I think there is some comfort in a bit of gold even in affliction - I was so sorry not to be able to see him - He is not in the same 'House', is he? with Harry - When does his Confirmation take place? When is the bigger Harry going to Vienna?
Sir Harry did something for Pleasley Water-supply did he not? You know we were thinking of putting up a drinking water-fountain - But I had much rather you applied the enclosed to anything you think best, only I always remember that Workmen’s Clubs often entail much harm & little good, except there be a gentleman or better still a lady, like Lady always & responsibly there ever your loving Aunt Florence

My dear Fred Please understand that that little sum is for your Pleasley purposes & name not for mine. It is of no consequence that they should remember me - besides all I knew are dead - it is of great consequence they should remember you - And it could only be a little mite in what you do Yes: about Harry (medicine sized) & Vienna, I am sorry - whatever of back bone is in him is of your putting & Maudie’s - If he is in London, {archivist: 31 Jan 1896}
before he goes, I should like to see him, just for one ¼ hour - And could you think of some present, not cumbrous to travel, & little, which I could give him?

ever your & Maudie's

signed letter, ff164-65, pencil

Robert Robinson  Feb 9/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred
The last person I saw before I was shut up
i.e. before Xmas was
R. Robinson.
And he asked me to write a letter from him to Lord Spencer whose place as Land Agent he wants.
The present Lord Kinnaird will speak for him who was served with his brother till his death. And the present

Lord North - his last place
But I can speak for R. R., as one can speak for few - tho' not professionally I have known him for 41 years - beginning in the Crimea where I could trust him to buy things for the Patients on board the ships at BalACLava (& never drink) as I could trust no man
He was then 16 - I bought him out of the Army, educated him -
And Sir Harry was so kind - R.R. married a Claydon girl - getting him Ld Kinnaird's place - He has never made a faux pas -
   When I saw him the other day, he was still the same upright, open, little fellow he was 41 years ago - There is something that a good young soldier never loses -
   But I do not know

Lord Spencer, except by name - And I did not know what to do, till I recollected that you were intimate with him, at least at the Norwich election -
Could you kindly help me?
Ld Spencer was, perhaps still is, abroad. But I was told that my letter wd be forwarded to him wherever he was -
   Help me, please -
ever your loving Aunt F.
797

Add Mss 41977D
initialled letter, ff166-68, pencil
f166
Feb 28/96
My dear Fred
1
I am afraid I am not
able to see any one to-day.
2.
Poor Nurse Murray - I will
do my very best to help
her. But few have any idea
how difficult it is Miss Pringle, the pink &
pearl of all our Matrons,
is now the Nurse &
housemaid of two or three
old idiots, supposed to
be R. C. s - She has been
thrown over board by her
own co-religionists
f166v
3.
I was quite aware
that the whole pit was
in love with Maudie.
But do not be alarmed Ask Phillimore
- I do not find in my legal
books or my Prayer book that a pit can
marry a lady - Besides,
“I could not do with
“all” - in the words of
the immortal Shakspeare
I am much more
alarmed at the idea
of a “Parish Room”,


without Maudie to conduct the doings - A Parish Room or Club with a lady - & there you are - without a lady, where are you?

4. I have done nothing about Miss Deyns with Dr. De’Ath - What can I say? It is not my for me - far less for you - to manage this Doctors’ quarrel - Her brother or

some other Doctor ought to have gone up to London & ascertained the facts. Either the Small-Pox Doctors ought to have communicated with the Doctors who sent them a case of non- Small Pox Small Pox ought not they? Or the London Hospl Doctors who sent the case ought to have communicated with the Small-Pox Drs - who rejected it - Is it not so?
Add Mss 41977D

f168
-2 {archivist: Feb 28 ’96}
sorry not to be able
to see you
Love to Maudie &
chicks
N.B. Ireland would be
the place for Nurse
Murray -
ever your loving
F.N.
Is Mr. Stow going to
leave Claydon?

{f169 is blank}

signed letter, f170, pencil

f170
Pr Svasti March 15/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
I re-inclose Pr
Svasti’s letters - I think
I would keep them if
I were were you - They
seem sincere, & have
a touch of Oriental
grace about them.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
Poor Siam, as you say!
But you have done much
good to the Princelets & to
many more there -

ff171-73 Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks., April 3, 1896 from FV, re the debt FV owes to Parthe, an
offer for FN to name some one to be invited to Claydon, visitors to Claydon, a request for the name
of a specialist in deafness, and concern for FN’s health
April 15/96
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
My dearest Fred
Thank you from the very bottom of my heart for your beautiful letter - It does the old woman so much good - I took your advice & sent for Mr. Gardiner - He came at once - 'me' & the 4 maids took the Sacrament I thought I never heard the impressive Service more impressive - he was so kind coming on

Good Friday - We had a [April 3] [6:576] little, very little conversation A. He says there is now a Tenement Act - what is it? and he wants a Health Missioner to go into the tenements & work it - I said: I suppose she must be of the District - And he said: Yes - And asked me to find one - But you see I don’t know his District at all. he dates now from St. George the Martyr, Southwark - He has a trained Nurse. B. But I am more & more puzzled about the
f175
training of *H. Missioners*,
anent Mis Deysns. I have
asked several experienced
people - And one recommends
   A Cottage Hospital -
but insists upon a
“grounded 3 years’
“training as a *Nurse*”,
which she repeated at
   least 50 times -
Another & the most
   sensible, as I thought:
said: ask advice at *Manchester*
   & gave me an address
-“they know much more
“about Health Missioners
“there than we do in London “
[You understand; I only told

f175v
you about Mr. Gardiner’s
wish, because I think
that some people are
awakening to the difference
between Health & Sickness]
C. Two things are cropping
up which will be attended
with great difficulty:
1. “Female Lodges”
2. the law about *publishing*
   private letters.
I am very glad your great
party was so prosperous
Margt is delighted at
   your being there
   ever your loving
   Aunt Florence
Love to Maudie & all

ff176-77 Fred V to FN May 3, 1896, re a Technical Education meeting and news of people at
Claydon

ff178-79 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., June 19, from MV, re George’s death
June 26/96
My dear Fred
   I had Harry Lloyd Verney’s letter last night, written in the train.
I think we cannot mourn for George, but for poor Morfy very, very much.
   “Grief must fill the room up of her absent child.”
for she had attended on him like a child -
   I hope this great change will also make a great change in dear Harry

Will
   Clarens
   Lake of Geneva
find them, if I write?
   ever your loving
   Aunt Florence

initialled letter, f181, pencil

June 28/96 What nice boys your Siamese boys are!
My dear Fed I am sorry to say my “coast “is not clear this afternoon” -
Harry Bonham Carter is going abroad for a much needed holiday - & he & I have business to do.
   We are also very “thrang” as we say in Derbyshire. Sisters taking the opportunity
   {printed address:} 10, South Street, of being in London to see me 300 Nurses {sideways} Park Lane. W.
are going to Windsor by the queen’s invitation on Thursday - not that I think Nursing a Royal thing
   F.N.
Dr. De’Ath
& Nat: Health Socy  July 2/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
   My dear Fred
Would you read these 3
   letters & tell me your
   mind?
A few weeks ago, Lady
   Priestley wrote to me
about the same, enclosing the
Programme by Dr. Schofield
(not Thorne Thorne) It was
perfectly incredible - all these
London young women,
taught in London by Lectures,
were to be hired out by
the Nat. Health Socy to
reform the country Hygiene
- in villages or by County Councils

“in uniform’ - sic
in great ladies ‘ country
   houses “out of uniform”
sic
[I don’t think it is profane to
say
   From such
“Good Lord deliver us”]

Lady Priestley wrote to me
   “should she join?”
“She was in a minority of
   “one in not joining” -
“would I send her our “Rural
   “Hygiene”? “to compare the two”?
I did - but gave her no
   other answer -
What shall I say to Dr. De’Ath?
I dare say I could find Lady Priestley’s letter & even the Programme if you wished.

ever yours
F.N.

My dear Fred
Thank you for sending me Mr. Morant’s letter - so characteristic of the man I do feel very glad, & should feel gladder if I knew who was “she” - There was a “she” when he went out to Siam - of whom he told me - I wonder whether it is the same “she”

Please tell him how I give him joy
I should like to send the “she” a wedding nosegay on her wedding day, if I knew who & where “she” is

ever your loving Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff185-87, pencil

f185

Lady V.C. July 5/96

10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

   I am aghast - Sir John
McNeill said that the sense
of honour was degenerating
in England - And he was
himself a fatal illustration
of it!! I who thought him the
soul of honour! [I will
write no more confl. letters
in this world]

But to business

   Lady V. C. & Ld Ste !!!
I have had no time to do
   my letters to Sir J. McNeill
I too have been ill - much
   worse than usual
But if you knew how much

f185v

must be wholly torn out -
   no "scratching" will do -
   tho' it is a comfort to see,
as you point out, that I am
   may/to "scratch out whatever
   "I like' -
{the following paragraph has a bracket in the left margin}
   In July & August it is
always impossible that
I should undertake any
private business. We are
overburthened with work -
   I especially, because of
the great change at St. T.'s
{the next paragraph has a bracket in the left margin}
   But I may have some
time in September - to use
   as she desires - & I cannot leave London
{bracket ends}
   tho' the letters are so
repulsive to me that when
I just look at them, I shut
them up like some unclean animal -

She does not seem to know the law - The law is, I believe, clear enough - viz - that the letters are the writer’s Copy-right - that is, that they cannot be published without the writer’s permission -

I remember saying - [was it to you? - was it in the case of Lord Stanmore who has my letters] - & who wants Sidney Herbert’s letters in my possession - that I was in his, Lord S’s, power - You said:

“Not at all - You have “but to get an injunction “and &c &c - [I forget what the last words were]

I am sorry I prevented you from sending your excellent letter to Lady V.C. I believe I did it, because I could not swear to every word in it

But you must now write her an ‘excellent’ letter, please - not exactly threatening her with the law - that would be rude - but letting her know that there is a law & quoting
f187
-2-
10, South Street, {printed address:}
  Park Lane. W.
whatever you please in
  this my letter as [ [ [ It is curious that people
who lead the ordinary Socy
& recreation life have
not the least idea of the
{bracket in the left margin} life of one who has not
had a moment’s leisure
or a holiday for more
than 40 years - & who cannot
{bracket ends} leave her work for them
  Amen my preserver
your loving
  Aunt Florence

{f188 is blank}

signed letter, ff189-90v, pencil

f189
  July 23/96
  10, South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
  All success to your holiday & tour. I am
sure you all of you wanted it.
  I have 2 or 3 remarks & answers to make:
  1. If you mean to answer/ acknowledge Lady V. C. - I would certainly
“roar”, if you mean to “roar
“like a sucking dove”.
They can’t understand - I am so glad I did not see her - I should have spent
all the time in trying not to laugh, or trying
not to cry - for I think Sir John McNeill’s doctrines the most inconceivable - I think those Argylls must have corrupted him

2. Did you see Dr. Thorne Thorne after all? Don’t answer if you didn’t

3. Maudie is the very old woman of the good, old times

3. You villain base - you know I don’t think Maudie a “new woman” - Cycling is a splendid thing for ladies unattached - But what would you have thought if you had seen

Miss Crossland cycling or our Sisters? The next thing is of course to cycle with Doctors or students, as actually happened with boating at Oxford till we sent down a Matron who didn’t cycle? Would you have us called The “Matrimonial Market” as St. B’s is?

4. I should like to see you so much on Sunday But I am double engaged

1 - to the Bishop of Ripon who preaches at St. Thomas
on Sunday (we have one of his daughters a Ward Sister at St. Thomas’) & who has several times asked to see me - But if he shouldn’t come that day, I have 2. another engagement of some one going out of town.
5. Don’t travel at night more than you can help.
6. Could Maudie kindly send me a post card saying how Edmund & Margt are?

Best love to R., G., & K., & blessing on all - I hope to see you all when you come back

{in the right margin}
your loving Aunt Florence

signed letter, f191, pencil [8:928]

f191
July 26/96
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.

Dearest Gwendolen
I send a few roses for you to give to Mother - When you have affectionately to smell your train for 24 hours, you are glad of roses to smell - I am afraid they will be rather shaggy for I was obliged to get them last night or not at all.

And now I wish you one & all a delightful run in Switzerland & Mother not too much fatigue ever your loving

Aunt Florence
Add Mss 41977D

signed letter, ff192-93v, pencil [8:928]

f192
   Oct 17/96
   10, South Street, {printed address:}
       Park Lane. W.
No, dearest Maude I did not know that you were all absconding on "Nov 6" - And I don't even know whether the place you are going to is at the North or the South Pole- It is very good for the Cr. Prince & very bad for us. But I forgive you & wish you all well & glorious. Good speed

f192v
   I do pity & sympathize with you in your making of households
   I wish I could see you all before you go
   Have you a post- - town where you are absconding to?
   Love to all your ever affectionate
       Aunt Florence
f193
Thank you very much
for a brace of partridges -
I did not forget my
thanks - but my head
was scrambling
  F.N.
You must not think of
“paying” anything for poor
  Mrs. Callander - She
has no kind of claim
upon you. I am only
afraid of troubling

f193v
you much too much as
  it is -
What kind of “books"
does she like?
You are not going to
  let your present
house, are you?
  I shall hate the people
who take it "with a
“mortal undying hatred
“& would pursue them
“to the confines of
“eternity if I had but
“the time."
Lady V. Campbell

Private Oct 29/96

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

Many thanks for your note. I shall be very glad to see you - only not tomorrow (Friday)

I am told that as you are so very good as to act as my Agent, Lady V.C., had no business to forbid my seeing the letter she wrote you, & which was followed up by your most kind letter from the mountains, which was

not to the point & showed that they were under an error

Till I have seen that letter,

I hardly know what to say -

Of course the easiest thing & honourablest thing would be what you suggest - viz “that Lady V. should “leave them the letters with“ me “altogether” -

I have even now only looked over the letters cursorily

There are two long ones of mine about Sidney Herbert
Add Mss 41977D

f195
which it is impossible to
conceive how a man of
honour could have kept.
And nothing should induce
me it I could not destroy
them not to take out
an injunction against
the Publisher for printing
them. which I am told
would be the right course -
There is a mass of trivial
corrresponde from my relations
There is a long letter from
S. Herbert himself, showing
how much Sir J. McNeill
had helped with making

f195v
regulations for the Genl Hospls
& for the expende of my
fund which I should
not see any particular objection to
being published - But they are
so wholly uninteresting to the Public
And there are some
confl letters from Parthe,
showing how much I had
been persecuted in the Crimea
which it is no use
reviving now. Indeed, I
myself had forgotten it
The whole leads to such
a mistaken idea of Sidney
Herbert, that if they are
to be published, I should
insist,
on writing a kind of
Epilogue showing what
Sidney Herbert really
did do & having it
published with the
life. But I suppose
there is nothing they
would like better -
The whole is out of
date & partakes of
the nature of a libel.
-and oh what a waste
of time for me

but even this is
plain sailing compared
with the other:
Ld. Stanmore's Life
of Sidney Herbert
which is a difficulty indeed
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Dearest Maude
Thank you, thank you
for your dear, dear letter.
The Pine Wood is sweet,
the sun is sweeter, but
Maudie is sweetest of all.
This tells you how I
should like to come.
But indeed, dearest I
fear for myself it is
impossible.
And you must not
make any difference
in your arrangements for the excellent Siamese boys for me - Think what importance it is for them to see such an English home as yours. You do, happy boys!

If you do make any difference, I will have you up before the Police Magistrate, & he will inflict the severest punishment the law directs - for abandoning children -

Sir John Bridge.

will you come here, please?

I am so very sorry not to be able to see you on Saturday -

I have an engagement of some months with an American lady, head of a Training School for Nurses, who is now
on tour in Gt. Britain
to see our Training Schools.
But she has blundered
her Itinerary & our
engagement does not
come off till this very
Saturday unluckily -
I shall hope for another
day when you are
in town for furnishing
Siamese Legation
I want to thank you
for all you have done
for poor Mrs. Callender
& to ask how long she

how long she is likely
to stay at the Cancer
Hospital - & what
I could do for her when
you are gone to the Pine Wood
I could keep *Monday* or
*Tuesday* afternoon
open for you, if you
are in London *naturally*
Great love to G. & K.
& kindest remembrances
to Mrs. Davidson
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
I telegraphed to you an hour ago P.T.O.

“Blessed be Drudgery”
for such as you -
I must try to get that
little book again.
f202
Dec 10/96
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
Dearest Fred
I was very glad to hear you were alive,
I know how much you have to do, but was rather frightened at your not coming on Monday
Thank you very much about Hatchard’s - He has sent me what he calls an “Approval Parcel” (but without an Invoice)
I shall keep them all,

f202v
many of them are standard books - one a Life of Gordon, in two Vols - but there are only 19 Vols in all (including two little ones) And we have 15 Wards, plus two blocks, to supply - And some of them books are what irritate Hospl Patients most of all, viz - short fairy tales or stories in small print bound up in one thick Vol.
These books are for gentle folks.
not for between 200 & 300 men, women & children in bed -
But I am glad all the same - I opened one of them, 'The Palace on the Moor,' which seemed to me one of the best stories I had ever seen -
But I have no eyes ever your loving
Aunt Florence P.T.O.

I hope Maudie has found a governess. It is so tiring looking for governesses - or even for cooks.
28/1/97
Dearest Maude
Here is £1 I owe Fred
for books for the children,
tho’ I don’t know what
they were, except Gwendolen’s
I have to write to you
about dear Ralph, who
is much more manly,
quite as thoughtful, but
I think wants Gymnastics
& dinner - I cannot
write now -

Please thank Fred for
McNaghten’s capital
book of Kathiawar -
Ralph always interests
me so very much -
but he is not like a
boy
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

I always remember of Ralph
that he was “preferring one another
“in honour” - see Harry minimus
That is a noble character
signed note, ff4-5, pencil

f4  
10 S. St  Feb 4/97  
My dear Fred  
   I do not know what  
to do for this poor man  
whom yet I would so  
gladly help. I do not  
think it would do for  
me to write to a man  
whom I never heard of -?  
nor yet to write a  
formal certificate for him?  
But I have told him,  
I believe, & I would now  

f4v  
tell him again that  
he may quote me as  
his reference - & I will  
write for him what I  
saw at Claydon in  
Sir Harry’s time if I  
am written to as his reference  
   Will that do?  
ever your loving  
   Aunt Florence  
Tho’ I know nothing about  
it, I should not be much  
surprised if we saw him  
at Melchet 6 months hence. But you probably know more than I.

f5  
   What a beautiful  
book that is of Mac  
Naghten’s which you  
kindly sent me - I  
think that it gave a  
copy to Board  
Schoolmasters here  
But you probably know  
more than I
Feb 23/97
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Thank you, thank you,
dearest Maude, for
defending me about the
"relics" of me & the Crimean War
What are the "relics" of the
"Crimean War"?
The tremendous lessons we
have had to learn from
its tremendous blunders &
unavoidable ignorances.
1. [I do not here enter into
the blundering at home - the
green coffee &c &c &c]
But:
Lord Raglan with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe
all the qualities of our Ambassador
& the défauts at Constantinople
de ses
qualités of a great
noble
want of resource, initiative
& combination
our men said at Constantinople they had rather everybody eats rice have lost their every day rum than their rice also drinks coffee salt meat & biscuit shores of Euxine dying of scurvy crowded with cattle which could have walked themselves up to camp sleeping on the ground } mattrasses &c &c &c All this requires explanation - no use going into it now 2nd Lesson - *Untrained* Nurses useless, often worse than useless, no characters The *training* of Nurses our second Lesson 3. *Hygiene: Sanitation* - The total ignorance of this cost Lord Raglan himself & thousands of our gallant soldiers their lives.
What filled our Hospitals at Scutari?

- Fevers
- Scurvy (miscalled Diarrhaea)
- Frost bite
- Dysentery
- Cholera

We took in 4000 from these diseases in 17 days.

We had 4 miles of beds in one Hospital alone at Scutari

Ld Palmerston sent out the Sanitary Commission (& the Commissariat do.) in March/’55 And with their help we learnt the terrible lesson of the Crimean War on Hygiene

[N.B. But even now, I have not seen one book on the Crimean War which gives it]

These are the tremendous “relics” of the Crimean War

And I will not give my foolish “Portrait” (which I have not got) or any thing, as “relics” of the Crimea. It is too ridiculous You don’t judge even of a public house & the victuals inside by the sign outside I won’t be hung up as a sign.

Please tell the kind ladies politely,
f8

Private March 11/97

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred

I am so sorry about
Gwendolyn: for tho’ I hope
it is a very light sort, it is
so inconvenient & so bad for
Maude, tho’ she makes every
thing good

My Bust

I had a letter from Edmund
saying that you had sent
him a “Form” to fill up &
sign about sending the Bust
to the Earl’s Court Exhibition
but that he would wait
“2 or 3 days” till he heard
from me - I wrote immediately

f8v

saying that I had
promised it (to lend
it) to Lady Wantage, as he
said, & not knowing what
the Form was, accepting that
he should fill it up & send
the bust, which I told him
was the Soldiers’ bust - &
the Soldiers’ property.

But I am told that
I did quite wrong about
the “Form”, & that I ought
to tell you that I do not
wish any “Form” to be
‘filled up - & that I should
‘prefer the Bust to be
’sent here & that I will arrange
for its delivery at the
Exhibition - that there
will be no difficulty as
to the Form which the
Exhibition people require
to be filled up: they will
take whatever I choose
to send' -
I am afraid it is too late
to stop it/ the Form - & above all
do not embroil me with
[illeg] which always
recoils upon Margt
[You see all Parthe wished
was that it should be
considered her property
(which it never was)

& they consider all hers
to be theirs, because she
left every thing to Sir Harry
in great haste
yours rather anxiously
F.N.
God bless Margaret
& you all
March 11
My dear Fred
I sent this early this morning to
all your haunts in London. But
you were gone - So I can only
send to Camberley -
I do agree with you that
the D. Chronicle has rather
lost its head - But I am quite
appalled at the way in which
April 13/97
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
My dearest Fred
Thank you for your very kind letter. It is indeed a great piece of news that you have bought a house. May it be all you desire!
You are going you say to Venice on the 29th? I trust to see both you & Maudie before you

I have been & am so pressed - the Hindoos of note who have been summoned here for the “Indian Expenditure” Comm: & whom they wish me to see - They are very instructive but not hopeful And we have painful Indian business too - [Yesterday Mr. Morant came without an
appointment - He was very full of meat & I was pleased to see him - but it is hard work.]

And now I have to confess - I have been so driven that I never sent your letter to Mr. Lister Kaye about poor Mr. Robertson And I could not find it. But I have never written to Mrs.

Robertson in answer to the letter I showed you. I don't know what to write. If Lady A. means to tell this story - !? Miss Violet Brooke Hunt is going to be married !! to a Mr. Bathurst of Sydney Park near Gloucester I have had a nice letter from dear Ralph ever your loving in haste Aunt Florence
April 16/97  
Good Friday  
10, South Street, Park Lane, W.  

My dearest Fred  
I am so very sorry here is your letter to Mr. Lister Kaye which I did not send - ( not because I neglected it but because people would come on business, just when I had received an hour for my letters) on behalf of poor Mr. Robertson I have not written to her.  
I see you are going away on the 27th that is Tuesday week. I hope very much to see you & Maudie before that you go.  
So the Prince is gone or going to Berlin for his Military education - I am sorry - Is not the English as good? And the German is all spoiled by making Germany a standing camp - And they hate us.  
Miss Violet B. Hunt has sent me her little reprinted Article. It is very good And I observe she says what I entirely concur with that people are proud of founding Workmen’s Clubs, Public houses without profit, & leaving them entirely to Workmen’s management which is the best of principles,
if with a sympathetic central
influence, better perhaps
wielded by a woman than a
man - with whom/him they argue -
Best love to Maudie
and hoping to see you both
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
O King of England!
opposite Windsor Castle!!
[written on a slant]
"Violet
wants to know
Lady Ashburton
Do you know where
she is now?

signed notes, ff14-17v, pencil

May 27/97
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
1) F.V.M.’s to be
Preface to 2nd Edition
dated April 1897
with an addition
2) see 2] separate paper
3) M. V.’s alterations
to her specimen lecture
p.p. 32, 33, 34, 35.
4) Mrs. Cheadle’s Report
to take the place of
F.N.’s letter p. 49
passages from that
letter being inserted in
the addition to the Preface
2)
2) separate paper

Hy Bonham Carter has been so good as to write this - partly from my letter at the end p. 49 - partly from what I told him of the great increase of questions asked by the poor mothers of Miss Deyns at her lectures such a hopeful sign! It should be dated April/97 You know that Fred addressed about 350 of the Technical Educationists of

N. Bucks at Claydon Ho with great success - even the old farmers waking up You know that Miss Deyns spoke for a few minutes & said how much more interested than formerly the mothers seemed - & how they asked her questions eager & intelligent when she was lecturing to them. This was what I told Hy B. C. & he wrote that “addition” 2) separate paper - He said it should go in at the end of Fred’s Preface to 2nd Edition
or Insert the addition
as a note to Mrs. Cheadle's Report.
Please look at 2)
I do not know whether
the "Health Missioners" have
"mentioned it/"pointed it out" "in recent
"reports" - I only know that
Miss Deyns did "mention it/"point it out"
at Fred's Meeting in a
few words he made her
say -
How sorry I am to give you
so much trouble
dearest Margaret

-2-
I cannot tell
you how 10, South Street, {printed address:}
overcrowded with work Park Lane. W.
& serious anxieties I
have been & am - I
have not known ¼ hour's
leisure. And I only
mention it /this as my excuse
I saw Fred a day or
two before he started
with Maude to meet
the King of Siam -
And he repeated
his desire that I should
look it over & send it
to you, dearest Margaret,
for you to put under it
into form for Press
f16v
[I am sorry to lose a single line of your “specimen lecture” which is by far the best thing in the book - But I shall stick to it in an old copy - I must bow to what you say in this.]

I enclose Fred’s first note to me

f17
Dearest blessed Margaret

f17v
see within

signed letter, ff18-21v, pen

f18
Private August 30/97
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred
I had a long interview with Sir Douglas Galton last evening - And we talked carefully over your (3) printed papers & your own letter to me - He is very much interested He says that it is an unprecedented/outrageous thing to rule “referred back” as “rejected” - but that it is very difficult to over rule a Chairman’s ruling. [I am very glad that you have such an ally as Lord Buckinghamshire if he is a man of sense & of cautious energy/vigour]
Lord B’s letter of course did not come to me till after D. G.’s visit - but I hope will facilitate some of the things he said D. G. proposed. He, D. Galton, first asked: ‘what do their Standing Orders’ say’? & said ‘these sort of things ought to be provided for ‘by the Standing Orders’ (in the Worcestershire case, they are) Perhaps they are in yours) But, he said, ‘move for a ‘Committee to get complete ‘Standing Orders’, if you are not satisfied with your Standing Orders. You should, he said, “by

“a side wind get your “Standing Orders” - not run at this particular Chairman’s misdemeanour to get the necessary Standing Order.

He was pleased to hear that your majority against you was only one - 13 to 14 - which inspired him with hope - He thinks it so certain that you will win. If the worst comes to the worst, he says: there will be a new Council next March - get a new Chairman - (they elect their new Chairman each time) - have an alternative Chairman ready -
He suggests that you should get the Clerk of the Co. Co to write round for the *Standing Orders of the other Co. Co.s*

He says they have never had any difficulty with *their* Co. Co & in tracing the causes of this in order to make up his mind as to your cruel difficulties, he said:

their (Worcestshire) *magistrates* all offered themselves as candidates for the Co. Co. *Did yours?* Of course a good many of these are gone - but the high

---

Private -2- {in FV’s hand Miss N. Co Co business}

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

*tone remains.* They have had two excellent Chairmen and they have had such a pull in their County Medl Off of Health - the other M. O. H. consult him - He has 800 a year - & must take *no* private practice - he therefore does not tread on their toes - It is Fosbroke, as you know; *not* the one that D. Galton voted for, but, he says, has done admirably. He, D.G. says; ‘they exercise ‘great care not to seem
‘too interfering -
‘They would not, e.g.
‘preach at them WHAT THE
‘LAW WAS - they would not
put the whole thing bodily
into a paper but do it
more gradually - taking one
thing at a time?

The consequence is that
their Sanitary Commee is
authorized to take action
in the name of the Co. Co -
- they have now, or rather
are going to have, a JOINT
Isolation Hospl: a great
advantage.

I am afraid all this is not
of much use to you at
this moment. But it is
always well to know - at least
I have found it so - what
others have attained; &
how?

I return Ld Buckinghamshire’s
good letter with thanks

God speed you
I am sure you will win
ever your loving

Aunt Florence
I will return your May
paper. but be cautious
please

I was very sorry not to see
you on “Tuesday at 6.30,” as

you kindly said - I had
cleared the house for you

Very glad you have Maurice
Bunsen for Siam - Is he
a son of George?
Dearest Maude,

I am so thankful for your letter about Margaret & Ellin - How good of you to write -

But I am like one dumb-founded; I cannot write a word of what I feel to them -

I do so agree with Gwendolen - What was it that funny Kathleen said? You have of course heard from Fred - I have, but not a word about his King, which is the real anxiety - he merely writes about Doctors for his Siamese - & says he will be for a week (from 30th) at Hotel du Vieux Doelen La Haye.

I am quite shocked at your reading Trooper Halket in the train. But as I can’t undo it, I will tell you something that is Confidential.

The Govt here was so struck
with it that they would not believe it. And they despatched a man (whose name was told me) to Mashona land to report to them - IF he has reported, they keep it dark - but whatever has transpired, tends to prove show that the book is true - This is sad.

I send a half sovereign for each of the two dear girls - But you must tell me what K. said about Ellin, please ever your affte.

Aunt Florence

unsigned, incomplete note, f24, pencil

And she must know, in a poor place, where to apply for a 'confinement bag'

Oct 7/97

signed note, ff25-26v, pencil

Oct 10/97 10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W.

My dear “hardened and “abandoned” Maude

Thanks for your note
I am sorry you took my poor note for a preachment
You will see if you care that it was not, and that I am not so guilty as I seem.
I wrote mine when you or Fred had told me you were not going & I had not the wit to
to suppress it, the "offending "member" when somebody else told me you were -
   Forgive me: I won't do it again.
   May your journey be: prosperous in all ways!
   I am always glad to know that Pr. Sw. is behaving himself. When he was under Mr. Jowett

he was so nice. He spoke to me more than once about him
   Thank you very, very much for your most kind invitation to Burnham
   But I am afraid I am past moving.
   ever your affecte
       Aunt Florence
I sent Fred the instructions about what a Nur District Nurse for Pleasley should be, as he asked.

but I do not know the present state of Pleasley, & am afraid this negatives their usefulness.
   God bless your journey
   F.N.
f27

Oct 11/97
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
Thanks more than I can say
   but less than I feel, my
very dear Fred & Maude,
for your most kind offer
of lovely Burnham Lodge
while you are away -
But I am told that it
is impossible for me to
move; and so I must
decline (unwillingly) - but
never shall I feel less
grateful
   The “cats” also offer

f27v

their purring thanks.
   It makes me young
again to think of
the ecstasy of a voyage
from “Marseilles” to Alexandria
& my first sight of the
rising of the Sun from
an eastern sea not
rising rather pale, as he
does here & shivery shivery - but
leaping like a bridegroom
out of the sea with
a flood of light & warmth -
And beautiful Cairo -
but first the little group
of solemn dignified Easterns
of 2 & 3 years,
sitting on the ground
eating their breakfasts
All blessings on your
journey -

Are Gwendolen & Kathleen
to be bridesmaids at
the wedding on the 20th?
Please tell some one
kindly to tell me this

ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence
Do you remember
the Persian’s answer
to some Englishman’s
stupid remark about
the Sun: “But that’s
“because you have
“never seen it”

signed note, f29, pencil [8:931]

f29
Feb 7/98
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Offered to our
dearly beloved
Maude Verney
on her birth-day
And may each petal of
these flowers bring to her
a token of our love
& of our firmest wishes
& prayers for her, & hers
who are dearer to her
than herself
Florence Nightingale
March 3/98
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

My dear Fred
Our best wishes
are yours to-day
not only for your sake
but for ourselves own
your ever loving

F.N.

March 4, 1898, from Fred Verney to FN, thanking FN for her congratulations on his success

April 8, 1898, asking FN to come to Burnham Lodge

April 24, 1898, telling about the Verneys’ stay at the Nag's Head, Pleasley

June 30/98
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude
Thank you so much
for the beautiful present
of strawberries you were
so kind as to bring me
ever your affecte

Aunt Florence

August 18, 1898, from Maude Verney, inviting FN to stay at the Lodge while the Verneys are in Holland
August 25/98

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude

How kind, how very
kind it is of you to think
of me & of the pleasant
“wind among the leaves”
& all other delights of
Burnham Lodge for me

But I am afraid
they are not for me.

Rest I am afraid is all
that I can take - & here
You cannot tell how deeply

I feel your care for me -

Love to Fred & to the
dear Gwendolen & all

Your “180 villagers”

must have been delightful

I have a nice view
here - quite unlike London

Good angels speed
you in Holland - And
they will speed you

ever your loving

Aunt Florence
My dear Fred

Thank you for your welcome letter & for the lovely photograph of the “little Queen” - I am so glad that you & Maudie & Gwendolen are there - And may the Queen be all that our Queen has been to us - Lord Melbourne educated her - And well

she has responded - It is hard to praise her enough. I have not found the “cheque for the interest” but this, I am sure, is my own stupid blunder=ing. I will find it, this afternoon or tomorrow & let you know, perhaps telegraph, to Hotel du Vieux Gt Doelen La Haye
So please leave word to have your letters forwarded

[I keep your address in your hand]

Love to both M. & G.

in haste
ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence

Don't you bother yourself about the "cheque" - I am sure it is 'all right.

F.N.

signed note, f43, pencil

5/10/98
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dear Fred & Maude

Your visits are like angels' visits to dear old Pleasley
If you could make use of a little Cheque towards/ towards anything you like there, please do -
ever your affectionate F. Nightingale

My love to Pleasley

Please have lunch here whenever you come into London & tell me beforehand F.N.

ff44-45v, Nag's Head, Pleasley, October 6, from MV, thanking FN for a cheque and giving news of Pleasley
signed letter, ff46-47, pencil

f46

Dec 20/98
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
  How can I thank you
for your kind thought of me
& your Calves foot Jelly
& most of all for your
dear little note.
  I love them all -
What a splendid day
for December -
  May you have a
splendid time at Claydon
  My love to all -
The maids say: “What a

f46v

“lovely jelly! And isn’t
“it good of Mr. Fred?”
Indeed it is!
  And may all blessings
attend her & hers -
    I trust dear Gwendolyne
is pretty well now.
How they will enjoy
you all at Claydon
  ever your loving
    Aunt Florence

f47
Did you not have a
(professional) Nurse once
whom you valued very
much?
  And could you kindly
tell me her name &
address?
  Not that I want her
at once - But as you
are going away for a
bit, would you kindly
just give me these?
March 9 1899, from FV, expressing sympathy on the death of “your dear and loyal friend” of FN [Galton]
May 25/99
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude
Would you be so very good as to get me a Revolving Book-case small or bigger - [I believe the small ones are about 5 & the bigger ones 6 - I would go as high as 10, but I hope I shall not 'have to' - I send you a Cheque for 6]
It is for Harry Lloyd Verney

or Lady Joan Cuffe - do you know when they are to be married? They have been asked 3 times in Church]
Collinson & Locke Oxford St
is said to be a good place But I dare say you know best - sorry to give you the trouble
ever yours
F. Nightingale
They are to be married
June 6 2.30 p.m.
at All Saints’
Ennismore Gardens
are they not?
& afterwards there is
to be a luncheon

ff53-54 Fred V to FN The Nag’s Head, Pleasley, Mansfield, May 27, 1899 re FV’s decision to put Ralph’s name in for a regiment and giving news of Pleasley

ff55-56 Fred V to FN October 3, 1899, with news that Ralph has passed his competitive exam for the Army and that all the family is well

ff57-58v Fred V to FN, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S. W., October 5, 1899 re Ralph’s excellent exam results, his learning to ride and his projected enrollment in the Rifle Brigade

signed letter, ff59-60, pencil [8:932]

Dec 7/99
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
So many thanks for the
lovely lilies of the valley
How good of you to send them - They look beautiful
in water & will last long with the care they will thankfully receive
We are here almost as dark as Erebus & I have no eyes. I was
f59v
obliged to send the
“type papers” yesterday
without looking at them
But when Fred was
reading them to me, I
heard a mistake - It
was that “he” was an
“old friend of my father’s”
It was rather the
contrary

f60
Please give my love
to Harry Lloyd. I hope
he will soon be quite
right again.
   Dear Ellin
& dear Dorothea I
am sure it was a
lovely christening.
May all blessings attend
her - & you too
ever your loving
   Aunt Florence

ff61-61v Fred V to FN 6 Onslow Gardens, S.W., January 8, 1900, re a projected trip abroad and a
comment about the strange state of affairs

signed letter, ff62-64, pencil

f62
   Sunday Feb 6 [1900]
10, South Street, {printed address:}
         Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
    Thank you for showing
me Kathleen’s dear
delightful letter. It
would be a thousand
pities that she should
leave off her music or
her German - tho’ I am
sorry to see the tide
leaving Italian for
German. There are as
many divine things in one page of Dante as in the whole of Goethe - Faust I can’t abide & Margaret “tumbles “down bump”, as Bab would say, much too soon to be respectable - Still it is no use as Canute says, to kick against the tide -

So I enclose something which I know with the riding won’t go far - but there is more where that comes from - If you have any difficulty in changing it, please return it to me & I will change it {in a different hand} As for “riding”, no “hockey” no games will equal it

for improving the circulation all over & exercising the muscles & animal courage. A live horse & the sympathy of the ‘horse & its rider’ is worth all the bats & (deaf & dumb) balls put together. So ‘drat’ hockey & long live the horse.

Them’s my sentiments’ - And I back them by silver, which I know
Add Mss 72832A

f64

-2-

{printed address:} 10, South Street, will go a very Park Lane. W. little way. But there’s more where that comes from.

My dear Fred, my mind is so dog’s eared by interruptions & botherations that I can’t write & must let this go as it is
ever your affectionate
F. Nightingale

{f65 is blank}

ff66-67v Fred V to FN February 20, 1900, re Ralph’s learning the brain requirements to be a soldier

f68 Fred V to FN 6 Onslow Gardens, February 23, 1900, thanking FN for seeing Ralph

ff69-70 February 26, 1900, from MV, asking FN for additions to a list of London Medical Officers who are to discuss Lady Sanitary Inspectors

f71 March 1 1900, from FV, sending FN a Major Yarr’s letter and promising to visit her

ff72-72v Fred V to FN Imperial Hotel, Malvern, March 10, 1900, expressing his inability to have visited FN and announcing his appointment to the Water Committee of the London County Council

signed note, f73, pencil

f73

Sunday March 18/1900
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Fred
I will see you for a short time at 5 (not“earlier”) to-day - I have old friends staying in the house - one of 3 years but still an ‘old friend’ - she was born in the house And they go to-morrow ever yours
Aunt Florence
My dear Fred
You have a great
& noble plan before
you to carry out.
But pray be cautious
“Rome was not built
“in a day”.
You are young in
the work -  a great
advantage in some
respects. Who was it
who said that he
would give all his
acquirements to be
young? But we must
not teach our
“grandmothers to suck
“eggs”. Our own
dear & noble Queen
was young at her
accession to the throne.
- but she made Lord
Melbourne her tutor -
yet gave him up,
tho’ with tears, when
he ceased to command
a majority. It was
perhaps the noblest act
in her noble life. And he retired [Don’t say, ‘that’s all an old story - ‘isn’t it’]
The Radicals originate - but the Conservatives carry out & confirm
You must have money, And it must come from private sources. And I hope to contribute, tho’ my contribution must be very small.

ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence

ff76-77 Fred V to FN March 22, 1900, thanking FN for her letter, and announcing Ralph’s departure with his Regiment

f78 Fred V to FN April 7 1900, reasons against FN having anything to do with that wild scheme, just off to Venice; keep your MS about the Queen Victoria River for me

ff79-80v Fred V to FN in Venice, April 28, 1900, giving news of their successful holiday and the death of Lady Monteagle’s son

ff81-82 Fred V to FN Brooks’ Club, May 7, 1900, telling FN how grateful Lady Monteagle was to see FN and announcing the family’s return

signed note, f83-83v, pencil

f83
May 14/1900
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dearest Maud
I am so very sorry that it is impossible for me to see you to-day - I had quite forgotten than I have an appointment to-day which I cannot well put off. And it is alas! for me, the same every day this week
**f83v**
But any afternoon
next week at 5 o’clock
that you will kindly
appoint, I shall be
delighted to see you.

your affectionate
Aunt Florence

**ff85-86v** June 24, 1900, from MV telling of FV’s injuries after a fall from his bicycle

**ff87-88** June 24, 1900, from FV telling of his fall and asking to set up an appointment to see FN

**ff89-89v** June 25, 1900, accepting Gwendolen’s appointment with FN for that day and his own for Wednesday

**f90** Fred V to FN, The Siamese Legation, June 25, 1900, with an enclosure from Sir William Acland, Bart and offering to write to the latter for FN

**ff91-91v** Fred V to FN June 27 1900, saying that he must rest his leg and that Gwen enjoyed her visit with FN

{f92 is blank}

**ff93-93v**, July 6, 1900, from MV, enclosing letters from Ralph for FN to read and return

signed note, **ff94-94v**, pencil

**f94**

July 7/1900

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

Dearest Maude

Many thanks for
Ralph’s letters - which
I return - They are
very interesting - it is
very good of me to
return them.

I have sent on
Margaret’s as you
wished -

I am very glad
that Ralph is getting
on so well & writes
so cheerfully
  Very glad that Fred
is feeling so much better -
  Hoping that Gwendolen
& Kathleen are quite
well.
  with love to all
  your loving
  Aunt Florence

{f95 is blank}

ff96-97 Fred V to FN July 7, 1900, regretting that FV has been unable to see FN and promising a goblet from Venice that Gwen will bring to FN’s house

signed note, ff98-99, pencil [8:932-33]

f98
  July 11 1900
  10, South Street, {printed address:}
       Park Lane. W.
Dearest Gwendolen
  Will you present my
ardent thanks to your dear
Father & Mother for the
lovely little glass from
Venice & yet more for
their kindness in thinking
of me -
  The adorable little
serpent crawling up the
stem is an invention of
genius & dignifies &

f98v
sweetens the whole race
of serpents which has
been most unwarrantedly
cried down. What can
be more amiable &
inspiring than this little
fellow? he
“lends enchantment to the view”.
I am so glad that your
Add Mss 72832A

Father is so much better
The “Lord Chamberlain” has absconded for three weeks to a place called Hastings - and “has left me mourning” no, not exactly “mourning” - but rather blind & impatient.
Pray excuse any failures on my part ever your loving
Aunt Florence

ff100-00v July 25 1900, from FV, explaining that he must visit a Sewage works with the Siamese minister and will not be able to see FN

ff101-02 Fred V to FN August 12 1900, expressing regret that FN has not been well, hoping to see her on Tuesday and enclosing a memorandum about the Health Visitor question

ff103 Fred V to FN, The Siamese Legation, 23, Ashburn Place, London, S. W., September 24, 1900 promising to see FN and announcing his intention to run in the forthcoming election

ff104-05v Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks., September 24, from MV, sending partridges to FN, explaining how much their Siamese guests enjoyed Claydon and reporting that FV has been too busy to find a seat to contest

ff106-07 Maude Ve to FN from Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, September 27, announcing that FV is standing for the Exchange Division at Liverpool and MV’s own agitation

f108 North Western Hotel, Liverpool, September 28, 1900, from FV, announcing his candidature

ff109-10 October 28, from MV, explaining that Gwendolen’s visit to FN must be postponed because of GV’s ill health and describing Roughwood

ff111-12 Fred V to FN November 27, regretting the trouble FN has had with Mary (a maid) and accepting for GV a visit to FN on Thursday
June 19 1901
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
How good of you to bring me these lovely flowers & fresh eggs from Gwendolen & her hen - Also it is very kind of you to speak about the Nurses resting at Roughwood - I only wish I could be that Nurse - At present I do not know of any Nurse that I could send. But when I do I will hasten to write. I should like to see you. But I am full up till after this day week. Should you be out of town after this, would you kindly let me know when you return?
With love & many thanks for all, always your loving
      Aunt Florence

June 21 1901
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
I shall be delighted to see you next Friday June 28 at 5 o’clock With much love to Gwendolen yours
      Aunt Florence
Dear Fred

Many thanks for your letter of this morning. I shall be glad if you will kindly write a letter for me to (Admiral) Sir Wm Acland. I am quite willing that he should have what letters I have, could I but promise to find them. I know I have some, but being in this one room, I don’t now where always to find them. We have been hunting this morning, but have only come across two. But As I find them, I will forward them on to you. And perhaps you will be so good as to see if they are of any value & if so forward them on to Sir William.

I think we are gradually coming across them [Ellen is invaluable in this search]. We have now four. It would be impossible for me now to read all letters through. And I do not feel that I could see anybody, as I am so ‘full up’. As you are so busy, I hesitate to ask you to do 
them for me -
your loving Aunt Florence
Add Mss 72832A 861

signed note, ff117-17v, pencil

f117

July 6/1901
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Fred

I am sending you a few of Sir Henry Acland’s letters - also one belonging to him from the Empress Frederick -

It is all that I shall be able to let you have for over a fortnight -

I am also returning to you Ralph’s letter which Maude was so kind as to send me - It is so

f117v

nice to know that Ralph is getting on & well. And his letters are most interesting

Hoping all is well

with much love to everybody

Your affectionate
Aunt Florence

{f118 is blank}

ff119-20 51 Drayton Gardens, S.W. July 21 1901 from FV, informing FN that Dr Collins will come to see her, Kathleen in middle of her Oxford local exam, takes it quietly; has taken Buchanness, house on Aberdeenshire for August

f121 Fred V to FN, The Siamese Legation, S.W., July 31 1901, telling FN how pleased Dr Collins was with his visit.
August 9/1900
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Fred

I have not felt up to
looking thro’ the late
Empress Frederick’s letter
yet, but will do so

It is a pity that so
good a letter should be
wasted - but, as you say,
one does not like the
thoughts of publishing it
without some of the Royal
Family’s consent.

I have not found any

more letters yet of Sir
Henry’s yet, altho’ we
have done a great deal
of hunting - I don’t think
I have a great many of
his letters - But what I
have they shall have as
soon as they can be found.

[Was is Mr. Gladstone
who said that all
this “adds a new terror
“to death”]

You have my unwilling
permission to get the
three photographs -
provided the “American
“lady” does not worry
me me -

Hoping all are well
your ever loving

Aunt Florence
signed note, f124, pencil  

f124

Oct 10/1901
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Maude
How good of you to call!
I am rejoiced to hear that
you are back in London.
I should like to see
one of you, either you or Fred,
on Tuesday week (I have
no earlier day) at 5, if
quite convenient to you
or him -
Please say how the children -
(I mean the little angels)
are - Could you not
put off the winter? Your loving
Flo

signed note, ff125-25v, pencil

f125

April 8 1901
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Fred
I shall be delighted
to see you on Friday
afternoon at 4.30 -
I am glad that you
are laying the foundation=
=stone for the
Claydon Public Library -
I do with all my heart
wish them success -
as I think a Public
Library is good for
body & soul. And
f125v
may God’s blessing
rest upon it
is the fervent wish
of your loving
Aunt Florence

ff126-27, 51 Drayton Gardens, S. W., July 2, from MV, enclosing a letter from Ralph and telling of Ellin’s arrival

ff128-29, undated, from FV about his lack of knowledge of Aristotle’s Ethics

ff130-30v, undated {archivist: ?1887} from MV, re the children’s illness

ff131-32v Maude V to FN, from Hinde House, 14, Hinde Street, London, W., March 4, announcing Fred’s success in an election and mentioning that Kathleen is still ill

ff133-33v Maude V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., June 18, remarking on FN’s sadness at leaving Claydon and her mother and that Kathleen is somewhat better

ff134-34v Maude V to FN January 26, expressing the Verneys’ concern over Harry’s worn out appearance

ff135-37v Maude V to FN, Debdale Hall, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, February 28, with details about MV’s visits with the colliers

ff138-40v Fred V to FN 6, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., Tuesday evening, thanking FN for flowers and books for the children and praising the colliers
f141

Proposed "Provident Trained Nurses' League

To remind: 15/3/1880

In July & August 1879

Mr. F. Verney had the goodness to supply suggestions, information &c, with very kind letters from Mrs. Paterson &c, upon Women's Societies, Leagues, & Savings, (with a view to promoting the savings of Trained Nurses by societies or otherwise) to F. Nightingale.

F.N.'s notes upon which she has, since that time, been working, with Hy Bonham Carter, Secy to the N. Fund, & others, were as follows -

"A Subn of from 6d. to 1/0 a week would provide members of a Trained Nurses' Union with everything F.N. mentions - a sick allowance, a Central Home, or Lodging House & an Old Age Allowance

"(A Savings Bank might be in connection)

"would a sufficient number of Nurses join paying such a Subn? Mrs. Paterson

F.N. has asked Matron & Home Sister (of St. Thomas'
Matron London St. Mary's
Matron St. Bartholomew's
(being all trained "N." Matrons) &c &c &c
Edinburgh, Lincoln

to enquire among their Nurses trained & in training
"Working Women’s Societies

weekly subn of 2d. enough to allow 5/a week for 4 years to be paid for 8 weeks in the year in case of sickness or want of work

safely done with as few as 50 members {We have only

{Do you provide a Doctor? (Medical attendance?) 78 members in

F.N. the Lea Female

(6 a week to such an Union {Friendly Socy

she would be entitled during 20 years (that she would

be saving under 40)

to allowance of say 10/a week for 12 weeks in year

if needed Mrs. Paterson

F.N. observes: Trained Nurses seem to differ from

all other working women in these two respects:

1. they are never “out of work”: on the contrary, we cannot

supply one tenth of the

applications made to us for

trained Nurses

2. they are always provided for in temporary sickness

in the Hospital where they work

F.N.

Say 300 Nurses at £2 a year £600

100 Sisters £4 £400

400

£1000

Would any Provident Insurance Socy if we were to

come to them with a promised Subn of 1000 a year

affiliate us? And what would they do for us?

F.N.

“Self supporting Union

tens can do something

hundreds a great deal

thousands anything”

“Bonuses if Subn increase” Mrs. Paterson
Mrs. Paterson:
“To support home or lodging house, would have to be
6 or 8 always using the rooms:
momentarily unemployed or in need of rest
If every Nurse in Socy were to use the home for
one week in the years 300 or 400 members
could keep a house of their own:
If not so many, connected Savings bank might
provide funds - depositors of bank by
becoming Societies’ landlord would both secure
5 p. c. on their own savings,
& hasten the day when they themselves & the other
members could have the use of their own Home” -
Mrs. Paterson

F.N. A “Central Home” for Trained Nurses
when they want rest must be invaluable -
- & for those who have no homes for their Annual
holidays -
Between one situation & another, our trained
Nurses are always received into the “N”. Home at
St. Thomas’ while their “Agreement with us lasts.
But this cannot of course go on for years & years
There are now between 300 & 400 trained “N.” Nurses
It would be impossible to receive any considerable
proportion of these in changing from one post to another
A “Central Home” would therefore be very desirable.
F.N.

How soon ought superannuation allowance to begin?
? at 65 the most usual?
I don’t think Nurses are fit for much F.N.
work after 60.

F.N.

Derbyshire Girls
Lea Female Friendly Socy

ff145-47 list of questions pertaining to Nurses’ Societies, not in FN’s hand
List of things ordered (& paid for)

at Farmers’ Association
(to come whenever Mrs. Verney is ready for them)

A Sirloin Beef
   Neck Mutton
   2 Chickens
   Tongue
6 lbs Breakfast Bacon
½ bushel Apples
8/1/88 F. Nightingale

Mr. French
   Please pay Laundress’ Acct
   for week ending Jan 9 -
   & any others we may leave
   F.N.

Sir Douglas Galton (to F.N.) June 14/89 X
Recommends [Gordon Boys’ Home]
Cubic space for 20 boys of 16, each 400 to 500
Window space:  1 ft to 60 cubic feet
               2 ft x 3 ft to each boy: sash top & bottom
               - or to open entirely,
               inwards from bottom
               the whole of the window-space to be available
               to open. At G.B.H. quite insufficient
He thinks the two iron gratings open into SHAFTS??
   but says the shafts must be much too small -
He thinks there are two? fire-places to each Dormitory
   He discourages Tobins -
   but would put Sherringham - in the middle, as
   gratings are at corners.
Sup- space per bed: recommends 40 to 50 sq. feet
Bed space " 5 ft. 6
Space between beds " 3 ft
   " foot of beds " 4 ft 6
In Hospital beds are placed in twos, giving on
one side each bed much larger space between -
Width of Ward/Dormitory: recommends 17 ft
Height " 10 "
When new block built, boys will be spread out
at least for a time
He had only just returned from Paris - but came ___
here the same day.
D. Galton
perfectly aghast at the rolling up the bedding (but
I thought showed an unholy joy at thus accounting for
the ‘appalling smell’)
He says: the boys are “quite certain” - “as sure as fate”
   to have an outbreak of Typhus from this cause sooner
or later - that this has been known, to all but the G.B.
   authorities, for 100 years - that the worst epidemic
of Typhus ever known in the Army was from this
cause & this cause alone - in the Horse Artillery
between 1800 and 1810 -
   that in Barracks we roll up the bedding, because
the room is a living & eating as well as sleeping-room
- but that the bedding is always exposed to the air
first for 1-2 hours -
   that the Gordon Boys' Bedding ought never to be
rolled up at all - why should it? - it should be
exposed out of doors - hung up in Dormitory with all
the windows open - [But all the windows can’t be always open]
    They, the Building Committee, with D. Galton present,
had a meeting last week - in which all but your
important evidence came out!! Mr. Butterfield had
disregarded all their injunctions & his own promises -
& made the Contractor go right against them - And there is no resource except to cashier B., which Co. Hamilton won’t.

Galton will not say that the space given above is not enough, but admits that window-space, open window-space, outlets, ventilation, are nothing like enough -

At their Meeting they ordered a Zinc frame for the window=spaces to fit inside & open entirely - And he agrees that there must be more outlet & bed-rolling abominations utterly revolutionized. [end 5:255]

They have also order {gap in the paper} another well; aware of the failure of water - su{gap pp?}ly.

He insists on the boy {gap s?} having a both every [5:255-56] week, of course - Do they? (besides the green swimming-bath) - He wants to know what amount of daily personal ablation they do?

I fear I shall not see him again before next Thursday at earliest. But any questions or answers or commentaries that you will make I will pitch into him before your next “Wednesday & Thursday “ at G.B.H., if you like.

[He is returning to Paris - some time this next week]

F.N. 14/6/89
My dear Mr. Frederick Verney

It is scarcely needful to say to intelligent people that Health at the Home is one of the most important questions for any one charged with the duties of Local Government. But, while Sanitation has actually become fashionable, while we are choked with the flood of Sanitary books, pamphlets, publications, and lectures of all sorts, good, bad, and indifferent, we have remained a book and a pen.

We have not become a voice and a hand.

What is read in a book stays in the book.

Health in the Home has not been carried home to the hundreds of thousands of rural mothers and girls, upon whom so largely depends the health of the rural population.

In fact, they do not believe in Sanitation as affecting health, as preventing disease.

There has been a melancholy instance near here.

At your special request I have been making assiduous enquiries for educated women trained in such a way that they could personally bring their knowledge home to the cottagers’ wives on a mission of health for rural districts. For this they must be in touch and in love, so to speak, with the rural poor mothers and girls, and know how to show them better things without giving offence.

We have, though they are but a sprinkling in our great towns and in London, excellent Town District Nurses, but for many obvious reasons they
would not be quite suitable for your proposed work. We can find no one
woman for this ready made. She must be created for a rural Health
Missioner.

Knowing how deeply interested you were in this subject on its practical
side, we have consulted a number of the most experienced people. And we
have arrived at the conclusion that to make the movement a success, we must
find some gentleman apt to teach, and educated women apt to learn - in other
words, we must train them for the purpose. And we must not mix up
Nursing the sick with Health in the Home.

It does not appear in the least necessary to go outside this county. It
seems far better to utilize the ability at hand for teaching and the capacity
for being taught.

With this object, I have made enquiry as to who there may be in North
Bucks who would be willing to give time and trouble to teach, and who is
qualified by knowledge and experience, and caring for this problem as it
deserves.

I had already been much struck by a report of one of the North Bucks
Medical Officers of Health - Dr. D’Ath. I made enquiries from independent
sources. I have seen him, and have a good hope that he will prove himself to
be as competent, as he certainly is willing, from a high sense of duty, to
undertake this work - the work, that is of training those who are to teach
practical domestic sanitation to the mothers and girls, and who will be
qualified by a course of work, theoretical -- that is, to give them the “reason
why” and practical, to show them how to do it, under Dr. De Ath.

I know of no such School of health now in existence for teaching of this
kind as would be started at Buckingham, if this project is carried out. And
if carried out successfully, Buckingham may become a centre of supply of
trained Health Missionaries - not for its own immediate neighbourhood only,
but for many parts of England where such work is sorely needed.

It seems hardly necessary to contrast Sick Nursing with this. The needs
of Home Health-bringing require different but not lower qualifications, and
are more varied. They require tact and judgment unlimited to prevent the
work being regarded as interference and becoming unpopular.
They require an intense and real belief in Sanitation, and that Life or Death may lie in a grain of dust or a drop of water, or other such minutiae which are not minutiae but Goliaths - and the Health Missioner must be a David to slay them, and have his sweet voice, and must be trained as he was to fight the giants with the simple weapons of every day use.

She must create a new work and a new profession for women. And she must make her work acceptable to women of the labouring class.

I trust that your County Council will not think me one of your interfering Health Missioners. I know your interest in inaugurating a vital work among the rural poor women.

And I have, therefore, done your behest with alacrity. May North Bucks distinguish itself by its wisdom and success in giving such an education to rural mothers, and in waging the war against national deterioration of health and vigor.

Pray believe me,

   Dear Mr. Frederick Verney
       Your and the Mothers’
           Anxious and attached Friend,
       (Signed) FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE
Frederick William Verney, Esq.
3. Another caution - no “germs”

A Commission of eminent men has just reported that Leprosy is a direct consequence of a - - - - Bacillus!

Why if it wished to be popularly/practically useful could it not have said:

direct consequence of uncleanliness, specially of person putrid or bad food

or - what you gentlemen know better than I

God forbid that the time should have come when Nurses or Health Missioners are instructed that

f158v

typhoid fever is the “direct consequence “ of a Bacillus!

instead of being a direct consequence of bad drains or - what you gentlemen know better than I
4. The teaching by the Health Missioners would be given by familiar lectures to poor mothers & girls, followed by personal instruction by way of conversation with the mothers in their own homes & would be directed to

(1) sanitary conditions of homes themselves
(2) the essential principles of keeping the body in health with reference to skin, circulation, digestion
(3) instruction with reference to management of infants & children - & what to do in emergency or accident till Doctor comes.

But, through all, the Health Missioner must be in touch with the poor mothers. They must not be spies; or standing on a platform above the mothers.

5. There is no time to be lost -
- Now that Elementary Schools hold the girls for 8 years, some for 10, every year they will come more & more to think that every thing is to be taught literally by the Book - You must get in your practical teaching now or never.

I see every year that the opportunity is passing {the following paragraph has a diagonal line drawn through it}

E.g. Confirmation Classes are not the Spirited practical things they used to be - they are the book, catechism, copying of texts - the grammar of conduct - not the conduct itself.
unsigned notes, ff160-61v, pen & pencil

f160
Notes M.O.s of Health’s Meeting
8/5/93 on Tuesday
In answer to your request: 9/5
? begin by alluding, which you will do much better than I, to the great organizations, the immense works, drainage, water-supply &c, done for the national health, for the poor - but nothing or hardly anything done to teach the poor at home (which can only be done in the home for the home) how to keep their home-health
Health - Missioners: absolute necessity
not to be District Visitors or Almsgivers
not to be District Nurses (tho’ District Nurses must have the knowledge)

Then drive in, dig in the practical truths, which are attended to less & less every
day of this furiously literary & educational/examinational time: such as

1. Impossible to teach ‘Health at Home’ by literary lectures - that would be like the way we teach languages - Grammar first which no mortal boy understands or can understand instead of ending with it. We teach the Grammar of Health Nursing & Sick Nursing - and too often we get no further. [This reaches to the summit of the farce - in Ambulance Lectures & Exhibitions where mock patients are attended by mock Nurses in a mock Hospital]

   We then have Examinations - we say that the audience is “interested” - And we think our work is done -

In the *home only care be* taught how to preserve the health of the home -

   Teach the absolute practical necessities for health=at=home in a graphic plain Course of Lectures if you will - then take your future Missioners to the Home but with great tact & prudence -

You believe in the *Word* [That is to do every thing!]

You don’t believe in the *Work*
[which is all the *Word* is for]

The nation is/seems gone made upon this

This appears to be the great danger of the age
The first duty of a Nurse is to nurse - 
She must do the Nursing Work under 
Doctor's orders - & be able to report 
fully & accurately to the Doctor when he 
comes - 
But next to this she must “nurse the 
“room” - i.e. put it into Nursing order, 
so that it should not hinder the 
Patient's recovery - or be a cause of 

disease (& not of health) to the family. 
She should be able to instruct the 
family (or a helpful neighbour) how to 
carry on the Nursing when she is not there. 
She should be the friend & not the 
law-giver of the family - And / so that the 
family=face as well as the Patient's face 
should light up when she comes. 
For this purpose she must e.g. never say: 
'I hope when I come again all this rubbish 
'will be cleared out from under the bed’ (where 
(probably there may be old boots, dirty 
linen, potatoes &c) If she does, they will 
wish her never to ’come again’. 
But she must do many things herself 
such as clean a disorderly grate, dirty 
windows &c, & so show them how to do it. 
She must also know - about nuisances 
which she cannot remedy herself - what 
is in the province of the Sanitary authori= 
ties & give notice at their Office. 
She must know if meat or brandy &c 

are/is required where to apply for it 
(whether Poor Law or Charity) 
also, in a very poor place, about/for blankets 
She must look before confinements 
whether the feather bed or mattrass has 
been lately cleaned - If not since the 
last confinement this is a fruitful source
of puerperal mischief or even of fatal Pyaemia - & often of injury to the infant
unsigned notes, ff163-70, pen

f163

Training Schools in Bombay Presidency

4 Government Training Schools for Masters
  Poona
  Ahmedabad
  Dharwar
  Hyderabad (Sind)
2 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - for Female Teachers
  Poona
  Ahmedabad
Details would be shown in Report of Director Public Instruction
General Results - - - - - Bombay Administration Report
  P. Turn over

f163v

2. Victoria Technical College
  being organized in Bombay in 1885
  probably it has a Normal branch
Lord Reay who took the greatest personal
  interest in these subjects could give
  all recent information -

f164

3. Most excellent College for young Chiefs
  at Rajkote in Kathiawar
  Rajkumar College
Mr. Bhaunagari could give all particulars
  Also one at Ajmere, called the Mayo College,
    Sir W. Wedderburn believes -
Both these Colleges were started & are
  maintained by the Chiefs
4. Female Education  V  
   Poona High School  x
Prince Damrong should certainly visit this School
   started by Sir W. Wedderburn
Lady Supt: Miss Hurford: perfection
   She has now been placed by Govt in charge
   of the Female Normal School at Poona.
   This Pr. Damrong should visit. It is under the
   supervision of a Committee of leading Indian
   gentlemen -
x Note, I think I gave Mr. Morant the “Proceedings” at
starting the Poona High School, showing the lines of dealing
with a somewhat delicate subject -

Madras

Be sure you see the Victoria Hospital for High Caste
   Hindoo women & Mahometan Purdah women -
   – the only one, I believe, in India - [It was Mrs.
   Scherlieb’s]
Also: see the Agricultural (Govt) College at
   Saidapet near Madras - the only one, I believe,
   in India. [We rave at the English educated Hindoos
   for not putting their education into their
   agriculture & give them no education to put in
   But Bombay has, I believe, begun -]
(1) Letter to John Murdoch Esq L.L.D Agent of the
   Christian Vernacular Education Socy
   This insignificant looking little man knows real
India better than any one - He has spent 40 years at his own expense in making tours of India, each taking two years. He is all enthusiasm without any fanaticism: cares neither for life nor death. His little Sanitary books, “Way of Health” &c &c are better than anything we in India have done. Lady Dufferin knew his worth, had his “Way of Health” adopted by Govt & placed him by herself at dinner at Govt House.

I have written to him fully about you & the Prince. He is now in England till the 3rd(to-day) And Mr. Morant ought to see him - Tho’ there is no time, this is his address: go to p. 2

Bombay Presy POONA
Rao Bahadur Vishnu Moreshwar Bhidé
Chairman of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha at Poona. They are, I believe, the old Mahrattas- They do an immense amount of public work with very little money. They know the people well who have the greatest confidence in them, They are now consulted by Govt
[Mr. L. W. will tell you just the contrary -
But your principles are sound]

AHMEDABAD
Rao Bahadur Runchorelal Chotalal
Chairman of Municipality - a most active and enlightened man - has encountered a great deal of opposition, even from his own people - a truly religious man of the highest type - a Jain - an excellent Sanitarian - an authority, of course, in Municipal administration

I shall hope for an account of the Bombay Village Sanitation Act - how it works - when you come back - through Sir Raymond West, (to whom pray give my kind remembrances) & others -

Mr. Murdoch reaches Madras about Jan 8,
1892 & remains there till the end of January. In February he goes to Calcutta: thence to North India & back to Madras via Bombay.
Calcutta
Man Mohum Ghose (brother of Lal) & his most excellent wife - both most enlightened people - I should like

to send my love to Mrs. Manmohun Ghose -
He is said to be making £10 000 a year at the "Bar". [Strong opponents say that he & other natives are far before any English at the "Bar" or Judges we have out there - And so are called 'Mutinous dogs' -]

Mr. M. Ghose begins at the beginning - he is a thorough going reformer - he sends out lecturers to teach the rural people the first elements of English administration

They are, I believe, of the Brahma Somaj? in religion
They had a daughter of 17 at School near London - who, if in India, would have been a Grandmother - Her father fetched her back home to Calcutta last year -

Mrs. M. Ghose is interested in the Medical Education of women
I shall hope when you come home to hear from you thro’ Mr. Ghose of the working of the Bengal Tenancy Act

I have written to all these people something of what each could tell you of interest to you & the Prince

30/11/91
f170

6 letter of introduction from Sir W.W. Hunter

Bombay
1 to Mr. Lee Warner (the Political or “Foreign”
Secretary to the Bombay Govt) “who unfortunately
“takes leave at the end of the year”
1 to Mr. James Campbell, the Collector of Bombay,
“who will probably be the most useful man
“to Mr. Verney in that part of India “
1 to Sir Raymond West, “a member of the
“Bombay Governor’s Council, & very earnest in
“educational & municipal measures”

Calcutta
1 to the Director or Chief of the Department
of Public Instruction
1 to the Head of the Roman Catholic
Teaching body
1 to the leader of the progressive Conservative
party among the Brahman landholders of
Bengal Dec 3/91
Add Mss 68890, microfilm, 114 folios, 9 pages, correspondence with children of Frederick and Maude Verney, and other relatives 1874-1902, Adam Matthew reel 42

f1 Gwendolen Verney letter to FN from Claydon July 2 1890
f2 Gwendolen letter to FN from 39 Marine Parade 1890 re regatta
f4 Gwendolen letter 190-
f6 Gwendolen letter from Rhianva
f8 undated
f10 Gwendolen letter Claydon Jan 4 1891
f12 Gwendolen letter Claydon Jan 11
f13 Gwendolen letter Onslow Gdns Feb 9 1891
f15 Gwendolen letter Plas Rhoscolyn Apr 20
f19 Gwendolen letter Dec 26 1895
f21 Gwendolen letter Jan 15 1895
f23 Gwendolen letter March 7 1898
f25 Gwendolen letter March 12 1898
f27 Gwendolen letter June 26 1900 saw her yesterday
f29 Gwendolen letter July 9 1902

f31 letter of Frere, India Office that Rev F Verney peculiarly fitted to discharge efficiently duties of office of clerk of School Board at Oxford Feb 21 187
f32 Gwendolen letter Oct 17 1900
f33 Gwendolen Verney to Aunt Florence Oct 29 1900, May I come and see you soon?
F35 Gwendolen letter Nov 30 1900
f39 from Boston, Charles Warren to Fred Verney 3 March 1871, re clerical life, his leaving Sheffield, nothing re FN
Pleasley School  
May 13/74  6 a.m.  

My dear Sir Harry  

You did not remember to give me notice, as you promised, that you stayed Tuesday in London: & when you came on Tuesday afternoon, you could not stop. 

So I can only put on paper the results of my labours: 

I have done what you wished: I have consulted several School & Sanitary authorities: & they all agree with me in this: 

1. that it is quite out of the question to build an Infant School with so little sun light or indeed window-space at all. 
An Infant School ought to have its two long sides & one of its short ones quite open to the sun & air, so that the children may have the sun from the moment they come into school till the moment they leave: S.E. S.W. N.W., (closing it to the N.E.). It is well known that both health & power of learning depend on this - in Infants especially- this School has only one S.E. & one N.W. window- 

The beautiful S.W. exposure is entirely blocked up by Gravel Yard & Large School Room: and, worst of all, made pestiferous by ‘Offices’ into which it looks. Pray do not so much as listen to such a plan. the only proposition we can make is to slew round the long side of Infants’ Room to the S.E. (putting the master’s house somewhere else.) see Plan A. 

This plan will be of course objected to because of the length of front: (96 feet: without the thicknesses of walls.) 
And, without knowing the ground, it is impossible 

to say whether the Master’s house can be
detached, or must be added to the length.

[This would be an advantage under some circumstances to the appearance; but if the slope is so great as to place the roof of the Master's house nearly on the same level as the floor of the School, the advantage we suppose would be lost.]

If the *Infants School* is under a separate *Mistress* & carried on altogether separate from the *Mixed School* as we should imagine from the

**f43**

numbers being so large: - would it be possible to detach the *Infants' School*, & make one block of the *Infants' School* & Master's House? & another of the large *School Room* & *Class Room*? The only way to give a proper (S.E.) aspect to the *Infants' room* is either to detach the *Infants' room* & Master's House: it would appear: or to submit to the ugliness of the *immensely long* front.

If it were one's own affair, one would cast

**f43v**

about for a *site* that would admit of the former plan: and if it is necessary to have communication between the 2 Schools, this could be managed by means of a Corridor or Lean-to. The *Offices* & Walls & Gravel yards blocking in the whole corner of the building & completing - not even a square but - a *parallelogram* will be pestiferous.

[And people wonder that *Country Schools* have measles & Scarlet Fever!!!]

The *Offices* must be projected far out behind

**f44**

3. The *Large School-Room* has a good S.E. & S.W. exposure:

but the *Porch must* be moved up to the part of the wall adjoining *Class=Room*. Else it intercepts sun on winter afternoons.

4. The *Class-Room* will have *no sun* all the year round. S.W. & N.E. windows!!! except *summer* the worst sun: viz afternoon sun.

but I know not how to improve it: [& it is of far less importance than *Infants’ Room.*]
I would however block up N.E. window & give one large S.W. (or two) and one N.W. window.

Pray assure Mr Stewart, if he will accept it, of my very great interest in these Schools: (which must excuse my very strong convictions against parts of the plan (as it is:) and of my desire to subscribe: if he will allow me.

You know how overworked (& underhelped) & suffering I am: so that I am hardly able even to undertake this small extra correspondence.

God speed the Schools: ever yrs affectly

I am writing this before my day’s work. Florence Nightingale

ff45-46 pencil letter

10 South St.
18/12/83
Dearest Margaret May I put this matter as regards my sister into your kind hands?

Our Aunt Julia (Smith) has been sinking for many days- She is 83. She is most attentively watched by her two nieces, Alice Bonham Carter & Beatrice Lushington, alternately -by a young lady, Miss Burnett, who was to have trained in hospital, who is as a niece to her- & by her excellent maid. She is sinking quite peacefully & painlessly - And the only thing is to be regretted is that she is not in one of her homes. she is at Hastings.

I did not know whether is would be better for Parthe to hear of her illness before her death - or whether ‘no change’, perhaps for many
days yet- might wear her
more- I expected to
hear every hour this morning
'It is all over'- What do I
say? then the blessed day

f46
would have begun-
   but I have just had a
message to say; that the
unusually high temperature
is the only very bad sign-
& she may last for some days.
She is without pain or
uneasiness.
   I enclose 2 letters for
Parthe to read, if she lies.
Will you please have them
returned to me?
   good speed, & good cheer,
dearest Margaret.
I would we could hear better

f46v
of my Sister's nights.
My dearest love to her.
---
Would you be very kind
as to give the enclosed
note to Mrs. Ellis & read it.
O! could you advise me on
the knotty question of beer?
So very sorry to trouble you.
   I hear the dear little voices
- & the robins, wrens &
fly-catchers chirping at
your Balcony window
How did the little girls like Kathleen
& Westminster Abbey?
   Dearest Margaret, adieu
yrs ever
F. Nightingale

f47 Saturday Maude to Mama
f49 HV to Fred July 3 1886. Alas my dear F I confess that I anticipated the defeat so that I opened the
telegram with the anticipation of its contents, but you made a capital fight and did your work as well as it
cd be done, and for that I rejoice most truly. We cannot command success in illeg of our world
struggles, but if God gives us strength and courage and perseverance to work to the best of our power we may thank Him. .... shd do Siamese work, plunge into that and read books on Oriental politics and made acquaintance with the Easterns who are come to the exhibition and bring some to show.

F51 John Ricketts to F.W. Verney re £200 cheque re election expenses

f51 election expenses for Fred Verney note

f52 letter to Mrs Verney on loss of Mervyn
f53 another, from embossed House of Commons!

f55 HV to F, prob Fred re Pleasley dam
f62 to FN from Louisa Hubbard. printed Beedinglee, Horsham, June 20/93, much FN underlining FN in top corner: Please return to F.N.

Ff68-75 typed dictated copy to Sir Henry [Acland] from Empress Frederick re FN, Mrs Craven, Sep 8 1893, from Homburg v.d. Hohe

Let me thank you most sincerely for your letter of August 9th, which I found here on my return from Greece and have also [alas] been unable to answer till now.

I have pondered over your letter and thought the matter over again, which indeed I do every day as I think it one of such very great importance. The ends and objects of nursing and providing the public with the best nurses in every sense I think are viewed by you and by me exactly in the same manner, and I do not think our opinions differ materially from those of Miss Nightingale and my friend Mrs Craven.

Indeed I think with you that something ought to be done, to save the nursing cause, viz., the standard of excellence of nurses from being lowered.

F69 Possibly the Prince of Wales mt be inclined to call a committee, which shd try to combine all that is good in the efforts made with such energy, benevolence and generosity by our sister Princess Christian, that have assumed a form which does not seem completely to satisfy a great portion of the best friends of the nursing cause, tho no doubt the many able people who support her with their experiences and their advice fail to see the danger which I am in conscience and honesty bound to admit is clear to myself. I am only too glad and ready to admit that I am wrong, if it can satisfactorily be proved to me, and perhaps the dangers I apprehend can be got over.

If I may reiterate the opinions I expressed to you at Buckingham Palace, which are based on a little experience and a very profound interest in the nursing profession, I can only repeat that its is to my deep regret that I see the movement taking the upper hand which is to determine the value of a nurse by examination. If this really gains the day, it will I think lead the nursing in England altogether into a wrong direction, and on a path which will lead to deterioration.

F70 English nurses are I think acknowledged by everyone in Europe to be the best. Though the development of nursing is far ahead of other countries in England, yet even there, there is room for improvement. I cannot forget Miss Nightingale’s excellent saying ‘the best woman will make the best nurse’ and the longer and the more one comes in contact with nurses and nursing the more one sees how true it is, that the moral qualities of a nurse outweigh the theoretical knowledge.

How can an examination decide whether a nurse be thoroughly conscientious, truthful, patient, kind, unselfish, full of tact, intelligence and self-sacrificing and womanly dignity--the essence of all womanly qualities--which are such a blessing and boon to the sick, and of such importance for their recovery, and do not depend on the theoretical knowledge f71 they have gained form books and learnt by art?

Far be it from me to underrate the value of knowledge. I think a nurse cannot be thoroughly trained and educated enough - The more she knows of anatomy, physiology , hygiene, chemistry, bacteriology...
if you like, besides the technical dressing of wounds, bandaging, etc., the better for her - the more useful and valuable she is. Still how often have nurses, who will blunder at examinations, and have received inferior testimonials, show themselves wonderful in practice and with their sound common sense and correct instinct and excellent qualities of heart, show that they were real born nurses, and saved many a life by their unflinching courage and excessive devoted care, have cheered many a death bed.

I again repeat that no one can doubt the necessity of a certain sum of knowledge being indispensable, also practical experience under clever men, who are willing to take the trouble to teach and train them.

F72 The value of their theoretical knowledge depends on their ability and aptness to make use of what they know and have learnt, in the right way, and it is this character of the woman which is the guarantee of how she will carry out what has been taught her as - to know and to do are two very different things.

How will a board of examiners - to whom the noses are perfect strangers - be able to decide by the theoretical knowledge of these women alone, whether they are practically qualified for their profession?

Mo one can judge of a nurse except those who have an opp of seeing her in the discharge of her duty, and who are able to discern the qualifications and such persons ought to have the right to give the testimonials and not a board of examiners who can only judge of what she has learnt, but not of what she can do.

F73 The movement professes to determine that nursing in England is to form a profession, and nobody is to belong to it except those who have passed an examination.

The examining body must therefor consist of all the greatest and most eminent medical men, who have the practical experience of what shd be demanded of a nurse. And above all, only such nurses shd be admitted to the examinations that have already received certificates of efficiency from the hospital in which they have been trained. If therefore the board which conducts the exams receives a ... F74 As alas! Examinations seem to be the fashion of the day, I dread theoretical knowledge being brought too much to the fore, at the expense of experience and of the best part of a nurse’s art, so that the nurses will become very one-sided.

It is from this danger that I would wish to see the British nurses of the future preserved.

I am just as anxious as you to end the division between the different views and endeavours to further a truly benevolent object. Nothing could be more painful to me than f75 in any way to appear at variance with anything undertaken by my sister whom it is my greatest wish to second in everything, besides knowing the truth of the saying ‘l’union fait la force.’ Nothing could give me more pleasure than the hearty combined action of the several bodies of institutions you speak of, who are anxious to organise once and for all, in the best manner, the profession of nurses in Great Britain - a truly gigantic undertaking, which therefore requires slow and cautious development, and not being worked in too vehement or hasty a way.

Once more thanking you for your kind letter, and begging you to excuse my long delay in acknowledging it, also my dictating my answer.

f76 funeral of Sir Harry Verney programme Feb 15 1894

f88 July 19 1893 Bracondale Norwich, re election disappointment

f90 G White to Mrs Verney??

ff92-96 typed copy of FN letter to T.G. Clarke, Birmingham Oct 21 1895, Balaclava Anniversary celebration
ff97-98 pencil letter

Oct 31/95
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
Dearest Ralph
   Aunt florence was very
glad to hear that you had
worked hard enough to be
first but one in your
Mathematics Class.
   And it is a great thing
to care for what you have
to learn, for its own sake
- a greater thing than to
win all the Removes &
places I the world, tho’
that is a good sign too.
   And it is a worse thing
to lose the love of your
work than to lose your

f97v
Remove or your place.
   so let us win them
both - place & love of the work.
   At Claydon when dear
Grandpapa talked to you
in my room you always
seemed to enter into your
work.
   I saw dear Mother
yesterday & shall see
Gwendolen to day. You
know they are going
to-morrow to Wimbledon.
Mother as she always does
seems careless of any
f98

trouble to herself.
  provided it is the	right thing to do-
The Hindoos have a phrase
that Europeans are
“dipped in ink”. Don’t
dip yourself in ink, yet.
reading & writing teach
one a good many things
one, likes to think about
for one’s future life.
  God bless you, my dear soul.
ever your loving
  Aunt Florence
there is a sordid little bit in
another cover.

f99 Louisa SN to Mrs Verney 17 Feb 1896 Louis just here

f101 Ralph to FN Jan 21 [1890?] thanks for 10s, just before going back to school, useful, last time shall
go back w/o Harry
F102 Ralph to FN Dec 25 [97] thanks for delightful owl, looks wise, Xmas present, he chose an
umbrella, I like being asked what I want
F104 HV to Maude Oct 14 1892

f107 Ruth Verney to FN Dec 22 1901 re christening of dear little Christopher, white day, charming
service, used white prayer book you gave me for my confirmation nearly 6 years ago

f109 FPV to child
f111 HV to Maude
f112 Ralph Verney to FN June 16 [1891?] thanks for arm chair you gave me, you gave mother £1 to
spend on my room and mother bought me a chair
f114 Jan 9 Ralph to FN thanks for travelling bag just arrived
Add Mss 72832A 140 folios, 8 pages, miscellaneous family correspondence, unbound; Adam Matthew microfilm reel 49, 2 sections; Section A has 1 FN original letter

letter to Miss Nightingale, Embley April 1846
f7 inv to M.F. Smith 1846/ Principessa Torlonia
Journey to France 28 August 1826 left Uncle Sam and Aunt Julia
Erskine Hay Speakers’ Court, Palace at Westminster 1 Feb 1871
1860 going to Sardinia
letters to Mrs Nightingale
Sept 1, Thames House, from Mary Gaskell, shocked has not answered her, children in France.
f54 to Mrs Nightingale from Hope Richardson, Jedburgh June 26. thanking her late, press of business,
f61 Keswick

f65 P Nightingale, some kind of deed. September thirtieth. 1815.

Miss M.F. Smith, report on trip set off 28 August 1828 to France, corr with S Smith, to Mrs Nightingale,
Thornton, Mary Gaskell to Mrs Nightingale, Hope Richardson to Mrs Nightingale,

M.F. Smith entries
has letters to Mrs Nightingale

arch: May Smith and looks like “A few bits as your father used to send to Mr Empson”, includes ref to Jowett

Hudson the railway king, J.P.

letter with sketch

letter from Firenze 2 April 1848, I wrote to Flo....

28 Aug 1826 Uncle Sam and Aunt Julia set off from Milford for France, looks like, sketches

letters to Sam Smith at House

to Mrs N., lots, Mary Gaskell, Hope Richardson June 26

f52 Thames House Sept 1, Mary Gaskell

f63 Julia Howe to My dear lady, to Mrs N

I have but just arrived in Coventry and had had your kind note but a few minutes. I thank you sincerely for it, and so do my sisters. I am sorry however to say that the fates and Dr Howe do not will that I should dine with you tomorrow. The Bracebridges, who are our fates just at present, will decidedly that we should dine at Atherstone then, and for a day or so to come, thus postponing until Tuesday or Wednesday the pleasure of being with you. Upon the strength of this my husband has whisked off to Devon and heaven only knows when I shall catch him again. I hope you will pardon my want of punctuality—what would you have of a poor woman who is tied to the tail of a comet? You must
understand, I do not mean by this one of those wild things with horrid hair that fly about doing mischief and setting the world on fire. Mine is a remarkably peaceful and philanthropic comet, yet like all his brethren irregular, eccentric, unwilling to be bound to the dull orbit of appointments. However he is most anxious to see you and yours again, and will, if you permit, bring us a few days later. I say, if you permit, but do not trouble yourself to write unless is be to tell us not to come. Otherwise I shall think that your silence gives consent. I think that we shall hardly arrive before Wednesday and not then, unless inconvenient to you.

In the hope of our seeing you, believe me, dear Madam,
very faithfully yours

Julia Howe

[Mrs N comment:] What a happy creature and how proud of her Comet! and justly I doubt not.

F66 SH to WEN 5 Carlton Gardens April 12 1880 (other Sidney Herbert? To whom? But looks like SH had but the date!) My dear Sir, Even had there been no date to your note as there was no signature I shd have known by the

f68 ALS with envelope, engraved 49 Belgrave Square

March 27 1855

Dear Mr Nightingale

I will be glad to see you at any time most convenient to you.

Whatever I can do to promote the comfort and assist the endeavours of your daughter I will do with all my heart & soul.

Would tomorrow between ½ past 10 and 12 suit you. I shall be at home then.

believe me.... Sidney Herbert

f71 bill to W.E. Nightingale, Job Smedley, grocer and tea dealer. Cromford. bread items.

f75 letter From Mr B, Robt Lowe 8 May Balaklava

ff77-80 draft/letter, pencil [arch: ? was this sent? probably not]

Oct 3/71

_PRIVATE_

Dearest Ju [Julia Smith]

I am sorry to say it is true that during the _latter_ years of Burton’s cook=
life she, poor woman, did sell the dripping, i.e. _after_ I left home (tho’ I did not know it till lately, years after her death).

During the first 8 or 10 years of her service, & till I left home, I am _certain_ that not one penny=
worth did she ever sell out of the house, that _all_ the dripping was given to the poor people, other kitchen stuff made up for them& that she had no “perquisites” -
according to my mother’s excellent rules, made ever since I can remember anything, & impressed upon Burton as upon all the others. I passed naturally thro’ Kitchen & offices 2 or 3 times a day (till I left home) - consulted with Burton about dripping, broth & other things she made for the poor people-- lists were kept - I took out a good many things myself & my mother hardly if ever went out in the carriage without taking dripping= parcels & [. [I can see them now]- I am certain that none of my mother’s rules ere relaxed till after I left home.
The whole thing unrolls itself like a map before me. [Gradually even before that time & much more afterwards, I understood that my mother & Parthe were falling into Invalid habits of self-indulgence - And

2 when I was with them for some months after my return from the Crimea, my mother & Parthe did nothing but lie on 2 sofas in the drawing- room, calling to each other: “don’t tire yourself,” not even by “putting flowers into water.” [My mother said to me several times: ‘I never go into the kitchen now- because I know I should see something I don’t like,’ - words of which I did not understand the import till long afterwards-

Parthe, as you know, took no part whatever in the household - and I believe does not now in her own household (of which I try to know as little as possible.) i.e. not what you & I should call a part. My father’s sluggishness of character
& impatience of mind - which you

f80
see, (& which poor fellow! no one
influence of his life has ever
counteracted) - prevented him from
taking any active part, either as
to wife or daughter (or butler or
farm - which certainly were his
business & not my mother's ]

Though the excessive affection
which he had for Parthe up to the
time she was 25, & and which
dignified his subservience? to her &
my mother - whom she then
governed absolutely- had long since
departed. Alas! Alas!

Indeed, at that time he was with
them as little as he could help -
never in London, except for a few
days - And even before I left home
he would always be at the home where
they were not - if he could.

f81
3
Bref, for the last 18 or 20 years, the
household has had no head
whatever.
[And when I went to Embley in ’66,
for the first time for 10 years,
I was appalled at the dilapidation
& extravagance, visible even from
my bed, tho' I suspected
nothing else.]

It is one of those things which make
one weep 'tears of blood,'-
For my mother was a most
excellent manager of a household
(till habits of self-indulgence crept
on), order & beauty sprung up
under her steps, not only in
creating these two places, but in
managing her household - And
I still think that she & poor Mrs.
Watson have brought up more
good girls for places than any body I know.

Oh dearest Ju - when I see the awful consequences brought on (by such very little faults, to begin with) in households, in families, in Empires, in political life, in administration of great public offices, in the fall of the French Empire, in the War Office, at Embley, I say (by myself) every night of my life & almost every hour of the night, ‘Father, forgive them, for they knew not what they did- Father, forgive me, for I knew not what I did.’

To return.

A few years (1 or 2) before I left home, I was made housekeeper - (by Parthe’s influence over my mother).

A few months afterwards I was destituée (by the same influence)- I had written a burlesque on Hermia & Helen’s scene in M.N.’s Dream, - in which m housekeeping & the “preserves” figured. - This was the reason, Parthe told me- I have never understood Parthe’s conduct on that occasion (tho’ I think I did on most others, even on the occasion of her stopping my Egypt lectures in Holloway) - Nor do I now.

But I have long since seen how every thing was made to ‘trend’ to my going to Crimea & War Office & am more than content in the midst of tribulation - if only this dreadful thing had not happened.

For I do think it is a dreadful thing.
I am so sorry for all concerned—
even for Watson.

As you say, “butlers” (& as I say, much higher people) do these things if not overlooked.

And to me the really bad part of Watson is (not the frauds, tho’ these are past doubt) but the breaking of even the “Thieves’ Code” in his dishonourable aspersions against the ‘2 Sisters’ & his conduct to Peter - together with his favouritism in the house.

[These are against even Servants’ honour.]

Also: he knew my mother’s rules.

Ff91-93 L.H. Shore Nightingale typed report dated 20 February 1914, reports meeting 9 February at Cambridge Club between Sir Herbert Stephen, Sir HV and LHSN with a view to defining the executors’ position as pub of FN’s letters by the Verneys. HV seems not to of his mother with Nash, Dorothea Stephen, executors and E. Cook, amicable, but executors aware of their rights and prepared if nec to maintain them, made clear “that a pub relating to FN by the Verneys wd not be welcome to FN’s relations” Lady Verney’s letter 13 Feb 1914 admits cannot publish any letters by FN w/o consent of executors, her letters notable in showing that Parthe and late HV fully grasped FN’s strong objection to publicity and were determined to ignore it; “The object of the pub of the ‘life’ of FN by Sir E Cook was to present a faithful picture of FN and her work, avoiding as far as possible the revelation of such private matters as she wd have wished not to show to the world. Margaret apparently wishes to publish these very matters.” Fair to assume that FN considered question of pub, left materials to HBC, shd cd have given directions to enable MMV to publish a memoir; “In short Margaret is supporting Parthe’s view against FN and it would appear that the executors can best carry out FM’s wishes by opposing this. A possible way out of the difficulty wd be to consent to Margaret’s printing a short book as she proposed for private circulation only.”

f94 typed copy of letter of MMV Plas Rhoscolyn Holyhead to LHSN, re papers, how got into her possession Feb 13 1914,

Many of them were written to “Parthe” others to Mrs Nightingale by her sisters and friends, some to “W.E.N.” chiefly from 1820 onwards.

These letters belonged to Lady Verney and she was most anxious they should never be mixed up with her sister’s papers, or be given to her; perhaps she thought her sister would destroy them unread. Lady Verney’s effects were all left to Sir Harry. He wished me to have and to read these papers; but ....too busy editing her Mss... re Cook, “I need not say that if I can write a book it could not in any way come into competition with the great Biography, which no one appreciates more than I do. What I chiefly want now is a pedigree to explain all the cousinships....”anxious to put the letters in order.

f110 letter to Miss Smith from M. Howitt

to thank her father for sending £2 for Frederick Douglass’s fund. Lady Byron has sent us £ and will ...

Anna Mary Howitt, aunt of Barbara Leigh Smith
to Barbara to 1867, many letters

f96 17 May 1929 Mrs Oliver Strachey, re O'Malley, asks for her to have access to the papers herself. re play, Evans.

f97 note. When she was going to Harley St. it was said she was going agst her parent’s wish. Ly Cranworth was a lading member on the comtee and a very good woman but the last to illeg. ... daughter FN wrote her mother to see Ly Cranworth and F behaved beautifully and.... how sorry they were to lose Florence .... The great thing about FN really was her power of capturing or possessing people....

f85 FPV, letter, pen FPV to FN

My dear

I think you will like to see this account of Garibaldi. Alas E. found out afterwards that the woman he is living with now is not his wife.

Mde Schwabe who lives near him and is going out to look after the education of women at Naples (& has got the crown princess to speak to the Princess Margherita about being the chief patroness of the Society) desires me to tell you she is making up the accounts of money disbursed for widows and orphans in the war. The French Committee comprised Protestants and Catholics, Mme de Stael and an abbé! She believes that much good wad done by the money.

Lady Sarah & Maargaret sleep in South St. for a couple of night about the 9th and then go out by Marseilles to Edmund at Malta. I think it is just possible that Harry may go out to join them for a little time. He will not say anything at present, but if he plays this this winter I am sure I hope that he will. He has so enjoyed this place and the dear people in it, it is charming...

Did you ever have a “Good Words Young” the “Nightingales’ heir. I went to .... It was at Combe but... illegs....

wreck of the illeg a troop ship carrying 1000 troops to the Crimea discipline of the men so beautiful that they were found drowned in their ranks as they stood. The ship went ... in daylight....

Edmund asked for a nosegay to take away with him to the ship. the only flowers on the auslander little...Elba. Napoleon 1

Margaret saw officer who told how illeg Garibaldi was with being illeg. An Armenian took all sorts of letters but he would not see him. The man has done .... last... General’s window. Garibaldi came with ... the man put him into his illeg and went home and told how he had ‘interviewed’ the General.

I hope you can read it. I wrote it in great haste from dictation.

f89 letter....

Hampstead
Tuesday

My dear illeg

Both the dear children are quite well and it was very rainy yesterday afternoon and again this evening. They were very much amused to go down in the drown of ... Emily illeg

f91 more to Miss Smith. Barbara. MH

f136 typed Barbara Leigh Smith to her father Sorrento May 12 1855

12 05 1855 typed statement of Barbara Leigh Smith to her father, from Sorrento, all re travels 73832 A
f136

f138 Barbara to aunt March 21 1867 Avignon, re the Fawcett Society, going to Algiers, Bernie, loves
Avignon, Bernie doing antiquities

f140 BL Bodichon to Bertha, from Scalands Gate, Robertsbridge Hawkhurst [1874] re Dr Bodichon