Convent of Mercy Kinsale 1

Ukoth: Uk and Irish Archives other than the British Library, Wellcome, LMA, county record offices, Scotland and oxford, 1217 pages

Bold numbers in square brackets indicate the volume and page number in the Collected Works of Florence Nightingale where the item appears.

Larger collections
Royal Archives, Windsor Castle, indicated RA/PP/Vic
Claydon House, bundles
Wantage Papers, Red Cross Archive, indicated D/Wan/
Convent of Mercy, Bermondsey, 16 letters
Convent of Mercy, Birmingham, 9 letters
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale, 2 letters
National Archives, Kew, 10 letters
Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel
Lea Hurst RSAS
Royal College of Physicians of London, 7 items, RCPL
Royal Hospital for Incurables, 7 letters, indicated RHI
University of Wales, Bangor, 5 letters
Durham University, 5 letters
University of London, 5 letters
King’s College, London
University College, London, UCL Galton
University College, London, UCL Chadwick
Private Collection of Farr family, Teagle 17 letters
Private Collection, Bowman family
Cambridge University, Fitzwilliam Museum
Manchester University, John Rylands Library, Rylands

Collections under 5 letters
National Library of Ireland, 4 letters
University of Birmingham, Ubirm, 4 letters
Trinity College, Cambridge, TCC, 3 letters
St Bartholomew’s Hospital Archives, 3 letters
University of Southampton, 3 letters
British Library of Pol and Ec Sc, 2 letters, indicated BLPES
Girton College, Cambridge, 2 letters
Royal Holloway, University of London, 2 items
St Mary’s Hospital, London, 2 letters
Victoria and Albert Museum, 1 letter
Leeds Univerity, Brotherton Library, 2 letters
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, 2 letters
Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, RCSE, 2 items
Bristol Archives, 2 letters
Liverpool Medical Institution, 2 letters
Royal Institute of British Architects, 1 letter
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Leicester Royal Infirmary, 1 letter
Royal Free Hospital Archives, 1 letter
Westminster Hospital, 1 letter
Radcliffe Infirmary, 1 letter
Radcliffe Guild of Nurses, 1 letter
Royal College of Surgeons of England, 1 letter
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, 1 letter
Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, 1 letter
Royal Society of Medicine, 1 letter
Royal College of General Practitioners, 2 letters
National War Museum of Scotland, 1 letter
Children’s Hospital, Gt. Ormond St, 1 letter
University of Ulster, 1 letter
Minet Library, Lambeth, 1 letter
Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital, Pendlebury
City of Westminster Archives, 1 letter
Grosvenor Chapel, 1 letter
Miscellaneous private collections and internet

Royal Archives, Windsor Castle, paper copies

RA PP/Vic/1859/784

signed letter, 2ff, pen

30 Old Burlington St
W

March 7/59

[16:778-79]

Dear Sir Charles Phipps
Will you pardon me
(Florence Nightingale)
for presuming on your
old kindness to me
to ask you a question?
A bill is before
the House of Commons
this week for carrying
a Railway from the
S.E. Station to Charing
Cross.

The line passes so close to the North wing of St. Thomas’s Hospital as to render it useless - The Hospital will thus be reduced to its old dimensions & to the buildings which were condemned by the Medical Officers as unfit, so far back as 1832.

The Hospital is one of our two Royal Hospitals (upon Edward VI’s foundation) and the Queen is Visitor. The Prince Consort is also a Governor -

I have reason to know that a word from his Royal Highness to Mr. Baggallay, the Treasurer, would determine the latter. And from the Prince Consort’s well-known interest in all
questions affecting
the welfare of the
people, it has occurred
to me to ask you
whether it would
be proper to bring
the matter to His
Royal Highness’s
cognizance.
If the Railway
people would purchase
the whole site of the
Hospital, not only
would a great injury
be saved but a
great benefit gained
For the Hospital might
then be rebuilt
(bodily) in the neigh-
bourhood of London –
I have such ample
experience of the injury
inflicted on the sick
poor by the foul air
of London that I
know that to move St.
Thomas’s (Medical
School & Hospital)
out of the crowded
London Bridge district
into the suburbs
would be a public
boon. Black heath
would be a very
accessible place &
has great facilities
by rail= way – A
Surgical ward for
accidents is all that
would be necessary
on the present site
of St. Thomas’s. And
all the other sick
might be taken by
rail way to Blackheath
(or some other accessible
Unfortunately, in all such arrangements, the sick are generally the least considered. Pray forgive me for being troublesome.

(in another hand:) Signed Florence Nightingale Autograph given To Mrs. Farquherson

RA PP/Vic/1859/784 signed letter, 4ff, pen

30 Old Burlington St W March 10/59

Dear Sir Charles Phipps

I could not for one moment have intended to indicate that the Prince Consort should in any way interfere with a Railway Bill. The facts about St. Thomas’s Hospital had come to me privately, & knowing His Royal Highness’s great interest in all matters affecting the welfare of the people, it occurred to me that it might not be improper in me simply to state to you the facts of the case - This was really all I intended to do - leaving it entirely in the hands of His Royal Highness.
Believe me to be
dear Sir Charles Phipps
Yours faithfully & obliged
Florence Nightingale

It appeared to me
impertinent to indicate
a course for the Prince
Consort’s consideration.
But as you add “I do
“not understand
“exactly what you
“think the Prince

“might do” -- might
I to you in private
state the following
facts?

On Monday the
Railway bill goes
before the Committee
-- of which the Chairman,
Mr. Ingham, is well
disposed to view the
matter in the same
light we do - i.e. to
say that the Railway
people must buy
all the site or none e

If, (after * this Bill
has passed, if it does
pass,) it were considered
that the removal of
a Royal Hospital
like St. Thomas’s, the
second only in antiquity
& in usefulness in
London, were an event
of sufficient public
importance for the
Prince to take the
Chair at a Meeting
of the Directors of the Hospital, his
-------------------------------------
* should it be improper
to do it before
word would be enough, were he to propose that such an opportunity should not be lost for removing the Hospital to a healthy site in the neighbourhood and erecting it upon the best plan.

[There are not wanting jobbers even in Royal Hospitals -- and two sites are mentioned which Governors, & cousins, uncles & brothers in law of Governors, who want to sell, have proposed - where the Hospital would be far worse off than it is where it is now]

But, if it is not an occasion for the Prince to appear as Chairman, a message from him to the Treasurer, of the Hospital a Mr. Baggallay, would, I am informed, have the desired effect, should the Prince see the matter in this light.

I will, not take up your time with any apology for this long statement -

F. Nightingale

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 letter from Alfred Tritton St. Thomas’s Hospital Treasurer’s Clerk to Sir, 20 Dec 1860, 1f-v, printed and handwritten note re: FN
signed letter, 4ff, pen

30 Old Burlington St.
London W.
Dec 21/60
Dear Sir Charles Phipps
I should not venture to trouble you, were it not that the health of some thousands of Her Majesty’s subjects depends upon the success of this application.

I write in great anxiety about an occurrence regarding St. Thomas’s Hospital, which arose only this morning.

It is, as you are aware, a Royal foundation -- and
The Prince Consort is a Governor.

The Prince was so good

as to send for Mr. Bagallay, the Treasurer, upon this same matter, to Buckingham Palace.

And I hope that you remember how kind you were in enduring a correspondence from me about it.

By the decision of the Ho: of Lords, last July twelvemonth, the Charing Cross Railway can take a corner of garden ground belonging to St. Thomas’s, within 8 feet of the North wing wards, at a valuation.

This is ruin to the Hospital. And, I understand, could not be done in the case of private property, carrying on a business. Any Company would be compelled to take the whole –
The Directors of the Railway in question yesterday sent a notice to the Hospital to the effect that, intending to proceed with the Railway, they must know the Governor’s decision within 21 days.

The Treasurer has called a special meeting of the Grand Committee for tomorrow morning, and a General Court of Governors for Monday next, (a general holiday!)

The want of consideration of this proceeding, I am told, is unprecedented – as well as the shortness of the time given. -- especially at Christmas time, when everybody is out of town.

I need hardly say to you that if The Prince would write to Mr. Baggallay, the Treasurer, calling upon him & the Governors to take an enlightened view of the subject, as regards the following consideration, it would probably make the whole difference viz. there are among the Governors some whose interest leads them to throw away the finest opportunity ever offered of obtaining for the present site a very much larger sum than would rebuild St. Thomas’s Hospl= in a healthy suburban site, with all the best Sanitary improvements –

The Prince is himself so well informed on all these subjects that I hardly like to insist further

But it is quite impossible
for the Hospital to remain where it is, with trains every seven minutes at least, running to & fro –

To remove the North wing to any part of the present site, when three-fifths of the whole Hospital require re-building, is mere waste of money.

Pray do not suppose my meaning to be that The Prince could interfere with Acts of Parliament or even with Hospital Constitutions –

As a Governor of St. Thomas’s, His Royal Highness will receive the notice, of which I venture to enclose a copy. He might then, if He considered it a proper occasion, cause Mr. Baggallay, the Treasurer, to be written to, (referring to the conversation which He had with the Treasurer), calling upon him to exert his influence to induce the Governors not to lose the present opportunity of selling the whole site and re-building elsewhere –

I have the best reason for knowing that a few words from The Prince to Mr. Baggallay would be all sufficient.

I have real reproaches to make to myself for this long & confused letter. But I write from a sick-bed. And only
the urgency of the case induces me
to trouble you at all.

May I add that I am
giving every moment of my spare
energy to the plans of the
Lisbon Hospital -- & that I am
quite ashamed of myself that
the suggestions & questions,
partly written, are not
already sent to the Architect.

Believe me to be
faithfully & gratefully yours
Florence Nightingale
Colonel
The Honble Sir C.B. Phipps K.C.B.
&c &c

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 letter {copy} from Grey, Windsor Castle, to
Baggallay, 22 Dec 1860, 2ff, pen. Commanded by HRH to write with
ref to notice he has recd re general court of the govs, re notice
from Charing Cross Railway Co. to take possession of Hospital
land. Under powers conferred upon them by act of Parl of a
portion of the hosp land for their proposed line. HRH not in the
habit of attending these meetings or of taking any personal part
in the gen mgt of the hosp, but having had a conversation with
you last year on the subject of the proposed railway, and taking
the deepest interest in the welldoing and comfort of the poor
sick in this hosp, who cannot but be serious and injuriously
affected by the execution of such a line of railway, he wishes
again to press upon you the opinion he then expressed and wh
subsequent info has tended to confirm, that it wd be highly
desirable to take adv of the opp wh the foundation of this
railway will probably afford, to dispose to advantage of the
present bill, and to transfer the hosp to a better and more
healthy locality somewhere in the suburbs of London. It is clear
that that portion of the present hosp , wh the proposed railway
will be utterly useless and unavailable for the further reception
of sick persons when constant trains shall be running to and fro
and to remove that wing to any other part of the present site,
while as HRH is informed a large portion of the whole hosp
requires rebuild, wd seem to bean injudicious exp of a large sum
of money.

HRH is therefor more strongly than ever of opinion that the
most advisable course for the govs to pursue is to avail
themselves of the present opp of disposing of the present bill
altogether. Will probably realize a much larger sum than reqd to
rebuild the hosp in a more healthy situation, on an enlarged
scale and with all the latest sanitary improvements. But must
disclaim all idea of doing more than state his own individual view of what cd be best for the hosp wh will be for the govs who take constant and active part in its mgt to decide upon full consid of all the circs of the case

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 letter {copy} from CB Phipps, Windsor Castle, to FN 23 Dec 1860, 2ff, pen, Your letter of the 21st arrived here during my absence for a short holiday, but going ....??? to hands of General Grey, shown to the prince, “from whom it recd the immediate attention wh any communication from you wd be sure to command.” encloses copy of letter sent at HRH’s command to Baggallay. “You will find in it your own arguments and sometimes even your own words embodied.

I only hope that it may have the weight wh you expect for the object, wh you advocate is as valuable for its practical good sense as for its benevolence.

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 signed letter from Baggallay to Grey, 24 Dec 1860, 1f, pen. Ack receipt of his of 22nd and to request that you will assure HRH that the govs and myself feel most grateful for the great interest he has expressed in a matter wh so seriously affects the future usefulness of this charity.

Re opinion of HRH at interview. Re getting counsel. At general court this day the govs unan resolved to refer the entire mgt tot he exec com, at same time expressing opinion that the railway is incompatible with the proper treatment and comfort of the poor. Govs allowed only 21 days to decide the course they adopt, make out valuation of their claim

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 signed letter, 2ff, pen

30 Old Burlington St [16:525]
London W
Dec 24/60
Dear Sir Charles Phipps
I have this morning forwarded to the Architect, Mr. Humbert, of the new Lisbon Hospital, his plans, with my Suggestions, and with five questions, the reply to which will be necessary, in order
to be able to trust
to one’s own advice
being correct.
    I need hardly
say that I shall
be most happy
always, to give
any result of my
experience, to help
in the details,
(floors, walls,
appurtenances,) of
this admirable
Hospital.
    The proportions

of the large wards
are beautiful. They
will certainly be the
finest wards in
Europe –
    Having had some
experience of Hospitals
in Southern as well
as in Northern climates,
I can safely say
this –
    I am sorry
that I have been
compelled to delay
so long in giving
Mr. Humbert his

first instalment
of advice – Perhaps
he will not be so
sorry.

Believe me to be
faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 letter {copy} from CB Phipps to FN 27 Dec
1860, 1f, pen. From Windsor Castle. I send you the answer wh
General Grey has recd from Mr Baggallay. I think that it is as
favourable as we could expect under the circs. The prince directs
me to assure you that he is very grateful for your valuable
advice and assistance relative to the Lisbon Hosp. ...Pray return
me Mr Baggallay’s letter.
Dear Sir Charles Phipps

I am sure the Country owes a deep feeling of gratitude to The Prince for the influence he exerts in favor of its sick poor - for whom St. Thomas’s Hospital is the oldest and largest foundation except one -

Genl= Grey’s letter has had a great effect upon Mr. Baggallay, the Treasurer, who is the autocrat in those parts; & who, by all accounts, is rather a “sly old fox.”

I return his letter, which contains most important information, viz. that the Governors expressed their opinion that the Railway is incompatible with the interests of the poor in Hospital -

They can hardly recede from this opinion. And it is well to have it in writing, addressed to His Royal Highness. I believe that The Prince’s interest in the question will be the means eventually of effecting
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

one of the greatest possible reforms in Hospital life – not only by the removal of St. Thomas’s but by the example which it will give to other Hospitals –.

I need hardly say how much obliged to you I feel for the trouble you have taken in corresponding with me –

Believe me to be
Sincerely yours

Florence Nightingale

RA PP/Vic/1860/6403 signed letter from Baggallay to Sir C.B. Phipps 25 Jan 1861, 1f, pen, to inform HRH has recd notice from railway co that they intend to insist upon taking only a part of the hosp property, and the govs have in consequence had a bill prepared which I expect will be file in the ct of chancery today or tomorrow for an injunction to compel them to take the entire property.

The govs have retained for counsel...(and my son)

RA PP/Vic/1869/5392 signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Embley Park
Romsey
Hampshire

{printed address:} 35 South Street, Sept 28/69

Park Lane,
W. {address crossed with 1 vert. line}

Dear Sir

I trust that you have not forgotten all your kindness to me- And I am afraid that you have not forgotten all the trouble I have given you.

I fear too that I shall have, if I may be permitted, to trouble you again.

I have a small packet to send to the Grand Duchess of Baden, by her desire;
which, (meâ culpâ, or rather
culpâ my illness,) did not go
H.T. Harrison Esq
to her, as it ought, 3 months ago.

Might I hope that you
would have the kindness to
let me know how I ought to
send this? -
and also - not to trouble
you to write to me twice - how
I ought to send a small
packet to the Queen of
Prussia (which is not
however yet ready) in answer
to one of hers?

Pray believe me

Dear Sir

ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

Note not in FN hand. 28 Sept 1869. Fl N has packets to send to
the Queen of Prussia and Grand Duchess of Baden.... 29th will
forward them. Illeg
Scutari Hospital  
19 February 1855

Sir
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the cases containing the present of Her Majesty the Queen by the ship “Eagle” – I shall have the honor to write more particularly about them by the next post after they have been opened -

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedt- servt  
Florence Nightingale
Sir

I received a letter, dated March 9, from Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Baden, forwarded perhaps by your kindness -

Some delay has been caused in answering the questions which the Grand Duchess has done me the honor to address to me - partly by my state of health, partly by printers’ delay in preparing papers which bore upon Her Royal Highness’s subject -

I am somewhat ashamed of the size of the packet and would ask you to be so good as to inform me whether I shall commit it to your kindness -- or whether I shall send it through the Foreign Office - which latter is a method "slow but sure."

I am, Sir,

Your obedt servt

Florence Nightingale

H.T. Harrison Esq
Dear Sir

May I venture to trouble you again with a letter for the Crown Princess of Prussia, - at Homburg, I believe - from which place she telegraphed to me, & also wrote - letter & telegram, I think, received by me thro’ your kindness.
[I telegraphed at once in reply.]

Pray believe me
my dear Sir
ever your faithful servt=
Florence Nightingale

H.T. Harrison Esq

Sir

I have had the privilege since 1856 of sending papers & parcels asked for by H.R.H. the Crown Princess of Germany & by H.R.H. our Princess Alice thro’ the Queen’s Messengers.

Our Princess Alice was very good to us: -- the “trained” “Nightingale” Nurses of her own native land: -- & it is the wish of these Nurses to send a crown & cross of flowers to be placed upon that ever=to=be=loved & regretted grave
on New Year’s Day: to mark
    that it is a ‘new year’ for
her, the beloved of all.
Permission has been already asked
& received from the Grand Duke
    of Hesse Darmstadt for this
small tribute of our love. And
Miss Helmsdörfer, the lady
who nursed our Princess Alice
to the last, (& who received had
part of her ‘training’ - by the
Grand Duchess’ desire - at the
“Nightingale’ Training- School
for Nurses here) is to
receive & place it in the Mausoleum
It will be ready & ought to leave
London on Monday night by
Express-

    Might I be allowed to ask
whether you could guide me to
any means by which this could
reach Darmstadt more safely
& surely: -- any one who could
kindly take it in charge,
(who is going to Darmstadt), so
that it should reach its destination
by New Year’s morning?
    or, if not, what would be the
best way of sending it by
Express?
Of our loss in Princess Alice I
cannot speak: for it is
unspeakable.
Forgive the trouble I am giving you
& believe me, under severe pressure
of over work & illness, your faithful servt-
    Florence Nightingale

To
    Mr. Harrison’s successor
    Privy Purse Office
Florence Nightingale begs that the enclosed letter to Her Majesty The Queen, sent by Her Majesty’s command, may be kindly forwarded to The Queen in Germany. She begs to know whether it is in time for today’s Messenger.

To the Privy Purse Office
Buckingham Palace

Private July 26/83
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
PARK LANE. W.

Madam

May I offer my humble thanks for the decoration of the Royal Red Cross which Your Majesty has been pleased to confer upon me: And, yet more, may I most humbly present my earnest gratitude for the gracious invitation to stay the night at Windsor Castle which I was compelled by the state of my health to decline
with the deepest regret, for possibly I might have been allowed by Your Majesty’s Gracious command to report in a few words on the subjects for which, in the autumn of 1856 after the Crimean War, Your Majesty summoned me to Balmoral, & graciously granted to my prayer the Royal Commission on the Sanitary State of the Army under Sidney Herbert –

May I recall to your Majesty that this Royal Commission of 1857 laid down the principles upon which the Medical Departments of the Army were to be organized - These principles were that the status of the Medical Officer was to be raised & his professional skill to be cultivated - but that he was to be relieved from all duties not strictly professional, & that all matters connected with the lodging, dieting & general care of the sick were to be managed by a special
department, termed the Purveyor’s department, subordinate to the Medical Officers, & independent of the other Supply Department of the Army.

That the Sanitary Service was to be thoroughly organized & that such an organized Sanitary Service was, when an Army took the field, was to look after the Sanitary condition of the camps & permanent Quarters of the troops.

Your Majesty is aware that, in the China War under Sir Hope Grant, this Sanitary Service was put in force & proved efficient –

Your Majesty will recall that these Principles were embodied in Regulations (during Lord Herbert’s tenure of Office) which were fully tested & successfully acted upon during the years between 1859 and 1870; and in the only War which took place under the English War Department during that time: viz. the China War. [The Abyssinian War was conducted from India]
May I now recall to Your Majesty that in 1870 and subsequent years the Regulations were changed: the Purveyor’s Department was abolished, the Regulations for the Sanitary Service were discontinued, & almost all the safe guards were lost (in the new Regulations) which the Royal Commission of 1857 had devised for preventing the occurrence in War Hospitals of the evils from which the soldiers had suffered in the Crimea.

Your Majesty will have perceived from the evidence given in the recent enquiry on the Army Hospital Services (in Egypt) that, solely in consequence of the abandonment of these regulations, the Management of the Hospitals & also the Sanitary condition of the Camps & Quarters & Hospitals was very defective, both in Egypt & at the Cape. The sick & wounded soldiers suffered far more than was necessary.

The complaint is not against the skill of the Medical Officers in their capacity of Surgeons or of
Physicians, but against the Hospital management which they have undertaken to superintend. Your Majesty will doubtless say that it is now impossible to revert to Sidney Herbert’s Regulations: but that it is essential that a revision be made of the duties of the Army Medical Department to secure the objects which were obtained by the Regulations founded on the Report of Your Majesty’s {printed address upside down:} Commission of 1857 –

10, SOUTH STREET,
PARK LANE. W.

viz. that the Hospital Services

should be carried on in a manner calculated to relieve the Medical Officer from the care of details not belonging to his professional work: [or indeed if he is to superintend these details, that he should be fully trained in them, instead of being fully untrained in them, as he is now.]

And, above all, that there should be an efficient Sanitary service to accompany every body of troops in the field & Garrisons.
May I venture so far as to hope that Your Majesty may read an Article on the Army Hospital Services in Egypt, by Capt. Douglas Galton, in the “Fortnightly Review,” which I have been encouraged to send for Your Majesty’s perusal? And may I hope that The Queen will pardon the intense interest of 29 years, fostered by Her Majesty’s own hand, which urges me to address the Queen on such a subject, & trust to be considered,

Madam
Your Majesty’s most humble, earnest & devoted subject & servant
Florence Nightingale
Her Majesty
The Queen:

RA VIC/E 34/24 signed letter, 4ff, pen [5:425-26]

Private {up at an angle} August 6/83 {printed address:} 10, SOUTH STREET, PARK LANE. W.

Madam I again venture with Your Majesty’s graciously leave to address The Queen. It is on the subject of the so-called Ilbert Bill – intended to give limited powers to try Europeans, outside of the Presidency towns, to native Magistrates & Judges who, after long trial of their judicial qualifications in corresponding positions have shown themselves worthy to be intrusted with this duty & have risen to that grade where for their official
responsibility such powers are required – that is, to give to a very few trained, tested & experienced native Judges, selected by Government, the powers to fulfill such responsibilities. It is no mere experiment but has been tried on the Bench of the High Courts & in the Chief Magistracies of the Presidency towns –
It would be impertinent in me to recall to Your Majesty the gracious
Proclamation of 1858- more telling words never announced a nobler Sovereign Mother’s will to a more grateful & law abiding people. It fell like dew upon the thirsty souls of India –
And It would be unnecessary for me to refer to the Queen’s own words that, ‘so far ‘as may be, our subjects, ‘of whatever race or creed, ‘be impartially admitted to ‘offices in our service, the ‘duties of which they may ‘be qualified by their education, ‘ability & integrity duly to
These glorious words have proclaimed that The Queen will admit the natives of India to share in their own government without distinction of race & creed. The Sovereign herself has invited them to educate themselves to qualify for Her service, as Englishmen do. In the teeth of difficulty they have, competing with our ablest, obeyed Her invitation; & by trial in long service, proved themselves & not been found wanting.

They know that the Queen’s Government will not on its side be found wanting. One more tribute for that truly heaven sent Proclamation, it may possibly not be disagreeable to Your Majesty to receive. It is stated that there is now scarcely a village among The Queen’s 200 millions of subjects in India where it is not known (in the wonderful way in which news flies in Eastern countries) that now is the time when their beloved
“Sovereign Mother’s” Proclamation is receiving practical effect - nor where that noble proclamation which 'becomes a Monarch better than her Crown' is not mentioned thus by grateful natives, often with tears of joy & hope.

They refer particularly to the two measures, - long promised, now coming at last into more perfect execution - of local self-government: & of due employment of natives in official positions, together with encouragement of local industries -

It is known that a largely signed petition of European ladies of Calcutta & elsewhere in India against the so-called Ilbert Bill - a part, but by no means the most important, of the present just & generous policy, so wisely carrying out Your Majesty’s proclamation - is to be presented to The Queen.

May I be permitted to add my deep regrets, to those of many worthier than I, that such a movement should be possible, with which the Queen can have
no sympathy - & which
would find a sufficient
answer, were the movers
referred to The Queen’s
own words in that
Gracious proclamation -
Suffer, Madam, me
to be the most humble &
devoted of Your Majesty’s
Subjects
Florence Nightingale
To
Her Majesty
The Queen
{printed address upside down:}
10, SOUTH STREET,
PARK LANE. W.

RA VIC/E 34/26 {archivist:} draft by Sir Henry Ponsonby Private
Secretary to the Queen to F.N., 13 Aug 1883, Osborne. 2ff, pen.
The queen hopes you will forgive her for not answering your
letter herself. HM has been so constantly interrupted in writing
that she had entrusted to me the duty of conveying to you her
thanks for the two very interesting letters /communications you
have been good enough to write/address to Her Majesty. With
regard to the “Ilbert Bill” which is now being so vehemently
discussed, the Queen does not wish to say much
she cannot but deplore
the acrimony with which the question has been treated, but in it a
??? Consideration of the ??govt it is not desirable to say much.
The Queen is ?? To express any opinion except to express her
regret at...

It gave the queen sincere pleasure to confer the decoration of
the R Red Cross on one?? Who have worked to hard and have
effected so much in the sanitary dept of the army and HM is very
grateful for your observations on.

Medical question and has read with much interest the paper in
the Fortnightly Review to which you called Her Majesty’s
attention. I may say that the queen fully concurs in/ considers
your opinion on these matters of the highest value ....concurs in
your opinion that the hosp service shd be carried in a manner
calculated to relieve the med officers from the care of details
not belonging to his medical work.

The abolition of the purveyor dept and the change from the
regt to the genl system which the queen must regret were both
effected on the rec of the med officers and the Q observes that
those who gave evidence before the late court of enquiry consider
these depts to have improved the efficiency of their dept. These
matters have been prominently brought to HM’s notice lately as
the selection of a new commandant to Netley Hosp is now under consideration and the comparative advantage of navy? And combatant and medical off are being discussed.

The Q was extremely sorry to have missed the opp of seeing you at Windsor but trusts that on a future accession she may be ...
Private {up at an angle} Sept. 26/95
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
Sir PARK LANE. W.
[Will you allow me to offer to your Royal Highness, at the close of nearly 40 years’ work for the Army, something more than the sympathy of silence on your retirement?
My excuse for intrusion at such a time as this is the honour of having been allowed to work with the Army & for it in days gone by. It has endowed my life with interests, occupations & friendships that have
enabled me to follow and to understand more fully than would have been otherwise possible the advance made since then in the health, comfort and general well-being of our soldiers. Very few now living can know how much that advance is owing to the patient personal efforts of Your Royal Highness which date back to the times when by far the most serious dangers to the soldier in peace or war were bad food, insufficient accommodation for man & horse, and an absolute neglect of Sanitary measures, - and when Barrack life meant for men in the ranks to be deprived of every home comfort, & never have an opportunity for healthy recreation either of mind or body.

Any stranger can see what a libel on the Army such a description would be to-day; but the stranger could not know how the change had been gradually effected, & to how very few men it was largely due-
It requires one who, to some extent at least, has been an Official, to realize that nothing less than many years of minute attention to matters of detail, each of which brought its own special contribution to the soldier’s welfare, could have made his position & profession what it is to-day.

To transform the fashions of a Profession is harder than to succeed in a hundred campaigns, for it requires an enthusiasm for the drudgery of detail of which the public has no knowledge, & for which therefore they give no thanks. But rewarded work has never been so good as thankless work, & if known work has been the admiration of the world, it is the unknown work that is its salvation.

It must have been a difficult & thankless work to subordinate favouritism in the Army to merit which is the chivalry of modern times, & for one
Your Royal Highness’ position peculiarly difficult & unusually thankless. And those who know what the soldier’s life is, and how interdependent are their comfort, their health & their fighting power -- to those Your Royal Highness’ work is known, & by them it will be gratefully remembered as a work not for our Army alone but for our country & our country men & country women of every class & rank, for whose benefit our Army exists & whose homes are secured by its efficiency.

May your Royal Highness still watch over the soldier. There is such good stuff in him, when disciplined. In times of trouble he is so kind to his horses, coaxing them to eat, when he has not enough for himself. In times of trouble he really “loves” his comrade “as himself”, risking & losing his life for him. His devotion to his Officers is the same.

But no man can be idle & without physical activity or interesting
occupation resist
temptation.
May your Royal Highness’,
hopes be fulfilled & your
work continued till every
soldier is able to resist
all sorts of temptations &
to become a faithful
subject & servant of his
Sovereign, his country &
His God
But it is not for me to
tell Your Royal Highness
these things - only to be, -
again offering our humble
but hearty thanks for the
troops, - Your Royal Highness’
faithful servant
Florence Nightingale

H.R.H.
The Duke of Cambridge

RA VIC/F 1/76 signed letter from Phipps to FN 14 Dec 1854, 2ff, pen. Windsor Castle. I have recd the commands of Her Maj the Queen to forward by the Ship Eagle x some packages containing some comforts and useful articles, which HM wishes to be placed in your hands, for distribution as you may think fit amongst the wounded and sick at Scutari.

HM has wished to mark by some private contribution from herself her deep personal sympathy for the sufferings of these noble soldiers, and her admiration of the patience and fortitude with which they have suffered both wounds and hardships.

The queen has directed me to x the Articles were not shipped until Jany 6 1855.
Ask you to undertake the distr and applic of these articles partly because HM wished you to be made aware that your goodness and self-devotion in giving your self up to the soothing attendance upon these wounded and sick soldiers have been observed by the queen with sentiments of the highest approbation admiration but partly because, as the articles sent did not come within the description of medical or govt stores, usually furnished, they cd not be better entrusted then to one who by constant personal obs could form a correct judgment where they cd be most usefully employed.

It is very poss that your exp may make you aware of many other articles that would alleviate the sufferings or conduce to the comfort of the patients, and upon hearing from you, I am commanded to lose no time in attending to your suggestions; it is
however very probably that many of these things mt be procured
more easily and with less loss of time either at Const or at some
foreign part, in which case I am commanded to authorize you to
purchase such articles as you may consider desirable, to the
amount of 200 pounds. I have to request that you will have the
goodness to forward the amounts to me. ...I enclose a list of the
articles sent. [no list]
Editor: In December 1854 the queen determined to send articles for the wounded and sick as a “private contribution from herself,” to show her “deep personal sympathy for the sufferings of these noble soldiers, and her admiration of the patience and fortitude with which they have suffered both wounds and hardships.” The letter specified that the articles had been sent by the Eagle, but a note adds that the articles were not shipped until 6 January 1855. The queen wanted Nightingale herself to undertake the distribution of the articles, partly because she wanted her to be aware that her self-devotion in giving up herself to the “soothing attendance upon these wounded and sick” had been observed, partly also because the articles did not fall within the description of medical or government stores. Further, the queen thought that Nightingale’s experience would make her aware of other comforts. Upon hearing from her, Phipps would lose no time in attending to her suggestions. She was also authorized to purchase articles to the value of £200 for things that might be procured more easily at Constantinople or other foreign parts. Phipps letter 14 December 1854, Royal Archives VIC/F 1/76.

I have recd the commands of Her Maj the Queen to forward by the Ship Eagle x some packages containing some comforts and useful articles, which HM wishes to be placed in your hands, for distribution as you may think fit amongst the wounded and sick at Scutari.

HM has wished to mark by some private contribution from herself her deep personal sympathy for the sufferings of these noble soldiers, and her admiration of the patience and fortitude with which they have suffered both wounds and hardships.
Madam

That your Majesty’s sympathy is given to every man of your troops none know better than myself, who have seen the tears which the expression of that gracious sympathy has called forth in these brave fellows, who have never had one tear to shed for their own sufferings -

That the feeling is unanimous & constant in these men, - not an enthusiastic madness but a deep, unfailing purpose & determination to see your Majesty’s wrong righted & the offence against the liberties of Europe put down, - I can assure your Majesty who have but just returned from the Crimea where all hearts are steady & all wills stanch - We would stand ten years of war, should
your Majesty require it of us —

That your Majesty’s sympathy should have extended to me, I could hardly have expected — I have done what I could — But it is indeed impossible to me to express how much the believing in that sympathy, — which, I know, arises from a real interest & enquiry into the cause of the soldier — will be an abiding support amidst difficulties which appal & perplexities which dishearten me —

Your Majesty’s beautiful present will be to me an object of tender affection recalling the assurance that our Sovereign’s heart is in this cause.

The expression of my gratitude was delayed, on account of my absence from Scutari at the time that your Majesty’s letter arrived — I was then at the Hospitals at Balaclava under my charge — I was there, living in the midst of, seeing day by day, hearing from those in the
very heart of it, the evils
& difficulties which beset
& almost threaten to
disorganize your Majesty’s
brave army.

For the re= action of
bravery & over= strained
endurance is depression &
love of drink in
uneducated minds - And
this is the real pestilence
with which this winter
we have to struggle in
an Army, idle & rich.

Such is our experience
& conviction of your Majesty’s
deep interest in the welfare
of your Army that I will
venture, even without
apology, to speak to your
Majesty of some impressions

left on me by what I saw
passing in the Crimea –

The reasons for the
increase of this vice of
intoxication are two

(1) plenty of money to
drink

(2) time undisposed of –
trench= work & road making
being, I thank God, at
an end –

The remedies are

(1) to give the men every
facility for remitting money
home - They complain of
that there are delays in
the remittances - that they
cannot trust themselves
to keep their own money
till the day for remitting
it comes - that they do
not wish their comrades
to know of these remittances,
otherwise the money would
be borrowed –
That these are not mere
excuses is proved by the
fact that I rarely remit
home a smaller sum
than £200 per week
for the men in petty sums
of 20/ or 30/- shewing that
they will avail themselves
of an easy opportunity
(2) employment &
amusement to dispose of
their unoccupied time –
useful & amusing Books
a warmed & lighted Hut
for each Regiment to read
them in – which might
be used also as a Church,
-
a school= room, with reading
& copy= books, – & even as
a Theatre–
practical lectures with
plain illustrations, Diagram[s]
&c two or three evenings
in the week
I understand that your
Majesty’s Government is
already about to act in
this direction - sending out
lecturers, diagrams &c
Every thing which tends
to soften & cheer the
soldier’s imagination tends
to diminish the vice of
intoxication - The games
& books & newspapers
which your Majesty has
sent - the prints of your
Majesty & their Royal Highnesses the Prince Albert
& the young Princes which I have hung on
the walls of the Reading Huts which already exist
(so deep & true is always
the feeling of duty towards
your Majesty in these hearts) the Illustrated Shakspeares & Miltons,
combined with the more comfortable pleasure of a
good plate of bread & English cheese & cup of coffee - all these things
have tended visibly & materially to lessen the
curse of our Army - *

But still, in the Crimea,
even our Patients in Hospital are nightly taken to the
Guard Tent drunk -
Yet the soldier is not degraded - He is only idle & uncultivated -
Employment - facility for sending his money home - difficulty in obtaining spirits - certain & immediate punishment for drunkenness - the cordial cooperation of the Officers may do much to discourage the besetting sin.

These latter matters do not, indeed, strictly belong to my business - Yet that business, when carried on at Balaclava, in presence,
as it were, of your Majesty’s army, forces them on my observation – which I hope may be my excuse when I trust to obtaining your Majesty’s gracious permission to allow me to mention what I believe will have interest for our Sovereign.

1) the necessity of strict military surveillance over the Canteens & Canteen-keepers – depriving them of their license, if the police regulations be infringed – a Committee of Officers over them, if possible

2) a correspondence between the Chief of the Staff in the British Army – on the means of preventing international drinking – with the same Officer in the French & Sardinian camps. It is chiefly in these camps that our men obtain spirits – & often sell their clothing for drink

3) the men are too rich they boast that they will spend their field & working allowances “on their bodies” Had these allowances been laid up for them at home there would not have been so much money to spend in spirits – It might appear, perhaps, almost a pity that the soldier should have been paid for what
is as much part of his trade
as going on Guard.

I do not know whether
these remedies be practicable.
Tho’ I have ventured to
speak as one who has
seen & lived among these
things – & has seen, too,
the interest of our Mistress
in our welfare – We obey
Our Sovereign with love &
devotion – the Russians
theirs with superstition
& fear –

I can assure your
Majesty that your brave
troops are sound at heart–
They want only care.

I do not know the
etiquette with which
subjects write to their
Sovereign – & must crave
pardon for blunders–
But I know the feeling
with which I am,

Madam,
your Majesty’s dutiful,
most grateful & devoted
subject

Florence Nightingale

To Her Majesty

the Queen

RA VIC/F 4/16 photo of jewel given to FN from the Queen with
printed text 1855, 1f
Extracts from a letter of Florence Nightingale [14:185-86]
10th May. 1855.
Balaklava

“My days here have been busy as you may suppose. I have made a tour of inspection of Regimental Hospitals in camp, besides re-organizing the two Hospitals under our care which were terribly out of sorts, nurses all in confusion.

The camp is very striking more so than any one can imagine or describe. Between 150 & 200,000 men in a space of 20 square miles all obeying one impulse, engaged in one work, it is very affecting. But to me the most affecting sight was to see them mustering & forming at sun-down for the trenches, where they will be for 24 hours without returning. From those trenches 30 will never return: yet they volunteer - press forwards for the trenches.

When I consider what the work has been this winter, what the hardships, I am surprised, not that the army has suffered so much, but that these is any army left at all,
not that we have had so many through our hands, but that we have not bar all, says -- -- -- Fancy working 5 nights out of 7 in the trenches! fancy being 36 hours in them at a stretch, as they were all December, lying down or half lying down, often 48 hours with no food but raw salt pork sprinkled with sugar, rum and biscuit, nothing hot, because the exhausted soldier could not collect his own fuel as he was expected, to cook his own ration: & fancy through all this the army preserving their courage & patience as they have done, & being now eager (the old ones more than the young ones) to be led even into the trenches, there was something sublime to in the spectacle.

The brave 39\(^{th}\), whose Regl- Hospitals are the best I have ever seen, turned out & gave “Florence Nightingale” three times three as she rode away. There was nothing empty in that cheer, nor in the heart which received it. I took it as a true expression of true sympathy, the sweetest I have ever had, I took it as a full reward of all I have gone through.
In all that has been said against & for me out here, no one soul has appreciated what I was really doing, - nothing like the honest cheer of the brave 39th-

Nothing which the Times has said of hardship has been exaggerated. Sir John MacNeill is the man I like the best of all who have come out. He has done wonders, everybody now has their fresh meat 3 times a week, their fresh bread from Constantinople about as often.

It was a wonderful sight looking down upon Sevastopol, the shells whizzing right & left. I send you a Minie bullet I picked up on the ground & some little flowers. For this is the most flowery place you can imagine, a beautiful little red start which I don’t know, yellow jassamine & every kind of low flowering shrub. A sergeant of the 97th-picked me a nosegay. I once saved his life by finding him at 12 oclock at night lying, wounds undressed in our hospital, with a bullet in his eye, & a fractured skull, and I got a stray surgeon to take the bullet out. But you must not tell this story, for I gave evidence against the missing surgeon & have never been forgiven. - - -- says it is a wonder the army were not annihilated under such work & such un= wholesome food, & such a winter: the 36 hours out of 40, besides camp duties, besides hunting their own fuel, besides fetching their own rations from Balaclava. The Marines when they came back were wrapped in a dry blanket, their clothes taken away to dry & hot tea or soup poured down their throats.

There is so much danger in getting to & from the trenches that less than 24 hours would not be worth while & they must go & come in after dark. Our riflemen & the Russians are within 30 yards. We got off our horses at Cathcarts’ Hill & walked to the advanced mortar battery. Sevastopol looks like a fairy palace, so beautiful so unscathed, so gorgeous in the sun & such a position.

(signed) F. Nightingale.
32 South St W
Jan 21/63
My dear Sir James Clark
Will you say for me
what one cannot say
but only feel (for
silence is more
telling than words)
at receiving the
Queen’s book –
What she felt, I
felt, when we lost
Sidney Herbert. He
died for the Army.
The prince for the
Army & the Nation -

The nation has
mourned with & for
the Queen –
Each day but
makes us feel the
loss the more
There is not in
history a more
touching or more
noble tribute than
that of the Queen
to her husband in
the episode about
the Commander in
Chief’s Office
But we, the
bereaved ones, long
that history were
over & eternity had
begun –
   I know not how
to thank Her Majesty
for Her thought of me
in this, the sorrow
of the Queen, of the
country & of every
one of her devoted
subjects -- each in
their own hearts’ core–
   But at least if
I cannot thank Her
I have mourned
with Her. The
greatness & the
goodness of Him she
has lost is at once
the bitterness & the
comfort of that loss
   The national mourning
is like that chorus
of Flaxman’s where
the women with
hands clasped above
their heads, wail out
their irrepressible
despair –
   Believe me
Your affecte fellow sufferer
   Florence Nightingale
I send a copy of my paper on Lord
Herbert for Her Majesty, if it is
permitted to offer it.
Her Majesty Feb 27/80

The Queen: -
Madam

Your Majesty’s gracious sympathy is extended to all who are in distress of sorrow: it gives help & courage, but to none more than to me, broken down by 6 years & more, without one day’s rest of body or mind, ending with the death of my beloved Mother.

When it came to the last, (but I am trespassing on Your Majesty’s goodness), she closed her own eyes, folded her hands, & went home without a sigh, like a child falling asleep: or rather like a child passing into the immediate Presence of the Father And His smile rested on the lovely old face: the ‘rapture of repose’ was there. She was surrounded with sobs & tears: but with her all was peace,
- more than peace, blessedness -
‘thrice blest to go’-
Your Majesty will deign to excuse my lingering on the last days.
Her people, even the children, liked to stay by the coffin, & give one holy kiss, as long as the dear old face was there, encircled with all white spring flowers, telling of spring & rising again: or rather the young Immortal’s face, for it was the ‘mortal coil’ not of death but of Immortality.

It was buried by my dear Father: borne by the people of the estate as she wished - the Church & the Church-yard crowded with the people & the tenants (the poor:) -not one person there out of mere form, but all, all had 10, some 20, some 30, some 50 years of her kindnesses to remember. The coffin was quite covered with beautiful wreaths & crosses of flowers - some sent by our “Nightingale” trained Nurses, in whom Your Majesty takes a
gracious interest - & violets & rosemary: ‘that’s for remembrance’.
When our ever-to-be-loved & lamented Princess Alice went home, our trained Nurses whom she had visited, put their mites together & ventured to send a flowery Cross & Crown to Her tomb -
Your Majesty’s goodness is over all your people: and Your devoted people do not forget Your Majesty’s sorrows to feel for them as if they were our own. They are our own.
Three & twenty years of overwork & illness have been mine. She, my dear Mother, always wished me to be about Your Majesty’s business if I may say so, rather than her own.
Some of her last words to me - all the more pathetic because she scarcely knew me; were: “Filomena”: (alluding to Longfellow’s poem of Sta Filomena:) “And so she works at the Hospitals still: that’s quite right: I am so glad”: with all the enthusiasm of youth.
I was unable to write at first myself my poor grateful tribute of thanks for Your Majesty’s gracious message of sympathy, conveyed thro’ Lady Clark. I was sent away from home & ordered complete silence & rest.

I have long been humbly desiring to address Your Majesty upon one of the Indian matters which interest me greatly: Indian matters have employed me for 21 years: And I would greatly prize a gracious permission to do so. [“I speak as a fool:” but Your Majesty is wise.]

May God bless Your Majesty, as She always will be blessed, in the hearts of her people, is the unceasing prayer [And may She grant my prayer!]

Madam

of the most devoted & humble of Your Majesty’s devoted subjects

Florence Nightingale
...At 3:00 we received Miss Nightingale, the celebrated Florence Nightingale, whom Sir J. Clark brought into the drawing room, leaving her with us for nearly an hour. It is impossible to say how much pleased we were with her. I had expected a rather cold, stiff, reserved person, instead of which she is gentle, pleasing and engaging, most ladylike and so clever, clear and comprehensive in her views of everything.

Her mind is solely and entirely taken up with the one object to which she has sacrificed her health and devoted herself like a saint. But she is entirely free of absurd enthusiasm, without a grain of "exaltation," which so often leads to over strained religious views--truly simple, quiet, pious in her actions and her views, yet without the slightest display of religion or a particle of humbug. And, together with this, an earnest wish never to appear herself--travelling under a feigned name so as not to be known, and refusing all public demonstrations. Such a character, and one so singularly forgiving, is in a woman most rare and extraordinary!

She talked principally of the want of system and organization which had existed and been the cause of so much suffering and misery--the necessity for this being improved. Albert stated in his usual clear, comprehensive way where, in his opinion, the root of the evil lay, and how instead of improving all this all that had been done had made matters even worse, being a step backwards instead of forwards.

Miss Nightingale spoke of the nurses, how some had answered so well, and others not--both Roman Catholic and Protestant--of the men, their conduct, patience, forbearance and self denial, for which she had the greatest admiration. She thanked me for my support and sympathy saying that, to a man, the soldiers had all deeply felt and appreciated my sympathy and interest. She is tall and slight, with fine dark eyes, and must have been very pretty, but now she looks very thin and careworn. Albert saw her again afterwards, and then we took rather a late walk, finding it pleasant and not cold...

[Description of the ball, decorations, dances] At first people were shy, but afterwards the dancing became very animated. There were quadrilles, reels, country dances, jigs and a pretty Sir Roger de Coverley...Miss Nightingale came, dressed in black with a simple little cap tied under her chin, her hair having been cut off (actually on account of the insects with which the poor men
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

were covered in the hospitals!) All was over by 1:00.

26 September 1856

[Queen Victoria drove to Birk Hall] At the commencement of the approach we met Sir J. Clark and Miss Nightingale, so we got out and walked with them to the house, and I had much conversation with her. She is so simple, pleasant and agreeable. In speaking of the poor men, she said that those suffering from disease were much the saddest to see, that my gifts had been so immensely valued. She herself had always attended to the night work. We took tea and then drove back.

4 October 1856

[Nightingale had come to Balmoral to stay the night; Lord Panmure stayed until the Queen left] Had some long conversation with excellent Miss Nightingale, whose affection for my poor good soldiers is really most touching, and whose philanthropy and truly Christ-like spirit of true charity are beautiful. She spoke with much interest of Corporal Courtney of the 44th, whom we were much interested in at Chatham last year. He had had three bullets in his head and Miss Nightingale discovered him under a staircase, where he had been overlooked, getting the surgeon to remove the bullet out of his eye. For five months the poor man’s life was in danger and she told him that if he drank he would be a dead man. She has since heard from him and says that my notice and kindness has not been thrown away upon him. Indeed she is sure that it will generally keep these poor men straight.

extract from 13 July 1881, Windsor Castle, transcript, paper:

Also received a Miss Beilby [LM: Bielby], a medical missionary, who had attended the Maharani of Panna [sic] & brought a large silver locket containing a petition from the latter praying me to sanction female doctors being sent out to attend the ladies in the zenanas of India, many of whom died for want of proper medical attendance, no man being allowed to go near them. Miss Beilby [Bielby] gave a melancholy account of these poor ladies, & of the widows, or in fact, only betrothed women, who were treated like menials, from the moment their bridegrooms died. I expressed my deep interest & hope that something might be done in this matter...”

12 July 1883, Windsor Castle

“Afterwards Mary Biddulph presented a Mrs Scharlieb, who is a real female doctor, who is going out to India, sent by several Doctors & people in England, who know the dreadful need of
doctors for women of all ranks in India. They are not allowed to have a doctor, even if they wished it, & in consequence quantities die in childbirth, or never recover well. Mrs Scharlieb is a nice intelligent person, but quite unconnected with any missionaries.”
Dear Sir James Clark

Oct 11/58

May I ask you to lay before the Queen, on my behalf, the accompanying “Notes” which have been prepared at her Command?

I wish they could have been compressed within a smaller compass. I greatly regret the lapse of time, since I had the honor of receiving Her Majesty’s commands. My broken health, my anxiety to bring forward whatever was illustrative of the subject, & my earnest wish, at the same time, to co-operate, as far as in me lay in the enquiry, instituted by Her Majesty, with a view to the relief of the sufferings which had so deeply affected Her, will, I trust, plead my excuse.

In the recollection & review of miseries -- the patient endurance of which can never be forgotten by me, my comfort has been the remembrance of the deep sympathy of Her Majesty, and the profound appreciation of their causes evinced by the Prince Consort, when two years ago, I had the
honor of being commanded to answer some of Her Majesty’s questions at Balmoral.

The system to which such evils are attributable has preserved its vitality for nearly two centuries. But no term can be assigned to the affectionate gratitude which will surround the names of Her Majesty & the Prince Consort if, by their authority, that system be now replaced by one more in conformity with the progress in science & morality which has been made under Her Majesty’s beneficent reign, & of which She & the Prince Consort have ever shewn themselves the most enlightened as they are by position the most distinguished advocates.

I have caused the M.S. to be put into type, before transmitting it, on account of the greater facility of perusal & reference.

Believe me to be dear Sir James Clark yours very faithfully Florence Nightingale Sir James Clark Bart.
Dear Papa

Many thanks for your this morn’s note, only received this morning, because it went to Farnham--Gaiety here has given place to literature, the arts flourish, science is riz, & dissipation at a discount. Useful knowledge is only varied by the fiercest pedestrian frass--so I have no news in return for Broadlands- Jervis comes here next week & Aunt Anne

& all the cousins are kindly anxious that we shd stay & improve our minds, & take back Mama’s darling to her, when he goes to Embley the middle of next week. Her wishes, I believe, to have some edifying instruction from our Bishop of Rome. I hope you will not find the book Michelet dull--the review is capital, if it did but make some mention of Sismondi. Capt. Barlow was full of terrors yesterday about O Connell’s fate. We wait instructions about postes but Parthe desires me to say, if you like us to stay till Wedn or Thursy, we should be very glad. Ever yrs FN

An account

Monday

Dear Mama I am much better in myself, tho’ my cough
is not, nor will, I think, till I
can get home--But I am so much
stronger as to be down on Saty
for 1 hour, & on Sunday for 3
or 4 in the school-room--But
Mr Newnham has just been
& entirely [illeg] my request
to go on Saty--I have had
but one wish all the while
v [continues in pencil]
I’ve been in, to get home & be quiet & if you knew how much
I’ve missed you, you wd be well avenged tho’ nothing can have
been kinder than the people here
& Miss J has been in & read Channing to me every morning she
has been here. Nor [?] that he will not hear of my coming the week, while you are still quite alone & I hear that you are going to have officials on the 26th
I do not much care what we do,
& you may ask all the Nicholsons,

if you please--& I do not mind
I have written to Papa & so shall not trouble you with the repetition, especially as you wd only think it low spirits--Now I am not at all low spirited, tho’ Parthe writes I am,
I dare say, & humours me as such. not seeing at all that it is rea
sonable for me to like being alone. However
I am quite strong enough now to like seeing the girls very much, & above all, to like going into good Miss Nicholsons’ room every evening--where

v
she receives me--I am very comfortable now I can read to myself again
& not at all low spirited. P. does not know what a subsoil plough that inexorable [illeg] is, unless she has seen it coming up to her bed every morng like an East wind, which it is no use talking to. I believe my inside is standing on its head by the fright everything is in wh ist first goes down, there, & its first idea seems to be to beat a violent retreat. I think a few more mustard Poultices will put me in condition to come home.
That beautiful bit of Jean Paul, is translated by the hated Reeve, & is the first fragment in that little white Vol he gave us-
I hope you will not go out these cold winds. I saw At Anne yesterday for the first time & drank tea with here. not a trace of the foe left behind- & tea-ing on apples--Nothing can have been kinder than she has been- I shd like Mom’s bill to be paid by a Post-Office order.

Dear Mama

Dear Mama I have not heard any thing more from Aunt Mai about Harrogate but am quite willing & ready to go, & indeed should be very much vexed & disappointed if she were to go & not take me-
So that if she goes, I shall hold myself ready on Thursday & shall not want the straw Bonnet, as I have a straw & nothing but a straw here
We are not at all likely to see Mrs. Malthus, as we rode over to the Otters’ one day & she was gone & nobody at home. I have quite made up my mind about going to Harrogate & shall have plenty to do there--I shall be very glad to hear about it positively- Ever yours FN

Bundle 80, letter, postmarked, cancelled

Farnham
18 January 1844

Dear Mama

I have been to the Bourne and left a memorandum with Mr Logan that he may not forget it, but he gave me very small hopes. His own school was stifling and prosperous. I should have sent the enclosed before, but every day Aunt Anne said to me, Read me Aunt Julia’s letter, and procrastination etc., the proverb is somewhat
mushy, but she has not heard it yet, so please send it back. I have had a whole pamphlet from Ludwine, but suppose not much good to send that. So you have had a good account of Frank, Parthe tells me; how very odd you should not have known, that as my eyes [illeg] great objects for many months much has been to get news of him somehow or other, so please send me the letters. Miss Otter cannot come here and so has sent back our Sick Room, which she had borrowed. Parthe is unwell and so was not out yesterday and as I was not back by post time, I was in hopes she would have sent the letters.

There is nobody here now but the Austins and the Horners, so we are tolerably regular and there is a great gabbling of German, French and astronomy going on all day. I have written to Miss Strutt about Miss Docow mentioning of course Mr Joseph Strutt’s death.

ever yours
F.N.

Bundle 80, undated letter

Dear Mama

I enclose a note of Mr Logan’s, to whose questions pray send an answer. However I should think if you can get John Brookes you will consider yourself in the possession of seven angels. I hope good Mrs Bracebridge will come. With regard to [illeg] Aunt Anne says she is very sorry, she thought the bill was paid, but will write to...The coat was not mine but one I was commissioned to buy while in perpetrate another search for my brooch I should be very glad as now I find Marianne did not take it away again, I am quite certain that it must be to be found as I never went out of doors with it or wore it but one evening. Last night we danced a little for Lothian’s birthday, Henry coming down from town for it and being kicked out on his way from Farnbrooro’ and the gig broken to pieces from his springing the horse down a hill. He seems none the worse however for having stood on his head for 3/4 of an hour. I esteem! William particularly. He is a very good youth. We should like to see Mr Empson’s letter some day. Laura and I are in astronomia again.

The Bethunes’ father is dead—very hidden, I suppose, from Miss Bethune’s having had no idea of it when with us. Only 80, so he was quite a youth. Parthe seems very well again.

ever yours
F.N.

Sunday

Bundle 80, pencil note enclosed in pen letter to dearest, by W.E. Nightingale
We all, I believe, laugh at the Genevesee: we shd do well to profit by their prudence & wisdom for they have prospered politically morally & commercially more than all their neighbours in spite of adverse circumstances, the danger now seems to be that in their love for their old ways the world will pass by & they will be forgotten in the advance of great cities around them whh [which] fear not the increase of population & speculate on a larger scale. If you have an idle philosophical observer about you, who wants occupation, send him to Geneva for a year & then into Switzerland that he may give to the world a knowledge of the institution of this self governing country, wise in its generation above all others. I talk of starting for Paris in 20 days, but our party keeps a longing look for what is beyond the Alps & alas I cannot gratify them with another winter there, much as I have occupied myself with people & with things, read History at Florence, at Geneva [Genesa?] & at Venice with Flo, talked over & admired sunshine & mountain, sea & lake with Parthe, & seen Fanny rejoicing day & night in absence of English cold & presence of Italian warmth. Literally & metaphysically I cd not make up my mind to another winter of [illeg] talking, mixed up with the eternal subject of oppression & degradation. Dull as Switzer is compared to Italy it was a relief to find oneself in a country where man is free to lift up his head without fear of his neighbour or even his friends. I tell I confess that I wd always make Italy my point in going abroad, for tho’ I always find the French as clear & sharp as the Italians yet what a contrast in the 2 countries in not a step without interest, in the other not a step with interest, always saving the Pyrenees, but we hope that Paris will redeem all.
Bundle 110

Question of diet only for the dysentery cases

* As General Storks said they/the medical o, don’t like being found out....
French Hospitals. I sent shiploads of things & Thouvenel accepted. Baudin also--for the state of destitution frightful, they wanted everything, stores, clothing, food, doctors, medicine. Gl Larchez accepted, but the Intendent General declined (as our people the year before) that nothing was deficient & he refused all. 22 Doctors had died. 12 Sisters of Charity. However I saw Baudens & he said he would take the things on his only responsibility as a gift to himself
* Sir John Hall accused....
Dr B’s system of prayer. ‘prayed & got a good passage.’ that if you shake God & teare [?] him will you got what you want.
* Story of Balaclava charge....
Milton one of the purveyors.
Oh how he speaks of you in the highest terms.
Yes, that is the way of a great many, on the spot they behaved to me as ill as possible, but when they come home & find the stream the other way they fall in with it as a matter of course. Was he insolent? no. He was too low minded to know that he behaved ill to me.
The cringing to the higher & insolence to the lower was so painful. Each grade treats the rest like a dog, as I should not think of treating a dog. The Medical Inspector treats the Staff Surgeon as a dog, the Staff Surgeon the Deputy Assistant, the Dy Assistant the orderlies & the orderlies the soldiers as dogs.

v

Each man will progress to infinite perfection I truly believe.
A law of God is a thought of God, I don’t believe that if we could look into the mind of God we should find that he intends any living soul to be wasted, find that he intends progress always as rule at every moment.
Belief has nearly died out in England it seems to me.
Better to believe that it is right to go at so many [?] ...to that ...& do it, than to go on going through observances when the spent has departed out of them, to go to church because so & so does or because it is right for example. (do the civil to God in short), becomes a fetiche (I used to hear the service when I was will, garbled through as fast as possible & the responses all so indifferent, felt it was a fetiche. saying every day to save trouble, we have done all that we ought not to have done
* Conscientious men say sadly I have lost my belief others that I don’t care whether I believe or no.
Nations when their belief dies out I believe die too, like Greeks, Egyptians, Romans.
unless they shake off old & illeg on form which illeg the though.
only belief now the Methodist, & some few in the Church like Aunt Hannah & lady Inglis & the very few like High Church Colonel Lefroy who compromise themselves to the rags & tatters of the old from of faith.
Doubt whether the God of Calvin is a god at all.
not a devil. of many of the Jews the same.
Early Eastern idea of Him being pure Mr Mohl says better than any of ours.

Inspiration the direct influence of God
instinct is inspiration, the bearer’s [beaver’s?] child makes its house without learning, but I believe the exact contrary of St Paul’s we have this treasure in earthen vessels to shew for the glory of God.
that God intends man to create man,
that man is to learn by his mistakes & his misfortunes the way to perfection & that God sees this to be the best & only way.

Saw the Sultan once. I went over to take a nurse & Doctor to old Mother Eldress & as we disembarked the Sultan passed to open the new Mosque on the Quay. He passed close to us, with his eyes down, a gentle pleasant expression, weak & indifferent but very touching. It is not strength to look up. He is like the Pope, the father of the Faithful & must not perceive any individual.
Lord S the day she went away, kept the Commander in Chief Lord Lyons Colonel Wyndham & what not all in full uniform going to be presented to the Sultan all waiting while he was talking to her at the end of the salon about some nothing or other, not illeg a bit, sometime he told her his dreams.
I nursed the officers whenever they were really ill. 

Top rt Medical staff orderlies the very worst set of men

Top rt 21 sick huts put up round the General Hosp Balaclava....
To right Doctors at G.H. Balaclava always address her You think you know a great deal about it but you dont
We like people who are humble about their duty. We like the nuns.....

mid page. Mrs Seacole, woman of bad character-kept a bad house.
daughter about 14 her child of Colonel Bunbury.
Dr Hall looked over her medicine chest & gave her his sanction to prescribe-to mark the difference with F, in that he extended his protection to Seacole & opposed F to his utmost.
As she went up she stopt at Scutari & asked me for a night’s lodging.
When I was ill she wanted to come & quack me.
& again when I went up she called.
Put Mrs S. at the LTH in the front because near Mrs Seacole & the raki.
Top left. Men got drunk before a march, sit up drinking all night. A clever officer keeps it secret the day of departure.
[end of Seacole section]
Mid left.
Not more than 20 beds off the floor when they arrived, began to tressles and boards directly, this Ld William....
Top rt
Crimea. Those brown bare bleak downs not a particle of vegetation. The Balaclava.....
Top left.
Bridgeman had arranged before she went out her plans. C.C. chose to be right any way, one party supposed him to be in with her. Curious quarrel of the Seculars and the Regulars ever since the days of v
Men got drunk before a march sit up drinking all night & clever officer keeps it secret the day of departure. [so, only a few lines, in the middle of various bits]
*
Not more than 20 beds off the floor when they arrived.
began to get tressles & boards directly. this Ld William [?] Numbering the beds.
Like black ...
Bridgeman....
The Sardinian nurses lived in the Hospital just above us. the head was Countess Cordero, was capital woman in every respect. the Sardinians had the sense to make the niche [?] chief over the economic arrangements of their hospitals, the diet their washing &c [?]
The French Intendance was as jealous as ours were & the French nurses were kept to the sort of work which they desired, to going to individual patients with jam and the sort of thing they wished to keep us to, not surgical nurses but capital administrators. The French Mother chief over all. Sardinians & all.
Top left
* Glad to see Serjeant Macdonald has a legion of honour, knew him oh yes and his brother, a sad history as all my histories are. He was one of the worst patients left in the Gen Hosp at Balaclava when we came into it after the nuns went away. It was a dreadful case, both feet frostbitten and he was lying in the filth of a week, he had not been moved or changed and the neglect of weeks had brought on horrible bedsores. Mrs Roberts used to take 2 hours morning and two hours evening dressing them. Indeed, he was too far gone, but he lived 6 weeks perhaps longer in consequence
of the nursing, perhaps no boon, but he might have been saved if taken in time.

He was a good forthright chap, he said, and just at the end he repented himself of his sins, sent for me and made me write to his father asking for his forgiveness and to his mother. I had a very illeg answer from him in return. He asked me as a favour that he shd be buried like a Christian. The G.H. was the only hosp in the world where men were buried like dogs without any service being read over them, i.e. the Protestant. No Catholic was served so, Mr Fitzgerald liked the others to be treated differently. The poor fellow said he had illeg £ in Fitzgerald’s hands, part of which wd pay for the expence he didn’t want his country to be charged. I was afraid of some dev with Fitzgerald and ten minutes after the poor fellow’s death I sent to tell him, to ask the brother to come to the funeral, to the sappers to have a coffin for him made and to the chaplain (the presbyterian as it proved) to come and bury him. The body was taken to the dead house and the rule was that when a man was not to be shovelled into the earth which the soldier could not bear the piece of paper was pinned in the breast saying “not to be buried.” This was done by me. The next morning they came to tell me that Fitzgerald had had him buried before in the morning. There cd be no mistake about it at that time, the deaths were not above one every other day and this body was the only one in the dead house. I felt as he had left his ....went to the commandant to have him unburied, put into the coffin which was ready and the service performed and sent the brother to tell Fitzgerald as a matter of form. Fitzgerald had the man put under arrest. I sent to the commandant to have him taken out explaining the whole story. He was let out immediately but too late to attend his brother’s funeral.

The thing made a great noise, C.....

As to my going on May Day.
Dr Hall, my father and the people of England, my mother. He said nothing was wantng in hosp, they said everything the consequence...Lefroy received confidential report.

Bundle 113, unsigned, undated letter

Dearest Mama

When you went at twelve o’clock, I had your business to do about settling the carriage for Miss Pentons, which took me till about half past twelve, when Granmama came into the Music-room and walked nearly an hour with my arm then I attended her to her room and read Robinson Crusoe till dinner.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Bundle 113, undated, unsigned letter, pen

Dearest mother Not a moment have I more thanks than I can say for your dear kind letter, which set me more at ease than I can tell. I can’t quite name my day yet—you shall hear. My best love to Papa. I’m so glad he’s come home.

ever yr loving child

Bundle 113, signed letter

[printed address] 35, South Street
Park Lane, W.
Nov 27/71

Dr Birch, British Museum

My dear Sir Harry

In returning your two letters with many thanks, it is perhaps hardly worth troubling you with this from Dr Birch to Miss Harris. She remarks, not unkindly, that he is "very sly, but that he can hardly help it in his position."

I wrote to her exactly what you were kind enough to advise. She has not yet been able to fix a day for taking Dr Birch to Liverpool to see the rest of the Egyptian collection as she has been laid up at Brighton with a severe chest inflammation. Please return me this scrap of Dr Birch to her (Miss Harris).

ever yours
F.N.

I was very glad to hear of your having heard of Emily’s arrival at Malta by telegraph.

Bundle 113/1 copy of letter, incomplete

[c1831]

Dear Mama

Have you seen the sand hills? They are so pretty, all different, white, pink, yellow, red, dirty brown, and others—the yellow is the colour of rhubarb. Yesterday we got a spade and a trowel and we went and dug some wild primroses in flowers (wonderful is not it Mama?) carried them home and in the afternoon I planted them in Hilary's garden and then helped Jack
to pull down the old house, clear it away and give him the poles, which he hammered down in the ground. We all helped. Jack took up the fish out of the little pond which he has made and showed it to me—it was quite tame. In the morning when we go to Miss C. we go upstairs to paint read and play. Alf comes to us very often and he is such a merry little fellow and so fat.

Bundle 113/6 copy of letter

Embley
25 November 1832

Dear Grandmama

Aunt Mai, Blanch and dear Baby left us on the fifth of this month with Uncle Sam. They went off in pretty good spirits. Baby was quite well. He has had a bad cold since he got to Ham, but is now so much better as to go out twice one day. Aunt Mai says she is very happy and comfortable and Blanch goes on well though she has had a cold too. Nurse, poor thing, has lost her husband, but, Aunt Mai says, she bears it very well. He died when she was at Lea Hurst, but she was not told, for fear it should hurt the Baby, her mother told her when she came to London. We Miss dear Babe so much here, his nursery is so dismal without him, and the house is quite silent without his sweet little voice. We have a very pretty little image of him, which Aunt Mai had made by a man who came here to do it, and gave to Mama. He is holding up his finger as if he was listening, which he always did when he heard a bell or any noise, with an open book on his knees. He is without shoes or stockings and in his shift which comes down to his knees.

We went to Ditcham on the ninth and came back yesterday at half past ten o'clock at night. We enjoyed being there very much. Goodbye, please give my love to Aunt Evans, and believe me your affectionate grandchild

Florence Nightingale

Ditcham

My dear Granmama,

Papa sent for us to meet him here and we came here on Friday. He left Aunt Mary and Baby and Blanch quite well. Mrs Coltman has been confined with a boy, and she had been in imminent danger, though she is now rather better, but still in danger. She is in a high fever, and may not see anybody, but her nurse and doctor, not even her baby, who is suckled [seal here] another person.

This house is a delightful place, on the top of a high hill, with downs all round. Good bye, and believe me, dear Granmama, your affectionate

Flo N.
Dear Mama,

...I think that I am learning something here. Yesterday Aunt Ju and Hilary and I read some Herschel, and now I understand, which I never did before, about how summer and winter and all the seasons together, with day and night are made, and I understand a little about the tides, but not much. Will you tell dear Papa this, that he may not think I am very idle. I do a little Latin sometimes. Love to Aunt Mai and babes, and Gale.

Bo

Yesterday, which was the 5th of November, we had a famous bonfire on the brow of the cliff in the field, and guns were fired, and lying Fawkes, a boy dressed in a sheep [illeg] with a black face and old hat, a frightful figure went to every door to get halfpence, which were given, of course. The bonfire looked so beautiful against the dark sky, and the boys, looking like devils or witches standing around.

I read Silvio Pellico to Hilary, when there is time.

Flo

Last Sunday I read the Testament to myself, and I hope I spent it pretty well. Aunt Julia did not wish to go to church. Monday we walked to....I hope I am doing some little good here, Mama, but there are not many trials [?], I find, except in this way of putting up with such as having tough old lion for a week, as we call our beef--little inconveniences, and resisting temptations to do wrong when there is nothing to tell you not, such as eating apple when one has to [illeg] castor oil, which I resisted today.

I have given up signing myself [illeg]

Bundle 113, signed letter to Parthe

[2 Feb 1837]

Dear Pop

Notwithstanding your ungracious silence towards me after the two propitiatory notes I had sent imploring forgiveness and the title of [illeg] which I was to send, I write to tell you that Gale continues improving. Her cough is still troublesome and her pulse high, but she had a good night and gets up today. Mrs B. gives good hopes of her. Shore was in bed yesterday but today is up again and Mr B. says there is little the matter with him. I sleep with him in the yellow room. He tries to persuade me he is very bad but this affectionate solicitude is in vain. He is very good and Bertha without anyone to set her on to mischievous actions as [dup of?]
Dear Papa

I cannot be sorry that the final blow is come upon poor Storer, and am glad that you have been spared a parting scene with him. I have had so little to tell, and so much to do, that I have not indulged in this making little black marks upon white. At last the world is beginning to open its eyes about that *Times*. Mr Bracebridge writes me word that he believes that the Austrian article, (25 January, first leading article), was *paid for* "which English mind" he says "educated to this era, could have written it?" he says it is not the Reeve hand, "the bowl of a Tory running over an English green never executed so wide a curve; 'tis the bias inserted by a foreign hand," he says. He thinks it is so disgraceful that he will take the paper no more.

We have thick mist today, no cold to speak of. Mr Bracebridge agrees in all you say about the "building investment" thing. He says first, catch your hare, viz. your 2/6 next, how buy your plot? Third, how build your house? Fourth, how when all savings are thus exhausted, live in it in old age? He has seen it tried by 100 poor ribbon weavers on the enclosure of [illeg] Common, where it has entirely failed. The ribbon weavers began with £30 to £50; the lawyers have them all. The people have been refused relief *having property*, though mortgaged so as to produce a loss. The houses are execrable, cold, ill-built, small, ill-placed, too, sometimes. Just what you said. If what Gibbon calls the Demon of Property seize a man, Mr Bracebridge says he will stint his poor children to satiate him. Mr B. is himself the president of a land society--they buy land in the block, let each subscribed for 1/8 of an acre. When so much is paid, they get it with a mortgage on it. All their deeds are cheap, and a map of gardens defend one another. If a man can sell his land by and bye for a house, or build one, well and good in the meanwhile, what are bought as field worthy £3 an acre, (it is suburban) become as gardens worth £8 an acre and there is a bond of union among the men too. Each gets a county vote.

I am in a great fury with May at the union girls' school, where we went t'other day. But that will keep till you come, a'meddling rascal. I shall be very curious to hear the upshot of the poor Storers. I can only account for the wasp in the British mind, qua Austria, by thinking order always seems to be on the side of power. In England power is the handmaid of liberty. On the Continent of autocracy. But, in the Englishman love of order begin always paramount, "else where would be our commerce?" He
giggles this small difference, concludes order must be right.

Bundle 121, note on back of envelope addressed to W.E. Nightingale

[postmarked 15 August 1850]
I think Kaiserswerth quite all that I expected and a few months there would teach an Englishwoman all that is necessary if she had sense to apply it with the modifications necessary for England.

Bundle 121, signed letter, pen [7:25-28]

Miss Strutt
Bridge Hill
Belper
Derbyshire
Angleterre

Florence March 26 [1838]
My dear Miss Strutt, I should have written to you long ago as you were so good as to wish to hear from us, but was afraid that I should have little to say that would amuse you, having seen Florence with very different feelings from what we had expected. The day after we came, we heard for the first time of Uncle Carter’s being worse & two days after of his death. The accounts of poor Aunt Joanna are not very good. We had little of the cold weather which has made such havoc in England, and lately there have been several days so hot that the Florentines seemed to expect nothing less than an earthquake, but only sheets of rain followed, which swelled the Arno so much that it waked us in the night with a noise like the sea to see it struggling with the Ponte Vecchio. Genoa is a paradise I do not believe we shall ever like any town in Italy so well, certainly have no desire to revisit Florence, and we dread re-entering frightful France where we spent 4 months (N.B., not in Paris) after Italy. We spent five weeks in dear Genoa instead of three days as we intended, which delays made us reach Florence at the end of February instead of at Christmas. We left Genoa with many tears/sighs & I hope to see it again some day or other before I die. Everything there is magnificence, you walk up flights of white Carrara marble steps, each made of a single slab 20 feet long to the paupers in the Albergo dei Poveri, where is the most beautiful bas-relief & most finished work of
Michelangelo’s in existence, a little Pietà (the heads only) of the Virgin supporting her dead son. Then the palaces, the pictures, the churches, entirely lined with pietra dura of the richest marble & with gilding & fresco-painting, and the Opera, not less gorgeous a pageant than any other sight of Genoa, with its divine tenor Salori, compared to whom Rubini is but an agile conjuror, & who never indulges in the said tricks and with all its subordinate characters supported so much better than with us. I could send a list of hints which if you would transmit to M Laporte would be of material service in making our opera more complete. The dressing in London is so bad, whereas here if you were to see, the real ermine, velvet & gold, which are prodigue’s on the prima donna, the four pages to bear her train in Anna Bolena while poor Grisi is always kicking hers, and the number of attendants, dressed alike, on the stage at once, sometimes as many as a hundred, so that there is some illusion as to her rank.

But we have such a poor little stage that it will hardly hold even the five principal personages. The Genoese were very kind to us, as they are not much troubled with English, but poor people, there is such a horrid system of espionage that they scarcely dare raise their voices. Our great friend there had been in solitary carcere duro at Alexandria for several months on mere suspicion.

We know several Italians here whom we like very much, Madame de Pazzi is one of them; these, not being in positive momentary fear, cannot restrain their republican feelings to English many moments. Mme Catalani, the most charming of women, has been very kind in patronising us. She is surprisingly young still & we heard her sing at her own house with lower notes like thunder & her upper notes so little gone, that if she would but practise, she would still sing unlike anybody else, but her voice is very stiff.

The opera here is very inferior to that of Genoa, la Blais, I dare say that you have heard her, is the prima donna, "tout ce qu’elle fait est bien fait, bien raisonné," as Catalini says of her, and she never strains her sweet voice, but she is far from being the first-rate actress the prima donna at Genoa was. Besides, these modern Operas are all so atrocious and it is
difficult to tell which is most so of the two we have here, Beatrice di Tenda and Marie de Rudenz, in the last, the prima donna dies three times, which is quite new, besides two murders, and it has not even the charm of the music of the Beatrice which is but small to redeem its horrors.

They were too great even for our Florentines and the opera has failed, notwithstanding that it has been tried again with a happy end patched onto the horrors of the two first acts. The first act ends with one of Donizetti’s usual crashes, to which "non manca più che il cannone" as our singing master says, dear old Magnelli, whose lesson is the best comedy in Florence. At Genoa we had Donizetti’s Lucrezia Borgia, which, whether it was that ‘Salori converted all the tinsel into sterling gold’ (I copy a newspaper phrase relating to Rubini) delighted us so much that it is a pleasure to me to write the name. Mercadenate’s new Giuramento, which is making such a furore in these parts, is methinks singularly poor in airs, though it may have some good harmony. Here at Florence, we are going to return to old music, la Norma! Rossini not to say Bellini being now voted old authors and therefore to yield to something new. I excuse a fanatic but I have little else to tell you for the Prince & Princess Poniatowsky are here, acting private operas, she very well, & church music, being Lent, is all the rage. We went to a fête at the S. Annunziata this morning where was the Grand Duchess & all the Court, in court-dress, for they are very dévot and go to all the ceremonies.

We heard a little better music than at Genoa, where they played at the morning mass of the Annunziata the merriest air out of the Lucrezia Borgia, which we had heard the night before at the opera.

We are living here in a delightful hotel, Lungo l’Arno, the palace of the ancient family Acciajuoli, once Dukes of Athens. Our bedroom was the chapel & one of the rooms is painted with the finest pesco figures by a pupil of Andrea del Sarto. We are close to the Gallery & the Palazzo Pitti, the Grand Duke’s which has much the finest pictures of the two, and look out upon the Arno with its picturesque Ponte Vecchio, loaded with houses, hanging over the sides of the bridge and supported by wooden props, most of them goldsmiths’ shops, and the Ponte della Trinità further down with its three low arches, the most graceful of bridges.

[cross-written at top of letter]

We leave Florence in ten days and there is so much to see that we feel as if we had not seen half. Goodbye, my dear Miss Strutt, I feel that this letter is very
little worth the sending & must leave a little bit to see if Mama can make it more interesting. If you have the charity to write letter to Venice, where we shall be at the end of April, or to Milan at the beginning of May, we shall be for ever grateful. I hope you will be able to give us good accounts of Mrs Strutt & your father, who were always so kind to us. Looking forward to seeing you again, believe me, ever your affectionate & truly obliged Florence Nightingale

Bundle 121, letter

Keneh Feb 24 1850
Well, my dearest people, no letters for me here. If I did not write, it would be no more than I have received, but &c. I have not time to sing my own virtues. We have just got the papers from Mr Murray, who is here, & the news & & what effect the row in Greece will have upon our movements, we don’t yet know. Of course we shall not be able to go, if the Piraeus is to be blockaded, but I still hope. People here are very angry about it, say that we have acted in such a way as to throw France and Russia more together & to make Greece hate us and incline to France, but the cause of our quarrel is just, beyond a doubt. (If it prevents us from going to Greece, I shall think that the most serious consequence). I must say I think it looks too much like surprising them on our part, like a trick, catching Parker on his return from the Levant.

We left Thebes yesterday after three weeks there and shall be at Cairo in two or three weeks. No one can calculate the voyage exactly.
Don’t forget to write to Athens.
Mr Hill will forward us our letters wherever we are, even if we don’t go there.

Goodbye, dearest people
your loving child

Bundle 121, copy of a letter [7:372-75]

Athens April 27th 1850
You will suppose that as we sailed from the Isthmus to Piraeus a few days since, we repeated the famous paragraph of Sulpicius’s letter to Cicero sighing over the ruined cities of Greece, that we opened our Herodotus as we opened the bay of Salamis, and thundered out a speech from Thucydides, as entering the port, we caught sight of the Acropolis, Alas! no. Our classics are safe in our portmanteaus and studies have been confined to the line of the long walls, the scene of the triumph of Themistocles and a few rambles over the Agora or wherever the "some new thing" (the τι καινόνερον) is sought for as eagerly as in the days of St Paul. No books but the "blue books" is opened now in Athens, no letters read but those of Baron Gros and Mr Wyse.

Salamis is only known as the anchorage of the British squadron, and no thunder heard but salutes from our great guns. The very Austrian officer as he directed our course into harbour, instead of showing us the famous island of the Persian immortals and saying "there lay the Corinthians;" "there were the Athenians yonder sailed the Persian galleys into the narrow straits" and up there on the hill side sat Xerxes," pointing to the tall masts and high sterns said: "Look at Dragon here in advance guard; yonder is Vengeance; here by the island is Caledonia; there nearer the main the Howe; see the Admiral’s flag in the Queen," and sailing in by the pier head (where once were the Lions) we with difficulty ran past the French line of battle ship and the English and French steamers. Athens has been in a fever of expectation; it was known four or five days since that Gros could do no more the offered ultimatum being refused and that in consequence the blockade would be recommenced.

Then the Chambers were called together so a secret discussion, which is illegal, as the question should be proposed and a vote taken for secret discussion. It was soon known that in both Chambers a positive refusal was given to consider the British claims’ question at the eleventh hour. Badly as these Chambers may discharge their political functions they were neither so base or so foolish as to sacrifice their honour in the vain attempt to throw a veil over the want of truth, patriotism and common sense which has been revealed to the world during the last three
months. The Minister was encountered with some sharp language; and it was asked him how he could dare to require an opinion on a subject as to which he had refused to produce the papers and even now offered no authenticated details.

Foiled in this attempt to make the nation appear as a party to the decision the Ministry are said to have offered to resign on the King’s refusing to accept the terms mentioned by Baron Gros. They indeed have answered a second question by an emphatic “all.” In the meanwhile two light clouds of smoke were seen ascending, one from Piraeus and one from Salamis and the distant boom of great guns came on on the evening sea breeze. The embargo was reimposed and a brig and steamer left the British squadron on a cruise. Yesterday further altercation took place and at night some letter-writing. But the town was perfectly tranquil both before and after dark; no knots of people met even to talk in the streets (indeed ladies were seen walking home at a late hour through the town) and the citizens seemed to leave their wise government to do exactly as they pleased, just as Admiral Parker, the Senate, and the House of Representatives had done before.

Today not long after noon four little flags waved for a moment at the mast head of the Queen. They announced that the Greek government had accepted the terms offered by the British minister. So ends the drama, not of three acts, but of three months, in which contrary to the Floration maxim the gods have been introduced without sufficient cause. The clumsy machinery is now exposed and the gods are dumb idols. The unmannerly threatenings of Russia have fallen as harmlessly as her snows, and [the] polished arrows of French chicanery have only glanced from the shield of truth and steadfastness. The refined Wyse and the urbane Parker have for three months waited patiently with every right on their side and ample power in their hands merely, as it would seem, to show the world that Englishmen may be kind and generous without allowing themselves to be cajoled, bullied or cheated.

No plains like those of Hungary were laid waste. No castles like those of St John D’Ulloa are battered down. It is for the Greek merchants and for the Greek government to estimate the loss of money and honour the obstinacy of the Hellenic Lewis the 14th who chooses to be his own minister, has produced, and it will be for the Greek nation to discover that while its government has been like the hare, applying to its many friends, it has not lost its one real friend to whom it owes its existence, and to whose navy it owes the destruction of its enemies and the severe lesson just now given on the old maxim “England expects every man to do his duty.” In the meantime Greek lawyers by royal orders may again search “Vatel and Puffendorf and Grotius, and prove such conduct quite atrocious.”
By the circular to the Consuls it appears that the terms offered and refused (the same as those now accepted) are that a sum about equal to £6000 should be paid over for the claimants and ample and real security given for the payment of Don Pacifico’s claims on the Portuguese government, should he be able to substantiate their reality in a reasonable time to be fixed by our Minister.

It is not mentioned in the Circular, but it is certain that a fitting apology for the detention of our man-of-war’s boat’s crew will be offered. The public need not be astonished at this simple solution of the question which might have been effected in three hours as well as three months, had politicians not interfered, when it is recollected as the Blue Book shows, that the Greek government did not even reply to Sir E. Lyon’s and Mr Wyse’s letters, that it has refused always to consider their claims, much more to examine them. Consequently the British authorities made no alteration in the amount.

But now it seems they have themselves gone through the terms and determined the sum it is just to enforce. Cromwell it is recorded when an English merchantman was plundered by a Frenchman ordered his frigate to capture three French ships. These he had sold and paying the British merchant for his loss transmitted the balance of account with a notification of the transaction to the French Minister. England in this Greek affair has not been either so prompt or so brusque but she has equally shown that she is at all risks and at times ready to defend the rights of her most insignificant and unimportant subjects.

Of the many gross falsehoods that have been put forward on this subject I will only remark that it is utterly untrue that Mr Pacifico prevaricated as to his country as Mons Piscatory asserted in the French Chamber. On the contrary he instantly claimed the protection of Mr Blacke to whom he owed his life as his petition asserted on the ground of being an Englishman, and obtained the testimony of the British Vice Consul who was on the spot ½ an hour after the house was pillaged. It is not true as the Greek minister asserted that the claim to the two islands was included in the requisition to settle British claims in 24 hours, nor is it true, as the same minister asserted, that Mr Finlay’s claim was settled, in as much as a reference only had been made to it. The referees had never had the documents sent them by the Greek government. It is not true, as the Times (quoted in Galignani of the 5th April) asserts, that Pacifico lived in a mean house with its broken windows and battered shutters. It certainly is not true, as the same writers asserts, that the loss by the Blockade amounted to 31 millions Drachmas or more than 1 million sterling, the revenue being not, as it was stated, 17 millions but 9 million drachmas, about £30,000 as 2d
drachmas are equal to £1 sterling, £30,000 is only 40,000 drachmas, not 9 million. Lastly it is perfectly untrue that the minister Glarakis sent categorical answers to Sir Edward Lyons’s notes as Glarakis had the audacity to state, for Mr Wyse finds none in the Archives as he writes to Lord Palmerston, no. 30, in the Blue Book.

10 million drachmas the assumed revenue of Greece in 1850 equals £357,143 consequently the indemnity asked by Mr Finlay £1500, and Mr Pacifico £29,600 cannot approach the revenue of the country. Yet the correspondent of the Times asserts that the indemnity we demand, for Mr Pacifico and Mr Finlay, is more than the entire revenue of the country etc....

To the distinguishing theme by their [illeg] and ceremonies. But though while smarting ourselves under the absurdity of making a metaphysical discussion a test of religion we condemn and despise it, we ought perhaps rather to rejoice and consider it as a progress, a step to something else. At the same time, it is curious for an Englishman vexed (?) with the controversies of Trinitarians and Unitarians, to tread the ground where 1500 years ago, this very controversy originated, under different names, the Nomousians and the Nemorousians (?), and for furious friends at home to remember that the quarrel about the nature of Jesus which has rent the then (?) world for 15 centuries, did not begin till 300 years after the death of Him whose nature is so discussed. And the Alexandrian school, which lit this fire, sought in vain among the writings of His personal friends and [illeg] successors for any materials to find out what they thought about His exact nature. It is entirely a modern controversy, hours of idleness, and the luxury and ease which Constantine’s conversion gave to the Christian church, and Christian writers, martyrs and learned fathers of the third century speak of Jesus in terms which owe Father-worshippers of the 19th wold consider rank blasphemy. The opinions of this third century are easy to determine, the Christian Jews imbued with the Old Testament therefore (from which nevertheless we affect to derive our Trinity) believed Him a man, the Greek historians, imbued with Platonism, therefore believed Him the Logos or wisdom, the Egyptian Christians, and therefore imbued with mysticism, believed him one out of several Eons or powers proceeding from the Deity. The Gnostics called their thirty persons eons.

It is curious that with us, the same real act which he left for the purpose of union and with the name of communion, among His followers, should have become the test and type of their difference. But the wind has risen and after two delaying days of tracking, we are at last approaching Gheneh. I must put up and hoping to find letters from you there am, dearest people, all yours and always, yours
Embley March 1

My dear Grandmama

We were so glad to hear from Papa so good an account of you and how little you thought of cold and winter. Papa came home last Tuesday after attending the Assizes at Winchester and, except some toothache, has been very well since. Laura Nicholson and Miss Johnson, who had been with us nearly a month, left us soon after he returned and we shall be very quiet this next month, after which we go to London, most likely. I have had a very nice letter from Blanch at Liverpool, seeming much interested in her employments and in Mr Martineau’s discourses and Beatrice seems to have been very popular and very happy at Ditcham.

I have been riding with Papa, but today the rain has been incessant. Shore wrote me a very good letter in a fine round hand while his mama was away. No doubt you have heard from her all about her journey with Papa and that the Octavius’s are pretty comfortable now at Thames Bank, where Aunt Julia is staying with them. We kept up our reading with Miss Johnson till the last day she staid and she told us a great deal, for she is full of information. She was governess to some of the Coape family and now lives near Waverley. With all our best loves, believe me, dear Granmama

ever your truly affectionate and obliged
granddaughter
Florence

Ruth my darling
from Godmother Florence
Xmas 1887

Cairo
1 April [1850]

Dear Mother

Be kind and courteous to this gentleman. But pray do something for him. He has done everything for us and everything which we did not like to do for ourselves. He is a man of very great information and the only man we could bear to ride about Egypt with us. And when he goes away, give him something pretty, for he is poor. We meant to give him our thermo [?] but it broke.
Athens - May 12 1850
My dearest Mother I must
write to you on the day that,
this days ago, you put me
in here. I have no regrets
for the departure of a youth
which I have mis-spent, & a life
which I have disliked. But
I am full of hope for the life
which is set before me & for
the occupations of which I hope
I shall find myself better prepared
than I have been for those of
the life which is set behind me.
I have always had a tender
sympathy, a longing for the age
of 30, as the age when our Saviour
began his more active life. Before
that, he had done nothing. I
found a passage yesterday in the Free Church
Magazine about old Simeon’s “Nunc
dimittis,” which seemed to me
to hit exactly the right nail on the
head. “The dissatisfactions of human
life, it said, had no longer a place
in his memory. Its lessons learned
so late, its hopes disappointed so
early, its opportunities missed, its
interests mistaken, & its great
gifts misspent, all were merged
in that thought, mine eyes have
seen thy salvation.”
I am very sorry for all
the trouble I have given you,
my dear Mother, especially
for that in Scotland this last
year, where I behaved very
badly, but I hope being
now no longer a youth,
I shall do so no more.
Pyrmont July 21 ’50

My dearest people Mother

I wish you would write, but I suppose you are at Lea Hurst & there I will write. We were very sorry to leave Berlin, where there was so much to be learned & seen. Mme Pertz introduced us to everybody worth knowing who was then at Berlin: Curtius, the Athenian Professor, Gerhardt, the classical ditto, Grimm & Co–Mme Passow gave me a letter to a Mlle de Bülow of Ludwigs lust, in Mecklenburg, between Berlin & Hamburg, which we meant to have profited by, but found we had not time to stop. Mlle de Bülow is a girl whose parents live in Ludwigslust, who, with her own fortune, has founded an Infant Hospital for scrofulous children, only 8, whom, with the help of a servant from Kaiserswerth, she brings up herself. Nothing can be more simple & unpretending.

We got to Hamburg in the afternoon. Half the town is new after the dreadful fire of ’42, but I don’t think it is unpicturesque, built along those great square ponds (or Alsters) with swans & little boats flitting about & flights of great stone steps running down into them. At night, if you make believe very hard—you might almost fancy yourself in Venice. True, there is a windmill instead of S Giorgi’s, & an English-looking clock tower instead of St Mark’s, still, they were illuminating for the death of the D, of Cambridge, I suppose,
& the reflection in the water
& the spectre boats gliding about
were very pretty. I saw
with delight the awkward soldiers

of the good Hamburgers, instead
of the trim army of the K. of
Prussia. The city has a debt
of 5 millions of marks, I think,
having been itself the Insurance
Office, it had to furnish money
to each citizen, whose house was
burnt & he rebuilt himself.

Arrived at Hamburg, we ran
off to Mlle Sieveking—alas! she
was not at home. I must
tell you that though she has
established an Infant Hospital,
Model Lodging houses, a bad
District Visiting Society, all of
which we saw, & a gratis
Institution for the daughters of
those who have fallen into
the world, of which there must
always be many in a town of
Merchants like Hamburg, which
girls are fitted governesses.
She does not consider any of
these things her trade—they

are put under the care of
matrons—her vocation is
something quite new—at least
I don’t remember ever to have
heard of anyone before who
made it his an amateur occupation. She
instructs the daughters of the
rich & has daily classes, to whom
she teaches “all the branches of a
polite & liberal education” &
she goes through all this drud=
gery—for what? that she may
accustom these girls, as she
told me herself, to consider
that they were brought into
the world not to marry, nor to
lead what is called a “domestic
life” of housekeeping, accom=
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

pleishments & visiting--but
an active & useful life among
their fellow creatures. I am in
fact the advocate of marriage,
you know, she said, for you
may be quite sure that a good
single female, after my ideas,
will be a good wife, but don’t [breaks off]

Bundle 121, note

Lord, thy will is our will.
Accompany us, strengthen us, teach
us the mysteries of thy passion,
that we may have the desire
& the courage to die for thy sake.

We always began our prayers by
asking of God, prostrate with
our faces to the earth, the
conversion.

It is for Him alone that we live
& that we wd die. It is Him
that we wd desire to serve &
our neighbours for His sake.

The martyred nun: “Oh my Jesus,
come, for I love thee with all
my heart,” she who had known
nothing but suffering....

Duplicates? A lot of stuff here

Bundle 122/1 letter

30 April 1850

I send this by the Trieste boat (I only hope it will arrive)
to say that I have received all your letters here, dear people,
four in all and one from Aunt Mai and that you must go directly
to her b[rother] Rev J.H. Mill's. Your letters were a great
comfort to me. I am only so sorry to hear of Mama's being poorly.
I hope it is over and that you are by this time in London. I am
afraid by what you say that Papa has written to Cairo, which
letter I should be so sorry to lose. I think you had better write
here till the 15th of May. I don't suppose we shall leave this
till the 1st of June, after that, to Vienna, where we shall
certainly go, not to Trieste, which is uncertain, I might say
till 20th May for writing here, but am afraid of losing any
letters.

Mr Bracebridge says, will Papa write a note to Foster of the
Examiner, in his name, saying if his Athenian letter does not suit them, will he send it on to the Daily News.
Say everything for me to dear Mary Stanley.
I will write you all the news by the next boat.
yours ever, dearest people

Source: Letter Bundle 122, unnumbered

Dearest Mother
I am very sorry to hear that you have been so poorly. I am afraid Waverley was too much for both of you. In the atmosphere of grief though many live, yet some die. God grant that it may not be so with these poor people. Yet I sometimes fear that instead of making their new life grow out of their grief, they will, like Balaam's ass, turn aside out of the way of the Angel.
I am sorry not to be with you when you are so poorly. I seem doomed to be away from home when you are poorly and alone, doomed to be at home at the time of wakes and festivals.
Aunt Evans gets on well. I never saw her so enjoying.
This place is lovely. When I look at our hill sides in the crimson and gold of autumn, they really remind me of Rivoli and the view of trailing vines in the houses on the Campagne from that hill.
Sarah Brocklehurst is a very good theologian and interests us much. We called on Mrs Wass who was very glad to see us and asked her here to see the owl, in return for which she sent us a great many good books.
Dear Pop I have bought a piece! and had my merino body made up with orange sleeves and a blue back, the whole very neat. I am greatly in want of cuffs and collars, the smallest contribution thankfully received. I am very sorry that you have nothing good to tell Mr Poyser [the doctor].

Source: Letter, Claydon Bundle 122 postmarked Vien 4 Jul [7:445]

Vienna
30 June 1850

My dearest mother
We arrived here last night after four days journey from Trieste. We reached Trieste on Monday, as I think I told you. If anybody wants to know whether the abord is pretty, the sweep of the gulf is fine, but the round green hills dotted with white houses, could not be pretty under any circumstances. We left Trieste on Wednesday with a Bahnkutsche or Vetturius for Laibach; eight hours brought us to Adelsberg at 2 o'clock, where we stopped to see the cave. From the top of the hill above Trieste, where there is a fine view of the Adriatic, but it was all dusty
and wanted sweeping, there was nothing pretty, it was like the worst parts of Switzerland. But the cave of Adelsberg, I could not have conceived sublimity in the shape of that much hacknied thing, a cavern, if I had not seen Adelsberg.
Dearest people

I have just had your letters with great joy and comfort. I am sorry we are so late home, but it could not be helped. We shall now make all the haste we can leave Vienna tomorrow, which is no grief to me, [for] Dresden, Berlin, Hanover, Düsseldorf and Kaiserswerth.

As to this place, it never will be free, there is no danger of that. Look at the city and the population, that is enough.

We were furious to hear of what the House of Lords had been doing. But that in these countries one becomes in love with Her Majesty's Opposition and its principle, one would think Lahitte and Aberdeen were a little too much cheek by jowl. Our factions, in their worse than civil war, prefer lies, which they could not have believed at the moment they were uttering them to a principle of justice a child could understand, if it pleased.

You may take in the Daily News, if you choose to see some more letters from a hand not unknown to you [Mr Bracebridge]. But I am so out of heart with all things here, that even Stanley and all his crew are dear to me. You gentlemen of England, that sit at home at ease, how little do you {illeg. reek} of the struggles that have convulsed Europe for two years from the four corners of the earth, and ended in epilepsy, how lightly and cruelly you talk of them, as you would of a battle of the frogs and mice. That I never can forgive Englishmen: that cold-blooded want of any feeling of motherhood with the suffering struggling Europeans.
But here in the Jägerzeile, one feels otherwise and one looks forward almost with horror to the Reign of Terror which must one day take the place of the Reign of Stupid Tyranny before any other kingdom can be established. The city bears evident marks in the Franzens Allee, the Jagerzeile, the Josephsplatz, of the vengeance which followed the worst (I suppose) act of political treachery which ever disgraced the councils of princes. But there is no danger of more revolution. You see, in the aspect of the city, the want of character of its inhabitants. We went to Sperl in the evening. Everybody knows I suppose what Sperl is, the great place of amusement of the Vienna bourgeoisie. There, under the trees, were an innunumerable number of small tables, all lighted up, Strauss's band playing and round the tables sate the men drinking their eternal beer and smoking their eternal pipes, and the women sitting silent, not a word uttered. Then they entered the great room, where was another Strauss band and began their abominable dance. Waltzing and beer drinking, that seems all the Austrian is capable of. The dance did not appear to me a whit less obnoxious as a national dance, but rather the more. The Austrian caste of physiognomy is always the same: the clear complexion, silky hair, the wide open cheerful eye, pretty nose, and large sensual mouth, the oblong, not oval face. The dress, decollete and short sleeves in the morning with a lace over the shoulders. Now I have not the least objection to a short sleeved costume, or to no costume at all. Let them wear all their clothes on their [breaks off] [7:448]

Dresden July 6 1850
This morning we went to the Gallery, & saw those pictures I had longed to see all my life. Labyrinths of canvass, miles of oil are there, & of all this Daedalus there are only four I should like ever to see again, but those four are the inspirations which come only once in a man's life. Since I saw Raphael in Rome, I have never thought of him but as a decorative painter. When I had stared at the Transfiguration, my enthusiasm fell flat on its face & his conceptions of the Creation seemed childish by M. Angelo's. But Raphael at Dresden is a
different man, no print, no
copy gives the slightest idea
of the Madonna di S Sisto.
I mean of that unearthly baby,
which is to me the most wonder
ful specimen of the Creative

[2]
power I have ever seen. Where
could he ever have seen such
an one? The picture is sadly
faded, the heavenly host
almost gone, the drapery
ugly in its rawness now,
but the heads are fresh in
their unapproachable beauty.
How tame all other Virgin heads
in the Gallery or in any gallery
look beside her. Pure they are,
purity many a painter has
succeeded in giving the Virgin
mother, but Raphael alone
has succeeded in giving her
intellect with purity that
farseeing eye, that expression
of forethought and power one
can hardly understand (even
when standing before it) how
they can be united with such
unconscious purity. 'Blessed are the
pure in heart, for they shall see God'
is the explanation of the picture.

[3]
Oh what a noble allegory it is,
the virgin mother, the uniting
the unconsciousness of evil, the
innocence of the things of this
world with the intellectual
insight, the heart’s care, which
is able to do good while remaining
unspotted from the world. For
Mary in this picture is
altogether a woman. There is
no Mariolatry here. It is the
most living reality I ever
saw & I seem to have seen
her alive and not in the picture.
As to the figure, there is a grand simplicity about it, so unlike all his other Madonnas, who are merely pure from foolishness.

The blot in the picture I think is St Barbara & Raphael’s grand fault, which makes the Transfiguration so obvious, is his using foils. St B. Seems there merely as a foil to the Virgin’s simplicity. As to the child, what can be aid of him” He sits meditating his high destinies.

The Virgin looks a little startled, a little frightened, as it opens upon her what is before her, but the child seems to apprehend all the conditions of man’s existence, the purposes of Creation, the thought of God & is not afraid. The Virgin seems to see only God, the child to see all things in heaven & earth—It is to me a grand prophecy of what will be when we have discovered God’s laws & the way to keep them, of what woman will be & is intended to be, uniting purity with power, of what man will be, even in the cradle, when his parents & their parents before them have learnt to fulfil all God’s thoughts. The conception of that child in Raphael’s mind like a miracle. There the little adoring thing below one such a contrast to him, such a beautiful distinction.

As to the Zinsgroschen, it is interesting as the conception of a great mind but nothing more. Titian must have been an Unitarian & conceived Christ as a
man (you have seen fifty such) who has suffered long & intensely, but more the suffering of the intellect than of the feeling, who has tried & failed, who can neither overthrow nor submit to the limits he believes imposed upon man, whose sufferings have extinguished all desire and feeling in him--his eye is quite dead--and who, asked a silly question by a wicked man, answers with the slightest expression of contempt, "how stupid malice is! cannot you see the difference between God and Caesar?) It is more like a Paracelsus than a Christ & you feel the deepest respect & sympathy for such suffering, but no adoration or trust.

He is pale with vigils of long thought, nothing more. When I saw the Virgin again, I was still more stuck by the anxious, enquiring, speculation in her eyes, the power of suffering in her noble brow, contrasted with the child, the child's eyes express the seeing all that is to be seen, the mouth the doing all that is to be done. Omniscience & omnipotence were perhaps neither in Raphael's power nor in his intention to give but the union of firmness in the mouth & the power of knowledge in the eye the incarnation of the ACTIVE INTELLECT is marvellous indeed. The prescience of the Virgin's face is wonderful too, but there is no expression of "doing," the distinction is marked.

It is the passive Intellect, which is to perceive & suffer, & sympathize,
rather than to act.

The other great picture is the Correggio Magdalen—one can hardly believe this painted by the same man who conceived the four tremendous Holy Families, which hand up in the immediate neighbourhood to the Raphael where architectural elevation seems the only idea for glorifying the Virgin, who is listening with pleased ear to divers saints, courting her. The Magdelan was painted in a different hour & all the arguments that can be used for the inspiration of the holy book may be used as well for this. It is the most religious picture as I says, all the world is dark behind her, in that gloomy back ground there is nothing bright, no one ray of light--she does not look back.

[8]
Before her are sharp stones--she does not look forward. The whole world to her is in that book, in her expression is deep peace, for she has ceased to sin. There is now no more struggle, her thoughts are not turned inward. She has ceased to think of herself but her whole soul seems poured out upon that book, the light from which beams upon her face. It is the only light on the picture. There has been deep suffering, but it is over. The intensity of attention with which she is ready, absorbs every other feeling.

There is no light in all the picture; there is no light in all the world to her save from the book. The whole interest centres in her expression; she is not even a pretty woman, but she is the exemplification of Heuch's Justin Martyr. She has gone through the stage where "Rest, rest, all passions that once stirred my heart had ended in that world, my one desire to be at rest" and she has found her rest

[9]
The Deity of Light—the torch race was the principal festival in Greece, in Catholic Europe an altar lighted up in Correggio’s mind the supernatural light beaming on the bosom of his Magdalen, in Protestant Europe a sermon read to people sitting in a pew by a man in black raiment. Lucus a non lucendo certainly the way of showing worship have been so different that we should not recognise a worship at all in the Greek fashion, who believed that cultivating strength and dexterity would be accounted a “reasonable service,” while they would enter a Lutheran church with great astonishment and say, Call you this worship to the God of Light and Love and Beauty. But if any Protestant should say that Correggio’s is not just as “reasonable a service” as St Paul’s “having gifts differing according to the grace that is give us,” I fancy he mistakes the nature of service and inspiration.

We do everything here according to the book. Athena, who eats at hours unauthorized by the arzt, namely at night, can hardly get a bit nor sup to put in her mouth. By the book we go and take our coffee in the Grande Allée between 3 and 5. By the book we live and move. Pyrmont is very like Darley Dale, near Chatsworth and really very pretty. I forgot to tell Aunt Evans of this resemblance, which strikes me at every turn. The public garden and grand alley is really beautiful.

I was disappointed in Lepsius, whom I could not get to tell me anything about the Egyptian mysteries. I don’t think it is a subject which interests him.

Source: Fragment of letter to Parthenope Nightingale, Bundle 122

ministers are making great fortunes playing in the Bourse. It is a thing as well known as the gambling at Homberg. You have heard of Count Camerata’s death. It happened after this wise. The Cameratas had entirely supported “that man” and all his family. Now this Camerata, who was in office, goes and loses 200,000 fr at the Bourse. He is immensely rich, but he could not realize his fortune so he went to Jerome, who owes everything to him and asked him to help him. Jerome says, I can’t, mais j’en parlerai à mon fils. Mon fils says, I can’t, mais je’en parlerai à l’E. L’E. Says, ah bah! Je ne puis pas payer les dettes de jeu de tous ces gens là, whereupon Camerata goes home and blows out his brains. Notez bien that Jerome’s son had sent him, C., 60,000 fr, but on condition that Camerata should give him 12,000 fr for de rente annually!—which accordingly Camerata, who makes his will
punctually before he dies, leaves him by the said will, so that
they have profited much by the act. All that is known about the
poor wretch’s death is that a friend, who gave him 2000 fr to pay
the most pressing, went in with him, to remonter his moral, when
he thought the remontage sufficiently done, went away, and the
act followed immediately. All Paris is full of it.

Dear old Delécluze has been and sends you all kinds of
messages. He is just as young and as kind as ever, wants to take
us to Versailles.

Paris is a fair city indeed, like the flowers which grow round
the ruins of Memphis and beneath are dead men’s bones.

I am sorry that the Empsons have refused the good offer.

Guizots, Delécluze and François all make many enquiries after
you.
I am sorry that your walking powers are so diminutive, dearest, but hope that the main things are better, and will be better in the fine weather and that you will be able to go up to Lady Byron. I fancy from what you say that you will be going to London soon. It will be very convenient to me if I go to see the last of Grandmama, to find you there when I come back. Some friends of ours have just been destitute of a préfetship for having said something of de Persigny. These people were préfet of Boulogne at the time of the famous affair and lent “Pudeur” 6000 fr (he not having the sous in his poches) to go to Ham with--these 6000 fr were repaid, it is true, but when de Persigny spoke of destituting them, “Pudeur” objected, remembering this good office, but Persigny persisted and “mon ingrat” gives way without another word!! Their tack is now to appear very proper and cast off everybody who is not. They give out that Madame Wyse is no relation of theirs but an illegitimate of Lucien’s, which is not true, nor was ever hinted at before. Now everybody knows that Brummagen has not a drop of Bonaparte blood in his veins, his mother was a Beauharnais, his father a general, his eldest brother, who died, was a son of Napoleon’s and declared by him his heir--this one never. But the whole concern is to me disgusting as a dust hole and I turn my head the other way. Clarkey is going to take me to Arago’s today I believe. I have been to her mère’s this morning (La Mère Lamouroux, Enfants Malades). I think Miss Williams will turn out a failure. I will send or bring you the key, my dearest. The sky and distance today is clear and glowing as a distance of Claude’s. You shall hear again very shortly. It appears that the Pope is certainly coming here.

Criticism. I was greatly disappointed with the Egyptian Gallery, though one room is made to imitate a temple and painted like the old Egyptian, and is really no bad imitation. But to me all those imitations are like the Chinese junk, or the Panorama of the Mississippi==what is an Egyptian temple in Berlin? It is the body without the spirit, the Bible in Latin. Who thinks of the Great Trinity what Trismegistus taught and Plato learnt in a temple in a museum? It was profanation and if I had been a mummy there I would have come and taken my mummy away. Besides, I did not like Lepsius and in short I thought the Egyptian museum a foolish try. They are doing grand things in fresco painting through the whole building, putting up Phigalean friezes, restoring Parthenons. But I hate the Düsseldorf school and a modern Parthenon is like an
old man in a child’s bib. The drawing of the cartoons though of some of these concerns was wonderfully good. How curious by the way is the manner in which the gifts of form and colour seem to have been distributed to men. At the Acropolis lie strewn about many fragments of Venetian sculpture. They are, to the smallest fragment of old Greek cornice, as a wood-cut is to a Müller and this the nation which surpassed all others in colour. Between ourselves, nothing will ever persuade me that the Greeks understood colour, and that the Parthenon is not a thousand times more beautiful now than when it was painted and gilt. But that’s à propos de bottes.

Far different from Leipsius and his painted cloud, I mean his painted temple, were Dr Pertz and his library. I delighted to see him in it. All classified and arranged like a German hausfrau’s linen closet. He has an inestimable collection of missals, Bibles, cuneiform writing and so on, the original manuscripts of Schiller’s Wallenstein, Göthe’s Egmont, Herder’s Immortality. It was curious to see Schiller’s all corrected and re-corrected and whole lines written in, and Göthe’s in a fair, round hand with hardly a correction or a mistake. But what interested me the most was a contemporaneous portrait of Luther with under it written in his own hand a sentence to the effect of, Be not careful for anything, while you are caring, you might be doing good. The portrait raised that unsavoury mortal so much in my ideas. It was so earnest, so single minded, I began to think Luther a great man. By it lay an original letter of Ignatius Loyola’s. They were quite friendly and quiet together. So are they now perhaps in another world, collaborateurs perhaps in some great work. Many a man has stood before those two, I wot, and said, Servant of God, teacher of men, Martin Luther rise up and crush the Antichrist, Martin Luther. Which was Antichrist, I really don’t know. Both were servants of God, if ever men were. Which has done most good and most harm would be difficult to decide. Purity of morals and devotion of charity is certainly on the Jesuit’s side, vigour of philosophy and freedom of thought on the Lutherans’. We went to see the Blind and Deaf and Dumb institutions, unluckily it was “Ferien” everywhere, the deaf and dumb who were at home spoke remarkably well and understood everything.

I am excessively sorry not to see the Howes. Do pray tell them how much so.

Berlin is very handsome and as uninteresting as a town which has been built up and not grown up always is. We did not fach ourselves with Potsdam nor any of the [illeg] The king has never slept in Berlin since the Revolution, wonderful that he should not see the contrast between this conduct and that of our brave little fellow’s. It is said both the king and queen are thoroughly disgusted with life and all about it. No wonder. I dare say they indulge in remarks concerning the ingratitude of
man etc.

It is impossible to help laughing when a German talks politics. It is like my dear Gale talking antiquities, or me at the arts. It is so delightfully mystical, unpractical, unintelligible, celestial, anything but of this earth, earthy,

The trail by jury, you know, is, upon the most perfect principle, now established, but it has one fault, only one--it is impossible to get a conviction. In a petty case of the most obvious kind the other day, a theft, one jury man said, It is not for me to condemn, God must condemn and would not give a verdict. Another of the jury said, how can I decide? I shall count the buttons on my coat, guilty, not guilty, guilty, not guilty, and as it comes, I shall give my verdict. This, however impossible to believe, was told us by a man who was on the jury. So it is with everything. Political news you will get as well by the papers, so I shall not tell you.

I wrote to Mrs Herbert from Berlin to congratulate and tell about Bethanien, so don’t you trouble yourself.

Those Germans are a queer race. I never passed a German station on the railroad without seeing somebody crying, two or three were always roaring in the carriages, and I do think at Prague I saw a station man crying. We had nobody to cry for us unless a waiter or two could be made to cry. I used to pinch Athena but it was no good, she only bit and kicked.

The Lutheran churches are all adorned with pictures over the altar, invariably a copy of Carlo Dolce’s Christ at the Last Supper, before him a crucifix and flanking him on either side St Martin Luther and St John [illeg] I can’t say I even felt the more of an [illeg] for this alarming latitude.

I meant to have told you about the “Rauhe Haus,” but I suppose you want to hear about Pyrmont. It is a Kaufmann’s watering place, in a broad, low valley, reeking with steel. You have raw meat at dinner, because the Arzt orders it and if you ask for cooked, the waiter with a face of the Last Judgment says, you know, you know you do, it is against the regulations--if you come in after 1 o’clock there is no meat to be had in all the place, not even a bit for Athena, till the next day at 1 o’clock, because nobody cooks except at the medical hour. It is very cold, very rainy and there is a long allée where the good Germans overcome with heat, sit out and take their coffee. Schelling is here and we have an introduction for him and a Durchlauch is here, Mecklenburg Schwerin, but she lives at the palace of His Most Serene Highness, and Hochfurethischer Herr, the reigning Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont, in which kingdom (contiguous to Lippe Desmold) this metropolis is situate.

Adieu, dearest people, for the present.

Source: Letter, Bundle 122 [faint] [7:475-81]
Pyrmont July 26 1850
Well, my dearest people, you won’t write to me, so I must write to you. Elise Adelberg is still here & much cheered, I think, by the visit. I went up the hill, or as she calls it, the mountain, with her yesterday. Then was a magnificent, I cannot call it a beautiful, view of the valley from the top— the fields stretched below like a darned garment as she said, the fir trees like Puseyite priests & there were only wanting vines like soldiers to make a real German view. We shall be certainly here till next week now, so I hope you have written, but I think & I shall go away before he does, for the water’s like a knife & the air like a pair of scissors. Sheffield etherialized the volatile extract of cutlery. We do everything out of the book, and the man stood struck by thunder last night,

because we had the temerity to ask for a compote for supper. At dinner we have a bouilli, then two dishes of vegetables, then pudding, then a rôti with stewed fruit, two sorts. By this time an irresistible Trieb having taken me to let fly the owl among the company, I am obliged to be taken away.

The last walk I took at Athens was a curious contrast to the rich corn valley, the firs, the good, awkward Bäuerinnen of this place.

[3]
We have heard from Anne Plunkett who is perhaps going to Glasgow, where her husband is on those horrid Caledonian affairs, perhaps she would come to you on her way back, as there is now no child.
Please write to me next at Düsseldorf & let Papa send his case written out, as Aunt Mai has done, that I may consult the famous oculist de Leuw & tell Aunt Mai, is she has anything more to write which will help me to get his best opinion, she will please write it there. But I suspect the two cases to be so precisely alike that he will give the same opinion for both.

Duisberg we shall of course see & Kaiserswerth. We have heard from Mrs Herbert herself. She is going into Scotland for the 12th of August! Athena’s wisdom is becoming portentous.

The little Adelberg says that the German people always reminds her now of a child of 14, that it begins to understand what it must learn, that it begins to feel how serious & bitter a thing it is not to be led by parents to knowledge, but to feel itself entirely thrown back upon its own awakening unassisted reason. The German nation, she says, is an orphan under unfaithful Guardians; it feels what ought to belong to it & it begins justly to claim what to pray for would not succeed. It ought to nurse its strength but its feelings often carry it away. It is not strong enough to place itself on a defensive active footing, but it knows now what it has to strive after. Where the point lies on which it must meet its enemies when its strength is ripe.

[5]
So much for Germany. I wish
one could feel that Greece was in even as promising a condition. But she is still a baby, strangled in her cradle. Perhaps the things are incompatible, perhaps Great Britain must always have her politics, Germany her p Pilosophy, Greece her love of beauty. It is evident that it is useless to expect Philosophy from Great Britain. That her worse than schoolman’s quibble about Regeneration shows, if she could but have defined what she meant by Regeneration, but she had not even of the Logical mind sufficient to do that. I read Whateley’s Charge with great pain & pleasure--pain to see so good a man floundering consciously in the dirt, & afraid to make one good plunge out of it,

pleasure to see him defining at least what Regeneration is, which the Puseyites never have done.

In the same way it is perhaps useless to expect Politics from Greece. When I see her people sauntering into the Temple of Theseus and intelligently admiring the marbles there in the museum & contrast it with the stolid stare of our people in the National Gallery, it does seem to me impossible to claim from the two the same kind of perceptions. The English have their political perceptions & will believe the most self contradictory, the most inane, the most impossible things in religion--credo, quia impossibile est. The Germans have their philosophical perceptions--there is not a girl whom you cannot talk to
with more comfort upon

[7]
theological things than with an
English Archbishop, whom if
you don’t despise as a time
server, you loathe as an idiot.
And then the best fun is to
hear the English in pious horror
at the German Rationalism.
Oh my dear friends, a little
more reason & little less
absurdity at home if you
would but reason a little,
just a little, like your
despised cousins. But I
believe we always despise
or are horrified at what we
don’t understand.

The Greeks have their artistic
perceptions, & perhaps are
incapable of any other. The life
they lead always in the open air,
within view of their glorious sea,
seated on one of their historic
rocks, is perhaps more fitted
to make them long for liberty
than legislate for it. Macaulay
says that the life of an ancient

[8]
Athenian conversing with Plato, hearing Pericles speak four or
five times a month, listening to the plays of Sophocles and
Aristophanes and conversant with matters of alliance,
jurisprudence, revenue in the public assemblies, when he had to
legislate, was one to form, not habits of deep or correct
thinking, but of quick and acute perceptions.

There is something of the same kind to be said now with regard
to the education given them by the War of Independence, by their
present life, their monuments, their great characteristics,
vanity and a strong love of acquiring. The children in Mrs Hill’s
school are in every respect different from English children. They
don’t like needle work, they like to be monitors, to learn
English, to read. They have no idea of ever applying their
knowledge afterwards to any trade or service, but they want to
acquire, to have authority, to be first. All that English
children don’t like to do, they do and vice versa.

The museum in the Theseum: they stand looking at those
incomparable sepulchral stellae, which yet are too much alike to be of much interest as a story. They are almost always of one sitting, invested already with all the sublimity of one who feels herself already an immortal (no, I think the Greeks must have believed in Immortality) calmly taking leave of the friends who are passionately entreating er to stay, holding up her little baby. If death is represented, it is always as a gracious youth, whether the Greek idea was eternal repose or eternal something better, death seems to have had no terror for them. Oh! Death where is thy sting, St Paul have said under the Athenian as well as the Christian dispensation.

The intense seriousness and pathos of the old Athenian faces (those pointed out as Pericles, Alcibiades etc. in the Panathaneum procession on the Parthenon) strike one perpetually. It is more than serious, it is melancholy.

I was reconciled to the Erectheum before I left Athens. The Greeks are right as they always were. They could not have had another regular temple there, either rivalizing with or crushed by the Parthenon. They could have nothing but what they have put. Pittakys gave us the account of the escalade and taking of the Acropolis of which party he was one, on one of our last walks with him. It was exactly like one of the encounters in Homer, how they talked and how the Turks answered them, how he harangued and objurgated the Turk, how the Turk harangued in religion.

The last walk I took up Lycabettus one Sunday evening was such a characteristic one. We went to the shoulder of Lycabettus to see the sun’s last rays making the Parthenon blaze with flame coloured light, in old days, when the roof was all of Parian marble, of which the flakes are larger and more shining than those of Pentelic (the columns are of Pentelic) in order to make it blaze, when the sun shone upon it, like an offering an altar to the Divine Universal Intelligence, for, in one respect, we are destitute of the mysticism the Greeks enjoyed. Athena was the “Nouç,” the “Logos” breathes into them a “logical mysticism,” which I believe was the result of De Wette’s and other of the much dreaded German philosophy seems to me the highest religion. They do not pin their faith on the sleeve of a medical or comestible miracle, and those seem to me the only genuine worshippers of the Bible, who see in it far deeper foundation than that of a few childish or cruel deviations from the laws of God (of which I must say the miracle of the loaves has always seemed to me to be one, the raising of Lazarus the other). A “logical mysticism” is that which looks upon it, upon Christ and all the works of God as a means of communion with God. At the same time one infinitely prefers mysticism to rationalism. I cannot say the Greek religion appears to me
very interesting from that very
want of mysticism. Curious it is
at the same time to trace
in all religions that necessity of a man
God, a mediating God descending
to earth. The highest God of the
Greeks dwelt in the air, that
(in Greece) truly God-like canopy,
the deep blue air. But, less then
of him came a being having
neither sex nor passion, born with
the fulness of time, without the
weakness of infancy & coming
down to earth to lead men.
This was Athena. Curious is it at the
same time to watch the difference
of the conception. The Egyptian
Osiris, & our God suffered & died,
struggled & overcame. Athena,
true to the ardent longings after
perfection of such a people as the
Greeks, remains Harmony, Beauty,
Intelligence. She descends in purity
to earth. She is light, the Goddess
of light, the torch race was her festival. Clearness and
brightness

[9?
are to be her characteristics
[γλαυκωπις] the owl).
There is great beauty in the conception
which makes her the Goddess of War
(Athena, Promachos) as well as the
Goddess of Wisdom. For wisdom,
without strength (Power) is powerlessness.
Strength without wisdom is
anarchy or tyranny. Mars is a contemptible
God, Jupiter is an unapproachable
God, Athena only is the
God of men, the Beauty of divine wisdom.
She does not attract me, I allow-
though when I have seen the sun
rise upon the eastern front of her
faultless temple from behind
Hymettus (which lay like a great
giant with hair streaming behind
his head, & arms stretched out
beyond, the last towards which
the Grecian temples were always turned. When I have watched, after sunset the gray twilight slowly coming on & the purity & solitude of that temple, that island in the air surrounded by mountains, and found the ardent Greek entering in by the eastern face and falling at the feet of the Phidian statue with his face still towards the east for the statue stood with her back to the entrance, perhaps to remind him (it was the only thing that ever suggested it to me) that there was a higher of which the statue was only a form I could realize his feelings of the “Logos” as he called her, the Word, the Providence, the daughter of Counsel (Metis) the “summa filia tolis Patris” wholly the image of her Father. The similarity of idea again is curious, the Counsellor as we call Him.

But the feeling of beauty always paramount in the Grecian mind, modified the resemblance. They could not have their Athena suffer and sink. Power she was to be and Wisdom, for in both only is Order, Harmony or Ideal Beauty. Soφία seems to be a corruption of the Egyptian Jophi (Beauty) for to the Greeks Wisdom was Beauty and Athena is said to be Neith read in the European fashion Neith also meaning Beauty.

Not out of the “Father,” but of the “Sons,” i.e. of men who were portions of the immortal soul. We have in our Trinity made the Father the Power, the Son the Wisdom, in the mediating God of the Athenian mind the λόγος and the power were united. How obvious that the inscription at Saïs, that Plato’s “[Greek Το οὐ]” that Moses’ “I am” are all the same spring flowing from the same source of inspiration.

“And none hath ever raised my veil.” “No man hath seen God at any time.” The commen tary on the former sentence, the assertion that Divine wisdom is impenetrable, but it does not strike me so much as truth, i.e. it is truth for the past, but it will not be truth for the future. God will give us this
wisdom. It is curious that we have employed the same word \( \gamma \varepsilon \nu \delta \sigma \alpha \iota \) for the logos which was employed for Athena. But where on earth was I? It is impossible not to perceive the seriousness of the Greeks in their representations of themselves, in their making all their amusement of such serious import. The Panathenaic procession was a ceremony to be attended with deep feeling, the theatres, though not the scene of the actual presence of the Gods, like the Temples, was that of their most serious worship. And then their desire of repose, their glorious personification of repose, it shows a character almost more anxious than serious.

But where was I? On Lycabettus on the shoulder of Lycabettus is a little chapel to St Siderion and therein lives a leper, a poor man who has made a vow of celibacy. It was so like the Bible. They would not let me go near to speak to him as I wished. But a young Greek came bounding up the mountain like a roc to vow a candle to St Siderion, went in, lighted his candle & bounded down again. Two mad women were shrieking & howling on the mountain side. The people bring the leper his food every day.

Source: Incomplete letter, Bundle 122, [July 1850]

Let women think that God creates them to be wives,
I think she said, women so 
fettered & confined in this time age. 
I want to give them liberty, real 
Xtian liberty, not worldly liberty. 

You understand of course that 
Mlle Sieveking does all things out 
of love. This gives her the 
right of refusing any pupil 
whom she does not think likely 
to enter the career she destines 
for them--il va sans dire 
that she does not go through 
this drudgery merely to be a lan-
guage and history teacher to people 
who can afford every master in 
Hamburg. This strikes me as 
quite a new idea. She thus 
is bringing up a nursery ground 
for her District Visiting Society 
& other institutions. She gives, 
besides one evening a week to 
her old pupils--for she has 
been going on this work for 
18 years. She says society is 
necessary to keep up her wits, 
so she goes into society to houses 
where she can be free. 
We called again at 9 o’clock 
but she was gone to sit up with 
a sick woman. We next morn 
I called at 7 & found her. I did 
not, however, think her Kinder 
Hospital so good as the one 
at Berlin. Those things require 
the personal superintendence of 
an educated woman, but the 
remark one would make of both 
is the cheerfulness of the children. 
At the one in Norton St. (Mrs. 
Ogle’s) the children are always 
fretting, as I shd be, & as all 
sickly children in private houses 
are. Here the children were all 
merry, nobody crying & nobody 
quarrelling. Every child put 
its hand out to shake hands & 
seemed quite surprised to be if it were
passed over without notice.

The hospital at Hamburg is, as I think I told you, a Normal Institution after the model of ours for the licentiousness of surgeons & the encouragement of bad women. In fact, the medical men make it a principle much after the fashion of ours to exclude ladies, religious instruction & generally the interference of educated women.

We went I suppose the surgeons say, as in England, that they interfere with the recovery of their patients, which means that they interfere with the gratification of their own immoralities. Enough of that. Mlle de Rantzau’s testimony is curious. She has learnt in most of the hospitals of Europe. I asked her where she had learnt most. If you really want to know, said the good Lutheran, in confidence, it is neither at Kaiserswerth nor at Elizabethshhaus, nor here in any hospital that a woman will learn. Go to the Catholic hospitals here, or the one at Brussels, or the one at Munich—they do nurse the sick. We Protestants understand nothing at all about it. I was in the Catholic sisters’ hospital in Munich. I used to get up at 4 o’clock to see how they got through their work. I never could understand it—it was so quiet, so regular, so orderly. They did their work without one’s knowing how & for little attentions to the sick, only the Catholics understand them. There is such a “ravage” in our hospitals every morng. I never can get the work done.

It was curious how the conclusions of this woman, who is mistress of
her work, agree with the superficial impressions of everybody, I believe, who has ever seen a Catholic sisterhood at work in comparison with a Protestant institution. Of all the Protestant Deaconess Institutions she says that at Strasburg is much the best.

But I did not mean to go off upon her again, but to tell you of the museums and things at Berlin. The Génie Adorant is in the statue gallery--the Picture Gallery is below.

Incomplete letter, Claydon Bundle 122 [7:484-85]

Pyrmont July 24 [1850]

My dearest [Parthenope Nightingale]

Poor little Taube came the day before yesterday, sadly altered & very miserable, but delighted at being with us. I am really glad to have come to Pyrmont for the sake of the holiday to her. On some people all the waves of life seem to spend themselves. Her brother is now become, in order to improve matters, a hypochondriac. It is a great pity, because she was really formed to enjoy herself--another person on whom all the means of happiness would be wasted, she does not feel so sorry for.

I am altogether an European, my dear, I feel it now I am come back to Europe. I am formed for labour & not for contemplation. The East is not my element. I cannot help liking Germany altho’ there really are no words in any language (which prove the descent of the western from the eastern languages) to describe how ugly she is. The last oriental sight I saw was Ascension Day.
at Syriani, the monastery near Athens--the whole Athenian population goes out there on Ascension Eve & at 6 o’clock in the morning we saw them in little groups (chiefly of Albanians) under the gnarled ole olive trees on the rocky bank behind the monastery. The blue smoke curling (across the strong light & shade) which rose up from the fires at which they were roasting their lambs. Many had hung up their many coloured blankets to shelter them from the sun across the branches of trees, & tied their asses near. It was a true Salvator Rosa. The women were all in church in their festa dress, with their gold crape veils. The irregular soldiery (Coletti’s disgrace) were about too, sitting & singing round their fire that long loud monotonous Arab note.

We have seen them encamped in the garden at Karà and they occasionally employ themselves in robbing a village in the interior, but they were always very civil to us. The Greeks seem a thoroughly undomestic people--you never see a man & his wife together, but the women all sit together about their doors & you see the men wandering about each alone by himself in the country. They are a very moral people, however, no sensuality about them.

The contrast between these & the people here is wonderful--no tongue can describe the awkwardness of the good, stupid, peasantry here & one does not wrong to describe it. Grandeur is the character of Egypt, harmony that of Greece & fantasticalness that of Germany. There is more imagination in one of the old buildings of Germany than in all the
Doric, Ionic & Corinthian temples put together. Indeed when the Greeks troubled themselves with imagination & invented festoons, armaments &c. I think they are a failure. Rationalism is the character of the Greek religion, by which I mean their belief in certain laws, which if obeyed would produce certain results. Mysticism was the character of the Egyptian religion, by which I mean their belief in the intercourse with God— a supernatural communion they subject to natural laws. I doubt whether the Greeks did believe in one God. But in these days, when most people do, I do not see so much difference between the bugbear Rationalism & the mystics’. Rationalism believes that God has created certain laws which if you have learnt to obey, certain states of mind are the result. Mysticism believes that the laws being obeyed & the states of mind obtained, God speaks Himself to such states of mind & [breaks off] [end 7:485]

Source: Letter, Bundle 122 [7:466-68]

Berlin July 12 [1850]
Well, my dearest people, here we are in a temperature like March in England, warming the wretched Athena over a stove, the skies pouring buckets of water & have been ever since we came. We can scarcely believe that we have not been spending the summer in the east & that winter is not now come. But I believe Prussia never did pique herself on her climate. Plato is dead & Athena can only be kept alive by being constantly in our laps, which is inconvenient.
The Pertz’s are most kind to us, so is Lepsius, after his fashion. On our way from Prague to Dresden Mr Bracebridge stopped at Tetschen & spent a night with the Noels (we coming on to Dresden). There he saw the Noels’ doctor who recommended him Franzensbad in Bohemia (near Eger) directly. We were all preparing to about face, march & go back there for three weeks, greatly to my dismay, though as you may fancy, we are glad enough to do anything which will do him good. When another Doctor we consulted at Dresden said Franzensbad was too full & recommended Pyrmont, near Hanover, instead. Accordingly we came one here & here Mr Bracebridge left us yesterday for Pyrmont to follow him as soon as he writes us word that there is any possibility of getting lodgings, as Pyrmont it appears, is also very full. The cure of Pyrmont is three weeks, or four at most. Whether we shall stay with him all the time remains to be proved. I think it possible that \& I may leave a week beforehand, go to Kaiserswerth, where we may stay a week or ten days, if you don’t object, & where he will catch us up.

This is the more likely as Pyrmont is a strong steel, which impregnates the whole air, which neither \& I can bear for long together. At the same time, it is possible that the Doctor at Pyrmont may not think it suits his case, when
we shall not go at all-
We shall take a week on
our way home to see the
Institutions in Belgium & now
you know, dearest people, as
nearly as I do, how soon I
may be at home. You are
so good about telling us not
to hurry.

One good thing about going
to Pyrmont is that I could
have poor little Adelberg
over from Cassel to see us,
which would be a pleasuring
for her--I cannot say that I
think (Mr Bracebridge at all
better & I think Egypt was
a mistake as regarded him.

Mrs Herbert’s confinement of
which he wrote us word, was
the greatest possible relief.
Dear Mme Bunsen sent
me here letters to Lepsius, Abekea,
Mlle de Rantzau, the lady who
has undertaken the new hospital
here & Madame Fliedner at
Kaiserswerth. I have besides
called on all At Ju’s people.
Some of them out of Berlin but
the Pertzs & Passows quite inclined
to do us good. But I will write
to her about her own people
& also will enquire at Düsseldorf
about that famous oculist,
de Leuw, for Aunt Mai & Papa.
Mrs Fowler sent me some
capital renseignemens here
about institutions in Belgium.
And now, my dear souls, what
shall I tell you about Germany?
Since I have been in it I have
felt somehow I could not write
till we came to Berlin, which is
exactly like London, all was

like death. Now I know I am going to make myself ridiculous in
British eyes, so you may skip till next page. But Germany is to
me utterly intolerable now. I have felt since I have been here so sick at heart. That I had no courage to look forward to a future which seemed so far off I had not strength to speculate about it. So die all spasmodic attempts after good. So the human being strives and leaps after a resurrection and crucifies himself thinking that he is going to get up good, and finds himself just as bad as before. So too the world strives and falls back again collapsed. So end all great efforts. Alas, how hard it is to reconcile oneself with the conditions imposed upon human nature, that all good is to be slowly and tediously worked out, the effect of habit, not of impulse. Germany is horrible to me now; it is the calm after an epileptic fit. She is weakened, not tempered by her struggle. You asked me why we said, don't direct to Trieste. The fact was we intended coming home by Constantinople, but to see Hungary now, lying senseless under that mighty nightmare we felt would be misery and so we gave it up. I wish honourable gentlemen of the Liberal side, who rejoiced in Windischgratz's success, and thought the safety of Europe lay in the military, could travel in Austria now for one 24 hours--could see Vienna, Pesth, the whole of Hungary, Lombardy and (I understood) Galicia, under martial law. Prague chuck full of soldiers, there are 13,000 men there and the Volksgarten turned into a fortification. Carriages not allowed to go up the Lorenziberg, because they are constructing bastions and powder magazines. She seems literally bursting with soldiers.

In Saxony two men quartered upon every householder. Mr Noel has put his into [illeg]. Europe is intolerable to travel in now and to think how it has ended. And England thinks no more of it than that there had been a [illeg] row. I assure you, when you travel
across this vast district from Trieste to Hamburg, you do not look upon it as a mere *Times* article, a breakfast joke, nor upon liberty as England's preserve, in which no other country has a right to poach. You cannot think what it is to see this great corpse lying under the hands of its murderers, the victim of its own maladresse in self defence.

As to remaining in Vienna a week, I could not have endured it. I have no doubt the conversation of a philosophical German is the best conversation in the world. The best German ideas are probably better than the best ideas elsewhere, but you don't meet the best ideas on board steamers and at table d'hotes and never a word of politics, nothing but Steners and Opers, Opers and Steners. The political gossip I used to think so tiresome in England, of how Sir Robert looked as he walked up the House, and whether Lord John laughed at B. Osborne's speech, is Aristotle himself to this. Germany won't be free in 1950. Meanwhile, she is a painful spectacle. Now, I've done.

Source: Copy of letter in 2 hands, Bundle 122, blue paper

I have not been up to the Acropolis yet as I is so coquettish about it; she will not show it without a fine day and we have not had one yet. All the groves of Academe are as black as a cinder. It will take years to grow them again. One the day after the great storm a poor Greek said to Mr Wyse, who was walking on Salamis, God Almighty has become an Englishman!

We spent the 27th on board the fleet, which looks in the Bay of Salamis like a whale in a rivulet. [Nine?] great three deckers besides frigates four, and steamers many, with their poor little dirty prizes. I was irresistibly reminded in the contemplation of them of myself catching fleas. We had a grand laugh against Captain Hall of the Dragon for coming in with a tail of disreputable looking craft and dredges from Nauplia. I could see no crew on board any of the prizes except an angry dog. Well, they are all at liberty now. I was sitting by Mr Wyse at dinner on board the Howe when the submission of the Greek government was brought to him.

We had 7000 men at Salamis. Each three decker has 1000 inhabitants but I hate an English man-of-war. The three grand luxuries of life: solitude, space and water, are unattainable there. The “tree of freedom and the British oak” don’t excite my enthusiasm. Still I must say it is the finest exemplification of the bump of order that can be seen. Sir James Stirling (HMS Howe) took us out sailing in the bay, showed us where the Corinthians “kept the strait in the brave days of old,” when the Athenians formed so as to protect their families, all on Salamis, and where the Persians before and behind, hemmed them in. Psyttaleia, the little island where the Persian “Immortals” the “noble guard” of
Xerxes were posted to intercept and destroy all the fugitive Greeks and were themselves destroyed by Aristides, is now Lypso.
We passed close by it in our sail from the Peiraeus to Salamis and the same breeze was blowing off the land which put in confusion the Persian fleet when the Greeks, singing their mystic ch Orras, in those days when AESCHYLUS was in the ranks, when everybody fought “for the order [roles?] of their fathers and the temples of their gods,” rushed on.

Sir James Stirling landed us on Salamis and walked us up to the promontory, where the emplacement of the old city is plainly marked. It was covered with the most lovely little flowers and on either side the blue sea. At Kolonni, the modern town, it was proclaimed a few days since by public crier that the people must keep their children within doors as they would be kidnapped by the English!

We were two hours tacking in the man-of-war’s boat [kept?] back to the mainland opposite and were obliged at last to land and go in the dark across that desolate plain around the Peiraeus.

One advantage of this weather is that the springs are full, even Callirhoe has been quite a fountain and the Ilyssus now really “rolls” its waves round the foot of Jupiter’s platform. Those Corinthian columns battered and, broken as they are, are most beautiful, the Kiphipus too as we drove down to Peiraeus on Saturday was full and I cannot describe to you the beauty of the luxuriant tufts of infant [illeg] and poppies round the walls, not like a corn field as our poppies grow, but in fairy groves and under wood.

Yesterday we went to the feast of Saint Theseus. It is a sight I never shall forget: the whole population in costume turned out upon the three hills of the Nymph, the Pnyx and the Theseum round [breaks off]

Source: Letter, Bundle 122 long blue letter, prob from Pyrmont but about Vienna and Prague [7:448-54]

[1]
At Vienna we went to see the Ambras collection, the picture gallery & the Egyptian Museum, all in the Belvidere Palace. The picture gallery is beneath contempt, the collection of the armours of all the great knights & warriors of Europe (in the Ambras) is, I suppose, priceless, incomparable. You have only to mention a celebrated name in the feudal times—I will describe his armour, enamelled, inlaid,
set with precious stones--
generally with two fingers of the
Virgin, the holy mother of sinners, in the
breastplate, or if not, of the
sinner himself kneeling on one
side of the Saviour, on the other
on the cross with an appropriate inscription. But chivalry has
for me no charms--the knight
delights not me, nor his armour
either. I only wish it had
been more faulty & he had got
himself killed off at the first battle.
Give me the republics of Italy &
of Greece, the feudal times are
simply disgusting. I never
could read the history of Germany.
Yah. Coming out of Vienna
by the Prague railway, you see
a convent on a hill to the left.
Beat, ye British hearts--Greissen=
stein is close by, where Coeur de
Lion lay. All that is to me
like the Colosseum--I never
could see the interest of it,
never wished to go there again,
the scene of abominable games--
it can have no beauty--such
are the times of chivalry. I
dare say they were necessary;
I am glad they are gone.
Fifteen hours brought us to
Prague. We passed over the
battlefields of Wagram and
Austerlitz, the scenes of those
interesting events which must
make every chord responsive ring.
Here the owl & tortoises began
to fight, animated by the genius
loci.
But, my dears, I have seen
a place I am really glad to have
seen. I have seen Spielberg. How
little, I thought, I should ever
live to see Spielberg. But imagine
a place ten times more dreary,
more dull, more hopeless than
you ever imagined it before, & there is Spielberg. Brün is a great expanding manufacturing town, like Newcastle without its smoke, lying low in a valley & Spielberg is its Acropolis. It is immensely strong, bastion above bastion, & at the top stands, not a castellated, frowning, feudal tower, as I had expected, a & as you see all along the valleys of Styria, but a huge, eyeless, blank, dreary mass, built round a court [?], without feature, relief of any kind. The very image of stupid, gigantic, blind tyranny overlaying & crushing by its mere weight, intellect & spirit. Your heart sinks within you ten times more than if you were to see, as I had fancied, a Rubenstein, or a Bolsover. The unutterable dulness & despair (the valley was all under water besides with the rain), the mockery of the name—I defy Nuscissila to “play” upon the Spielberg. About the hill there is nothing striking but its strength & Moravia has a face as long & as dull as an Austrian Archduke himself. No, nothing that I can say can give you an idea of Spielberg, for Satan is interesting, spirited, Beelzebub is amusing, but a dull devil it remained for Austria to paint.

Dante & Milton could not do it but the house of Austria is a greater than the. Spielberg is a greater creation than the Inferno with all its circles. Not one of them but you would pronounce inferior to Spielberg as a habitation for the damned. We saw the Sheytan’s two
carriages & six as we steamed
out of Vienna across the vast
dull muddy Danube.

I delight in Prague with her
noble position crowning her two
hills, her glorious bridge, her
towers & her Hradschin, her
Hussite recollections, her emperors
beaten back and her senators thrown
out of window. Prague has some
character. Prague is as romantic
as Vienna is dull. And, though
she is now crammed with soldiers,
 overlaid with bastions, though
all her character is departing,
merged in the stupidest &

basest of kingdoms, yet you look
at her fierce towers and
gallant hero saints with tender
regret & even I became a violent
Protestant in Prague. Tiska’s
Hill & Podiebrad’s grave &
Wallenstein’s palace--not that
I have any great respect for
the last, but the Bohemians
were Protestants--they thought
& felt for themselves (so, too,
did Ignatius Loyola & Jansenius--
I don’t mean that many of my
Bohemian Protestant friends were not
Catholics) & they did not
put out their stupid necks
& say Come Prescription, come
Authority & think for me.

We were but one day in Prague,
but I delighted in it. I delighted
in that bridge over the Moldau
with its steep roofed black
towers at either end, its groups

of statues all along the balustrade
(like St Angelo, but more beautiful
in its proportions) guarding
the bridge. My beloved St
Johann Nepomuk at the spot where
he was thrown over by that brute,
& where the five stars rose &
floated on the surface of the water, to show the spot where he sank, & there they still are. My dear, that is a glorious bridge.

Then the Hradschin or Acropolis on the other side, on the top of which are the Cathedral, the Palace of the Senate & all the old buildings. In the Cathedral are the monuments of Johann Nepomuk, Georg von Podicbrad & divers such queerities. A candlestick out of Solomon’s Temple & a plan of old Prague & a Holbein altar piece of the Virgin & child, in which is no divinity are all lumped up together. The character of the South Germany cathedrals is what my dear Madre used to say to me: Il faut être gaie pour servir Dieu, instead of il faut être triste pour servir Dieu, which is ours. Against all the columns of the aisles are altars, which though it spoils the architecture, makes the church more liveable.

The old Bohemian Stadt haus is charming, the hall up three pairs of stairs, with all its old furniture intact, out of which the two Senators were tumbled out of window, & escaped, which began the 30 Years’ War. The Parliament room with its stone roof, built by a king of Bohemia, now alas! Just fitted up all new for—tears I inhibit my pen—Rodolph of Hapsburg’s banqueting room, larger than that at Padua, this I didn’t much care about.

But I stared from the lattice windows (where the Senators tumbled out) at John
Tiska’s hill (Shiska they call him here), where the women & children fortified him & from where out he beat the Emperor & then we came down from Hradschin a & went over Wallenstein’s palace & saw his stuffed horse & his a strology place & splendid garden & the chairs where he and his lady sate at prayers. But Wallenstein does not come into my domain. But every street and square Platz in Prague is a picture—there was a tower at the end of our street stopping up the whole breadth, which was charming. I have brought home some horrid little prints of the great Platz, with its town hall & church, which is quite as romantic as Nüremberg, so it’s no use describing it.

Don’t think we didn’t see all the horrid things in Vienna—we did. S Stephan, with its roof like a grass plot in coloured tiles & the Prater, & Canova’s monument in St Augustin to the Duchess.

In Prague we went to the Baron Lerzige Brüder, who have the most beautiful hospital there. That men should be nursed by men I have not a doubt & here they have proved how they can nurse. Except the Xitian Brothers though I never saw a male order before I could approve. But with what joy I looked on the Barmherzige Schwestern’s white caps again here, after having been so long in the Greek church. Here I see the sick nursed, the children taught, the blind see, the lame are raised & the poor have the gospel preached to them again.
[11] At Grätz we were locked up in a room to eat. I didn’t want to eat & wanted to walk about. But no, the functionary was unapproachable in his integrity. If I like to be too late, what is that to them? I pays my money & I takes my choice. At Mürzzaschlag, where is the pass of the Semmering Alp & no rail, we were allowed to make our way over in our own carriages. I thought we should have been taken over in a string. Imagine if we had chosen to ride on the top or to walk or to be too late. Why does the Govt cease to be paternal between Mürzzaschlag & Sloggnitz--As to the rail road carriages, I must say they beat ours as much as Chatsworth does a bothy. You have a passage to walk about, a sofa to lie on, a mirror to look at yourself in.

[12] From Laibach to Cilli is really very pretty, along a deep valley cut by the Save. There is barely room for the railway to pass & it makes the sharpest turns so that you go at foot’s pace all the way, the train twirling like a serpent. It is very like Matlock & the High Tor. After Cilli you go through a succession of valleys, most of them crowned with old castles & every town, Grätz, Brunck & company has its little acropolis. There is no costume. you cannot speak the language. Here it is Slav, further on of course Czech. The colouring is all green except the firs, which are black, though not so black as in Switzerland, & the mist, which is white. But oh the awkwardness of the people--there is not a gesture which is graceful.
Wilkie said that no painter could be a painter who had not studied the gestures of the East. I can

[13] well believe it. Here you don’t know a woman from a man for the women wear black beaver men’s hats. And the eating. We eat at every station, seizing our forks upright. With the right fist we hold the meat firmly with the claw, like a bird of prey, while we tear the food with the other. There is a succession of beautiful rivers & people steering down rapids in rafts. The descent upon Schottwien over the Semring is striking. Schottwien built in the rock, shuts a narrow cleft at the bottom of the pass, Schloss Klam crowns the height, making an almost impossible entrance to Styria.

Moravia is hideous, great flats under water & inhabited by geese, & Prussia is worst of all. I have faithfully observed auto

[14] cratic principles according to directions, in the parterre of the Pertzs. Dr Pertz is charming, so agreeable & very kind to us. But of all the people I have met with none have given me so bad an impression of Mr King. I have no inclination or power to write more at present. We have seen the Egyptian Museum under Lepsius’s auspices. I was disap pointed in it. He is not like a German a bit, has no enthusiasm in the subject.

Pray tell Aunt Ju how kind all her friends have been to us till I write to her myself.
I don’t think I ever told you of our four days journey from the blue Adriatic, where I have seen the water the colour of flax or of the blue Bohemian glass, not a tinge of green in it. We slept at Planina & got on to Laibach the next day, which has its great green acropolis, as every town in Krain & Steiermark has. The calming effect of this sort of scenery is obvious & if one were to sit and look out upon that great green hill every day, in this country where the rivers are green, the sky is green, the mountains are green & the woods all fir, one wd become like the Austrians at once- I did not tell you about the Adelsberg cave, which is truly sublime, terrific. The vast dark cavern, with the river roaring below invisible, for no light from without visits it, then the succession of passage & cavern, cavern & passage, for miles, the river comes out 10 hours from this place, the stalactites in all sorts of strange forms. I was afraid to think of it at night. Every person has a guide & how [worrit they worrit you. I was so obliging as to read twice over the inscription recording the Emperor’s visit--to gratify my guide & he was not satisfied! But if you could see it by yourself, nothing but the tombs of the Kings in Thebes ever gave the same impression of supernatural solitude & the coming out upon the warm light of day after!

At Laibach our troubles by rail-road began. We got on that night to Mürzzuschlag, 14 hours-- but oh! the locking us in & locking us out. I certainly shall go mad the looking at our passport, our
Tickets, twice between every station. The changing our passport for a pass & our pass for the passport at every town.

[7:454]

Source: Letter, Claydon Bundle 122 [7:481-82]

Pyrmont July 28 1850
You’re an unworthy family to have such a pearl of goodness as I. It’s unfortunate when all the goodness runs into one member for then the rest are left without any. I always sit down & write my letter when I’m disappointed of one, to restore the balance, so here goes. Athena is sitting in all the dignity of indignation. She had found, as she conceived, a secure resting place. She believed herself in one of the holes of the Parthenon, of which, alas! There are many. This place, into which she had disappeared for a whole evening, was behind a drawer which had been left a little open & she had managed (with her mother’s sagacity) to nudge herself in behind it. I never shall forget her face when we took out the drawer & laid bare her retreat. She was too angry to hoot--it was a silence, a virtuous indignation. Unworthy people, what do ye there? What supernatural cunning, inspired of the Devil, has enabled you to guess?

Elise’s brother has been here. He came over for half an hour to see her and to thanks us, which was very pretty of him. I don’t think many English boys would have done that. I was very much prepossessed by him. He is in despair about Germany.
He says, “All good men are leaving Germany; they cannot live here. They have gone to England or America,” he says, “he himself will not stay, he shall go to America--there must come a day when there will be a most bloody revolution. At present there is no national feeling, every little state lives its own narrow, castle, existence.”

His objects, tone & cultivation seemed to me very much above the standard of most English boys & of any English boy that I knew of that age. What does an English boy care about European politics? He was so broken hearted about the Schleswig-Holstein overthrow, which had just been heard, that I believe he would have taken away Elise directly if we had not been of the right sort.

I am quite prepared to meet the most utter indifference about all Egyptian subjects in England. This boy is the first person who has shown us the smallest intelligent interest on the subject since we came back, except of course the Egyptian party at Berlin.

Elise, I suppose, will stop with us till we go.

I have just had your letter, my dearest. I wish you would say where your letters were directed & how many. You only say “they are dilectating divers postmasters,” but I cannot think who. All the Bracebridges’ letters have been duly forwarded to them from Berlin, however I have written to dear, good Mme Pertz.
to enquire at the P.R. herself.
I have not heard from thee
since Dresden, dated 17 June. Three letters
I had from the good father &
mother at Berlin & I am
very sure, having been to the Post
every day myself, that there
were no others. Farther have
I not heard till the note
from thee this morning, directed
to Pyrmont, tho’ all the B.s’
letters have been, as I said,
punctually forwarded to them
from Berlin. I had two letters
from thee at Vienna, one at
Dresden & as I say 3e from the
parents at Berlin weiter nichts. [end 7:482]

Source: Fragment of letter, Claydon, Bundle 122 [7:445-46]

[Vienna] [circa 30 June 1850]
You want to know a little more
that is “personal.” Oh, if you
were to hear when
we stop at a Stazion, or to bait
“Pall Athena down, take out Plato.
Mr Hill is getting out of the box,
lay him out on the grass till I
come take care of the cigale’s case.
He will sing no more, I am afraid,
but if the owl is good, she shall have
him for supper.” Athena was so
crammed & spoiled by the captain
& the mate & all the men on board ship that
she waxed furious & full of meat
& when she got to Trieste utterly
unamenable to reason. There Σ
bought her a new cage, but we
were obliged to have the Consta-
bulary in to superintend her
removal, as she could by no means
be got out of her old cage by fair
means or by foul. The Constabulary
came in the person of the bird man
himself, & pulling to pieces the top
of the case dug her out. I am not
aware whether this method is
practised in Newgate with refractory prisoners. Established in her new brass cage, she bit, kicked & swore vengeance for two hours, till I was at my wits’ end and having no Mrs Hill to advise me, at last I took her in hand. Having tempted her out of her cage with a bit of meat I got her into my lap & there I mesmerized her. I have repeated the process every day since & she now takes her meals out of my hand, without furiously kicking & biting more than once or twice & goes to sleep regularly in my lap. She has become quite mannerly, but I wish she were a little more neat about her dress. A few hints on washing & dressing would be of great use to her. For Athena is a horrid figure, she has rubbed all the feathers off her nose with her previous violence & half of them off her neck. She has the funniest little woolly head & cannot quite sit upon her perch yet. I has constructed for her a little bag, which pulls up tight round her neck and in which she sits when on my lap. And such a figure as that little woolly head is in it is impossible to describe. So much for Athena.

Plato is a slip from the plane tree I found by the Ilyssus which I am bringing home in a mustard pot & which requires constant water. Mr Hill is an elderly tortoise who, with a younger one, first born, whose shell is not yet hard, are so good as to live upon almost nothing & only require to be turned out to grass sometimes.

The Cigale alas! is dead, but the owl had him for supper & now I have got Cigale & owl in one.
To see one who hates a pet nursing
the owl is something beautiful. I wish
it were customary for people to
praise themselves when I should
say it was an affecting sight.
Tomorrow I must buy her a soap
& brush.

Dearest people, I meant to
have written you a letter from Vienna
but find it difficult, so shall
write from Prague, where
we go tomorrow. I have had
your dear letters. All well.  [end 7:446]

Source: Fragment, Claydon Bundle 122 [7:483]

[Pyrmont]
You had better write next to
Düsseldorf for fear of mistake.
I don’t think we can be more
than three weeks before we are
in England. Poor Mr B. has
only just begun the Steel here,
having been all this time in
salt. The young Guthrie
is no loss, my dear.

This is the eighth letter
that goes from Pyrmont (to
Lea Hurst), or at least that
I hope goes. But the Post
master is a ruffian.

I think you are gone quite
crazy about Peel, who was
neither a great nor a good man,
but only a man of the times.
It is all very well to be generous,
but don’t throw sand in
people’s eyes. I am so glad
all that nonsense will be
over before we come back.

I am bringing home something
for Margaret Wigram from Augustus,
also for Mrs Wm Evans from
her sister--pray tell them.
I have been so good about
bringing home things & they
are the only things have given us trouble at the custom house.

3
Of all the pictures I ever saw the one I should most like to have is this Magdalen. It is such a history, such a life, and such a solution to it.

The other two pictures are two Ecce Homos of Guido—Three I should say, which he evidently meant as a series, an epitome of the feeling of the passion. In one, the head of the Christ is bowed down, in deep despondency, hopeless of help, he does not even cry, My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me? for he does not expect to be heard. His eyes are dry & almost closed, his mission has failed, it is despair. I think people twaddle away all their perceptions of Christ’s character till they reduce him to a mere bodiless Virtue, an impersonal abstraction. They say the agony in Gethsemane is confounding, mysterious, when how could it be otherwise? One man, whom

[10] he has taught for three years, perpetrates the most abominable crime, ten or even eleven others seem to have misunderstood him from beginning to end. Great doubts he must have had whether it was right for him to die—whether he had not better continue to teach those in whose instruction he seems hitherto to have failed so completely. I think Guido has seized this moment. In the next, he is looking upward. He is still crowned with the crown of thorns, still bound & bleeding. No whit of his agony has changed
but he is looking upward—he has found his Father & in the intensity of his devotion his soul has seen and understood. All human suffering passes before him, of which his own is but an epitome & he sees it & accepts it—he is the Mediator, the sufferer of man’s sufferings

[11] but with the key from God.

The third is still a higher stage—he is the Redeemer—he has overcome.

These five pictures are the treasures of the Dresden Gally. There are hundreds and thousands of the Netherlandish School & the old German School of that horrible Rubens but, with the exception of Albert Dürer, they speculate away their feelings about Christ with “he is not this” & “he is not that,” till they don’t know what he is. Then, there is that horrible Rubens & Co-monsterd of ugliness & sense, after which the Venetian School is a relief, because, with small spirituality, there is, at all events, not much sensuality, a matter of fact view of things with colours which do me good to look at.

[12] The pictures at Dresden are horribly cleaned & restored, in some half the paint has been improved off the face of the land, particularly off the face of the Guidos. You pass thro’ the only titt yard in Europe & there is the finest collection of armour in the world, but that is not in my way, you know. Σ and I, who are
very vulgarly inclined, used to go every evening to the Brühlische Terrace, where the view of the sun setting behind the bridge over the Elbe, which is really very pretty, when there is a sun to set, which is not often, to eat ice or drink our coffee at the little tables before the cafe under the trees. Every respectable bourgeoise was doing the same & though they were as dull as ditch water it looked so nice. The

Now, do you want to know the state of Dresden? It is also very nice. On every hous[e]holder is quartered

Two soldiers. The row in May ’48 was got up by the Kings of Prussia & Saxony, who agreed that it should take place in Dresden in order to avert it from Berlin. The people all kept in their houses, but the soldiers sacked the house where we were staying, shooting à bout portant an old sick Count, whom they found in bed, having had an operation on the eye, & his servant & leaving in all the house not a mirror, not one tea cup, not one place unbroken. Everything was pillaged. The cathedral at Dresden is most desolate within. I did not see a single priest about all the time I was there. The voyage down the Elbe from Lobositz, where the Prague railroad embarks you, through Saxon Switzerland, I suppose is very pretty, I did not think so. We left Mr. B. at Tetschen, where the turncoat Leo Thun's enormous castle is. There are lots of Theresian Stadts, Königsteins & such like royal fortresses on the hill tops. [end 7:459]
My dearest people

I hope you want very much to hear about the famous “Rauhe Haus,” which has now spread its offshoots all over Germany, has founded the thing at Duisburg- & began as all great things do from the little germ, Pastor Vichern & his mother & three outcast boys in a cottage, called the Rauhe Haus, from which has spread/grown all this great establishment which now consists of Pastor Vichern & his wife, 7 clergymen, not yet ordained, 35 artisans or Gebrüder, & 100 children, of whom about 70 are boys & 30 girls, 5 Deaconesses & some master workmen. The principle of it is the same as at Mettray & Redhill, to form the poor little outcasts into families, 12 in each, who live in different houses scattered about the grounds. They seldom take boys out of the prisons, but [2] magistrates send them there instead when convicted of small crimes.

But here the resemblance with Mettray ends. The Rauhe Haus is far, far beyond Mettray & Redhill in its aspirations, which aim at nothing less than to form home Missionaries for the whole of Germany. As this is the part which is perhaps least understood in England I shall tell you what we made out. There is a strong impression in Germany now that, to use their own words, God is now building His kingdom there. I hope he is. Certainly we should find great difficulty in supplying this Gebrüder class in England.

The Gebrüder are artisans, who receive no pay, but only board,
lodging, clothing, & a tiny sum of pocket money, on condition that they educate the children in a trade, & one lives with each family of 12, (In the “family”) sleeps with them & never leaves them for a moment. They may leave the institution at 3 months’ warning - no conditions are required for coming in but the knowledge of some trade,

[3] good health, intact character & 20 years of age. There is a certain probation to prove them capable of self denial, of which of course much is required. They must be unmarried & unbetrothed. The temptation to come besides that of devoting oneself to “thy kingdom come” is the education they in turn receive from the young clergymen, who, having already received their own education at Jena, come here to qualify upon the “Gebrüder” & the children for their future calling. They teach the Gebrüder theology, grammar, geography, philosophy &c as it is desired that, being intended for future home missionaries, they should be educated men-- Ah! If the Bps of London & Exeter & Oxford would occupy their minds, instead of deciding the colours of vestments & the quibbles of an Article, which nobody understands, with promising small livings to such curates as will go & qualify at Redhill &c, their time would be spent perhaps a little more usefully, & we should have a rather more effective church. The qualifications for a German clergymen are rather different from our - so that the years spent at the Rauhe Haus, without salary,
are not considered a waste of time. The Rauhe Haus had the honor of training & sending out the present Director of Duisburg, where candidates for the priesthood have a still greater field for qualifying--a Prison, a Hospital & a School. It might occur to some English Bishops that this is rather a more sensible plan than Aristo= 

phone & Aristotle for forming a man to the cure of souls. But the German clergy are by no means destitute of learning - on the contrary, I believe their classics & theology turn ours all to shame nothing. They are said to be able to translate a passage in the Greek Testament correctly. But fancy forming a surgeon to the cure of bodies with Aeschylus & Sophocles.

[5]

There is certainly a want of logic in the English mind in fitting its means to its ends. Of course the ultimate end in the Gebrüder’s minds must be that of devoting themselves entirely to the work as they can make no money while in the Rauhe Haus for future years. Numbers have been already sent out to other establishments & also to be colporteurs. They have been sent for even by America & Russia. But where should we find a similar class? The best of our workmen say, we want to save money that we may set up housekeeping & not to waste the best years of our lives in being monitors.

The place is about 5 miles out of Hamburg & now occupies a great deal of ground, which is all beautifully cultivated with the spade--the soil is sand.
& when there in anything particular
to be done, all other occupations
are given up & the whole 150

[6]
hands turn out, clergy & all, &
take the spade. The crops look
beautiful. There are now
nine houses, 6 family houses for
the families of boys & their nurse. These are
as rude as possible, built by the
creatures themselves. The beds
of the boys & the Bruder quite
rough, but very clean. Then (7)
there is the house for the Ateliers & over them
the rooms of those Gebrüder not in
actual service above the boys.
(8) Pastor Vichern’s own house, where
the 30 girls and the 5 Deaconesses
live, cook, wash &c. We were
disappointed with this part
of the establishment. The boys
were at drill when we arrived,
a capital good thing. They have
a Book Binding, Printing Press,
Tailoring, Baking, Shoemaking, Carpentering, Workshop,
print all their own books, make
all their own things. They teach
lithography & woodcut &c &c
to some & agriculture to all. One half
are always at school & the other
half at work. The boys when
they go out are bound apprentice.

[7]
As the girls seemed to us taken
from the very worst class, I must
say it appeared a very great
mistake joining this institution
with the other. The beauty of the
thing was that the houses were
not set down in a street, but
stuck about under beautiful
trees in the grounds. Every boy
has his own little garden plot.
But the difference between
German & English establishments
lies in the little arts to civilize
them & make them happy & homey. On the Chapel table lay a number of little books which I took up. In one were written the birthdays of the whole household. At daily prayer any child has a right to get up & say “today is such an one’s birthday.” He is then wished joy, prayed for, & anybody who likes makes him a little present. “We are so glad,” said the candidate clergyman, who took us about, “when our birthdays come, for the children always make us little presents.

[8] The boys have pocket money—when they break anything they pay for it & they thus have a sense of property. The Chapel was beautifully dressed up with flowers by themselves. On great feast days the children have a right to go out into the lanes & bring in the lame & the halt & the blind & the poor into the Chapel to make them little presents out of said pocket money. All these things make them feel homey. Every child has his own compartment in a book case, & his own books therein.

Many faults we say—the desire to keep the Gebrüder to their self denying employment, prevented the giving them the necessary, as it seems of occasional retirement, at least a washing closet. But the Gebrüder who are with the boys are changed as they have such an immense staff & in the workshops they have, besides, master workmen who are neither Gebrüder nor any thing else, but simply paid

are sent out as helpers in four
different kinds of work, to found
similar institutions to the Rauhe Haus &
to be jailers in prisons and helpers in workhouses,
& be preachers & teachers in the
colonies and to be colporteurs,
or, as they call them, pilgrim
brothers. But home work &
not what we call missionary, i.e.
heathen work, is what they look to as their field.

There is a great deal of teaching
to sing (the boys) which they find
inestimable as a civilizer.

They take care that the 12 boys
of one family shall be of different
ages, as they think the recipro
cal care and looking up good for them.

You see they have an immense
advantage in the number of their
staff. There is one Bruder for
the play hours, another for
each department of the work--the
family superintending brother (for
the time being) has nothing to do with the
work, but has to look after
all his family scattered through the
different work shops. There is another brother for the noviciate,
i.e. the boys just admitted. Again, instead of restraining the
intercourse with the parents, if there are any, they encourage it
and there are four pairs of Brüder who take the children of their
families to their parents, which is in order to make the Brüder
thoroughly acquainted with the “Volksleben” and treatment of it.
This is also extended to the intercourse with the old pupils,
apprenticed out, which brings the Brüder into connection with
their masters. Every Sunday the children make their visits to
their own parents (with the Gebrüder) in Hamburg. The Gebrüder
besides visit the poor.

There is also a brother to teach reading, another writing,
another arithmetic, another singing, another Bible history etc.
One helps the pastor Wichern as a secretary. On all sides in
Hamburg we heard of them. In the model lodging houses where, from
nine to twenty-four families live in one house, a Bruder comes to
hold a service three times a week, and comfort the old fogies. In
the child’s hospital they come and teach, so they have plenty of
work and people are always applying for them. The making the
children a means of influencing the parents seems a capital plan.
The physical conformation of the children, the ugly and brutal
heads, seemed fully as bad as in England.

The Brüder also make the children repeat the lessons given by the candidate clergy.

The master workmen are merely paid workmen like any others, and only four sleep in the house.

There seemed to be about thirty acres of land, a light sandy soil. They have a paid gardener.

They lay a particular stress upon jail work as the future vocation of those Brüder Gefängenwärter as they call them, i.e. prisoner nurses. To educate jailers for their trade seems a prime object.

You may write once more to Pyrmont, dear people, if you will write directly.

Pyrmont at 7 o’clock a.m. is grand, the great allée with the fountain playing at the end, & entirely full of people walking up & down, & the band playing to encourage us, is really very [Watteau?] like. I join a party of small asses at the well & partake of their dejeuner while Mr B. ascends to the pump room. My asses are the prettiest. Poor little Adelberg is coming to us tonight.

ever dear people yours

With remembrances to everybody in Holloway. [end 4:472]

Bundle 124 or bundle 122

Tapton
7 February 1852

Dearest Mother

I find no difference in Grandmama, except a great difficulty in making herself understood. I don’t know that I ever saw anyone, except a paralytic person, with so much difficulty, and it vexes her not to be understood. But I believe it is mainly hurry. She is most affectionate. She sends her most affectionate love to you (this she repeated twice), my most affectionate love and tell her how much I enjoyed the sea kale. I lost no time in beginning upon it and that I sent the pheasant to Mrs Sutton and the partridges to Meersbrook, and the other pheasant to Mr Gordman and the rest to my sister, they are all very kind to me, and tell her, when the newspapers come, I always put the direction to my mouth by way of a kiss, do you understand me?
Remember you tell her that. She asked a hundred questions about you and Parthe, how you were.

There are many (to me) more painful contemplations than her in her decline. She seems to me a giant among pygmies. There is nothing mean, nothing worldly, nothing humbuggy or hypocritical about her. I shall never be ashamed of her.

Her affections are colossal, her ways are impetuous, straightforward, simple. When she and Aunt Evans are gone, I shall feel that there are two great Ichthyosauri\(^1\) become extinct. She may be often ridiculous but she is never small, base, thinking of opinion. Compare them with the Coape blood and it is like comparing the generous, magnanimous, untamed elephant with the grinning, clever, imitative ape. When I say this, it is not to blame either. If the world were all elephants there would be nothing left for us to eat. If the world were all apes, there would be no independent action. The world might as well be a world of mirrors.

On Thursday Papa and John and I and Rebekah drove together to S. Wingfield, where I had time, of course, for lengthened study, for which I had provided myself with books, till the train came. I always say the railway station is the only place where I am let alone and where I greatly enjoy my quiet and my leisure. Papa went on in the fly to Pleasley and we in the train to Sheffield. It was such a day as never was seen, the river all out in the Derby valley and the rain incessant, but mild like April. We seem destined to have no winter. Papa comes today from Pleasley.

Papa is just come, having had a very good time at Pleasley.

\(^1\) An extinct genus combining the features of reptiles, fishes and whales, with an enormous head, four paddles and a long tail.
Berlin
July 1850

Berlin pleases me wonderfully. The life of Berlin seems to me so much richer than that of London. People are so occupied and with such great things. The library, the institutions, the lectures. Of course, the political life is wanting but politics will not make up a woman's life. And it is more particularly of the Prussian women that I was struck with how much freer and fuller their life is than that of Englishwomen. If an Englishwoman is not married and has no children, she has no profession, no career, no absorbing and compulsory vocation, but a class in a Sunday School. And what's a class in a Sunday school to occupy all the mind and heart and imagination that God has given her. I declare it makes me miserable in England to see fourteen or fifteen daughters at home getting ill health in doing nothing and thinking themselves fully occupied with a Sunday School. But, however, I know I shall meet with no response in this. So I abstain.

But I know that half the single women in England are consuming themselves, though men don't know it, and perhaps they don't know it themselves, for want of a profession. There is much hardship and the worst kind of hardship, in a compulsory occupation, but there is a strange bliss--how you see it in a woman's whole face, in a constant vocation which tears her out of her own thoughts and fixes her permanently in thoughts of God's will and His plans. Many people consume themselves, more than occupation, however hard, consumes them. Much of this kind of bliss I have seen at Berlin.

I am sure I love my country. I have the strongest desire to serve my country. I don't believe any young sailor at the time of the war ever had the instinct so strongly implanted in him as I had. But my love of England does not take the form of absurdly flattering her as the only moral and religious country when I think she is inferior to America in political freedom and practical life, to France in mental organization, to Germany in popular education, and oh! two centuries behind northern Germany in social freedom. In Berlin a girl of any rank walks about quite alone (i.e. by daylight, and not out of the city); a lady wears any dress, goes into any society, or into the market with her basket on the arm, and nobody laughs at her or talks about her. There is absolute freedom to move yourself socially as you please. The women read in the Royal Library, where dear Dr Pertz, (our guardian angel he really was), used to turn us in, and delightful hours we spent there, turning over the books as we liked. But this is not the most important freedom of Prussian life. I can do very well without a library, and I hate writing...
women.

If you are the organ to put into words the thoughts of a
great many people, that is a great object, and the real end of
authorship. But to write peculiar thoughts, merely to make people
say, "how clever" is like Herr Döbler playing tricks. The first
is a thing women have seldom knowledge enough of the world to be
able to do, and peculiarities, novelty, fanciful views are the
most a writing woman generally attains to.

For a literary man, the life of a Berlin professor seems to
me a beau ideal. With every means of knowledge liberally at his
command, and fortune quite unnecessary, the libraries classified,
the collections open (I assure you the Berlin places are very
different places from the British Museum). There are twelve
professors who lecture every year gratis for the public. Ladies
paid two Thaler a year for the whole course. This sum accumulated
so much, as everybody goes, that they have now founded four
libraries for the common people with it, where, giving only a
guarantee, they may not only read, but take home, a better class
of books than the modern novels. They have all the classics and
newspapers besides.

In Berlin, nobody respects Herr Professor or Frau
Professorn any the less for living in a den or a garret, neither
are they looked upon as with us as lions. But the charm of it is
the connexion between the professor and his pupils. In England
the account I could give of Neander's death bed could hardly be
believed. He was watched over by the students both in his life
and in his death who would not suffer anybody to do anything for
him, or to sit by the body but themselves. One boy would not
leave the house for five days and five nights and during the
whole of that time brought up fresh water from the pump every
quarter of an hour, which had been ordered for him. He was
so afraid that he would not get it fresh and fast. Frau Curtius,
the wife of the professor of Greek antiquities, whom we knew, and
who lived in the same house, followed him down stairs, thinking
he must be quite done up, with a glass of wine. The boy fell and
fainted from exhaustion but recovering, picked up the can of
water, and went up stairs with it. Neander was insensible for
several days, but just before his death he dictated quite
distinctly a page of the Tisch [?] of the Church, though
unconscious of those around, which was written down by a student
and part of a lecture. After doing this he died.

He had been blind for some years and so was his sister, who
lived with him, or rather was him. She had been him in all his
intercourse with the students and though blind, used to sit
behind her great teapot every evening from 6 to 9 making tea for
any student who chose to come, and they came in crowds to sit
with the blind old woman. This is a man who if you like it, was a
loss to his country. As for Sir Robert Peel, and all the rout you
have been making about him in England, I cannot understand what
you have been about. I cannot conceive any man to be a loss whose
moral influence has not been felt either very extensively or very
deeply. I think you are all gone mad about that man. The poor
female Neander is really dying, because separated from himself.
Neander's funeral was followed by as many hearts as bodies. There
never was such an one.

But to return to the freedom of life in Berlin. I don't know
whether their poverty has anything to do with it. In England, the
poorer the person the more they stand upon their gentilities. A
clergyman's daughter is infinitely more punctilious than an
earl's. But to see a young lady in Berlin answering the bell
herself, walking about alone is very agreeable. I have seen a
great deal of Mlle de Rantzau, the friend and early companion of
the poor Duchess of Orleans, and now the Oberin [Matron] of the
New Model Hospital here. She is not a person whom one can talk
about, for one can never convey the impression she makes. If I
were to tell you that she is beautiful as a statue, you would
think I was under the caprices des yeux. I said she was like an
angel. The humility, fun, simplicity and dignity of the creature
were what struck me the most. She has now deaconesses from all
classes,

from the nobility, the middle class and Bauer Mädchen [farm
girls]; she says what one would expect that the first are those
who give her much the least trouble. The hospital is like a
palace, the deaconesses rooms are just like ours at Embley. And
the Oberin has her two rooms with books and prints and flowers,
just as I think the intellectual and practical life ought to be
always combined.

But this is not the best thing the "Bethanien" Hospital
does. Mlle de Schenkendorf, a young lady living with her own
parents at her father's château near Berlin, comes into
Berlin with her people and goes every day for some months to
the Bethanien to learn how to treat scrofulous children and
doctor them, without living in the house, and then goes back home
and nobody thinks anything of it. Mlle de Rantzau (to whom dear
Mme Bunsen gave me the letter) took me to an infant hospital
which she said was better than hers, and which was a picture. But
I did not stay long enough to judge. Then she took me to another,
a female hospital, the Elisabeth Krankenhaus, where a friend of
hers, an old Mlle von Flockwächter has been Oberin for twenty
years, also for "Liebe" [love] and not for money. She has two
rooms, exactly like my lady's drawing rooms in London. This is
what I call the social freedom of Berlin.

This is the profession of their women. In England people
have but two ideas: family life or literary life for women.
Family life is overstocked as everything is in that land of
surplus population; literary life I think they had better never have entered. At all events it is the vocation of so few. In Berlin the Oberin of a charitable establishment is what the wife of a clergyman is in England--she gives up no part of her mental life. But indeed the whole system there is so different. A clergyman must have been a teacher or a school master to be ordained because, as the Germans very naturally say, Why, we thought a clergyman was to have the care of souls and if he has never had souls under his care - -.

From Berlin I and I went to Hamburg on our way to Hanover. You need not look on the map; we believe Hamburg to be on the direct line and so it is for us. But I am aware that it is not for other people whose knowledge of geography has not been so cultivated. The fact is I was so anxious to profit by a letter Mlle von Rantzau had given me to Mlle Sieveking, whose great works in Hamburg I suppose every body knows and we wanted so much to see the famous Rauhe Haus that Hamburg was not out of the way for us. More of these things when we meet. We spent a delightful afternoon in Hamburg and came on here the next day.

I was rather disappointed not to find letters from you. Please to write to Poste Restante, Pyrmont by return of post. As I don't think it agrees with Herr B. we shall perhaps not stay. I have a great deal more of course to say about Berlin, which really delights me but today there is no time.

The whole class of evils which is entirely put out of the question by the difference of their Oberins [Oberinnen] and Diakonissen and our matrons and nurses is self evident. There is no more question about immorality there than there is in private families in England and the licentiousness of the medical class is just as much put a stop to as it is in our homes. In fact, the great difficulties of Hospitals disappear altogether--how an Englishwoman's face of any feeling burns with shame to see the difference, and these are not Catholics, not Puseyites, not even enthusiasts, only women of God. There was a man of God, the scripture writer begins his tale; there was a woman of God, I should begin my tale of Bethanien. But it is difficult to impress English people with these ideas; they are so impressed with another idea, that everything in England is best and that everything abroad is only superficial and will not bear looking into. I wish they could look into Bethanien. I wish they could see how perfectly possible it is to unite the cultivated woman with the Sister of Charity. To call her a matron would be to give a wrong idea of her to English ears as much as "type" thought it would be to call a clergyman a schoolmaster. But the Prussian people are of opinion that public hospitals should not be authorized abodes for bad women (there is a hospital at Hamburg entirely upon our system, the bad women system I mean) but schools of moral influence for the patients.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

on letter of K.S. Pittakys 29 avilla 1850 to S.E. Bracebridge. [to add]
FN: I must send you the letter of Pittacus, the wise man--the conservator of Athens, such a charming old servant, whose child is the Acropolis, and who was to take us in. His wife is Caterina, the sister of the maid of Athens.

Bundle 123, FN note on back of letter My dearest

I cannot make out (from the enclosed) whether Mama “says two days longer” at Claydon or at Lea Hurst. Could you tell me by return of post what you know of the plans of each & what day each leaves the Hurst?

F.N.

Bundle 123, fragment

[Paris]
Père is to pay for it, greatly to her disgust, so, says she to Mme Mohl, I was taking him round and he was looking for something to vent his indignation upon, when he say my little bust of la Rachel and Fanny Ellsler. Otez moi, au moins, says he, ces drôlesses là, et il les emporta dans un lieu (at this moment a very elegant young man came in, and made his bow) dans un lieu que la pudeur la empêche de nommer. Mais, comme c’est mon cousin que me les a donnés, et qu’il aurait pu, vous savez, par quelque hasard y entrer pour ces besoins si les ôter de là, et je les mis, comme vous voyez, sur une planche à la porte, mon beaupère ne peut rien dire, puisque je les ai mis à la porte. Mme Mohl did not even souciller but the beau jeune homme was, I thought, a good deal the most modeste of the lot.

I have been to the Deaconesses, where two of my friends from Kaiserswerth were. The Directeur gives very bad account of Miss Williams, who, he says, has no “vocation” at all--for anything. But Hilly and I thought her a good half-frightened little thing, who might be cooked up into something under better management. I am to go

Bundle 123, pen, thin black-edged paper

see her snow drops in another
Tapton Monday
Soon it will be spring to her-
Sooner perhaps than to us-
ever dearest yours
Dearest people
Just arrived &
only in time to write a word to
tell you that I am
safe here & all right,
& so glad I came-
I have seen her
twice- the first
attempt I made
she did not know
me - I thought
it would be a
satisfaction to her
as she lay thinking
to think that we
were all about
her & so I made
a Bold attempt,
went in again,
Hannah let in
the light quite
wide & I said,
It’s Florence - she
pulled me down
& kissed me with
immense vigour &
said quite distinctly

Goodbye - goodbye.
I don’t think she
will ever speak
again- She takes
hardly anything now
I shall go back
again & try if she
would like to be
read to. I think
she slightly wanders
at times. She is
very restless, but
should she sleep
again, she may live
some little time.

I am most thankful
I came. I think
it was quite too
much for Aunt Mai
Tomorrow I will
write full particulars
of journey & every
thing, all accomplished
sensa intoppo. I am
glad to be quiet.
The place here looks
so wintry. The first
snow drops are come
but she will not live
to see them. On Monday
she was 95 & she will
[ends on top]
Tapton Friday 1st
My dearest mother. The day is over - the house is empty & deserted, now that nightly presence no longer fills it - the dear old place is to be let or sold & I feel that the years, which were little short of a century, are past & gone - never to return - I have a clinging tenderness for the poor old place & for the forlorn & deserted room up-stairs.

The day was very striking to me, from its utter contrast to Bonsal, & from its striking characteristic of her. From the moment we closed the coffin last night, [breaks off]

Bundle 123 [HCV after 1850]

My dear child
Papa will have told you that we came with J.P. and his wife from Masbro’ to Sheffield on Saturday. I think you were mild & merciful. O Lord! O Lord, how could he? But it is a painful subject & I don’t mean to “relude” to it any more, unless I speak to Athenâ about it. So I hereby liberate my soul & no more speak on the matter.

Alice Parker came with them & I am sure she sees it (poor girl). I think you must acquit Sarah now for her dry bone. We shall be with you,

dearest people, tomorrow--we long to see you, but don’t stay at home to see Aunt Mai if you have anything to do. I believe she will be up again on Sunday to hear Mr Martineau, who preaches that day at Essex St. I tell you this in case it should be inconvenient to stay at home.

Otherwise, let all I have to say wait till tomorrow, only my most true gratitude for your kind letters, dearest people, cannot wait till then, with which I am yours, while this machine is to him, most dear lady.
Cologne  
15 August [1850]

Dear Papa,

I have been to see the oculist at Gräfrath. It is two hours from Düsseldorf, a small village crowded with English and patients from all countries. We had numbers given us to wait our turn. The crowd waiting was so great I began to despair. People having been kept there two days. But whom should I find there but Miss Lonsdale, daughter of the Bishop? She spoke a good word for me and I bolted boldly in, when she came out. So interest and audacity succeed in this world. The man’s sagacity is evident and his honesty. I know he refused Lady Pembroke’s case. He said high spectacles and blue spectacles filled the oculist’s patient room. He thinks that yours is a case of external, not internal inflammation, but he cannot judge without seeing the eyes.

He says that, if you chose to come he does not think he need detain you more than a couple of days. He said with regard to delay, if it were internal mischief, delay would signify extremely, if it be external, as he suspects, it would not signify so much if you did not come till the spring. He thinks much can be done for it. I acknowledge that I don’t think you could bear Gräfrath. It is on the road to Elberfeld, but you might stay at Düsseldorf or Zlberfeld [?] and go over via railroad and minibus, as I did.

I have had a delightful time at Kaiserswerth, spending two or three days in each department, so as to make myself as much acquainted with them as I could in that time. Trout took me there and brought me back. I stayed in the pastor’s house. He is a man of a thousand, not agreeable, not interesting, but if you can fancy a Napoleon who has dedicated all his gifts to God, without a Napoleon’s vanity, that is Fliedner’s character. He directs this vast establishment with a most wonderful power of organization. I cannot tell you how much I thought of many of the sisters with whom I was in the closest contact, almost all out of the lower classes, and when I contrasted them with the seminarists, i.e. that normal school, though these were out of a higher class, I saw what power the having devoted all to God has in refining the intellect and giving grace to the character.

I am convinced now there can be Protestant charity as beautiful, as sensible, i.e. as well prepared and educated for its ends as Catholic. The infant school mistress is also a woman of first-rate talents and gifts. I did not think so much of the normal school, though Fliedner takes the most extraordinary personal pains with them. But the hospital, though poor and ugly
and by no means a pattern of cleanliness, is with regard to all 
essential points, the Christian school it is for the patients, 
the humanizing refining propriety-teaching school, and the tender 
care of the nurses, it is indeed a model for England.

The “Frau Pastorinn” has as singularly the lift of direction 
as her husband, which is so rarely the case. I met my dear people 
[the Bracebridges] again at half an hour from Kaiserswerth. I do 
not think him so much better as I expected but at Pyrmont he was 
so unwell that we found it impossible for both of us to leave 
him. We are going to Bourne [?] today to see if he would like it 
for the winter, but I hope we shall not be long now. I think 
before the end of next week I shall really be at home. I got all 
your letters at Düsseldorf, dearest people. Write to me at 
Ostende.

Bundle 124 [HCV 1851] date on letter is 7/9 [1:304-05]

My dearest, I am very sorry 
to learn that you hate Franzensbad 
so much, but I trust, as we 
have had some return of fine 
weather, that you will have had 
it too. It would be a thousand 
pities for you not to see Prague 
when you are so near & the 
journey on the Elbe is so easy 
& pretty, if not very cold. We 
made 3½ hours from Prague to 
Lobositz by rail & six hours 
from Lobositz to Dresden by Elbe, 
but I believe it is often less. 
I am sure you will regret not 
having seen Prague, Wallerstein’s 
house, the Hradschin & every 
thing on it you must see, but 
the lovely position is the thing.

In Dresden I never troubled myself 
about the china, which I hate, 
or the armour, which reminds 
me of times which I abominate, 
in order to see the pictures 
better, but the collection of 
armour is the finest in the world.

The Sidney Herberts (she writes me 
word) are not able to come 
before the last week this month & 
she begs & entreats that I
will be here—I suppose to assist them in choosing a deaconess, as that was their object the first time I was to have come here. You will perhaps meet them at Dresden. He is now unwell at Homburg.

I don’t know that anybody else knows where I am, so I shall not write to anybody.

I hope you will both of you, dear people, benefit by your troubles afterwards.

It is a very easy 6 hours from Dresden to Berlin. I can tell you nothing of the road from Berlin to Cologne as we went to Hamburg to see a "Kaiserswerth" there, then to Pyrmont, from whence I made the journey to Kaiserswerth in a day. But it is a most dull target, unless you go to Magdeburg. I don’t think there is much to repay you.

I believe that as soon as you have left that unfriendly place you will feel the good of it and I am, dearest people, ever your loving child Kaiserswerth 7/9

Yesterday morning died the flower of all our Sisters.

Bundle 124, unsigned letter

27 January 1851

We have had almost incessant rain, nevertheless we have managed to be out many times every day though the wind was so high I could scarce carry an umbrella at Lea. Futcher has made himself so thoroughly unpopular that it is said he is a worse position now, would try a 2 penny school than he would have been at the beginning. The infant school at Holloway has 120 children. Smedley is about to build a chapel and school room opposite Clayton’s workshop. I think our day is over.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale 155

Sarai does very well till Rebecca comes and won’t have any help.

I sent this morning an appeal from Mrs Chisholm. Σ suggests I might ask the Strutts to subscribe—-I don’t know.

I also sent an appeal from Louisa for the man (Argent) whom you though I had better not see last year in London, but I have no one to recommend, don’t know of such a thing as trained in England, have you?

Bundle 124, letter

28/1 [1851]
Have you received divers groceries, also the Edinburgh from Whitehall? How provoking if you have. I ordered those to Whitehall for Rebecca to bring down here. However, if you have them (the groceries were from De Castro, the books from Hookham) don’t send them now to you as we shall do very well without them.

You see our stay here is half over already, tea we have plenty in the caddy & the Edinburgh I shall hire at Birmingham when we go back. Sarai’s vegetables are so good we don’t want rice & macaroni. Tomorrow week we go to Tapton. I shall write today to put Rebecca off altogether if not already on her way & get in someone from the village. Sarai is in her glory. Don’t forget the books which were left here for me, to tell me where they are. Watson knows.

Bundle 124, letter [HCV 1851?]

Saturday Embley
Well, what do you think of the British lion now? My people seem in no hurry to hear the news
& neither of them is come down to learn Government’s majority of 14. It is impossible that people can be such fools as to wish to return to Protection, & therefore no doubt it is the British people’s frantic fear of the Pope that has brought on this beautiful conclusion. I wish them joy of it—I thought how it would be, when I hear such men as even Mr Bracebridge joining in the insane cry. Give ‘em their hierarchies & welcome, say I, only give us a rate for education & we will soon see who is the strongest, the educated Briton or the ultramontane Power. As for our clergy, they are fit for nothing but to discuss the colour of stockings across dinner tables.

What I regret most is the Palmerstonian policy (always excepting in re Schleswig-Holstein) & when I think of “ce cher Aberdeen,” I am almost as frantic as the Anti-Popes.

We can’t have John Sterndall at the Hurst, a boy like that, without the slightest supervision except for 3 months in the year, & then what is our supervision? A house always full, an occasional superficial
visit, which makes him safe from another

(as our school mistress here well knows—I caught her just out of bed here one morning at 9 o’clock) for a fortnight or more. Why, it is a premium upon want of fidelity. John Sterndall must be much older than he is now to undertake it, & when he does, there must be *regular* sympathy on the part of his employers to keep up any man’s spirits. As for Mrs Rose, she is worth nothing

& I hope John will take her place at Easter, though nothing has been said as yet to anybody. When English women have found out that they don’t know how to teach there will be some hopes for them.

We have here the most glorious weather. I never remember such a winter. It is almost like my own cloudless East.

I have had the most dismal letters from the poor Adelbergs. Cassel is crowded with Prussian, Bavarian & Austrian troops & with their kindred Triad, Plague, Pestilence & Famine. Many houses have 60 soldiers in
them. All fly who can
& she & her family are
coming to England or
America to escape
the Proscription Lists.
Mr Bracebridge rides
over here to escape
the Proscription List
of Manor House against
his opinions. They go
to London on the 22nd.
We have not heard a
word from J.P. He
might have given us
the political news at
this time. Sir James
Graham has not been a
t Wilton, I know,
but I hope Mr Herbert & Co. mean to follow
the doctrine announced
in his excellent speech.
I begin to think Peel’s
ghost a greater man
than Peel.
Athena is well and
recognized Mr Bracebridge

Bundle 124, letter

Jan 26 Lea Hurst
Rebecca comes today, I believe.
I dined with my dear Aunt
yesterday & found her bodily
well though very feeble &
quite determined against
coming to us. She says it
is too much for her. Perhaps
she may come at the end
of March. Papa’s rent
day here is the 3rd of
Feb (Tuesday week). On
Thursday week I shall go
to Tapton & he to Pleasley,
& on Saturday he will join
me at Tapton. The next
week we shall probably
return to Umberslade. Will you ask Watson (& write word by return of post) where to put those books (school books & others) which he took for me to the Hurst in the summer & left them here (by Papa’s orders, I believe)? I can’t find them. Papa thinks they were left in a box. If they are locked up, however, he had better send the key. I want them particularly.

I have seen the Wild gooses & Futcher, but it is a story long to discuss. The latter however is anxious the school should be placed under government inspection & as anyway that must be the case I shall write & have it done directly, He is also anxious to lower all the prices to 2d. What shall you say to that? If he does, John Sterndall will never be able to raise them again. He has now 5 children at 6d, 14 at 3d, 12 at 2d. I don’t know what the 3d is. There were no 3d at King’s Somborne, I think. He never received (or says he never did) a letter of yours telling him to reduce the 6d. Papa seems pretty well & in very good spirits & rode down to my aunt’s yesterday.

ever dear people yours

The Wildgooses are very discontent with Futcher indeed. As John

is ultimately to have the school here I can’t imagine that Futcher will stay, I
really should ask John
(only you will think that
is elevating him too much)
& consult with him about
lowering the prices here. It
is a pity they ever were
raised till John came,
but as it is done, I think
it is questionable whether
John ought to be placed
in the obnoxious position
of raising them again.

Bundle 124, letter

PRIVATE   Cromford Bridge
           April 29
Dear Papa
   I cannot write the
desired letter to the
Committee of Council upon
the instructions given me
in the enclosed.
   "It appears" does not
tell me whether the Committee
of Council have said that
Knellar cannot be paid for
by govt. If they have, it is no use
writing about that. If it
is only surmise, I do not
think it is so. It used
not to be so--Government
would pay for a boy
from another school.
   "He would not ever be
eligible as a pupil teacher

in September, after the
Examination, as then, of
course, Kemish would take
the place." Kemish will
not take the place unless
he is found competent to
pass at the September
Examination, which is very
doubtful. Is he of age?
   Also, Knellar
would not receive the
Government money any way, till a year after his Examination, as the Govt always pay backwards. "It comes out of our pockets," of course, till then, as it does in the case of every Inspected School in the kingdom.

But the second clause contradicts the first in this letter. Is Knellar ineligible "in any way," as appears by the first (because he is a foreign boy, which used not to be the case) or is he so only because "Kemish will take his place in Sept"? Of course we never expected that Govt wd give us two Pupil Teachers. If it is because John Sterndall is not of age, then it is no use writing about that.

Secondly, the Inspector, when he inspects the School, will declare whether the School be large enough to have a pupil teacher—Nothing can be done,

I believe, before the Inspection, which settles every thing.

I will write to Mr Warburton, the man whom we saw at Stockbridge & welcome, if that is what she means by "the Inspector whom you saw," not specifying where — but he is not an Inspector at all. He is a Deputy Examiner who came in the absence of Mr Brookfield, the Inspector, & can do us no good, & had nothing to do with our School.
But I think you will see it is impossible for me to write anything from these instructions. And what can we get before the Inspection? Unless you have had some instructions from the Committee of Council unknown by me, & not mentioned by her.

Thirdly, John will only get his Certificate & his salary after the September Examn. This is no "mistake," it was never "supposed he would have it after his London Examn." I told Mama so at the time. I have mentioned it every time since when it has come under discussion. John himself knew it perfectly - or if he does not, it is because he has forgotten it. Mr Dawes has done all he could to get the Committee of Council to alter this way of paying only annually & back=

ward, not in advance. But he could not. The whole country complains of it. But nothing has been done, tho' frequent expostulations have been made. But there was no "mistake" about it, as we were perfectly aware of what happens the whole country over & cannot be altered by us.

As you are a man of business, I hope you will send me instructions what to write to the Committee of Council, if it is desired, but do not mention that to
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Parthe. (It will only make her disturbed) only to Mama. But I think you will see that nothing could be written from these instructions.

ever dear Pa your excellent child

Bundle 124, letter

[1] Feb 14
Dearest mother

I don’t think we shall go to Umberslade on our return. He seems very unwilling & as he is so well, perhaps it is better not to disgust him with it. He, of course, prefers going in the warmer weather.

We had a heavy fall of snow today yesterday, but it seems thawing today. Yesterday it was one glacier.

I suppose we shall go to town on Tuesday & then what we shall do remains with you. I suspect

[2] illeg

I am so sick of politics, so disgusted with Johnny’s disgraceful speech that I say nothing about them. I suppose we shall have no dissolution yet.

There are Wilberforce & Page again on the Tapis. To me the Church of Rome & the Church of England fighting are like two children squabbling whether a piece of glass is a diamond or a ruby.

I have written to Parthe about the Electric Chain
at Lady Coltman’s.

ever yours, dearest Mother
I am glad to hear you are at
least better.

[3]
Mr Poyser has done us
the honour of calling more
than once & altogether
we are of great repute
in the country.

Thank Parthe very much
for her letter & tell her to
give the first news of
M.P.G. [?] “inside passenger.”
Remember, when you write
me to recognize my Harrogate
efforts with immense
applause, & first put in
too, while you are about
it, that you are very
much obliged to me for
allowing the Sulphur Cure
to be substituted for the
Water Cure & not suffering
“the rash” to be “driven in,"
or something of that sort.

[4]
I paid my farewell visit to
Mr Futcher yesterday,
who appeared to be in a
great state of irritation.
The school numbers now
about 46, off & on. He
wants to know again (1st) whether
you choose to lower all the
prices to 3 & 2d, though
he declines saying whether
he thinks now that it
would raise the school’s
numbers. He persists in
saying that he never had
an answer to his letter
about this in the winter.
(2nd) Stoppard, the butcher,
has a nephew living with
him on his charity; the
father went to the dogs.
He won’t send the boy to
the School on the 6d charge,

but it does not seem to
swell our numbers much.
They have got their School
now in the Schoolroom
behind Sales’s & have above 100.

Fanny Holmes is still
failing. I should think
going the way of her
sisters. She is tempted
to try the Water Cure,
but I rather dissuaded
her. Their son, John, has
been to see them from
Tickhill.

I hear that Fanny Ark
wright, of Sutton, is going
to be married, but the
name that I hear coupled

with hers I don’t believe:
Sir D. Dundas.

We leave my dear Aunt
tomorrow to go to Harrogate
on Monday. Miss Hall
returns tomorrow.
I have called upon Mrs.
Jones & Mrs Arkwright,
there!

One day I had a fly
& went up to call upon
Mrs. Wass—handsome—
poor woman! He is a
little better but I suppose
there is little chance—
He has been very ill again.
I think she is very liberal
to be so pleased at Mr
Smedley’s chapel rising
so close to theirs—

and wants to know whether he may be taken on on 3d on the plea
that he is living on his uncle’s charity. (3) He wants those
books for the school library very much, which I think you did not
send by the parcel. (4) He is quite determined against the
catechism, being an Independent, which one can’t be surprised at and still is extremely anxious to be under Inspection. I enquired in London and find that the British and Foreign inspection is considered quite as good as the National.

I must go to my dear aunt, so farewell, dear people, your loving child
She always sends her best love

Bundle 124, incomplete letter

Tapton
May 1 1852
My dear parents

We arrived here the day before yesterday about half past six, having told her 7, that she might not say we had arrived at 9 o’clock if we were ten minutes too late.

We had an hour to wait at Amber Gate, which we did not mind at all, but the contrary. I thought I never saw the country looking so beautiful as between Cromford and Amber Gate. We successfully saved our luggage at Masbro (you cannot go by the Eckington line now, which is not on terms).

We escaped the Tollbar & were not carried up the Glossop Road. Here she welcomed us with a double amount of affection & joy. She was already in bed. She is never dressed now, but sits up in her flannel gown. Her voice is almost gone, but she said, Thank God, over & over again, because I was going to Harrogate with Aunt Mai. Yesterday she sat up to dinner. We
went & called on all her friends for her. The Shores called. They are going abroad in June. I paid Lydia £1 for your Garden Subscription.

I never saw Grandmama so affectionate. She is overpowering with her love & blessings. Last night when I went to bid her Goodnight she called me back three times to say, Give them all my dear love, when will you write? Tomorrow.. Then give them all my love, my dear love, and God bless them & tell Mrs Nightingale the parcel is gone to the Chalmer’s with my thanks to her. She is not so impatient at the loss of her voice, which is so very trying to her eagerness, as I expected. There is a good deal of discharge from the breast, but Mr Jackson, who saw her yesterday, appears to think her as well as usual. The spring is backward but the tender green of the young larches and birches against the deep yews is lovely. We have had a little rain. Trade in Sheffield is not so good.

Today is my dear boy’s coming of age - twenty-one and ninety-four. And some people have learned nothing, none of the lessons of life at all from their ninety years. We go to Harrogate on Monday - where a £10 note or a P.O. order would be acceptable to your excellent child, in order that I may take my share of the lodging. Since I wrote this, I have received the half of a 5 pounder, for which many thanks. The second half had better go to P.O. Harrogate as the lodging we meant to have, we find, is [breaks off]

Bundle 124 letter, pen addressed; Miss Nightingale Embley Romsey [stamped, cancelled postmarked 29 April 1852]

Cromford Bridge Thursday

My dear child [Parthenope Nightingale]
I find it is Sir Hugh Dalrymple whom Fanny "Sutton" is going to marry. So much for myths.

They have built a sunk well opposite the house here, by the river side, instead of that jarettty broken bank into the river and made two horrible roads for the cattle to come down to drink instead of their tumbling down the bank wretches.

Miss Hall is come back and we go to Tapton today. Many thanks for the enclosed.

We have had a beautiful little refreshing warm rain, and the feel of the air is like June, and everything is coming out à vue d’oeil.

Dear Aunt Evans sends you all kinds of loves. She took that dreadful sacrament yesterday, when she always sets up all "her enemies" in a row to be forgiven, and gets into passions with them all by thinking of them. And has the tic all night before it with the agitation of taking it. But then she is so relieved when the dentist is gone and the instruments put up and the operation over "and then," she says, "I shall have done with the world," which means, with all pleasant things in it, or anything but "enemies."

Today she is more affecte than ever—yours, my dearest, ever

Bundle 124, letter

Umberslade
Birmingham 9 Jan [1852]

We are going on very well, dearest people, spite of a sharp fall of snow. His bowels have acted today for the first time - & he has moved into the next room to mine, which is very much more comfortable.

You see what Brussels Sprouts wants—Will you go up into my room & in the top shelf of my shoe commode, search among the pamphlets till you find the last Kaiserswerth report “Vierzehnten Bericht” I think it is—a dark blue one—don’t send any other—also the last report of the Asyl “Siebzehnten Bericht” it calls itself—a little thin blue
thing, of which there are several copies, towards the right hand end of the shelf. There is but one copy of the other.

Also, in a light cover, a Swiss Report of the “Institution des Diaconesses” at Echallens in French. There is but one copy of that. (Don’t mix them, as they are all sorted.) Also, in the drawer of the table in the window, the latest of the reports there on the “Institution des Diaconesses” at Paris. Please send all these to the man’s direction at Lincolns Inn. I am sorry not to be at home to save you this trouble. I shan’t answer the letter, as I don’t want to be mixed up with these young vegetarian enthusiasts.

You see Eliot Warburton’s death. How sorry she will be she did not go with him.

your affecte FN
Papa is in excellent spirits. I have seldom seen them so good.

Bundle 124, letter

Tuesday morng

My dearest, the time draweth near, as you say, & I am sorry that you must depend upon the Bathursts, who however may perhaps return on Thursday. I should dearly like to hear Henry’s lecture.

You will be perfectly astonished at the rocky scenery around Papa’s trap door in the American top.

I do not think, however, that you will find Saturday at all too long at Waverley, as I make no doubt you
are most jolly & welcome, though it seems long at first. My dear, I did not the least expect you to stay at Combe, on the contrary always intended you to go down with Henry.

I have had a little letter from Aunt Mai, very glad of her little peep at you.

Do you know, my dear, that the thorns are really going to have buds this year.
Adieu, I must go au revoir

Love to all the dear people there.

Bundle 124, letter, black-edged paper

My dearest Mother

Many thanks for your letter. The alum is: "3 grams of powdered alum, 3 times a day, to be taken for 3 days about 10 days before the Period, then discontinued for 3 days, then recommenced, but not taken at the Period." This I think is the quantity, but as I have no papers with me, and as you are now with the original authoress of it, Mrs Empson, I think you had better ask her. You know it is for over action, not deficiency.

Aunt Mai’s plan would be, if I were not in the question, to leave this tomorrow (Saturday) week to spend Sunday 10th at Combe, having
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

appointed Clough for that day, & take me on to Waverley on Monday, as she wants to get over that meeting quietly. But she will regulate her plans to your wishes about me, dear Mother, you are very good to spare me so long. Athena is better, by dint of a daily bird. ever, dear Mum your loving child

Bundle 124 letter to WEN, pen [HCV date, 2 Feb 1850 wrong]

[2 February 1849] [1:230]

Dear Papa

Everything here is in statu quo atmosphere like a warm bath, Empsons giving broth and blankets, two services, and if I ask it, to the old people, the sacrament. Farm account enormous, literature at a stand still. I never open a book, nor my mouth, except to victual it.

Oh my fair hopes! where are they? Now that the year is almost past, which began them, three there were, and where are they now? I hoped the old accustomed sins, the familiar friends of every man, children of the spirit of the time (Carlyle’s definition of the devil (would be uprooted by a new time.

I hoped that, in the new ploughed soil, would be sown more easily the new crop of virtues and objects necessary for the nineteenth century’s last half. I hoped for now or never the new life. Bah!

What’s that wretched Sardinia about? What, in the name of wonder, is France about? I wish 1850 were a political year of jubilee as well as an ecclesiastical one, a year of the remission of all political sins--the acceptable year of the beginning of a new life.

Mama and I read the newspaper and the Bible and my phraseology, as my ideas, are equal parts of both. Very glad shall we be to see you home again, dear Papa.

ever your affectionate child

2 February, Candlemas Day, as I witnessed it last year, [at?] the Quirinal.

Bundle 124, letter
My dearest Mother, Nothing can be better than the account I have to give. She had several hours quiet & comfortable sleep last night & herself admitted that she had had a good night. She got up at 11 o’clock & did without her henbane draught last night.

Her bowels act satisfactorily every day, without medicine - though she has been a great deal the better for a little Grey Powder which Sir James administered, unknownst to her, some days ago. She has eaten her chicken broth with a good relish & is allowed meat today-

The weather here is very cold & I have written to Aberdeen for a warm gown for her to come home in.

Sir James Clark has seen her this morning & assures me that it is only nervous & wishes her to eat. She desires me to tell you that she thanks you more than tongue can tell for letting me come, which is rather an awkward message for me to deliver.

Nothing can be so kind as these people--Sir James Clark & Lady Clark have been really exhausting their suggestions of kindness. I hope that my coming has taken the trouble off their hands.
The Milmans are here with two very stolid sons.
Sir James Clark has a reprieve till Friday from Balmoral.
Mary sleeps at the washerwoman’s & Mariette here, & Mariette is very useful about Parthe, who likes her. But I was so thankful that she liked to have me about her.
If you have the Fowlers with you, will you tell her that I will write?
The place here is lovely, notwithstanding this cold N. wind. Sir James Clark does not think that Parthe’s attack has anything to do with cold.

ever yours, dearest Mother, child likely
F.N.

Bundle 124, letter

Birk Hall
Sept 16 [1852]
Dearest Mother, We are going on well. Today she has taken a little dose of Castor Oil. The Prince of Wales & Prince Alfred came, & she went to the window to draw them getting on their ponies.
She made such a decided resistance to Mary going home (saying she could not spare her) that, tho’ we do not want in the least, I did not like to persist, but I will try again tomorrow. She has partridge or grouse every & and I hope will come downstairs tomorrow—Sir James has been like a father.
ever dearest Mum your loving child

Bundle 124 letter

Birk Hall
Dearest Mother

Mary goes away today. I am very sorry that she should have to travel on Sunday, but Parthe objected to her going before & I was not aware this Sir James told me that it was better to do things without consulting her or letting her know.

She is decidedly better, had a good night & is going into another room today. I told you that she drew the Princes out of the window yesterday. The Milmans go today, which will give us more room.

The kindness of the people here is beyond anything I have ever seen. They have really behaved like angels giving hospitality.

I could not write on my way down. Saturday you know I saw you Sunday in a & I got in to Edinbro’ too late for the post, of course, that night. Sunday is a "dies non" in Scotland for the post & Monday I wrote immediately on my arrival here at one o’clock. I hope there was no delay in that letter.

I had a very good journey, of which more when we meet. I left Edinbro’ at 7 in the morning, went to church at Perth & got in to Aberdeen at 6. I came with very nice people all the way from York to Edinburgh.

Sir James is quite satisfied with her progress. Indeed,
she looks quite a different creature since she came. She walks about with considerable strength.

Do not mind about the pears & apples - we have plenty here of everything that is good & that she ought to have -

You can send us a warm cloak if you think it worth while. But I don’t think you have any to spare & we can buy a shawl at Aberdeen if she is cold. I don’t think it is worth the expense to send one. We are making her up a warm gown which I bought for her at Aberdeen.

Sir James says that there is nothing but weakness. Mary is an alarmist & a poor foolish thing, so don’t let her frighten you, dear Mother. I am afraid you have been much in want of her, & I think I ought to have sent her off before, but the idea caused an irritation in Parthe which I did not like to excite.

I am glad the Fowlers have been to you. We have had very cold weather, but it is not so cold today.

ever, dear Mum, your loving child

She eats & sleeps well & begins to talk cheerfully. She sends many messages always to you & all kinds
Birk Hall
Sept 18 [1852]

Dearest Mother

I enclose a bit from Parthe but we have received your stockings, many thanks. She thought some biscuits came from you which she has had, which accounts for the last sentence in her bit.

She is really, dear Mother, much better. Don’t fidget yourself. Sir James Clark told you the exact truth. He says that he has examined her all over carefully, that there is absolutely no disease - but that, owing to morbid excitability of the brain, encouraged by long over-indulgence & by having no regular quiet occupation, she will be always subject to these fancies, especially at the period (unless she tries more to do like other people). Her delusions are not permanent. They vary every day, sometimes she says that her bowels have not acted for a fortnight, sometimes that she has had Diarrhea ever since she came. I think she is much less rambling than she was.

Nothing can ever equal the kindness & tenderness he has shown, all that is in the house is at her disposal. She has moved
her room several times
at her own desire & he
comes to see her three or
four times a day. Lady Clark
& Charlotte are
indefatigable.

    She James Clark says
that she will soon be in
her usual health - that
these fancies are of no
consequence, but that
they will return, if with
this excitability of brain
she is not treated with
more firmness than she
has been used to.

    He is very anxious that
she should have a woman
of about 40, firm, kind
& gentle, who should be
her maid entirely to herself,
& should be always with
her & should be able to
make her do certain things.
You see she has been so
used to command that
she won’t do anything that
Mariette tells her & Mary
was wholly useless. This
maid ought to be empowered
by character, Sir James says,
to prevent her from always
acting by impulse.

    I tell you all this, dear

Mother, because you seemed
so very unhappy about
those delusions, which
indeed I don’t wonder at.
Sir James says she only
requires firm, quiet, judicious
treatment, which shall
lead her very gradually
to occupy herself regularly about
something she likes. He says
she is very delicate but
has nothing organic the
matter with her, & nothing
the matter at all except
an irritable & enfeebled
state of brain. Last night
she slept from 10 till 7,
without waking. She has
eaten today a good breakfast,
chicken broth at 12, a
wing of a chicken at 2 &
she is going to have roast
apple with her tea &
a pudding for supper. You
see her appetite does not fail.
She has been into a fresh
room today. Ask me any questions,
dear Mother tho’ I hope we shall be at

[on first folio]
home soon now.

Bundle 124, letter with envelope postmarked Calais 8 Juin [29 September 1851?]

Spain. our intelligence
from Madrid comes
down to the 21st inst.

The stage coach from
Barcelona to Valencia
upset on the 14th [Sept] at a
place called La Torreta,
near Oropeso. The road
at that place runs
along a precipice over
the sea, into which
the coach rolled. It
contained, with the
conductor & the Postillion,
fourteen persons, who
all perished. The
following is the fullest
account of the disaster

we have been able to
obtain. The diligence
left Oropeso at ½ past
10 P.M. two of the civil
guards going with it
as an escort. A little
further on and between Oropeso and Benicasim, the sad event took place, respecting the cause of which we have only conjectures. It appears that the road, at the spot where the accident happened, is protected on the side of a precipice by a wall or embankment, which at that point was in the form of a half moon, & it is conjectured either that the torrent caused by the heavy rains had washed part of it away, together with a portion of the road, or that the Conductor, not seeing it amidst the darkness and rain, had run the coach against it & thrown it down, but the main and awful fact is confirmed, that the diligence, with the ten passengers, the two Civil Guards, the Conductor, Postillion & [illeg Gajal?] and six horses, were thrown from an immense height, the passengers no doubt perishing in their descent, & the vehicle being completely knocked to pieces among the rocks. The bodies of the victims were carried out to sea by the mountain torrent, which dashed down the cavity into which they fell; but six of them were washed back again & thrown on the coast, and the bodies of five of the horses, with
The weather here is beautiful. Today is La S. Médard, the Gallican [illeg]

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

Bundle 124 letter pen, blue paper

Tapton
May 1 1852

My dear parents

We arrived here the day before yesterday about half past six having told her 7, that she might not say we had arrived at 9 o’clock, if we were ten minutes too late. We had an hour to wait at Amber Gate, which we did not mind at all, but the contrary—I thought I never saw the country looking so beautiful as between Cromford & Amber Gate—We successfully saved our luggage at Masbro (you cannot go by the Eckington line now, which is not on terms) We escaped the Tollbar & were not carried up the Glossop Road. Here she welcomed us with a double amount of affection & joy—She was already in bed—She is never dressed now, but sits up in her flannel gown. She Her
voice is almost gone,
but she said Thank God
over & over again, because
I was going to Harrogate
with Aunt Mai-Yesterday
she sat up to dinner-
we went & called on all her
friends for her-the Shores
called. They are going abroad
in June-I paid Lydia
£1.1 for your Garden
Subscription
I never saw Grandmama so affectionate— She is overpowering with her love & blessings— Last night when I went to bid her goodnight she called me back three times to say, Give them all my dear love—when will you write? Tomorrow—Then give them all my love, my dear love 0 God bless them—& tell Mrs Nightingale the parcel is gone to the Chalmer’s with my thanks to her—She is not so impatient at the loss of her voice, which is so very trying to her eagerness, as I expected, There is a good deal of discharge from the breast, but Mr Jackson, who saw her yesterday, appears to think her as well as usual. The spring is backward, but the tender green of the young larches & birches against the deep yews is lovely. We have had a little rain. Trade in Sheffield is not so good.

Today is my dear boy’s coming of age—twenty one and ninety four. And some people have learnt Nothing—none of the lesson of life at all from their ninety years.

We go to Harrogate on Monday where a £10 note or a P.O. order would be acceptable to your excellent child— in order that I may take may share of the lodging—Since I wrote this, I have received the half of a 5 pounder for which many thanks—The second half had better go to P.O. Harrogate, as the lodging we meant to have, we find, is [breaks off]

Bundle 124, letter

[1]

Kaiserswerth 9 Sept [1851] [1:306-09]

My dearest [Parthenope]

[1] In answer to what I know you are saying & thinking, first I want to say that fears concerning the future prevent my gaining all good & strength that is possible from the present. I look again & again if there be any light to rescue those who so dearly prize each other from the sad sorrow of grieving or injuring each other.
I see a satisfaction even in the rapid deterioration which has taken place of late years in my own character. It was natural that my people should wish, it was right in them to wish my full trial of the ordinary life of those in my position (& which I can have of the best) & which, bringing so much of interest & enjoyment to them, in all love they desired for me. It would have been unreasonable if I had not tried this, for we have to learn what our own

[2]
nature is by trying it in various circumstances. I feel a satisfaction in thinking that you will feel I have had experience of the best of England’s life in our class. You know how earnestly I desired to try a way, which would have satisfied the whole world & you, & saved me the misery of doing a new thing, of trying an untried path--misery to me, because it is so to you. I desired it because I thought I could live to a considerable degree the ordinary life of home, so as to gratify in some measure the wishes of my home, at the same time following the pursuits which would satisfy my own nature & sense of right to any effective degree, leaving it free to fulfil what is my sense of its appropriate work in the thought of God. I do not forget that these do not always go together. That, in some cases, during this life, the appropriate work is never found, in others, cannot rightly be pursued, and that the present

[3]

improvement of the nature is to be
patience under this trial. Many are unconscious of any fitness for one work rather than another.

Whether food for me & peace for those who are devoted to me are incompatible is a question which I should not have thought so important if I did not see another question. Do not they care too much for me ever to be happy if I am starving? Perhaps some can go on through life without food, or find it where others cannot, but some, however much from love they might wish it, cannot live without food. Can I, if I would, give up my food for the peace of those I love? For, can they in possibility have peace or happiness if I have not food? To render them unhappy is paralysis to me, but would my (moral) death be life to them, devoted as they are to me? If I could tell how I appreciate their love, how strong is the wish in me to return it in their happiness, how the experience of years proves this could not be by renewing past attempts

[4]

(but that being granted which would fulfil the call of the divine voice within me, which summons me to work, body and heart would be with them), how I am not unmindful of their feelings in regard to the world’s voice, but might I not remind them that those they, as well as I, most value as friends, would most sympathize with my purpose, would see me with more pleasure a part of the year, if the other part were spent as I should think right, than if all were given to life the past which, however excellent, however full of interest
for some, experience proves to me is not that to which I am summoned.

I am not surprised at your letter - You look upon my life here as a passing fancy which it is not impossible I shall give up when gratified.

A was a person of most lovely & tender character devoted to B. At the time in question, it was the custom in their line of life to live on vegetables & fruit, or meat so modified that it had not on the

[5] 2
human constitution the effect of meat. This diet was in general most palatable. Some to whom it was not satisfactory, unresistingly conformed to it, knowing no other, but with B it entirely disagreed, while, having for some weeks in A’s absence, adopted animal food. She knew that it supplied her with health & vigour & enabled her to take a part in the world’s work & God’s purpose, which, when sickenede by the ordinary diet, was impossible to her. But A. was possessed by an undoubting feeling that the ordinary diet was alone right, was terrified at the imagination of the evils which would, she felt, result to B from any other. She was miserable when she thought of B.’s partaking of any other. B was deeply sensible of A’s affection, which would indeed have sacrificed life or any of its gratifications for her. To render A unhappy paralyzed B rendered her incapable of benefiting by the food adapted to her constitution, even when a casual opportunity occurred of partaking of it. As life

[6] went on, B. became disheartened,
unable to find relief in that which was not natural to her. Had it been in her nature to become simply inactive the evil would have been less. She might have patiently awaited another existence. Or could she, like many, have derived nourishment from what was not peculiarly adapted to her nature, she might have lived well, while waiting to live better. But there was a work for her to do & nature spoke plain, when this work was not doing. Thus went on two of God’s souls, love & the fear of inflicting pain, two of the elements to which nature most trusts to direct mankind aright, being their destruction. The life of A., formed for love & sunshine was one of disappoint-ment in seeing the idol of her imagination pass through life as thro’ a prison from which she was conscious B. wished to escape, & in which she exhibited the effects of life in fetters. Yet to the last A was never conscious that this sad result was from the want of the food natural to B. She

[7]
only felt that to B. had vain longings for unnatural food and had not enough of that which was natural & right. Their position, which afforded the most abundant & beautiful vegetables & fruits of the country & which, to the taste of A were delicious, increased the difficulty. Peace to you, suffering & noble spirits in some other world, if here it is not to be found. God is & it is all well in His Eternity.

How many have had a call within them which, in the beginning, gave pain to those they loved, but ended in their joy? From Christ,
whose mother sought him sorrowing,
but who lived to see him rise
to heaven to Mrs Somerville, who
sat up by night working in blankets
to indulge an appetite for science,
disapproved by her parents.

When I was in Egypt, I heard it
was your life to tell what would
give pleasure to others, or increase
their interest in me. You would
find as much sympathy from
various friends in this case

B. having experienced through years the food
that to her was unwholesome. The parched
& swollen tongue, the gurgling throat she said
are sharp but short agony, but this thirst, if less severe

[8] is more protracted, how shall I bear it? Ought I
to bear it when I see water within reach?

My earnest affection, my heart
felt gratitude are yours. But
I have also thirst for what
I believe to be my right work.
If you could, through love & imagination,
become my champion, I & my
home wd be a blessed one &
you, seeing me so happy, would
be happy, too. If you were with
me, who is there against me?
(that I should fear). Thirst for
what I believe to be my right work,
alike from experience when I
have had it and when I have
not had it, this thirst & the
affection & gratitude are now
at war. If you could so look at
the case that you smile, your
blessing might help me, that
thro’ you might arise the greatest
of boons, peace of mind to us each
& all! Your blessing on my
following my sense of right in
my path of life is what I most
desire.

Auf Wiedersehen, my
beloved-
I have some idea that one of the
B. Smiths is with the Noels at
Rosawitz. Mrs B. saw a Miss Smith
with them, but I do not know.

Bundle 124, note, pen

Monday Oct 10 [1853]
Horary
Miss Maurice 10-1
Mrs Booth 2-4
Bp London }
Mr Hallam } 2-5
Horners }
Bunsens }
Mrs Herbert}
Mr Wyatt 5-6
architect to go
over the house with me
Dr Weber 3-5
Dr Hawksley morng &
eveng
Mr Bowman 6-6½
Dr Farre } 5-5½
Dr Bence Jones}
A patient to compel into
allowing herself to be washed,
she screaming in such a
fit of passion that I was
called off in the middle to

v
recover the next docl
patient from fainting
at the noise
Little Crossthwaite dying
This was the history
of one day
If the Committee comes
to sitting twice a day
in this way, I shall
remonstrate

Bundle 125 letter

Athens
2 May
I have seen a great deal both at home and abroad in Egypt which would have been very painful, almost unsupportable had it not been for the truth that the doctrine of responsibility as generally held, is not holdable. To regret the past is clearly untrue and Christians in all their ages, Stoics in previous times, have been searching after this state of mind darkly under different names. When I see a horrible evil, I am inclined to say not "how mysterious" but "how good God is" to allow man to learn his own lesson through the experience of himself and his race. I must have interfered, must have played the school mistress I am here in a missionary's house, a real missionary, not one "according to the use of the United Church of England," and it is so interesting to me to see the "same mind as it was in Christ Jesus" clothed in a different coat, in different parts of the world.

My madre at Rome, whose mind was dressed in black and white nun’s robes, even more than her body, and the evangelical American here, Mrs Hill, my true missionary, are so alike and both I see are always listening for the voice of God, looking for His will.

Bundle 132, copy of letter not copied to Wellcome

Feb 11 1 Chesterfield St.
May Fair
My dear many many thanks for beautiful flowers & all ye kind messages & thoughts of me. I am must better & you dear I fee a lion when I think of ye tender frail self. take great care to catch no cold this trying weather & be quiet if you can - you are always at work in some way I know, too much.
I think you will like these verses not a little -will you dear read them to the very pretty end & keep them. With much love to Aunt. I hope she is better again.
always yr. loving F.

envelope, stamped, cancelled with message inside, bundle 132
Miss Nightingale
Lea Hurst
Matlock
Sutherland is not
a French Hospital nun -
I have lived “en communauté” & I
shall be glad to translate those words
I admire the Lariboisière plan much, as copied.
Lea Hurst must be lovely
ever your F
Please send
me, by return
of post, a
bottle of Eau de
Cologne & a Novel -

Bundle 132 fragments, extract in FN hand

Au milieu de l’énorme
fermentation où la
nation juive se trouva
plongée sous les derniers
Asmonéens, l’événement
moral le plus extraordi-
naire dont l’histoire
ait gardé le souvenir
se passa en Galilée-
Un homme incomparable,
si grand que, bien qu’ici
tout doive être jugé au
point de vue de la science
positive, je ne voudrais
pas contredire ceux qui,
frappés du caractère

tcription de toute pièces-
Parvenu au plus haut
degré religieux qui jamais
homme avant lui eût
atteint, arrivé à l’envi-
sager avec Dieu dans les
rapports d’un fils à
son père, voué à son
oeuvre avec un total
oubli de tout le reste et
une abnégation qui n’a jamais été si hautement pratiquée, victime enfin de son idée et divinisé par la mort, Jésus fonda la religion éternelle de l’humanité, la religion de l’esprit, dégagée de tout sacerdoce, de tout culte, de toute observance, accessible à toutes les races, supérieure à toutes les castes absolue en un mot: “Femme, le temps est venu où l’on n’adorera plus sur cette montagne ni à Jérusalem, mais où les vrais adorateurs adoreront en esprit et en vérité.” Le centre fécond où l’humanité
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

devait pendant des siècles rapporter ses joies, ses espérances, ses consolations, ses motifs de bien faire, était constitué. La source de vertu la plus abondante que le contact sympathique d’une conscience sublime eût fait jaillir dans le coeur des autres hommes était constituée ouverte. La haute pensée de Jésus, à plein comprise de ses disciples, souffrit bien des déchéances—Neanmoins le christianisme l’emporta tout d’abord, & l’emporta à l’infini sur les autre cultes—
plus raisoneurs & si
n’élève à Dieu par
cet univers qu’il a
crée par les lois
générales qui le régissent.
La sagesse et la bonté
tout ceux de ces attributs
qui me frappent le plus,
mais sans anthropo-
morphisme, sans faire
son intelligence plus que
son corps à l’image
de l’homme, sans
lui attribuer par consé-
quen de la tendresse
à mon égard - au lieu
de la bienfaisance uni-
verselle- Ces deux
religions ne preuvent pas
contraves & l’une
avec l’autre- elles
tiennent à deux orga-
nisations différentes-
Je ne puis pas plus
croire et aimer à la
manière de Pelico que
je ne puis être poète
comme lui, mais
en pensant aux
souffrances qu’il a
éprouvées je sais du
soulagement à réfléchir
qu’il avait une âme
ainsi constituée, qu’il
y trouvait une consolation
dont j’aurais été
privé.

Bundle 133, fragment

Your Iphigenia story has endeared
the Tauric Chersonese to me by her
beautiful fable, blind beetle that
I was not to see her here before--
But I deny the similitude- my
homely sufferings have nothing
to do with her most poetic ones-
& Dr. Hall’s slowly broiling of me over the fires of my own Extra Diet kitchen is, (I assure you, I who feel it,) much more painful than her brilliant death & most beautiful fate- Had I but time to tell of Dr. Hall’s torments & this said kitchen.

Bundle 133, fragment
Your Iphigenia story has endeared the Tauric Chersonese to me by her beautiful fable, blind beetle that I was not to see her here before- But I deny the similitude. My homely sufferings have nothing to do with her most poetic ones & Dr Hall’s slow broiling of me over the fires of my own Extra Diet Kitchen is (I assure you, I who feel it,) much more painful than her brilliant death & most beautiful fate. Had I but time to tell of Dr Hall’s torments & this said kitchen.

Bundle 133, fragment of letter
My dear
   If you have anything to say to (or to hear from) me, will you come between 10 & 11 this morning; or [line cut off]
could she write? But, if there is to be the going backwards & forwards there has been here yesterday & the day before, -- you will find that I shall not only be unable

Bundle 133 letter fragment, pen
   Dr. Linton has feeling & humanity - but/and every sense
but “common sense” - Dr. Sutherland is mistaken there - Any quantity of books which can be sent out will be acceptable. Remember we are 50,000.
Please send out 6 prs Angola stockings for Miss Wear - The below Cheque below is for the £6.10.0. for Wheatstone, the £2 for Lawfield, which you have doubtless paid

Ventilate your oven & baked meat is as good as roast. Deane & Dray’s ranges are unventilated - eschew D.& D. Sylvester’s ranges & Clarke’s (late Smith & Phillips) are ventilated & good.

Pear Papa I have often wished to write to you, believe me, & I do it today, not because I think I must, but because I have a little more leisure today than usual.
1. Before going into the subject of your letter, however, let me say that there is good news from Aix. Aunt Jane received the news just as one would expect
from her - thinking of him/Uncle Octs & not of herself. They will all shortly come home with him. For Gerard’s death, who was his real companion, (& he is really not fit, since his own accident, to go about alone,) will necessitate her being always b with him - And I consider this a very good thing for Flora, whose ill-health is entirely brought on by over-indulgence - There will not be so much time to indulge her now.
2. Aunt Mai & Uncle Sam have gone for a three days’ visit to poor old Keynesham from here.

And now -

1. I do not admit, with you, that I am thinking only of the bodies of the Army - in Sanitary Reform. On the contrary, it was because I was so intensely impressed with the state of the souls of the Army that I have given up my life for Sanitary Reform.

No moral & intellectual progress can be, by any means of ours, effected, without Sanitary progress. I will not venture to say that Sanitary progress effects moral progress. But of this we are quite sure that the latter cannot be effected where the former is not.

[You know I have not much respect for Lord Shaftesbury. But evidence shews us that his “Act for registering Common Lodging Houses” has effected a greater reform in that lowest of all classes than any amount of preaching could have done.
I say “that lowest of all classes” — But I recall the words. I consider the soldiers the lowest of all classes. As I told the Queen without circumlocution, marriage, with the soldier, is nothing but a licensed concubinage.]  

In an Article of the Revue des Deux Mondes of the 1st of this month, it says that the cause of our pauperism is in the unhealthiness of the dwellings of our working classes. Without maintaining that this can be strictly supported, I do say that while the dwellings of the soldiers were in a state which debarred them from the common decencies of life — in a state which drove them to drink as the general & only refuge from foul air, (& we know that foul air is the/an immediate cause of drunkenness) nothing could be done for their redemption.

2. But their Barracks are not the only things we have looked into. We have devised a
system of Statistical Registration, which, if it is carried out, will have nothing equal to it in Europe -:
3. Of our Sanitary School for their Medical Officers I can say the same thing.
4. Of our Sanitary Code of Regulations for the whole Army the same thing.
5. No one feels more intensely than I do, no one has urged more strenuously than I have, what you say about their having some better occupation than drill. We want to make the whole army sappers & miners. We want the whole work of the Commissariat to be done by the soldiers themselves.
   But this last does not come within our possibility. It must be done by the Horse Guards, with whom the discipline of the soldier exclusively lies.
6. To me who saw Scutari in the year of its drunkenness & Scutari in the year of its sobriety (acknowledged to be so by all the Authorities) - a change effected entirely by Schools, Reading Rooms, evening amusements, with a
certain amount of preventive coercion in the matter of Canteens &c, tho (all, things which we are trying to do now) - the soldier’s future is the most hopeful that can be - 7. People never seem to appreciate the great difference between the soldier’s condition & that of every other population - viz that, from the nature of an Army & its discipline, the soldier must be & remain entirely dependent upon the authorities for life & death, for morality & immorality, for health & disease. Army Authorities are (necessarily) the only ones which can put to death any given number of men by Sanitary & other neglects &c without being called to account for it. No one has ever called them to account for it but I. Because, when Sir A. Tulloch had received his reward, he left off - 8. You say that my life is “unique” - So it is. But whose fault is that? Had one single
man given himself the
trouble in the Crimea
to go to the bottom of
the subject as I have
done, he would have
saved me half the
work & consequently
half my life.
9. But you say my
life is “unique” in its
limiting itself to one
subject. No one feels
that more than I.
And I am quite
aware that it is this
which is killing me -
Man requires, (& woman
still more), for life a due
proportion in their
work, viz. of the intellectual

& the practical. I did
not find my work half
so destructive to me
in the Crimea, because
I had constantly a
due admixture of
practical work to be
done - It is now two
years since I have
seen a Hospital -

But, is this a reason
why I should leave off?
Rather, is it not a
reason, since I have
found no man who
will do the work that
I will, why I should
go on?
10. Again, you say, “why
can’t I spread the work
over years?” Because we never could get the Treasury to pay the men who work for us for years - The Treasury has just refused to pay Dr. Farr anything - who has given up the whole of his leisure time for 8 months for us, to do a work for the Army, which it may safely be said he is the only man in Europe who could have done?! [But this refusal of the Treasury Sir C. Trevelyan’s I do not mean to let rest].

If I were asked, what

is the sin of this generation?
I should say vagueness.
It is vagueness which makes people find a moral reason for every thing they like to do - It is vagueness which makes people not know what they can do & what they can’t do - It is vagueness which makes people give up what they can do for fear it should make them narrow - & try a great many things they can’t do in hopes it will make them broad.
It is vagueness which makes them say “I am going to do it” instead of doing it. [Some one says that when an Artist has begun to say, I am going to set to work, it is all over with him. Phidias, Homer & Michael Angelo never said I am going to do it] It is vagueness which makes the selfish half of the world say, “What’s the odds so long as I’m ‘appy?” & it is an equally pernicious vagueness which makes the unselfish ones say, “What’s the odds so long as he’s ‘appy?”

The consequence of these two halves meeting is that the occupation of families is principally devouring each other. The first half are the devourers - the second half are the devourable. [if/A good honest interest in the progress of man=kind would prevent have saved both.] It is vagueness which prevents people from blaming what is blameable - & which makes them love what is not loveable.
Dear Papa, I must leave off - I am going to send you in a day or two my Report to the War Secretary - which is to be perfectly Confidential, of course - ever dear pa your loving child F.

[end]

Sept 14 [arch: 1851]
Dearest father In answer to your question, there are many places both in Germany & Switzerland like Kaiserswerth - tho' I believe none neither so wise nor so popular.

The “Institution of Pauperism” does not exist in Germany - & I should imagine that sending your mother to the work-house wd be considered little less than murder - We must always remember when we so justly rail at the interference of Government in everything here, that Government in England takes the poor into its own hands, thereby frustrating & nullifying every design of Providence - much as charity Balls & Bazaars do -

With regard to the “un=praise=worthy” Institutions of this country, politically I grant it all. England seems born to solve all political questions - she has the prerogative
of Politics, & monopoly of wisdom & may she exercise it for the good of all nations as well as her own. But she always confounds the words Social & Political - Now even the Middle Ages distinguished between Civil & Political. 

Now I should imagine Germany in social wisdom far, far before England - Is there any thing like the "Institution" of London, for example, in the world? for badness -

The political ignorance here of the commonest axioms would disgrace a child - but to compare the churches of Germany & England? I should as soon think of comparing Jebb & Ellis & Dawes with the Bps of London & Exeter -

They are a different race of beings - Germany has a church -
by which I mean a way of bringing the influence of the more enlightened to bear upon the less — of educating spiritual physicians — I wish for a Hierarchy. I think all that nonsense about mankind being brothers pure wordiness — Mankind is naturally a hierarchy — the leading of the holier — England has no hierarchy — she has only a theological oligarchy.

I should think there was no comparison between the morality of the English & German masses — I have now seen a good deal of the lowest class here — & tho’ there is a tone of rough equality, which would ill suit our Ladies Bountiful, I am sure there is a far higher tone of morality.

I don’t think you can compare our Derbyshire & Hampshire folk — The German are more like the Derbyshire
I am delighted to hear that all is going on so well at the dear little Hurst.

The Middle & Lower Class are here educated together. The Lutherans, Calvinists & Reformists hang together marvellously well & seem never to think their divisions worth separating upon - These people are Lutherans, but they never quarrel with the others.

It is the very “freedom of thought & action” which I admire in this Institution - offering education for people’s powers - no paternity of government.

I had previously written to Mama about the Printer’s Bill.

ever dear Pa your loving child

Bundle 134 note on an envelope, stamped, addressed in FN hand to Mrs. Nightingale

Embley
Romsey

Perhaps you would like to see the Queen of Holland’s & M. Mohl’s letter- dearest Mother.
Please forward them to Papa & ask him to do the same to Hilary & then back to me - ever your F

Bundle 154, pencil note unnumbered

I fear it is no use trying to have rare Welsh ferns in London (They do not last even so long as in water) unless under a bell-glass
These pretty ferns were quite withered when I came and now they look deplorable
I think I will send them back to you at Claydon. They will otherwise die your F
Mr. Gladstone made me write this paper for his speech. Perhaps you would like to take a copy with you? It is quite private.

F.N.

Thank you so much for your beautiful house.

F.N.

Saturday
Cromford Br.

My dearest, This letter has put me quite in a "fix" as it is evident she wants me to go to give information to the poor Clark, I don’t like to refuse - I have written therefore to say that I will either go on Friday or Saturday night for one night- if they will allow me to leave it open & I shall hear from you meanwhile what which will enable me to fix it- Aunt Mai & I shall then go to Waverley on Saturday or Monday any way.

Thanks for your [illeg 2 words] note- poor people. I long to see them- I hope you are better, my dear ever thine

Bundle 137 letter, pencil

Private
Genl Brown’s evidence very instructive. Ditto Mr. Robinson’s It shews that the W.O. did all it
could to grant authority but that, owing to the disjointed state of the W.O. authority could not be granted (to spend money.) From previous evidence, (Capt. Gatting) it appears that the W.O. circular did grant authority to spend money-

Genl Brown says: I may be a blackhead but I did not understand it so.

[And Mr Snell he gives instances (as regards Mr Whiffin) in which Mr Whiffin certainly]
could not be said to be wrong."
Now the question is: not
to refer these Circulars &
other authorities to a legal
opinion as to what they
grant & what they don’t.
It is, or rather it ought to
be, that there should be
no question at all about
the matter.
It is just the Crimean
story & the Scutari story
over again on a small scale.
I feel quite at home in
it. I feel that I am
hearing the old, old story
over again.

What I said to Ld Panmure
in my private Report was:
with every force there
should be a Paymaster.
with every Hospital there
should be a Treasurer.
you don’t make your
butler your banker.

Bundle 147, incomplete letter, pencil, not in Wellcome

1870

Dear Sir Harry

  I have quite “determined on declining the
Russian Vice-Presidency”
  -have in fact written my letter some days
ago -
  I only want you to suggest something gracious
for me to say (about our friendship for Russia &c
which I shall put in a P.S. on a separate
sheet -
  [My letter already written is chiefly about
our own Aid Socy affair -] what has been done by England.
  I must send it to-day -

    //
I do not at all want you to urge you to write to
  Cr. Princess - It was you who suggested it -
I cannot write to her to day - Queen’s Messenger gone
now

    //
Convent of Mercy Kinsale 211

What I mean about the “Lists” is that the French List ought certainly to show what has been sent under the same heads as the German List.

Bundle 147 incomplete letter, 1f, pencil black-edged

35 Tuesday {archivist: ?'70}

My dear Sir Harry

   Nothing would give me more pleasure than to see your dear Daughter-in-law’s Journal. But if it must go by this day’s post, I am afraid I must postpone that pleasure - for the business of this day - (any thing not {illeg} to me that I waste much time in self-pity-) Would you ask Parthe whether she could do anything for the poor French milliner enclosed in employing her or recommending her for

Bundle 147, initialed letter, 1f, pencil

   Sunday {arch: ?’70}

My dear Sir Harry

   I am glad that you have let your house to Ld Rosse - I hope that he gives you a good penny for it -
   We shall be “extremely” ready - more than ready - for you on Wednesday here - as I hope you know - for you to stay or go, exactly as you like -
   I think the best way for me to see Parthe’s picture would be just to step into your Dining room any day before it is packed up - (I am afraid it can’t be to-day - for I shall not be out of this bed.)- Monday then, if it is not packed - But don’t delay the packing for me.
   Please let me have, (if possible, to-day) any books you may have of mine - e.g. Sir Bartle Frere’s pamphlet - Max Müller’s (Buddhist) Dhammapada - Maine’s Ancient Law -

   ever yours    F.N.
Tuesday {archivist: ?1870}

My dear Sir Harry

It is quite impossible for me to see Mr. Watts to-day - even were I in perfect health - And I have been ill all night. I am working as hard as I can -

I have not had time to think of Pr. Princess Alice Louis’ parcel.

Will you tell me the latest hour at which I can send it you to-day? - if you will kindly take it.

I hope to see you to-day -

Will you let Mr. Watts know?

ever yours F.N.

Dearie

I hope Sir Harry will always do know that he has nothing to do but to say in the morning what time he will have his dinner - That is really all the notice we require for his going away or coming back or staying or not staying - If he "goes to Claydon from Thursday till Monday "or Tuesday", well - If not, well too. I hope he will treat this house as "his inn" -

I think I left Mama quite particularly well - She said: "I wish I could give you (me) some of my health & strength" - dear soul. If I am downstairs in the drawing-room this afternoon, I will certainly send in to 32, hoping to see you -

ever your Sunday

Bundle 147, initialed letter, pencil {archivist: ?70

31 Dover St

Thursday {arch: ?187- [Jan- Feb 1862]}

Dear Papa

In intend to see you,
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

please, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, all three.
½ past 11 to 1
and ½ past 3 to 5
are my best hours -
Alas! I do so little now that it matters little whether
I deny myself a pleasure to save myself for business or not -
ever dear Pa
Your loving child
F.

Bundle 154, signed letter, pencil

March 3 {arch: ?73}

My dear Sir Harry
Do you think that I don’t know that Emily dear, ever= deear, has been gone 6 months to-day?
Do you think I have not reckoned every day, every week, every month since she left?
But deeply possessed as I am with this: how great her power for God’s service - and: her work left undone - yet I am more possessed with the idea: & more & more every day, as difficulties & darkness gather round myself - how glorious her work in the future!
Margt wrote to me: Sept 9 - “Emily has been 6 days dead - how much she knows now - how much she has enjoyed” - Now she has been 6 months dead - how much she
has done now - in the
spirit of her Lord & our
Lord - away from
all our weaknesses &
littlenesses & from all
our vulgar, shallow, self-
ignorance, self-seeking -
“As thine, thro’ night & tempest
I hear the Master’s cry -
And tossing thro’ the darkness
The lights of God draw nigh.”
She had darkness & storm -
We have storm & tempest
The “lights of God” have long
since drawn “nigh” to her -
To us may they ever
“draw” nearer & nearer -
ever your loving (in her)
F Nightingale
I am not much one for
Verdienst Kreuze - tho’ I was
pleased at anything she liked -
But Verdienst Kreuze are
very far away & apart
from her now -
There is but one “Cross”
for her - the Cross & the
Crown -
____________________
She is scarcely ever
long away from my thoughts
long & more near
I think every month
F.N.

Bundle 197. Florence Nightingale and the Italian Army [15:417]

Cavaliere Sebastiano Fenzi, Florence. A Florence correspondent, writing on the 8th [June 1866] says, I have just seen a letter written by Florence Nightingale to the Cavaliere Sebastiano Fenzi, one of the committee for organizing a system of volunteer assistance to the hospital department of the army. It contains and sets forth with admirable lucidity the results of her experience on the matters in question obtained in the Crimea and otherwise. And all this part of her letter, invaluable as it is to the Italians, it is not necessary to reproduce here, but the conclusion of it, which truly falls like balm on the minds of these people, excoriated as they have lately been by the ungenerous strictures and lecturings and abuse of the English press, well deserves to be quoted.

Thus far, writes Miss Nightingale I have given dry advice as drily as I could. But you must permit me to say that if there is anything I could do for you at any time, and you would command me, I should esteem it the greatest honor and pleasure. I am a
hopeless invalid, entirely a prisoner to my room, and overwhelmed with business. Otherwise how gladly would I answer to your call and to come and do my little best for you in the dear city where I was born. If the giving my miserable life could hasten your success but by half an hour, how gladly would I give it. But you will not want for success, or for martyrs, or for volunteers, or for soldiers.

Our old general, Lord Clyde (he is dead now) was standing at the port of Balaclava when, eleven years ago, the Italian Bersaglieri were landing, and he turned round and said to his companion (a man in high office) I wish to hide my face--I blush for ourselves when I see the perfect way in which those glorious troops are brought up to their work. And what have not the Italians done since, in these eleven years? the work almost of eleven centuries. I too remember the Italian (Sardinian) hospitals on the heights of Balaclava, and their admirable government, and since then, what has not the progress been? I wish you God speed with my whole heart, and beg that you will believe me, Sir, your faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

[15:417]

bunlde ?? unnumbered, black-edged

10 South St. May 14/91
Dearest blessed Margaret

Thanks you, thank you
for your two notes--
I have had too a dear letter from Sir Harry about your making your home with him.
We were all in a fright--
But God maketh all things right.

“3:30 on Friday (tomorrow) afternoon”
would suit me exactly
--you are so good as to [breaks off]

unnumbered pen and pencil, on envelope

Dearest Gwendolen, I am so very sorry about Mother’s hand
The enclosed was written before your dear note came but it is only a payment of what she was good enough to pay for me.
Mrs. F. Verney
6 Onslow Gardens [3 lines in large pencil]
29/1/98
I will answer your kind note
tomorrow
your loving
Aunt Florence

Bundle pencil, unnumbered

18/11 1891
Dearest blessed Margt
I need not say to you:
Dieu le sait: Dieu vous voit; Dieu vous ame-
You are not alone, for the Father is with you both.

Bundle unnumbered, incomplete letter, pen [1891]

offer it. But Sir Harry desires me to say to you: “Lady Mary Glyn “is coming from Oxford “on Friday to see her - (Margt) “so my dear “Margaret must finish “her present work, and “come to spend Friday “afternoon with Lady “Mary.” I trust you will be able to do this - of course I will make any other time yours.

This afternoon I am engaged: & I dare say you are still more so. God will bring round the “1st Class” I have had the most darling letter from dear Ellin-

Among these trials worse than death, truly you have great consolations - Those dear girls are taking
their part like loving
& courageous little
Saints too.

Bundle ? incomplete letter, pen

about her children not
coming to school & not
being regular & all
that - they make it
a part of their liege
serfdom to send their
children to school, &
conceive it a tribute
to their feudal lord.
My dear woman I
should say (instead
of urging her to send
her children to my
school) if you think
any other school better,
you are very much to
blame for sending them
here - I am nothing

but your shop-keeper
I have capital, &
therefore I have laid
in a stock of this
article. Education - If
you think the Article
good, but it “you give
your money & you take
your choice.” If, next
week, you don’t want
it I shall no more
blame you than a
shopkeeper does for
your not having bought
his tea that week -you
go without it, that’s
all if you like to come
again come - this is only, a shop
open to all customers.”

Anything else is nothing
but feudal system, pure
& to make their having
sent their children to
School a plea for broth
& dripping is just a
bit of the ignorant
slavery of the subjects
of a paternal Despotism.

But I must stop, &
you dear Pa will not
have patience to read.
The Sam Smiths are
still at 22 Pall Mall
ever, dear Pa, your
loving child F.N.
Fragment of letter to FPN, bundle 124

for a memorial to Hugh
Mr. Caulfield an excellent
man &c & this good
Sir A K did all this,
without telling the family
that he was gone. Well,
there are good people here,
Mrs Stewart Mackenzie is
coming up to town, but not
London, as I hear from her
We have a great apartment
of mistresses & mountebanks
here, Miss Rankin, Mlle
Julie, Aunt Ju & we live
fast & furious - ever dear
child, thy loving F

Bundle ?, unnumbered

My dear Grandmama

We long to hear that
you are pretty well, now the win-
ter is coming on. We cannot grieve
for poor Mr Sam Shore’s death, after
so much suffering but we must
grieve that we shall never see so
kind-hearted benevolent a man
again. How are Lydia and her
sisters? Shore and Bertha are
going on so nicely. They are as well
as possible and as happy as the
day is long. They are such a
droll little pair, the other day at
dinner about a certain Colonel Hogg whom they used to meet on Wimboldon Common. “He’s a dumb” said Bertha, “he talks on his fingers” said Shore “he has three legs,” replied Bertha, It is true that they used to talk to a Colonel Hogg but all the latter part is invention. Mama seems much stronger for her visit to Leamingon and Parthe is quite well. Dr. Jephson has done them both good. We have had nos now here but some hard frosts which have cut off all the flowers and almost all the leaves off the trees. Now again it is very mild, and rain and fog attend us.

What very nice accounts there are from Aunt Mai! But she is so busy that she is glad to have the children off her hands, till thee are gravel walks made for them to walk upon. They seem to make great use of our phaeton and mare which the have taken with them. Good bye, my dear Grandmama, we hope to hear soon that you are well, and believe me, your truly affectionate Florence. Embley Nov 14th

Bunlde 305, letter

8 October 1856
I am afraid you are [14:457] pretty bad, dear Papa - Lady Coltman & I go to Braemar to morrow (Thursday) with the Clarks to Edinburgh Friday - If I can dispose of Lady Coltman whom I have some hopes of sending to Lea Hurst on Saturday I go to Sir John McNeill’s on Saturday & come home Monday. I hope I shall find Col Tulloch there - I have
written our plans to
Uncle Sam. I hope you
will try water-cure
at Malvern if you are
not better-
   Panmure comes here
today to eat his lunch
& me - He is civil,
shrewd, impracticable
& inert - good at parrying,
bad at acting.
   I hope Uncle Sam &
aunt Mai will come to
the Hurst before we go-
ever dear Pa
   your loving child
Feb 8/56

Bundle 309, copy of a letter, or dictated

30 Old Burlington Street [14:484-85]
London, W.
11 March 1857

My dear Mrs Brownlow
   I only heard yesterday of the loss of our dear little
Bessie. And I do not think that there is anyone except her own
mother who will feel her loss as much as I shall. I was so fond
of her, as if she had been my own--and I have often thought of
her sitting on the floor at Scutari looking up to the old Turk,
and again running about in the Crimea. I little thought I should
never see her again, although the wheezing at her chest often
made me uneasy, thinking she would have difficulty in fighting
her way through measles or whooping cough.
   I send you by tonight’s post a picture which I hope you will
think as like her as I have always done, and which will remind
you of her steadfast look, which always made me think more of
heaven than earth. When you have looked at it, send it me back,
and I will have it framed for you, if you think it like what she
was at Scutari.
   Grieve for her you always must. But remember, dear Mrs
Brownlow, you might have had a greater loss in your husband and
you have another child to save yourself for. And remember that
early death is the boon “Heaven grants His favourites.” And many
troubles it will have spared our dear little Bessie. God bless
her and God has blessed her.
   ever affectionately yours
with sincere sympathy for your great loss
Florence Nightingale
The picture I send is one of our Saviour in His infancy. Let it remind us that Bessie is now with Him, who will make her like Himself, more than she used to be as an infant, like His picture.

Bundle 323 letter

We slept last night at Hen & Chickens - it was curious how even changes to the Hen & Chickens - the change raised his spirits: Today we had a beautiful day for arriving here - We arrived at Cromford Station before two, & I walked to my Aunt’s She won’t come up to us, I am sorry to say. I wrote from Umberslade to ask her. She has not been even to the window for months - & she fancies it would be too much for her: I am very sorry. I think it would have cheered her. And I am afraid she must feel very feeble, to forego a fortnight’s society of those she love so well. And for me, there are few in this world I love so well. Caroline Arkwright was married yesterday - the details all that the
newspapers can wish- they are gone to France. He is a broker at Liverpool. rich & dull & of good family. All the world was there & old Petrons [?], with a touch of the gout, cd hardly officiate. One of Frank Muir’s daughters & one of the Robt Arkwright sons are going to be married. one or both in the family to someone in the family I forget which. I don’t mean they are going to be married to each other- but to two other somebodies. Also Sir Joseph Paxton has just married his daughter to a clergyman - not satisfied, because there is no money. Tomorrow I shall walk up to Wildgoose’s- first thing- & consult with her as to this extraordinary failure of Futcher’s & the school wage- I continued to like Dr. Johnson more & more every day _ & the last day most of all. He is not agreeable not a man of the world- but so extraordinary, cautious, clever & candid

Bundle 338 pencil letter with env

10, South Street [printed address]  
Park Lane W.  
Nov 30/1900

Dearest Gwendolen  
I am sorry to tell you that I made a stupid mistake last night & have already an appointment for next Thursday- So I shall have to ask you to come one day the week after next. I have no appointments at present. So Would you choose your own day for next
week after next & let me know as soon as you can, as there are some waiting.

With much love your affectionate Aunt Florence

Bundle 369 letter (4 to Georgina Tollet) [8:740-43]

Embley 8 December [1848]

My dearest Georgina

I am a wretch and four pages of apologies could only enlarge upon and diversify that sentiment, without putting it in a new and attractive form—whereupon I have it in all its naked horridness. I had your letter when I was a rat, a water rat, that is, in the time of Pythagoras, which I can scarcely remember and beg you to believe that I have not thought of you the less for a certain incapacity in making black marks upon white.

As births come first in the periodicals (when will my reputation ever rise again to the level of a periodical?) I will promise that Mrs Plunkett has a young son, a very young one, who manifests the most obstinate determination to live, notwithstanding the utter impropriety I am told of his doing so, seeing that he was considerably younger than his nine months when he was born. Mrs Plunkett is going to try the Undine under Gully upon her recovery.
Next, as I can’t think of a marriage to tell you, the Bracebridges are at Brighton, trying to get well of her rheumatism. Thirdly, I would, if I could, for the sake of dramatic propriety and without the strict adherence to truth, upon which I particularly pique myself—class myself and mother under the article deaths—but the fact is my mother is perfect resurrection and I too, after having been in good work (as a water wheel) for six weeks, intend to be better than ever I was in my life.

Gully is a most sensible man (though he doesn’t agree with me) And I wish I could send all my friends to him—who are visited, that is, with neuralgia or dyspepsia.

You ask for Roman news. I have heard twice from Rome since the row and have little comfort to tell. My friend was in the Chamber at the time of Rossi’s murder and says that it was a useless crime as they were going to turn him out the next day by a vote. It is some consolation to me to tell that the Quirinal row was not a deliberate piece of ingratitude. It was merely a “noisy demonstration” when those stupid Swiss, in their provoking fidelity and folly, fired through the loopholes—up to that time the crowd was unarmed. But, finding themselves wounded they ran about like wild things, then followed the attempt to set the gate on fire, but not of the papal palace, only of the Swiss quarters—then they armed themselves and the row followed. My friend is such a zealous papist that I take his account as accurately true. It is said the pope left the Quirinal in the disguise of a pilgrim, but where he is now even the last letter I have had this evening hardly seems to know--most probably still at Facta [?]. Rome has been in perfect quiet and consternation or (whatever the Italian may be for “in a fix”) ever since, quite at a loss to know what to do. The political sagacity of his flight seems beyond all question. Rome had called herself a republic for some days before but without appointing a republican government and hoped, it seems, to make him quietly sign whatever they chose. But now without his signature nothing is legal and as they are not yet quite prepared to throw him completely aside, they are regularly “stumped.”

With regard to that faithful single-hearted man himself, who almost alone in Europe had hitherto conducted the great tide of revolution without bloodshed and without a military despotism, I cannot bear to speak of him. What can be said except that the law of this world seems to be that all great benefactors to their race shall be martyrs? They seem hardly accredited without this seal. It is their letters patent as ambassadors from Heaven. My only prayer for him is that he may not doubt the reality of his mission, may not think that, because evil has come of it, he ought not to have done good. That would be hard to bear——“he has begun his passion,” was the expression used with regard to him by
a Roman Catholic, who generally I think succeed better than we do in familiarizing the idea of the close connection between the life of the Master and His scholars.
I must urge two things for the wretched Romans. Two great mistakes had been made--no blame to Pius--but the fault of his impossible position, as father of the R.C. Church--one was the not declaring war; he could not do it, it was impossible, against his own children. Still, the Romans were right to ask it, don’t you think so? The other was the keeping the Swiss Guard and Rossi’s abominable contumelious treatment of the curés [priests]. Still, they have got themselves into such a mess now that one must be almost more sorry for them than for Pius, who was the only man who could save them. But ten short months ago and I knelt with 84,000 men in the Piazza of the Quirinal as he addressed the multitude with his preternaturally clear and sweet voice, which was distinctly heard to the fartherst man.

I wish those wretched Bonapartes were rooted out leaf and branch. Nothing good can ever come of that blood. I believe Canino is at the bottom of all this mess.

I have written you what news I had, which is but small, because Ellen said you were pleased to be interested. Goodnight, dearest friend, and with best love to Ellen and all whom you love, believe me,

ever yours

F.N.

Bundle 369, letter [8:738-40]

Lea Hurst

Monday

My dearest Georgina

It seems to me as if a heap of old moons must have piled themselves up as rubbish in the worn-out furniture illeg of the Creation since there has been any communication between me you and me and yet it is not a fortnight and many’s the half hour I have spent with you, which is not to be wondered at as many moons had marked off their time without ever producing so much happiness as Betley did. I’m a pretty fellow not to have told you so before, but the day when time shall be no more has so long since come with me (the material interests having maintained a great consumption of that article) what a lie those political economists do propagate when they say the supply is always equal to the demand---but they’re little better in honesty than the publicans of old that I have not had a word to throw at a dog, much less at thee, who art of more value than many dogs.
I suppose you expect a Clive dithyramb, but I really have nothing to say upon that extremely commonplace and very desirable marriage. I felt desperately in love with the boy Meysey [?], the house was charming, Mrs Clive was charming, Mr Clive was charming. There is a point strictly between ourselves beyond which I never can get with Mrs Clive, but I attribute it to the fact that there is this difference between her and the rest of the world, that while all her fellow creatures are always endeavouring to say something clever she is always trying to say something stupid.

We had one night afterwards at the Bracebridges whom I do hope that you will know some day and mind, Ellen, that you cultivate her. (She is too a great friend of Mr Tremenheere’s.) I think it is rather a pity as D’Aubigné says to Providence in his Reformation that Providence moves the Clives to larger fortune. She may not be perhaps quite so happy. My dear child, that is real love—and you know my doctrine is that it is very difficult to excite real genuine love in the female breast and especially for a clever man, because the admiration of intellect is so inherent in the female fancy, much more so than in the male, that her imagination (and alas! her vanity too often) is pleased before her heart and her heart comes then but little in question. Yes, clever men and heiresses stand at about the same depth of misfortune—both may be loved for themselves but both must be always suspicious. And I believe they feel it and that is the reason why they so often do not marry. I have much more faith in the love when I see it for a stupid man like Mr Clive. There might be a tariff: female from £2000 to £6000 per ann. To be saved for 7 years, from £6000-1000, 14 years, &c man distinguished in science to serve 7 years for his love, in politics, 14 years in literature, 21 years, etc. Security being established and upon these broad bases of a sound insurance policy I think it then safe even for Macaulays and Burdett-Coutts’s to marry. But a clever man knows how to make his wooing so fascinating and the eyes of a woman even as her thousands are to the eyes of poverty. I am going to execute a few cries of Plato for the instruction of the young à la Cruikshanks upon themselves, in which man shall be represented in his various attitudes bowing down at the shrine of Plutus and woman at that of Mercury or whoever the God of Talent is. A woman who marries for the self-love of influencing a clever man richly deserves her fate. They are two. The one and the least bad is that she finds nothing afterwards in herself which can execute the task she has set to herself, viz., the faith and the enthusiasm which alone can influence and which are given by love only. She fails and is humbled. Her soul is saved while her happiness is ruined. The other is that her life becomes the acting of a lie and she herself a lie—her success is won, her own soul is lost.
Having laid down these “maximums” on the dangers of marriage for your improvement, my young friend (with a very col hand, as it is 7 o’clock and a frosty morning) you having asked me my sentiments re clive, let us proceed to pleasanter themes and let me tell you how very happy were the days I spent at Betley. There is to me so little repose in life. Many people seek repose in distraction—-it answers with some and I have been thinking why this remedy does not answer with all. In one class of minds, where the power of suggestion is stronger than that of association, where outward impressions originate ideas, where the mind is very much alive to the exterior world and the organization susceptible, new thoughts are understandable, indeed introduced by a life of excitement and distraction and the old weakened. But in another class, where the power of association is very strong, the person’s energy rather accumulative than sensitive, intellectual variety and change of scene and event rather awaken associations with the old ideas than call up new ones. Every circumstance makes reference to them and every look contains an allusion to thoughts the associations are but multiplied.

But, my dearest, how tired you will be. Are you asleep? Nay, I won’t wake you—good night. Cold “inhibits” my pen—we have given up the Scotch expedition I am happy to say, shall stay here quietly till the end of September and then return to Embley and remember your woman’s word is plighted to come to us, either her or there. With most grateful loves to Mr and Mrs Tollet, believe me,

ever yours overflowingly

F.N.

Shake hands, Ellen, and give me a kiss.

Bunlde 369, letter  [8:743-47]

Lea Hurst
Matlock
31 January [1851]

My dear friend, right glad was I to see your hand again. All my friends are married or dead, which is the same thing, and old hands are pleasant in a firm.

I am in great fears about the world, but I will tell you, first, the opinion of a reasonable official at Paris, which is that the president is ruining himself as fast as he can. The proscriptions were a crime, but the confiscations were a “faute” and alienated the bourgeoisie, who were for him as a defender of the rights of property. The provinces are still for him in their absurd panic about socialism. However there will be no disturbance just yet, but, as soon as the king’s iniquitous cabinet is ready (Casabianca is a common spy) he will make a grab
at the Rhine, Belgium, Savoy or even England (but this last the least likely) and, once engaged in war, the country will quietly abide the issue. This is what we hear through the ambassador’s bag--nobody dares to write per post--so you may take it for what it is worth. They say Piedmont is in a terrible fright--no wonder. People
keep away from the president’s balls, the only signs of moral life they give. He is quarreling with all his own family and leading the most disgraceful private life, but that is no novelty. In London he was hardly received.

As for me, my dear, I feel in very low spirits about the universe indeed. Since Lord Palmerston went out I am “weak and weary of the world, which is now altogether the devil’s” as old Luther used to say. I think the Kalmucks will overrun us because they have digestions and we have not, and I am convinced it is dyspepsia which overthrows empires--loss of digestion and loss of religion, these two.

You will see--there will be three emperors, emperors of France, emperor of Austria, emperor of Russia--and they will eat up my poor little Piedmontese and dear little Greece. As to poor old Germany, she’s gone--sold--”a man and a brother” with a chain round his neck, on his knees, as seen in frontispieces. You seem to expect to see L.-Napoléon returning thanks under a catafalque at St Paul’s--I have no fears of that kind. I think Q. Victoria’s eight cream-colours will enter the Pretoria Tower without any other danger save that of kicking her against the curbstone. Any danger we have comes from within. I believe I speak to a member of the old Whig interest--and therefore I will be mild in my expressions--but, my dear, the Tories are a feeble folk, a feeble and accomplished race. They have turned out the only man of any power among them. However, since they have signified their own willingness to go, we cannot demand anything more of them. My cousin Bonham Carter is to second the address and in your faithful ear I may whisper, if they have no better supporters growing up--well, mind, I didn’t say that. But their minds and his mind are all like the appendix of a book--full of minute facts, developed in the most beautiful detail, but which give you no idea of the general gist of the thing. Peace be with their ashes! I hear from Florence that young Italy is positively desperate at Lord Palmerston’s going out and if he were to appear there would rise to make him their leader, willy nilly. What a curious impertinent episode that would be in the romance of a nation’s life. But don’t abuse the papers for abusing L.-N. Who is to speak if we don’t? Fiat justitia, etc. the proverb is rather musty but let us have justice of that thing, that Avvocato del Diavolo. I am only afraid that he will bring back the Orleans, whom, if possible, I hate more, by this persecution of them.

If we (England) are running any danger, It arises from within and not from without. If we look back in the history of any nation, Egypt, Rome, etc., we shall always find that the nation fell when they had lost their religion and when civilization had spoilt their constitutions. It seems to me that both catastrophes are now happening to England.
Well, my dear, let us come to privater and pleasanter things. I am very glad to hear of the Milnes’s “coming event.” The sofa “casting the shade before” matters comparatively little. It is a great gift of God, I think, when it comes so soon. God bless it and grant that it may come to good. Your friend was so kind as to come to Embley and I was quite smitten with that charm of infinite sweetness over her. I don’t think I ever say anyone who had it to the same degree. Do you know, I do believe she is one of the angels—as I never saw one before it was not to be expected, you know, that I should know one by sight directly. I agree in all your prognostications. I think she will have a very happy life and I am sure she deserves it.

As for our own plans, which you ask about, I am sure I don’t know what to say. My father was so unwell, so altered, all the autumn, that, at the beginning of the year he and I went into the freezer coat of the cold water cure, Umberslade, near Birmingham. Then his business brought him here and after we have concluded visits to my dear old people, his mother and aunt, aged respectively ninety-four and ninety, and wound up matters here, we shall put on the freezer coat again for some weeks, where a letter from you will find me much obliged. This will our London so late that I am sadly afraid we shall miss dear Ellen—if we go at all, which what with the dissolution and things I daresay we shall not.

My love to dear Ellen and to Miss Crewe when you write, if you do. My corresponding days are over as the young people say of their dancing.

I don’t think poor Mrs Warburton has such a loss as she thinks she has—I did not like him. I don’t mean to say that was a reason for burning him. But I had an instinct he was a humbug. That however does not diminish the beauty of her martyrdom—for she was devoted in and entirely attached to him. Much more than he was to her—and she is very loveable.

It is a curious thing that the only two thoroughly magnanimous people I have ever known have both been women, and both women of no intellect. It is wonderful how little the great of soul are identical with the great of intellect.

To return to poor Mrs Warburton—how does she comfort herself? Does anybody believe in a future state? an old question between us. But if we did, should we put on mourning and say “poor” and talk about “melancholy catastrophes.”

Papa, my dear, is coming to you on the knees of a beggar. He wants a couple of those little lanterns which used to run about the drawing room at Betley—if it is not asking too great a favour. When we come here in the summer he means to prefer this request and as we have no other fowls here the question is whether, if his request be granted, is to come in the shape of the living animal, the cock and
the hen, or that of the embryo—a few eggs. However I leave this to you and him to settle, hoping to have seen you first before that.

Accept my gratulations on the subject of Mrs Davenport’s marriage and may her second enterprise be better than her first. She will have a pack of grandchildren, but, my friend, eleven grandchildren are better than one Arthur. Will that individual live at Capersthorne by himself?

I can’t say much for my poor relatives in connection with Karlsbad. I left them both all but in bed and would not have come away had not my father positively refused to go alone, which indeed would have been quite impossible.

I hope your nephew is quite well again and give a kiss for me to that dear little soul I saw in London.

My love to all. It is desperately cold up here, which rather damages the beauty of my hand. Believe me,

yours [illeg] till doomsday ‘i th’ afternoon

F.N.

A propos to Paris, there are tribes of my friends in London who would otherwise be at Cayenne—but my friends are always the riff-raff, you know. Guizot sticks, you see.

If you know of anybody who wants a German governess with first-rate music, and would give a tip-top bid for her, £130 [136?]—a friend of mine (not a riff-raff), the sister of one of the Wurtemberg ministry, now upon his trial, wants a place. To speak my admiration of her I have no words. Half her family are in prison—the other half in America—and she goes out to get bread for a ruined married sister, whose husband has been fifteen years in prison. I have known her for years, her temper, her principle, her genius, and I shan’t let her go [illeg line]. She is about thirty.

I must tell you, in defence of the barricades of the 2nd December that my friends—the riff-raff—only fought not for success but sternly protesting to the death, if needful. Organized plots there were none, nor faintest hopes of effective resistance—as that wretch’s “Constitutionnel” said. Their resistance was only a protest against the atrocity of the act. Even the “blouses” felt this—a few poor boys began to sing the Marseillaise—but they stopped them, saying they wanted no such banner to be raised. They stood three attacks of troops on the barricades.

Bundle 369, letter, black-edged stationery [8:747-48]

Embley 17 November [1852]

Dearest, I have been meaning to write every day. I am sure you will not think it was want of interest which prevented me. The fact is we have been shovelling our dear ones before us into
eternity so fast lately that my time has been shared between the
dying and the dead. The very same expression “what a world this
is” reached me from another bereaved one lately. I do not agree.
Not considering death a misfortune I cannot pretend to talk of it
as such. One less to suffer is that a thing [illeg] to speak of
as if it shook our faith in the love of God? There are things so
much worse to bear--things which do so shake our faith, which
affect the condition of our dear ones beyond the grave that I can
only call these blessed whom the course of life is carrying
nearer to their lost ones and to God. But I don’t know anyone who
believes in a future state, do you? I have lately come from the
nursing of my dear old people of ninety-three and eight-eight. I
know so exactly the fall of the voice every time the latter
speaks of the sister she lost fifty-eight years ago. Could she
but bring home to her feeling that she will see her again in a
much less space!

Harry Hallam was like Parthe’s younger brother. I think this
and her visit to the poor Nicholsons have quite broken her down.
The Hallams arrived in England yesterday. He is able to talk of
his dead son, a great comfort; he is seventy-four. You are so
good as to ask after the poor Nicholson. They are well and their
great patience is worthy of the beautiful spirit which has taken
its flight. His death is one of those, like many which I have
known lately, which transform the whole of life for the
survivors--for he was the axis on which the whole family turned.
May their new life grow out of their grief, not like Balaam’s
ass, turn aside out of the way of the angel.

Dearest, I am writing in such a hurry--for I am going to
them this week and am only just come home. The poor mother cannot
quite keep “If this,” and “if that had not been so” out of her
mind’s eye--otherwise there is scarcely any even human cause for
it--the accident remains and will always probably remain a
mystery--the brother who went to the spot together all remains of
him can find nothing from the accounts of the people there to
account for the fact of a diligence with seventeen souls on board
being washed a distance of 500 yards with only a gradual fall of
70 ft into the sea. Dearest, I do so agree with you not to
regret--to look at the thing as a whole, as God’s will--surely
that is the way He intends--there is no truth in those regrets.

I hope, dearest, that you are now pretty well.

Some got away to England in an English collier. The captain
who did not know a word of French but “manger et dormir” [eat and
sleep] heaped both these articles and innumerable great coats
upon them in his rough Newfoundland-dog kindness.

My son has just left me and is very satisfactory and very
anxious to me, thank you. Dear love to Ellen. I do so look
forward to meeting again here I mean, as well as there.

thine ever
Mr. Herbert will not be in town till Thursday. Pray don’t hurry up. Mr. Clough takes great care of me & comes twice a day.

in haste
ever yours
F.N.
April 13/58

Dearest blessed Margaret

How filled we are with thoughts & prayers for you & heart felt thought & prayers you well know by yourself--you in whom I say the miracle of the Loaves & Fishes being multiplied is fulfilled -- you have enough & to spare for every body you have to do with --& even plenty of baskets of fragments for outsiders. And I hope, I pray, I trust that the part of the business does not exhaust you any more than it did Christ (for you dwell in the Father) But I am afraid the present life is sadly wearing.

We hang upon your Telegrams When I say “we,” I rarely show your Telegrams, unless they speak of convalescence for I thought you would not like it --never to Sir Harry or Ruth. Happily Sir H scarcely ever asks for them. If he does, it makes him cry. But you know how
like a child he is -- He does not realize what passes in the other room! And then I think of what is said of a child, ‘Of such is the kingdom of heaven’ His heart is always awake. ‘Dormio sod meum cor vigilat’ is the motto of the Carreggio of the sleeping child Jesus, which we had at Embley & is now, I think, in the Cedar room. He has periods of excitement & confusion, always introduced by his brother being here, which he is now.

Miss Walker is so nice with Ruth--so really good I see her skimming & cutting about after R in ‘Follow my leader’ One day I saw her marching in stiff military guise. I could not think what they were at. Ruth was General Miss Walker was a Regiment--whom Genl R. Was drilling. [It is not usual for Generals to drill their Regiments--but as the forces out were not large that day, you must excuse] ‘Wheel right’ ‘Wheel left’ Then followed some words of command not in the Regulations which I found were issued because the Genl did not always know which was right & which was left. Besides, you know the art of war is so changed by long-range guns & cavalry that men fight in pelotons & not in line. So no wonder if the drill should be new to me. [I regret to say that H.M.’s 2nd Regiment of Foot, Nip, showed culpable carelessness in its Non-Commissioned Officers in drilling it, & cannot yet be recommended to the
favourable notice of the Commander-in-Chief.]
The Crowned Heads of Europe who were doubtless present at this military display, were, I presume, behind the railings, or they may have been drinking tea in the wood-yard.]

2
I do not ask you to write, tho' I would burn every morsel & my clothes too scrub myself with Carbolic Soap 20 p.c. from the crown of my head, to the tip of my tail, including my paws, indeed I would take off my skin, if you would before embracing my Little Whistler. But I am sure you have enough & too much to write.

Would that we could bear your burden for you.
The Missionary Meeting went off with great spirit on Thursday. Dr Battersby appeared in African costume, they tell me, & made a very good address. And Sir Harry, Miss Walker, Little Whistler & a maid each tried to give me a version of it, of which I regret to say, Little Whistler’s was the best. L. Whistler concluded by announcing to me that she was going out to Africa as a Missionary Nurse. But, I would not hear, so I cannot tell you exactly her plans. But I don’t think she is going out next week with Dr Battersby, for he has too (untrained!) Lady Nurses going out with him, one a
Miss Clapton, I think.
They ended with singing
“And crown him Lord of all.”
Mr Higham appeared to be
leading the second with a
fine powerful voice - not
quite in tune & Mrs
Battersby with a high soprano
also a little out of tune - the
women. But notwithstanding this
as the volumes of sound
rolled out into the inner hall
& up the Escalier d’Honneur
it was really very grand.
Every boy seemed singing -
not shouting -- singing with
deep feeling & earnestness.
And as it died away in the
last line in deep solemn tones
or rather seemed going away, softened into
a heavenly distance,
‘And crown Him crown Him,
crown Him, Lord of all’
I don’t know I ever heard
anything more touching. It
seemed to do one good.

At this juncture I heard
from my lofty perch on the
front stair case, a lamentable
voice singing a second from
the pantry. It was Nip
Perhaps thinking of the buns.
There were more than a
hundred people in the North
Hall. No carriage people
tho’ I heard the light carts
go by like a ball in Park
Lane.

4
I think your children are
all so remarkable.
Lettice was so busy while
she was here, but never
in a hurry. She was always
writing something for us to
you. And riding. I
think she is the most gallant
female on horseback I
ever saw. But she cost
me a deal of shoe leather
rushing to the window to
see when there was violent
gallopping on the turn that
she was all right, which
she always was. H Majesty
who is herself, I believe,
Colonel of a Regiment of Horses,
ought to give her a Hussar Regt.

The day she went away she
had everything ready & done
hours before she had to start
& she was quite disengaged &
collected ("at leisure from herself")
to attend to everybody & every thing.
[She had had a good fiddle practice
the day before.] She went off
like one going to another home.
Her devotion to you is bounded
only by your Infinite Love,
 tho' possibly she may be sometimes
a little rude. She esteemed it
a privilege to go with her father.
And I trust it will please her
Heavenly Father to preserve her
health. For one thing struck me
particularly & even more from
the tone of her letters since--
that her determination to do
well what you thought best,
to companionzie him really,
had released her from herself,
from that little morbid feeing
that everyone is thinking of her face.

All four children always remind me
of different parts of their
mother. But, quite confidentially,
(and you need not tell Margaret)
I infer, as I am very fond of
Natural History, that God
could not create another Margaret,
so each of these children
as inherited a fourth &
some a half of her.

As for der, dear Ellin,
she has already such a large
family of her own - she has
to mother her seniors, James &
Harry, and then Vortigern &
her own Harry. And she has
to keep the accounts of her
own L.R.H. & to tell them
what to put into the Savings Bank,
& to tidy them up - & all
sorts of mothering, which she
does so well, without scolding
and to be cheerful.

I will never say “poor” again

I say rich Lettice
richer Ellin
richest Margaret.
For indeed you are the richest
people I known.
Sometimes I am afraid that
God wants to make my
Margaret perfect, and I
say “o isn’t she perfect enough?’
And he does not take away
His presence. I like that first
line in the Confirmation Service
so much : Dost thou her in
the presence of God &c?

Lettice mothers little Whistler,
but I am bound to say she
sometimes scolds her well,
in her own interest
when she is careless about herself.

Whistler has lost her spectacles.
If you could instruct me as to
Mr Power’s NUMBER for the glasses,
might I get her another pair?

Bundle 382, signed letter, pencil

Claydon 16/9/90

Many thanks for your packet, dear Mr. Fred
I have forwarded that to Louis to the
millionaire Val’s at Ardtornish
About the valuable Siamese letters, anon -
About Pleasley, I hope Sir Harry will write to you to day.

Last night, I came down upon him with thrilling thunder on the “Public Health Act” painting its powers & provisions as to expence with the most horrid colours. He entirely wishes you that all should be done “to purify the dam” & that you should at once “by negotiation with the Cromptons, Paget, Hollins & the “Mansfield Sanitary Commrs” cause that some at least should be induced to help - & so share the “burden of expence”

[I wish the “Mansfield Sanitary authorities were still sinners in this matter]

I have not told Sir H. that you have written again to me of course -

with great love to all
ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence

Margaret is here, like sunshine, in force, beneficent force & genial spirit

I will be at Sir Harry again this morning with your arguments telling on the Cromptons, Paget, Hollins &c &c &c &c

Sir Harry is, I think, well but not foot.

Bundle 382, FN notes for inscription for cross for sister, pen

In remembrance
of my sister, so loved
and mourned
Frances Parthenope Verney
this Cross
“By the bight waters now thy lot is cast
Joy to thee, happy soul, thy bark hath passed
The rough sea’s foam
Now the long yearnings of thy soul are stilled
Home! home! thy peace is won, thy heart is filled
Thou art gone home!”

Not buried, but ascended up,
into heaven, carried by her Lord
and our Lord
this Ascension Day
1890
In loving remembrance
of my dearest sister
Frances Parthenope Verney:
who after long grievous pain heroically borne
[she wished to live for those she loved]
has gone home to her Father & our Father
May 12 1890

In holy remembrance
of her
who was here called
and is fondly recalled as
Parthenope Verney
This wreath is offered
by her bereaved sister
not sorrowing but
loving
Florence Nightingale
“My flesh and my heart faileth; but God is the
strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.”

This inscription preferred by Florence for Parthe’s monument
God is the strength of my heart, and my
portion for ever Psalm LXXIII.25

Comtism
foundation of Positivism
viz. that moral things & historical things have
an invariable order of antecedent & sequent
(if we could but find it out)
just as physical things have
appears to me
the only foundation on which we can (& shall
hereafter) build the conception of a Perfect God
the only foundation on which we can build with
security our own power of (alias: freedom of)
action
the only ground on which we can have forbearance
for others or indeed for ourselves-
"She is what the laws (of God) have made her."
These words excluded by Positivism
I should not care to study "the laws" at all, unless they are inspired by Goodness, to lead us to Goodness.

2. The Positivist doctrine, even as it is, (viz. invariable sequences in the moral world) is not half so dangerous as the doctrine of, e.g. The Revd Jas Martineau (one of the best en who ever lived) viz. that to morrow morning, if I will to wake up perfect, I may wake up perfect, if I please-
Yes: I may will, if I please (if I am such a fool) just like Owen Andowr [?] [Glandower?] & his spirits
I may will to have a perfect knowledge of Greek to-morrow morning-
My Novice=Pupil may will to be a Perfect Nurse to-morrow morning. But she can’t
She must take the means.
3. Then there is the Evangelical, who says:
‘You have nothing to do with being perfect-
The Atonement is to do that for you.’
4. And the modern R. Catholics:-
[the mystic R.C. of the middle ages was far too wise]
‘You have nothing to do with being perfect-
The Church is to do that for you.’
Of these 4, Positivist least dangerous doctrine
Practically, all good men pretty much alike-
just as all good nurses pretty much alike, even to their fid-fads, whether Augustinian nuns or secular London Head nurses.

Bundle 383, initialed note, pencil
31/7/82
My dear Sir Harry
Since 10 on Friday night when I received an order for more Nurses for Egypt, I have scarcely had an hour’s rest. This will go on for several days longer - On Saturday I worked from 4.30 a.m. to 10 p.m. -
As regards your “Question”, there is always now, provided everything for the health & comfort of the men. But these things stay at the base, & somehow never get up -
=country - to wh especially not what pertains to the Hospls
How is Parthe? & where?
F.N.
I have seen Mrs. Fellowes -
1000 thanks for the welcome fruit.

Bundle 429 book with FN inscription
Mrs. Shepherd,
Steeple Claydon:
with Florence Nightingale’s deepest sympathy
Jan 1887

Bundle 443, signed letter, Ruth Verney album [8:482-83]
35, South Street  
Park Lane, W.  
3 January 1873

My dear Sir Harry

You are worth more than 100 nurses and I will take care not to have one nurse in your room here on "Monday the 12th."

I have with some difficulty got two copies ready for you (at least they will be ready on Monday morning) of my paper on C.D. Acts re Portsmouth Lock Hospital (with personalities struck out), one copy I presume for Mr Cardwell privately, one for Mr V. Lushington officially. Where do you wish them to reach you? (I understood you to say that Mr Cardwell had asked you to make this enquiry and that he had some sort of leisure now; therefore you wished me to make haste.)

May the New Year bring you the highest blessing!

ever yours affectionately

F.N.
PRIVATE
My dear Sir Harry

If "the article" contains nothing but what has been published before, neither Lord O. nor Colonel Loyd Lindsay can have any reason to complain.

What I was afraid of was that those two were saying behind your back what nobody told to your face. If you are in frank communication with them (about this), I can have no fear--there can be no danger--for your manner is quite enough to make all safe with them and open. (Please therefore consider my letter to Sheffield as non avenue.) I had a most kind short note of business from Colonel Loyd Lindsay last night about Boulogne and Amiens stores and Mrs Cox’s letters asking for them.

All is right therefore between him and me (I conclude this is from your conciliation olive-branch yesterday).

I have been writing an immense foreign letter this morning in the dark and must send this scrawl to you as it is. I am so glad that Emily resumes her place at the Stores.

ever yours
F.N.

Bundle 460, diary  [7:354-55]

November 1 1849 to July 15 1850

Thursday 1st [November 1849]
London 1:30 p.m.
Folkstone {rail} 5.20 p.m.

Friday 2nd
Folkstone 9:30 a.m.
Boulogne {steamer} 11:50

went to the Crypt of Notre Dame p.m.

Boulogne 5:00 p.m.
Amiens {rail} 9:30

Paris 1:30 p.m.
Tonnerre {rail} 6:30
France November
3rd Saturday
Amiens 6:00 a.m.
Paris {rail} 9:00 p.m.
Nineveh bulls at the Louvre. Giants, types of asceticism travelled with 4 Soeurs de “St Vincent de Paule”
Paris 1:30 p.m.
Tonnerre {rail} 6:30

4th Sunday
UnPresbyterian occupation of saving Mr B. the seeing his ladies dressed in castor oil.

Tonnerre {diligence} 7:00 p.m.
Exceedingly moonlight 3rd quarter
France November
5th Monday
Dijon 7:30 a.m.
Chalon {rail} 8:00
    10:15
    11:
Lyon {steam boat} 6:30

6th Tuesday
Lyon
Hotel Dieu morning and afternoon and benediction in their church at 6:00 p.m. all the soeurs there.
France November
7. Wednesday
Hotel Dieu at 7:00 a.m.
Salle Clinique Soeurs de la Charité 200, 1250 patients
followed the visite in the Salle Clinique with Soeur Léla,
pharmacie
Lyon {steamer} 11:00 a.m.
Valence 6:00

Marseille 12:00 pm.

8. Thursday
Valence {steamer} 7:00 a.m.
Avignon 2:00
Ivory crucifix at the Couvent de la Miséricorde (des Aliénés)
Soeurs de St Charles—contrast between this type of Christian
endurance and Egyptian
Avignon {rail} 6:30 p.m.
Arles 7:25
France November
9. Friday
Arles amphitheatre, Notre Dame des Grâces, theatre

10 Saturday
Arles {rail} 8:15 a.m.
Marseille 11:00
Shopped and dined in deliquescent haste. Went on board at 4:00 p.m., mail not arrived.
Marseille 12:00 pm.
Per Fl. N’s Mail Packet, Medina 650 miles to Malta
At sea November
11th Sunday On board Medina, sighted Corsica before dusk, sunset a sea of crimson, made Straits of Bonifacio at midnight

12th Monday, on board Medina, Sardinia still in sight at sunrise. Starlight night, breeze as soft as summer, made Marittimo at midnight, outside passage.
At sea November 13th Tuesday on board Medina S.W. coast of Sicily in sight all the morning. Agrigentum on her height, glorious sunrise, sea without a ripple, sky without a cloud all day.

Malta 12:00 p.m.

14th Wednesday
Came on shore at 6:00 a.m. went to St John’s.

Malta 12:00 noon per Merlin, Lieut. Turner
At sea November
15th Thursday on board Merlin made 208 m. At noon

16th Friday on board Merlin Lybian coast in sight, Cyrene (Ras el Tin, Cape of Figs), made 236 m. At noon
At sea November
17th Saturday on board Merlin made 226 m. At noon, 168 to
Alexandria Isis gave us her welcome [sign of right crescent moon]

18th Sunday 820 m. from Malta
Alexandria 7:00 a.m.
Sun just rising behind her out of his own East, his Morgenland.
Bath (through an alley of palms, bananas and petunias), English
church, Armenian church in the middle of a garden and a forest of
dates. Our first day in the East.
Alexandria November Hotel d’Europe, very good
19th Monday Alexandria
Arabic bath, visited Dahabeehs on Mahmoudieh Canal

20th Tuesday Alexandria bazaar, Convent of Figlie de S Vincenze de’ Paoli with Mr B.
Alexandria November
21st Wednesday Alexandria, mass at Lazzarist church to see the children of S Vincent di Paule, Hospital of S Vincent de Paule with Trautwein, five sisters

22nd November Thursday Schools and Miséricorde of S Vincent de Paule with Z, nineteen sisters (1) classes externes; (2) orphans; (3) pensionnat; (4) Miséricorde. Isis and Osiris broken in a marsh. Battle of Aboukir “abomination of desolation” white plain strewed with white stones, like an empire’s shroud, a kingdom’s whitening bones, escaped to the sunset on the sea shore
Alexandria November
23rd Friday
Saw 300 Arabs medicated and their wounds dressed at the
Miséricorde of S Vincent de Paule by three sisters, the Superior
and an Arab doctor, between 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.. Ophthalmia,
fever, dysentery (all the cases were of these three kinds).

Catacombs on donkey back with Mr B. Pompey’s Pillar at the end of
a great Moslem burying ground, like the end of the world so
lonely it looked

24th November Saturday
8:00 a.m. to the Miséricorde, the 300 patients this time served
by the three sisters alone: discipline, quickness and kindness
beautiful.

To the mosque in Levantine dress. Came at the time for the
muezzin into the minaret.

Cleopatra’s Needle with the consul.
Nile November
25th Sunday
Alexandria 8:00 a.m.
By Mahmoudieh Canal
Atfeh arrival 4:30 p.m.
Depart 5:30 p.m. by Nile
Came upon the solemn Nile with the last ray of sunset. Amusing sight with Greeks, Turks, Levantines, Italians all over the floor.

26th November Monday
Made the Consulessa’s acquaintance

Cairo 166 m. From Alexandria 10:00 a.m.

Landed at Boulak, drive through acacias to Hôtel d’Europe on the Ezbekkeeyeh
Cairo November
27th Tuesday
Mme Rosetti called. Consul’s garden. Sat there on sofas under Palm trees with Cape Jessamine and coffee.
Tame hippopotamus baby of five months playing in pool with giraffe and pelican. Dined at consul’s with Mr Legros.

28th Wednesday
Engaged our dahabiah from the Bey Hassan. Sat in consul’s room. Rode with Mr Legros on asses through the Moorish streets of Cairo to Citadel, then out of the crowded city to City of the Dead and tombs of the Mameluke sultans. Our first view of the desert, tumbled and tossed and scathed. Decaying mosques, beautiful in their decay. Wonderful ride.
Cairo November
29th Thursday
Called on Mrs Lieder
Rode with Mr Legros on asses to Island of Roda, where the bulrushes of Moses grow, ferried over. Sun setting behind the pyramids.

30th November Friday
Grand feast day. Marriage and other processions. Wrote letters and copied plans of temples. Little ride towards Heliopolis and by ye transit road to Suez, to see the sunset, with M Legros. Arab women like efreets, country like kingdom of the devil, huts in the ditch.
Cairo December
1st Saturday
Dr Abbott’s Museum. Cheops’ Ring 4th Dynasty, Menes’ necklace 1st Dynasty, funeral papyrus. Called on Mrs Lieder. Bazaar to buy a carpet in a Moorish courtyard. Turkish bath. Bird man’s collection. Dined at Consul’s to meet the female Bey of the diamond [sign of left crescent moon and *] and smoke with her.

2nd December Sunday
Church at the Prussian Mission and received the sacrament. Looked out birds in Buffon (at Consul’s) for Shore. Saw the sun set exactly behind the pyramids on the Citadel. Dined at Consul’s. Met the Hungarian who sided with the Austrian and was served right.
Cairo December
3rd Monday
Dr Abbott’s Museum. Wrote home. M Legros dined with us and took us on board our dahabiah at the island of Roda, with a twilight walk on the island wall and a nosegay of roses. Settled ourselves a little and put up my Levinge.

4th December Tuesday
Wrote home and landed at old Cairo to buy a lantern. Did not leave Roda till 3:00 o’clock. Rowed or tracked all day.
Old Cairo 3:00 p.m. Left by dahabiah the Parthenope.
Nile December
5th Wednesday

6th December Thursday
Fair wind all day and night. No going ashore.
Nile December
7th Friday
Benisooef 77 miles from Cairo 12:00, went ashore to buy a tin. Bunsen, Arabic grammar. Traut read to me Joseph. Arabian nights. My first African walk. Mr Bracebridge with his gun.
To Feshn 6:00

8th December Saturday
Latif Effendi, the Armenian governor at Malatia, swore eternal friendship. Walked with us on the shore. My first walk under palm trees. Paoli shooting an owl.
Nile December
9th Sunday
Went ashore at sunrise with an Efreet to a village inland.
Undescribed misery of an African village.

10th December Monday.
Walk before breakfast with Σ and Mr B. through the Arabian desert
to quarries and catecombs where the vulture and the jackal lived.
Nothing but a burial ground (and tracks of jackals) digging up the bodies to show that human life had been here. (Desert of Shekh Hassan)
Wrote up letters. Dead calm. Cdon't reach Minieh Stopped at Onase [?]
Nile 11th December Tuesday
Crossed the river opposite Samaload (?) and went up to quarries. Our fist rock temple, of Phthahmen (?) son of Rameses the Great (18th Dynasty). Gigantic propylaeum left when hewing the rock, shows how far the quarry once extended, now several hundred yards distant from rock. Visit from Hasam Effendi and monks of Coptic Convent.

12th December Wednesday
Minieh 82 miles from Benisooef 2:00 a.m.
Went ashore, miserable town. Body ferrying across the river, living original of Charon.
First sugar canes (Metahara my Monday walk. Anchored east side Nezlet e Sheikh timay. Gharga, wild palm trees, fear of Bedouins, witch seesia (?) guards night fire.
Nile December
13th December Thursday
Walk before breakfast with Σ and Mr B. To Metahara an Arab village, deserted, empty mosque. Charmer with the cobra di Papellos, an old man sitting on the ground.
Slept at Kom Ahmar [?] boat packed up like a brown paper parcel.
Walk under palms and sugar canes. Men at prayer. Sun setting.
Young camels grazing, such an hour.

14th December Friday
Beni Hassan 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Thirty caves, tombs of 12th Dynasty (Bunsen). Procession of Joseph’s brethren (Champollion). Glorious day, a curious contrast to my first sight of Sistine Chapel, this day two years.
Nile December
15th Saturday
Slept last night at Nezlet e Shekh Timay at war with Shekh Timay, anchored by permission of Shekh who gave us eight guards and two cats. Wrote up letters. Began Wilkinson’s account of the gods of Egypt. Little evening walk.

16th December Sunday

Nile December
17th Monday
Came with a fair wind through Strait of Gebel Aboofeda. (Wrote up gods of ancient Egyptians. Walked on shore. Saw Shekh Jacob moving with his flocks and herds. Twisted round five times in an eddy and stopped. Khamse baked. River began to run bottom upwards i.e. with his bed on the head. Rained first sand then water.

18th Tuesday
Air filled with sand. Could not wash for Nile, instead of water gave us a stone, i.e. a sand bank. “If old Nile do this, him see me no more” said Paolo. struggled on to Manfaloot. 12:00 where our crew dried themselves in an oven. Such rain not been seen there for ten years, when it washed down half Manfaloot. Sun recovered himself in the evening and we left Manfaloot.
Nile December
19th Wednesday
Saw a fair wind blowing a little before us. Could not get to it all day because of a bend in the river. Walked ashore on a desert island which even the Nile could not cause to fructify. Stopped at moonrise at a palm village. Sirius and Proeym (?) rising in the river.

20th December Thursday
After an astonishing run of twenty-five miles in four days, fairly made Osyoot. 94 miles from Minieh 12:00. Rode into the town like Khalifs on our asses, the Mustafet before us on an ass. Sauntered like Paraoh’s daughter by the river’s side to look at the sun setting behind the minarets.
Nile 22 December shortest day
Up to the tombs the Stabl Antar of Lycopolis above Osyoot. There lay Osioot, type of savage or sensual life. There in the caves lived the anchorites of the Thebaïd type of spiritual life. Children of the Alexandrian School type of intellectual life and the reaction of it.
Desert biting into valley like a great dragon with fiery tongue, licking it up. Skeletons of women mummies all lying about there where reverence for life so great that even animals preserved. Wrote home by the Mediah (vice governor).
Left Osyoot at 12:00 with a fair wind and made sail for twelve hours. Bunsen (mancht’s dynasties not successive but some contemporary).
Nile December 23 Sunday
Opposite Antaeopolis viewed the site of the battle field between Horus and Typhon 15,571 B.C. vide Herodotus. Fair wind. Sat under the tamarisks in the heat of the day. Moon in her first quarter again. brilliant every night.

Christmas Eve
Fair wind all day. River turned square, mountains all in huge squares or angles. Corner of the world, came to one of these corners just before Akhmin, where river disappeared, earth turned up by the cliffs and finished off in that way. River the colours of Copper pyrites or some metallic ore suddenly cooled in the evening light.
Nile December Christmas Day
Akhmin (Panopolis) where we walked on shore at a great square in the rocks, like Jericho and the Mount of Temptation. el Menshiyeh (Ptolemais) where Sabellius was bishop and was damned for teaching the unity of God while the Gnostics were extending the Trinity to thirty. Our first crocodile. Passed Girgeh with a fair wind. Sat late on deck in the moon light. Great difference in climate, mornings much warmer, at noon 78° in cabin, 101° on deck. Passed through an artifical canal at sunset.

26th Wednesday. P ft. 6 [?] Girgeh 88 miles from Osioot.
Nile December 27th Thursday
Isle of Tabenna birthplace of monastic institutions, where St Pachomius began with praying twelve times a day, labour and self denial. 1300 men joined him and 6000 in the Thebaïd. Here in Egypt Christianity was nursed and flourished and fed with milk till she was ready for strong meat. Here Athanasius swore and Origen wrote and what has become of her now?

28th December Friday
Two days waiting for a wind to take us in to Gheneh. Crew declared we had an Efreet on board.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Nile December 29th Saturday
Gheneh (Goellop Manufactory [?]) 9:00 a.m., 64 miles from Girgeh
12:00
Mr B. And I rode up to call on our Consul who, arrayed in 4
kaftans, asked us to bread and salt seated us in his mud well
upon three chairs, two for us and one for my parasol and himself
on a hen coop. Shekh Hoseyn was his name.

30th December Sunday
Went on shore at the Isle of Metareh to seek for the remains of a
Pachomian monastery but found none.
Walked on shore through cactuses, palms, vines and cotton plants
to see the sun set behind the “Lybian suburb.”
Last Day of the Year December
About 12:00 the wind deadened to a calm, the river widened into a
perfect lake, without a current or a ripple, the Arabian hills
retired and hid themselves as if afraid to approach the bed of
death. The sun veiled his light. The collonades of Luxor and
Karnac came in sight, the Rameseum and the matchless pair.
Thebes 4:00 p.m. 48 miles from Gheneh
There she lay, the glorious corpse of the spirit which had gone
out and animated the world. Up to the temple of El Uksar before
dark. Rode to Karnak by star light, gigantic phantoms seemed to
lurk behind those forests of columns, “the dead to be stirred up
for us, even all the chief ones of the earth.” Let Karnak always
be seen by the shadow of night and let that night be solitary.
Thebes January New Year’s Day 1850
Went to El Uksur again, but the Present and the Past make too painful a contrast on that score. Sent a letter by the Swans. Sailed without a wind to escape a dinner which process we performed instead on deck. These savages kindness cannot tame (that’s us) our suavity conciliate.

2nd January Wednesday
Hermonthis
Walked to the temple before breakfast through the village. The temple is now a guard house and the village a flat destroyed by Arabian Pasha. Passed Esne with a fair wind, then waited till the moon rose then ran aground and stuck till morning.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale 277

Nile January 3rd Thursday
Anchored off Edfoo

4th Friday
Walk before breakfast in sight of the Edfoo propylon. Weather gloriously hot.
Egypt January 5th Saturday
Saw the little rock corridor. (Pass of Hadjar Silsilis) before breakfast. Elephantine Dynasty (5th) reigned as far as this pass BC 3074.

6th Sunday
Came in sight of the strange rocks which start up out of the river and prepare the way for the “Gates” of Aswan. Aswan. Noon 124 miles from Thebes. Island of Elephantine horrible desolation as if the earth had been boiled, stirred in a caldron and this the scum which had come to the top. Children like troops of jackals. Evening walk in Syene, the very “abomination of desolation.”
Nubia January 7th Monday
Sent our letters by the Governor of Aswan. Ascent of the cataracts (came through the Gates and up the stairs into another world) 9:00 a.m.-1:30
Arabs in their glory. Physical strength, skill and rapidity must have been the Triad of the cataracts. Their unerring eye, their extraordinary diving, swimming across a current which would have carried away a hippopotamus. Contrast of the holy Philae at the end.
8th January Tuesday
Procession of the Pasha, restoring the ancient worship. Island high and safe and still above the river. Fit place for the tomb of “him who sleeps in Philae” Passed it with a fair wind. Alas! Entered the tropic at Kalabsheh.
Nubia January 9th Wednesday
My first Nubian walk. We have come upstairs into a new country, all black and gold. The Nubians must have discovered the philosopher’s stone which, like Agrippa’s broomstick when one set to work would not stop till it had turned all the soil of Nubia to gold. Except where a small sunk fence (on either side the Nile) is green as far as you can see is golden sand, dazzling in the sunset with purple rocks sticking out of it, the Nile like a green beetle in the middle. The sand is like the colour of a ripe harvest field and hedges of sont or mimosa make the river border. Nothing else to be seen. Country hardly inhabited

10 [see again]
Nubia January 11th Friday
but the sprinkling of people on the river side so industrious. I
heard the melancholy Lakia going all night, some times like a
peal of bells upon the wind, some times like an organ and counted
twenty-two this morning in sight from my window, besides those
indistinct from distance. Paolo gave me my poor chameleon

12th Saturday Korosko. Pacha here on his way to Darfur, his tents
looked pretty. Here he takes to camels. My chameleon caught his
first fly. He sees everything that is going on, watches not only
what is of his own department (like another animal) but what he
has nothing to do with. If we look at him he pretends to be dead.
He specualates on everything we do with his long telescope eyes,
which he can almost tie in a knot at the back of his head.
Derr January 13th Sunday
Walked on shore among the castor oils, human and vegetable. Derr
3:00 p.m. 132 miles from Aswan. The capital of Nubia of time of
Gulliver’s travels. The Laputae I should have thought. Rock
Temple of the great Rameses too much taken up with the Laputae to
look at it.

14th Monday. Asked the crew’s chameleon in to tea to keep ours
company. But ours would have nothing to do with the vulgar
chameleon. He bit and kicked whenever the other came between the
sun and his gentility and the other humbly retired. But when the
other who was twice as large and as strong, but not such a good
shot at a fly, turned upon him at last, goaded to desperation, he
hung himself up by his tail and pretended to be dead.
AbooSimbil January 15th Tuesday
Came in sight with a fair wind of Aboo Simbil 9:30 a.m. 47 m from Derr. Walk on the cliff to take our long last look southwards over Abyssinia. Small temple dedicated to Athor, large [temple dedicated to] Re by the great Rameses BC 1388. Lighted a fire on the altar in the Adytum.

16th January Wednesday
Before sunrise Σ and I were seated over against the door of the temple watching the sun giving life to the Colossi and then creeping into the door and lighting up the Osiris till they smiled. But the Adytum is wrapped in an eternal twilight. Sat in that supernaturally still hot atmosphere (like the focus of the vivifying power of the four Creative Deities in the Adytum) till the stars rose, went over the sculptures with a lantern. Moon set with her silver boat behind the temple leaving the old moon like a copper globe, plainly visible
Nubia January 17th Thursday
Saw another sun rise at Ipsamboul and again the wonderful light making living the face of one Colossus, while another was shadowy like a ghost. Saw the Osiris’ live again, one more farewell to the eternal darkness and silence of the Adytum and with our eyes full of tears and sand at 9:00 a.m. we began our passage northwards, sorry enough to turn

18th Friday
Nubia January 19th Sunday Sat?
Sabora a humbug. Sorry dromos of Sphynxes, Adytum blocked up with sand

20th Monday Dakkeh
Dakkeh in the little boat to see the temple of Hermes
Trismegistus, ugly but very interesting, built by Ergamener an Ethiopian king less than 300 BC.
Letters from home. One chameleon died. Gerf Hossein by twilight.
Phthah’s awful cave, lighted up by the people with flaming serpents of palm fibres.

Kalabsheh January 21 Monday
Saw Beit e’Wellee and Kalabsheh contrast of these 4 temples.
Philosophical detail of Dakkeh on her plain, awful and rude grandeur of Phthah’s rocky cave in the hill—gem of sculpture of the time of the great Rameses at Beit e Wellee and vulgar extravagant magnificence of Kalabsheh. Moonlight market on the Kalabsheh shore and wild rapids at night, battle of the Frogs and Mice, i.e. the crew.

22 Tuesday
Parted with the tropics and my dear chameleons.
Came into Philae by the cold moonlight and moored off the island. Sat on Philae by the Temple of Isis with the roar of the cataracts, the only sound that rocks the rest of “Him who sleeps in Philae.”

Philae January 23 Wednesday
By sunrise in the Chamber of Osiris.

24 Thursday
Our Passover week.
Philae January 25th Friday
Went to Bijji up the rocks to a little lonely burying ground in a hollow of the rocks and down to an oasis and deep green tarn left by the Nile on the other side.
Dined out at Mahatta, dropped down the Nile at moon rise, announced by our Arab creeping into the tent on his face, with our carpet on his head and our chairs on his back, which we had brought with us.
26th Saturday
Mr Lewis fine and courteous. Mr Sutton stupid and silent. Mrs Lewis nice and naïve. Rowed home by a cold moon light. Zehnab’s aunt swam over to see Mrs Lewis, went with her to Bijji to call on her. She was ten, just married, showed us her house with great pride. She had two cushions, no other furniture but the mud divan and the jars. “How much had Mr Lewis given for Mrs Lewis?” 30/ “that was very cheap.”
Philae January 27th Sunday
Our last day at Philae in the Osiris’ chamber before breakfast. Mr Harris and his black daughter came.
28th Monday
Spent the night in learning by heart every line of the Temples Under the Palm trees and the Moonlight facing the bed with our heads out of window. By sunrise “all the Bigs” on board, down the cataract like a race horse taking the leap. Three times she dived under water with her bows, three times she rose and triumphantly finished her leap. Paid morning visits and left our cards at the cataracts. Guthries, Lewis’s etc.
Egypt January 29th Tuesday
Left Aswan before sunrise because of the ruck of boats, this animal (that’s us) is never domesticated and it has been found impossible to tame it either by kindness or constraint.

30th Wednesday
Kom Ombo before breakfast. Uninteresting. Ptolemaic. Savak the crocodile-headed Haroeris a form of Horus, the two gods. Hagar Silsilis at noon. The enormous sandstone quarries are here, corridor in the rock of the time of Horus, last king of the 18th Dynasty, BC 1445.
Egypt January 31st Thursday
Edfoo walk of a mile from the shore. Beautiful race of cows, with heads like antelopes and brown sheep with ruffs round their necks and intelligent manners like dogs. Apollinopolis magna. Triad, Harhat, Athor and Horus (Har-sent-ta)—only Ptolemaic. Whirlwind of sand shut out the view.

February 1st Friday
Eilethya
Rose up early and saddled our ass and took our young men and rode to Eilethya, temple of Amunophis III, three miles in the desert, like a lodge in the wilderness. Here the people must have come out to evening sacrifice.

Tombs. That of the Admiral of Amosis first king of 18th Dynasty 1638 BC. Sir C. Grandison receiving his company. Old walls (of the town) of crude brick, 35 feet thick, a square with inclined planes 25 feet more leading to the parapet. The most ancient remains of Egypt.
Esne February 2nd Saturday
Esne (Latopolis) Triad. Kneph, Neith and Hakt walked to Pacha’s garden. Mint its chief produce, went over the palace an old silk French bed, of tawdry gilding mixed with dirty blue, its only furniture. Guide showed Mr B. how it was to be used. Temple dark, dusty and damp like the portico to the Lower Regions.

3rd Sunday
Kept here two days by the storm of north wind. Whirlwind of sand filled the air and covered the river. Pacha insisted upon sailing, beat his Rais and went aground.
Esne extraordinary centre of the manufacturing interest, saw blue cloth dying, shops and felt shabby among genteel Arabs. Bitterest cold we have had.
Thebes February 4th Monday
Set off at sunset last night but did not make much way owing to the extraordinary wind, no use however arriving at Thebes by daylight as thebes from the river was not to be seen. It was so low Thebes 12:00 noon. Karnak in the afternoon with such a sunset. Luxor on the way for our letters.

5th Tuesday
Shekh Abd el Koorneh all day. After a good look at the Colossi and copying their inscriptions. Saw tombs No. 11, 35 (Thothes III’s procession) 12 and the newly opened tomb like porcelain, sat for an hour in the heat of the day under Mr Hay’s mud portico. Rode up to Deir el Bahri and down to Temple of Korneh, where I sat looking at the sunset from the steps.
Thebes February 6th Wednesday
Tombs of the Kings
UP that narrow Valley of the Shadow of Death to the entrance of Hades.
Rameses IV
Rameses V
and Queen Tarsisi who are about returning at this time from their 3000 years. We visited. The cliff back to the shore over by Deir el Bahri

7th Thursday
Medina Taboo
Great Court with the coronation. “Elegant columns” heighth one foot more than circumference.
Thebes February 8th Friday
Rameseum with the Hungarian and the hieroglyphic D. Quixote.

9th Saturday
The turkey, our watch dog, paraded the beach the whole day in front of the boat keeping off strange dogs and bastinadoing the chickens when they made a noise. No man dared to put him into his coop.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Thebes February 10th Sunday

11th Monday [nothing]
Thebes February 12th Tuesday
Medeeneh Taboo a vulgar place, coronation of Ram III emblazoned on the walls like Napoleon’s apotheosis in La Madeleine. Ram III seems to have been an old Oriental tyrant and roué, very much after the type of Solomon.

13th Wednesday
Dayr el Medeeneh very interesting though Ptolemaic. Judgment Scene before Osiris. Rode to the Valley of the Queens, the tombs seem truly placed under the protection of the shadow of death. Put our turkey with the Murrays. He killed the cocks the day he died.
Thebes February 14th Thursday
Deir el Bahri Sanctuary in the rock, not arched but the arch hewn out of stones.
Tomb in the Assaseef spoiled. Koorneh Murrace procession. Shekh Abd el Gourneh
Lepsius one “Kalb” one dog destroyed it all. No 16. Setting sun through the columns of the Rameseum.

15th Friday
Karnak. Found those sculptures on the Propylon wall in Great Hall quite as perfect as those of Ipsambul itself and as beautiful.
Made at least three holy pilgrimages, as if we were going to Jerusalem, to Rehoboam of whom the most intersting thing we know is that he begat twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters.
Thebes February 16th Saturday
Karnak. Went over those interminable battle sculptures outside the Grand Hall. Found Thotmes III’s list of the presents he made the God in the sanctuary, numbers and names under each. That the God might not take the gold for plated goods nor have the trouble of counting them.

17th Sunday
The Hawagee came and lent us Champollion. Lady Alford’s drawings, the poetry of Egypt, like and yet Egypt glorified quite Homeric in their colouring and no more like Lewis than Homer is to Wordsworth. Amunophis himself might have come down and been proud to see himself in such a dress.
Thebes February 18th Monday
Tombs of the Kings. Spent the whole day in tomb of Sethos I; on that day one should see no other not to disturb the impression. The art, the colouring, the expression of the figures so beautiful. Procession of the Hours, the explanation of the idea of Karnak.

19th Tuesday
Tombs of the Kings. Lay on our backs and slid down into Rameses I’s the earliest but the best in point of art. Refreshed our memories of Sethos I and found Rameses V under the form of a pig at the end of his Bruce’s tomb [Belzono in 45846].
Thebes February 20th Wednesday
Rameseum. Rode round the lake of Medeeneh Habu (now a corn field) and arrived at twilight at a perfectly desolate spot where, whitening on the sand, still lay the bones of those who, by the forty-two Assessors had been refused burial and left there.

21st February Thursday
Karnak. Our farewell day. Began with the three Propyla. Rode round the whole, lingered in the Great Hall, found the best point of view from the Temple of Sabako, went again and again to look at that divine head of Sethos and saw the sun set from that last propylon.
Thebes February 22nd Friday
Farewell day to the Libyan Suburb, first to Old Koorna the most lovely of all the temples under its palm trees, then to the Rameseum, Medina Habo, and saw the sun set upon the Colossi, making them like gold.

23rd February Saturday
Sailed for Koorna at daylight. And said farewell to Thebes in the afternoon, how familiar everything had grown on that western cliff.
Dendera February 24th Sunday
Arrived at Keneh by daybreak. Consul’s boat there. Told us we were at war with Greece.

25th Monday
Rode to Dendera, a temple without faith, a sanctuary without religion, a wonder of priest craft, the walls a honeycomb for secret passages. Sailed at sunset.
Nile February 26th Tuesday
Contrary wind all day.

27th Wednesday. Anchored at How (Diospolis Parva) and rode into the desert to find the tomb destroyed to help to build the sugar factory.
Nile  February 28th Thursday
North wind blew such a gale we could not get on.

March 1st Friday
Lay off Balian all day. Whirlwind of sand.
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Girgeh March 2 Saturday
Came with the cord against the wind to shore opposite Girgeh where obliged to stop. Saw Girgeh’s minarets through a cloud of sand all day.

Crossed over to Girgeh at night. Modeeh arrived at the same rtime on buiness, i.e. to make the viallagers pay their taxes over again.

3rd Sunday
Went to the Latin church but Latin father gone to Osyoot.
**Girgeh March 4th Monday**
In all the land of Girgeh no candles, whereupon the Coptic clerk of the Latin church, a friend of Paolò’s, proposed to manufacture us some. In eight hours they arrived, good wax candles mixed with honey, but unless their appearance greatly belies them, they are holy candles out of the ecclesiastical store. Sailed, made three miles, stopped by the wind and put back to Girgeh with the sail for fear of robbers. Never went up sail so quick in all our voyage.

[4 March contd]
Sailed at 4:00 a.m. Ekhmim 12 which is now some three villages divided by the huge mounds of old Chemmis (?), afterwards Panopolis, left Ekhmim, wind got up, thought of going back, obliged to stop but after dark pulled on to Senhadj [Sonhadj?] stern foremost, our last trick.

**Nile March 6 Wednesday**
Ten days from Thebes and made about 130 miles and the whole voyage to Cairo generally made in 8. Such a north wind and so cold, not known for 60 years. Fell in with the mad Frenchman, struggled on to Gebal Shekh Hereedee [?], where we anchored and stayed two nights and a day. Wind blowing a gale the whole time.

7 [March] Thursday a tremendous cliff with lines of inaccessible tombs half way up, near the top every where fantastic rocks, at the bottom a loose, isolated rock just like the head of Memnon. Walked on the opposite shore, an encampment of Arabs, not with huts but screens of Indian corn and a few jars, dogs and buffalos.

**Osyoot March 8 Friday**
Left the cross old shekh (at 3:00 in the morning) who had played us such a turn with his gobel [?]
Wabbled about all day, lay to at a village at sunset and walked ashore. Market and buffalos. Reached Osyoot at midnight

9 Saturday Rode up to Lycopolis. White ibis and black buffalo. Mustafa’s “womans” Sister en grande tenue and withal, with most imperial carriage, bade us eat, so we sat and eat on her carpet, mother baking cakes in the tent. Visit of priest in Arab dress. Left Osyoot at sunset and went aground.

**Nile March 10 Sunday** Reached Manfaloot at noon. Lay to because of high wind. Walked about Manfaloot, market day. Sailed at sunset.

11 Monday Went ashore at Tel el Amathe (?) walked to the substructions of Alabastron made out the very houses in the
ancient town and the closet where the good wife kept her preserves. Went aground and stayed there all night. Passed Actinae (?) in the dark.

Nile March 12 Tuesday
Passed Beni Hassan with heavy hearts not able to stop but gazed in at the Doric columns wistfully. Passed Minieh. Calm. Anchored under a steam engine. Chimney for the night. Came in sight of Diebel Ettain at sunset.

13 Wednesday Passed Dayr el Adra early in the morning; five monks came swimming off. South wind all day, first fair wind we have had. Made great way and anchored a little short of Benisouef because of difficult passage.

Memphis March 14 Thursday Third day of making way and no going ashore. Passed Benisouef in the early morning with a south wind. Wind changed and became a hurricane. Mr Harris passed us, obliged to anchor off the false pyramid. In the evening rain 3 drops. Wind fainted away with surprise and horror.

15 Friday Tacking all the morning in sight of Berteshayn (?). Landed at last in the little boat. Memphis in its palm groves the most poetic place I ever saw, its colossus, lying asleep like St Cecilia in Trastevere, the very rapture of repose. There was nothing dreary but the very poetry of stillness. Walked where Moses walked and looked on the pyramids of Sallaya (?) as he did, less changed probably than the hills which he walked on.

Cairo March 16 Saturday No pyramids, wind too high. Rode into Cairo for our letters and back, having good news at the pace of Caliphs. Old Cairo in the afternoon. Christian village in the Roman fort (with Virgin’s grotto. Church of 3rd century with its St Unnofre and St Abraham). Amor’s mosque.

17 Sunday Rode in to church on our asses. Murrays [Murray?] came back and we went in to luncheon and to call on the Lieders. He better than her. After our quiet boat what a mob of acquaintance, what a [locaviness?] of salutations. Cairo streets as beautiful as ever with their cross gleams of sunshine and the white veils peeping out of Moorish balconies.

Pyramids March 18 Monday
Set off for the pyramids. Before we reached the shore shore became invisible for sand. The Khamsin blew all day we stayed in the boat with closed doors but the floor standing ¼ inch in sand not a glass of water to be had but only of sand.
19 Tuesday Pyramids--up and into the great one. Perfectly easy and perfectly uninteresting, no spirit of Rameses or of Moses helped me up the steps, only the spirit of Cheops gave me his arm, and very bad company I found him.

Cairo March 20 Wednesday Rode into Cairo and took our rooms at Hotel d’Orient, then to Schranz for the daguerreotypes. Packed all the afternoon while the boat wrung its hands to part with us and we irrigated it with our tears. Walked in Roda hottest Khamsin we have had.

21 Thursday Came down to Boulah where we shook hands with the dear old boat and I was got out joint by joint. Rowed down to Shoobra and went to Heliopolis to divert our woes. In the garden round the obelisk, where Plato walked and Moses prayed, stayed long and rode home the way Mary rode into Cairo.

Cairo March 22 Friday Our first day in a respectable inn, but we did not know how to sit or do long dinners or behave ourselves, but, in memory of our boat, tried to catch fleas and go to bed. Turkish bath before breakfast. After all the Arabs of our crew came up to bid us goodbye and they cried and we cried. Miss Harris came to see me.

23 Saturday Mr Playfair’s birds and to Raimonde Odescatchi (?) for birds for Shore. To the Citadel through the never ending delights of the streets. Went into the old lion’s den and down Joseph’s well. Evidently an old Egyptian work (cleaned out by Salah e’ Deen) perhaps ordered by Joseph.

Cairo March 24 Sunday Church. Good man, go to Heliopolis and see if Moses and Plato cannot inspire you to preach a better sermon. Fleas disturbed me so or I could have preached to myself. Madame Rosetti came--capital specimen of Roman Catholicism, fervent and cheerful. Sat still.

25 March Monday Bazaar. Goldsmiths and silk, the last a picture of Moorish architecture, with the arch at the end, and one on each side divided by a chain from the shoemaker’s bazaar and one was not run down by strings of camels. Pictures of people too, the poor divorcée in her black haborak selling her “plate” and pretty things.

Cairo March 26 Tuesday. Khamsin. Went to the tombs (with Dr Koch) of the Memlook sultans riding out of the Bab e’ Mure. Tombs of the 1st of the dynasty. Re (?) Berkook and El Ashraf the former the great mosque with two exquisite minarets, the latter not much
outside but within inlaid with all the mathematical Saracen patterns. Looked at Kait Bey.

27 Wednesday Dined at Mr Murray’s moon rising over the palms when we went into the garden. Lincoln and Northampton party.

Cairo March 28 Thursday Tombs of the Memlooks again with the Koch. El Kait Bey little school in lobby horse shoe arch. El Ashref and took all the patterns. Rode back past Kait Bey and the city wall, looked down upon the place of the Exodus and the whole line of the pyramids, rode through the southern tombs and through Raumaylee [?] going into Sultan Hasan

Good Friday With Legros, Mrs Lushington and the Koch to Sultan Taylors [Taylom?] and to the top of it, through the beautiful little street by the little gate, across the country of tombs to the mosque in the side of the hill. Little tomb in the “dressing room” looking out of an open window on the pyre, his Vizier. Modern family tomb--mysterious gloomy sunset behind the pyre through the tombs of each by Roumahi [Roumayli?] in the twilight.

Cairo March 30 Saturday Petrified forest with the dromedary and two asses and home with all the English.


Cairo April 1 Monday Dr Abbott’s Museum before breakfast, funeral papyrus. Schranz and stood in his little narrow street where the mechaheeyehs over lap. Sat still looking at the groups in the Ezbehegeh, sitting in circles on the ground, telling stories.

2 Tuesday Off by 8 a.m. in the steamer. The white nun, the superior of the Good Shepherd at Cairo, going home to forward her mission, every feeling in order, every thought disciplined, the fierce old Sangmist [sangomist?] Lizinia [Zozinia?] Mère, such contrasts, the fervent genial Madame Rossetti and the gambling dying Frenchwoman. The languid Indian, Mrs Lushington and the untutored Greek [illeg] Atfeh 10 p.m.

Alexandria April 3 Wednesday After a most wonderful night with a vast deal of livestock, human and (not) divine, besides animals, in one small cabin, reached Alexandria noon. Hotel d’Europe. Warm bath and went to see the wretched Frenchwomen [woman?].

4 April Thursday. Bought. Called on Miss Harris. Decided to go by
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Corfu.
Alexandria April 5th Friday
To my sisters of S Vincent de Paule before breakfast. In the dispensary and in the school. Capital grammar lesson, not much doing in the dysentery way. Packed for England.

6th Saturday
S Vincent de Paule before breakfast. The white nun came out to see me and we were all sitting in the dispensary chatting very comfortably among the bottles when I was summoned into the parlour to interpret for two English nuns, just arrived from Australia (the three orders). Saeed Pasha’s hareem with Mme Rosetti, such a contrast. Off by “Schild” for Corfu 4:00 p.m.
At sea April 7 Sunday. On board the Austrian Lloyd “Schild.” Head wind.

April 8 Monday. Head wind.

At sea April 9th Tuesday
Off Crete with her snowy ridge and Mount Ida towering behind. Made C. Matassan in the mist.

10th [April] Wednesday
Off Chiarenzem Mt Oleno and the Parnassus behind. Passed Taufto [Zanto?] between Cefalonia and Ithaca, past Leucadia and the Lover’s Leap, saw Actium, sun set upon Parga on its rock by the sea shore. Anchored at Corfu 10:00 p.m. Nessun sperazione si fa la notte they would not take us into quarantine. Nor even allow us to
At sea April 11 Thursday
Stay in the open boat with a Guardiano till day light. But it is no such great favour to take us into prison, we cried. Nessun sperazione le fa la notte was all the answer. Ma cosa bisogna fare? We said. Bisogna andare giù giù giù fino a Trieste and malinconici secondo late inesti. We did go giù giù into bed and go giù for a week more at sea.

12 [April] Friday
The best of it was the Captain thought he was doing us such a favour. 10 days more for your money, lodging and carriage compris. Saw no more land till we reached Trieste in a grey
mist

Trieste April 13th Saturday 8 a.m.
Found rooms at the Hotel de France.
Wonderful red, lurid sunset over the sea, like a Martin’s Fall of Babylon. Spent the evening in the mosques of Cairo. Sat still.
Wrote home

At sea April 15th Monday
Left Trieste by that “fine and failing ship” [sailing?] the Austrian Lloyd Arciduca Lodovico, we the only females on board.

16th Tuesday
Ancona 10:00 a.m.
Went on shore to see the town, an Austrian garrison, the palaces shaken by the Austrian bombardment, an Austrian lie placarded on the Duomo that the Pope was returned to Rome. Loretto on its cliff and beautiful line of snowy Apennines, as we sailed away.
At sea April 17 Wednesday

18 Thursday
Brindisi 11:00 a.m.
A little deserted place on a long low line of coast with one
Venetian tower--so lonely, so dreary, and it might be the richest
country in the world. Landed for an hour, the Brindisians seemed
as if they had never seen us before, did not wish to see us then
and hoped never to see us again.
At sea April 19 Friday
Anchored at Corfu 8:00 a.m. Drove up to the One Gun Battery and back by the Summer Palace, the cypresses and cactuses so luxuriant but the hills clouded in mist. Sailed at 1:00 p.m.

20 Saturday
At sunrise in the harbour of Argostoli in Cefalonia.
Zante 1:00 p.m.
Came into the Gulf of Lepanto with the sun setting behind the Echinades. Mt [?] Oleno cold and white. Parnassus veiled in a rose-coloured cloud like an Aurora Borealis, the light setting on poor Missolonghi.
Patras 8:00 p.m.
At sea April 21 Sunday
Landed and walked up to the top of the long uneven street where
troops of Pallikari, old shepherds and Moereot women were coming
in from the country for the festa.
Lepanto (Naupactus) 1:00 p.m.
Vostizza (Aegium) 4:00 p.m.
Rain
Anchored at the Isthmus of Corinth.
Lautraki 11 p.m.

22 Monday
Corinth at the foot of its isolated table mountain, Acro
Corinthus, the most poetical spot in the world. Crossed the
Isthmus to Calamaki, waited long in the station, embarked at 1:00
p.m. Arrived at the Peiraeus in a storm of wind and rain. No
Acropolis visible. 6:00 p.m. Hotel d’Angleterre. Tremendous
thunder and lightning.
Athens April 23 Tuesday
Half Athens called, the Hills leading the vanguard and bringing up the rear.

24 Wednesday
Temple of the Theseus with Σ. Three new pieces in the museum, female figures, which might have been Aspasias. Σ and I dined at Mrs Hill’s. Elizabet of Crete and Mary Baldwin in the house.

Athens April 25 Thursday
Storms of thunder and rain all day. Went over the Hills’ schools: seven rooms, 400 children. Order and quiet more perfect than anything I ever saw and conscientiousness with which children worked.

26 Friday
Pettaens the wise man called. Went to Mrs Hill’s school to hear her give her Bible lesson. Walked round with Σ by the Theseum between Pnyx and Areopagus, by the Museum hill and Socrates’ prison, back of the Acropolis and the Street of Tripods to dine at the Hills on their wedding day. Such a walk.
Athens April 27 Saturday
To the Piraeus and a sail to the Howe (Sir Jas. Stirling) where we dined with the Wyces, sailed to Salamis, walked to the old town on the promontory of Ampelakia, tacked our way home with difficulty. Submission of Greek government brought to Mr Wyse while at dinner.

28 Sunday
Church and walked to the Chorajic Monument of Lysocrates afterwards.
Went to see Pacifico’s house to confound the falsehoods of that wicked Times.
Athens April 29 Monday
Moved to the Hills from the Angleterre. Called on the hero of Missolonghi (Mavrocordato). With Σ to Jupiter Olympia. Wrote home.

30 Tuesday
Acropolis, with Pittaens. Spent a delightful evening at home alone with Mrs Hill.
Athens May 1 Wednesday
Dined at Mr Wyse’s with Gros, Admiral Parker and all the fleet.
All parties very amicable. (Dr Wyse at dinner) [? Very faint]

2nd Thursday
Elizabet and I sat under the rock and to Eleusimium [?]. [at the Eleusinium

Athens May 3 Friday
Greek Good Friday. Karà and home by the monastery of Kareos riding. “May you live as long as the mountains” said one of the peasants of Kara. Russian Church in the evening to the Good Friday service.

4 Saturday
English fleet sailed. Mr Bracebridge with Bath.
To see the King and Queen at the Resurrection service (cathedral).
Convent of Mercy Kinsale 322

Athens May 5 Sunday
Sacrament Sunday
Temple of Fortune and by Stadium home.

6th Monday
Went with Elizabet along the Ilyssus, she telling me of the Mavromichali’s of Sparta, the murderers of Capi d’Estria.
Athens May 7 Tuesday
Paid Easter visits to Mrs Hill’s pupils, Vittoria, Alexandra and to the palace to her two maids of honour. Temple of Theseus and Pallikar dance and song. Pnyx. the Greek Easter Tuesday.

8 Wednesday
Theatre and Temple of Bacchus.
Athens May 9 Thursday

10 Friday
Acropolis, picking chamomile flowers
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Athens May 11th Saturday
Kara and home by Trakones with Mr. B. Sun setting behind Aegalus.

12 Sunday
Church. Athenian wedding of one of Mrs. Hill’s pupils.
Athens May 13 Monday
Greek May Day.
Academy and Colonus. Sat down in the garden, which was the centre of the Academy, then up the hill of the Furies. A storm drove us into St Elenso chapel.

14 Tuesday
School with Mrs Hill.

Athens May 15 Wednesday
Walked by myself to Plato’s plane tree and Diana Agrotera with Ξ. Ran round the Acropolis at sunset. Be well [?] day

16 Thursday
Fever day
Convent of Mercy Kinsale

Athens May 17 Friday [nothing]

18 Saturday
Rode to Daphne with Mr B. Misty
Athens May 19 Sunday Whitsunday
Whit Sunday. Sacrament. Walked to the cemetery with Elizabet and
the Wyses and company.

20 Monday Whitmonday
Whit Monday. Crossed the Ilipus, beyond Iphia [Ihssia?] and back
behind the Stadium. To church with Σ. Rode with Mr B. In the rain
behind Lycabettus and home by Patigria [Patissia?] Acropolis
backed by the sea, which shone between the columns.
Athens May Whit [21] Tuesday
To Jupiter Olympus with Pittakys and to church. Rode with Mr Hill by the sea beach to Cape Kosma (Aixone) and home by Trakonis. The sun setting behind Corydallus and the mountains transparent violet. The plain of Karà golden.

Wednesday [22 May]
To the school with Mrs Hill.
Drove to Ambelokse [?] (Alw in Greek alpha lambda omega) [greek pi epsilon kappa epsilon iota alpha or sigma] and sat in the lane till Pittakys came and showed us the Temple of Venus, the birth place of Socrates and Aristides and his garden.

Athens May 23 Thursday
To the school with Mrs Hill.
Rode to Maronsi [?] on the road to Cephissia [?] with Mr B. and Mr Hill, the little ravine of olive trees, the temple of the Armarusian [?] Venus exquisite

24 Friday
[nothing]
Convent of Mercy Kinsale 330

Athens May 25 Saturday
Walked with Elizabet to the Colonus.

26 May Sunday
Thunder in and out of church. Mr Armstrong’s sermon and a great storm. Walked to the remains of the Lyceum (in king’s garden). Acropolis and Bacchus column black against the sky after the storm.
Athens May 27 Monday
Walked to Σ’s favourite view under Jupiter Olympius. Rode to Lycabettus where the cannon were practising (king and queen there) and to the Klepht ruin half way to Syriani. Wrote home.

28 Tuesday

Rode to Araki (Heraclia [?]) Plato’s farm by the “beautiful church” a wild lone little church in the wilderness and to the German village. Home at 10:00. To the Acropolis by moonlight, view of the sea through the door of the Opistho Homnus of the Parthenon and to the Olympus.
Athens May 29 Wednesday
Karà. Off at 7:00, rode there took a firstling from the flock, killed and ate, one of the collegas roasting the lamb whole upon a spit, which he turned in his hand over a handful of fire. Myrtle from Pentelicus, we sat upon and the table cloth was vine leaves. Rode up to Karà quarry and home by sunset. Geranium on fire

30 Thursday
To the Acropolis before breakfast with Ζ. Sat under Temple of Victory.
To the school to show them the bird. At sunset to the Pnyx with Ζ by Cimon’s tomb, the shepherd piping to his goats, the sea was dull and black and the mountains shrouded in cloud.
Athens May 31 Friday
To the Acropolis before breakfast with Σ and Mr B. Sat long in the western portico of the Parthenon looking out upon the sea. Σ showed me her favourite view of Parthenon against Hymettus. Rode to Phalerium Bay with Mr Hill, across the Cephissus and along the beach to the Piraeus and the Tomb of Themistocles by a lurid sunset and round all the harbour.

June 1 Saturday
Off for Pentelicus by 5 1/4 with Mrs Hill, Σ and Mary Baldwin. At the monastery by 7 1/4. Rode to the top of Pentelicus (having stopped at the eagle’s eyrie) by 9:00 a.m. Mist showed us the view in vignettes. Saw the cave coming down. At the monastery by 1:00 and sat under the great old evergreen oaks, drinking the cool spring from the mountain source.
Athens June 2 Sunday
Sat upon the Areopagus and Mr Hill read us his sermon upon St Paul.

3 June Monday
To the Areopagus with Σ before breakfast, and to the Euminides’ cave.
Athens June 4 Tuesday
To Karà with all the Consulates and missions of Great Britain, found the irregular soldiery there installed in the garden nominally to take up robbers. Mr Hill and I had a quiet ride home by sunset.

5 Wednesday
To the Museum hill and Socrates’ prison before breakfast with Σ. To the school. To Syriani with Mr Hill. The Agromesos [?] treated us with sweet meats and water, walked up among the olives and saw the same fellows as at Karà. Valley all flowering with oleanders. View from the chapel.

Athens June 6 Thursday
To Plato’s plane tree with Σ before breakfast. To the University to see the casts of the western frieze of the Parthenon. To the Theseum and Hill of the Nymphs with Pittakys. To the Academy and along the Daphne road riding with Mr Hill.

7 Friday
To the cave of the Eumenides alone. Round Lycabettus with Mrs Hill and Σ and up the hill by myself. Sat long upon that airy promontory. Such a view of the Acropolis in the sunset coming down round the shoulder [?].
Athens June 8 Saturday
Acropolis before breakfast with Ξ. Compared the western frieze with the casts and went into the Erechtheum and up to see the view. Wrote home.
A little walk with Elizabet to look at the sunset on the other side the Ilipus through a garden. Got our owlet.

9 Sunday
Church
Walked up to the shoulder of Lycabettus to see the sun set upon the Acropolis. Leper. Madwomen. Candle to St Siderion: candle [vows? power?] tripping down again like a goat.
Athens June 10 Monday
Acropolis at sunrise. Lycabettus quite black against the sky. Parthenon lighted up but not like Ipsambul. View of the two seas [line written in very hard to read] through the door of opiethrodromus [opisthoapnus??] to the sweep of the hills from about middle of temple. School with Mrs Hill. Peiraeus and round to Phalerum Harbour and the altar of the Unknown God in a boat. Scramble up the cliff to the altar.

11 Thursday
Rode to Phalerum harbour with Mr Hill and to Cape Colias. Herdsman caught his horse with a rope.
Athens June 12 Wednesday
Eleusis and Megara. Monastery at Daphne. Ladies at Eleusis wore their fortunes on their heads. Received at Megara by Demarch, school master, doctor. Passed the hot hours under an apricot [tree]. Sun setting on Acropolis as we returned.

13 June Thursday
Syriani at 6:00 to see all the people roasting their lambs under the trees (like a Salvator Rosa) on their Ascension Day. Albanian women in full costume in the church. Called on Mme Botzaris. Dined at Mr Wyse’s. Wedding in the evening at the Χατο κουλας [?] according to the Greek church.
Athens June 14 Friday
Rode with Mr B. to Phalerum Harbour and home by Cape Colias. Mrs Hill’s party.

15 Saturday
Called on General Church to see the portraits of the Greeks of the war. Bath.
Walked up to the Acropolis with Ε to see the sunset. Climbed upon the old Turkish house where is the best view. Mary B., Pittalys and I lingered long in the Parthenon for the twilight hours. Hymettus lay like a great giant.
Athens June 16 Sunday
Sat with Elizabeth till the little hours, she doing my table cloth.
Church. The teachers came to wish us good bye. Drove to dear old Gropius to thank him for our passage. Walked up late to the Acropolis with Mary to wish goodbye, to see the sun set, which it did not, from the Turkish roof, and to linger about in the twilight when the Parthenon looks most solitary, most unearthly, till the moon rose when we went to Jupiter Olympius.

17 Monday
Off at 4:00 with Mr and Mrs Hill, Athena and Plato. Saw the sun rise behind Lycabettus and thought the last view the finest, as the sky became flame behind the Acropolis. Embarked at 5:00 by favour on board the Sully [illeg Marianna? Nasiemind?] which gave us neither board nor lodging but only carriage. Steamed out of Peiraeus with a “last view of Acropolis,” by our old friend Nicaea and the islands to Calamaki, crossed in a coach and four to Loutraki, where the oleanders were flowering and Acro Corinthus looking glorious, but we were too weary to go on shore and stayed on board till 10:00 when we sailed.
Gulf of Lepanto June 18 Tuesday
Patras. 10:00 a.m. Misty morning. Greece did not look like herself. Bath [?] Crowes, words [woods?] and luncheon. Missolonghi’s two hills look like Gibraltar from the Strait of Patras. Off at 4:00 p.m.. Zante 12:00 p.m. Saw through my porthole by the moonlight the Zante illeg

19 Wednesday
Argostoli 6:00 a.m.
Corfu 12:00 p.m.
Corfu June 20 Thursday
On deck at 5:00. Already hot. Went on shore to La Bella Venezia, the cool sea breeze came pleasantly in as we went down to the bath. In the evening drove up to the Pellikà the most poetic little village high up on the Adriatic side, but the mist hung upon the mountain and when we came to the top we could see nothing.

21 Friday
Gisbornes called. Called on the Wards, overpowering in their friendliness. Walked in that lovely little garden with the rose acacias and the Albanian lilies and the balustrade on the sea. Came back for Z, dined at the Palace and drove to the casino with Sir H. Pomegranates and aloes in flower. In the evening sat on the balcony looking upon the sea, the moonlight shining in under the arch and throwing flickering shadows on the sea. Never spent so poetic a day. Austria signalized alas.
Adriatic June 22nd Saturday

Off by the Anstria [Austria?] and without the Hills. 10:00 a.m. The Levant boat. Such a medley on board. Two sailors ill, seemed doubtful whether we should not have quarantine. Great thunder storm.

23 Sunday
at sea
Trieste June 24 Monday
Hotel National
Landed at Trieste 3:00 p.m. 52 hours from Corfu to Trieste

25 Tuesday
Band playing and people eating ices on the Place so quietly and gaily with their wives and children all the bourgeoisie.
From Trieste June 26 Wednesday
Off at 7:00 a.m. by Bahnkutsche [train]
Adelsberg 2:00 p.m.
Saw the cave, wonderfully sublime.
Left Adelsberg 6:00 p.m.
Planina 8:00 p.m.

27 Thursday
Laibach zum Oesterreichischen Hof very good
Left Planina 7:00 a.m.
Laibach 1:00 p.m.
Dull wide white streets. Green hill in front as the Acropolis
wonderfully fitted for quieting the nerves.
To Vienna June 28 Friday
Laibach by rail 8:15 a.m.
Valley of Save very pretty
Graz 5:45 p.m.
Brück 8:00 p.m.

Mürzzuschlag 10:00 p.m.

29 Saturday
Mürzzuschlag 9:00, over the Semmering by Bahnkutsche 1 p.m. 9:00 a.m.
Sloggnitz by rail 3:00 p.m.
Vienna 7:00 p.m.
Vienna June 30 Sunday
Stadt London
Hofkirche Muli Sheytans [?] in the gallery. S Stephan, the Cathedral
Canova’s Monument
Praten in the rain.

July 1 Monday
Drove to Belvidere
Ambras Collection (armour), picture gallery (horrible), Egyptian museum, Russian bath. Shopped.
Sperl, like the plaz. Little tables under the trees, smoking and drinking and their abominable dance.
Prague July 2 Tuesday
Hotel de Saxe
Vienna 6:30 a.m.
Brünn 12:00
Prague 9:00 p.m. (14 ½ hours)

3 Wednesday
Drove to the Burg, saw the Dom and the window the senators were tumbled out of. Tiska’s hill. Came down from Hradschin and saw Wallenstein’s palace.
Barmherzige Brüder Hospital. Stood upon the Moldau Bridge. Went after queerities in the rococo shops.
Dresden July 4 Thursday
Stadt Rom

Prague by rail 6:00 a.m.
Lobositz by Elbe 10:00 a.m.
Dresden 5:00 p.m. (11 hours)

5 Friday
Ran about looking in at windows all day. Print shops. Having money in our purse G and I gave ourselves a great entertainment of coffee and ice under the café trees. Mr Bracebridge arrived from Tetschen.
Dresden July 6 Saturday
Bitter cold. Toddled off to the gallery, could not get in, ran twice round the building and through till yards before we could find a way. Raphael’s S Sisto, Correggio’s Magdalen. Guido’s 3 Ecce Homos.
Ice on the Brühlische Terrace

7 Sunday
English service and sacrament in a little Lutheran church. Dr Martin Luther and John Huss hung on each side the altar. Behind it was Carlo Dolce’s Chrsit and over it the pulpit.
To the Gallery to stand before that ideal of human nature, the Raphael. In the evening to the Brühlische Terrace.
Berlin July 8 Monday
British Hotel
Rain. Dr Hollander. Gallery.
Dresden 1:30
Berlin rail 9:00

9 Tuesday
Museum (Génie Adorant). Hideous picture gallery of Netherlandish hells and heavens, driven through the Egyptian Museum with a flock, called on Dr Friedel. Tea at the Pertz with Mr B.
Berlin July 10 Wednesday
Bethanien and Mlle de Rantzau.
Egyptian Museum and Lepsius, who showed us the historic part. Ran
about the suburbs by myself paying visits and called on Madame
Pertz with E.

11 Thursday
Went over the library with Dr Pertz. Called on Mme Passow,
Lizzie’s news. Mr Bracebridge to Pyrmont. Tea at the Pertz’s in
the Oriental line. Lepsius, Curtius, and Frau Professorin, Dr
Bethmann.
Berlin July 12 Friday
Rained all day

13 Saturday
Shopped. Drank tea at Mme Pertz’s where were Mme Passow, Dr Bethmann and Grimm, Dr Pertz took me into the library.
Berlin 14 Sun
Went at 7 a.m. to hear Krummacher, Neander had died in the night and he announced it from the pulpit so touchingly that everybody cried.
I drank tea at Mme Passow’s. Bertha opened the door & laid the tea table.

15 Monday
Went to Bethanien to ask Mlle de Rantzau about Mlle de Bülow and see if she would patronize me after all. She gracious and kind, made an engagement for next day. To the library under Dr Pertz’s kind auspices till dinner.
Drank tea at Madame Pertz’s. Professor and Frau Professorinn Gerhardt.
January 13, 1881

Dear Col. Loyd Lindsay,

I cannot thank you enough for your kind letter: nor for your goodness in offering, "if Mrs. Fellowes is separated from Mrs. Deeble to give Mrs. Fellowes a similar credit - viz. two or three hundred pounds if she is willing to undertake the management & disbursement of this little fund."

I should think the credit might be given to Mrs. Fellowes to make use of conditionally upon her being separated. i.e. stationed in a separate Hospital from the Netley nurses.

Perhaps, as it is understood that Mrs. Deeble is not going, no credit is to be given to the nurse in charge from Netley. Of this of course I know nothing. If so, then Mrs. Fellowes might possibly be entrusted with the sole credit.
f2r
I will not trouble you with more now. Probably tomorrow morning may bring more news about the nurses, when, encouraged by your great kindness, I may venture to send you any information I have.

I was sorry I troubled you with a second note yesterday which I hope you will forgive. I will send the explanation another time. There was a deficiency and

f2v
neglect in forwarding the stores for Sick & Wounded from Durban in the Zulu War - and they did not get to the front at all in some cases. But for present purposes I should not have troubled you with this. And "qui s'excuse s'accuse" &c.

Pray believe me with many thanks ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
Lt Col Loyd Lindsay M.P.
My dear Sir

I hear from Netley that the nurses, i.e. the supt. of nurses at Woolwich, Miss CAULFIELD, with one of her nurses, & two from Netley will embark from Netley on Tuesday [red u/line] tomorrow for Natal. "The passages are secured "&c for Tuesday."

I am writing in haste to Mrs. Fellowes, & will only add now that I am

Yours gratefully

Florence Nightingale
Lt Col. Loyd Lindsay M.P.

Dear Colonel Loyd Lindsay

I am extremely obliged to you for your most kind letter & its valuable information.

As you are so very good as to offer to "provide any "small stores" for Mrs. Fellowes, to be "despatched," if possible, "in the Balmoral Castle" on Saturday, I cannot but venture to presume on your kindness & say that I think a moderate package of "Lint" & "Bandages of all kinds" would be very
useful & acceptable. A small Paraffin Cooking stove such as are recommended by "Mr. Sullivan "United Service Institution," who knows the maker's name, would also be very useful. [We did succeed in getting one for Mrs. Fellowes & one for the Netley Nurses to take out with them. But each was a little larger than was desirable, because there was such a rush at that moment for these

I can do nothing but rejoice in the thought that Commissary Young will be doing such valuable work for your Society at Durban. It seems to me an earnest that all wants will be supplied - that is that supplies will actually reach the Hospitals at the front.

Pray believe me with many thanks ever your faithful servt. Florence Nightingale Lt. Colonel Loyd Lindsay V.C. M.P.
flr
Private
& Confidential
May 24/81

10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Colonel Loyd Lindsay

You were so very good as to say that you wished to hear from me as to any thing that was declared on good authority to be wanting for our Wounded in the Transvaal War that the National Aid Socy. could rightly supply.

I have no doubt that all the most direct & ample information is at your disposal.

But as you kindly made this request, I will

flv
just mention that I have had a private letter from one who has been on duty all this time at Fort Amiel Hospital, Newcastle: - saying that they were "anxious to get funds to "provide artificial limbs "for the poor men whose "limbs have been amputated "during this war" -

also: that one was thinking of "writing to the "National Aid Society IF "the" authorities (there at Newcastle) "would allow" it.
f2r

Pray do not think me
impertinent in referring
this to you; who probably
have better sources of information

You probably know that
two only of the four Netley Nurses
(Miss Caulfield, the Supt. of
the Herbert Hospl., & Sister
Grey) were wanted at
Newcastle. The other two
remained at Pieter Maritzburg
Hospl. and Mrs. Fellowes,
our St. Thomas' Nurse, to
whom you were so kind,
was not allowed to remain
at all for lack of work.
She has returned, & re-enters

f2v

on her work at St.
Thomas' Hospital for
at least another year. But
this is only more fully to
prepare herself for
Military Hospital work,
in which her heart is,
- should it be offered her.

[ end 15:873 ]

Pray believe me

ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

Lt. Col Loyd Lindsay V.C. M.P.
PRIVATE       June 19 1882

10, South Street,
Park Lane, W.

Dear Sir Robert

You asked me; 'if the good Medical Officers will not give evidence before Sir E. Wood's enquiry into the Army Hosp. Corps Nursing in Natal, would any one of them who really knows about it see me privately, on condition that I would not use his name, & tell me facts?'

I have found a man who would: Dr. Blair Brown who was in the Zulu War from Dec '78 to 79. & in the Transvaal War - & at Newcastle till July 1881 - unfortunately not during the Typhoid which began in December 1881.

He is in London for the day tomorrow: he could wait upon you at any hour you would fix between 12 and 5: tomorrow.

If you could kindly let me know by 10 o'clock, I would send to him.
f2r
He knows more than any Medical Officer of these recent A. Hospl. Corps matters. He entirely depends upon you not to quote him: which would be ruin to him.
I trust that Lord Overstone is better.
Pray believe me ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
A man Medl. Off.r, Dr. Stokes, is going to give evidence before Sir

f2v
E. Wood, who has done more than any man living to misrepresent the efficiency of the A Hospl. Corps and of the War Hospl.s in Newcastle - & the state of the wounded in them. which was as bad as he stated it to be good. F.N. [end]
Private June 28 1882
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert,

I saw Dr. Crawford yesterday
- As you said, he is quite a reformer, just, able, impartial, not unwilling to acknowledge faults, anxious to remedy.

But I was not going to trouble you now with these subjects: [Dr Crawford wishes to see me again.]

Only to say: he told me that as far as he knew the enquiry of the Committee (Sir E. Wood's) on the NATAL A. Hospl. Corps was completed

no more evidence was to be taken:
& the report might be expected in a few days:
that they appeared to think the accusations had been made on "limited evidence":
he enumerated the papers they had had before them (which were only those I myself had seen.)
He did not think they had seen "Genl. Leicester Smyth's (informal) enquiry": i.e. Col: Montgomery, the Mil. Sec.'s Report to Genl. Leicester Smyth:
& it did not seem quite clear whether he knew himself what it was.
Would it be troubling you too much to ask whether you saw Sir Evelyn Wood, & whether he had had Genl. Leicester Smyth's Report before him?

May Dr. Crawford not be deadened by the influence of the Pope. dom, for the Director-Genl. is a Pope!

I am thankful that Lord Overstone is somewhat better.

May success attend your & Miss Stewart's visit to the Guards' Hospitals to-day! Will you kindly give her my best wishes & regards? I shall be eager to know what springs from it.

ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
Private  July 18 1882
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert

I have not troubled you lately, thinking that you were "commanding" at the Agricultural Show. But I venture to be anxious whether you have heard anything of Genl. Leicester Smyth's Report - that is of Col. Montgomery, his Military Secretary's Report to him on the Nursing of the Army Hospital Corps in Natal, which you moved for in the Ho. of C.

Mr. Childers says he has not received it: And Sir Evelyn Wood, Chairman of the enquiry, was obliged to close taking his evidence without it.

You thought, you were so good as to tell me, that you might move for it again.

Possibly you might like just to glance over some further evidence received from Natal which therefore I venture to enclose begging you to be so good at to return it to me.

Sir E. Wood has seen it,
but not before his evidence was closed. It had not then arrived. I have not heard what, if any, Report Sir. E. Wood had sent in. In seems curious that this matter is not properly sifted. Genl. Leicester Smyth states that he does not mean to do anything.

Of course this terrible Egyptian business now occupies every one: but it is the more terrible because such men as these of the A. H. Corps are to be sent out to nurse the sick,

& where probably trained women cannot come.

Do you think that the effect of the Egyptian war, if war, alas! we must call it, will be to quash all present enquiry, - or that the interval will perhaps add all the more strength to the alterations necessary for the benefit of the A. Hospl. Corps?

I saw Dr. Crawford by your kind appointment: & liked him exceedingly, as I think I mentioned, as having the
true qualities of a reformer. But the influences, the petty interests brought into play to prevent a man knowing what goes on in his own Office, or how his own Regulations are carried out by A. Medical Dept. or A. Hospl. Corps are of course incalculable.

I should esteem it a privilege if you would at any time guide me as to how I should suggest for consideration such views & evidence as I have as to collected: as to

enlistment
training
organisation
promotion

of Army Hospital Corps & its relations to Army Medical Dept.
I conclude that you think the further (general) enquiry proposed by the C. in C. & Mr. Childers into the A. Hospl. Corps' working - which you mentioned to me & which Dr. Crawford also spoke of - will hardly proceed at present.
??
2. I hope that what has been done with regard to Miss Stewart & the Guards' Hospitals promises well. Lord Overstone's health, I trust, gives you & Lady Loyd Lindsay less uneasiness.

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale

Sir Rob.t Loyd Lindsay MP V.C.

D/Wan/7/2/4 Letter, pen

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay
I think that I ought to apprise you, the Patron of Nurses, that Mrs. Fellowes, one of our Surgical "Sisters" at St. Thomas' Hospital, to whom you were so kind last year on her starting for Natal - has volunteered & been accepted to serve in the War in Egypt. & that, since then, we have been called upon for "other volunteers
"like Mrs. Fellowes" by the Director General.
I think it tolerably certain after a busy enquiry that we shall be able to recommend several Nurses in addition to Mrs. Fellowes.
And it would so very much facilitate the selection & ensure a better choice if it could be arranged that Mrs Fellowes should be the Supt. at a specified Hospital over her own staff supplied by us.

Nurses that I have ventured to apply for this. I hope that your Miss Stewart, whom I admired & liked so very much, is going, & will have a similar charge.

Any information that you could kindly give me would be very acceptable ever your faithful servt. Florence Nightingale

For instance, it would be of great assistance to us to know under what arrangements
as to supervision & discipline,
as to pay & outfit
the Nurses are to go.
  Probably you have already
ascertained this from the
A. Med.1 Dept. as regards
the N. Aid Nurses.
  Is Mrs. Deeble to have
any general control?
  Is the Local Hospl. Supt.
to have any authority
as to the Nurses under her
as to place of employment,
dismissal &c?
  Have you any information
as to the time of departure?
  Will the National Aid
be willing to grant a

[2]
credit to Mrs. Fellowes,
& any other Supt.
recommended by us?
& to allow Nurses' instrument
cases, if not granted by
the W.O.?
  Forgive me troubling you
with our questions.
  We should wish that
our Nurses should be
regarded as the N. Aid Nurses
& be taken under your
protection.
  We have always thought
that it was too hazardous
to send out Nurses,
except under the orders
of the governmt.: And as they are now,—owing no doubt to a great extent to the impulse given by the National Aid Socy.,—apparently adopting some method in the matter, we are only too happy to do something to assist.

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale


It occurs to me to mention that Dr. Crawford tells me the system of direct enlistment of men for the A.H.C. at Whitehall is not put a stop to. He says: 'We get some very good men by it: young men who have been Clerks or Chemists.'

Now these are the very worst men of the whole Corps. They are youths who have failed. Generally from their own dissipated habits.

The 4 months' (nominal) training at Aldershot is of course insufficient to give them either the discipline
of soldiers or the qualities of Nurses. They generally become N.C. Officers immediately from their superior education. And this accounts for the fact, if it is a fact, that the present N.C. officers of the A. Hospital Corps are rather worse than the men, & that they often continue a long course of drunkenness & dishonesty (pilfering of stores &c &c almost universal {pencil} without detection.

I have not however yet called Dr. Crawford's attention to this. We had so much to talk about: And I thought it would be imprudent, even when he started the subject, to make a great assertion in contradiction to his, when there was no time to bring forward any facts. And the difficulty always is in quoting Medical Officers as authorities when it may interfere with their promotion.

F.N. [end 15:914]
Dear Sir Rob.t Loyd Lindsay

Many thanks for your note of Aug 17, returning a paper on the conduct of the orderlies in the Hospitals in Natal.

It is the greatest relief to know that you think the War Office Committee's enquiry which you instigated has done as much as you "could expect".

[Two minor results of it have been, I am told, that the Orderlies have been as carefully picked as the unfledged means allowed for the Expedition to Egypt. & that women Nurses at all were sent.]

Have you seen the Committee's Report? And if so would you kindly tell me what its principal feature is?

And has Genl. Leicester Smyth's Report which you moved for been received?
[Six weeks ago it had not left Natal].

But as you say the important result is that the whole matter is to be taken up, the "organization" of the Army Hospital Corps considered by a "Committee" (at the War Office), & brought before Mr. Childers "previous to next year's "Estimates."

This is an important result. And no less an enquiry would be of much use.

I earnestly hope that you will be on the Committee: & that it will not be as I am told is possible a mere Departmental enquiry - which, however excellent & able the heads of the Dept. are, generally leads to as little real progress as if an enquiry into the conduct of a jury were to be put into the hands of its foreman - or an enquiry verdict on Agrarian outrage into the hands of a jury on the spot.
You are so good as to say that you would wish to "converse with" me on the subject of the new enquiry. I should esteem it my highest privilege. I shall be in London till about Aug 28 or 29 - & shall be back in London about Oct 24.

If you were in London the second half of this week & were so good as to make an appointment with me about 5 on Thursday, Friday or Saturday afternoon, {u/lined in pencil} I would make a point of keeping it.

But I dare say you will have left London.

Pray believe me ever your faithful ser.t

Florence Nightingale

I have more papers - which I think are the worst of all - just received, on the conduct of the Hospl. Orderlies in Natal. But you probably do not want to be troubled with them now

F.N.

D/Wan/7/2/6 Letter, pen

Private Address

Enquiry 10, South St

into Army Park Lane W.

Hospital C Oct. 18/82

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

You were so good as to say that you would give
me any information about
the General enquiry (proposed)
into the organization &c of
the Army Hospital Corps
which was to take place
before the Estimates were
prepared, as you told me.
I venture to write to you
& to ask when it is to be,
& who are to be the members
on it, & who the Chairman,
if you would kindly tell me.

flv
& whether they are fortunate
enough to have secured you
on the Commission of enquiry.
I was told (just after I last
had the pleasure of seeing you)
that Sir Garnet Wolseley was
to be the Chairman:
I hope it will not be strictly
departmental.
What has happened in this
War, as well as in those
of Natal, makes it a
matter of vital importance.

As to the Natal enquiry, (Sir
Evelyn Wood's), the heads of
the Army Medical Dept.
told me that the "accusations"
against the A. Hospl. Corps had
Wantage Papers, Red Cross

f2r
"completely broken down,"
because "A Priest," (R. Catholic)
and "A young Officer" had
given evidence,- the first that
he had seen the Orderlies
"attentive at the funeral of
"a R.C. Patient"!! the second
that his servant had been
kindly treated!!! (sic)

It is almost inconceivable &
fabulous: & I make no remark.

But what is far worse,
Mr. Childers, in reply to a
question asked by Genl.
Fielden in the House about
July 31, as to the result of
the enquiry into the A.H.C.
in Natal, read a paragraph

f2v
from the report of the
Committee (Sir E. Wood's)
which said: "The charges
brought have not been
substantiated; there were
individual cases of neglect
& misconduct, which seem
to have been punished at
the time."

[I did not see this at
the time: but was told of it
afterwards.] Might I ask,
were you in the House? -
& have you seen Sir Evelyn
Wood's Report?

This is very different from
what Sir E. Wood said in
conversation. And it will be
to the detriment of the proposed general enquiry, if he is to be kept in Egypt while it is being held. The remark of the person who told me of Mr. Childers' reply was: "The enquiry was made without waiting for evidence & without any attempt to substantiate the written evidence already before them: & then they make a Report which might well have been dictated by the P.M.O. in Natal."

[The present P.M.O. in Natal, Dr. Skene, was, I believe, one of the witnesses who gave evidence]. Genl. Leicester Smyth's Report has come home, & never been made use of.

As to Egypt, I have heard a good deal from Officers & others now returning or about to return: which tends generally to this:- that the Orderlies would do pretty well, were it not for their "hours on duty", which would kill a camel: & for their organization, which is childish - in various ways specific - that the confusion in the Medical Dept., as the Doctors say themselves, before the battles, was pitiable. & that there was no one vested with authority at the Ismailia base to buy fresh provisions &c which
were there waiting to be bought in abundance.

But I will not trouble you with particulars now: of course these things will be enquired into.
Sir Garnet Wolseley does not seem to have known much of what happened in his Hospitals.
Will there be an enquiry into the Medical arrangements for the War in Egypt?
And will the enquiry into the organzn. of the Army Hospl. Corps embrace its conduct in Egypt?
If anything could have been needed to substantiate what we said: that the Regulations were 'on paper,' & nowhere else,- it was this War.

You will forgive my great interest in the subject which prompts me to ask you to be so very good as to tell me what you know of the impending enquiry.
I shall be in London at the beginning of next week, if you tell me that the enquiry will begin directly.
I trust that Lord Overstone is pretty well:
pray believe me ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
I suppose questions will be asked
Oct 18 1882. Afternoon

Natal: Mr. Childers was so good as to telegraph out to Natal the order for hutting the troops both at Maritzburg & Pine Town: & also for employing trained nurses out there, should fever unhappily break out again. But I have heard since I wrote this - from Natal - that the huts will be of corrugated iron only, so that the heat will be as great as in tents. Still, the huts will be dry. About 15 men of the A. Hospl. Corps

f5v

had been telegraphed for "to go home" from Natal; this will leave them short-handed in case of Fever: & make Nurses all the more necessary

f6r

Pray excuse this disjointed letter. Might I ask you, if you think the 'fray' about to begin at once, whether in the House or in the Enquiry, to be so very good as to send me the post card enclosed? I may not be of much use: but I might be of some.

F.N.
Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

You were so good as to intend to call upon me about matters having reference to the impending enquiry into the Army Hospital Corps & the Medical arrangements in Egypt.

Any afternoon that you would be kind enough to fix at about 5 o'clock, if that would suit you, I should be too glad to see you, provided you would let me know at your earliest convenience what day I may have the pleasure of expecting you.

I will now only thank you for your kind note of Oct 23. & beg that you will believe me

Ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
f2r
What do you think of the constitution of the Committee of enquiry? It seems almost a pity that they should have put only two men on it who are not directly implicated by the Departments they manage in the subjects to be enquired into.

F.N.

D/Wan/7/2/8 Letter, pen

f1r
PRIVATE Nov 4 1882
10, South Street. Park Lane. W.
Dear Sir Robert Lindsay
Thank God that the Committee of Enquiry into the Army Med. Dep. has begun its sittings & that it is to be allowed time to go thoroughly into the whole matter. And yet more thankful am I that it has a M.P. upon it - & that that M.P. is yourself. You have the ball at your feet, & have only to set it rolling. Now is the time to
settle this burning question for 10 or 20 years to come. The Enquiry can come in on the wave, instead of being stranded as so many enquiries have been.

You will examine Surg. Genl. Hanbury & all the Doctors from Egypt. Only let them not deny everything: let them say what took place what failed why it failed what they want So as not to fail. what succeeded why it succeeded.

If the Doctors will only not "shut the gates," so that nobody may see, they may have now the ball at their feet.

You will examine too, I hope, C.O.'s of Regiments who have been in Egypt. But perhaps almost the most important thing is to know how Field Hospitals were organized (or disorganized) to go out on the recent campaign Very valuable information on this score may be had from M.O.s at home, if only they will give it plainly & openly.

You are very good to offer me two days: And I shall be most happy to see you on Monday at 5.

Pray believe me ever yrs ffully
F. Nightingale
Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

I thank you most heartily for so kindly sending me the Evidence of your Commee of Enquiry, which I have been carefully studying. I need hardly say that no Soul knows of my having it.

It would be a great kindness if you could let me see any further sheets that have been printed & that you could spare, even before I send back these,- if this be not troubling you too much.

You were so very kind as to give me permission to make, privately, through you, any suggestions as to Examination of witnesses. (I mean, without my name being mentioned at all.)

I. Col. Philip Smith is, I understand, to be examined before you this week.

Might I suggest that he should be asked
1. Concerning a certain lay
   element (by 'lay' meaning
   'combatant officer': which
   we, the vulgar, call not 'lay':)
   to be introduced into base
   Hospitals in the field.
   [It is the old quarrel
   renewed. but it must
   be settled now one way
   or the other, i.e. by perfecting
   one or the other system.
   And you only can do this].
2. concerning stretcher-bearers,
   (of which system he has
   much experience).
   He could also tell you

II. In Sidney Herbert's two
Royal Commissions on the
Sanitary State of the Army,
general questions were
drawn up & printed
& sent to each witness
before examination. It
seemed to elicit much
more out of them, & to
regularize & steady the
evidence, making it much
less desultory. Doubtless,
if you approve of this, it
f3r
Private  [2]
has been done already:
Since the object is not to take the
witnesses by surprise.
III. Dr. Evatt was much
pleased with your kindness
& skill in examining him
privately. He writes to me
that you would apply for
his being examined by the
Comm.n. He of course had
first to apply officially to
Dr. Crawford: & he asked to
be examined on four points:
(1) lessons learned from Affghan
campaign.
(2) Conditions now existing &
preventing full development of
A.M.D.
(3) Conditions interfering with
nursing efficiency of A.H.C. {red u/line}
(4) Relations of A.M.D. to volunteers

f3v
'Surgeon-Major Evatt was
however told that (1) the (1)
"Affghan experience" was the
only point which would come
"under the cognizance of the
"Committee".

Of course I cannot venture
an opinion as to what
comes "under their cognizance".
But is not (3). "Nursing
efficiency of A.H.C." one
of our most important
problems?

I am afraid however the
poor man will injure himself
-tho' he is willing to be injured.
[Dr. Blair Brown is not:
-he whom you were so kind
as to see in private.]
IV. As the Commissariat & Transport efficiency of the Indian Contingent has been held up as a model, it might have been thought well perhaps by you to examine some of the native Officers now here as regards the native portion of the Contingent? One or two of the native Officers, without one word of complaint, have in conversation spoken of deficiencies (for their men). They however leave on Tuesday, do they not?

V. Would Sanitary things come under the cognizance of the Committee? They are, if possible, even more fatal to life in their neglect than want of food: & are certainly (I mean ought to be) - one of the duties of the A.H.C. But now the Field Hospital has no "pioneers", or men to perform these duties.

I am quite ashamed of having presumed so long on your indulgence.

VI I have only to add that
Col. Richardson of the 46th might be a good witness. But I believe you call all C.O.s. VII. That you were kind enough to say that you would like to see me again. I should be at your service any afternoon provided you could be so good as to fix it beforehand. I know how busy you are. [I am engaged already Sunday, Monday, & Friday.]

I trust that that poor Invalid lady who was suffering so much who lived with

("fecce") Miss Violet Lindsay has been arranged for as you could wish.

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
December 10/82
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

You were so good as to say that you would wish to see me early this week.
I would gladly see you at 5, or earlier, or later, tomorrow (Monday) afternoon - if you wish to see me before you examine Dr. Marston, which I think I understood was to be on Tuesday.

I have seen Dr. Marston, and believe that I could suggest some questions as you desired.

If it is not convenient to you to see me, on Monday, I could write & send some questions by Tuesday morning, if you desired it.

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale

If you could kindly tell me as soon as possible when (if) I may have the pleasure of seeing you, I should be glad.

I have an engagement on Tuesday, but would try to put it off, if that would suit you better.

F.N.
Dec 20 1882
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay,

I have not yet received the evidence (Lord Wolseley's), which you so kindly promised.

Dr. Marston's evidence was, I trust, satisfactory. I hope to see that, too, thro' your kindness you are not perhaps "examining" this week.

If you would like me at any time to suggest some questions for your examinations, please tell me: & believe me ever yours

ffully Florence Nightingale

-----------------------------------------

O bad, bad appointment for India Office
Committee of Enquiry:

Jan 1 1883
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

May I wish your good work the highest success in the New Year & many of them to come.

You were so good as to wish me to write out a suggestion for that "Return" as to cost of A. Med. Dept. which you proposed to call for. I enclose a skeleton, should you think well to cover its bones with a better form.

2. You also kindly asked me to suggest some farther questions. I enclose some as to Bearer Companies, which as you said seem to be a "fifth wheel".

But the questions about other things, which one would like to ask:- 'their name 'is Legion': And doubtless I shall profit farther by your kind leave to ask them.

3. With regard to the Regulations for the Army Hospital Corps, it occurs
to me to say that some Regulations should be restored viz. as to what the relation of the Orderlies to the "Sisters" is to be, where there are "Sisters." e.g. What they are to be taught by the Sisters. What the Orderlies, what the Sisters, are expected to do

{pencil:} &c &c &c.{end pencil}

Our best Sisters in the recent campaign had to win their way with the Orderlies by kindness & courtesy, & never giving "orders": or "lording" it over the Orderlies. This

the best trained women would have to do anyhow. But an ill-conditioned, half-drunk Orderly always had it in his power to remind the women that there was nothing in HIS Regulations to authorize their presence {pencil:} or define their work, {end pencil} & that he expected them to do this & that. (I have it in black & white what he did expect.)
f3r

[2]
4. Dr. Marston's evidence
is exceedingly interesting.
but the 'Sanitary' is to
the rest like Falstaff's
'bit of bread' to that {pencil:}'intolerable {end pencil}
enormous 'deal of sack.'

If you have any more
Evidence printed, you
will kindly remember that
you have a petitioner
in your ever faithful ser.t

Florence Nightingale

Excuse my delay in sending
the form of Return.

I have been rather overworked.
F.N.

D/Wan/7/2/13 Letter, pencil

f1r

Private
& Confidential Jan 25 1883
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay
Many thanks for your
note, for the additional
printed evidence which
is exceedingly strange,
especially Dr. Veale's,
who: was apparently sent to ORGANISE
& ADMINISTER the base Hospital (Ismailia)
mainly - so it stands by
his own account - because
he was skilful in "diagnosis"
at Netley - & because he
was "wounded" at Cawnpore.
of the subjects that you have done me the honour to talk about, as regards Netley, there appear to be 5 or 6 pressing ones, concerning which it might be well to ask Dr. Longmore a few questions. Hints concerning those: about how to give the Medical candidates some course of Hospital administration: I have ventured to send you. But there are 3 or 4 which are the common talk - I will not say the open talk - of the young & the best Medical Officers:

1. One is - the absolute want of discipline of the Army Medical Department. I think I have given you instances of this & could give you many more. [It is perfectly well known to the Director-Genl.] Circulars from Whitehall Yard are utterly disregarded. Young Med.l Offrs. give but one hour a day to their work &c &c &c the hours & training alike of the Army Hospl. Corps & of the Army Medical Officers in after life are neglected &c &c &c
Young Med.1 Offrs. come from the Hospital in London where they have had professional training but no discipline. Whilst they are at Netley, there ought to be an attempt made to train them in discipline as well as in the special matters which Army Surgeons are supposed to require. And therefore should there not be a distinct Military supervision by means of their own officers? And therefore should there not be one head over the teaching - who should direct the studies - & also see to the Med.1 Offrs. being systematically trained in the various Dept.s of Hospital organisation, so far as Netley admits of it? So that the whole time of the Med.1 Offrs., while there, should be occupied in one form of training or another:

in the Washing Establishment
Cooking
Purveying
Nursing, &c &c &c

I have ventured to suggest some questions to Dr. Longmore (1). On this
2. The number of beds in ordinary times at Netley, considered necessary for the instruction of the Med.l candidates, is said to be kept up by Patients who have asked for their discharge from Hospital, & who have been 'passed' as fit for discharge, but who are nevertheless retained in Hospl. for this purpose.

I have suggested some questions (2) on this.

3. The following is - one may say the universal testimony - of all the young Med.l Officers & of those who have retired into Civil Life - when they speak their convictions:
'The Netley Professors do not keep themselves up to the latest knowledge of London Hospitals
'The only way in which we can keep ourselves up to it is by going through Hospital training in London periodically -
'What the Netley Professors do do is only to go up to London occasionally & see an operation and
'walk thro' the Hospital Wards: but they do not do the work of the cases' there'

I have ventured to hint at this in some questions (3)

-----------------------------

I may perhaps trouble you with some more questions to night tomorrow, but will weary you as little as I can. I am delighted to be working at your valuable Proof.

Thanking you for all the priceless labour you are giving to these Questions,

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt

F. Nightingale

[3] questions proposed to be put to Dr. Longmore (red u/line) on Friday at the Commee.

(1.) Seeing that there is alleged to be a want of discipline in the Officers of the Army Med. Dept. under the new system (i.e. the abolition of Regimental System) what arrangement can you suggest at Netley by which disciplinary training could be given to the young officers on joining? e.g. might it be advisable to place them under the direct Military Supervision of some one of their Superior Officers?

Would it be useful to have one of the Professors made a
Director so as to arrange the teaching & discipline - & put it under one general head? also to see that the young Medical Officers are systematically trained in the various Departments of Hospital organization, so far as Netley admits of it?

(2). As regards the Hospital: what are the number of sick or invalids on an average at Netley? When is the season of largest numbers coming in? how long do they usually remain? What is the smallest number? And are there always enough sick for useful teaching of the candidates? Were all the invalids & sick from Egypt brought to Netley? if not, why not? Are invalids landed directly on the Pier from the ships in which they arrive?

(3). In what way do Netley Professors keep themselves up to the latest knowledge of London Hospitals? Are there any London Hospitals which they specially attend? And if so which?

D/Wan/7/2/14 Letter, pen Private Jan 26 1883
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay

As this examn. of Dr. Longmore appears of amazing importance if any progress is to be made in training the A. Med. Dept., I venture to send some more hints for questions. They are taken mainly — indeed entirely — from what we gather of the wishes of the best Medical Officers themselves.

The short questions I, II, [brown u/line] III, IV, V to XII [red u/line] are

fly

put in case you have not time to read the others. And those which particularly apply to Netley are marked in red. {brown u/line}

The other questions, 1, 2, 3, 4, to end, are put rather to explain the short ones. {brown u/line}

And what particularly applies to Netley is marked in red. {brown u/line}

I shall ask your leave to fill up those I have
f2r
not filled up afterwards.

God speed your
Examination in this
momentous question.’

Ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale

D/Wan/7/2/15 Letter, pen

f1r

Private

Your

Proof of Recommendations
Jan 30/83
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

Before submitting to you
anything about the Sanitary,
I would have been thankful
to have seen your Proof
covering this part of the
ground (& other parts),
as you said that you had
not "covered all the ground"
in the Proof you were so
good as to send me, &
which I returned yesterday

I have put down in
the roughest way some
hints concerning the important
Sanitary part – which
I hope may not be too late to be of some little use.

Also a word about Purveying:

I am rather in the dark about the latter part (the crisis) of your operations: so am afraid of being 'de trop'.

How long will your meetings last for considering your Report?

I might send in a few more remarks, if it were not for the fear of troubling you.

ever your faithful servt
F. Nightingale

Jan 30 1883
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay

In answer to your kind note which I have just received, I must put myself into your hands as to "showing" the "notes" and "suggestions" - which I had written for yourself alone & at your kind request - to Lord Morley, your "Chairman of your Committee."

You will know what is best.

But, when you ask for 'leave' to "submit" them to "the Committee itself," telles quelles,- I hesitate, tho'
I still wish to be implicitly guided by your better judgment. I should certainly have written them differently, & probably should have omitted some things, had I not thought that no eye but yours would see them — & especially not the higher Medical eyes — — tho' I have always tried to be the Army Medical Dept.'s best friend these 29 years: & think that I have been so, even in things which they may dislike.

Dr. Crawford would also guess that I have seen the Evidence: but that is a matter for you to decide.

Altogether, I end as I began:

I feel that I cannot do better than leave it all in your hands.

You will judge what is best.

I should be very thankful to know how things 'went'
latterly in the evidence as regards Netley. & as regards Dr. Hanbury's evidence & what view you take of these things: [I might be able to modify & write something more.]

- Ever your faithful servt.
    Florence Nightingale

(a very feminine P.S.)

P.S.) It occurs to me: would it be possible for such parts of my notes & suggestions as you & Lord Morley approve to be put forward as yours & his? I think this would be preferable.

----

N.B. I do feel the vast opportunity you have now of bringing about a truly vital reform: for the lives of our men are in question.

F.N.
Feb 2 1883
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Lindsay

I hesitate to trouble you, because I do not know where you are in your Report.
Nor whether I may not be writing merely repetition.
But your kindness in sending me a second Proof makes me suppose you wish for more.
I send merely some suggestions as to

Netley & Nursing
and
Field Hospital work
I have made some notes upon your 2nd Proof
which I will complete & send if you like it.

ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
Private

Feb 27/83

10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robt. Loyd Lindsay

Thank you very much for the rest of the valuable Committee of Enquiry evidence, & for your kind note, proposing to consider the "Recommendations" of the Report, when printed, with me.

I shall esteem it a great favour to be allowed to do so: - but in order that I may not quite waste your time, I will beg you to be so very good as to let me see this part of the Draft Report, (in the strictest confidence, of course) two or three days at least before I have the pleasure of seeing you, - being, as I am, very slow at the "up-take," as you say in Scotland.

May I hope for this? and how soon do you expect the "Recommendations" to be printed?
Confidential

It would be of great importance for me to know what impression was made upon you & upon the Committee by the last evidence, particularly that of Sir James Hanbury, Dr. Longmore & Mrs. Deeble.

E.g. upon what Prof. Longmore gives in evidence, the questions being how far
1. Hospital administration
2. Ward management
3. Nursing, so far as to be able to train the A. Hospl. Corps & to judge of nursing
4. Cooking &
5. Laundry work

are taught at Netley to the Army Med. Officers in training.

Would you think it well to take some further evidence upon this - e.g. whether Army. Med. Officers consider that they have been taught these things? & where?

which things: in Civil Hospitals? which: at Netley?

2. Also: in regard to Mrs. Deeble's evidence, would you think it well to examine some "Sisters" who have been trained in London Hospitals & have been employed in Egyptian War Service or at Netley?
Prof. Longmore says so well that nursing is now almost as much a science as the practice of medicine & surgery itself. & that the difference in the last 20 years, (during which he has not been in Civil Hospitals so as to know their working), is so very great - he might say that in the last 10 years Nurse-training has made such strides in the London Hospitals that he would not know it again. But, he says, Nursing is taught in London Civil Hospital Medical Schools as a part of the Medical profession. This is just what is NOT the case.

So far from the "Dressers" & "Clinical Clerks" "supervising the Nursing," it is just the reverse. They have in fact to be shown the dressings very often by the old Sisters. The Sisters "supervise the Nursing."
f4r
3. Netley School was in fact established, as Prof. Longmore will remember, to supplement the want of practical knowledge in Civil Hospl. Medical Schools: which do not train men, as they are needed for the Army.
4. Hospital administration is at present taught nowhere, neither in Civil nor in Military Hospitals. And as the Army Med.l Dept. is now to have the whole of the Hospital administration, it would be most important, if

f4v
you thought well, that the Committee should "recommend" how & where it is to be taught.
I should like to make some more remarks; but will now only say: 1. that the Treasurer of St. Thomas' Hospital misunderstood your question: he meant to say that all the "Sisters" at St. T.'s are gentlewomen of education, but that they all come, alike with the nurses, from the Nightingale Training School, & all receive the same PRACTICAL training, in that the
wards, (tho' the "Sisters" who are to train others receive more theoretical knowledge than the Nurse-Probationer). Also: that the Training School receives ten times as many applicants as it chooses to admit. In reference, again, to Mrs. Deeble's evidence, you might perhaps wish to examine a St. Thomas' "Sister" who has served in Egypt?

It is possible that the Committee might see some grounds for altering some of their opinions if the evidence mentioned in this letter & other evidence were laid before it. I will not detain you longer but pray believe me ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
Dear Sir Robt. Loyd Lindsay,

According to your kind desire, I have written many notes, many suggestions, on individual points chiefly connected with the Army Hospital Corps, & with the {FN duplication} training & efficiency of the Doctors, as understood by themselves.

But are there not two {pencil:} or three {end pencil} points which lie at the root of all & which they scarcely seem to apprehend?

1. How can the Army Medical Department efficiently manage discipline & transport?
   
   If they are to have charge of the discipline then they ought to pass through a military training like other officers in the Army.

2. How is Netley to be made efficient if placed absolutely under the Army Medical Department, as a place of training for the Army Medical Department?
People don't reform themselves.

As you are aware, the question as to Netley was very fully considered by Sidney Herbert's Commission, upon which there were two Directors-General of the Army Med. Dept., viz. Andrew Smith & Alexander. And they were unanimous in the opinion that if Netley were placed under the Doctors, it would soon be utterly useless. It was placed directly under the War Office.

{Pencil:}
If the Army Medical Department

{pencil}
is to have the Army Medical School exclusively under itself, then it becomes a most serious question how the School is to be remodelled so as to fulfil the Department's own views. I venture some remarks upon this which follow here: and leading up to these, I beg to enclose 5 sheets of remarks chiefly upon Dr. Longmore's evidence, as you desired, & your own Draft with my notes, chiefly suggestions of Medical Officers.

{end of pencil}
1. If the Medical Officers are to have charge of the discipline of the men, they must be trained into disciplined habits themselves - not drill but discipline.

Theoretically, they & to carry out what they Medical Officers so strenuously propose for themselves, they ought to go through a course of training as cadets, just as the Military Officers do, at Sandhurst for a year or two.

Practically this is impossible: they would lose their own profession.

Three or five years with a Regiment might teach discipline to the young Medical Officers.

But if his work is to be at a Station Hospital under some one apart from the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, would it then give him any much training in discipline, because he would not be responsible to the Commanding Officer for his work in the Hospital - he would have two chiefs as it were, & might play one against the other - which is no training in discipline. [So much the more necessity for giving more training at the Medical School.]
If the Officer is to be altogether attached to a Regiment, so as to be under the orders of the Commanding Officer for all purposes for the three years, then it would be useful for giving him habits of discipline.

But if he is merely to be attached to the Regiment, & to spend the greater part of his time in doing his duty away from his Regiment under another head - then is it not probable that the system would have a tendency rather to undiscipline him than to discipline him?

And does not this make it all the more needful that he should have a thorough disciplinary training before he takes active duties in the Department - another reason for re-organizing the Medical School?
It is admitted that there is no discipline in the Army Hospital Corps; it is admitted that the Medical Officers will have to teach them Nursing - that they will have to supervise the various duties connected with Hospital administration Ward management including cleanliness Nursing Cooking Laundry work and, a great and, Sanitary work.

And therefore that both they and the Army Hospital Corps must be taught these things at Netley Medical School just as the Officers of the Royal Engineers go through a practical course of making gabions, & fascines, stockades & mines.

Is it not evident therefore that some remodelling of Netley Medical School is necessary - for none of these things are taught at Netley.

{pencil:}except Sanitary theory. {end pencil}

It is difficult to hope that Netley will be improved; because it is impossible to get there that close supervision from Head Quarters which is needed: or for the Medical
f6r
Officers to come up to
London & keep 'touch' with
the whole Medical profession,
which, as appears by the evidence,
is so urgently wanted.
Would it not be better on
the whole, instead of relegating
the School to a corner of
England, then, to reconsider
the position of the School,
as it has to be altered so
materially, & place it
nearer to London where
it can be remodelled under
the immediate eye of the
Director Genl. & the War Office
- & where it would be within
the public opinion of the whole

f6v
Medical profession?
Aldershot, a great camp
with summer manoeuvres, is
hardly fit for Netley {pencil:}Med.1 Sch. {end pencil}
Could the Medical School
be attached to the Herbert
Hospital & Woolwich
become the head quarters
of the Doctors
Army Medical Dept., (as it was
proposed to make Netley),
& the depot of the Army
Hospital Corps?
[Netley is so far removed,-
cannot be seen - it is certain
there is a great want of discipline
there. & a great want of
keeping up with the day.]
The Army Medical Officers desire to have in their own hand all the discipline, Hospital & Ward management, Nursing, Cooking & Laundry work. Then they must have an education in these things. Cooking [Warriner who used to instruct Sergt. Cooks is dead]. Buckmaster might give a course of Cooking - with lectures - how to make things palatable - how to make the best of tough meat &c &c - regular training in these things. So, a course of Laundry. The young Medical Officer to be regularly attached to these Departments for a time to learn.

But if the Director-Genl. & Professors say that the young Medical Officers are too grand for all that, then for learning cooking, purveying &c. then is it not a thorough mistake to put all these things directly under them in their ordinary duties? Is it not throwing away good material to make your highly paid scientific Officers do all these things? Would it not be better to reconstitute a subordinate Department, the Purveyors' which did looked after all these things, & place it under the Medical Officers?
The inefficiency of the N.C.O.s of the Hospital Corps is fully shown by the evidence. But why has it never been protested against by the Medical Officers? Does not this show a certain incompetency? However, if the Army Medical Department is to have the whole charge & command of the Army Hospital Corps, as they desire, it is obvious that they must have a thorough training themselves not only in the corresponding duties but in discipline.

And for this purpose, that is, in order to get proper training & discipline, ought not the whole thing, - training at Aldershot, training at Netley, - to be brought together into one focus, so that the young Medical Officers should be a longer time under training? The want of discipline in the Army Medical Dept. shows that there must be something wanting in their early training. The questions put by the Committee appear to show that they perceive the that
the 2 months' riding & company
drill &c at Aldershot
to be altogether inadequate.
   Should not the education
be all at one place -
a longer course - comprising
time enough to inculcate
habits of discipline?
   [A year {pencil:}tho' very short for all there is to be learnt
{end pencil} would be something
if you had a really good
man at the head of it.
- a thoroughly good man
able to discipline them.
   And there should be an Officer,
not too old, who is an
enthusiast, over the Cooking
& other Departments. There
are such men among the
Medical Officers.]

As to Sanitary things:
   it is such an immense
subject:
   we can only say: Sidney
Herbert devised the whole
A. Med: Dep: Regulations
for the purpose mainly of
preventative Medicine - i.e.
of Sanitary work. And the
Army Med: Dep: have
entirely ignored it.
I return you your Draft with my notes: the two documents p.p. 10, 9. also p.p. 7a, 8a, are almost entirely the suggestions of experienced Medical Officers, from their own point of view. I return also for reference the 5 sheets 2 papers of Questions you were so good as to return to me. Were it not troubling you too much, it would oblige me very much if you would be so very kind as to return me all these papers when you have quite done with them, pray believe me - too glad if I can be of the slightest use ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
PRIVATE

I need scarcely say that no one has seen or heard of the Report in my hands.

March 13/83

10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay

I. Will not the Report's "recommendations" include some thing, some system equivalent to the Regimental system for securing its advantages of discipline &c &c to the Medical Officers?

Doubtless these "Conclusions" & others are coming, in order to put the roof to the house.

2. e.g. how to restore the medical Sanitary Service, which is now completely in abeyance, except indeed in Regulation:

3. Will not the Committee recommend some equivalent to R. Engineers' training & discipline for A. Hospl. Corps? [red u/line]

[The Committee Report says that, because the A.H.C. has to go on detachment service, its discipline is necessarily imperfect. The authors of the R.E. did not say so. (The R.E. has to go on smaller detachment service) - but set themselves to train the R.E. Corps for it.]
4. Doubtless the Report will recommend some machinery for giving training & education to fit the A. Medl. Dept. for its increased responsibilities.

5. Will the Committee not also recommend a system for the continuation of Orderlies' instruction in Nursing by Medical Officers & Serjeant Instructors?

1. The Report points out so well the difficulties of detachment service. The "recommendations" will come to solve them.

2. The Report points out the difficulties of 'Hospital Economy'. The "recommendations" will come to remedy them.

3. The Report points out the increased responsibilities of Med: Offrs. But no scheme for Training School & discipline to fit him for them has yet been given (in the Report.)

4. The Report relieves Medical Officers of a part of the punishment. But punishment is not discipline.

5. The Report says the Doctors must have military control. The "Conclusions" do not
as yet include the Military education to be given to the Doctors. I write from what is apparently the Committee's point of view:

I write from the Army Med: Dep: point of view. not from my own, nor from the Regimental point of view. But even from this, the A. Med: Officer's, the Committee's view: - if the "Royal Medical Corps" is to be an efficient Corps in the sense in which the other scientific Corps, the R.E.s & R.A.s, are efficient, must not a great deal more training & discipline & form & organization be given to it than this?

1. Nothing has as yet been said about training the Hospl. Corps for the inevitable circumstances of being on detachment:
   [at present it might be said that it is a Hospl. Corps, because it is not:
   a Hosp:1 Corps, because it cannot attend on Hospitals, (when detached)]

2. Nothing has as yet been said about training the Medical Corps (the Medical Officers)
f4r
- in discipline themselves
or in administering discipline
- in professional progress
  (with tests & examinations for promotion)
[pencil:] except as proposed by yourself- [end pencil]
- in keeping touch with the day,
  (farther than an allusion
to the advantage for the
Guards of being in London)
- in the necessary steps, now
that the duties & powers
of the A. Med: Dept. are
so immensely enlarged,
for enlarging the machinery
for training them to
fulfil those duties &
to exercise those powers.

f4v
II. The Report says so well,
p. 40, that military
patients "require more
supervision," than Civil.
    They have less.
that the Orderlies "must
be in all cases subject
to military control."
They do not have even
as much as Civil Nurses.
[It is a small thing that
you find military Patients getting
out of bed, tho' it often
sometimes costs them
their lives, which would
not be suffered once in
Civil Hospitals -
    that you find Orderlies
f5r [3]
frequently tipsy, one instance of which, even were it possible now, would ensure instant dismissal in a Civil Hospl..
there are worse things than these]

Then why not educate the Medical Officers to exercise Military control? The Report so justly says the Orderlies must be subject to it. But it is not the creating a Medical Officer to be a #Military (Hospl.) Commandant that will enable him to exercise military control, or fit him for administering discipline, apart from punishment.

f5v III. Will not the Report modify what it says, p. 39, about the "Satisfactory existing system of general & station Hospitals? Do not you consider the Military Station Hospitals at home in peace about the worst in the world? the want of discipline of Medical Officers - of Hospital Orderlies - the dirt, the neglect? Do you to which no other remedy was ever suggested by the late Director Genl. except female nurses & Regulations?
f6r

Do you recollect, ever hearing, in your time at the W.O., of a Report which was I have an idea presented at that time - chiefly about neglects by Orderlies of Patients - (I believe, but do not know, by Pr. Edward of Saxe Weimar) I have a copy of that Report, & if you will kindly allow me, I will hunt it up & send it you.

I can put the names to the un named Hospitals - where the neglect occurred - & the principal of these is Portsmouth.

Let me send it you. You will say: my neglect in not doing so before can only be capped by that of the Orderlies.

f6v

But I understood that this was not within the Committee's competence. The C.ee cannot however praise the "existing system". {pencil:} without allusion to these things. {end pencil}

If there is time, I will also ask how, at the Herbert Hospital, the Officers are attended to, the Wards " " " the Sanitary work is done. what are the Orderlies' (unearthly) hours what their dress &c &c &c But there is nothing here to compare with the terrible neglects of the Portsmouth & other Station Hospl.s.
IV. The Conclusions of the Report have not as yet embraced the "recommend.n" about training Medical Officers in Hospital administration Ward management (including cleanliness bedmaking changing helpless cases &c) Nursing Cooking Laundry and discipline

Neither do they, as far as the present Draft, of course imperfect, goes, enter into the questions of

mess meeting place (monthly meetings) library head quarters &c &c &c

{pencil:} so important to {end pencil} of the Officers of the new Royal Medical Corps" nor into periodical re-trainings to be made compulsory (certificate to be brought to D.G.) of Medl. Offrs. in Civil Hospitals [It is touched upon p.45 - 6] {pencil:} You, I know, propose this. {end pencil}
V. The District Field Hospital organization -
   the Field Hospitals to be in a constant, or at least a summer, state of parading & exercising at Aldershot or Woolwich you bring forward forcibly.

VI. There is as yet no scheme propounded for enabling the Med. Dep. to exercise discipline over Hospl. Corps, except what may be called an almost technical contrivance about punishments.

   {pencil:} Excuse repetition & haste {end pencil}

VII. May I say here that, while admiring the "Sections," may I protest against the Cooks being paid higher than the Nurses? {red u/line}
   Must not the Nurse be a much higher kind of man than a cook?
   (he has to do with life & death: it may almost be said he has to do with souls, inasmuch as he must be gentle & kind).
   If the cook is a vulgar fellow, coarse & loud, perhaps a little tipsy at night, provided he is not too drunk, it is not fatal to the cooking.
It is utterly fatal to the nursing.
Let me plead in favour of the highest pay for the nurses.
Don't let us say that the stomach is higher than the soul. A good rate of pay for the cook - a higher for the nurse.
Let me also plead for the Serjeant Instructors, as the highest grade for the Nursing Section - it is a most necessary one, as it gives another step in promotion. [You would not have many]

- & for the Serjt. Instructor Cook for the Steward's Section. It gives the Cooks another step in promotion. You would not want more than 5 or 6 for the larger Hospitals & Stations - And this would be the man who would be the head of the Cook, instead of a "Civilian", in time of war.

You take the wind out of the N.C.O.s sails (as they do at Netley) if you appoint a Civil cook in time of war.

[pencil:] A few years will give you, if well used, Serjt. Instructor Cooks. [end pencil]
I have not permitted myself pencil notes on your Draft, except at p.p. 57, 58. Pray write over them. You will as you say require a Sanitary Section:
   Conservancy men
   Washer men
 & in Field Hospl.s
   water men &
   messengers
to form another class.

VIII. You well allude to the absence of shirts
   Shirts were not changed sometimes from first to last
   'no shirt available'
   Shirts & clean bed linen deficient sometimes, even on board the Carthage.
   {pencil:} Excuse haste. I have no time to make this shorter. {end pencil}
I must not keep your Servant waiting.
It is impossible for me to say in words how deep a gratitude we feel for you for this worthily taking up a subject which concerns the life & death of our men, & which has scarcely been seriously treated, except by you, since 1861.
   ever your faithful servt.
   F. Nightingale
IX
Will not the Report construct a scheme of re-constitution of Army Medical School suited to the present responsibilities of Med: Off’s including appointments of Professors to be for 5 years?

X. (p. 45 - 46. pencil M.S.) undoubtedly. But will not the Commee. notice & make some recommendation preventing the indiscipline likely to arise from the Med. Off. being divided into two, Regt. & Station Hospl.?

XI. p. 60. Should not two 'drunks' ensure dismissal? About the sick there can be no drinking.

She provided him with further remarks 13 March 1883, and her “confidential report” on the Crimean War, which she had to go to some trouble to find. She asked that he not make “any further use of it except with my assent.”
Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay,

At the risk of troubling you, I enclose the last 2 fag. sheets of my poor little remarks on your Draft Report, which I had not time to send this morning when your servant came.

I have also sought for & found a copy I had of that Confidential Report which was sent in to the W.O., as I mentioned, some time ago. I will ask you kindly to glance over it: and to return it to me, as soon as possible without making any further use of it except with my assent.

I should be exceedingly glad if it could be of any use to you now.

I think the Committee must not commit itself to calling our home: Military-Hospitals even "fairly good" - p. 39.

[Sir Wm Muir wrote a curiously official answer to it, of which he gave me a copy]

Possibly you may recognise the Report paper.
If I could have had your Draft Report a few hours longer, I might have been able to make suggestions less unworthy of your great purpose.

I must crave your pardon for having written in haste.

And, wishing you success with all my heart in all your noble exertions,

pray believe me ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

Sidney Herbert devised the whole Army Medical Department Regulations for the purpose mainly of preventive Medicine—that is, of Sanitary work. The Army Med. Dep. have entirely ignored it.

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay

I am so very sorry not to see you to-day. Would Saturday about 5 suit you?

[I was going out of London for a few days' total rest: but would gladly put it off, if I hear from you that you would like to see me on Saturday.]

Many thanks for the Revised Draft. I have ventured to make some remarks, which
I send with the Draft.
How much you have been
working at it I think can
be seen: but also how
much others have been
cutting down.
    May success reward you!

I think it might be worth your
while first to see Mr. Morrison,
of the Army Hospl. Corps.
On these 3 subjects particularly
    - Purveying
    - Free Hospital Rations
      for Ay Hospl. Corps
    - Netley (& Woolwich)
& generally as to Hospl. Corps.
    [I had not seen him before].
He is a fearless & at the
same time canny Highlander.
He will be at the House of C.
this afternoon & tomorrow
(Friday) after one o'clock.
    He will, with your leave,

send in his card to you
tomorrow (at the Ho. of C.)
And of course he is
prepared for your being
too busy to see him.

{pencil:} Good luck to your Report
    ever your faithful servt.
        F. Nightingale
{end pencil}
Army Hospital } June 6/83 [15:553]
Services" Enquiry:) 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robt. Loyd Lindsay

Thank you very much
for your kind note before
Whitsuntide & for
your being so good as
to send me the completed
"Army Hospital Services
Enquiry" Blue Book. It
is a great work: and
you have done, I am sure,
magnificent service
in bringing it all to
light.

If one cannot but regret

that the Report has limited
itself so much to detail
(-the Army Med: Dept. has
been its own 'foes' in this
matter.), one the more
admires your truly impressive
protest, p.p. XLIV, XLV.

Good must come of it.
Might I venture to ask
you if it would not
be giving you too much
trouble to be so very
good as to return me
any of my poor little
notes which you still
may have on the subject
of those which I sent
you by your kind
desire?
I trust that your Whitsuntide
holiday restored you
as much as your
friends could wish.
And that would be
saying much.

Pray believe me
ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale

D/Wan/7/2/24 From War Office to Robert Loyd Lindsay, 31st Oct
1882, asking Lindsay to become member of Medical Committee [of Enquiry]

Extract of letter, pen

I am very anxious that
its constitution should
not be the subject of
controversy, and I

think that of you would
consent to give us your
assistance as one of its
members this desirable
end would be accomplished

I look upon your cooperation
as most valuable in the
interests of the Public
Service and trust that
you will be able to give
it to us.
Believe me to be
Yours sincerely
Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay

After what passed in the House about the Medical Committee I am very anxious that its constitution should not be the subject of controversy, and I

D/Wan/7/3/26 & 27 Notes {pen} re. FN's views on the Army Medical Department: the Army Hospital Corps; field hospitals; bearer companies; garrison & regimental medical officers; sanitary work and omissions in the Report [of the Committee of Enquiry]. 1883

{The writer isn't given, but it's written on headed notepaper bearing the address 2, Carlton Gardens. Elsewhere there's a reference to a Committee held at 2 Carlton Gardens. 8ff & 2ff. Contents are a summary/repeat of FN's own letters above.}

2, Carlton Gardens
[on envelope address to Lady Loyd Lindsay 20.5.83]

D/Wan/8/3/1 Letter, pen

flr

Feb 2/85

10, South Street, Park Lane. W. [15:557]

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay

I have many thanks to give you for your kind letter of Jan 8, with its enclosures, which I have closely studied, comparing the M.S. paper with the numbered paragraphs in the "Report" of your Committee, & also the "Regulations" with regard to the Examination of Surgeons & Surgeons Major, & the three other "Army Circulars" which you were so good as
to enclose. But it is impossible
to see how far your
recommendations have been
carried out without seeing
the "Revise" of the Medical
Regulations, which is referred
to everywhere in the M.S.
Could you be so very good
as to send me a Proof
of these "revised Regulations,"
because it would be disastrous
if the wording of the "Regulations" when
they came out failed in

embodying your intentions?

You were so kind as to say
that you wished to see me
to talk over these matters.
If it should be any afternoon
this week about 5 o'clock,
would you have the goodness
to make an appointment
beforehand? May I beg my kind
regards to Lady Loyd Lindsay?

Pray believe me
ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
flr
Private   Feb 21/85          [15:969]
          10, South Street,
          Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay
Lady Rosebery has doubtless
by this time seen you about
the "branch" Society which she
wishes to start in connection
with your National Aid Socy.
And I trust that you will
allow it to be a "branch",
& give her the advantage of
your information, your officers,
your organization. Probably
you have an Officer already
on the spot at Suez.

flv
Miss Williams who has been
8 years Matron of a
London Hospital, and
12 or 13 years in intimate
connection with us - (trained
at St. Thomas') - has been
appointed Supt. of Nurses
of the Hospital for Wounded
at Suez, & is going out
next week. She is a
person whom you might
trust to dispense any
relief you think proper.
f2r
They are fortunate to have secured such a splendid Supt. of Nurses. She will do her very best - & having known her work & her capacity & her conduct intimately for so many years, I am able to say that that best is very good.
I will not now take up your time: pray believe me ever your faithful servt. Florence Nightingale

I might possibly venture to add: will you not put Lady Rosebery in communication with some Officer of yours - i.e. of the "National Aid Socy.?
here-?

F.N. [end]

D/Wan/8/3/4 Letter, pencil

f1r
PRIVATE 10 South St. W. [15:973-74]
March 12/85
Dear Lady Loyd Lindsay
When Mr. Lamb asked me to give you particulars to-day about your four nurses, I permitted myself to add our desires for our 'Miss Hicks' for your consideration.
Since then, Lady Rosebery has written to me that, of the four, two will probably be on the Ganges
till they go on board Sir Allen Young's yacht "to look after the Invalids" 
[I hope the "Invalids" will be really 'sick' or 'wounded'] & two on one dahabeah "under the instructions of Major Young" on the Nile. I think you will probably consider that we had better 'let well alone' - & not interfere with an arrangement like this, if it promises useful work, and the protection of useful work, to trained nurses. But I hope again that the poor fellows coming down the Nile (? from Korti) in the 'Nursing' Dahabeah, are those who really want nursing. I get extremely interesting & curious statements from the Seat of War of the working of 'Lord Morley's' 'Committee' on the Orderlies - - of their improvement - - but still of the promotion of "Scoundrels" to be '1st Class' Orderlies - & of the non-promotion of the good Nurse-Orderlies,- unaccount -able even to the Doctors. The effect of the fall of Khartoum & Gordon's death in depressing the Patients was extraordinary. Pray believe me ever your faithful Servt. F. Nightingale
Dear Lady Loyd Lindsay,

Mr. Lamb (of your Assoc.n) has asked me to write for you the names of the Nurses who sailed in the "Navarino" on March 4, & where trained.

1. Kate Hicks trained at St. Thomas' Hospital
2. Kate Wrigley
3. Mary Machen
4. Elizabeth Annie Dowse, all three trained at St. Mary's Hospital Paddington

Most Private

Might I ask a very great favour?

Might I put the case of Miss Hicks (as one of our own nurses) as a personal matter before you & Sir Robert - & ask him whether thro' the War Office he could get Miss Hicks taken on at Suez under Miss Williams with the consent of your Ladies' Committee -

or on board the "Ganges"
or at any base Hospital
to be formed at or near Suakim, if there are other trained nurses & an acting Supt. of Nurses to be there -
  but not sent. the only woman there - on a Dahabeah up the Nile - to fetch down (?Semi-convalescent) Officers & men - Miss Hicks is a first-rate Surgical & Medical "Sister" - & an admirable woman - a thorough gentlewoman

Private - not yet 30 years of age. To take charge of a ward full of severely wounded or severely sick is her vocation. But we should not have recommended her to "take charge of "comforts" & "superintend," if this is, as we understand, what the nurse on board the Dahabeah is to do - which would surely be better done by an older lady - a sort of Lady-Housekeeper. & not so highly trained.
f3v
Such a lady might be known to
Ladies of the Committee
Might I ask you, if you
approve my request,
to arrange it with Sir
Robert Loyd Lindsay.
& not if possible to
put me forward in the
matter?
  Success to all your
undertakings.  
[end 15:975]

f4r
Excuse a hasty pencil
note:
  & believe me
dear Lady Loyd Lindsay
ever your faithful servt.
    Florence Nightingale

D/Wan/8/3/6 Letter, pen, copy 9098/1

f1r
Confidential May 18/85
  10, South Street,
    Park Lane. W.
Dear Lady Loyd Lindsay
  Your extreme kindness
makes me venture to
trouble you.
  I have received a note
asking for "suggestions" as
to the disposal of the
'Prss. of Wales' Branch' surplus
funds.
  You disapproved the idea
of the 'Convalescent Home'.
  Private letters about the
state of the troops above
Wadi Halfa make one very
uneasy.
Would Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay think it desirable to telegraph to Senior Officers up the Nile - merely a question as to what is wanted?
It is needless to observe that they would answer much more readily a Telegram from Sir Robert than from Commissary Young.
Would he also think well to find out whether Camels are going to be sold at Souakim?
The block at Wadi Haifa from want of transport is no secret.
Would it not be a splendid work for the Nat. Aid Socy. to do what Government has not been able to do owing to the State of the Nile.
As I was obliged to answer the Princess of Wales' 'Branch', I have ventured to make a "suggestion" of this kind.
Like you, I dread the "Convalescent Home" idea. Pray believe me ever your faithful servt.
  Florence Nightingale
Dear Lady Loyd Lindsay

May I venture to add to the letter with which I troubled you on the 18th, that, from private letters we learn that up the Nile (i.e. at & beyond Dongola) "huts are being built now & will be finished in a few weeks". Probably therefore it is too late to send Marquees.

It was quite true that two young Officers died in a few weeks ago in a Bell tent, there being no room for them in the Hospital Marquees.

In a private letter received a fortnight ago from an Officer a few miles from Korti, he says that they "were on half rations of Tea, no salt, sugar or vegetables - the bread very bad, made from some native grain which gets mouldy at once - white bread only in the Hospital"
Might not enquiries as to what is wanted be made from General Dormes who is, I believe, in command by telegram either in the name of Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay, or of the Princess of Wales?

Yesterday a letter arrived from another, a Commg. Officer with posts at & beyond Dongola, saying that the only books his men had received were those sent him by a private friend, a lady. They had been eagerly snapped up by the men, "text books & all." I hope still to get up my the "Lives" of "Gordon", which I am having reprinted, to the men in the same private direct manner. A letter from another Regiment says that "the Officers were in rags." What must the men be?
f3r

[2]

As I had to write to the "Ladies' Branch" on Monday, I shall write now what modifies that letter - but of course without giving these details.

Would it be troubling you too much to ask what has been decided by the Ladies' Commee. about their surplus funds?

Pray believe me
dear Lady Loyd Lindsay
ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

D/Wan/8/3/8 Letter, pen

f1r

PRIVATE & Confidential June 16/85

10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Lady Loyd Lindsay

You have been very kind to me that I venture to write to you about a few points regarding the N.A.S. & the 'Princess of Wales' branch' in Egypt, as you have had the goodness to welcome information from the spot.

1. There has been a complete failure in getting any stores sent out farther South than Wady Halfa, where there has
flv
been a 'block' for weeks & even
months. I hear this from
Major Young himself. His
exertions are so unremitting
& it is so useless now to
complain, as the troops are
ordered to return, that I will
only venture this remark, &
only for another War, which
may God forbid!:- viz. such
persons as Greeks have got
their stores up to our officers men
high up Nile all this time -
as we hear from private letters.
Could it not have been made

f2r
worth the while of some of these
Greeks to be our agents? It can
be made worth dishonesty's
while to be honest.
Coffee-Huts
But now I am only going
to trouble you with what can
yet be done: Major Young
informs me, in a letter dated
June 9, that the "Coffee Hut"
(sent out I believe by the Prss of Wales)
has not yet arrived even at Wady
Halfa - that is, only a portion
of it has arrived. But the
Commandant at Wady Halfa
has handed over to your Socy.
a hut, from which 70 to 90
dozen of aerated waters are
daily issued.
A Pratt's Club Hut has been given to the 'Pss of Wales' 'branch'. Major Young telegraphed to Lansdowne House to know if he could have it for up Nile but has had no reply.

A Hospital Hut was burnt down at Ambigole, some 47 miles South of Wady Halfa, & Major Young was telegraphed to, asking if you could give them a Hut in place of it; he meant the Pratt's Club Hut for this purpose.

**SOUAKIM**
We cannot make out whether the Pss. of Wales' "Coffee Hut" is put up there? We understood from home that it was. A private letter from a high officer made a most urgent appeal for it, as if it were not put up then. Probably it is now? But the private letters from Souakim are most pressing:

1. "jams, jams, jams" (sic) not in pots but in "2 lb." tins, or thereabouts, & tinned fruits.
2. Slippers
3. Tobacco & pipes.

In the strictest confidence, may I tell you that at Souakim while the supplies sent by your Societies were most useful, the distribution was somewhat defective - enterprising Officers sometimes got them out of the N.A.S. store themselves for their men.
2. I now come to your great kindness about a matter most difficult of all to treat, most pressing of all to be treated. The 4 Sisters (Gov't Sisters), Miss Williams at their head, are entirely overworked at Suez. The Hospital is crowded - the cases most severe - typhoid & dysentery on the increase. more cases coming in - one of the 4 Sisters has seriously injured her knee. One is perforce on night duty. And there are only one & Miss Williams for the whole day duty, including 7 sick Officers. The heat is excessive; & things difficult to get for Hospital use.

Twelve more Orderlies have been obtained. but tho' most amenable & dutiful; to the Sisters, they rather add to work than help. The Medical Officer has telegraphed for more Sisters, but none had come when I heard. Four more Sisters could be easily employed. [And they sent seven home by the 'Ganges'!!] Patients are constantly arriving from the camp. I am in hourly fear of our Sisters (Miss Williams & Co) breaking down. The right thing would be to let Miss Williams have the four Sisters (Pss of W.'s branch) who went out with her, and 3 of whom were her own. This prevents clashing.
Of these 3, Miss Sister Byam, the most valuable of hers, was sent home in nursing charge of Invalids, not I believe in the Ganges, some time ago.

One, Sister Hind, was sent for by Major Young to Cairo - employment unknown.

One, Sister Dowse, together with Sister Hicks, were employed as substitutes for Medical Staff Corps men, in charge of Convalescents "men not seriously ill" in Dahabeahs down the Nile; & are now, as I hear this morning, at work in the Hospital at Assouan. [Sister Hicks was the most accomplished Surgical nurse]

There are those whom one would like to hear of with Miss Williams. But it is perplexing to interfere when not on the spot with arrangements.

Unsweetened Condensed Milk

This has been a great success, especially for Fever Cases at Suez. "They are so grateful for it, believing it to be fresh milk"

Major Young wishes more to be sent out, & says "we could "use considerable quantities daily "in Cairo, Assouan, Korosco, "Wady Halfa, Suez"

Cocoatina

Major Young writes for more to be sent out "at once" and I have telegraphed to Captain Symonds R.N. whose gift it was. Major Young wants to issue refreshments to returning troops at Wady Halfa.
Major Young certainly writes fully to the N.A.S. and its "branch", that is, to Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay & the Princess of Wales.
I will therefore trouble your great kindness farther.
I think I will write to Lady Rosebery about those matters in this letter which concern her 'Branch' directly. But I think I will not mention the most pressing of all: the Sisters at Suez. because there has been somewhat of blundering in the sending out of the 'Branch' Nurses.

Major Young telegraphed lately for another Sister: without specifying her employment. But ours would not go, having heard from Sister Hicks of her non employment - & ours being fully & more than occupied at home. Had he but telegraphed for some to be employed at Suez!! Would it be possible for this Miss Byam at least to be sent to Miss Williams at once? She is the one Miss Williams most wishes for. But of course the Director-Genl. must be consulted.

Pray forgive me for troubling you so much, especially at this time when
f6v
Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay must
be politically so much absorbed,
and pray believe me
dear Lady Loyd Lindsay
ever your faithful & grateful
servt.
Florence Nightingale
I return with
many thanks Mr.
White's interesting
letter which you so
kindly sent me. He
does not specify what
the cases are, further
than "cot.
cases".
F.N.

f7r

5.
Might I ask you to be so
very kind as to let me know
at your leisure (if you ever
have any) what the Pss of
Wales' Branch has decided
to do with its surplus funds?
[One of the great Military
Hospitals here has wished
that it the Branch would subscribe to
the Brompton Consumptive Hospl.
& to one or two Convalescent
Homes. for discharged
men.]
P.S. I have ventured to telegraph
to Mr. Lamb to ask him, to

f7v
in order to save time, to
procure & send out some
Unsweetened Milk to Major
Young by tomorrow (Wednesday's)
steamer. I took the great
liberty of sending out my
Unsweetened Milk by him
last time.
F.N. [end 15:997]
Private August 1885  
10, South Street,  
Park Lane. W.

Dear Lady Wantage  
How can I thank you enough for kindly sending me Mr. Kennett Barrington's very full & interesting letter & enclosures.  
His letter however chiefly refers to a time quite anterior to that of the 'complaints,' which is subsequent to his departure from Souakim - & to that of the bulk of the troops, when the outside Departmpts. especially are so often neglected. This, I hope, was shown by my letter which you have made use of.

It is scarcely possible to deplore enough the non-erection (unavoidable, it is said) of the Coffee huts: which Officers & men, some of whom were tee-totallers, alike depended upon to keep the men out of mischief, & to supply them with food & drinks, &c X, almost essentials against disease in that climate. It was suggested, if not coffee-huts, cannot coffee-tents which Officers would probably have spared & spared labour to put up, have been useful as a temporary expedient, as in other wars?

X newspapers, games & books
f2r
The men were far from expecting these foods & drinks, &c to be given them as 'rations', either by N.A.S. or otherwise. They had plenty of money, & wished to buy them; they had been led to expect that they would be able to do so in Coffee-huts or tents. [If my letter did not make this plain, forgive me. I wrote the 'Branch' yet another letter, & I think I also troubled you with it, in which this was stated emphatically. I speak of the men not in Hospital but who had to be kept well.]

f2v
Officers, even before the bulk of the troops left Souakim, lamented, saying: 'We must give our men leave sometimes: & we have ridden out on purpose to meet them on their return, & found them bringing back spirits from the shops - they had nowhere else to go - to their comrades in camp.' It would be no duty to insist on this further, when the N.A.S. & its 'Branch' have done such excellent good work, were it not for another campaigns, (which God avert!) for which the N.A.S. is always gathering up its invaluable experience - invaluable to the Army also. For the Army does many things
now, which it would not have
done, save for N.A.S. example,
as e.g. 'rations' of oranges
twice a week.
But it has been asked;-- since
this (unavoidable) miscarriage
has happened in the case of
two Coffee-huts far on to the
end of summer: may it not
be just possible that miscarriage
(equally unavoidable) may have happened in the
case of other things, after Mr.
Kennett Barrington was gone?
-----------------------------------------------
With regard to fruit, (other than
oranges) of which a plentiful
supply can doubtless be had from Syria,
Medical Officers of course must
decide about its supply, both

for well & sick & the nature
of the supply, both for
Coffee huts & otherwise.
But the want of fruits & vegetables
was lamented as producing
disease of some kinds. And
it was notoriously so up the
Nile, was it not?, tho' of
course the supply up there
was quite otherwise difficult.
I should have felt the
greatest eagerness to accept
Mr. Kennett Barrington's
most kind offer to come &
see me. but I am at Claydon
[I did not "see" him at
"Lansdowne House," unhappily
for me. For I am unable from
illness to go out.]
f4r
I shall be back at 10 South St.
about the middle of September.
May I claim his kind offer
then?
About his noble proposal to
go out again to Souakim,
where he has been the
instrument of so much good,
that is not, of course, for
me to accept or decline.

The wish has been expressed
that, without making such a
bold encroachment as this,
some Officers already in Egypt might
be sent to Souakim. The numbers
there are now so very small.

f4v
It is still hoped that the
Coffee-hut may be put
up. & used as long as
we have a Garrison there

f5r
[3]
*Private*
Nurses.
With regard to the *two nurses,*
& Mr. K. Barrington's letter:
we have now learnt in the fullest
detail, & it is most satisfactory,
the excellent work, worthy of
& suited for trained nurses, that
the two sent up the Nile did at
the Hospital at Assouan, -
when the Commandg. Officer
of Assouan stopped them
there & claimed their services -
at a time of the greatest
pressure when half-starved
Patients, suffering from
complicated Enteric, were
sent down there from high up
Nile. This service alone made
their going out amply worth while
But it has been asked: was it quite fair to put trained nurses or women at all to serve the Convalescent Dahabeah - tho', if women were to be there, it was matter of thankfulness that those were the women chosen for such a position, when an Orderly & a Cook were all that was wanted for. [It would be easier to explain the unfitness of the position in words than in writing - no less unfit for the Patients than for the Nurses. was it not?] One cannot rejoice too much for the Assouan work. These nurses had also real Nursing fit for trained nurses, & plenty of it, on board the Bulimba coming home - many of the cases were very severe. With regard to the two who nursed the "Auxiliary Hospital" on Quarantine Island at Souakim, they had hard & good nursing work to do, & did it. And Miss Williams spoke enthusiastically of Mr. Kennett Barrington's kind care of them. Neither of the two was however fitted by experience to be the Sister in charge; but Miss Williams who went out as acting Supt. of Nurses under Governmt., was fortunately on the Ganges at Souakim at the time, & came to their help by her supervision and then she was ordered on
duty elsewhere, exchanged for one of these one of her own who had been accustomed to take charge & supervise.

It had been indeed arranged by the "Branch," tho' this arrange-ment was not adhered to, that these, their 4 nurses, who went out with Miss Williams & her W.O. party, should be placed by the N.A.S. Commissioners, in consultation with her, & only employed in fixed Hospitals, such as Suez, Souakim, Assouan, &c where there is a great pressure of acute cases, sometimes almost overwhelming the Govt. (W.O.) Nurses, without N.A.S. help - & requiring the best trained nursing -

and where there are Orderlies; for one of the most important functions of the trained Nurses is of course to train & supervise the Orderlies (as is indeed set forth by W.O. Regulation) - And minus this function, & minus Orderlies, or indeed minus real Patients, the trained Nurses are, in fact, wasted, are not they? It would indeed be only "aggravating" to recall this now, but that the N.A.S. is always laying up valuable experience also here.
It would seem that I have written now much more than I ought, while delaying to write much longer than I ought. for which my being broken up by illness must plead my excuse with your kindness.

It would seem impertinent to add that Genl. Hudson at Souakim is an admirable Officer, well known for his care of his men.

To the Lady Sec.y of the Branch I have written generally on the main points of the 2 Nile Nurses' Itinerary. Pardon me for saying so much about what you know better than I.

I beg to return the valuable enclosures by Mr. Kennett Barrington. And with renewed thanks to yourself & to Mr. Barrington, & wishing you joy of your work, pray believe me dear Lady Wantage ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
Private August 6/85
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

Dear Lady Wantage

I have been unwilling to trouble you yet anxious to report to you: especially about Souakim.

We received some time ago several private letters from thence, stating very urgent wants about which I at once ventured to write to the Lady Secretary of the Princess of Wales branch, & - according to his request - to Major Young at Cairo. [Mr. Kennett Barrington had left Souakim.]

Not to trouble you with detail:

the principal grievances were these:

1. dress: no flannel skirts
   no socks X
2. food    bread sour
   no vegetables
   tinned potatoes uneatable
3. no milk or fruit or jams
   nothing but bread & meat
   [fruit is now easily attainable from Syria - is it not?]
3. recreation. But their main complaint was: the dreadful
   finding that these were not supplied,
   some ladies who had work on hand
   for the Pr.ss of Wales' branch, which had been countermanded, sent some, I understand
monotony of their lives.
   no coffee-hut - no books
   no newspapers
If the Prss. of Wales' coffee-hut
was put up, it does not seem
to be accessible to the men;
they do not appear even to
know of its existence.
They entreated that the "N.A.S.
"would not forget them."
Does it not often happen
that when the bulk of the
troops is removed, the
remainder, & especially the
outside Depts., the C. & T.,
suffer much more from
wants? because a good
C.O. will always organize

amusement for his men -
and, almost always, XX.
supplies of what in that
climate become necessaries.
To you need not be reported
the terrible sickness at
Souakim, some at least
of which might have
been prevented by such
supplies.
X. A man from whom we had frequent private letters,
X a Commanding Officer up
the Nile, by no means a
rich man, engaged, by a
private agent, at Assouan
150 Camels. [it was useless
trying to get them at Wady
Halfa] which came straight
{footnote continues top of f3r}

[2]
through to Dongola & beyond
with supplies for his men,
who were kept comparatively
free from casualties by disease
It seemed strange that Society
agents with all the money
at their backs could not
do much more than this.

f3r {see second half of footnote, continued from f2v}

Your extreme kindness authorizes
me to report to you. I cannot
make out whether the
Souakim wants have been
supplied. It has been asked:--
could not the N.A.S. send some one on the
spot in Egypt to Souakim?
About the Nurses sent out by
your "Branch", I shall also have with
your kind leave to report.

f3v

of those who returned by the
Bulimba. [They had plenty to do
on the Bulimba] I have been
obliged from illness to come down to
Claydon.
I received,—by Lord Wantage's
kindness, I believe,—a copy
of the new "Medical Regulations"
from the Director Genl.
Might I ask if Lord Wantage
was good enough to send
a summons to that Dr. Evatt,
R. Military Academy, Woolwich,
returned from Souakim,
whom at one time he wished
to see (about the Volunteer
Medical students)?
Most Private

Miss Edwards, Cooking Sister.
Her mission to establish a refreshment place for the troops at Wady Halfa came, as you know, to nothing.
Sister Hicks & Dowse appear to have had plenty to do at Assouan. But the Boat work seems to have been unnecessary and a failure - in fact the journey so altogether beyond Assouan. Army Medical Staff not wanting the N. Aid Prss. of Wales' branch - neither their Boats nor their Nurses.
- always personally kind to Nurses.
I know that nothing I can tell you is news to you. But still it is right for me to report to you, & to ask that it may be 'confidential'. [end 15:1009]

May I also ask to be ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
The Surgeon-Major Ross, whom you mentioned to me as proposed for the Convalescent Home is the same Dr. Ross who went out to the Zulu War in charge of Lady Brownlow's Nurses. He was chiefly famed there for his "squandering" of money, for his want of wisdom in placing the nurses - & is supposed not to be a man fit for principal manager.

May I add, in the strictest confidence, that a Ladies' Committee, which has been one of the largest contributors in funds to besides other gifts to the "Princess of Wales' "Branch", has stopped a sum still remaining which they had collected, saying that while there was such urgent want up the Nile, they could not think of sending money to be used for the troops "after their return"
D/Wan/1/2/2 H. Verney to Col. Loyd Lindsay re. opinions held by FN and informing him that no action can be taken until replies have been received from France & Germany.

Letter, pen

Claydon House
Bucks

Tuesday. July 26. 70

Dear Colonel Loyd Lindsay,

I am going to London on Thursday, when I will call on you and give you Miss Nightingale's reply to your note of the 23rd.

I can tell you that which she would not tell you, but which I learnt from Americans of the North - that the appreciation for the relief of the Sick & Wounded in this war, and, in fact, this whole proceedings which proved quite efficient & satisfactory, were entirely organised & conducted on her suggestions.

Miss N. writes to me that you are "quite on the right track-" nothing can be done until Lord Granville receives the replies from the French & Prussian Governments.

I anticipate their being favourable; but when I see you, I will tell you that which will show how needful care will be not to wound the susceptibility of our
neighbours in these matters.
    I am yours ever
    faithfully
    Harry Verney
I shall go to town tommor
row if I hear that Miss N.
wishes to see me on the
subject of your note.

D/Wan/1/2/208 C. Rumpff to Sir Harry Verney re. inter alia
situation at Versailles and FN's book on nursing. Also Accounts
of Income and Expenditure October 1870 - February 1871. {Very
long and chatty letter! I've given you the most relevant (?)
extract and summarised the rest. VR}

Letter, pen
    {Lycée, Versailles, Jun 28/71}
{Summary:} Lycée very full - her work is appreciated.
Number and type of casualties.
French hopeful of peace.

[Extract:]

f2r
I am so very thankful that I
am permitted to work, in the
midst of this wonderful War,
and I should like to continue
to the end,- How can I ever
be thankful enough, that I
was permitted to enter at
St. Thomas's,- and now only, I
feel how much good I learned from being there.- I do hope on my return I may see Miss Nightingale; - I have her book on Nursing with me, and give my assistants, some times lessons out of it. - I find a cup of tea so good for my Patients, first the Drs opposed it, and said, it would excite them etc. but in no case did it harm, and a little while ago, I nursed one of my Doctors, who had caught Fever, and the first thing he asked for was "one of my cups of English tea" - since I have bought a little stove, I cook all sorts of things.

{Summary:} Short account of her experiences over last 3 months. Doesn't want to be paid now as then other nurses would ask to be, and understands Military Rules forbid it - knows something will be done for nurses at the end of the War. Gives expenses account, for the Sick & Wounded - eg. washing, clothing, food. Then her own Expenses, e.g. board, washing, candles, servant.

D/Wan/7/1/1 The Report Of Lord Morley's Committee: Analysis Of The Report And Evidence. Printed, 12ff
Copy/MM Extract from a letter dated 23 July 1864 from FN to Sir Thomas Longmore, British Representative at Geneva. Typed Copy. (This relates to the First Geneva Convention, 1865, which covered treatment of wounded soldiers.)

I need hardly say that I think its views are absurd - just as would originate in a little State like Geneva which can never see war. They are absolutely impracticable and voluntary effort is desirable just insofar as it can be incorporated into the military system.

I agree with you that it will be quite harmless for our Government to sign the Convention as it now stands. It amounts to nothing more than a declaration that humanity to the wounded is a good thing. England and France will not be more humane to the enemy's wounded for having signed the Convention. And the Convention will not keep some barbarous nations like the Russians from being inhuman. [Ref:0379/12]
Sir

May I beg you to receive & offer my heartiest thanks to the Committee of the Bazaar to be held in April in aid of the Manchester Volunteer Medical Staff Corps for the honour & kindness they do me in asking me to open the Bazaar on one of the days April 12, 13 or 14, 1888.

Accept my sincere regrets that I am unwillingly compelled to decline the pleasure you offer me. Being a permanent Invalid, & almost entirely a

prisoner to my rooms by stress of work & illness, there is no likelihood, I am sorry, that I shall ever be able to take part in any ceremony.

But none the less do I wish your Corps & your Bazaar the highest success in so interesting an object. And perhaps I may hope when April comes to send some "small token of that interest.

The proposed "Nursing Sisters" will, if really trained & with some experience, be a valuable addition, should ever the
Volunteers have to take the field.
Latterly a body of ladies in the neighbourhood of London who had attended Ambulance classes, organized themselves to attend the sick poor at their own homes after the fashion of trained District Nurses. These ladies lived, each in her own home; they elected a Mistress who had the power of calling them out to attend any Medical or Surgical case under the "Doctor"; they gave no relief, tho' they knew where to get it for necessitous cases; they were simply nurses; & they have done good. In the absence of trained District Nurses (who live in a common home & devote themselves to the work).

Such experience is valuable. There is no movement more promising or more honourable than that of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps. Good speed to them!

Again, please to present my many thanks, regrets & good wishes, and believe me ever your & their faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

William Coates Eq
Hon Secy
flr
10 South St.  May 24/90
Dear Madam

I was sorry not to be able to help you to find "Mrs. Inigo Jones" - & still more sorry that in my stupidity I forgot to tell you that the Postman is always frequently leaving letters to strangers at this house no. 10, (because it is only recently no. 10 & used to be no. 35.) When returned to him, he apparently finds them at the OLD no. 10

fly
I am glad of this opportunity of thanking you for your kind sympathy, & your MOST kind former note & flowers. Such lovely ones.
My sister's suffering continued increasing to the last. But she overcame.
Sir Harry's grief is swallowed up in her joy.

    Pray believe me
    faithfully yours
    Florence Nightingale

Mrs. Gurney
Acc 0232/3 Christmas card from FN to Bessy Coleman. Very nice card!, signed, in pencil:

For
   Bessy Coleman
with
   Florence Nightingale's
very best Christmas
wishes.
'Give me a pure heart
that I may see God'
1897

Acc 1501 FN to Captain Edward Scott, [13:545-46]

Address
   10 South St.
   Park Lane
   London W.

Dear Sir
   I promised myself the pleasure of writing to thank you again whose kindness we never can forget in rescuing our 4 Nurses on board the Erl King.
   Might I venture to hope that you would kindly accept from me some remembrance of our ever abiding gratitude?
   Might it be a watch, or an opera-glass, or a telescope?
   Would you kindly say which you would prefer?
   Though small in itself in comparison with the immense debt of thanks we owe you, I will venture to say that never was an acknowledgement more gratefully offered - not even by the many who owe so much to you.
   We trust that you will convey our thanks to your Officers & men who were also so kind to our Nurses in their disaster.

   And pray believe me ever your grateful & faithful servt.
   Florence Nightingale

Capt. Sir Edward Scott
of the
   Erl King
I am so very thankful that I am permitted to work, in the midst of this wonderful war and I should like to continue to the end. How can I ever be thankful enough, that I was permitted to enter at St Thomas' and now only, I feel how much good I learned from being there. I do hope on my return I may see Miss Nightingale—I have her book on nursing with me, and give my assistants sometimes lessons out of it. I find a cup of tea so good for my patients. First the doctors opposed it and said, it would excite them, etc., but in no case did it harm, and a little while ago, I nursed one of my doctors, who had caught fever, and the first thing he asked for was "one of my cups of English tea." Since I have bought a little stove, I cook all sorts of things.

May I hope for this? and how soon do you expect the "Recommendations" to be printed?

Confidential. It would be of great importance for me to know what impression was made upon you & upon the committee by the last evidence, particularly that of Sir James Hanbury, Dr Longmore and Mrs Deeble, e.g., upon what Professor Longmore gives in evidence, the questions being how far:

1. hospital administration,
2. ward management,
3. nursing, so far as to be able to train the Army Hospital Corps and to judge of nursing;
4. cooking and
5. laundry work

are taught at Netley to the army medical officers in training. Would you think it well to take some further evidence upon this, e.g., whether army medical officers consider that they have been taught these things? and where? Which things in civil hospitals? which at Netley?

2. Also, in regard to Mrs Deeble's evidence, would you think it well to examine some "sisters" who have been trained in London hospitals and have been employed in Egyptian war service or at Netley?

Confidential. Professor Longmore says so well that nursing is now almost as much a science as the practice of medicine and surgery itself, and that the difference in the last twenty years (during which he has not been in civil hospitals so as to know their
working), is so very great—he might say that in the last ten years nurse training has made such strides in the London hospitals that he would not know it again. But, he says, nursing is taught in civil hospital medical schools as a part of the medical profession.

This is just what is NOT the case.

So far from the "dressers" and "clinical clerks" "supervising the nursing," it is just the reverse. They have in fact to be shown the dressings very often by the sisters. The sisters "supervise the nursing."

3. Netley school was in fact established, as Professor Longmore will remember, to supplement the want of practical knowledge in civil hospital medical schools, which do not train men, as they are needed for the army.

4. Hospital administration is at present taught nowhere, neither in civil nor in military hospitals. And as the Army Medical Department is now to have the whole of the hospital administration, it would be most important, if you thought well, that the committee should "recommend" how and where it is to be taught.

I should like to make some more remarks, but will now only say:

1. that the treasurer of St Thomas' Hospital misunderstood your question; he meant to say that all the "sisters" at St T's are gentlewomen of education, but that they all come, alike with the nurses, from the Nightingale Training School, and all receive the same PRACTICAL training, in the wards...that the training school receives ten times as many applicants as it chooses to admit.

In reference, again, to Mrs. Deeble's evidence, Also: you might perhaps wish to examine a St. Thomas' "Sister" who has served in Egypt?

It is possible that the Committee might see some grounds for altering some of their opinions if the evidence mentioned in this letter & other evidence were laid before it.
Schloss Friedrichshof  {printed address:}
    Cronberg
    Taunus
    May 19 1900
Dear Miss Nightingale
I see by the papers
that you have just
kept your 80th Birthday
and that many
have congratulated
you! I should
like to add my
sincerest & warmest
good wishes; -
they will arrive
rather late - {illeg
illeg) will be most
truly heartfelt! -
May you be spared
for many a year
yet to those to
whom you are dear, -
to the many who
value your opinions
and advice, - & to
the cause - for wh
you have done
so much!! -
    My thoughts have
often travelled out
to you during these
months of great {illeg}
watching - {illeg}
and {illeg} - following
the events in S. Africa
in a struggle where
such sacrifices have
been demanded from
& such heroism,
displayed by our
troops! I do not
know whether you
have seen {illeg Lil W.
McCormack?} as {illeg DL?}
{illeg Trenes?} since their
return! What a
comfort it must be
to you to see the
immense improve=
ment in Hospital
& Ambulance work
since the days of
the Crimea!! -
The experience gained
in this war - will
be invaluable I
am sure, - and though
one grieves & shudders
at the thought
that there was much suffering wh could not be relieved in spite of all efforts to do so - yet it is certain that the arrangements on the whole - were excellent - & surpassed those ever made before. – Hoping you are feeling pretty well - & trusting to be able to see you - when next I have the good fortune of going home to England, which I hope will be before the end of the year

I remain ever yrs with every good wish & most sincerely

The Dow[e] [dowager] Empress Frederick & Queen of Prussia
Ambleside
Decbr 24/62
Dear Miss Nightingale
I may begin writing notes again now; & my first need is to write to you. - How glad I was to see your handwriting among the letters brought to my bedside! It was a drawback to find how vexatiously & mischievously Maria had lost the privilege of seeing you, & receiving your instructions. We don’t look forward much, - ever, & since this last attack, I know Maria has felt as if she never could leave me again: but I feel as if things might come round so as that she may find herself in London half a year or so hence, & then perhaps ----- But we don’t look forward, so I will say no more.
Your letter is burnt, as you desired. It was very interesting & valuable to me. From time to time I hear, from one quarter or another, that the D. of Cambridge cannot possibly continue in his office - his morals & manners (treatment of his officers) being too bad to be endured. I am surprised that Sir G.C. Lewis is still at the War Office, after the deplorable figure he cut in the House last session: but it is
astonishing what officials live through, & “honourable men”
get over in these regions, after
middle class folk of average
morality fancy them disgraced
& annihilated.
Your Indian Sanitary paper is
under lock & key, - after being read.
It is very interesting, - & so
clever! It is a comfort to see
a style of report which is sure
to fix attention, & make an
impression. If I am able
when February comes, to work
that question or any other, I
shall be happy to do so.

I had a packet from Capn
Jackson last night which gave
us pleasure. It is about a
creditable & hopeful move
at Devonport to get a Soldiers’
Institute established. The Municipal
authorities & the Commanding Officer
are acting vigorously, & hope to
succeed. I shall write an article
on this in a few days (for “D. News”)
America & Lancashire (besides
India, as usual) have been my chief
topics through the year. It has been
hard work to oppose & expose
the villainous conduct of the
Times & other papers; but, for
a month past, there has been
a manifest change in London
opinion & feeling about the
Americans, & things look very
much better. The proper English
antislavery feeling is reviving;
& people begin to see now
how little the South is worth,
- that it can’t fulfil its boasts,
- that it is hopelessly divided
on the very question of State Rights,
- & that there is no society there
really civilised in its organisation,
while there is no question of
Slavery being irretrievably
doomed. Even the Times (abun-
dantly warned beforehand) finds

it necessary to be ashamed
of Hon: Fred Lawley as its
Southern correspondent. There
is plenty of disgust in
contemplating the North too;
but we must sustain “the
ten righteous”: & they are so
righteous!

    Well! I must stop for
today. Command me
whenever you think I can
be of any use whatever.
    It is such a comfort that

you have been able to write
at all! & that you an
have done such a piece of
work as that Report!
    Maria’s veneration & love.
Mine also. Yours devotedly
    H. Martineau.
Dearest Revd Mother

It is the greatest consolation
I could have to hear that you are
better - I beseech you to take all
the means which are recommended
for the recovery of your health. &
to remember how valuable your
life is to this poor world - I do
not say this, because I think that
that life can be very valuable to
you in it - but because we cannot
spare you yet - Have you changed your room?
I want my Cardinal very much
up here - But I do not mean to
have her till you are quite well.
The Sisters are all, thank God

for it, quite well & quite cheery.
They have made their hut look
so tidy, & they put up with all
their cold & inconveniences with
the utmost self-abnegation. [Every]
thing, even the ink, freezes in [our]
huts every night -
I have been very anxious since
I have been here - But I am sure
you will pray for us - And God
has really prospered our hands
All yesterday I was in Balaclava
with the Doctors & Purveyors, &
could not see our Sisters - But
I was able to send up to the
from our Stores or the Purveyors
every thing that they wanted
& to settle with the Doctors, which
was the main thing, that we should be allowed to do the needful for the sick, give all the Extras (& cook them) all the medicines & the wine & brandy - & see to the cleanliness of the Patients - These four things, the Extras, medicine, stimulants & cleanliness were the chief points. Sir John Hall made a great difficulty about the Extras - but by conceding to him the drawing of the Requisitions, he has conceded that we should do the cooking & serving. For here there are no kitchens but ours for the sick which can be called such - I have no fear now but that the sick will be benefited, while the health & comfort of our Sisters will be secured - They/We have been allowed to draw our Rations like Medical Staff Orderlies, which was the only way I could feed us, while I have taken care that such comforts should be supplied privately to the Sisters, as they must require, & Orderlies cannot be supposed to want.

I have been with the Sisters today till dark - have gone round the Hospital with them - & each has got her ward - & her arrangement with the Dr. as to serving Extras & Stimulants - I think nothing can be better - And I have no doubt of the good which will be done.

I did not leave the Sisters till after dusk - And then I rode into Balaclava & landed Mrs. Barker & the two from the General Hospl, Scutari, from the “Ottawa,” quite safe, & brought them to the Castle Hospl
f5
I shall take Mrs. Barker the first thing in the morng to Sister Helen as her cook. (It is about 5 miles from the Castle Hospl to the L.T.C.) They will then be complete all but my Cardinal or one Nurse - They have been so good as to wash for themselves, as an accident prevented our washing for them, just for this week.
We are building Extra Diet Kitchens to both Hospitals - and I have brought up three stoves for each - M Soyer will help us - We are not quite so well esta= blished at the Left Wing Hospital, owing to an accident. Mrs. Shaw Stewart is in charge of this. I have been there today also, divided all the Stores, & sent over to our

f6
Sisters the larger half of all these stores, as they are less used to this rough & hostile Crimea than she is -
God has however been very propitious to us, & I think we have cause to trust that our undertaking will be blessed to the Sick Men The Drs. were really glad of us, for they were frightened - and/For these poor L.T.C. Hospls were the only ones in distress -
Pray let Vickery & my Aunt send us up 6 doz. Brandy directly. There must have been some mistake - For, while we have 9 doz. Port, we have only 6 bottles Brandy. I desired 6 doz. Port, 4 doz Brandy, to come -
Sister Stanislas has been most useful -
I am afraid we shall have a little difficulty at the Genl Hospl, B'Clava - The War Office has chosen to replace matters where they were before (relative to the Nursing of Military Hospls) & to make me Genl Supt of all these - I immediately went to Mrs. Bridgeman & told her that I proposed making no change in her arrangements - & that she was only replaced where she was at the beginning - She however wrote to Sir John Hall & resigned - telling me that I might mean = while refer the case to him, without telling me that she had done this -

This morning it appeared she told me what she had done - I entreated her to reconsider her decision - & to take nine days to consider of it - She has consented to do this - & to let me know at the end of that time her decision at the same time telling me that she will submit to any “Sacrifice” & to any “humiliation” - I do not know what are the “humiliations” or “sacrifices” which I call upon her to “submit to” - But I hope she will maturely consider before she brings such a scandal upon the work, as resigning, because she is replaced where she was before - Meanwhile I assure you, Revd Mother, that for your sake, I have taken up my cross with her & for the sake of the work.
f1
{written in the left and top margins}
I entreat you to take care of yourself, who are my/our chief anxiety & our chief support.
& to believe me ever yours faithfully & gratefully
F. Nightingale

Bermondsey signed letter, ff9-11, pen, copy 8996/44

f9

Balaclava
April 8/56
Dearest Revd Mother
   I was so glad & thankful to see your own dear hand again.
   & I trust that God will preserve you yet some time to us & to His work -
   Our Sisters are quite well & cheerful, & most efficient & useful.
Dr. Taylor expressed to me yesterday, in the strongest words, his feeling of the reform they had worked in his L.T.C. Hospital - They do more than medicine, he said.
   All our Hospitals are going on well, thank God. Our crosses have
been many, & very sad ones, as you may perhaps know - But God prospers the work -
I must now urge you, dear Revd Mother, to send me two or three Sisters without delay, if they have not already sailed. I cannot tell you how it grieves me to break up your nice arrangements at the Barrack Hospital - But it will not be for long - The Crimean Hospitals will soon contract - & we shall then be replaced at Scutari -
It is now, however, of the utmost importance to keep up the “General Hospital” at Balaclava, owing to its being the nearest point to embarkation And Sister Helen will tell you how, (as soon as Mrs Bridgeman is gone, which will be probably tomorrow,) we thought that it would be more according to your wish for Sisters Stanislaus & Martha to accompany me there with Mrs. Roberts, Logan & two washerwomen, & Sister Helen to remain at the L.T.C., till reinforced by you - The Sisters, whom you send, will go to whichever Hospital you direct - & either giving back Sister Helen her own Sisters, or replacing them. Believe me, ever my dearest Revd Mother’s grateful & loving F. Nightingale
My dearest Revd Mother

Many, many thanks for your three letters - all of which I received last night - The mails are late & irregular.

I am afraid that I have written very hastily & not very perspicuously, a great fault in a Supt. But I assure you that my letters have been the result of thought, not hasty but anxious thought -

The great distance of the Hospitals from each other in the Crimea, & having to settle much “Ration” & other business with officials, converts her Holiness into a tramp & makes her “rescripts” scrawls -

But first, about your dear health, which must be the most anxious thing to us at present -
I can easily understand & I am afraid cannot remove the reasons which would prevent your going to Malta. At the same time, I do earnestly hope that you will go, if possible - And I hope that you do not think that you would be allowed to go at the charges of your Community. General Storks will give you passages - And I enclose a Cheque for £100, which any house at Malta would cash - Dr. Trench, whom Sister Gonzaga will remember, at the Genl Hospl at Scutari, has asked to take charge of any of us going to or at Malta, & he will meet you on board the vessel, & provide for you medically & comfortably - Dr. Cruickshank will know whether he is at Malta now, & write to him before you go - that you may be comfortably put up on arriving. I hope that you may also know Catholics there -
Dear Revd Mother, I hope that, whatever you determine upon, you will do no work at Scutari. A slight imprudence might have such consequences. I have begged my Aunt to let me know if you begin to work, or to do anything imprudent. And, if you do, you know I must come back. Your life is the most precious thing we have, both for the work’s sake & for the Community, & to peril it for the sake of C. Store or for any store would break our hearts.

Mr. Wills will take C. Store for the present -

The Linen Divisional stores Miss Morton will take, with such help as we have planned.

Sister Gonzaga will keep the Extra Diets till you go to Malta, if you go, or till you come to the Crimea - But that must not be yet - Balaclava would not suit you yet - Pray do not
do the Extras yourself - Miss Morton will take them, when Sister Gonzaga leaves with you.

And all these arrangements will be understood to be but temporary, while you & I are away - And the bustle of moving 70,000 men makes the Hospitals uncertainly full or suddenly empty -

I cannot decide quite at present about another Nurse from Scutari - tho' I fear we shall have to make some changes - But we shall be truly thankful for the three Sisters, whenever they come - Mrs. Bridgeman & my Birds are not yet flown from Balaclava - So that I shall have the consolation, I hope, of not separating the Sisters at the L.T.C. Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Logan & I shall go in with the three Sisters from Scutari - You will direct which is to be “Revd Mother” -
The Sisters are well & cheerful at the L.T.C. & very busy. Sister M. Martha has a slight cold but nothing more - And as, at the other wing, Sister Stanislaus taxed me with saying that Mrs. Skinner "gives in", & that Mrs. Holmes "has an affliction of the heart", she wishes to know which malady I think that Sister M. Martha has - They have never seemed to take their troubles much to heart - And I believe Sister M. Helen & I are the most anxious ones -

On the 20th, the Commander in Chief expects to have his orders - & I think we shall then be able to make some kind of plan - & to know whether it will be desirable to give more Sisters from Bermondsey the trouble of coming out - I only wished to prepare you for the possibility of its being asked, &

misexpressed myself if I implied it as desirable to write off directly.

I saw however the Director General of the L.T.C. yesterday, & his opinion was (but it is only an opinion) that we shall be 5 months moving out of the Crimea - & the L.T.C. Hospitals & the General Hospl at Balaclava will be kept up last of all. But all this will, depend, of course, upon conditions - of which we know nothing as yet - It may be that we shall be out of the Crimea before you & S. Gonzaga will have time to come to us -

Believe me
ever my dearest Revd Mother’s grateful & affecte
F. Nightingale
Lea Hurst 493

Bermondsey signed letter, ff18-20, pen, copy 8996/47

f18

General Hospital
Balaclava

April 15 1856

[14:381-82]

My dearest Revd Mother

I had the comfort of receiving our Sisters quite well & safe on Sunday afternoon, as they will tell you - And we have arranged thus - Sister Mary Joseph went yesterday to join Sister M. Helen at the L.T.C. Hospital - Sisters M. Stanislaus, M. de Chantal & M. Anastasia stay here doing work - Sister M. Martha is, I am sorry to say, at present laid up here with a feverish cold. As soon as she is able, she will join Sister M. Helen - I am not sorry that her illness (or rather unwellness) should be here, as we have greater facilities of nursing her - and the Dr. is such a very clever one -
I am afraid that you would rather have mixed the two parties of Sisters, so that the recent ones should not be all together at pone Hospital - I see the objection. But my reason was this - every thing we do at Karani is right everything we do here is wrong. Sister Stanislaus is very brave and has already charge of the Extra Diets here which are very disorderly and which you will manage so beautifully, if you come - Sister Anastasia is such a very steady quiet worker - She has seven Huts - & Sister de Chantal is commanding & courageous & not daunted - Of course whatever we do will be blamed - I do not mean that the recent Sisters would be less likely to go on with their duty steadily, with a single eye to God altho' evil eyes are all around them
It requires very good spirits to be being always misconstrued - without being a little depressed - And these old Sisters are very cheerful & used to be “abused”!

Mrs. Roberts & I, & Mrs. Logan & Mars. Skinner are also here - We sleep in one half a Hut & our sick Sister in the other half.

The three other Sisters in the next - We have hardly had time to make any arrangements yet for ourselves -

I hope that you will not think of coming up here for three weeks, at least. Thank God you are better! Perhaps then it will do you good - But there will be time to talk of that ever my dearest Revd Mother’s grateful & affectionate  
F. Nightingale
Dearest Revd Mother,

When I received your last letter but one, which expressed your wish that Sr. M. de Chantal should be with Sr. M. Helen, I consulted with Sr. Stanislaus who is in charge here & Sr. Helen who is in charge at Karani - Sr. Helen said at once that she would rather have Sr. de Chantal than & Sr. M. Joseph (who is with her) now & leave Sr. M. Martha with Sr. Stanislaus when she recovers - But we came to the conclusion that, as the only change we could make at present would be to exchange Sr. M. Joseph for Sr. de Chantal (our hands being full here at present - & S. M Martha requiring some one constantly with her, tho' she is much better, but still suffering from a bilious feverish attack) you would prefer that no change should be made, but that we should stay as we are till Sr. de Chantal could go on to Karani - Sr. M. Martha gives us little
uneasiness now - But
the hut being at a few
yards distance from the Hospital, we
cannot leave her by
herself in the hut in
bed -

The weather here is
so very trying, - very
cold, very hot, very
damp - that I hope
you will not come up,
dear Revd Mother, till
it is really thought
that the change will
do you good. I am
sure it is cruel (and
I feel it) to have/make the
Sisters stay here without
you - But you must
not risk a relapse.
And I really do not know what my Aunt would do without you - for she would have no one to consult with amid all these changes - She says, it is such a comfort to have Revd Mother’s advice to go to - The Sisters are perfectly well and cheerful - all but Sr. M. Martha who is better. They will have told you that they were able to have help from Mr. Gleeson on Saturday - I am truly distressed that Mrs. Bridgeman did not, at least, send to enquire after you - when at Scutari. For she knew you were ill.

Ever your grateful & affecte
F.N.
Lea Hurst 499

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff25-30, pen

f25

General Hospital
Balaclava
April 29/56 [14:396-97]

My dearest Revd Mother

Your going home is the greatest blow I have had yet. 

But God’s blessing & my love & gratitude you go with you, as you well know -

You know well too that I shall do every thing I can for the Sisters, whom you have left me - But it will not be like you - Your wishes will be our law - And I shall try & remain in the Crimea for their sakes as long as we any of us are there

I do not presume to express praise or gratitude to you, Revd Mother, because it would look as if I thought you had done the work not unto God but unto me - you were far above me in fitness for the General superintendency, both in worldly talent of administration & far more in the spiritual qualifications which God values in a Superior - My being placed over you in our unenviable reign of the East was my misfortune & not my fault.

I will ask you to forgive me for everything or anything which I may unintentionally have done which can ever have given you pain - remembering only that I have always felt what I have just expressed - & that it has given me more pain to reign
than to you to serve under me -

I have now only to say that I
{left side of f is missing}
trust that you will not with-draw
any of the Sisters now here, till the
work of the Hospitals ceases to
require their presence, & that I
may be (illeg) /authorized to be the judge of
this unless the health of any of
them should make her return
desirable, in which case I will
faithfully inform you -

I will care for them as if they
were my own children - But that you know,
& now it is a sacred trust from you -

Sister M. Martha is, thank God,
quite convalescent -

Dearest Revd Mother, what you
have done for the work no one can
ever say - But God rewards you
for it with Himself -

If I thought that your valuable
health would be restored by a
return home, I should not regret
it. But I fear that, unless you give
up work for a time, which I do
not well see how you can at home,
your return to Bermondsey will only
be the signal for greater calls upon
your strength.

However, it matters little, provided
we spend our lives to God, whether
like our Blessed Lord’s, they are
concluded in three & thirty years,
or whether they are prolonged to
old age -

My love & gratitude will be yours,
dearest Revd Mother, wherever you go.
I do not presume to give you any
other tribute but my tears - And,
as I shall soon want a “character”

[end Times letter]
from you, as my respected S. Gonzaga would say, I am not going to offer you a “character” -

But I should be glad that the Bishop of Southwark should know & Dr. Manning, (altho’ my “recommendation” is not likely to be of value to you but the contrary-) that you were valued here as you deserved & that the gratitude of the Army is yours.

Pray give my love to S. Gonzaga & thanks for her letter -

Mrs. Roberts sends many messages of respect & of sorrow -

Will you thank the Bishop of Southwark with my respectful remembrances for his very kind letter to me?

Will you ask one of the Sisters

at home, I dare say S. Gonzaga will do so, to write to me about your health -

And believe me ever, whether I return to see you again in this world or not,

ever my dearest Revd Mother’s

(gratefully, lovingly, overflowingly)  

Florence Nightingale
Dear Sister M. Helen

The Revd Mr. Unsworth thinks, & our Sisters here agree, that it would be very desirable, if you like it, for you to go to confession here. (You must play Revd Mother & go in first-) You will have the Revd Mr. Gleeson - I will send an Ambulance for you tomorrow at 1/4 before 1, (Our carriage being gone to Bakshi’s serai) in order that you should be here, in case you like to come, by 2 o’clock, when our Sisters go to confession.

I hope you will come
Revd Mother went on Monday

with S. Gonzaga in the “Victoria”, the finest ship on the line.

She has written to all. But Sisters say that you have not sent them back her last letter.

Sister M. Martha quite convalescent & Lawfield not in danger -

Will you please, if you come, bring us some sweet biscuits, if you have any, & some old linen.

Believe me ever yours

F. Nightingale

2/5/56

The Revd Mr. Gleeson hears confessions here every Saturday from 1 to 4 -
if you like to come - Sisters send you their love & duty.

[end 14:400]
To Revd Mother

I will only now thank you for your dear letter of May 26 & say how very much I hope that you are taking the means to recover your very precious health - precious for the sake of so many.

My business now is to say that, in consequence of the Sisters’ Hospital at the Land Transport Corps having been (suddenly rather) closed, owing to the removal of that Detachment, in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining passages home, now becoming so serious, that the Chief of the Staff has interfered on our behalf & insisted on our taking without delay, passages on the “Thames” & in consequence of

Sister M. Helen
“ M. Joseph
“ M. Martha

appearing not to stand this climate very well, altho’ there is nothing to cause the slightest uneasiness as to any permanent injury to their health, - we have decided, not without very serious consideration & thought, that these three Sisters shall return home by the “Thames” on Tuesday, the 17th, where accommodation has been set apart expressly for us by orders from Head Quarters - Thirteen others from our Staff will accompany them - Such an opportunity is not likely to occur again.

The circumstance of the Revd Mr. Cuffe & the Revd Mr. Molony being both about to sail
for England today makes the parting with our Sisters to me less painful, because I think there would have been positive difficulty about their Spirituals, had they remained here -

I trust that you will allow us to keep Sister M. Stanislaus " M. de Chantal " M. Anastasia till the last - I should be sorry indeed to part till then - The partings are painful enough - But I expect that all will be home before August - They are quite well & cheerful

Many, many thanks for your dear letter & believe me every my dearest Revd Mother’s grateful & faithful F. Nightingale

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff36-39, pen

October 1/56
My dearest Revd Mother I lost no time in writing, the day I received your very kind & welcome letter, to Lord Monteagle (whose son is second chief of H.M.’s Customs) on behalf of poor Corpl Morris. I trust that the application may be successful. I gave his direction at Liverpool. I have seen Lady Campden who told me that the negotiation
about the Hospital
which you are to under-
take had been completed
& that you were about
to be installed - I am
very glad of it. I can
but hope that the
beginning will not be
too much for you personally.
I fear that you are
not getting much more
strength. I hope my
Cardinal will go on
writing to me about you,
dearest Revd Mother.
You are/and your goodness
are constantly in my
thoughts. Will you thank
her very much for her
letter & tell her that
with me, “la recon-
naissance n’est qu’un
vif sentiment des
bienfaits futurs.” &
that she must “benefit”
me by writing again
about you - I would
write to her - But I
have been & am very
busy - My business
being, as you will guess,
a modification and
f39
reform of the system
of Military Hospitals,
so that what took
place, in the winter
of /54, may never
be able to happen
again - Remembering as
I do, how I sent in the
same plans & suggestions
at the beginning of the
War, how they were
accepted & yet nothing
was done, I do not
feel very sanguine, tho’
I seem to be making
progress - But God does
everything, in His own
good time - Pray for me -
Dearest Revd Mother ever yours
affectely & gratefully F. Nightingale

ff40-44, 21 October, 1856, Vicar’s Cross, Chester, to Rev’d
Mother from M. Smith re an accusation made that FN dismissed a
Miss Salisbury unjustly

Bermondsey, signed letter, f45, pen

f45
30 Old Burlington St
Dec 1/56
Dearest Revd Mother
I have made a
search for the direction
of poor Geo. Wattes’s
Mother & found it,
in order to save you
the trouble of looking.
Please don’t brush
out anymore gutters
(like a cat) this cold
weather & with best
love to all my Sisters,
pray believe me yours
ever affectely & gratefully
F. Nightingale
January /57
It is with the sincerest pleasure that I inclose to each of those who rendered such valuable service in the British War Hospitals of the East, the tribute paid by the War-Secretary to their services.
I rejoice that this as well as the Sultan’s offering have testified how great was the appreciation of their labors.

I may here humbly add my own most grateful acknowledgments for all the assistance which I have received in this work. The devotion to it which I have witnessed both in Catholic & Protestant can never be forgotten by me - It is a remembrance to make glad the memory even of those scenes of suffering, which must also remain with us while life
Lea Hurst 508

endures -
With every fervent
prayer that love can
offer for my fellow=
workers, I remain
their grateful & affecte
friend
Florence Nightingale
to the Revd Mother
of the “Sisters of Mercy”
of Bermondsey

Bermondsey, incomplete letter, 1f, pen

Combe Hurst
Kingston on Thames
S.W.
Jan 5/57
Does my dearest
Revd Mother remember
putting into my hands
the first winter in
Scutari a Cheque for
£60, I think it was -
(But I have not my
accounts by me) -
As she gave not
only her money but
her words & deeds,
which are above all
money’s worth, to the
suffering

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff48-49, pen, copy 9084/2

f48
Dearest Revd Mother
You did not need
this - nevertheless I
have much pleasure
in sending it you -
I want to hear
how you are & am
coming as soon as
I can - Also I want
Lea Hurst

**f49**
to see you on business.

ever yours gratefully

F. Nightingale

30 Old Burlington St

W.

Jan 26/57

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff50-51, pen, black-edged paper

**f50**

Dear dear Revd Mother

How very kind of

you to write to me

yourself -

All I want now
to say to trouble you

is that I cannot

think you will

ever regain any

strength without

some little change -

I need not tell

**f51**

you how happy it

would make me

to keep you here

quite quiet with

one Sister - and I

do not think you

would see much

more “of the world”

here than at home -

But I am afraid

you would not go anywhere but to a

Convent - Could you

not go back with

“Mother” Gonzaga,
as she would so
dearly like, when she

is obliged to go? You

would find all

your own children

again so -

Not but that I

think that to go quite

away to Boulogne or

Hastings for a short
time, (there/where is too a
f50
Convent at St Leonard’s) would be very desirable, IF you would consent - 
   Ever my dearest 
Revd Mother’s grateful & affecte 
      F. Nightingale 
May 17/58 

Bermondsey, initialed letter, ff52-53, pen, black-edged paper

f52  
May 18/58 
My dearest Revd Mother 
   I am very sorry that you should have this anxiety now, & almost sorry that I should have been the means of bringing it upon you at all - 
   I wish you could get strength first. If you could, I think the beautiful climate of the Mauritius might do you good. But I don’t know how you are to be spared from home - 
   I agree in every thing you say. And have written the enclosed, which I will re-write & alter in any way that may put it better, to your thinking - 
   This is the way I should like to work it myself - viz. with Hindoos under Sisters

f53
Lea Hurst

But I have no direct acquaintance with the Mauritius & feel quite ignorant on the Hindoo question.

I should think it important that the Sisters who go should understand French -

Ever my dearest Revd Mother’s

F.N.

[Bermondsey initialed letter, ff54-55, pen [3:276-77]]

f54

Oct 21/63

Dearest Revd Mother

I began a letter to you some days ago to tell you that one of the bright jewels in your crown will be your conduct in the Crimean War (to use St Gertrude’s phraseology) - that I don’t remember what you allude to (about the key) & don’t see any harm in it, if it were so - that I always felt you ought to have been the Superior & I
the inferior - & it was
not my fault that it
was not so - that
I always felt how
magnanimous your spiritual
obedience in accepting
such a position -
& how utter my
incapacity in making
it tenable for you -
& how I should have
failed without your
help - that I always wondered at your
unfailing patience,
forbearance & sweetness/courage
under many trials
peculiar to yourselves,
beside what was
common to all - If I
did not express this
more, which I always
felt, it was because I
wondered so much that
you could put up with
me - that I felt it
was no use to say
to your face, either
then or since, how I
admired your ways - As for
your having ever shewn
"temper" to me, I don't
like to write the word.
I can't conceive what
you are thinking of -
I marvelled how you
could bear with us -
I would gladly have
avoided some difficulties
which you must have
keenly felt. But I could not - And I said less about my inability than I otherwise should, because I always felt. Our Lord alone can reward her - It is not for me to speak -

All this, & much more I said in my letter - but then when I wrote my last to you, I could not leave my bed to find it - And afterwards it did not seem worth while to send it.

I am so very sorry for Sister Gonzaga. It is so very uncomfortable to live on in that scramble -

I have to thank you for a dear kind {illeg} just received. But I write in such haste. Ever your loving
F.N.
Dearest Revd Mother

To hear of your feverish attacks always makes me uneasy. And I must write to know how you are -

I am here, as you see. (My brother in law’s house - where you were so good as to see me last year - to think of that being more than a year ago) & have been here a good bit. But I have had all your dear letters - And you cannot think how much they have encouraged me. They are almost the only earthly encouragement I have -

I have been so very ill - & even the little change of moving here knocks me down for a month. But God is so good as to let me still struggle on with my business. But with so much difficulty that it was quite impossible to me to write even to you. And I only write now, because I hear you are ill.

I have felt so horribly
ungrateful for never having thanked you for your books -
S. Jean de la Croix’s life I keep thankfully. I am never tired of reading that part where he prays, *Domine, pati et contemni pro te*:
I am afraid I never could ask that. But in return for very little service, I get it. It is quite impossible to describe how harassing, how heart-breaking my work has been since the beginning of July. I have always with all my heart & soul, offered myself to God for the greatest bitterness on my own part, if His (War Office) work could be done - But lately nothing was done and always because there was not one man, like Sidney Herbert, to do it.

Just now things look a little better - Perhaps you may have heard that the Governor General in India is dead - & that Sir John Lawrence has been appointed
Governor Genl. He goes out
with very bad health &
≠ for two years only -
But he was so good as
to come here before he
went - & I had the great
joy of receiving his commands
to do what I had almost
lost the hope of our being
allowed to do, (viz. as
to Sanitary work in India)
The men at home
still thwart it in every
possible way - & just as
much since he went
as before - But his
appointment is a great
thing for our work -

[I don’t think] S. Jean
de la Croix need have
prayed to be dismissed
from superiorships before
he died. For as the Mère
de Bréchard says, there
are more opportunities to
humble oneself, to mortify
oneself, to throw oneself
entirely on God, in them
than in anything else.
I return the life of
S. Catherine of Genoa. I
like it so much. It is
a very singular &
suggestive life - I am
so glad she accepted
the being Directress of
the Hospital. For I am
think it was much better for her to make the Hospital servants go right than to receive their “injures”. however submissively - much better for the poor Patients, I mean.

I am quite ashamed to keep Ste Thérése so long. But there is a good deal of reading in her - And I am only able to read at night - & then not always a large, close printed book. Pray say if I shall send her back - And I will borrow her again from you perhaps some day.

I am so sorry about poor S. Gonzaga’s troubles

I know what those Committees are. I have had to deal with them almost all my life.

My strength has failed more than usually of late. And I don’t think I have much more work in me - not, at least, if it is to continue of this harassing sort. God called me to Hospital work, (as I fondly thought, for life) - but since then to Army work - but with a promise that I should go back to Hospital work - as I thought as a Nurse, but as I now think, as a Patient.

(ff56-57 are copies of the foregoing)
Xmas Eve 1863
32 South St. W.

Dearest Revd Mother

I send my poor little Christmas gift for your children x & my great Christmas wishes.

May we all believe in Our Lord’s “goodwill towards man” - the same today as 1863 years ago.

As S. Catherine of Genoa says, when she thinks that Dieu s’est fait homme in order that to make l’homme into Dieu. I like those words so much - that belief in perfection.

x The honey is taken from the back of the islands of Malta, opposite to where St. Paul is supposed to have been wrecked - where the bees feed on the thyme & other aromatic plants. When I was in the East the first time, I was often reminded of our Lord’s repast on the “broiled fish & piece of an honey comb” by
f59

It is a sad time to me, Christmas.
For Christmas, two years ago, saw all
my friends & fellow-workers taken
away by death or worse than death
& the day before Christmas Day
I was taken so very ill that I hoped
I should go too - But that was
very disobedient. I have never
been able to work the same since.

But I do strive to believe
that God’s “goodwill towards” the
500,000 men, who are like sheep
without a shepherd, is the same
now, as when He gave them that
good friend, Sidney Herbert -
now that they have no friend
but a poor creature like me -
that He will lead them & guide
them.

I often say that prayer of Ste.

seeing & sharing such a meal with the [continues from f58]
poor people. It is just the same now as in His time.
A little child, tasting the honey, said, If I were a
bee, I would live at Malta.
Catherine of Sienna

Je vous offre & vous recommande mes enfants très aimez, car ils sont mon âme - x x x

A vous, père éternel, moy misérable offre de nouveau ma propre vie pour eux - x x que toutes fois & quantes qu’il plaira à vostre bonté, vous me retiriez du corps & me rendiez au corps tousjours avec plus grand peine une fois que l’autre, pourvu que je voye la reformation de la Saincte Eglise x x

&c &c &c

St. Catherine did not see the reformation of the Army -

But I can truly say that, whatever I have known our Lord to desire of me, I have never refused Him (knowingly) anything - And I can feel the same now
f61

Pray for us then, dearest Revd
Mother, that we may know of
God’s goodwill towards us.

In reply to the Bishop’s kind
message about the (Colonial Statistic[s])
little Report -

The Colonial Office sent out
copies to all the Governors & other
officials of all our Colonies -
whether they had sent returns
or not - & told them, I believe,
to keep better Statistics.

But no copies were sent, I
believe, to any private bodies.

The Benedictines of New Norcia have not
therefore received copies, altho’
they were so good as to furnish
us with excellent returns.

It was therefore, no doubt,

f62

that I was commissioned to ask
the Bishop whether he thought
well, & if so, whether he would
be so good, as, to send out copies
to Catholics in the Colonies.

And the Benedictines (of
New Norcia) were mentioned as
an example, as having successfully
introduced physical training
among the Aborigines & having
stated it to be indispensable.

I will furnish the Bishop
with as many copies as he may
please to send -

The Colonial Office, I am happy
to say, (this is confidential) has
taken up the subject of its
Hospitals, & is busy collecting
information & advising upon
f63
reformation for them -
  But I am so busy about
India & the Army that I cannot
do anything from for the Colonies.
  What I did was at the request
suggestion of the Governor of New
Zealand, the only Colonial Governor
who really treats the Aborigines
as fellow creatures - And I am
so sorry for his war, for now
people will say - this is what
comes of it.
  It would be leaving my own
proper business to take up that
of others, if I were now to put
my foot in the Colonial Hospital dish.
  So, dearest Revd Mother, if
at your convenience you would
tell me what number of copies

f64
the Bishop is likely to want/wish to send, I
will send them.
  But I know you are so
busy - & the Bishop also -
  I have always heard of his life of poverty
& mortification.
  Ever my dearest Revd Mother’s
  grateful & loving
  F.N.
Dearest Revd Mother

I send thankfully the six copies of my little Report on Colonial Statistics which you are so good as to ask for for the Bishop - And I will try & have some copies sent to the good Benedictines & other Catholics.

Dearest Revd Mother if I did not ask you to be so good as to come to see me, if you could - it was not because I see other people at Christmas time, but because I am so busy. We are always very busy for two months before the meeting of Parlt, (in February) But this time much more than usual, because of the India business. And I will tell you what/how I spent my Christmas Day & the Sunday after - those being two holidays - in doing - in preparing a scheme, by desire of Lord de Grey, for
employing Soldiers in trades - to keep them from that horrid vice.

You are busy too at these seasons - but then you are busy in business directly for God. However I try to remember what St. M. Magdalen di’Pazzi says, that she finds God even more in the most distracting business than in prayer - Alas! the time I find him least is, when I am

£65
quite exhausted with His business & can neither read nor pray. That is the hard part of my lot, I think. Because that kind of exhaustion does not follow active Hospital work - But my life now is as unlike my Hospital life, when I was concerned directly about the souls & bodies of men, as reading a Cookery book is unlike eating a good dinner.
Lea Hurst 525

f67
I send my dearest Revd Mother a little sketch of mine about India. And we are working hard to bring it to pass. You wonder our labour is so ineffective. But you would scarcely believe what Govt offices are - it is a curious fate which ever made me run my head into them -

When Sir John Lawrence sailed for India, he left certain things for me to do with Lord de Grey - Ld de G. is quite willing. But I soon found that he had never considered

f68
what the respective jurisdictions of War Office & India Office are - tho' he has served in both Offices - that they have never considered what the respective jurisdictions are - that it has now occurred for the first time to both that these had better be settled - & that India Office War Office Commander in Chief at home Commander in Chief in India Governor General in India are as much in chaos as to their respective powers & duties
as if India were the Sandwich Islands.
   This is what we were trying to settle now. But I never, never should have chosen this sort of work -
   Because they don’t want to settle anything. Except Sidney Herbert & Sir John Lawrence, who never wanted any thing but a good reason to do any good, they want a great deal besides a good reason to induce them to move.
   Please burn

Bermondsey, initialed letter, ff69-70, pen, black-edged paper

f69

Jan 20/64
Dearest Revd Mother
   I was so very anxious to hear about your dear Sister & also how you were - tho’ I really was unable to write & ask you -
   Now you are the best of Revd Mothers to have known that I wanted to know without my asking -
   May I send you 6 bottles of Port Wine for
her recovery? If I
don’t hear from you
to the contrary, I shall.
You see I cannot
help writing just to
thank you for telling
me how she is -
Ever my dearest
Revd Mother’s

F.N.
I meant to have
written you a long
letter about St Teresa
(of whom I have
still the first Vol:)

& St. Francis Xavier -
But I really cannot.
The books I returned looked
as if I had been
reading them through
the back, as those
impostors of clairvoyants
pretend to do -
But I assure you
I did not make
those nibblings in
the backs - nor the
cats.
God bless & reward
you always!
Dearest Revd Mother

A thousand thanks

for your letter -

I sent the Port Wine

before I received it.

But if you would let

me send you some

Brandy, I should be

so very glad -

I am afraid you

have only too much

opportunity of

disposing of ten

times that quantity

of Port Wine among

your poor Patients,

whether your Sister

is allowed to take it

by her Doctor or not -

ever my dearest

Revd Mother’s

F.N.

I wish I knew how you were

Jan 23/64
Dearest Revd Mother

It was very good of you to write to your child & tell her that your Sister was getting better - God be thanked for it - & that you yourself were not too much knocked up -

As my brother in law & his family are come to London, I am here, as you see - but as it is only a lodging house, I was unfixed at first

as to how long I should stay. Moving does however so put me off my work that I think it is most likely I shall not move again, as long as I am able to work - “Foxes have holes,” you know the rest. And I ought to esteem it a great honor to be like our Master in this. Else I think no one ever was such a root as I, or so little fitted to be an adventurer as I have been. I would gladly have spent my life as a Village Schoolmistress or Hospital Nurse - But I shall get back to the Hospital.
May 12/64
Dearest Revd Mother
I knew you would be
so good as to write
to me - And it was
very kind to write so
soon - All that the
Messenger was charged
to say was, that I begged
you would not trouble
yourself to write by him
[I know what it is to
have people coming &
stopping to carry back
“an answer by Bearer”,
just when one is busy.]
Thank you for your
dear letter -
Since I wrote, I have
had a note from that
Jesuit Father I mentioned
to you - And what I
write for now is to ask
you whether I should
leave it unanswered
or whether I should
write & tell him it is
all a mistake of S.
Cordero’. He evidently
does not know her,
 tho’ he quotes her -
 I really lose all
confidence in my own
judgment as to the
routine of life. I am always in scrapes. Poor Lord Herbert used to laugh at me & tell me I was so over civil, that I was always in scrapes from over-civility. But really the scrapes I am/get into are those of a person always going about doing insulting, rude, coarse things -

My impulse was not to answer this Father’s note. But I remember Dr Manning was, or pretended to be, hurt that I did not answer one of his, which really required no answer.

so I trouble you to know what you think I had better do - & if to answer, what I had better say?

I really feel quite ashamed of troubling you -

Yes. I saw Garibaldi. [7:335-36]

And the whole world seems to have known it. It was from no civility I saw him, & after refusing twice - I consented at last, because I was told to say something it was a duty to say to him, (not with reference to his going away, but) which
it was thought might possibly save a future disturbance in Italy being stirred up by him.

All my life I have been the cat employed by the monkey to burn my fingers in getting out his chesnuts. Sometimes I have been more silly than the cat. For I have offered my paws to be burnt.

Our poor Govt has been abused by the Italian Govt for letting Garibaldi be received. It has been abused by its own people for letting Garibaldi be sent away/go.

But it is quite strong enough to take care of itself & to laugh - While I, poor silly wretch, can’t laugh but cry. I think I had 300 letters come to me in consequence of that visit of Garibaldi. Don’t forget, dearest Revd Mother, to tell me what book you would like from Paris.

I ventured to send those five little books, tho’ I am quite sure you have more complete copies of all that are worth it, because there seemed to me little bits not commonly put in. The
Combattimento is a great favorite with me. It was all to pieces – & I had had it bound.

ever dearest Revd Mother
Your loving & grateful
F.N.

How sorry I am to hear of poor S. Gonzaga’s troubles & especially of her eye-sight. If I were to lose my eyes, as I am losing the use of my hands, I should be able to do nothing for God’s service –

I seem to me to be always writing about myself – I am so glad

£78
to hear that there is a little money coming in to the Convent. Thank you for telling me – I almost wish it could stay & do good in some good works under your own eye –
Dearest Revd Mother

I send back your two books with a great parcel of thanks.

Boudon’s P Seurin is indeed as full of demon’s tricks as a pantomime. But I like it very much certain parts of it, particularly the chapter on pureté de coeur, Chap. 2, Book 3 - & all that he says about P. Seurin’s not only submitting but offering himself to the doom/humiliation of madness, (if the will of God,) is so striking, it puts it quite in a new light. There is much that is morbid in a solitary imprisonment like mine, with sickness into the bargain - so much that is quite unavoidable that I am glad to look upon it, as P. Seurin, as humiliation to which one should offer oneself willingly, if it presents itself clearly in the path of God’s will.

But I like the other book of P. Lallemant’s better still. How curious is the absolute brief compressed precept of the part by P. Seurin, when compared with Boudon’s flowering panto
mime.
I think it far more striking
Indeed I think P. Lallemant
& all that we have of P.P.
Rigolen & Surin so singularly
sublime - in this - that there
is not an effort to dress up
their high & noble doctrine
or to make it attractive
with flowers of rhetoric.
It is as brief & dry as
it is possible to make/leave it.
And I should never be
tired of reading P. Lallemant.
I am so much obliged
to you for letting me keep
them so long.

No dearest Revd Mother,
you can’t think that
your letters would ever
"trouble" me. On the contrary
they are the greatest

£79
refreshment I have. But
answering them is often
beyond me - I am not
gone to Hampstead. I
have not been there this
year - may be, I shall
not be able to go till
late in the autumn. And
sometimes I think God
may do something else
with me before that.

I am so sorry about
poor S. Gonzaga’s troubles.
Pray tell her that she
never said a truer word
than when she called
her “Pope” “soft”. Everybody
always tells me so in
more or less civil language
& there never was any

thing so true.

ever dearest Revd Mother
your grateful and loving
F.N.
[end 3:284]
Lea Hurst 536

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff114-15, pen [3:294-96]

f114
35 South Street, [printed address:]
   Park Lane,
   London. W.
Dearest Revd Mother
   Indeed nothing that
you can say to me ever
   “troubles” me except with the
feeling how impotent I am.
All your “news” I beg to
hear, “bad” as well as “good”
But the worst is, that I
can do nothing.
   I have cried to all the
authorities on earth &
all the Saints in heaven
against Dr. Manning. The
fact is - that he is, as
the Catholics themselves
call him, a “deucedly
clever fellow,” & “somehow
or other, by foul more

f115
“than by fair means, gets
   all things his own way.”
[I know you don’t like me
to say these things. But it
is not I who say them,
dear Revd Mother]
You know he has such a
   convenient bad memory
And he always falls
back upon this.
If that/this is the final “offer
decision of the Trustees”, I really don’t
see that anything can be
done -
But I think that he/Sir G. B. may
   show “that the fault is”
not “on his side.”
As I understood, the Trustees
or Committee first
{line missing appealed to the ...}
He decides.
He communicates the decision to Sir G. Bowyer - calling it the “offer of the Trustees” -
It is obviously impossible for him Sir G. B. to comply with it.
Sir G. B. should call a Meeting of the Trustees or Committee (or whoever the administration is,) stating the case to them, shew [ing] that he cannot compl[y]
with the decision or “offer”.
Then the Trustees would either try another “offer” (o[r] negotiation) - or at least “blame” would not fall on Sir G. Bowyer for not doing the impossible.
Probably this has been done already.
In that case, I really do not see {line missing}

Funds are wanted
And the Trustees should by such a Meeting as I describe, (if not already tried & done with,) clear the way for a successful appeal to Catholics (& Protestants too.)
Somehow or other, I am told, the Archbp has got the game in his own hands.
Some of the proposals he makes would not stand in law.
But then, you see, the complication of the whole matter is that the Sisters obviously could
only, must only “abide by the decisions of their Superiors,”
The only advantage which I can see of a Meeting would be that Sir G. B. could lay anew before the Trustees all the facts & let them take the responsibility of discontinuance. They might start at this & some better arrangement might be come to. [I understand that Catholics themselves believe it to be quite impossible, if Dr. Manning insists on two Hospitals, that two can be supported, (even with Protestant help) & therefore believe the “offer of the Trustees” an impossible one.
I assure you, dearest
Revd Mother, excepting
you yourself, I don’t
believe any one can
have thought more of this
matter than I have,
night & day, day & night.
I{f?} there were only any
thing I could do? -
But I did try Ld Clarendon
& Ld Stanley & Dr. Manning
himself. Ld Stanley
says he can do nothing
more - & advises an
appeal to the newspapers.
Sir G. B. says he won’t
do this (tho’ I don’t
see exactly why) & that
I must. I don’t think,
& no one else thinks, that
I ought. And, even if I ought,
I don’t see what good can come of it. Because the Sisters must obey the Archbp. It seems to me that the only thing for them is to consult him. It would only do them harm for me to appeal to him again - The last time I did so he only wrote a nasty letter (for which I never can forgive him) with insinuations against people & a fine flourish in my honour - to poor Mrs. Herbert. I have turned the thing over & over again in every possible way these 18 months in my head & also in writing.
My belief is that, from the very moment Dr. M. became Archbp, he determined to have the “Soeurs de Charité.” He never considers that it was he himself who put the Sisters into the Hospl.

What was the “decision” on “the appeal to Rome” in “December last”? referred to by the Archbp.
from my dearest
Revd Mother’s ever grateful & loving
(tho’ it seems only words
{printed address, upside down:}
35 South Street, to say so now)
Park Lane,
London. W. F. Nightingale

Bermondsey, initialed letter, ff81-84, pen [3:284-85]

Oak Hill
Hampstead N.W.
Sept 3/64
My dearest Revd Mother
This is the first day, the very first day that I have felt I was getting ahead of my business, instead of my business getting ahead of me, miles, miles ahead, over my head & ears.
You see I am come down here - And would you come & see me? This next week I have less to do - Would you
come on Monday, 5th? or would you come on Friday, 9th? - I know well how much you have to do - & that it is always difficult, sometimes impossible, for you to find even one hour - And should that be the case next week, I will ask you to name your own time any day these next two months - And I will say sincerely if I can’t manage it. I would send a carriage for you, whatever time you said. And I could give my dearest Revd Mother a bedroom & one for a Sister, if more convenient to bring one - & if you really can arrange to sleep - And I would ask you in that case to have the carriage to fetch you so as to be here that I might see you a little before your dinner, which I think is 4 o’clock - & that I might see you
the next morning, before you started, if you can sleep -
I know it is a great favour for a Revd Mother to grant - But it is not the first time my Revd Mother has granted me favours.

I am sure you will be glad to hear that we are going to undertake the Liverpool Workhouse to nurse 1000 pauper sick in it - with 15 Head Nurses & a Supt whom we have trained - 15 Assistt Nurses - & 52 women to be chosen out of the Workhouse paupers

but separated from them entirely, & paid, so that we hope to train these paupers to get an honest living. We undertake only 600 Patients at first. A Liverpool man actually gives £1200 a year to do this.
I have always felt workhouse patients were the most neglected of the human race - far more so than in Hospitals. And I am so glad to make even this beginning.
-tho’ there has taken/been more than usual vexation & vacillation to overcome,
I think to give these poor creatures a little comfort.
I hope London workhouses will follow - & Manchester.
I remember years & years ago when I used to visit at Marylebone Workhouse feeling how hopeless those depths of misery were to comfort - & that visiting did nothing but break the visitor’s heart.
I wish we could have gone in to Liverpool Workhouse first, & made our plans afterwards; as we did in the Crimea. But they insisted on our making a plan first.
And there has been as much diplomacy, & as many treaties, & as much of people working against each other - as if we had been going to occupy a kingdom, instead of a Workhouse -

Ever my dearest Revd Mother’s loving
F.N.

I know you have been very poorly all this summer, tho’ you did not say so - Perhaps a drive into the country would do you good.

You see I always count upon
Lea Hurst 545

f83
your sympathy & tell you
our doings - tho’ I think
you are the only Revd
Mother in the world
who would - or could -
hear them with indulgence
they must all seem to you
so futile & imperfect - [end 3:285]

Bermondsey, initialed letter, ff85-86, pen

f85
{arch: Sept 24 1864}
Dearest Revd Mother
You will have been
surprised not to hear
from me & my Soyer -
But the truth is: I was
never able till yesterday
to hunt in my stacks
of papers for these things.
The three copies of
Soyer’s Receipts are
pretty much alike.
But I am not able
to look them through
to see which is most

f86
complete. So I send them
all.
Warriner’s Receipts,
p. p 67-72 and 72-74
may be useful (in
the Report on Cooking
Apparatus) So I send
that too -
I do not think
any of these receipts
I am afraid I
must ask to have
all four reports back;
as I have no other
copies. But your
friends may keep
them as long as they
like. And pray do
not you trouble
yourself with them.
  In great haste
ever my dearest
  Revd Mother’s loving
  & grateful
  F.N.
Sept 24/64

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff87-90, pen [3:285-87]

f87 {arch: Oct 31 1864}

Dearest, my dearest Revd Mother
  I never can forget your
kindness. To think of your
being willing to leave your
most important post to
come & nurse only me, or
to send me one of my
dear Sisters - I feel as
if I never could, be God
only can, tell you how
grateful I am -
  But I must not
take advantage - I am
not looking out for a
Nurse, as you heard. I
shall “scrat on” as well as I can, as long as I can work at all. And then I shall go, please God, to where I mentioned to you - I am obliged to go to London tomorrow for the “season”.

27 Norfolk Street
W.
will be my address - And mind you write to me, dearest Revd Mother, for your letters are nearly the only comforts earthly I have -

But I have great support. You remember Genl Storks. You know he had the Ionian Islands afterwards. Now he is appointed to the Government of Malta. He has written to me to ask to see me, in order to carry into effect some of the improvements we had suggested - He sails this week. Do you remember my shewing you the plans for a Workhouse (of 1000 beds) & a Workhouse Incurable
It is a great exertion to me to get up & dress & sit up to see these gentlemen. But I feel as if I never could be thankful enough to Almighty God - I feel always a kind of wonder that He should employ so miserable an instrument as I to give me such chances as He does. It has always been so - The Army work hung fire,

till Sidney Herbert worked it. The Indian work the same till Sir John Lawrence of his own accord came to [illeg]/ask to do it. when he was appointed Viceroy. The Malta work the same - & now Genl Storks takes it up of his own accord. [I forget whether I told you that one of the last things I had poor Sidney Herbert do/did was to send a Commission to the Mediterranean Stations. For 3 years all they
£90
recommended has been overlooked. Now, as far as Malta is concerned, Genl Storks, whom I have not seen since 1857, will do it.
I suppose I am much worse (this is an answer to your kind enquiry.) But I shall struggle on till I can work no longer—
All thanks to you, dearest Revd Mother, on the very knees of my heart.

I found accidentally (in packing up) Soyer’s Receipts which he made out in the Crimea. Those I sent you were what he made for us after we came home. I don’t now whether these will be any use to your people – If so, they may keep them as long as they like. But I should like to have them back at last, as I have no copies. I wish however you were not troubled with sending them.
I am so sorry to think of all poor Sister M. Gonzaga’s many troubles -
It was such a great pleasure to hear of the Irish Workhouse nursing.
I can write no more but am ever
my dearest Revd Mother
yours overflowingly

F. Nightingale [end 3:287]

Oct. 31/64

Bermondsey, signed letter, ff91-92, pen, black-edged paper

27. Norfolk Street. {printed address:} [3:287]
    Park Lane. W.

9/1/65

Dearest Revd Mother
I am sure you are so good that not only out of your goodness you wrote to me about the loss of your “Sister” but out of your goodness you would know how much I felt for you. Tho’ one cannot but rejoice when God takes those peaceful, useful souls to Himself, yet they are a great loss - there are so few
of them. And it seems as if they already made this the better world, & did not need to go -
    But God knows best.
    I am quite ashamed of keeping S. John of the Cross so long. But I kept St. Teresa much longer. I feel like a child who excuses itself for being naughty by telling how much naughtier it is sometimes. I hope to send back the 2nd Vol: soon. I am often afraid that I have

not so much as entered into the first Obscure Night. Yet that Obscure Night does seem so applicable to me.
    I have never found S. John of the Cross mystical or fanciful - On the contrary, he seems to have had the most wonderful practical knowledge of the ways of God in the heart of man.
    You are a very dear Revd Mother to write to me - and I know you know how much I thank you for it, even tho’ I can’t write. I am afraid I must
not now - or this will
never go - For I have so
much less strength than
I had.

We are getting on pretty
well. I mean about
India matters

I don’t know whether
you have heard of a
dreadful case of a poor
man who died from
bedsores contracted in
the Holborn Union
Infirmary by manifest
neglect. But I trust
good will come out
of evil - & out of the
enquiry which is being
now made & that
the whole system of workhouse

nursing will be altered in [at top of letter]
consequence. Ever my dearest
Revd Mother’s grateful & affecte
F. Nightingale

Bermondsey, initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Dearest Revd Mother

I must send you my
tenderest good wishes on
the day of the anniversary
of your first taking the
habit.

I am sure that you
not only renew your vows,
as St. Francis Xavier
tells us, with as much
erouvour as the first time,
but with more fervour
every time.

What a good servent
you have been to our
Almighty Father! I am sure

27 Norfolk Street W. [3:288-89]
He thinks so, though you
will not allow it
May He preserve you
many years in life yet
for His service - which is
a wish more for our sakes
than for yours - I was
quite afraid you were ill,
I don’t quite know why.
The greatest blessing
is to know & feel, as you
say, that one is doing
His will.
I never am in full
possession of this feeling
{line missing}
tho’ I have nothing left at all in
this world,
to do His will.
But I have not deserved that He
should give me the feeling
which is the greatest
strength of all.
I think it was a
compensation for poor
Sister M. Gonzaga’s many
troubles to be called in
to assist at Cardinal
Wiseman’s death-bed.
It is a great privilege.
And tho’ I am thankful
that it has pleased God
it should not be his [death]
{ - missing bed. It is a great privilege}
to be present at what
St. Catherine of Sienna
calls God’s withdrawing
from the body & restoring
to the body the soul
“tousiours avec plus
grande peine une fois
que l’autre” -

Dearest Revd Mother,
I thank you always
“tousiours une fois plus
que l’autre” for your
goodness in writing to me
& am ever my dearest
Revd Mother’s grateful
& affecte child

F.N.

Bermondsey, initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper [3:288]

27. Norfolk Street. {printed address:}
Park Lane. W. Jan 23/65

Dearest Revd Mother

If you want a copy
of the (English) S. John
of the Cross, which you
were so good as to lend
me, for your own uses,
& would let me get
you a copy for your
birth-day, as I dare
say you call this day,
I should be so proud -
or any other book you
would name. F.N.
Dearest Revd Mother

It is very, very good of you to write me accounts of Cardinal Wiseman. I have prayed, & do pray earnestly that it will please Almighty God to spare his valuable life yet a few years longer to this earth - especially that the Sisters may yet find a father in him - for it would be to them the loss of a father indeed - Though our Almighty Father knows what is best about that, as well as about all other things. I trust that now it appears, as if his life is likely to be prolonged. And I think Sister Gonzaga must have found this time a great
gain - tho’ I doubt she
is bodily very weary.
I had such a very touching
& interesting note from
her about a week ago.
May God Almighty give
His best blessings to this
& all her concerns -
I hope you will keep
the Manual of the Sisters
of Charity. I sent three
others manual, tho’ not, I am
afraid, of much use to
you. If you like to keep
them for anybody, pray
let me have them put up

f94
in plain strong bindings,
as well as their dilapidated
state will allow - [I am
very much ashamed of
the untidy state of all my
books]- Or if you would
have them put up in the way you like, &
charge the bindings to me,
& oblige my dearest Revd
Mother’s ever grateful
& loving child F.N.
I did not tell you that there
is much in Dr. Faber’s
book which you were so
good as to lend me, that
I like very much indeed -
tho’ it is impossible not to
laugh when he says so quaintly,
“Religious people are an
unkind lot.” I like his conference
on “Sensitivity.”
f134 {arch: Feb 16 1865}

Dearest Revd Mother  
I had not heard of
the death of Card: Wiseman
(I hear so little) till
your letter was just now
put into my hand. I
feel for the poor Sisters
as if they had lost a
father. And the death
of that good man will
be felt in many other
ways also - But he is
glad. I had hoped
too that Sister Gonzaga
would have be spent

f135
her rest with you. I am
sure she would have
found it a much
greater rest to be with
you, even tho’ the seaside
is healthier than Bermondsey.
But I trust that she
will have found it a
permanent rest to her
spirit to have been
with the Cardinal at
his death. It seems to
place all the difficulties
of doing God’s will in
such shadow under the
great light & peace of
doing His will - when one
is by a death-bed such as
{illeg that?}. {arch: N.B. "that" Sr M Scholastica
Indeed, the poor Sisters’ troubles are very great. I could not but be glad that the poor Postulant Sister was dead, especially as there was peace at the last. If it was insanity as well as delirium, there could be no hope of permanent recovery — and tho’ great Saints have been able to wish for a state of insanity as a state of humiliation & utter dependance upon God, yet one cannot but be thankful when a state has been spared which is one of utter uselessness & of constant troublesomeness to others.

And I feel so, for you too, dearest Revd Mother, who have given your oldest friends among the Sisters (tho’ I well know that you make no partialities among them) & your most intimate, to this work. — and to see them now
so laden with cares & troubles that it must almost seem as if they had better never have undertaken it.

But we know that is not so.

Pray, when you write to Sister Gonzaga, tell her that I would, if I were worthy, pray her to take heart - & that I do in my heart wish her joy for her presence at the Cardinal’s death-bed. I am glad his bodily pains are over, as it did not please Almighty God to bring him back to earth. But, as you say, we know not who his successor may be.

May God Almighty give us all, the peace which passeth understanding - not selfishly, but in order to enable us to do His will thoroughly.

And how can I thank you, dearest Revd Mother, for having written to me,
in the midst of all your own labours, to tell me of what you know is of such deep interest to me -

Pray for me, dearest Revd Mother & believe me ever your grateful & affecte child
F.N.
27 Norfolk Street
W. Feb 16/65
What a dreadful long dark winter for the poor people - and fever all about.
I wonder whether you remember Miss Morton (of/at Scutari) She is just dead of Typhus Fever, contracted in attending her district in London.
She was not a wise but a very good motherly woman -
I am hoping so to do something with the Poor Law Board for the dreadful state of the Workhouse Infirmaries.
They are really willing. But there is much to overcome, with the Guardians.
We have got 7 millions for improving the Soldier’s Stations in India. Sir John Lawrence says it should be 10 millions - and
Mr Massey (whom I have seen; & who goes out to India as Finance Minister next week) says it shall be 10 millions. And the soldiers’ wives & children will come in too for a measure of reform Sir J. Lawrence has in his head. I know you are so good that it cheers you to hear these things.

F.N.

Bermondsey, cont. letter of 3 Jan 1864, ff132-33, 130, pen

But St Catherine of Sienna says: Et toutesfois je permets cela luy advenir, afin qu’il soit plus soigneux de fuyr soi mesme, & de venir & recourir à moy X X et qu’il considere que par amour je luy donne le moyen de tirer hors le chef de la vraye humilité, se reputant indigné de la paix & repos de pensee, comme mes autres serviteurs - & au contraire se reputant digne des peines qu’il souffre X X X
My sister & her family come to spend here two or three nights occasionally to do business/see friends. But I was only able to see her for 10 minutes; & my good brother in law, who is one of the best & kindest of men, not at all - nor his children.

They are all now at my father’s house for the Christmas-time & New Year -

My Uncle Sam Smith after whom you kindly inquire suffers much from Rheumatic gout in knee & shoulder - but his health as good as ever - This my Aunt tells me - She, I am sorry to say, has been lately quite a cripple from Sciatica. But her health is good & her pain better. And they are soon coming to London - I have not seen either of them for months & months -

I am glad you are going to Sister M. Gonzaga It will be a great
comfort to her. What a comfort it would be to me -
I sent you back St Francis de Sales, with many thanks -
I liked him in his old dress - I like that story where the man loses his crown of martyrdom, because he will not be reconciled with his enemy. It is a sound lesson -
I am going to send you back S. Francis Xavier. His is a life

I always like to study as well as those of all the early Jesuit fathers.
But how much th[ey] did - & how little [I] do.
You see I keep St. [Teresa] still.
Pray remember [me] to Sister M. Gonzaga [&] Sister Anastasia & a[ll] of them -
Ever my dearest Revd Mother’s lov[ing] & grateful

F.N. [end 3:283]
My dearest Revd Mother,

I am so sorry to hear about your eyes. I am afraid, like many other ailments they will not get quite well till this interminable long winter has passed.

I have never thanked you for that beautiful prayer of Card: Wiseman’s which you were so good as to copy for me. I am sure I want it much more than Sister Gonzaga. I think the verses of the Cardinal deeply touching - particularly the last, the VIth Section. I always thought him an able, honest, devoted man - but such deep simplicity & humility in so great a man is more than touching, it is sublime.

Faber’s Conferences, I think very interesting - especially “Wounded Feelings”.
I am very much obliged to you for sending M. Olier’s life. I shall read it with the greatest interest.

I am not able to write much, for I have had rheumatism in the spine all the winter, which made me more helpless than usual - & then it seemed to fix itself in my right elbow, of all places, which is the only sound place I have in my body. But it disappeared from there almost as suddenly as it came, and I was most thankful to God. For as all my business is writing, I might almost as well have lost my head. I could hardly wash my face, or crook my finger & thumb to hold my pen. However I never did intermit my writing for a single day - for, if I did, my arrears would be quite hopeless - in business -

Ever my dearest Revd Mother’s own most loving child & grateful

F.N.

I pray God heartily that we may pass a good Lent. I wish Sister Gonzaga may be coming to you. Pray for me, my own good Revd Mother.
Dearest Revd Mother

I don’t suppose you are very uneasy about being killed or turned out of your houses. I knew that a man makes in the House of Commons every year a “motion” for an enquiry into “monastic or conventual societies” - But that was all I {missing}

However, when I had your letter I thought I would enquire how long you had to live. But I understand that the only feeling of the House of Commons was: to bear with the annual “Mover” (because he is an old & respectable man) to get rid of it as soon as possible, & to negative the man’s “motion” by a majority. A Frantic Protestant got up & raked all the stories he could get hold of --- & behaved like a “mad bull.” This, I was told, But the House of Commons only laughed at him & “pooh-poohed” him. And the quietest of all men, the Home Secy, made a joke (for the first time in his life) at him. I heard that some of the Fathers of Oratory were sitting under the Gallery of the House of Commons. And
they certainly could not have been impressed with the weight and importance of frantic Protestant members with the Ho: of Commons.

I am afraid you are far from well, my dearest Revd Mother. I was very glad to read the discourse you were so good as to send me, on the touching & sublime life & death of the Cardinal. I wish S. Gonzaga could come & stay with you - Ever my own dearest Revd Mother’s affectionate & grateful F. Nightingale
Lea Hurst 568

Bermondsey signed letter, ff100-01, pen, black-edged paper

f100

July 3/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Dearest, very dearest
Revd Mother

I only write one word
to thank you for your
St. Gertrude, which
I read with the
greater pleasure,
because it comes from
my dear Revd Mother.
I hope I shall be able

to profit by it. For
indeed it contains
great lessons -
We are in all the
misery of winding
up our unfinished
business, which
means: leaving it
unfinished.
I fear we shall not
do much for the
Workhouse Infirmaries
this year. But I hope
the wedge is in. And
God will carry it,
whether we are here
or not.
Our India business has
been very trying. Sir
John Lawrence has
sent home a man
to try & get more out
of the home Govt.
I believe in Sir John
Lawrence - & that
great things will be
done. Did I tell you

}
that we have got 10 millions for the Soldiers’ Stations?
When Parliament is up, then you know we begin to think of such trifles as men’s lives. And the work comes very heavy then –
Poor Hilary Carter, whom perhaps you remember, is dying of internal tumour.
Beatrice Smith, whose mother you remember,
is married to a Mr. Lushington, a very good youth.
I am afraid my dearest Revd Mother has had but a poor summer in health.
I do so wish to hear that poor S. Gonzaga’s affairs are happily settled – It is very trying to her – I know how trying it is to have to deal thro’
Lea Hurst 570

f101
other people - you know
my life is made up
of nothing else -
I prize my dearest
Revd Mother’s letters
& prayers more
than anything else
- [&] more than I can
say.
[I] would ask her: to
offer me to God
when she speaks to
God. And it will
do me good to think
of that, when I am
too ill to do it
myself as I ought
ever my dearest Revd
Mother’s loving
& grateful
F. Nightingale

Bermondsey initialed letter, ff102-03, pen, black-edged paper

f102
July 22/65 [3:291-92]
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Dearest Revd Mother
I have thought of you
continuously during your
illness - And I thought
it so very kind of Sister Gonzaga to write
to me twice to tell me
how my dearest Revd
Mother was going on.
And she must have
thought me so ungrateful
not to answer. I do hope
you are now pretty much as usual - tho’ I am afraid that “usual” has been a poor one this year. I was so glad Sister Gonzaga was at home (I call yours her home) to keep you in order. I wish she were always there. She told me of all the crosses of what she called the field day with the S. S. from Brighton.

But really I do think men are as bad as women about such confusions. What do you think I had? The Director of the Assistance Publique at Paris - a man I never saw - telegraphs to me to get him introductions to all the Workhouses & other places in 24 hours when he is to arrive in London - & that on a Sunday - & when every soul on the Poor Law Board is out of
town at the Elections
for the first time
for 6 years. And
they the only people
who can give some
introductions. And
I in bed, as usual &
overdone with business.
And he with no
particular reason
for coming then rather
than any time these 6
years.
This is the sort of way
men always serve me.
And I am not like

{at 90 degrees at the left of first page}
my dear Revd
Mother who
is never
ruffled -
whose loving
& grateful
F.N.
I always am,
even when
I cannot write.
Pray for me. [end 3:292]

Bermondsey, letter fragments, ff104-05, pen, copy 9085/19

God’s will be done. [3:292]
I take great comfort
in the thought that
you offer me to God.
ever my dearest
Revd Mother’s
grateful & loving
F. Nightingale
Dec 4/65
{ Many thanks
{ for the Advent
{ Meditations
Lea Hurst 573

f105

she says [rest of line cut off]
the truth. But I would
she could be silent.

Bermondsey signed letter, ff106-07, pencil, black-edged paper

f106

May 11  {arch: May 11th/66}
35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Dearest Revd Mother

Only one word to say
last night in the House [of]
Commons, Sir G. Bowyer
spoke to my brother [in]
law, Sir Harry Verney
about S. Gonzaga. [I
have not talked about
her. I was only afra[id]
of doing her more
mischief - But Dr.
Manning must not

suppose that other people
have held their tongues
-Catholics least of all -
about his injustice.]
Sir G. Bowyer had met
my sister & her husband
at S. Gonzaga’s -
So he began: -
“Dr. Manning is treating
her & the Sisters there
very ill. He does not
"know how to treat the[m]
  "he does not appreci[ate]
   their merit. He w[ants]
   to turn them out &
   replace them by Fre[nch]
   nuns - but he won’[t]
   succeed. I have as 
   much influence at
   Rome as he has - [The]
   question is submitte[d]
   to the Propaganda; w[here]
   are cautious thoughtf[ul]
   men, who will not
   permit such injusti[ce]
   & want of considera[tion]

f106
Cardinal Wiseman would
never have allowed it.
but Manning is not
half the man that
Wiseman was."
[edge of f is missing]
[A] little more passed in
the same strain - & then
Sir G. Bowyer added:
[“]You may depend upon it
that we shall be
finally victorious.”
[M]y brother-in law wrote
[m]e this this morning -
my sister is not in Lon[don]

Pray for me, dearest,
dearest Revd Mother
& offer me to God -
Ever my dearest Revd
Mother’s faithful &
grateful
F. Nightingale
Holy Thursday /66
You are very, very good,
dearest Revd Mother
in writing to me -
Dearest Revd Mother

I don’t know how you are
I had a letter from S. Gonzaga
a little while ago, for which
I was very grateful to her -
but it did not give a very
good account of you -

Neither, I am afraid, is
there any good news about
their own prospects.

I have had such a very
bad month - (with an attack
on my Chest - so that for 17
nights I could not lie down[()
-that I could scarcely get on
with my work -

And I am afraid you
are not much better.

I read over & over again
your little S. John of the Cross -
& many Extracts which I made
from your books -

We are having a very up-hill
fight about the Workhouses -
We have got to bring a Bill
thro’ Parliament - We have
obtained some things - but I
am very doubtful myself
whether, unless we obtain
a great deal more, it will
do much good. But we
know God will take care of
His own work, if it is His
work.

The things we have obtained are;
the removal of 2000 Lunatics,
800 Fever & Small pox cases
& all the remaining children out of the Workhouses - (& the providing for them out of a Common Fund, in order to relieve the rates-) the paying all salaries of Medical Officers, Matrons, Nurses &c &c - out of a Metropolitan (not Parochial) rate - But as the Guardians are still to appoint them, I am afraid this will do but little good except relieving the rates - for there will be so much jobbery - Also: - the removing all other sick into separate buildings which are to be improved & constituting fresh boards of Guardians for these sick with nominees from the Poor [Law Board out. I don’t think]

f110

this will answer - the sick ought to be entirely provided for (as they are in Paris by the “Assistance Publique”) by the Poor Law Board out of the Consolidated Fund - We hope however that this is a beginning - & that we shall get more in time when our own friends come back to office

====

I send you a few little things, which I insist upon Sr Gonzaga’s making you use yourself - May I send you some wine? - Pray for me, dearest, very dearest Revd Mother & believe me ever your loving & grateful

F. Nightingale [end 3:293]
f112 [from Sullivan Aug 5]
Private 35 South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane,  
    London. W.
Dearest Revd Mother
    If S. Gonzaga is wish[ing]
to leave the Order for
    a “holier life”, I have
only suspected it. I
do not know it.
    I wish it may not be so -
From the most worldly,
as well as from the
most spiritual motives,
it is so important that
they the Sisters should keep together
& give no ground of
offence - under such
a man as Manning
who does say the most
unwarrantable things -
& then says, he forgets

f113
what he has said.
    S. Gonzaga only said
to me: - that she was
waiting every day to see
Dr. M. I thought this
implied what you say.
[How I wish she could
come back to you -
    But that is impossible.]  
I felt such a mind to
write to S. Gonzaga. But
I refrained. I thought
I should only do harm.
I wish I could think you
were better.
It is 6 years last Friday since Sidney Herbert’s death — And things, according to our poor human thinking, have gone so wrong since — God bless you, dearest, very dearest Revd Mother — words seem so vain when I can give nothing but words — if anything comes to me I will write before Saturday — ever your loving F.N.

Bermondsey signed letter, ff118-19, pen

f118
20 Nov. /67 [3:296]
(printed address:) 35 South Street, Park Lane, London. W.

Oh dearest Revd Mother it is such a relief to me that dear S. Gonzaga is come back to you. I always felt, humanly, that that was the best & indeed the only way out of it. It is the greatest joy that I have had for many a year. And I have also a reason of my own, which is that I think S. Gonzaga makes you look a little after your health — & that she will sometimes give me news of it. I am very sorry for poor Mo.
Stanislaus. I think she is worn by long anxieties. Otherwise I do hope she might see that there is a better prospect of the Hosp'l being re-opened - Tho' I never believe a word that Dr. Manning says, I think he has been a little deterred by the general "row" that has been made. If the Hosp'l could but be re-opened under fairly favourable circumstances, I should hope that matters might go on more smoothly than they have done ever since Cardinal Wiseman was taken away.

And what a good Rev'd Mother you are to write to me. I have been trying to find a minute to write to you - & have only just time to say how much I am ever my dearest Rev'd Mother's faithful & grateful

F. Nightingale
Bermondsey, signed letter, ff124-27, pen

f124

Sept. 8/68
35 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London. W.
Your dear Reverence
   is very good to me. I
   was so thankful to see
   your handwriting again.
But there is one point on
which I never believe your
Reverence - And that is:
your own health. I am
afraid you are not so
much better as you say
you are - I wish you
would go, if it were only
for one week to Gt. Ormond
St. That is a very little
move - And the most
mortified person could
not call it a dissipation -
f125
I know so well how you will/can
never take the least rest -
but must always lead
all the Exercises, & every
thing else, your own dear
self -
I am very sorry to hear of
the Bishop’s illness - but
I think he ought to look
after you better.
Alas! dear Revd Mother, you
ask after me - I feel as if
I was only quite in the
infancy of serving God -
I am so careful & troubled
& have such a want of
calmness about His work &
His poor - as if they were
my work & my poor
instead of His. I have not
learnt yet the first lesson
of His service. “Je m’en
vais à Dieu: cela seul
doit m’occuper,” as B. Jean
d’Avila says, - meaning, of
course, in serving Him.
I know you pray for me -
Offer me to Him, that H[is]
will may be done in me
& by me - I feel, you know
that, if I really believed
what I say I believe, I
should be in a “rapture”,
(As St. Teresa calls it) instead
of being so disquieted.
And therefore I suppose
I don’t believe what I say
I believe. I think I seek
first the kingdom of God &
His righteousness. But I

am sure I don’t succeed
in being filled with His righteousness - And
so I suppose that I regard
too little Himself & too much
myself - I should like to
try to listen only to His voice
as to what He wishes me to
do among all His poor.
It is 12 years last August
7 (do you remember?) since
we came to you at Bermondsey
returning from the Crimea -
It is 11 years last August
since I have been a prisoner
more or less to my room.
It is 7 years last August
since Sidney Herbert died.
You know what a terrible
break up that was to what
we were doing in the War
Office. Still God has pleased
to raise up the India work
& the Poor Law work since
that. And I ought to be
very thankful.
But it does me good, I
assure you it does, (tho’
I can’t bear myself,) if [I]
think that your dear
Reverence is offering me to
God. that whatever He
wills may be carried out
in me.
I have so little of the only
true patience.
I feel very anxious about
Mo Stanislaus’ Hospital -
I think of it every day -
And yet I scarcely ever
write to her. I think she
must think, tho’ she is far
too delicate ever to say so [to]

me, that I might do some
thing more to promote
its opening, after all
she & you did for us -
But indeed I would, if I could,
But this makes me shy of
writing to her.
May God bless her - she
has been sorely tried. And
may He protect this Hospital.
ever your dear Reverence’s
most grateful & affecte
F. Nightingale
I send a little offering for
your poor (on the other side)
I often pray God that He
would give me the opportunity
of being able to show you the gratitude I feel to you
[filled in from Sullivan: But you see He does not]
Dear Sister

I know not what to write. Perhaps she is at this moment with God -
But this we know. She could scarcely be more with God than she was habitually here:
& therefore all things are well with her, whether she be there or still here:
It is we who are left motherless when she goes
But she will not forget us:
I cannot say more. I send 2 or 3 Eggs

for the chance
And I have for a little game which I send:
for I think you, & perhaps others, must be so worn out with watching & sorrow that perhaps you cannot eat or sleep.
And you know she would wish you to eat.
We pray with our whole hearts to God:
ever yours     F.N.

Dearest, very dearest Revd Mother
My darling, the Matron of the Liverpool Workhouse, is dead. Her life was trembling in the balance till yesterday. But still we hoped. Yesterday she died.
With her, we believe, it is “well”. But for us it is terrible.
All the Head Nurses have behaved nobly.
As to what is to come next, we are in the hands
Of the Vestry.
Of course a good many arrangements fall upon me.
God will take care of His own work.
That is my only hope.
I should be so very glad to know that you were better.

Let me hear, please,
by Sister Gonzaga.
Pray for us -
ever my dearest
Revd Mother’s
F. Nightingale

Bermondsey, letter fragment, f120, pen

I am sure dear Revd M.'s
Mother’s kind heart will
be glad to hear that we are
getting on at last with
the Workhouses.
We have an official
application from one of
the largest Workhouses in
London - from the
great Divinities themselves,
the Board of Guardians.
Think of that !
But don’t speak!

F.N.
Dearest Sister Gonzaga

Indeed I was “expecting a letter” - not because you are bad to me (in writing but because you are very good to me.

I wish I could hear that Revd Mother was better - but indeed I don’t expect it. I believe nothing but a complete change & rest would do her any good.

I wish she would go away somewhere (as a duty) with you. I had some faint hopes that she might be better for the Retreat

But I suppose that, really
to a Revd Mother), that is only another charge added to her many others.

I never believe Revd Mother about herself, but only you.

I wish she could go to Walthamstow where Sister Helen is, if there is accommodation there.

I feel sick of expecting the re-opening of the Hospital in Gt. Ormond St. It is a dreadful trial to Mo Stanislaus - But, as B. Jean d’Avila says, how are we to prove the “modération & tranquillité de notre
“esprit” except under “contrariétés”? I think men are the same all over the world - of every profession & condition - War Office Ministers - Poor Law Ministers - Boards of Guardians - Archbishops - Bishops & Generals - But this is a sentiment which will not meet Revd M.’s approval - so I will hold my tongue -

Men don’t think first of the good of the poor or the sick - & frame their business, first & foremost, to meet it. But the poor are there to make them an office - not, their Office is there for the poor - Here has the War Office given me something to do for the Military Hospitals, which it ought to have given me a full year’s notice of, it - & now when every soul of a man of business is out of London & one is gone away ill, it gives it to be done at once. However this kind of thing is so frequent in my business that I really don’t complain of it - but am very thankful that God allows me to do this work at all - But I can sympathize with Mo. Stanislaus, altho’ very unworthy - I am sure Revd M. prays for me - And so do you - May God’s best blessings be always hers & yours - And they ever yours will be.

F. Nightingale [end 8:1017]
Dec 17/66
35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Dearest, very dearest
Revd Mother
I cannot tell you how deeply I was touched by your welcoming letter to my “little cell” many weeks ago - And then I had another - and this afternoon I have another. And I have never thanked you. But you know how grateful I am. It is almost the greatest earthly support I have - I am going to write again. This is only to say how very anxious I feel about your health. Might I not send you a little more Wine & Ale? You know you ought to have gone away for a little. But you would not.
Indeed, about the poor Sisters at Ormond St., I am always hoping it will come right at last - tho’ I know not that I have much earthly reason for that hope. I am sure they are right in not asking to go away. I think my troubles are always greater at Christmas than at any other time, tho’

f108
I do desire humbly to follow in the footsteps of S. John of the Cross. And I constantly read over the Life & some Extracts I made from what my dearest Revd Mother sent me - And I thank her from the bottom of my heart for offering me to God on the day of S. John of the Cross - Pray for me - ever yours F. Nightingale

{in the top left} I am always quite alone at Christmas even more so than at other times in London.
Lea Hurst

Bermondsey pages, not letters, corrected Italian at BL by LM

These prayers and extracts, written in Italian and English, are in Florence Nightingale's handwriting - they seem to have been torn from a notebook.

Above all things, love God with all your heart: Seek his honour more than the salvation of your own souls: I entered the (cloister) to learn how to suffer & when sufferings visited me, I made a study of them, & they taught me to love always & to forgive always. Lord, I ask you the grace not to die in my bed, but that of shedding my blood as you did for me.

Poesie di Girolamo Savonarola
Trattato circa il regimento e governo della città di Firenze
da Audin de Rians 8vo Firenze 1847

======

Every Florentine citizen who wishes to be a good member of his state & help it as every one should wish to do must 1, believe that this Council & citizen Govt has been sent by God, as in truth it has, not only because all good govt proceeds from him but x x x x x because God wishes that we should exercise the intellect & free will which he has given, he makes the things that belong to human government at first imperfect, in order that we, by his assistance, may make them perfect.

1. fear of God 2. love of the common good) To do this, 4
3. love of each other 4. to do justice ) things necessary.
These prayers and extracts, written in Italian and English, are in Florence Nightingale's handwriting—they seem to have been torn from a notebook.

Ai Fiorentini 1495

Viva viva in nostro core
Cristo re duce e signore
====
Ciascun purghi l'intelletto
La memoria e volontade
Del terrestre e vano affetto
Arda tutto in caritade
Contemplando la bontade
De Iesù, re di Fiorenza
Con digiuni e penitenza
Si reformi dentro e fore
====
Se volete Iesù regni
Per sua grazia in vostro core
Tutti gli odii e pravi sdegni
Commutate in dolce amore
Discacciando ogni rancore
Ciascun prenda in sè la pace
Questo è quel che a Iesù piace
Su nel Cielo e qui nel core
===
O Iesù, quanto è beato
Chi disprezza il cieco mondo
Questo è quel felice stato,
Che tien sempre il cor giocondo
E però io mi confondo
Che per paglia, fumo o spine
Non perdiamo il dolce fine
Chi è Iesù nostro signore
Sorgi dunque Agnel benigno
Contra al fero Faraone
Deh riforma il corvo in cigno
Supplantando il gran dragone
Sveglia omai il tuo leone
Della tua tribù di Giuda
Ch'a sguardare è cosa cruda
Dove han posto il tuo licore
====
Benedetto sia il Pastore
Della somma ierarchia
Iesù Cristo nostro amore
E la Madre santa e pia
Che a’ sedenti in tenebria
Han mandato una gran luce
E però con viva voce
Chiaman Cristo nel lor core
===
with F. Nightingale's
best love

Undated note, on pink paper, pen, from the Annals of the Convent of Mercy, Bermondsey, by an email of John Slaney

Revd Mother returned from Boulogne in time to begin the Retreat with the Community, on the second day of which, August 7th, Miss Nightingale, accompanied by her Aunt, came directly on her arrival in England to see the Sisters & take some hours rest. It was a joyful & yet a sad meeting, for they felt that she who had been so benevolent & full of tenderness for her fellow creatures, & whose religious sentiments approached so nearly to their own, was not to enjoy with them the rewards & happiness which they professed as Members of the True Church. But her friendship continued, & still goes on undiminished, as her kind communications and frequent presents testify.
Lea Hurst

Convent of Mercy, Birmingham, 21 pages, 9 letters

Mercy Birm, signed letter, 2ff, pen

Lea Hurst

Matlock

Oct 19/56

My dear Cardinal [Gonzaga Barrie]

It was a great relief to me to send Mr. John Ryder, M. S. C., his £7, which I have done, & which I trust will not redound to the benefit of the nearest public-house -

I am looking out for a situation for poor Mrs Orton & hope to find one in a Reformatory for young Boys, which will do for her.

Please give my love to Sister M. Stanislaus. I am so sorry to hear about her knee. I hope that she will be made to take great care of it & not be laid up long.

Do you remember Sister Sarah Ann at
Scutari who went home after Fever & used to go with you to the General Hospital? I saw her at Edinburgh & she asked very much after you & begged me to remember her to you particularly.

And last, but not least, thank my dear Revd Mother for her letter of this morning, tell her how much I think about her,

and, dear Cardinal, do tell me something about her when you can, for your accounts make me very uneasy. I cannot help wishing she could go to Madeira for a winter - But, of course, your Doctor & your Bishop think of all these things - I trust your new Hospital will prosper - Believe me ever my dear Revd Mother's (now yours,) faithfully, lovingly & gratefully F. Nightingale
Private Jan 20/67
35 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London. W.
My dear Sir
   I have to thank you for
   your two kind letters - & for
   the proofs of the two Notes
   by yourself & Dr. E. Smith.
   That is a dreadful
Committee (I annex a N.B.)
   But I believe both you
   & I are far too much
   pressed for time for me
   to indulge in vituperation.
So I will try at once to
answer (from experience)
your question as to
admitting “Ladies” into a
your Hospital to learn
Nursing: -

1. It answers perfectly
   provided
   (a.) they are not admitted not
   qua ladies, but as members
   of a Training = School - as
   any other Probationers, in short
   (b.) let them be admitted,
   not as amateurs but as
   going through a regular
   course, carefully laid down, -
   with regular tests, (i.e. practical
   examinations,) to end in
   trying for a regular certificate.
   (c.) no difficulty can
   arise about religion, if
   the care of the sick & not
   the care of their own souls
   is the main motive &
   qualification.
[Sisterhoods have succeeded or failed exactly in proportion as the “Sisters” have been there mainly as Nurses, or mainly as members of a religious order (“Sisters” of a Sisterhood)

If the latter, then all sorts of ridiculous trivialities (fanciful rules, peculiar “vestments” & the like) must form the tie of the Sisterhood, (which binds it together) - And not the care of the sick, which is their professed object.

Practically, there is but little difference between the religious scruple of the “Sister”, who neglects her Patients for her rules, & the irreligious scruple of the Nurse who neglects her Patients for her drink.]

(d.) But nearly every thing depends upon your Matron, both upon what she is personally, & upon what she is officially.

Unless she is the acknowledged, qualified & capable head of the Nursing, - unless she is Commander-in-Chief, & the Ward Head-Nurses her regimental Officers, - unless there is an organized System of Nursing under her - into which Probationers are admitted, after selection, & with a view to a regular course - unless the same standard is required from all the

2

Probationers, be they “ladies”, or women who are to earn their bread by it; experience tells us that to admit persons to learn
is a mere fiction, both
as to themselves & as
to the Hospital. They
don’t learn. The Hospital
does not teach. And,
what is worse, all sorts
of confusion are introduced
into the Hospital,
justifying the repugnance
& opposition of the
Medical Officers to this
kind of thing.
I have no doubt you will
understand what I mean
with half a word. I will

add however: –

2. with regard to (a.) and (b.):
I have frequently been asked
to admit ladies (into Hospitals
I have been connected with)
“for 3 weeks” – ! I was once
asked to admit the
“Bible women” “for 10 days”!!!
It is an extremely common
thing for Ladies & even
Nurses to ask to be
admitted for 2 – 3 months.
I have constantly declined
entertaining these applications.
Nothing but a smattering,
no real standard of
good Nursing can be
attained in that time.
And the Hospital order is
upset for what benefits
no one. Besides, the fault
of our English ladies is smattering – dilettante work. And what a pity to pander to this!
With regard to the 2 – 3 months I am constantly obliged to keep our Training Matrons up to the mark – viz. to refuse this, except as an exception, – to remember that quality & not quantity is the object (in the Nurses we train)
Our period of training is 12 months, at the least. And, whatever period of training you decide upon at your Hospital, I would strongly advise you never to depart from unless by a written decision of your Committee or Governing Body,
for that particular case, constituting it an exception – constituting it also an exception, if your Probationer, be she lady or not, does not "go in" for a certificate –

Also, we require a written engagement, after a part of the Probation is passed that the Probationer intends to devote herself for -- years to the nursing of the sick. If this is departed from, it should be by a formal, written permission, given by the Body which grants the {printed address, upside down:}

35 South Street, certificates.
   Park Lane.
   London. W.

A Hospital is a place of very serious work, & not at
all a place for any religious
or other freak.
3. You will understand me too
when I say: Never let
Your Chaplain be your
Matron, nor let your
Medical Officer be your
Matron either. Let the
Chaplain keep to his
functions, the Medical
Officers to theirs, & the
Matron to hers.
Few of the difficulties which
we have heard so much of
in late years would have
occurred, if this prima
facie rule had been
carried out.
And I will say this, for the
French R. Catholic orders,

(among whom I have lived
& served) that this
rule is with them practically understood
& adhered to, in a way
which puts our English
sense to shame -
I cannot see that any
difficulty can arise (as to
(c.)) if this rule be observed -
We have never had any
difficulty. And we have
had Probationers of every
Church & sect almost.
With regard to (b), again:
I would say: don’t make
any difference between your
“lady” & other Probationers.
This is not to say that a
lady must scour & scrub.
No Probationers ought to have
scrubbing to do.
Every Probationer is there to
learn nursing - not house =
maid = ing: to be a Nurse, not a charwoman.
And, with regard to the other
(so-called disgusting) little
offices of cleanliness about
the Patients, a “lady” must
do them just like any
other Nurse. She must
not call another Nurse to
do them.
And no “lady”, no good
Head Nurse that I have
ever known, who was worth
her salt, ever shirked
doing less her share of this
kind of work. Rather, she
did more than
her share. A “lady” can’t
learn by walking about the
wards & looking on - She must
put her hands to the work
at the bed - side.
Lastly: - I can’t think that
any training can answer, if
the Probationers, (ladies or
otherwise,) do not live
during the period of
training within the
precincts of the Hospital,
under the charge & control
of the Matron.
But, as I have tried to say
as strongly as I could
in (d.) - unless there
is an organized system of
training under a
Park Lane, capable & responsible
London. W.
Matron, the Hospital is
better without its pupil = “ladies” - and the “ladies” are better without the Hospital.

As an Engineer of ours said of a Turkish fort (in the Crimean War), he had rather be outside than in.

I will not enter more into detail, because it is only wasting your time & mine, unless the plan comes to some practical beginning. If it does, I should be most happy to help in any way in my power that you may desire.

In order to shew what I mean by the necessity of having a regular course, tests, records & certificates so that we may know that our Probationers are really learning - & from which we never depart, except by an express decision of our Committee - I send you some of our Forms, not as a model but as an example - We have improved on one or two of these, as I think. And, if your plan comes into practical action, I would, if you wished it, send you our last “Editions”.

I trust that you will see that this letter is only for yourself.
As you may suppose, I have frequent applications, of the nature of yours, from many parts of England.
And people, after giving me a week’s writing, after getting me into sundry scrapes with every conflicting authority, Ecclesiastical, Medical & Matronal, by reading my private letters at a “General Meeting”, (so that I have afterwards a week’s “explanations” to do, like any M. P.) give up their plan, – never having known their own minds from the first.
Latterly I have made the rule by my friends’ advice, not to answer fully unless formally asked by the Governing Body which ensures at least, some kind of serious intention.
But this does not, of course, apply to you -
I deplore exceedingly, as I am sure you must, the abortive attempts made by well - meaning individuals, to introduce in different London Hospitals, ladies to learn, without any system or organization whatever by which they could learn. They were just to “pick up” as they could, like birds. It has, of course, only ended in discrediting the whole thing.

Pray believe me my dear Sir ever your faithful servt   {printed address, upside down:}
35 South Street, Florence Nightingale Park Lane.
London. W.
H.W. Acland Esq M D.
this is not a P.S. but a N.B.

Pray don’t let your Note (Memo on Nature of Cases) be “excluded”. If they try to “exclude” it, protest. It is quite essential to insert it for the honour & honesty of the case - And there are ways of protesting which are effectual.

F.N.
10 South St. Park Lane, W.
Dec 30/86
My dear Sister Stanislas
   Life is too busy for both of us to look back upon the Crimea much. But when I think of it I always look back upon you dearest Sister in the little General Hospital at Balaclava
And dear, dear Revd Mother at Scutari now a Saint in heaven
   F. Nightingale
My dear Sister Stanislas

May I send you all Christmas good wishes & hearty prayers for the Almighty Father’s best New Year’s blessings for you & yours in the form of a picture? Pray for me that the child Jesus may be born anew in my heart.

How long it is since I have heard from you

But Christmas evergreens have carried to you a little bit of my heart every year – Life is too busy for both of us to look back upon the Crimea much. But when I think of it I always look back upon you, dearest Sister, in the little General Hospital at Balaclava – And dear, dear Revd Mother at Scutari,
now a Saint in heaven -
May I send you a
little contribution for your
work? Tell me a little about
it.

My love to any of the
Sisters whom I know
whom you still have with
you -
God bless & prosper you all
& your work -
Fare you very well:
ever yours, tho’ in silence
not in heart F. Nightingale
Did you ever tell
me whether I should
send back any of those
books dear Revd Mother
lent or gave me - &
which I so valued?

F.N.

Mercy, Birm, signed letter, 2 ff, pen & pencil [8:1017]

Xmas Day 1888
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane, W.
Dearest M. Stanislaus
I was so glad to hear
from you, & to hear about
your Workhouse children.
Happy they to be with you!
I send you a mite - I wish
it were 20 times as much -
but hope to send another
mite farther on.
I do so think of our dear
old Revd Mother -
The choicest Christmas &
New Year’s blessings be yours.
And I am sure you pray for
me as I do for you -
You do not say how you are in health - I hope well -
I like your Photograph so much - Thank you for sending it. You look just as you did 33 years ago - Fare you very well dearest S. Stanislaus - God bless you - ever yours F. Nightingale

I hope you will like the Xmas Card I send with much, much Xmas love.

Mercy, Birm, signed letter, 1f, typewritten & pen

10 South Street
Park Lane
29th. Dec. 1888

Dear Sister Stanislaus
I would so like to hear about your workhouse children. At what age you take them? and up to what age you keep them? and whether you train them to be domestic servants?
Whether they are meant to be emigrated to Canada, when old enough, or whether they are meant for domestic servants in England? When you have a moment’s time, it would interest me so very much if I knew your purposes for them. In the mean time I can but give them joy, poor little things, at being under your care. {pen in FN’s hand}

8/89 You will see by the date, dearest Sister, how many days ago this was written; and you will know that only the pressure of work & illness would have prevented my sending my very best New Year’s wishes to you, my dear old comrade, & also to your little charges, & a few New Year’s cards for them - May God bless & prosper your New Year & your work - May you see of the “travail of your soul”! These are your Epiphany gifts to our Lord:

{L}ove is your gold: your service a gem:
Bring these to the Babe of Bethlehem!”
{I a}m sure you do.
ever, dear Mother Stanislaus, yours sincerely & gratefully

Florence Nightingale
Dec 24/95
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dearest Sister Stanislas
How long it is since I have heard of you -
And now I can only send you a greeting, & beg you kindly to accept in love which always remembers you this little sum for your poor people -
God bless you this Christmas tide -
How are you?
ever yours
F.N.

Oct 21/96
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.
My dear S. M. Stanislaus
I was so glad to hear from you -
And I send my best love to S. Anastasia
& some flowers
The flowers are the colours of the old, old Churches in Rome.
Red = the love of God
White = Purity
Green = everlasting life -
I always remember our dear, dear Revd Mother now a Saint in heaven
And I remember you
& your gallant duty -
- loving spirit in the
Crimea -
- besides Scutari
with love to all who
remember me
ever yours as in old
days
F. Nightingale
Will you allow me
to send the enclosed
for you to keep
S. Anastasia’s Golden
Jubilee.
F. N.
I had your
kind note by
the last post last
night
Excuse pencil
3 envelope covers, 1 f., pen & pencil
with a parcel
With care
The Rev’d Mother Prioress
(Sister M. Stanislas)
St. Elizabeth’s Hospital
45 or 46 Great Ormond St.
F. Nightingale
30/12/86
Lea Hurst

with Xmas greeneries
To the Revd Mother
(Sister M. Stanislas)
Convent of the Sisters of Mercy
& St. Elizabeth’s Hospital
Xmas Eve } Great Ormond St
1895 }
with some flowers

Envelope
Sister M. Stanislaus
Convent of Mercy
Gt. Ormond St.
21/10/96

Mercy, Birm, signed letter, 2 ff, pencil

April 26/97
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dear Mo. Stanislaus
It is so long since
I have heard from you.
And I hear with sorrow
that you are on the sick
list, & are at Bournemouth
for change -
May the Almighty
Father restore you.
You & dear Revd Mother
are always in my grateful
heart & often in my mind.
Work increases for me
every year - And I am thankful for it. But I have been a prisoner to my room for long from illness.

Pray for me that the Easter Christ may indeed have risen again in me -

I have not time to write a letter.

Pray excuse the smallness of my (subsidy) cheque

I am poorer than I was - ever, dear Mo. Stanislaus your loving

F. Nightingale [end]

Mercy, Birm, signed note, 1 f, pencil [8:1019-20]

July 7/97

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

So glad, dearest Mother Stanislas, of your good news about going to Windsor & most glad of all that you are well again.

Thank you, thank you for your letter - ever yours

F. Nightingale [end]
March 7/99
10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
Dearest. Mother Stanislaus
May I send this, tho’
late, as a small token,
very small, of love &
gratitude,
Your ‘golden Jubilee’
is past, but our love &
gratitude to you can never
pass.
This has been delayed
because I could not find
anywhere your address
in London - & also by
my own increased illness.
God bless you,
dearest friend.
I hope you are
prosperous in every
way that you think
prosperous - & in good health
ever yours
F. Nightingale
Scutari [14:196]
July 5/55
Dear Sister Elizabeth

I could not but be a little surprised, when I came home, to hear that you had been carrying on a negotiation with Dr Lawson about another room, without any reference either to Mrs Bracebridge or to Miss Tebbutt – whereupon Dr Lawson remarked that “he supposed you did not belong to Miss Nightingale’s party.” I was the more surprised because you, so well skilled and experienced in all the duties of a Community=life, must be the more aware of the danger of such a precedent & of the impossibility of any party hanging together at this rate—That you should have another room is an object for which I would
instantly have exerted
myself. And had you
found me backward
in consulting the comfort
of my party, I could
better have understood
the tacit reproach
which you have conveyed
against me by your
independent action.
    Forgive me for saying
plainly what I am
going to say - It was
only with my assent,
as you know, that our
Government and the
authorities of this place
admitted the Catholic
Nuns - & only on condition
that they should belong
to my party - And, for
a very obvious reason,
all independent parties
have since been refused.
I owe it therefore to our
Government to see that
their views be carried
out. And I am certain
that you, who carry so
much farther than we
do alas! the duties of
obedience & unity, will
instantly see the necessity
of what I say. I have
stood between you & the
Commandant on many an
occasion, and I could only do this, it is obvious, upon the understanding that you felt yourselves to be here upon exactly the same footing, in all that regards the Hospital, as the Protestant ladies.

One more thing I am compelled to mention. Feeling that they were in the ascendancy here, I permitted (what I have never permitted to the Protestant sisters) that the Catholics should go to Patients not in their own wards. So many complaints have been made to me about this partiality on my part that I am now obliged to request that every Sister, whether Catholic or Protestant, will restrict herself to the wards to which she is appointed.

I will ask you to shew this letter to the Revd Mother Bridgeman, as I am still too weak to write much. And I will ask you to forgive me for any pain which it may cause you - I assure you it has not caused me less. & to believe me ever yours most truly Florence Nightingale

[end]
My dear Revd Mother

The explanation which you were kind enough to give, with regard to the room asked for, has really hurt my feelings - inasmuch as there are three things which make the matter worse. That the interference came from Koulali - that it came from a secular lady & through the Purveyor - none of whom had anything to do with it- It surely was time enough to try extraneous interference, when you had made application through the legitimate channels here & failed - While I was sick in my bed at Balaclava, Mrs Bracebridge was the proper person to apply to- It seems to me hardly necessary to state this - & therefore I will say no more upon a subject on which I am sure you and I are really agreed.

In reply to your remark, “as to the Sisters giving religious instruction “to the Catholics,” I have reason to know that, “where this does not interfere “with the duty of nursing, “ the War Office acknowledges “us free.”
I do not consider that the passages below quoted of Dr Grant’s notes on this subject, and Lord Panmure’s letter of the 27th April, give any liberty to Sisters to give religious instruction beyond the wards appointed them for nursing. Should you, however, construe these documents differently & feel conscientiously obliged to give more liberty of action to the Sisters. I do not object to the two Reverend Mothers & Sister Elizabeth making special application, grounded on some reason, to me for the attendance of any Sisters in any ward, not their own, at reasonable hours.

It seems obvious that the Superintendents & Chief Medical Officers should have the means of knowing where all Sisters & Nurses are, or may be by right, at any given hour, to prevent disputes & injury to discipline.

Any remonstrance you may wish to write I will transmit to the War Office with pleasure.

Pray excuse the delay which illness & the press of business have produced in my answer to yours of the 6th. & believe me, dear Revd Mother, yours very truly

Florence Nightingale
I That all the Nuns shall be under the sole direction of the Superintendent in all matters of Hospital regulations

Signed

Thomas Grant

"With regard to Protestant Ladies or Nurses attached to the Hospitals, it is to be a clear & well-understood rule that they are in no case to be used as religious Instructors or Teachers by direction of any Protestant Chaplain & that they are not to enter upon the discussion of religious subjects with any Patients other than those of their own faith.

With regard to the Roman Catholic Nuns or Sisters of Mercy, they are strictly to confine themselves also within this rule, which is one laid down for their guidance by the proper authorities of their own Church & to which they distinctly assented when nominate to the War Office, the duties of which they undertook.

War Office
27 April 1855
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

National Archives, formerly, Public Record Office, paper copies, 10 letters, there are many letters to Nightingale and to associates on the Crimean War not included here; Rules for Nurses at end, 30 pages

National Archives, initialed letter, 6ff, pen not FN hand but signed at end ff192-95 {Official stamp: WAR DEPARTMENT RECEIVED MAR 17 1855}

Scutari

[14:156]

1 March

1855

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge; the receipt of yrs of the 16 Feb acknowledging & approving of my accts sent up to Jan 1' amounting to £986:11.0 leaving a balance of £413.9.0 to complete the credit of £1000 with Sir John Kirkland general agent which balance I will pay as ordered to Mr. Wreford purveyor
and forward his receipt next post. 
It seems by reference to the original instructions & from your letter grounded on them that I have been in error in transmitting to war office my second account of £1243.14.10 & drawing thro my bankers with Messrs Glyn for £1500 to cover it. I write to my banker in consequence not knowing how my demand may be treated.

I have to observe however that my only instructions (19 Oct) say You will for yr current expenses payment of wages &c apply to the Purveyor thro the chief medical officer in charge of the hospital who will provide you with the necessary funds - of the second account 1243. 14 .10 abt £283 only the five first items come under this head. It was not anticipated I should incur the expenses which the exigencies of the hospital (shewn by requisitions of medical men) have put me to! I have however had orders to supply what was proved to be wanting x - if then it is deemed that I am wrong in forwarding the account as I have done to the war office I beg to be instructed to whom to send that part of it not coming under the head of current ex= =penses to be sent to Purveyor thro the chief medical officer . I have provided to Miss Stanley yr last orders & the former ones relating to her I have the honor to be Sir yr obed servt Florence Nightingale [FN hand]
x but if this account is objected to I am willing to pay it out of private funds
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

P.S. Miss Stanley was not placed under my orders officially nor have I any knowledge of her accounts as yet otherwise than her requiring money from me - no nurses of my party have left with accounts unsettled, nor have any claims on the war office - I am not able to say any thing of Miss Stanley’s nurses or their accounts three I believe have returned. All accounts were closed with a Mrs Wilson the last who has returned of my party

[end 14:156]

F.N. {initials FN’s}

[in another hand]

For 10 weeks at -16/ a week
20/160/£8
advanced before going £5.0.0
Therefore Wages due – three Pounds £3..0..0


Barrack Hospital
Scutari
May 1 1855

Dear Sir

With regard to the general Nurse question in the East, it is divided into a three-fold system
viz mine of ladies, nuns, nurses – the latter in a large majority
that of Smyrna – the same, with omission of nuns & augmentation of ladies
that of Koulale – consisting of nuns, ladies & nurses – the paid nurses being in smaller proportion to the whole.

I maintain the opinion that, for Military Hospitals, under present circumstances, – where a large number of convalescents, unfit as yet for duty, must always be mixed with the Patients – the whole number of
female Nurses should be small. Reckoning about 3 or even 2-1/2 per hundred of really sick & allowing one third of the whole number of Patients to be convalescent (and the proportion is now, happily, nearer two-thirds - out of 1100 Patients here we have not 100 in bed.) this will give 25-30 nurses for 1500 Patients, allowing 500 to be convalescent.

II. that the chief element should be paid nurses

III. that, as there are so many R. Catholic soldiers, there should be R. Catholic sisters - (as also there may be Protestant sisters) And, as there are Scotch soldiers, there should be Scotch nurses. But all should be chosen as qualified Nurses, whether sisters or not, & as far as may be, practically experienced.
Great waste of money, of health &
many other inconveniences have
followed want of care in selection -
&, I may add, want of special
knowledge in the selectors, as well
as want of assiduity in testing
recommendations.

As to the Smyrna plan, I fear
that the large proportion of ladies
& the formation of two distinct classes,
(one inferior to the other), may not
succeed. Ladies are with difficulty
to be found, whose qualities, experience
& health fit them for the task.

It may be feared that more may
be attempted for the solace &
indulgence of the soldier than can be
carried out or be adviseable, considering
his discipline, his past & future career.
But, with a civil medical Staff, it

may be more easy than with the
Military Medical Staff.

As to Koulali it will, I fear, be
found that, however well managed the
Female Department may be, the numbers
are greater than the requirements.
& that the Military Medical Staff
may not like the interference of the
female nursing element to so great
an extent as it must be there
employed.

As Miss Stanley had the entire
interior management of Koulali, I cannot
say how she specially arranged the
R. Catholic Sisters. The sickness
disarranged everything - & now that
this is abated, & the whole number
of Sisters & Nurses made up to about
43 for 500 Patients, (the present
number) the application will be
tested. The capacity of that Hospital
(or rather the three adjacent ones at Koulali)
be about 1600

Dr. Parkes has told me that he has positive instructions to erect huts for 1000 Patients see Mem. He wishes for 40 females to attend upon these, & I hear that 100 are coming.

Having great fears for the result of his difficulties - & knowing that Hospitals have been erected for 1000 at Balaclava & augmented at Koulali by 500 & at Smyrna by 500 since Smyrna was fixed upon see Memo - & that the sick have diminished to

In Barrack Hosp. Scutari 1100

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palace</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koulali</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

there being (leaving room at Koulali, Scutari & Smyrna for 1800 to 2000)

I would deprecate a positive order, & ask that Dr. Parkes may have permission to erect only huts for 500 sick only, if he sees fit.

Secondly, as to the females - that they should, by no means, exceed forty for these 500 (a far larger proportion than I think necessary) & that no more than twenty should come at first.

Without entering into discussion as to the principles of female Nursing & the proportions of the classes of females, it is obvious that, as far the greater part are wholly undisciplined, numbers make arrangements & management more difficult - Forty women, living closely packed in narrow quarters under new discipline & in a barrack - women too whose tempers & habits are unknown - present great obstacles
to management Those who send them should well consider what are the circumstances - & what the cost & hardship of sending women home who may not suit the work - & what the consequent result of working with bad tools -

The latent opposition of the Army Surgeon can only be augmented & stimulated, if he be annoyed by too great numbers, by inefficient people (as to nursing) & by indefinite rules - And both the female superintendent & the Medical Chief of the Hospitals may be employed in soothing acerbities & smoothing difficulties which might have been wholly avoided -

What I fear is this (of which there are already incipient indications)

viz. that the whole system of female Nursing in Military Hospitals may be brought into ridicule & disrepute, if it be not restricted in the numbers placed together & be not guarded by definite rules under these new circumstances - as existing at this date, viz 1st May.

Believe me, dear Sit
Yours truly
Florence Nightingale

B. Hawes Esq M.P.
Secretary &c &c
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
5 March 1855

My Lord
I had the honor to reply by

[14:161-62]

last post to your despatch of February 15th, x 1855, & to refer to the instructions given me upon coming out as Superintendent of Nurses, 19 Octr, 1854. At that time, £1000 credit was given me at Sir John Kirkland’s which my bankers have drawn at various times, except £13. 9. 0, which, as you desire, I shall pay to the Purveyor here - But your expression is, “advanced (viz £1000) by the Public to Purveyor = in = chief at Scutari.” - I am not informed of any advance to him, & conclude it to be the £1000 paid by Sir John Kirkland which is meant that being the only credit which I have been informed of as having been given to me -
With regard to the account sent in, I have already remarked (last post) that only a part is “for current expenses & wages of Nurses”. (the expressions of the instructions) As to my account for February, I shall send in to Purveyor that part coming under these heads, - & the rest of the Account, not being “wages & current expences,” as hereafter directed - And I await your orders as to the last account, (viz that for January) sent before your late despatch arrived.

As Miss Stanley’s party was not consigned to me, I can only take Miss Stanley’s accounts & vouchers, as she gives them to me for expences at Therapia & Koulalee, where such [Koulali] of the party have resided who have not joined me at Scutari or been sent by me to Balaklava. I have advanced her money since she came. Until your despatch referring to her,
I have had no authority to ask for her accounts, nor have I received any from her.

Miss Stanley informs me that she had not the contracts with the Nurses & that these were left in London - that she knows nothing precisely of their claims, nor did she arrange any plan for paying those who went back - I can only refer to those who made the contracts with them.

I am informed that the Smyrna Hospital is provided with Nurses, & a separate management established - I beg to be distinctly instructed what authority I am deemed to have over the Scutari Hospitals, as regards the Sisters & Nurses generally as well as over the Hospital at Balaklava, & those at Koulalee - And in what way I am to be provided with means to meet their expenses current & extras - and whether I am deemed to have

the same authority over the whole & each individual as over those who came out with me - always, of course, under the restriction of subordination to the Inspector-General & chief Medical authorities as pointed out in my original instructions.

I have the honor to remain,

my Lord,
your Lordship’s obedt servt
Florence Nightingale

To the right Honble
Lord Panmure
 Minister of War
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

National Archives, signed letter, 6ff, pen {archivist: 155656/66}
FN hand WO 43/963 83483 ff205-08

Barrack Hospital
Scutari
April 2/55

Sir

I have the honor to request that, for the reasons subjoined, you will be pleased to dissever my duties as “Superintendent of Nurses “in the British Hospitals “in Turkey” from those of the Superintendent of the greater & lesser Hospital at Koulale

& also to modify the only instruction I have received, viz providing the Sisters at Koulale with money [koulali] &c - by orders on the Purveyor-General at Scutari. - in order that the Superintendent of Koulale may be independent of me & that I should be in no way responsible for the conduct and expenditure of those Sisters.

I am bound to trouble you with my reasons for
the above request, which
are - Miss Stanley leaves
Constantinople for England
today. I have hitherto
arranged with her the
distribution of those she
brought with her, & in
obedience to the instructions,
supplied her with means.
Among the eight nurses
sent out, who arrived
here on the 27th March,
was one destined for
the Superintendency of
Koulale. I sent her
[koulali]
immediately on her arrival,

at Miss Stanley’s request,
to Koulalee, & after 24
hours, Miss Stanley sent
her back to me, writing that
she did not consider her
adapted for the situation-
It appears, from letters
received by the Ambassadress,
that a party of twenty five
Sisters & Nurses are
immediately to be expected
to arrive at Koulale
with a Superintendent -
As indefinite relations,
with Koulale, under
these circumstances, are
exceedingly perplexing,
I have resolved upon making the above request, which I take the liberty of pressing upon your immediate attention -

I had requested, in my letter in March last, that the number of eighteen Nurses should be sent to make up the number for this & that Hospital respectively for Koulale to twenty-five & for Scutari to forty to fifty, according to the number of Invalids -

It appears that the opinions of the authorities at home as to the relative proportions of Sisters, Ladies & Nurses as well as to numbers are different from mine.

I need not, however, say any more on that subject than that I heartily wish that each experiment at Koulale & Smyrna may have the success hoped for.

I remain, Sir,
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale

B. Hawes Esq MP
Under Secretary of the War Department

P.S. The eight Nurses, including the Presbyterians, forwarded by the War Office to this Hospital, arrived here on the
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

27th of March in good health. Assuming the Ambassadress’s intelligence to be true (of the expected arrival of the twenty five at Koulale) I presume that the eighteen which I requested to serve in both places, including the eight now arrived, will not be sent, as I have now no room for them. [end 14:176]
Dear Sir,

Having now had an opportunity of examining myself into the condition of the Sick & Wounded here & hearing the opinions of the Medical Officers here, I hope you will allow me to trouble you with a few words about Female Nurses. I arrived here a week ago with three of my Scutari Nurses, (as we had then every probability of having wounded immediately) - in order to reinforce the eight Nurses whom I had previously sent here - to serve in the General Hospital, - now containing about 200 sick & recently, in the Castle Hospital or Sanitarium, now containing about 110 wounded & 80 sick - The prospect of Wounded is now indefinitely postponed - But, even in the case of any great & sudden emergency, there would be no lack of Nurses - as I could spare any number from Scutari, for whom accommodation, in wooden huts or otherwise, could be made here - at least, twenty could be spared - 50 being my present number at Scutari & Balaclava - of whom I have at this moment 39 at Scutari 11 Balaclava

50

It has been now announced as Lord Raglan’s intention to keep his wounded, should there be unfortunately
such, in the Crimea - & to provide accommodation for them here - to the extent of about 2500 x

I would earnestly deprecate the sending out any more “female troops” at present - for any of the existing Hospitals - I would point out that the number is far too large under existing circumstances, - the proportion of Convalescents being, I am thankful to say, in every Hospital from 1/3 to 9/10. The attendance of females upon Convalescents is obviously objectionable - I could work the Scutari Hospitals at present better with twenty than with forty Nurses - And I am informed by the Principal Medical Officer of Balaclava that he considers 10 - 12 Nurses here, at present, amply sufficient - I have x to the extent of viz. 700 Sanitarium 1060-1590 Regimental Huts

huts about to be erected at

200 General Hosp; besides the

620 Transports

[missing page filled in by LM]

therefore, a reserve of twenty for a battle or an assault, whom I could bring up from Scutari at any moment. The health of the Army is admirable - We have a few cases of fever only, a few of Cholera.

To place women in the Regimental Hospitals could, of course, never be contemplated or permitted.

But, as there has been much irresponsible action in this matter of sending out female Nurses to the Army, action too upon partial information, - I have thought it desirable to express strongly to you an opinion founded upon present circumstances - & supported by all the Army Medical Officers.

I remain, Sir,
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

B. Hawes, Eq M.P.
Secretary
Immediate

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a Copy of a letter, addressed by the Purveyor at Balaclava to the Purveyor at Smyrna — & which was sent to me to explain the arrival of two Nurses, who came from Smyrna to Scutari in consequence of that Requisition — of which I was wholly uninformed till they arrived, & which, it will be seen, promises them wages WITHOUT SPECIFYING WHO IS TO PAY THEM —

It is obvious that it is highly inconvenient & perplexing in the conduct of the business of my (or any) other Department.
to have others thus interfering and making arrangements unknown to me & of which I do not approve.

I therefore would beg humbly to suggest to the War Office to give the necessary instructions to the Inspector-General of Hospitals, Dr. Hall, in accordance with those previously given to myself, to the effect that all Requisitions and arrangements relative to the Nurses for the Crimea & Scutari Hospitals should pass through my hands.

In the present instance, I had already despatched three Nurses to the Crimean Hospital in question,* at Dr. Hall’s request, before the arrival of these from Smyrna.

I had settled, also, the rate of wages which they were to receive.

* viz. the Monastery Hospital which was placed under my Superintendence at Dr. Hall’s own request from myself, & I would recall attention to the fact that, in the printed Rules & Regulations for all these Hospitals, it is ordered that the Nurses, shall receive their wages only through the Superintendent=Genl

I have the honor to be

Sir

your obedt servt

Florence Nightingale

B. Hawes Esq

Deputy Secretary at War
Sir,

I beg to enclose a letter which I have received from the sister of Miss Ann Clarke, one of the ladies employed with me in the East, whose names have been already sent in to you, with reference to your distribution of the Sultan’s gift -

As, in regard to those

Ladies who received remuneration from the War Department for their services, which was the case with Miss Ann Clarke, I have made no direct suggestion to the War Department as to its method of distribution, I do not feel myself at liberty now to request you to alter whatever method of distribution you may have determined upon - I will, therefore, beg to refer Miss Jane Clarke to you for her answer to the reference to me enclosed -

I have the honor to be

Sir

your obedt servt

Florence Nightingale

The Deputy Secretary at War
Sir

Having found that Mr. Fitzgerald’s “Confidential Report” was “confidential” only from myself, & has already ceased to be so in the Crimea, I have the honor to forward to you a Statement, written by my Superintendent, at the Castle Hospital, Balaclava - addressed to myself, - & to request that you will urge, as she desires, that a Copy of the Purveyor’s “Confidential Report “ be transmitted to her through me -

Whatever the Inspector = General of Hospitals in the Crimea may consider his duty as to allowing an Expenditure, considered by him excessive, to be continued for eight months by my Superintendent of Nurses in the Crimea, - without making any mention of it at all to the person, appointed by the War Office, - (namely myself), - under whose control it was placed - & then reporting it “confidentially” to the War Office - I consider it my duty, & have always made it my practice, rigidly to “overhaul” my Superintendent’s expenditure,

Lt. Colonel Lefroy

Royal Artillery
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

& therefore I now furnish the enclosed Statement & pray to be called upon to furnish any others which may be considered requisite for the elucidation of this point. [end 14:323]

I have the honor to be

Sir,
Your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale
To Lt. Colonel Lefroy
Royal Artillery

National Archives, signed letter, 6ff, pen (official stamp: WAR DEPARTMENT HORSE GUARDS RECEIVED FEB 7 1856) FN hand, WO 43/963 ff310-14 blue paper

Scutari
Barrack Hospital

[14:319-22]

Jan 28/56

Sir
On Jan 21, I forwarded to you, for the information of the War Office, a Copy of a Letter addressed by me to Lt. Colonel Lefroy, – being my Commentary on an Official Letter from Dr. Hall, & a “Purveyor’s statement” or “Confidential Report”, relied on by him I have since received a letter from my Local Superintendent, Mrs. Shaw Stewart, at the Castle Hospital, Balaclava, which seems to me of sufficient importance to be added to that Despatch. The following is the Extract of all that is necessary from Mrs. Shaw Stewart’s Letter –

“Castle Hospital
Balaclava
Jan 21/56

“My dear Miss Nightingale
“The extras supplied from your Extra Diet Kitchen here are – (of course some days one or more items are often omitted) – as per list of Purveyor’s Steward sent in daily & filled up according to the Diet Rolls –

1. Preserved Meat 8. Sago
3. Essence of Beef
4. Rice Puddings
5. Fowls
6. Milk
7. Arrowroot

10. Preserved Salmon
11. Butter
12. Oatmeal (for Porridge or Gruel)

B. Hawes Esq
all by express order of Purveyor,  
“because they are so much better 
done in your Extra Diet Kitchen.”

Of the above
1. Preserved Meat are issued by the
2. Mutton Chops Steward, according
3. Essence of Beef to each day’s Diet
5. Fowls Rolls. I see them
6. Milk delivered, & take
9. Beefsteak charge of their
10. Preserved Salmon cooking, but do
not draw or require them - This I
expressly settled
with the Purveyor -

The items
7. Arrowroot & the wine used for these
8. Sago
12. Oatmeal
I draw for - as, by this, a large 
saving is made for the Queen -
instead of using the allowance the 
“Regulations” order, which would be only 
wasted on the men -
11. Butter - is the Queen’s, placed 
in my charge, without my asking it, 
by the Purveyor - I issue ½ lb weekly -
(not 2 oz. daily - as the Medical 
Officers prescribe in the Diet Roll)
to each man, viz. of the bad cases, for 
whom the Medical Officers order it. 
The Queen’s gift thus goes farther & the men have an ample allowance. 
This item is new & exceptional. 
Until the Queen’s cask was delivered 
to me, the only Butter the Patients 
had, here or at Balaclava, & they 
had a good deal, was yours - Also 
the Nurses never had any Butter 
but yours.
4. Rice Puddings - I draw the rice “en masse” - instead of using or wasting the over-large allowance of the “Regulations”. The Steward issues Eggs & Milk for them, according to the Diet Rolls.

Your Extra Diet Kitchen also supplies barley water & lemonade - I draw for these two “en masse” - I also draw, “en masse”, for the Sugar, Salt, Pepper, used in the Extra Diets.

You told me, in May, that the Government desired to supply every thing (or nearly every thing) in the War-Hospitals, & to render unnecessary private gifts - With this tallied the orders I received very soon after I arrived here, viz. at the Castle Hospital, April 25/55 to separate the Nurses from the Patients’ Requisitions. - & the supervision exercised over my requisitions here - which was never done at the General Hospital, Balaclava - viz. that of their being countersigned by the Principal Surgeon. I thought both innovations fair & self-evidently fair. The Purveyor-in-Chief objected to my having my Requisitions for the Nurses so counter-signed - & I begged him to leave that matter, as the Inspector-General had ordered it. Let the Queen supply Her Hospitals, & let Her inspect narrowly & “over-haul” closely the drawings which sub-Superintendents make upon Her stores for Her service. Let the authorities call me to account (& I can quite answer) for the consumption of the Extra Diet.
As to the Nurses’ consumption, that, I can prove as well as assert, from the Purveyor’s own requisitions, if the genuine papers are forthcoming, as I suppose they are, to have been, throughout, rigidly moderate, for women of their own class – One reason though not the principal, why I have been & am afraid of ladies, lay or ecclesiastical, coming here is that I know that it would be difficult to satisfy them with our very plain frugality – No reduction can properly or economically (for there would be no economy in underfeeding & laying up women wanted for work) be made in their living – I respectfully submit that, here again, it would be better to let the Queen maintain Her own Nurses – “over-hauling” most rigidly the sub-Superintendent’s draughts upon Her stores in doing so –

We have sugar, butter, soap, wine, brandy &c of yours in hand for the present – I can apprize you in time, if you wish it, for you to send more when more are wanted. But I cannot but think that Her Majesty should feed, light & warm Her Majesty’s Nurses –

Suffer me once more to ask you to procure for me the Purveyor’s “Confidential Report”. I suspect that some items may be more in my power to refute than in yours even – For you are charged with many affairs Those of the Castle Hospital and, for
some months, of the General Hospital, Balaclava, lie in a narrow scope, & therefore possibly I could refute them, to you, better than you –

I have never drawn one lb. of Arrow-root for Nurses – Nor one bottle of Port *

*excepting

But I draw Port for the sick Officers, specifying it was for them, under the head of Nurses – & their loaves & meat went drawn at the beginning order – not withstanding my objections to

this jumble which I repeated to the Purveyor=Chief, when here, & of which I replaced.

F. Nightingale I told to the P. M. O. You will remember this I have not the slightest fear of the most searching “over=hauling” of my expenditure, either for Nurses or Patients. Only let it be an “over=hauling”, not a garbling, which, I support, the Purveyor, Mr. Fitzgerald, has done – Let me, I entreat of you, see his Report.

The Numbers of Patients are an item when comparative expenditure is considered – When you were here, there were nearly 600 Patients, then 500 Patients – In the General Hospitals there were 150 –

Lt. Colonel Lefroy inspected this Hospital with Dr. Hall. I never saw him.

I believe this Purveyor’s “Confidential Report” is no secret to some Officials here –

x x x x x

It is always better, for the sake of one’s work, to know what is going on about it – more especially when, as now, others know –

Ever, my dear Miss Nightingale,
yours sincerely & faithfully

Jane C. Shaw Stewart –“
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

I think it will be perceived that the foregoing Statement not merely rebuts a considerable portion of the Purveyor’s “Confidential Report”, but also furnishes an important commentary upon the latter portion of Dr. Hall’s own Official Letter.

Taking it for granted that it is neither the wish of the Government nor of the people of England that the soldier in Hospital should - as Dr. Hall seems to desire, - go back to the condition of “any former war” - taking it for granted that he is to be treated with that ordinary decency & humanity which the improved feeling of the 19th century demands, & less than which will not be tolerated - I think, Sir, that the Government will see, in Mrs. Shaw Stewart’s statement, some reason for concluding that this treatment is supplied, not only more efficiently but also, more economically by the System which I have introduced than it could otherwise be.

I think it will also be perceived that I have now, if possible, still further grounds for requesting to be furnished with a Copy of the “Purveyor’s statement”, which, however, I suppose may already have been forwarded to me.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedt servt

To Florence Nightingale

B. Hawes Esq
Dy Secretary at War
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

National Archives, signed letter, 2ff, pen, FN hand WO 43/963, blue paper f347, stamped recd Mar 31 1856

Scutari
Barrack Hospital
March 17 1856

My Lord

I beg to acknowledge your letter of March 3, No. 155656/446 referring to mine of January 28, & conveying your Lordship’s intimation upon the subject of the Report of the Deputy Purveyor in Chief, Fitzgerald - a copy of which your Lordship does not think it needful now to be furnished to me, it not being in your Lordship’s opinion desirable to continue the discussion upon the cost or consumption of different Hospitals.

While I do not wish to press your Lordship further, at present, by urging my right to a formal copy of that document which I have already sufficiently characterized, I beg to state that many serious considerations beside & beyond the cost or consumption of different Hospitals were raised by Mr. Fitzgerald’s Report, & as that Report has
been made an Official
document & may possibly
come into other hands than
those of your Lordship, I wish
it to be distinctly understood
that, in case of any necessity
arising for its use, I leave
on record my assertion of
my right to be furnished
with an authentic copy of
the report in question,
though, in deference to your
Lordship’s desire, I do not
now press for it.

I have the honor to be
my Lord
your Lordship’s obedt servt
Florence Nightingale
The Right Honble
the Secretary of State for War

National Archives, 4 ff, printed rules and regulations for the
Nurses attached to the Military Hospitals in the East. 26 of
them. WO 43/963

I lists clothing; No Nurse is to expect any gift of clothing
beyond this.
II Nurses required to appear at all times in regulation dress,
ever wear flowers in bonnets, or ribbons...
III Nurses dismissed for misconduct will forfeit so much of their
regulation clothing as consists of gowns, cloaks and badges...to
supt
IV Wages and Allowances, wages, to be raised according to merit
at end of 3 months, 6 months and 1 year...rate to be stipulated
in form of agreement signed at time of appointment, through supt
V board, lodging, washing and travelling expenses to and from
hosps provided, re sick
VI Nurses discharged for misconduct will be paid only to the day
of their discharge, and will be sent home as third-class
passengers.
VIII No Nurse discharged for misconduct of any kind can be
engaged again for the Govt service.
VIII If any Nurse be found intoxicated, she will be at once
discharged, and her pay will immediately cease.
IX allowed one pint of porter or ale at dinner, half a pint of
porter, or a wine glass of wine, or 1 oz of brandy as she likes
best for supper. In case of constant attendance on cholera or
infectious fever, the supt may allow an extra quantity at her
discretion.
X Duties Each Nurse must engage, not only to do any kind of
nursing work, but also (whenever the Supt may think that from the
number or state of the patients her services are not required for nursing) to do needlework for the hospital, to cook, to assist in the cleaning of her own and the ladies apartment, to wash and iron her own clothes, and generally to discharge such other household duties as the supt may require.

XI No walking out except with housekeeper or a party of at least 3 nurses together, and never w/o leave previously obtained.

XIII engage to remain attached to hospitals at least one year, unless compelled by illness to return, in any of the hosps of the army in the East when required.

XIII Each Nurse must engage not to receive presents of any kind from any patient, rich or poor, and under no pretence whatever to accept any spirits, wine or beer from any person except as provided in art IX, on pain of immediate dismissal.

XIV It having been found that some of the Nurses have believed they were to be an equality with the Ladies or Sisters, it is necessary they should understand that they will remain in exactly the same relative position as that in which they were in England, and under the authority and direction of the Lady Supt or the persons acting under her.

XV All will be required to rise early, to be punctual at meals, to conform to the rules from time to time laid down, and sanctioned by the proper authorities, and to show great forbearance one towards another.

XVI Each Nurse will be required to sign an engagement binding herself to obey these rules and regulations.

N.B. These regulations (so far as they are applicable) will extend to all female servants employed under the Supt of each hospital.
Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel

LH/A/6/5 House Visitors book
now used for royals
FN signed as a house visitor, and then gave report of her visit; previously the directors had the right to tour wards, four times a year, this replaced by house visitors to cause less disruption.

FN: Dec 1 1856
I have just visited this Hospital & can truly say how admirable I consider its arrangements. Florence Nightingale

London Hospital Annual Report 1856 lists FN as Life Governor LH/A/15; FN was given a stave as a momento

Signed letter, Royal London Hospital Archives LH/A/23/87, pen

Scutari
Barrack Hospital
March 20 1856

Sir
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 5 & to request that you will be kind enough to convey my best thanks to the Governors of the London Hospital for the honor they have done me in entering my name on the List of Governors of that Institution.

It is an honor especially gratifying to me, since the objects of the Hospital are those which have been the strongest interests of my life
And to receive such a tribute of sympathy in these interests & of cordial feeling from an Institution, which commands the respect & admiration of all who have witnessed the manner in which it is conducted, is a peculiar satisfaction which I appreciate most highly & heartily -

If I live to return to England, when this work in which I am now engaged shall be at an end, I shall have great pleasure in receiving from the Governors of the London Hospital the documents mentioned in your letter & in hearing whatever they may have the kindness to say to me concerning that Hospital.

I have the honor to be
Sir
yours obedient. servt.
Florence Nightingale
Wm J. Nixon Esq
Secretary
Lea Hurst
Matlock
October 28/56

Sir

While I beg to offer my thanks to yourself & to the gentlemen whom you represent for the kind consideration expressed in your letter of Oct. 23, I must farther ask for that kind consideration in allowing me to decline any publicity or formality not absolutely necessary in the mode of reception of the honor & privilege which you have conferred upon me—Those who are favourably inclined to my work will best assist it by enabling me to proceed in all matters of business as unobtrusively as possible. Trusting to your kindly acceding to this wish, I shall take the liberty of making a farther communication to you when I come to London, which I expect to do very shortly.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your obliged & obedt. servt.
Florence Nightingale

Wm J. Nixon Esq.
Private

My dear Miss Lückes,

Since I wrote my first note of thanks, I have received your valuable "supplementary" papers on the views & actions of the B.N.A. "from the Nurses." & "point of view" for which I thank you with all my heart.

It is full of the most uncommon common sense & pertinent remarks on a subject important to all women—not only Nurses—especially now when women seem likely to take up many professions—but for none so important as that of Nursing.

Your phrase about its "DEGENERATING" "into a mere "profession" is particularly telling. We hear enough now—a days of "raising" it into a "profession." But yours is the true way.

I should like to hear you some day characterize the "different type of Nurse" "produced," as you say, "by each Hospital," & tell us what it is.

That women’s work must be the "sum of individual "effort" is, I am sure, tremendously true. We can no more
v

stamp a Nurse by a General
Register of a Certificate
than we can a sculptor or a
painter or an architect -
indeed much less - for these have to do with dead clay
or canvass or brick & stone
- while the Nurse has to do
with the living body & even
mind of the Patient. [blue und]

The Nurses must rise themselves & their
immediate authorities must raise them. And no General
Association with a Charter can do so tho’ it may lower them.

I have read your paper
most carefully. But if you
kindly allow I will
reserve anything to be said
about action -

The idea of the new-fangled people seems to be to put
Nurses on the level of
Dictionaries - a Dictionary
can answer questions.

v

Practically Hospitals do not
take their own Nurses from
among those who are known
chiefly as having well passed
a theoretical Examination.

And when we consider the
teaching of our Great Master
at this His Passion time
how perpetually He dwells
upon this that it is not
knowing doctrine but
bearing FRUIT that He
desires of us – & that the
former is nothing in His eyes
compared with the latter
- which is so eminently true
with regard to our Nursing
profession & art, we
may well be surprised that
in this Nineteenth Century,
the confusion should have
arisen between real training & theoretical Examination. [blue und]
It would be pitiful if we had to record the "rise and "fall" of Nursing in the Nineteenth century in England and of Nurse training.
Your noble work thro’ such great numbers & difficulties =may it go ever forward and may you see its progress under your hand

[in pencil]
Please excuse me that I have so delayed in answering your valuable documents. It has not been for want of thought - I have been, like you, much pressed I have more to say - but

will not longer delay my poor answer, to which I cannot add just now to your great kindness.
Pray believe me ever sincerely yours Florence Nightingale [end]

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/2 pen with stamped, cancelled envelope

June 22/89 [printed address] 10, South Street Park Lane, W. [12:529]

Private My dear Miss Lückes I was going to write to you to condole & to give you joy of the wise principles you have instilled in your pamphlet. The occasion which is indeed a thing not to rejoice at was none of our seeking.
Mr. Bonham Carter was very sorry not to be able to see you. He was so pressed for time. But as
he saw Dr. Steele
immediately afterwards
v
& agreed with him on the
form of the Memorial
he hopes that that will
be a help & a satisfaction
to you.
    He was on his way with
his wife to a much
needed holiday out of
England
It is really disastrous
the way the B.N.A. is
taking. If there is any
thing all of us desired
it was that we Nurses
should not be formed
into two hostile camps.
    God bless you. [end 12:529]
    ever most truly yours
Florence Nightingale

Signed letter, pencil, Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel
PP/Luc/1/3 with stamped, cancelled envelope (Claydon--Winslow
postmark)

Oct 17/89
[printed address] 10, South Street
    Park Lane, W. [12:535-36]

Dear Miss Lückes
    How can I thank you
enough for your most kind &
valuable letter of Sept 29 -
also enclosing copies of your
certificates with foot notes
& of the paper for each Nurse
leaving.
    I like to hear of your
"Supplementary Register" - &
admire your energy in the
good cause with your
great numbers!
"Responsibilities" of life &
of work do increase indeed, as you truly say, as life goes on. But how nobly you cope with them, & fight the good fight under the great Commander-in-Chief - May all blessings attend you & your work. Will you excuse my delay in answering & thanking you? I shall be in London again after a short absence next week, & then I hope to answer at greater length. My deep felt interest must not be measured by my shortness of words. Accept my sincere congratulations, my heart-felt good wishes for your work - & believe me ever yours most truly Florence Nightingale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/4, pen and pencil, black-edged stationery, with stamped, cancelled envelope (Claydon--Winslow postmark)

Claydon January 2/91  [13:146-47]
Private
My dear Miss Lückes You will well know how deeply moved I was by your kind letter as I have been all along by these troubles. And how earnestly I wished to return to London & see you before you go on your hardly earned holiday. But I have no chance of leaving here till after the middle of January - & so I look forward to see you on your return, brave friend,
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale 659
at 10 South St., where
letters will always find me.
I applaud your choice
of the Scilly Islands. I
have always thought how
much I should like to
nest there, with the
ever absorbing sea, and
no post. I wish there
were no post.

I pray for all the blessings
of the New Year that
Infinite Love can give
to one who has fought
so well - & as the first
elements of happiness that
yours & my first thoughts
each morning of the New
Year may be = Glory to
God in the highest, & on

earth peace, good will
towards men. And I am
sure you are acting that out.
Pray for me as I do for
you, O matron of matrons.
You will see that every
thing will turn out right,
tho’ with infinite toil to you,
but you have made an army
of friends, tho’ I hope not
of noisy ones. We leave
that to others.

[pencil]
I am interrupted.
Excuse this letter written
in haste but with all my
heart.

ever yours (& overflowingly)

Florence Nightingale

Keep your health. It is sacred. [end]
Feb. 14/91
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

Dear Miss Lückes

Thanks for your very kind note. I only hope you staid away long enough to get a fresh lease of health after all your troubles, so nobly borne.

In answer to your kind proposal to come & see me, I shall be delighted to have that pleasure.

Tuesday I think you are engaged. Wednesday

v

& Thursday I am afraid I am.

Would Friday or Saturday about 5 o’clock suit you (in this week,) But if they do not, will you kindly say what afternoon would be more convenient to you in next week

Pray believe me ever sincerely yours

Florence Nightingale

I saw our "Home Sister," Miss Crossland, the day before yesterday. And she talked to me about this fresh move of the "British Nurses’ Assocn." and you have kindly sent me at her request copies of the pamphlet, which are very useful.

You know of course that the meeting at St. Thomas’ is called for Friday 27. on this subject.

F.N.
PRIVATE

Dear Miss Lückes

Thank you for your most kind letter. As for the meeting on the 27th at St Thomas, it is unintelligible that an Invitation has not reached "Mr. Treves." But if he will go with you, and the other gentleman I think you mentioned Mr. Cobb, they will most certainly be admitted. As for "Mr. & Mrs. Perry" of Guy’s &c they have only to write to St Thomas’ that they wish to come to the Meeting. And an Invitation will be sent.

I will write to you about the "Wardmaids" as soon as I possibly can. I am very sorry not to have been able to do so before - Pray don’t be "discouraged," you who do God’s work so bravely.

& believe me ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale

I will write again - I am so interrupted.
But let me remind your wisdom always that the circumstances, the construction, almost every thing about the London St. Thomas' is so different that you can judge much better than we can suggest.

F.N.

I entirely agree with you about Mr Burdett’s scheme of a "Directory "for Nurses." Also: Mr. Burdett has been taking Mr. Bonham Carter’s name in vain.

Signed letter, black-edged, Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/7, with stamped, cancelled envelope

March 21/91
10, South Street [printed address] Park Lane, W.

PRIVATE
My dear Miss Lückes

Thanks for your letter. I feel what you feel - your disappointment - your hard work - the cruel injuries done to your work - But your work will last - depend upon that - & you have really no cause for disappointment. Opposition never did a good work harm yet - And we are told to "rejoice" when we are "despitefully used.

The personal & party feeling imported into Nursing, of all things in the world, is most distressing. And
the battle of the "kites & crows"
is nothing to it. "Oh the pity
of it."
2. I believe that the Provincial
Hospitals, about which you
write, have been far from
neglected. Saint Thomas, I
know, has sent out 130
letters to them. And other
measures have been & will
be taken. Thank you for
keeping all in mind. We
have heard nothing about
the B.N.A. advertising yet.
A good many "Doctors" as
you "trust," are against their scheme.
I hope the "Hospital Assocn."
on the other hand will not
press its "Official Directory."
The Germans laugh at us;
they say we have the Certificate
(& Register) disease in a
much more fatal epidemic
form even than themselves,
the most bureautic [yes] nation
in the world, who want that
magic little bit of paper,
a certificate, for every little
bit of a letter in the alphabet,
as they learn it.
3. The Pension Fund’s successful
efforts seem to continue. We
hear that 2 ½ p.c. is further
to be given to the Nurses -
Is this true? Might I ask
you what happens with you
when a Nurse leaves the
Hospital? Does she have any part of what the Hospital has paid for her? And when she has her own money back, is it without interest?

Has the London Hospital any idea of the average number of years Nurses remain with it or in the Nursing profession at all?

Do not trouble to answer any of these questions if they cost you trouble.

4. Let me wish you the Easter joy which I am sure you wish me - A relative of mine, the most sorely tried woman I know, wrote to me

2.

some little time ago, (alluding to the Collect on Advent Sunday), let us try to put on the "armour of light," joy, hopefulness, faith in God who is with right work, & put off what is not exactly the "works of darkness" but certainly the fruit of darkness, anxiety, doubt, distress - We shall not hasten the good result one whit by our hurry & anxieties: but by our patience

Forgive me for quoting her & believe me ever hopefully yours & your work’s

F. Nightingale
June 20/91
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
My dear Miss Lückes

I am so very sorry for your heavy troubles -
But take heart. If God takes away our friends, He means to help us Himself -
I have been so driven this week - But I should be so glad to see you next week, if you would mention a day when it would be convenient to you to come, as you kindly propose, about 5 or 6 p.m. or, if you could kindly give me the choice of two -

God bless you. And He will bless you -

ever yours faithfully
F. Nightingale
March 7/92
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

My dear Miss Lückes

Seldom have I felt greater pleasure than when I heard that your Quarterly Court of Governors had done its duty--passed a vote of confidence--and declared that it would receive no more repetitions of complaints.

I hope that it is all right--& that you have the satisfaction you so well deserve.

Give me a post-card, please; if you only put "Yes" upon it, I shall be grateful, even for a post-card.

This is a miserable business about the R. Charter--But I believe that right will win--Only it is such a waste of money, time & strength.

I hope you are pretty well. I have been so busy since my return that I have not had a minute I could call my own.

How busy YOU must be.
But I trust one great infliction has been taken off you--

God bless you & your work.

ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

Excuse pencil
June 7/92
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
My dear Miss Lückes
I was so very glad to hear from you, and to know that your quarterly court on Wednesday has passed off so well. I think that you may be well satisfied that the Governors are taking the tone which beseems them. I only wish that you yourself could get a little change & rest which you need - the Hospital cause, as well as all your friends need you so much-

We cannot feel certain of success before the Privy Council but at all events we are doing all we can. Whether we win or whether we lose it is a miserable business so much ill blood. But, whether we win or whether we lose, it will do the Hospitals who signed the Anti R. Charter petitions a great deal of good. If each one who signed would initiate for herself a full, true & particular
Register following out its Nurses’ careers for itself - how much would be done. This is decidedly our weak point. [I believe that besides yourselves, you might count perhaps on the fingers of one hand the Hospitals that keep official Registers.]

Another thing: the necessity for "Homes" where Private Nurses may live in the intervals of their engagements - where District Nurses may live= this is a difficult thing to manage for single District Nurses. But the degeneration of Private & District Nurses who live on their own foot is, I am afraid, incontrollable - These are considerations not in the sphere of the R.B.N.A., but if those who oppose it would take them into their sphere, how much good it would do. You have done all these things. [I only mention two]. But does it not cheer you to think how much influence you will have? Alas for the persecution you have suffered. But persecution is better for the cause than fashion, if only you will
try, dear friend, to keep
yourself well for our
sakes & for God’s sake.
He has attached a special
blessing to persecution,
Tho’ nobody feels it harder
for you than

yours ever sincerely
F. Nightingale

Have you any papers
that you could kindly
send me for a foreign
lady trained as a nurse
who very much wishes
for some months’ training
in a great London Hospital.
We cannot take her in -
Might I send her papers of

\(^v\)
yours? She is strongly
recommended.

[pencil]

I have not forgotten your
Private Nurses’ Report you
kindly sent me - It is very
useful. I have it safe -

F.N.
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/12
pen black-edged stationery, with stamped, cancelled envelope

Oct 26/94
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W. [13:150-51]

My dear Miss Lückes

Pray do not think I have forgotten - I am most anxious to see you first of all to see with my own eyes whether you are pretty well - & to hear what you propose with regard to teaching Probrs Anatomy, Physiology &c before they enter the Wards for practical training. It is a system I have always dreaded. But I have no doubt you will convert me.

The reason why I could not have the great comfort of seeing you was that my Doctor forbade my seeing any one which of course resulted in my having a long business interview with some one of our own people every day. But I did not dare to add one more so great interest to the List.

Now God speed you & your work, as the Almighty Father does ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale

I hope to see you please God, in about a month
F.N.

Pray excuse me
I have been so interrupted. [blue]
March 24/95
10, South Street  [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

PRIVATE
& CONFIDENTIAL
My dear Miss Lückes
I was so glad to hear
from you again & I shall be
so glad to see you again.
You ask me a very
difficult question about
your "Preliminary Training"
"School," because our circumstances
are so different from yours,
as you have kindly
explained to me, especially
that of your having four
separate wards under one
Sister who is more, you
said, of a Housekeeper than
a Head Nurse, as ours are.
My ("preliminary") remarks--
hoping to see you--will therefore
I fear, be of little use to you

v
1. Should we put our "Physiology,"
our "Bed making" our
"House maiding" as
"preliminaries" to our Ward
Nursing?
As to the "Physiology," we find
the growing tendency to be
that Matrons cannot
obtain sufficient WORKING
assistants, because these
ladies prefer physiology so
much to work -
& the same with Ward Sisters:
they cannot get Ward Sisters
who now the DETAIL
of Ward work -
the Physiology learning is
so much preferred to Ward work.
2. It seems to us that these vast numbers of Nurses mixed up with Probationers are the cause of the Heads not knowing the each Nurse sufficiently -

And we should like to put the 2nd year’s Probationers into the Probationers’ Home under the Home Sister.

She teaches the bed making, the tidy habits in the "Home," as part of the day’s work, which we think better than the other plan (In the "Home Probationers do their own rooms, & Home Sisters correct them & thus learn their character & powers. She also holds the classes.

We should like to turn "Tredegar House" into a Probationers’ Home & above all not separate any of the teaching from the Ward work - least of all the Physiology &c

A wise man says: "No practical knowledge is possible on any subject without the "meeting of the senses with "the material."

And we say: the only word that sticks is the word that follows work.

3. We are now inclining to put classes, Lectures & all literary teaching into the second half year & second year of the Probationers.

4. But as you have probably settled with Tredegar House, I would
venture to ask: 
would you not 
bring in Nurses 
who are weary, suffering 
from their feet, or from 
some other cause wanting 
change, from the Hospital 
into Tredegar House? [pencil] if they 
could be accommodated in addition to the Probationers 
& come in for one set of 
Lectures - Is it not just 
then that they want Lectures? 
[pen] II. Yes: I have seen Mr 
Burdett's "Nursing Directory"
I am glad you do not 
like it. There seems to me 
not one word in the 
Headings which characterize 
the Nurse - or which would

not do as well for the trained Inspector 
of Nuisances, or even in 
these days of "Technical"
Instruction for the 
dairy woman, the dress? 
maker or even the 
Plumber.

III. [pencil] I feel that I do not 
quite understand your paper 
--my own stupidity--
What is meant on p. 9 by 
the second paragraph: 
"Miss S. will be responsible 
"for instruction in practical 
"nursing on a carefully 
"devised plan"
In p. 1 & top of p. [illeg] 
"actual Nursing duties" in the 
Wards are referred to as
different from this
preliminary knowledge
And yet in p. 9 this latter
seems to be designated as
practical nursing.
   Perhaps the Sister in Charge
is intended also to supervise
the Probationers (after
admittance into the Wards)
in their "practical nursing."
   Has not some such plan
been proposed in some
large Infirmaries where
the Sisters were not
supposed to be competent
to train - And the Assistant
Matron was proposed to
train a certain number
of Probationers say for a few

hours in the morning a
day or two in the week
by the Ward bedside? But
can Probationers be trained otherwise
than by the Ward Nurses
at the head who is
always there? And should
anyone interfere between
her & her Probationers -
especially one who does
not know the Patients
as the Ward Head Nurse
does?
I feel again that I may be
making darkness
darker by not
remembering the different
position of your sisters.
   Forgive me.  

[end 13:152]
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/13 pencil

3
March 26/95 [26]
10, South Street
Park Lane, W. [printed address]

I trust that you are pretty well again.
I shall be so glad if you can make some appointment that will suit you to see me some afternoon - And I hope my business will not prevent me from accepting it some day -

God bless you -
the tenderest message one can send.

ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

Excuse pencil

Signed letter, pencil, black-edged, Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/14

May 11/95
10, South Street [printed address]

Park Lane, W.

Immediate
My dear Miss Lückes
I have been hoping for an appointment by your kindness for the last two months. But I have been so busy _ so I am sure have you -

You kindly said that Wednesday & Thursday were your best days to come out.

Would next Thursday 16th suit you?
But, first, may I ask
you a question?

You probably have not heard of our "Health Missioners" under Bucks County Council —Ladies trained by a very skilful & energetic Medical Officer of Health not only to lecture to cottage mothers on subjects of health but to respond to the invitations of cottage mothers (who come to the lectures) to show them in the cottages how to get fresh air, cleanliness, to diet their children well, &c &c &c

= cleanliness in the Back Yard, cleanliness in the person, as well as in the house.

They, the Health Missioners, have recently been inspected with the highest tribute as to their success—

But what I am now asked is this: (by the Chairman of the North Bucks Divisional Committee:)

"Cannot we send Miss Deyns for some months to a Hospital, and "pay for her to be "taught nursing? We "know she can lecture "& visit, & we know & "admire her character — "Let us pay for her to "be taught nursing, in "order that she may "return, & superintend "village nursing, or lecture 
"& visit, as we may require"

We cannot admit her at St. Thomas’ under these conditions. But I
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

2

have heard you say that you do not object to these short period -

I know Miss Deyns - she is an earnest, clever, good worker - a
gentlewoman in every sense of the word, & highly educated.

I am obliged to ask you kindly to answer this question at your earliest convenience - Miss Deyns has not been asked yet - But if you kindly consent to say “Yes” to the question of the N. Bucks Committee, you would not have to take her, of course, without seeing her -

There is nothing so imperious as a County Council - and these only give us till Thursday, when the Annual Meeting is held, to furnish them with all sorts of Reports

God bless you ever sincerely

F. Nightingale

Excuse pencil
August 14/95
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

My dear Miss Lückes
How good of you to take
Miss Deyns on Sept. 2 - I
hope you liked her when you
so kindly saw her - She is
well aware of the great
advantages you are so
kind as to offer her, &
will, I am sure, try to
profit by them. Thank
you again & again.

You asked me to enquire
whether there was any
difficulty in any of the
Hospitals I am intimately
acquainted with in getting

the Nurses to sit through
the dinner properly - None
whatever.
They always remain till
after the Grace returning
thanks has been said,
unless an operation or
some similar thing makes
it necessary for them to
go before the end of the
meal, when they ask
leave of the Matron -
The Matron or Assistant
Matron or both preside
each at the head of a
table, or in the case of
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale 680

Probationers the "Home" Sister.

Thank you for all the papers you have been so kind as to send me -

I shall be very anxious to learn what you think of the results of the Preliminary Training.

Are you pretty well? I am afraid you are always overworked, dear friend -

ever sincerely yours

F. Nightingale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/16 pencil

Oct 5/95

10, South Street [printed address]

Park Lane, W.

My dear Miss Lückes

I received your kind letter about poor Miss Deyns late yesterday afternoon, & lost no time in getting a letter written to the Chairman .

To you I was just going to write before I received yours to ask how Miss Deyns was going on.

You have been so kind to her - And I am so grieved at her disappointment & the trouble to you -

But I trust it will all come right, as far as is possible -

Need we trouble ourselves as to where it was ‘caught’? We have a Probationer at this moment at St. Thomas’ with Scarlet Fever in our ‘Infectious’ Block We had no Scarlet Fever in our Wards - Is it not true that with the
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

first rains after the hot weather is over we must expect Scarlet Fever since much that is insanitary about London is beyond our individual reach to cure?

Miss Crossland told me of their going to your Opening Day. She was highly pleased with your ‘Home.’
I hope you are pretty well & not very much worked.

It is the earnest prayer of yours ever
F. Nightingale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/17 pencil, draft 45814 ff171-72

April 27/97
10, South Street [printed address] Park Lane, W. [13:193]

Private
My dear Sir
I cannot say how grateful I am for the various informations you have been so kind as to give me.

The Matronship of St. George’s Hospital seems a very complicated question: the "Rules" for the Matron are vexatious - And it never can answer to make the "Weekly Board" or the "Nursing committee" Matron, in the sense of lessening
her (the Matron’s) authority & responsibility -

Your information seemed
to clinch the nail —viz
that the manager of the
Hospital were 800 Governors
who might any or all
on an "open Board" contribute
their help (?) in the management
"The late Matron of the
"Radcliffe Infirmary" had
quite given up her
candidature [I had
communicated to her your
valuable information

without of course mentioning
you] Now she rather seems
to wish to renew it.

With regard to Miss Morgan
of the "London," I know
no reason why she should
not apply, except that I
should not wish a friend
of mine to take a berth
at sea in a gale.

I devoutly hope she
won’t succeed, both for
her own sake & Miss Lückes’.
I don’t at all succumb to
Miss Lückes’ dictum, that
she wishes her to stay -
"for her convenience"
& therefore ought not -
It is for the London’s
"convenience-
[Miss Morgan is a great
deal too good for St. George]

I have delayed answer
=ing your kind note of
April 24, because I wished
to collect all my facts
And while putting them,
as I have done, before
an applicant who asks
my advice, I always feel
that of course I have no
Convent of Mercy, Kinsale

2
right to prevent
her from applying

Thank you very much
for being so courteous
towards us

yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

Excuse pencil
Honbl. Sydney Holland

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/18 pencil

[6:220]

May 15/97
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

My dear Miss Lückes

Many thanks for your
& Mr. Holland’s most kind
letters & (type written) enclosure
You well know my desire
to meet your & his wishes -
I sympathize most deeply
with all you are doing
for practical Nursing.

But a mere réchauffée
of the Chicago Article
by myself would hardly
be appropriate - And if
I am to revise & add
to my own production

v
to any good purpose,
I shall hardly be able to do it to your satisfaction
or my own without
considerable time &
trouble - And we are
under severe pressure of
work.

But if to be given to
the public again as one
of several essays like
Chicago Women’s Mission,
of what avail is it?
You cannot think how it
grieves me to seem to
refuse anything that you ask - But is the Earl Court Exhibition a channel thro' which I could wish or expect to bring to bear influence on the subject of Nursing? You work a great deal too hard, my dear friend, already -

What if I were to say that I would write a few lines of preface to a paper by yourself? You might give as many bonâ fide Extracts as you liked from the Chicago Article.

I do not quite understand your & Mr Holland's objection to you writing, on the score that you would offend other Hospitals - You are not going to say: 'You shall be hung unless you adopt my system of night nursing' - not to mention that it is that of many a Hospital besides your own- indeed, I should have thought that of the majority.

I can answer for St Thomas not being offended, any more than I could be offended = We should rather fear you than you us.

And indeed I must cry you mercy both that I am not able to do your bidding as I should so much like & that I have been so long in saying so. But I could not help it.
I will ask you to be so very kind as to tell Mr. Holland with my apologies heartfelt & thanks—

And I pray those solemn words: God bless you --And He does bless you --but He says to you: don’t work so hard at night, my child beloved.

Forgive me & believe me ever yours sincerely & lovingly

F. Nightingale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/19, with stamped cancelled envelope

Nov 1/97

10, South Street [printed address] Park Lane, W.

Dear Miss Lückes

It is long since I have seen or heard from you— I hope you are pretty well.

Could you be so very kind as to tell me [my "man of business" Mr Bonham Carter is abroad for his holiday] what is the nature of the Certificate you give. Has it a line printed at the bottom to say ‘this must be revised every year.’ And do you get them revised every year, in order to avoid the well-known uselessness of Certificates?

I shall be very much beholden to you if you will kindly tell me what are the precautions you wisely take about this much vexed question
of certificates, which seems to increase in importance every day -
If the Public were aware of the value or valuelessness of Certificates, it would not signify -
Excuse the trouble I give you ever yours affectionately
Florence Nightingale

Signed letter Royal London Hospital Archives, Whitechapel PP/Luc/1/20 pencil, with stamped, cancelled envelope

Dec 1/98
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
Dear Miss Lückes
How kind of you to send me your "General Nursing," which I received this morning, & have dipped into already. It is most interesting & most profitable reading & I shall read it diligently.

v
I am sure it will be of the greatest use to us Nurses - I wish I could call myself in the practice of Nursing now- nothing is so delightful as to nurse -Ever since I was a child I have felt it so. I hope I shall see you before very long
It is so kind of you to offer it.
Just now I am very much ‘hors de combat’ with a cough which comes on with the smallest movement.
I hope you are not "burning the candle "at both ends" - day & night too. Pray don’t be more naughty than you can help.
Are you very, very busy this Christmas month? I hope you have a good helper—ever yours F. Nightingale God bless you.

Luc/1/9 envelope, stamped, cancelled for 29/12/91 One envelope no stamp, 26/2/1901 and another no stamp, no date

Then follows correspondence from Miss Lückes

Also in collection: letter 6th May 1881 to Nurses and Probationers at St Thomas’s Hospital, printed handwriting, also a slightly different typescript

Speech by Lord N in House of Lords on dedication of statue of FN re Lord Pembroke, and statue of his father Lord N on nursing board of Army

Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, corr of FN with Quetelet photocopy black-edged

35 South Street
Park Lane
Londres W
le 8 Novembre
1872

Mon cher Monsieur Quetelet
Je suis on ne saurait être plus louchée et reconnaissante de ce que vous avez pris la peine de m’écrire et de votre bonne et aimable letter du 6, qui m’est parvenue hier. Il me sera le plus grand honneur de recevoir de la main même de l’illustre Auteur un exemplaire de votre “physique sociale,” ainsi que de votre “Anthropométrie,” A Monsieur Quetelet &c &c &c
12 juillet 1872
My dear Mrs. Cheadle,

You must have thought
me very dilatory in
answering your most
kind note about Miss
Deyns going for 6 months’
training as Health Missioner
to the “London” Hospital
under Miss Lückes.
But there was much to
ascertain: Miss Lückes’ own
wishes in trying this
experiment:& to see Mr
Frederick Verney & have
something in writing from
him

an experiment, well
thought out, as Miss Deyns
is aware, tried by Miss
Lückes’ kindness for our
sakes.

Pray believe me
with many, many thanks,
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
My dear Sir,

You were so very kind as to wish to see me to explain the ‘lie’ of the ground for your proposed Liverpool R. Infirmary buildings before I trouble you with my "suggestions"

Unexpectedly I find that I could see you, if you would do me that favour, to-day, Tuesday, 15 5 or at 6. in order to ask my ignorant questions-

If you find it possible to come this afternoon, I will keep your plans till then, with your kind leave.

A verbal answer, please-

Pray excuse this pencil note & believe me your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
A. Waterhouse Esq

May He who was on the Cross & who loves us better than we can love one another be with you in all your sickness every moment.

F. N.

Xmas Day
March 29/88
I can but rejoice that it has pleased God our kind Father to take your mother, my friend, home—How blest for her—Thank God you were with her at the last—It would be such a comfort to her—God bless you I am too ill to write more F. Nightingale I should like to hear more particulars of her death.

Mrs Broomhead: And that God may bless her New Year 1883 whatever is His will for her is Florence Nightingale’s earnest prayer New Year’s Eve 1882
University of Wales, Bangor 692

Signed card, Lea Hurst, pen

I wish you a happy new year
May God shall supply
all your needs according
to His riches in glory by
Christ Jesus Phil IV.19
[FN hand on v]
Mrs Broomhead
with F. Nightingale’s
fervent prayers
that our loving Father will be with
her in all her pain
& sleepless nights
& give her peace & joy.
Pray for us that the child Jesus may
be born anew in all our hearts.
Xmas Day
1883

Signed letter Lea Hurst, pencil [1:771]

10 South St. W.
Jan 19/85
Dear Mrs. Broomhead
I do feel so very much
for you at losing your son
in the house, tho’ he is not
gone very far from you,
yet it is not the same as
having him at home.
And you so suffering!
I am sure that kind Mr
Wildgoose must have been
very, very sorry to find
himself under the necessity
of consenting to this, as well,
as one or two others, who had
served their apprenticeship as Mechanics, being sent away. But it must be a comfort to you to know that there was no fault; on the contrary that especially Samuel is a good steady young man, Mr. Wildgoose however having obtained him a situation with the firm at Loughboro’ who make the machinery, it is well for him in that respect.

He ought to make even more money there than he did here. I should hope therefor that your son will be able to do as well for you, & he will not be so very far away.

The young men are, I believe, all lodging together with a Christian woman. And this must make the blow less hard to you.

Our loving Almighty Father knows what it is to you not to have him at home. He will keep you as the ‘apple of His eye.’

“I heard the voice of Jesus say ‘Come unto me & rest:
‘Lay down, thou weary one
‘Lay down
‘Thy head upon my breast.’”

My eyes & health are so bad that I can only write this pencil brief letter. God bless you ever

With deepest sympathy yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
Signed letter Lea Hurst, pencil

October 15/98
[printed address] 10, South Street
Park Lane, W.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Ford
May all blessings attend
your Baby, dear little
thing-& most of all
the blessings we hope
for at its christening.
And I always think
of Mr. Ford’s success
in his School & his
care & thought for the
children’s after life
& bless God for his
being there.

v
and may the little boy
now to be admitted
into Christ’s flock
reward Mr. Ford’s labours
is the earnest prayer
of
yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

If Mr. Ford will let
Mrs Parrack have the
cup after the christening
we will have the name
put on
F.N.
Cup has date Oct. 16 ’98 Owen Stanley Ford Christened Oct. 16 ’98,
Miss Nightingale
Lea Hurst Books:

Catherine Marsh, *The Rift in the Clouds*. London: James Nisbet 1879 [1871]. Preface says these are true stories to tell that God is love. Beckenham Rectory, Kent.

Pencil inscription:
For
dear Mrs. Broomhead
with
Florence Nightingale’s
love & truest prayers
for the peace & comfort of
God
upon her in this year
& for all time & eternity
   New Year’s Day: 1881
Read "An Old Man’s Grief."
& "An Old Man’s Joy."
page 21 and page 39.

[p. 21
p. 39 has poem by author of "Schönberg-Cotta Family
Come and rejoice with me!
I was so sick at heart,
Have met with one who knows my case,
And knows the healing art.

Lea Hurst, another Marsh book:

FN annotation in pencil:
For
dear Mrs. Broomhead:
and that this coming year
may be one of God’s true
happiness to her
whether in this world
or in a better world
is the fervent prayer
of
Florence Nightingale
New Year’s Day
1881
University of Wales, Bangor

One Hundred Choice Hymns in large type
Edinburgh: James Taylor 1879.
with pencil annotation
  Mrs. Broomhead
with Florence Nightingale’s
  love
from a friend
  & fellow pilgrim
Lea Hurst Nov 12/79

Lea Hurst, Annotations in the Army Hospital Services Inquiry Committee, much underlining
p. 403 evidence by Brig-Surg O. Barnett, C.I.E. 12 Jan. 1883
pencil annotation:

Barnett: one of the very best men they have
The want of that organization in Sanitary things between Q.M.G., R.E. & Medical (Sanitary) Depts which Sidney Herbert’s & indeed their own Regns of 1879 established. The fever in the Citadel Hospl, Cairo, was actually passing into Typhoid, because they had no means of removing the excreta but burying them close to the walls.
And nothing of this was arranged for at once
  [They were not fighting]
They were not marching
They were stationary in Cairo.
They waited for a requisition to supply what was necessary as food
And then they did not supply it.
This is Crimea all over
Lea Hurst, Matterhorn card 1882 to Mrs Broomhead

card to Mrs Broomhead with Florence Nightingale’s very best wishes for Epiphany 1886,

10 South St. August 17 1886
Dear Mrs Broomhead

I think of you so often and pray God for strength and comfort for you. I am afraid you are very suffering. I often hear of you from Dr Dunn, Mr Bratby and Mr Yeomans and others. Pray for me too for I am heavy laden. (Sue Laurence)
Lea Hurst: Cromford: Derby  
Sept 21/82

Dear Mr. Rathbone

I am so sorry to be out of London. But I have written to London for “books” & “information” & “advice”, if anyhow I could be of the least use in the terrible Bangor epidemic to you.

And let me not lose this opportunity of thanking you most gratefully for your everlasting kindness (which I do scruple to accept) in sending me the beautiful flowering plants,

which I stopped on August 26, & for five weeks previously when I was away. I cannot be grateful enough to you for this unceasing kindness. But I must not encroach upon it any longer.

Joy that the war in Egypt is over. Mr. Childers says that the troops, “thanks to sobriety & plenty to do,” have actually been “more healthy than in England.”

You know perhaps that we sent out Nurses in haste

ever most gratefully & faithfully yours

F. Nightingale
Dear Mr. Rathbone,

I have asked “advice & “information” of our Army Sanitary Commissn in London, relative to the Bangor Typhoid. The best book about English enteric fever, Dr. Sutherland says, is Dr. Murchison’s treatise on continued Fevers, which states cautiously one side of the case. And therefore I have sent it from London, as you asked for books: tho’ Dr. Murchison’s (which I make a standard book among our Nurses), treats the thing far too medically for your purpose, I think.

I am also desired to send you, which I do by this post, the latest & by far the best information on the subject in Dr. Marston’s paper in the Army Med: Dep: Report - Appendix No II - p. 238. But again the same objection holds, I think Because The Bangor epidemic belongs to the Local Govt Board work, & it is better for the Army San: Comm: & also for yourself not to appear to interfere with their responsibility, I send this Vol as from myself to you.
If we may advise, ask for the Inspector’s Report to be sent to you, & also for an account of any Sanitary measures adopted after the inspection.

We mention this because our custom is to direct the works pari passu with {at an equal pace -GW} the inspection & not to wait for the Report. [In our last case at Dublin, after summing up at the end the works required, our last Paragraph said that of these measures all had been either taken or were in the process of being carried out.]

And there has been no more fever.]

To you it is superfluous to say that it is a great mistake to wait to draw up a fine report: for the whole object is to save life, and the Inspector ought to direct the measures on the spot.

As to the water-poison theory, - that must, of course, be proved by proving the transmission of the enteric fever poison - not by the occurrence of Typhoid fever cases. [In India not a single enteric fever case has been traced to
enteric fever poison either in or out of water; and as there are no sewers there is no sewer gas.] I am told by One of our Army San. Commrs, who has been several times at Bangor, says, that, supposing the Water theory unproved, he would feel disposed to look very carefully at all the house closets & pipes, & also to the street drains, and whether the subsoil is dry & clean.

If, quietly between you & me, you would think well to communicate to me such facts as these, & allow me to get you an opinion from such authorities in London, I should be only too happy if I could be of the least use.

This Bangor Typhoid is so disastrous a thing that we are thankful you have gone to the spot. It is like yourself -

Pray believe me in some anxiety about you ever yours faithfully & gratefully

Florence Nightingale
PRIVATE Oct 2/82

Dear Mr. Rathbone

The papers you kindly sent me about Bangor are intensely interesting. Any remarks that I venture to make on them must of course rest solely on what the facts are & on nothing else.

1. Up to a given date there were/seem to have been 141 cases & 8 deaths or one death to 17 ½ cases. The usual mortality of enteric fever is about 1 in 6.

It would be impossible without an accurate record of the cases to say whether or not all were enteric fever. All we know is that it is so stated: but, judged by the mortality, we should say that it is not an enteric fever epidemic but a fever epidemic, part of which has passed into enteric fever.

If this be correct, the Bangor fever outbreak resembles many others which have broken out in badly cared=for towns.

2. The Inspector’s notes show local causes quite
enough to account for the facts, which might be arranged thus in the following order:
- the people in Bangor & in the district have been living in neglect of the most ordinary precautions:
- they have all been more or less undergoing slowly & unknowingly certain important functional degradation:
- at last, possibly from some climatic reason, fever appears in single, then in multiple cases, and a certain proportion of them put on the typhoid condition, & of these the usual proportion die:
- the evil is not yet exhausted, because all the predisposed have not yet suffered.
3. But what a state of matters the Inspector’s (dated Bangor Sept 23) notes reveal! With such a state of administration might not anything happen? Not one of the defects stated in the notes ought to have existed; and the real practical question is: whether such things can be prevented elsewhere?
   [In the old Board of Health days, the view was: that the Sanitary administration should be special, uniform,
& skilled: & by consequence more or less centralized. But the Ho: of C. decided that the administration should be decentralized, & consequently not special but local - not uniform but multiform - not skilled but Medical. And might not this unhappy Bangor fever be almost called one of its typical natural results? Probably the best way would have been to have continued the central action until every town in England & Wales had been reported to Parlt as having been improved, & by that time the Central administration might have educated the local authorities. Now all that can be done is to send an Inspector to help (?) the local authorities AFTER the people have suffered.]

4. The only remedy in the Bangor case would be the one we always adopt, were it practicable - namely to remove the people out of every house where any indisposition had shown itself - then to put all the drainage & water supply in order - then to scrape all walls & ceilings & lime-white them
with quick-lime, - [we have
done this for Officers’ rooms]
And when floors, woodwork
&c had been thoroughly
cleansed, & doors & windows
left open for a week,
to return the people.
We ought scarcely perhaps
to say more except that
the loss by sickness & death
is simply another instance
of the cost of dealing with
such cases after the
penalty has been incurred
& the ‘Bill’ has been sent in.

I may add that I have
consulted my ‘colleagues’ in
London on the subject of
this answer.
Many thanks for letting me
see a copy of your most
admirable letter to Mr.
Dodson.
N.B. I ought perhaps to add
that the Parly principle of
decentralization is undoubtedly
the true one: & in large
towns with enlightened local
authorities no doubt already
works well. but in small
localized places, the ignorance
of which we don’t want to be
‘represented’, works deplorably
Bangor Typhoid:

II
Lea Hurst
Cromford
Derby
Private Oct 13/82
Dear Mr. Rathbone

Thank you for your frightfully interesting papers.

These July Local Govt (Whitehall) Board letters are simply astounding. They seem to afford almost sufficient reason for passing over the Medicos altogether - do not they? The whole of these papers leave the matter just where it was.

The case now is more of an Engineering one than simply a Sanitary one - is it not?

In answer to your question: Is not the only man connected with the Board whom we could advise for a Report: Mr. Rawlinson?

He would trace the evil in its relation to engineering & household causes - & I am sure would do his best -

Mr. Rawlinson is the man Bangor seems to want. He might be obtained either by yourself thro’ the Office
or the Local Board might
write to ask for him
at their expence -
I have consulted the Medical
standing member of our Army Sanitary
Comm: who thinks the ‘Doctors’ have failed
& that it is now an Engineering case, about this: but
of Mr. Rawlinson’s return
to London I did not know
till this morning (thro’ the
said Medical standing member)
I venture to enclose a
letter (or the beginning of
a letter) to you 10 days old
-but which I did not
send because I was afraid
it would be of little use

I return these (truly terrible)
enclosures with many thanks.
May Bangor be an
example for good to
others & to itself!
And may your efforts
succeed as they always
do:

God Bless you -
 yrs ever faithfully
 & gratefully
 Florence Nightingale

Bangor is such an
important case, for so terribly
is typical for itself & for others,
that we wish you doubly
success!
University of Wales, 37620 unsigned, incomplete letter, 3ff, pen, typed copy
Liverpool f78

Bangor May 7/83

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

Dear Mr. Rathbone

I return these most interesting papers & letters. As you say, while not materially altering the former position, they make an end of the enteric fever poison hypotheses, which never had any support from the facts in the original Report.

This is what the authorities to whom I submitted the original documents & to whom I have submitted these draw as a conclusion: & they add that the case appears to stand as follows: from time to time there occurs in every locality a tendency to certain classes of blood diseases, just as at certain seasons there is a tendency to inflammatory chest affections. We know nothing of the why, but it is our duty to use every effort to diminish or guard against this liability. In the case of chest diseases we clothe more warmly & keep from exposing ourselves to damp or cold or change during the period. In the case of blood diseases we depend on Sanitary works & measures. If during an inflammatory period we leave off clothing, we suffer. And if during a blood disease period we intermit Sanitary precautions, we suffer.
Bangor was provided with a good sewage system, & with a good water scheme, provided the sewer system had been completed up to the houses, & provided the water supply had been properly protected & properly connected with the drainage. All the sewers required ventilation, & all the lines flushing; and at the same time the usual cleansing work thoroughly organized had to be carried out, including the absolute abolishing of all sources of nuisance within the Board limits. In short, a proper system of improvement complete in all its details, & under constant supervision is necessary.

There were as you know some missing links in the administration as well as in the work, & in order to prevent a recurrence of the evils, they must (for the main thing is - what should be done:)

1. complete the whole scheme, including protection of water sources, ventilating sewers, - flushing sewers at very short intervals, - several times a week at least - [There is a special apparatus for this] - house drainage

2. They must provide for constant supervision. The Officer of Health is quite unfitted for this - The work is of an Engineering character; & must be continuously seen to by an Engineer.
The Board complains that the Doctors did not tell them about the Fever. The reason is obvious. The great bulk of the fever cases were simple enough, & only a proportion of these were Enteric Fever, which is presumed to be contagious & to be forcibly reported.

But all this is a mistake; the mischief was all done at Bangor before the fever showed itself. The engineering Inspector ought to have forestalled the Inspector/fever -

The object of Sanitary work is not remedy but prevention
King’s College, London

Durham University Library GRE/B117/5/2, paper copies, 5 letters, UKoth

Durham, signed letter, 2ff, pen XX2-3

5/2

29 Old Burlington St.

June 22/57

Dear Lord Grey

You most kindly said that you would be willing to give some time to criticize what was being proposed for the Sanitary cause in the Army.

Do you think I might venture to ask you to glance over a Report, which I have had to make, in obedience to Lord Panmure’s instructions, upon the causes of our Sanitary disaster in the East? I cannot expect that you will enter into the details. But any criticisms which you might see fit to make would be most useful to us - And, as this is only the Proof, I could alter accordingly.

If I am asking too much & you have not time, please return it.

I am, dear Lord Grey, your obliged & faithful servt

Florence Nightingale
With real reluctance, I venture to trouble you with the fag-end of my Proofs - not reluctance, on account of vanity of authorship - The subject which concerns the graves of 19,000 men is too serious for that - But because it will give you more trouble to read in its present unarranged & unconnected state -

I am not quite sure that this tacks on to where the Proofs left off, which you were so good as to take - But this is the End.

I am very much indebted to you for the most interesting papers which you were kind enough to send me the morning you left London.

Believe me to be
dear Lord Grey
Your faithful & obliged servt
Florence Nightingale
29 Old Burlington St.
June 27/57

[end 14:516]

Durham GRE/B117/5/3 signed letter, 2ff, pen

5/3

Durham GRE/B117/5/5-11, June 27/57, Howich, from Lord Grey giving detailed criticism of FN’s report
5/12

29 Old Burlington St.
London W
July 5/57

Dear Lord Grey

I am very grateful to you for your long letter, which was a great help to me in various ways - You are the only statesman whom I have seen who really think the destruction of our Army a very serious thing - who think that their blood is calling to us from the ground, not for vengeance but for mercy on their survivors. Secondly your suggestions are of very great use to me, both those which have altered my opinion & those which have cleared it up - For I know that you will not think me presumptuous in differing from you still in some things - The only point, in which however I shall venture to give you my reasons for differing, will be the Sanitary question, because I think it just possible that the facts I may be able to lay before you may not have come under your notice - & may perhaps modify your opinion

The want of arrangement, the obscurity & diffuseness which you notice I am very conscious of, & shall endeavour to correct, as soon as I have time -

What you say of Lord Raglan is too true - but, in me, it would be ungenerous & untrue to attack him,
King’s College, London 714

who is gone, while those who mis-
formed & misled him have all
been promoted & rewarded for the
very acts for which he is blamed.

Will you thank Lady Grey
for her kindness in writing so
much for me & believe me
dear Lord Grey
ever your faithful & obliged servt
Florence Nightingale

I. The general argument used by Lord Grey to prove that Army Medical Officers must look after the Hygiene as well as the cure of their own men is conclusive – A double set of Officers could not act.

The conditions are so various, in which Armies & Detachments are placed,

that those only who attend the sick can protect the health of the troops –

A whole Regiment might be laid low with fever in a week, if the Regimental Surgeon did not understand those questions, called by the name of personal Hygiene, which include clothing, diet, cleanliness, duties, positions &c of troops.

Such a thing has actually happened

If a choice were to be made of any one class of Officers exclusively, who were to be put in sole charge of all that concerns the health of troops – undoubtedly it would be better to educate all Army Medical Officers as Officers of Health – They would treat disease all the better & have less of it to treat –

II. The difficulty is with Barracks Garrisons, Hospitals &c – with existing buildings & future ones to be constructed – & with towns & villages to be occupied by troops –

The highest order of intelligence, of education, & of practical experience is required in an
Officer of Health who has to deal with these.

Need instances be multiplied?

(1) Scutari Hospitals - the most hideous
Sanitary evils were festering there - evils
which, each time that the number of
Patients was doubled, raised the mortality
PER CENT to more than double - viz. from
3½ to 10. For six months, nothing at all
was done to remedy these evils.

Yet these hospitals were seen by all
(& reported on by most) of the Senior Medical
Officers out in the East - Drs. Hall,
Dumbreck, Menzies, Cumming, Forrest,
Linton, Cruikshank, Gordon -

These Hospitals had, within their
walls, at various times, the men best
informed on Sanitary subjects in the Army,
and every one of them missed the evils,
& failed to suggest the remedies.

More than this, these Hospitals
were “favourably” reported upon, as
“satisfactory”, as “flourishing”, as “conve-
nient for the reception of the Sick and
Wounded” - And this, when the mortality
at Scutari was rising to 200 per cent per annum, and at Koulali to 300 per cent per annum.

(2) Occupation of Balaclava - No effort was made to establish a Sanitary police in this little village, which came into our hands as clean & beautiful as any village in Holland -

What it became after our occupation may be inferred from the following facts

I. large numbers of beasts of burden were daily passing in & out, & no measures were taken to remove the manure

ii. large numbers of cattle were slaughtered, when cattle were obtained, & no slaughter-houses were arranged

iii. 20,000 or 30,000 men were passing in & out daily, & no arrangements for them

iv. a burying-ground existed at the head of the harbour, into which the bodies of our men were thrown & lay almost in the water - decomposition going on immediately below the surface - and portions of extremities & red coats
to be seen even above the surface -

Yet no representations were made by
the Army Medical Dept as to the necessity
of a Sanitary police - The evil, when done,
was, it is said, reported upon - but no
precautions had previously been suggested,
in time to avert it.

(3) Netley Hospital - The plans of
this building had received the fullest
consideration from the Army Medl Dept,
& its Officers - and never sanctioned
by the best men among them -

Yet this Hospital can never be any
thing but a discredit to the country -

(4) Supposing that a street in
London were to be drained, and a large
sum to be laid out in draining it, as
is the case now with New Burlington St.,
should we consult the Physician,
attending us, on the best method of
doing so?

III. To one, who, with some Sanitary
experience, has seen Scutari, Balaclava,
Netley, the following conclusions appear
inevitable
(1) A few of the most competent Sanitary Officers in the Army may, eventually, be set apart for such duties as are involved by the above considerations. But the occupation of towns & of large buildings presents insurmountable problems to ordinary observers. Such problems are specialities, like those in our Barracks & Military Hospitals throughout Great Britain & her Colonies at this moment. Our Army mortality shews that, excepting in Gaols in the last century, few/no Sanitary conditions exist or existed equal in permanent fatality to those of the Army.

(2) Nothing but a very large experience could have prevented the opinions which were given from having been given by the Army Medical Dept in any of the above instances - And these men neither had nor could they have had such experience in the Army -

If the question be asked, Do men, with the experience necessary to cope with such questions, exist in Civil Medical Life? it may be answered, No, not as Medical Men. But, as Civil Officers of Health, they do - such experience may be found in Dr. Duncan,
Officer of Health at Liverpool, in Dr. Thomson, at Marylebone, in Mr. Simon, in London, - above all, in Dr. Sutherland, late Sanitary Commissioner in the East. These men have had constantly before their eyes the effects of over-crowding, of bad ventilation, bad drainage, bad water, of soils & sub-soils, of organic saturation by organic matter of the walls of buildings, &c.

Any one of these men could have laid his hand at once on the causes of disease & death at Scutari & Balaclava, and, what is more, have shewn the practicable remedy. (Dr. Sutherland did do this.) For the question, when the evil has arisen, is not “What is the best possible remedy for this?” but “What are the means at hand by which to improve immediately the conditions thus producing disease & death?” Without the practical experience, necessary to answer this last question, there may be such a delay that there is no one left to kill.

(3) There must be special men for special work - No medical man that ever lived makes a good Sanitary Officer, merely because he is a medical man, in the above matters - It is a speciality.
As to towns, especially, we find this practically in Civil Life—viz. that other qualifications than that of medical knowledge go to make a good Officer of Health. These qualifications being present, medical knowledge becomes of use—

(4) It would be cheaper, in every respect, to the country, to have competent men to advise the Department on such subjects as the Hygiene of Buildings, Towns &c—leaving that of soldiers & camps to the Army Medical Men under a special Officer of Health of their own—

(5) The distinction is clear, & it is a practical one—In civil life, the Physician is, or ought to be, the family adviser in the Hygiene which corresponds to that of the Soldier on duty. But no one would trust his Physician to do the work of an Officer of Health in executing or advising Sanitary repairs or improvements in the house or town he lives in—

(6) This is simply matter of fact and of experience—Neither the Army nor the Civil Medical profession can furnish competent men for such purposes—in other words, neither Army nor Civil medical men in
England have special qualifications for such work, unless brought out by education & experience -

(7) But Civil practitioners have far more opportunity of acquiring experience in the Hygiene of towns & buildings than military men, who are constantly on the move -

And Military practitioners have far more opportunity of acquiring experience in the specialities of personal Hygiene, i.e. the diet, clothing, duties, camping &c of troops. For the men they have always with them.

To sum up
There are three branches of Military Sanitary Science -
1. the personal Hygiene of the soldier
2. the topography of camps, positions, &c
3. the local causes of disease, arising in towns, villages, buildings & districts.

Are there men competent, both by scientific knowledge & practical experience, to undertake the new Sanitary administration of the Army in all these three branches?

I am not aware of a single individual either in the Army or in Civil Life, competent to do the duty of all these three..
I am perfectly satisfied that to give the Army a sanitary head over all these three branches would be to ensure a failure, a semblance instead of a reality.

Both theory & experience shew that the two first, viz. personal Hygiene & positions are better understood & will be better administered by Army Medical men - even with their present imperfect education than by Civilians -

But to seek in the Army for a knowledge of the third branch is hopeless, including as it does, an acquaintance with the principles of drainage, water-supply, paving, & cleansing, Sanitary police of towns, construction & Sanitary improvement of Barracks, Hospitals & other buildings, whether in towns or Garrisons -

To prove this assertion examples more than sufficient have occurred -

Some Army Medical Officers may, in time, acquire sufficient scientific & practical knowledge to deal with such matters.

During the transition period, it appears essentially necessary that, while

1. the Army Medical Dept shall administer that which it is competent to do, under a Sanitary head of its own,

there should
2. be a special arrangement for the
Sanitary improvement or construction of
buildings - for the removal of sanitary
defects in Garrisons & occupied towns -
& for affording Sanitary advice to them
Departments specially charged with these
things

It seems necessary to add three things
1. Lord Grey objects that the great Sanitary
improvements, effected in the Navy during
the last few years, prove that the same
might be done by the Army, for itself -
But it is impossible to institute a
comparison, which shall be just throughout,
between the two Services.

For, whereas the Navy Medical Officer
is always in his Barrack with the causes
of disease constantly under his very eyes,
so that his whole experience & daily
observation accumulate lessons of/in Naval
health to/for him -

with the Army Medical Officer, on
the other hand, new & hitherto unobserved
conditions continually arise, as he is moved
from place to place, in which he may be
wholly inexperienced & uneducated. He may have to prepare a building or town for the occupation of troops, having been all his life entirely out of the way of any knowledge of such matters -

2. A most valuable practical lesson may be learnt from the experience of Netley. The Engineer Officer, who made the plans, distinctly stated in evidence that he considered himself responsible only for constructing a building which would not fall - that he assumed the necessity of a Sanitary adviser to the Engineers' Dept. Now it is vain to say that there is one already - The best opinions & advice, the best information was taken from the Army Medl Dept, & we see the result. Nevertheless, the £70,000 already spent at Netley will have been well spent for the country, in saving soldiers' lives, if two principles are thereby established - viz.

(1) that the Quarter Master General’s Dept assumes the existence & necessity of a competent Sanitary adviser, just as a town does that of an Officer of Health
(2) that this Sanitary adviser must have the special qualifications suited for his work — the advice necessary for such work having been sought & not found in the Medical Dept, supposed to be able to give it — but the education of which does not necessarily afford such knowledge —

3. It has been said that the Statistical & Sanitary Officers of the Army might be the same — But the distinction between these two Departments is an important & a practical one — as much so as the distinction between food & a Cookery book —

Registering is essentially a different work from searching out & remedying operative causes — Nay, more, to be able to do the first is almost a disqualification for the second — witness the great Actuary Neison’s mistakes, as to cause — witness Sir A. Tulloch’s invaluable Blue Books, in which scarcely a word could be practically applied by a Sanitary Officer —

The Registrar is not a Health Officer.
The contemplation of figures tends rather to fatalism - while a practical combative-ness against operative causes is what we seek in the Officer of Health.

And, altho’ the latter must be furnished with Statistics, the former need not essentially be furnished with Sanitary knowledge -

And, if Lord Grey has come so far, he will be thankful to me for coming to an end -

F. Nightingale

I would only add that the problem is not such a hopeless one as at first appears - For, when you have educated all the Army Medical men up to a standard of Hygienic Science, you may find, among them, one who may superintend all the three branches above enumerated. [end 14:523]

F.N.

Durham GRE/B117/5/16 signed letter, 2ff, pen

5/16

30 Old Burlington St
London W
Oct 2/58

Dear Lord Grey,

Your great kindness in criticizing & answering me in certain things last year encourages me to venture to send you a Copy of my Report to the War Secretary, of which you were good enough to look over a large portion - and in which to your criticism

[14:981]
I owe so much –
   It is “Confidential”
of course – I have no
right to give away
any Copies –
   It has only recently
been sent in to Genl
Peel – altho’ long since
ready – the cause of
which would be, in
English, that the state
of health (not of me
but) of their own
Department has oc-
casioned the delay.
But it does not

signify. Because they
won’t read the Report –
And their work is
being done without
them –
   I beg to remain
dear Lord Grey
Your obliged & faithful
servt
   Florence Nightingale
Dear Lord Grey

Do you remember how very kind you were to one Florence Nightingale some three years ago?

“La reconnaissance n’est qu’un vif sentiment des bienfaits futurs.” And my only reason for troubling you now is that you were so very good then -

It is about this Census Bill. We want you to help us in the “Lords”.

If you look at a copy of the Bill, I am sure you will be struck by the small advance which it shews in appreciating those social problems which the Census is intended to supply the means of solving.

A number of defects might be pointed out -

But there are two points which it would be unpardonable if this Census did not contain. They might be had with no more trouble than is entailed on the public by the present forms, & at an additional cost infinitely below the value of the results.

1. We have absolutely no information on the Sanitary state of the people - The Death Returns only tell us who have died. But this by itself is a very imperfect standard of health. The only real standard is, how many people are well: how may ill:
& the diseases –

An excellent average could be obtained by simply requiring that each householder shall enter the numbers: sick in the house; &, if possible, the "diseases". For the time when the Census is taken (April) – being neither a time of Epidemics nor a particularly healthy season – is a very good average standard – (as we cannot get the information for the whole year through.)

2. There is no adequate information as to the class of houses in which the people live:
   how many live in hovels at the present day, or in stables, or in cottages, or in flats, or in cellars, or in back-to-back houses, or in mansions.

   Yet this very foundation question of Social Statistics might be solved by the Census.

   [A Mr. Caird has a Notice of a Motion, something to this effect, in the House. But I doubt whether he will carry it.]

   These two points: how many sick there are in the population, & in what kind of houses the population live are fundamental points – easy to be ascertained – & would afford a better basis upon which to build up Social progress than any information the Census now gives.

   Most of it is obtained for Ireland & the results are exceedingly valuable –

Note. The chief expense is incurred by the delivery & collection of the papers What is proposed additional would add a little Clerk’s work to the
expence: that is all. The value of the information can scarcely be over-rated.

II. To all this the Government answers something as follows:

"Both the points mentioned were duly considered, before the Census bill was introduced. It was thought that the question of health or sickness was too indeterminate to be made the subject of a question to each individual.

"The absence of any fixed standard makes it certain that the answer would not be based on a uniform principle & that the result obtained would be inaccurate.

"With regard to an enumeration of houses, it was thought that this is not a proper subject to be included in a Census of population.

"An enumeration of houses was included in the Irish census. But the result is not peculiarly instructive."

III. All this, "being interpreted," means:

"Sir George Lewis (or rather, I suppose, Mr. Waddington) does not choose to take the trouble."

The very same arguments were made use of by Lord John against the "Registration" column for the "cause of death" in '37 - which has now been for 23 years the law of the land -

It was obstinately refused in the Commons on the very same grounds as "sickness" is refused now - It was inserted in the "Lords". And it was swallowed, after a
few grimaces, in the “certain place” -

We are in hopes that you will
do the same thing for us now.

1. It is mere childishness to say
that what every man of the millions,
who belong to Friendly Societies, does,
every week of his life, as to registering
himself “sick” or “well”, cannot be
done in the Census.

Where there is error in these
cases, the error is uniform, as is
shewn by the Friendly Societies, &
corrects itself – i.e. a whole district
calls that sickness which another
does not.

By a little management, we
could get the “diseases” too on the
voluntary principle. The sickness
& infirmity would be returned “sick”,

“infirm”, or something to that effect,
and people would be invited for
the public good to state, whenever
they could without inconvenience
to themselves &c, the nature of
the sickness, as supplied by the
Medical attendant - This would
work.

It could be done so as to give the sick of the country no offence or
annoyance -

In all the most important
diseases, such as small-pox,
fever, measles, heart-disease &c
(i.e. all those which affect the
national health,) there will be
very little error.

[In ladies’ nervous diseases, ≠ in
gout, &c, there may be a great deal}
The French Census does it  
The Irish Census tells us of the  
great diminution of mud-cabins  
between 1841 and 1851.  
The connection between the health  
& the dwellings of the people is one  
of the most important questions  
that exist.  
I am really penitent for  
writing you such a long letter -  
It is very difficult to me to write  
at all. for I write from my bed.  
And I did/do not know how to  
make it any shorter.  
If you take the same view of  
this question, I am sure you will  
help us -  
Believe me to be  
dear Lord Grey  
faithfully & gratefully yrs  
Florence Nightingale

Temporary reference AUC 47/box 5, out of “Library Castle” file
signed letter, 4ff, pen

London December 2 1887

I am asked to write a few words.  
But I could not say, even with many,  
how with all my heart I hail  
the movement which is to give  
Bishop Auckland one of the  
most de-pauperizing & moralizing  
influences we have, among the  
sick poor & their families -  
namely, highly trained district  
Nursing which will nurse them  
at their own homes.  
So let me try to describe what  
District Nursing of high training  
& high Character is; altho’ Bishop Auckland  
knows it already:  
in spite of all we can do,  
Hospitals, however orderly & clean,
do not seem to give Patients cleanliness & orderliness to carry away with them —

But the Hospital-trained District Nurse who brings that cleanliness & order into their own homes, - shows it them bodily in practice - she is the teacher as well as the Nurse & servant, who commands their confidence, so that for very love & shame they will not let her see their home a dirty, disorderly, or drunken place again. She encourages the cleanly & the independent: she discourages helplessness & improvidence.

So, though she has, first & foremost, of course, to nurse the Patient, to restore perhaps the bread winner or the mother - to & prevent the breaking up of the home - she has, secondly, to re=create the home - to make it a place which the Patients can recover in from disease too often caused in the home - a place which they can be healthy in -

These are the triumphs, those the glories of her Art.

She has, thirdly, not to give relief - for where the Nurse gives relief, Nursing flies out of the window - but to know, when things are wanted for recovery, to what local agencies & Charities to apply for them.
She has, fourthly, in Sanitary defects which individuals cannot remedy to know what sanitary authority to call in. And thus to make the home healthy.

Under the first head of Nursing proper, she carries out the Doctor’s orders as trained Nursing only can, for she works/nurses under the Doctor, takes notes for him, & reports to the Doctor who has no one but her to report to him.

A humble fellow-worker with Providence, the District Nurse of high character strives to maintain a man’s independence, to make his home less intolerable, when wife or children are sick; and he will then strive to keep from drink, (instead of flying to it, if relief is given him) — perhaps the very purpose for which sickness was sent.

To have good District Nursing, Bishop Auckland knows it must have not only trained women fit for the work, but a District Home fit for them to live in — for the District Nurse who waits, body & soul/mind, upon the sick poor, has quite other things to do with her skill & strength, than to wait upon herself.

All this costs money.

Yes; but it saves money Trained District Nursing saves expence to the parish — makes
it possible to nurse incurable cases at home, which otherwise go into the Workhouse Infirmary, while tiding cases over a temporary illness & setting them on foot so that they need not go either into Hospital or Infirmary at all.

{the following paragraph has vertical lines through it}

Bishop Auckland has known the value of Hospital trained Nursing in its cottage homes, may I say that it will know how to introduce it in Workhouse Infirmaries, as has been done now in so many where it transforms the whole place. Without trained Nursing Workhouse Infirmaries make your Patients worse instead of better, worse body & soul.]

And God speed the work is the heartfelt prayer of Florence Nightingale
2ff, Louisa Shore Smith to Professor Seeley, 14 and 16 May 1882, 17 Albemarle Street, London W, re: has conveyed his notes to Nightingale who was delighted to receive them and enquires if he would come to 10 South Street to retrieve them when in London rather than sending them to 54 Fleet Street; asks to give Nightingale as much notice as possible if coming to see her

Louisa Shore Smith, wife of beloved William Shore Smith and mother of four children, all of whom were close to Nightingale in her old age. corr in Society and Politics on Bosnia refugees, in 1882 was go-between with Professor Seeley on India, conveyed his notes to Nightingale (letters to Seeley 14 and 16 May 1882, University of London Archives) and FN letter to her below:

Univ of London, signed letter, 1f, pencil

16/5/82

Dearest Louisa,

I am sorry to say a M.P. has made an appointment with me upon India for Thursday

Encouraged by your & Prof. Seeley’s “genius of friendship, I am going to make a most audacious proposal. He can but refuse. Would you propose to him if he could see me on Friday or Saturday afternoon at 5 or at 4 or at 6, or on Sunday afternoon, premising that I hardly dare to think he can have time to spare - but if he would propose any afternoon when in London a little beforehand, (because I have always more people appointing themselves than I can well see)- & I should think (overtop illeg) it an inestimable boon to make his acquaintance

His lectures are so unspeakably important- I see a whole new vista for the education of the Civil Service candidates opening out of them.

And might I keep his Lectures till “the end of May”, as he said?

Or ought I send them tomorrow (17th-) to 54 Fleet St, is it?

God bless you - ever yours

F.N.

We await the ham for dear Louis.
26/5/82

I am so disappointed not to have the pleasure of seeing you today. May I hope that you will kindly give me a promise to see me when you return? I want to consult you about the Indian Civil Service candidates’ training & many other questions. May all good attend you - May I

keep the invaluable books till the end of May?

F.N.

Nov 16/83

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:} PARK LANE. W.

with Florence Nightingale’s unbounded thanks for the gift which Professor Seeley has given to the world in his “Expansion of England” & to herself in particular. She Studies it every day: & has given away many copies to deserving folk. She hopes to write further to Professor Seeley about its invaluable doctrine & to thank him more.
May 25 1888
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Sir

I will put off every body
to see you at 4 o’clock
on Friday (to morrow), as
you are so very kind as
to propose.

The invaluable M S.S.
I will take advantage of
your most kind permission
to send to 54 Fleet St
-not when I “have quite
“done with” them, -for that
event be never- but
within a reasonable time

And I am most gratefully
ever your faithful servt-

Florence Nightingale

Prof. Seeley
London August 17/71

My dear Sir

Your “General Review” arrived officially at the India Office the day or the day after I wrote my last week’s letter to you. with a Resolution of the Govt of India stating that the Governor Genl in Council had read the Review with much interest, and directing its circulation for the information and guidance of all Local Govts & Administrations—“Special attention to be paid to the suggestions contained in Para 87 of the Review Jas: M. Cuningham Eq MD &c &c

“and that, in future, Sany Reports should be prepared in the method therein described” The several Local Govts & Administrations to insist upon these Reports being submitted in future not later than the 1st March of every year. Of course you know all this; but as the I.O. is not perhaps quite so punctual an acknowledger of papers received as I am, I though you might like to hear of the arrival of your paper. It is to be put, in extenso, in the Appendix of the India Office Sanitary Blue Book for this year- & attention drawn to it in a Para in
the Report at the beginning
of the Blue Book, and referred
after the different notices
on the Local Reports.
I write in haste (& almost in
the dark from a thunder storm)
merely to convey to you this bit of
information by this mail—
& am ever, my dear Sir,
yours very sincerely
Florence Nightingale

1 folio, black-edged, note

Confidential
I am sure you will
be glad to hear that
the first fruits of
this paper have been;
that the D. of Newcastle
has ordered a private
enquiry into the
state of the Colonial Hospitals.
Perhaps he did not
know before that he had
Hospitals to enquire
about.

photocopy of title page of Lying-in Institutions, with inscription by FN

Dr Bernays
&c &c
(re “Nightingale” training)
with many thanks for his kind help
at all times
to our Probationers
this little book
[printed] On Lying-in Institutions
is offered by
Florence Nightingale
London
Oct 10/71
My dear Miss Pyne

I think I had better send you Mrs. Dicey’s note (which please return to me)—It explains your points.

If you would like to see her first before the “meeting,” please write to her & appoint yourself at 107 Victoria St.

You have seen an Abstract of the “Agreement”—but it could do no harm to see her.

Had you not better breakast & luncheon here & lie down for a few hours between, before going to Mrs. Dicey’s & the meeting—then see me at 4.30: & dine here—

I could give you a “quiet room” [I am afraid you will be so tired.]

God speed.

ever yrs affly

F. Nightingale

envelope, stamped, cancelled, black-edged [cancelled Au 13]
BCN3/1/2 autograph letter of Queen to SH re FN

BCN3/13/20 artifacts corr
Fenwick corr, VGH
print “Message from Florence Nightingale: The Symbol of the Little Lamp.” The Greater World 2, 51 (18 May 1929) 1. speaking to world now free from body, spiritual laws, mind of God, a message given at the Zodiac Circle

poss send for?

Isabel Stewart letter to BJN from Teachers College Columbia says letters of FN sold to nursing schools or indiv nurses: Yale 1, Children’s Hosp Boston 1,; Minnesota Univ, School of Nursing 1; New York City Hosp School of Nursing 1; Ward’s Island School of Nursing NYC 1; Washington Univ School of Nursing, St Louis 1; Providence Hosp School of Nursing RI 1; Miss Minnie Goodnow, Newport; letters photographed before let go, kept photostat copy for Adelaid Nutting Historical Collection and extra set for own use (except Miss White of Providence Hosp)

poss send for?
I.T. Giffard “Constance and ‘Cap’ the Shepherd’s Dog, a Remniscence. n.d. pamphlet rector of Long Ditton Surrey, formerly vicar of Wellow, Hants. KCL BCN3/6 31 pp. Constance is FN, which is stated at end on p 31.

clipping from St Pancras Gazette. 30 Aug. 1920; from 61 years ago, from the Camden and Kentish Towns St Pancras Gazette:
Saturday August 8, 1868: The Lying-in Ward of St Pancras Workhouse is about to be placed under the charge of Miss Nightingale, for the training of nurses. As there are about five births a week in the Workhouse, it is considered a favourable place for the purpose.
St Pancras Bd of Guardians W.H. Wyatt in chair, order of PLB reported for erection of new schools at Leavesden, Woodside.

BCN3/27/3 p 22 Exhibition of Papers, etc. Relating to Florence Nightingale. held in Nightingale Training School, St T July 12 to 24 1937, arranged in honour of International Congress of International Council of Nurses. items lent to Mrs Seymer by Nightingale family through Mrs Vaughan Nash, or lent by Mr Shore Nightingale, Lady Stephen an Mrs Salmon
8 pages of items, then 3 pages of other material, then letters to FN
exhibition includes items of clothing!
refs include Quain’s article in 1882, sent 1883 to Fellowes
35 South Street, Park Lane, W.
June 27 1873
My dear Sir, I was exceedingly obliged to your Calcutta Municipality 1872 Report, which could not have come more exactly in the ‘nick’ of time for us here.

[cut] on your draining and extension of water
[cut] Both are going ‘ahead,’ it is true. The
[cut] already have more than justified the outlay.
[cut] they are still imperfect.
[cut] know you too well not to [cut] know that you
[cut] nothing gained while such remains.”

There has been an increase of cholera; but the
unsatisfactory state of the north end, and the
great danger from epidemics, will be readily seen.
#. About the bustees, as the present law for keep
ing these villages, their lanes, and waste ground,
is not effective, might not the best way be possibly
to take the cleansing of them entirely into the
[cut] of the Municipality, and simply to charge
[cut] either on owner or occupier?
Should this be done, it would sweep away half
the danger of these communities--would it not?
Your report is most interesting showing not
only satisfaction [cut]
[lines cut]
...this adds to the rates, but it is a
[cut] which must be paid, it is supposed, if a
[cut] be educated into the mysteries of
[cut] you, I say again and again, in your
[cut] pray believe me, ever your
[cut] Florence Nightingale
[no copy made as so hard to read]

BCN3/4/19 obit of the late Mr William Clark, as benefactor [no date, and much cut] poss March 1880 from bit on back

BCN3/41A clean stylized letter to FN from W. Clark, Calcutta 29 Feb 1871

faint stylized copy of letter of Wm Clark, engineer to Mun of Calcutta to FN re
“Report on Measures adopted for Sanitary Improvements in India from June 1869 to
June 1870" KCL BCN3/4/1A
King’s College, London 744

several other letters in chron, stylized copies, hard to read (some not impossible) thank her, show appreciation, not great on content

1 copy of FN letter to W. Clark Aug 10/71 BCN3/4/5A, 4 pp black-edged,

RBNA/BCN3/3/ signed letter & envelope, 5A-D, pen {postmarked CALCUTTA 4 {illeg} 71}; POST OFFICE D {illeg} 8 71

5A
Private
London Aug 10/71

Sir

I have to thank you for a most kind & instructive letter, & for copies of the Calcutta Municipal Report for 1870, and two papers of your own, one on ‘Bustee improvement’, one on the drainage of small houses & huts - all most valuable.

Although the cost of works has been large, and although a large outlay must still be incurred, the evidence in the papers which you have been kind enough to send me is more than enough to show

W. Clark Esq
&c &c
that your work is bearing the best of fruits.
You are quite right, in the opinion of the most experienced, in opposing all separation in the elements of the sewage -
The same drains which carry away foul water can carry away every thing. If sewers & drains be laid with perfectly close joints, & all communications trapped outside the houses - and if all sewers & drains be ventilated, the objections against them are purely theoretical & may be disregarded, may not they?
What too often happens is this: - a badly constructed work, (for which the contractor ought to have been punished,)

5B causes disease - ergo, say the Doctors, there should be no works except the Dry earth system.
It is like so much other reasoning in practical things - discussion without practical wisdom - & not worth a thought.
Interference with Engineering questions by Medical gentlemen/opinions is as unwise as it would be for Engineers, however able, to interfere in purely Medical questions.
It rejoices us to see you dealing with the drainage of “Bustees” in reference to future improved plans & construction -
In this country no two lines of huts would be allowed to approach nearer to each other
than to a distance between their outer walls equal to the height of the ridge above the ground. Would this do for Calcutta?

It is right & expedient to do as you do in not pressing forwards too fast - But we trust that you will be enabled to do great good by completely improving a block of “bustees” situated near an existing line of sewer so as to show an example to the people.

Might we hope that the time is not far distant when the whole sewage of Calcutta will be used for agricultural purposes - (& Dr. David Smith’s objections removed)?

5C

-2-

2. I have gone through the Calcutta Municipality Report - it is full of important points - It may be most truly affirmed that the Report shows very satisfactory progress in Sanitary work. And we are all delighted to see that so much has been done.

All that you have to do (alas! what a great ‘all’!) in order to make Calcutta a complete example of good Sanitary work is: to go on cautiously but steadily in the same direction - doing, of course, all you can to carry the people with you - and, wherever you cannot step in to improve an entire native district, selecting a corner of it, and attacking it in detail -

In this way you will show the people what can be done & win their confidence -

[And even the great ‘all’ will be yours.]
We trust that you will be able to proceed with your wonted activity with your Reclamation work at the Salt Water Lake outfall - and apply the whole sewage to agriculture as speedily as possible -

[That is a charming story of {illeg}/Indian {illeg}/Calcutta life - viz. the fear that the people would not use the new water because of prejudices. - the Bheesties finding the stand= pipes so much more convenient than going to the Ganges that they filled their mussels at them - so that the people found out all of a sudden that they have been committing heresy - the Religious Chiefs then declaring the water orthodox - but the Bheesties in supplying the clear pure water to the orthodox heads having taken care to scrape road mud up & put it into the mussels. (& then, ending like a fairy tale,) every body now uses the good water who can get it.

5D

Instructive stories of the same kind, tho’ none as good as that, I could tell from England. For we too have our castes, our orthodoxies, our heresies, our prejudices, in Sanitary matters, where they ought never to come.]

Above all, do not mind Medical theories.

“Tis true, ‘tis pity - but pity ‘tis, ‘tis true.” [end 10:258]

Will you excuse this brief & hurried note from one always hard driven but who, taking the deepest interest in all you do, would rather write it as she can than not at all, & who is, dear Sir, ever your faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

{in another hand:} Private
University College London, Galton

University College, London paper copies, Galton corr, UCL Galton
Galton Papers 589 are typed copies of FN to Galton (both), with comments
at bottom by Karl Pearson, copies made Jan 1915

Galton Papers 245/17 has Galton letters to FN plus 1 FN env;

UCL Glaton black-edged env 9/4/91, stamp not cancelled

F. Nightingale
10 South St.
Park Lane
London W.

9/4/91

March 16/91 with note in FN hand: Please return to F.N.
April 6/91
April 8 [1891]
April 11/91
April 21/91
May 29/91
The following is the letter published in Pearson’s *Life and Letters.*

Black-edged paper, with black-edged env, no stamp, typed copy UCL Pearson 590

[env] Private ask if Mr Galton is in London:
if not, how soon he is expected
Frances Galton Eq &c &c
42 Rutland Gate
S.W.
Florence Nightingale
7/2/91

10 South St. Park Lane W.
Feb. 7/91
[1]
PRIVATE [triple und]
Scheme [red und]
for Social
Physics teaching
Dear Sir

Sir Douglas Galton
has given me your
most kind message: saying that
if I will explain in writing
to you what I think
needs doing, you will
be so good as to give it
the experienced attention
without which it would
be worthless. By your kind
leave, it is this:
a scheme from some [red und]
one of high authority as to
what should be
the work & subjects in teaching
Social Physics & their
practical application
(in the event of our being able
to obtain a Statistical
Professorship or Readership
at the University of Oxford.)
I am not thinking so much
of Hygiene & Sanitary work,
because this & its Statistics
have been more closely
studied in England than
probably any other branch
of Statistics, tho' much
remains to be desired: as
e.g. the result of the food
& cooking of the poor as
seen in the children of

Infant Schools & of those
of somewhat higher ages-
But I would, (subject always
to your criticism & only
for the sake of illustration)
mention a few of the other branches
in which we appear hardly
to know anything: e.g.
A. The results of Forster’s Act, now 20 years old:
We sweep annually into
our Elementary Schools
hundreds of thousands of
children--spending millions
of money--
do we know e.g.
(1) what proportion of
children forget their whole
education after leaving
[4] school—whether all they have been taught is wasted 
[the almost accidental Statistics of Guards recruits would point at a large proportion]
(2) what are the results upon the lives & conducts of children in after life who don’t forget all they have been taught
(3) what are the methods & what the results, e.g. in Night Schools & Secondary Schools in preventing primary education from being a waste.
If we know not what are the effects upon our national life of Forster’s Act, is not this a strange gap in reasonable England’s knowledge?

[5] B the results of legal punishments e.g. the deterrent, or encouraging effects upon crime of being in gaol.

Some excellent & hard working reformers tell us-- Whatever you do, keep a boy out of gaol,— work The First Offenders’ Act-- once in gaol, always in Gaol--Gaol is the cradle of crime.

Other equally zealous & active reformers say--a boy must be in gaol once at least to learn its hardships before he can be rescued

Is it again not strange in practical England that we know no
more about this?

B2. Is the career of a criminal from his first committal— and for what action— to his last— whether (a) to the gallows (b) to rehabilitation recorded?

It is stated by trustworthy persons that no such Statistics exist— & that we can only learn the criminal’s career from himself in friendly confidence— what it has been from being in gaol say for stealing a turnip for a boy’s feast, or for breaking his School room window in a temper because he has been turned out of School for making a noise to murder or morality.

In many cases all our legislation must be experiment, not experience any experience must be thrown away.

B3 What effect has education upon crime?

A. Some people answer unhesitatingly: as education increases, crime decreases.

B. Others as unhesitatingly: education only teaches to escape conviction, or to steal better when released

C. Others, education has nothing to do with it either way.
C. We spend millions in rates in putting people into Workhouses; & millions in charity in taking them out.
What is the proportion of names which from generation to generation appear the same in Workhouse records?
What is the proportion of children de-pauperized or pauperized by the Workhouse?
Do the large Union Schools, or the small, or 'boarding out' return pauper children to honest independent life?
On girls, what is the result of the training of the large

Union Schools in fitting them for honest little domestic places--and what proportion of those who falling into vice have to return to the Workhouses?
Upon all such subjects how could the uses of Statistics be taught?

D. India. With the 250 millions (200 millions being our fellow-subjects, I suppose) enters so little into practical English public life that foreigners scarcely know where this small country is.
It forms scarcely an element in our calculations, (tho’ we have piles of Indian Statistics.) Whether the peoples there are growing richer or poorer there—better or worse fed & clothed. Whether their physical powers are deteriorating or not—whether fever not only kills less or more but whether it incapacitates from labour for months in the year fewer or more. What are the native manufactures & productions (for the largest customer in the world, the Govt. of India) which could be had as good & cheap in India as those to be had from England? Whether the native trades & handicrafts are being ruined or encouraged under our rule. What is the result of Sir C. Wood’s (1853) education in India? These are but a very few of the Indian things which are I will not say hotly contested, for few care, either in the Ho: of C. Or out—but the opposites in which are asserted with equal positiveness.
[12]
I have no time to make
my letter any shorter-
Yet these are but a very
few instances.
What is wanted is that
so high an authority as
Mr. Francis Galton should
jot down other great
branches upon which
he would wish for
Statistics, & for the
TEACHING how to use these
Statistics, in order to
legislate for & administer
our national life with
more precision & experience.

[13]
N.B. 4
One authority was consulted
& answered that we had
Statistics, & that Government
‘must do it.’ Surely the
answering question is:
the Government does not
use the Statistics which
it has in administering
& legislating (except to indeed to ‘deal damnation’
across the floor of the
Ho: of C. at the Opposition
& vice versa). Why?
Because tho’, of Cabinet
Ministers, of the army
of the executive, subordinates
of both Houses of Parl.,
the Great majority have received an University education—what has the University education taught them of the practical application of Statistics? [Many of the Govt. Offices have splendid Statistics. What use do they make of them?] One of the last words of Dr. Farr, of the General Register Office, to me was: ‘Yes, you must get an Oxford Professorship: don’t let it drop!

M. Quetelet gave me his Physique Sociale & Anthropométrie. He said almost like Sir I. Newton: ‘These are only a few pebbles picked up on the vast sea-shore of the ocean to be explored. Let the explorations be carried out.’

You know how Quetelet reduced the most (apparently) accidental carelessness to ever-recurring facts—so that as long as the same conditions exist, the same “accidents” will recur
with absolutely unfailing regularity—
[I presume that no one now but understands, however vaguely, that if we change the conditions for the better, the evils will diminish accordingly.]

You remember that Quetelet wrote, & Sir J Herschel enforced, the advice 'put down what you expect from such & such legislation --after-- years, see where it has given you what you expected & where it has failed—But you change your laws & your

& your administering of them so fast, & without enquiry after results past or present, that it is all experiment, see-saw, doctrinaire, a shuttlecock between two battle dores

Might I ask from your kindness, (if not deterred by this long scrawl) for your answer in writing, as to heads of subject for the “scheme”? --then to give me some little time —
that you would make
an appointment some
afternoon, as you kindly
proposed, to talk it
over, teach, advise me?
Pray believe me
ever most ffuly
Florence Nightingale
Francis Galton Eq. &c &c

[5:123]

no answer
by 11.30
Francis Galton Esq
42 Rutland Gate
F. Nightingale
8/4/91

[printed: 10, South Street,
Park Lane W.]
My dear Sir
Thank you exceedingly for your notes & for
the enclosed “Plan of
Campaign” which I think
excellent & smiling success.
And yet more I thank
you for your kindness in telling me to ‘tell’ you if
you are “moving too
rapidly” & if you have
mis stated the “sum
available”
Give me a few days
more, please. I have
been very busy. And
University College London, Gălăton

if you are going out of town at Easter, please
give me a post-card
I am only afraid of (by delay)
wasting your time--the
time you are good
enough to give me. But it shan’t be wasted
Pray believe me
ever faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
Francis Galton Eq

UCL Galton, letter, black-edged paper

10 South St
Park Lane W.
April 8/91
“Demographic”
My dear Sir
Thank you for your very
kind letter. I hope you
are quite well again.
At your Meeting to-day
it would be most important
to have for “one of” your
“specified subjects,” as you propose,
“the more complete utilization
“of existing demographic Statistics”.
But--you do me the honour
to ask me--I am afraid of
engaging myself at such short
notice to “open the discussion
“with a paper of 15 minutes
“duration.” I should like to
do it--but do not know
whether or not it would be fairly doing justice to yourself & the cause-- probably not.
I could have told better if the scheme had been started of the 6 “experts” at L 50 apiece. It is entirely my fault that this is not yet done.
I eagerly grasp at your kind offer of coming to me on Friday afternoon-- shall it be at 4 or 5?-- I will defer anything I have to trouble your kindness about till then: tho’ perhaps

I may write you some questions tomorrow when your Meeting, fraught with good consequences to us, is over.
Pray believe me ever sincerely yours Florence Nightingale
Francis Galton Eq
April 9/91

“Social Physics?
Professorship”
“Je m’appelle Tarare, parceque
ce n’est pas mon nom”

My dear Sir
I am very much obliged
to you for your too kind
notes--& very sorry that
you have to return to
Leamington--but trust that
this time, you will leave it
‘all right’.
Your “subject for discussion”
seems most important--I
mean for the “Demographics”
Is Mr. Charles Booth’s 2nd
Vol: (just out) serviceable for
Francis Galton Eq.

[2]
Education Statistics? But
this is more for our
particular scheme than
for the “Demographic Section?”
Are Mr. Herbert Spencer’s
big Statistics valuable?
Mr. Giffen, I suppose, is
a ‘bright particular star’
but not in my line of
business--that of moral
sanitation.
Nor Sir J. Farrer
Also: they are not your
“youngish men” whom you
so wisely & so well collect
& educate.
But now I venture to enclose to you again
your own admirable
scheme--& with shame
& confusion of face to
state the following:

3 [pencil]
of this sort:
Many of those who are
interested in the Congress
of H. & D. May desire in
addition to the knowledge
gained & the facts
accumulated & co-ordinated
at the C. To see some
opportunity offered for
continuing & perpetuating
its work after it has
separated. Perhaps one of
the ways in which this
end may be attained would
be by the appointment of
some well-qualified men
to be employed [qy. not only

[5]
[this continues in larger writing, seems to be pencil]
in one country or in one
part of the world] in the
work of collecting & classifying
[qy--under the direction of a
Special Committee appointed
by the Congress] figures &
facts which will be of use
[qy--not only for similar
Congresses in the future] but also
to be practically applied to solve [social]
[moral] problems in legislation
& everyday public life

Then, an’ it please you, humbly
to put my 3 or 4 moral
social problems to the fore
as, [these are what I would wish]
then perhaps, if you think well, to say how much money is wanted [at least say a definite sum to begin with]
How much I can give towards it---If so much be raised.

Part of this might be said at the beginning--part at the end of the congress--as you yourself might wish

I cannot express my gratitude to you but am ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
I am sorry to say that Mr. Jowett does not know Mr. Montagu Bernard, of Oriel, personally.
FN
Francis Galton Eq
My dear Sir

I know not how to excuse myself. Your kindness, if you can, must be my excuse.

If not too late, may I thank you for bringing in the subject before the "Demographic Congress"
"with the title of "the more systematic collection & utilization of Demographic Statistics"----thereby "dealing on a Statistical basis with almost any matters that affect a large part of the community-"

and for now proposing
to "select 2 or 3 of the subjects that most commend themselves for this purpose & make them the subjects of some of the Essays-- the authors being asked to bring the subject also before the Congress"----- without prejudice to the subsequent publication in any desired form"-- That some opportunity might be taken of publicly Stating any more matured development of "my" scheme"-- in short "(1) arrange for the essays as already suggested "(2) arrange with the authors of 1, 2, or 3 of them, to briefly
"bring some of their results
"before the Demographic Congress"
I am too thankful that you are
not anxious to be rid of
me altogether;--and I
most gratefully accept your
proposal and ask
(a) what should be the new
(moral) subjects for the
practical application of
Statistics?
(b) who would be the eminent
'youngish' writers who would
illustrate these subjects?
(c) Would four Essays be
enough to begin with? And
£200 the expence?

With regard to (a) subjects, I
should only suggest that
the Statistics on business which
the Stat. Socy so often & so
wisely publishes are not
quite the sort of thing--nor
are quite Hygiene & Sanitation
proper, for which also there
is already such large
machinery, official &
unofficial
and would ask:
would "the matters that
"affect a large part of
"the community" include
such subjects as so press
on my mind, & to which
you have so generously given
a home?
University College London, Ga7l6t6on

Such as (but all these subjects would be peculiarly English --but perhaps your Essayists could put them afterwards before the Congress in a general human form)
A. The results of Forster’s Elementary Education Act.
   A 1. I believe very considerable progress in Night Schools under the Education Office has been lately made
   A 2. You allude to the “physical condition of school children.”
   The extent to which food AND COOKING influence this, both in town & country, is perhaps scarcely yet appreciated
   --or the maternal superstitions about feeding their children especially in infancy as appears by a familiar inspection of Infant Schools. This comes even under the head of “business” too.
   e.g. the country people who sell their milk ‘in town’, while their own children get none.
   A 3. Cooking Classes exist now in almost all London Schools, I believe. This, or rather the results of this may be important in Hygiene.
B. The results of punishment on crime--especially boy crime--First Offenders’ Act.
   [Has not this act been enlarged in America, & a “Home provided officially--not so in England]
   B 2. Statistics of the Criminal Career back to honesty or onto the “Habitual Criminal”.
   B 3. effect of education on Crime
C. Workhouses--pauperizing? Or depauperizing?
   Under one Board of Guardians or another--
   C 2. Children in large/small Union Schools boarded out
   C 3. Effect of Large Union Schools--especially on girls as fitting for domestic service & honest independence as fitting for immorality & return to Workhouse.
University College London, Ga7l6t7on

II You kindly say that you still wish something to be said on my behalf at the Congress. There is time to think about this: but would you wish something of this sort [breaks off abruptly]

UCL Glaton, letter, black-edged paper

10 South Street, Park Lane, W. 19/4/91
4 [pencil]

You were good enough to write the proposed Title-- Would you not prefer the part marked in red, omitting the [in]? I have taken the precaution of keeping a copy--
as well as of the letter & memo. I was so good!
As to return to you? F.N.
Mr. Francis Galton

[presumably in Galton’s hand]
professorship of [Statistics] to be called by the name of the “---Professorship of [Statistics] for promoting by means of Lectures or otherwise the collation of Statistical Science, and especially [in] its application to the solution of important social questions

problems

[in] its practical application to social questions

problems [red und]
May 23/91

10 South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane W.

My dear Sir,

I am exceedingly sorry for the delay in answering your most kind letter of April 21, and entirely adopt your suggestion that I do not feel equal to writing a paper myself.

I have put my initials at the foot of the paper which I return—so wisely written by yourself.

As your authority for submitting it to the “eminent authorities” to be selected by you.

The only alteration I have made is to put, where you have written in pencil another subject “Effect of Poor Law & Workhouses “Whether depauperizing or not. But it will rest, of course, entirely with you whether you choose to insert this or not—or to alter it.
I hope I am not too late, 
but I know how busy 
& over busy you must be. 
Ever yours gratefully 
Florence Nightingale 

I can only sum up my 
apologies in: 
how good you have been, 
& how bad I. 
F.N. 
Francis Galton Eq. 

My dear Sir 
I sorrowfully acknowledge 
your first award that the 
"season is now too far advanced" 
for you to "attempt" carrying 
out the "preliminaries."
I can only hope that, 
when the "vacations" are over, 
I may still appeal to your 
kind wisdom. 
You have been more 
than kind. And no one 
could do for the matter 
what you would. 
I trust your Demography 
is making favourable progress 
I am ever yours gratefully 
Florence Nightingale 
Francis Galton Eq.
Organic periods = positive creed
critical periods = no convictions but that
the old ones are false
Xtianity = organic period
Reformation=critical "
will last until a new organic period
has been inaugurated by the triumph
of a yet more advanced creed
(?the New Moral World resulting
from Law)

full title page
her hand at top:
the sense of infinite power
the assurance of solid certainty
the endless vista of improvement
from the principles of
PHYSIQUE SOCIALE [in print]
if only found possible to apply on occasions
when it is so much wanted
Nov. /73

1:34
marginalia:
Rules of
Calculation
applied
as to mean
& limits
of condition
of mankind,
physical
&
moral
Type
of
Individual
Measurements of Scotch soldiers

Study of Causes

Prima facie probability of recurrence of an event

Probability of a determining cause increases with each recurrence in a far higher ratio than the probability of the recurrence itself.

Probability that the sun will rise to morrow 1,000,000:1 from having risen 1,000,--- times.

But probability of its having risen by cause & not by chance at 2 to the millionth power.

Opposing causes.
Mental destruction of accidental deviations from regular results of permanent causes—Storms Rain
" Providential arrangement" is the "arrangement" of "secondary causes & contingencies."
What else can it be? "Errors’ even are by "arrangement" 1:47
Error & awkwardness committed with the same regularity as sunrise
- Rationale
1:48
Why do facts
conform to
probabilities?
Answer
the same as
to the error
that Laws
Govern-
Laws don't
govern:
they only
register.
The record of
facts is not
the compelling
[power
Laws are only
the record
of facts!]
[above is paraphrase]
[pillage] scramble

1:49
[le plus faible soit battu]
Tendencies
of weaker
to go to the wall
Tendency
of success
to be a proof
of ability--
i.e. of ability to
issue in success
1:50 Not causes
but
Tendencies
working
thro’
opportunities
Circular
polarization &c
[forme cristalline]
8000:1
that a Law of
Nature
was
there
tho
cause
still hidden.
Excess
of male births
over female
at fnote:
Cometary
orbits:
tendency to
Eastward motion
Cause
unknown.
1:53
e.g. fnote on 1:53 1, 57 corrected to 1,165 and 1, 177-8
trans etc also on botanical and astronomical examples
1:53
Causes
relative
ages of parents
from
prudential
considerations.
1:54
Causes:
constant,
variable,
accidental.
Accidental:
eliminated
by mutual
destruction
Variable:
periodical
with their
causes-
Differences present a definite 7 perfectly cognizable Law of arrangement.

Fraudulent practice concluded from sudden 7 marked irregularity in measurements. de moindre taille the shorter man

Sum of the squares of similar daily mean temperatures counted from cessation of frosts: determines flowering of plants.

Vegetation accelerated in a higher ratio than simple increase of Temperature. Explanation of accelerated rapidity of vegetation in spring Flowering of plants.

Lilacs flower when sum of squares of mean daily temperatures
counting from end of frosts =4264° Cent.grade.
Each plant has a constant
Use of Statistics: social well-being of man.
[at bottom] 40 years ago, the lilac flowered at Embley Hampshire, by April 19
Now (1872) rarely or never [Note states April 19 her sister's birthday, she used to being a branch of flowering lilac that day
1:63 Statistics whether Art or Science only secure basis of Social & Political Dynamics.
Analogy with Mechanical Philosophy

1:64 Error in Political Economy [next to statement on tendency to regard problems in statistics not dynamic manner]
Acquiescence v. high pressure of Modern civilization & diminished Friction.
-
Fallacies:-- [re hypotheses that capital tends to a common level of profit in the choice of possible uses

1:65 Supply always proportionate
to demand
a fallacy
v. Orissa e.g.
[that opposite disc of salaries rises with demand, she crossed out and put
in supply]

Rule of Three
in Politics a fallacy
Exact Science
based on
number
weight
measure
Statistics:
Social & Political
Philosophy:
Registers: Astronomy
Regularity of
Statistical Returns
in
large Populations
[on left ref to éléments moins accessibles] deeper seated

1:66
[on free will]
Instances
of
regularity
in
Statistical
facts.
[at bottom] Blunder again as to free-will &
Man's 'will' is determined by the acting causes" choice of his
'social system.'
Alter these: and his will is altered. [her para]

1:67
Sensitiveness
of
Statistical facts
to
"acting causes"
Statistics
answer to the
helm--
i.e. to the
"modifying cause
or spur.
1:68
Distinguish direct
 causation.
Proportionality
of cause
to effect doubtful
Where?
Population
the
Statistical
element
-
Civil Registration
1:69
Self
representation
[en vue de dessins futures] prospects
1:72
All young I
United States
v. all old
in Holland
Judicial
Statistics
1:82
Crime
Statistics
1:83
Medical
Statistics
[lots of highlighting in margin]
1:85:
sanitary
measures
Mitigation
or
Prevention
of
Disease
1:87
To judge of
Therapeutics,
one must
find out
what would
become of the
disease
left to
nature.
Book 1
1:91
Man is born, grows
up & dies according
to certain laws
of which the whole
or the mutual
reactions have
never been studied.
the Science of Man
gives us only
researches on some
of these Laws,
results of single
observations, or
theories based on
views.

1:92
Moral & intellectual
man has not been
studied in his
development:
[Ideal
Type]
nor how he is
influenced by the
physical man,
which actuates
him.
i.e. not by science
of observation:
of numbers
& facts.
Repugnance to look
upon moral
phenomena
as subject to
Law
One man cannot
undertake
these observations.
[paraphrase]
also: und "l'homme moral et intellectuel dans son developpement
progressif,...il est influencé par l'homme physique, qui lui imprime son
action.X
[at bottom:]
X Or does the "moral & intellectual man" impress his "action" on
the" physical man"?

1:93
Are the Actions of Moral & Intellectual Man subject to Laws? appeal to experience.

Individuality seems accidental: a fraction x of the race. x but a "fraction" is not "accidental": the "fractions" make up the sum.

1:94 [at top] Actions Subject to Moral Laws side:
A little free-will--(not tenable ??
1:96 even as to instruments employed vol II p. 142
Note [rt margin] Budget of the Prison paid with more regularity than that of the Treasury.

1:97 We can number beforehand how many poisonings, how many forgeries. just as we number beforehand Births & Deaths. Society prepares; the criminal only executes crime In Every social state certain crimes
result from the
organization.
This: no discouragement: but the reverse
men can be improved by improving their Institutions & all that influences their being.
Same causes: same effects.
Alter the causes.

1:98
[at top] Mankind can govern by Laws Moral as he does by Laws Physical but mankind can discover the Laws & govern by their means.


1:98
But mankind can discover the Laws--& govern by their means That is to say, that it is not in the intention of God that mankind, ignorant
mankind, can have an eternal or infinite action: at his own caprice. [How unjust if it were so.] God alone sets the limits. i.e. the Laws-- We act within his Laws--under His Laws--& also by his Laws. God governs by His Laws--- But so do we, when we have discovered them.

1:99
[on left]
Reaction of man on himself one of his noblest attributes: & finest fields of activity as member of social body & its subject to causes But as man he is their master.
[on right]
Nécessité des phénomènes moraux. Dans cette nécessité réside la possibilité d’améliorer l’état social
Nov 29/71 Nov 22/73 April 23/74

1:100
[her paraphrases are more succinct than his statements]
Political Science: enquiry into precise Laws: This only means that the general will produces
the causes of wh:
the individual
wills are the
effects. But the
general will can
be modified.
June 30/73
April 23/74

1:101
Are Statistics an
Art or a Science?
Take Botany:
Botany at first
merely an inventory.
Now a Classification
an Anatomy, a
Physiology
-
Statistics:
not Historical
or Political
Science

1:102
History =
Statistics in
motion [in footnote]
1:103
The Statistician
must judge
as well as compile

1:104
Hebrews:
Greeks & Romans
promoters
of our race.
-
Middle Ages
forgot this way.
But poetry
revived under
the struggles
of Christianity
& gave new
traditions
to Bible & to
ancient Poetry
[in text ref to Catholicisme not Xnty]
1:105
Pascal's
Theory of
Probabilities
Man felt his
needs & his
strength.
Political Economy
what principles
should regulate
the social body.
Statistics
study the manner
of being of
Social body:
the influences
under which are
its functions
[ref to auteur des Provinciales]
1:106
Immense
strides
wh; Statistics
have to make:
to consider
the forces
produced
by Man’s
“Free-will.”

1:107
Social phenomena
depending on
Human will
take place with
yet more regularity
than Physical
Phenomena. x x
X but is this not to be expected: Since the causes are unchanged.
[at footnote] Such as storms
& temperatures.

1:108
Separate the Social
Action from the
forces of Man’s
individual will.
adds to footnote:
Even a prince
can have no effect
as an individual;
It is the nation which enables him to act much or little.

1:127
Closeness of Approximation between Observed and Calculated Series of Variations not only in Dimensions but in Actions of Men Connection of Physical Conditions with Moral Actions

1:128
From Tables of Mortality one cannot determine when A will die. Hence no fatalism in these calculations. This study regards Social body & is for Philosophy Legislation not for Art or Literature these Laws change with the Causes wh: give them birth. e.g. civilization changes Law of Mortality: so also Law of Morality

1:129
Causes influencing Social system to be recognized &
modified:
not to act
empirically
-
From the past
one my predict
the future.
E.g.
human heights
so far
from being
accidental
register
Laws
the most exact.
So with weight,
strength
swiftness.

1:130
So with
intellectual
7 moral
qualities
this one of the
most admirable
Laws of Creation
All is under God.
Anthropométrie
p.259

1:131
Mean man

(human type)
a little under 5 ft. 8
in height:
numbers shorter
& taller
diminishing
regularly
down to 5 ft. & under
up to 6 ft. 4 & over
according to a
regular curve

1:138
births male
over births female
Complete enumeration.
1:139
ref to not degree of probability necessary to be accepted with confidence
What is
probability
1:141
Murders
1:142
Suicides
1:145
Crime
uniformity of
ftnote: Society the author
Criminal the instrument.
1:146 [at ftnote]
Buffon
on Perfection
1:147
Power of man
1:149
Man the centre
of oscillation
of Social elements
1:153 Nov 10/73
This work only the
sketch of a vast
picture, which
must be worked at
Judge the idea
& note the execution
Material
are still wanting.
Accusation of
putting things
incapable of
measure on
an arithmetical basis.
Accusation of
materialism
mad every tie
Philosophy enters
on a new road:
not necessary to
answer, now-a-days
when it does not
bring torture with it.

1:156
To discover the
mechanism of the
Heavens it was
first necessary
to collect precise observations, to create methods for working them out. so must it be with Social Physics.

1:157
Average of Men’s height & weight. A “mean” as there is in temperature, altho’ thermometer may have always been above or below this point. “Mean” man may alter in time.

1:160
Effect on Births of times, places, sex, seasons, hours of the day, other causes outside man: of political & religious & social institution i.e. of human causes. footnote Progress of practical Statistics in 30 years.

1:193
malaria diminishes number of Births

1:161
births to populations marriages Illegitimate births: (legitimate births:
to marriages)
1:162
In Political Economy
increase of population
more important:
than whether this is
by marriage or not

1:163
Number of illegitimate
Births in Bavaria:
cause
1:165
More boys born
than girls.
More boys die
than girls
106 boys born to
100 girls
in France
1:166 [next to table]
Independent
of Climate
106 boys born to
100 girls
for all Europe
1:168
In Belgium
In the country
more boys born
than in towns, i.e.
the preponderance
of sons born over
daughters a little
less in towns?
?in France alone
than in the country
1:169
More boys born
in legitimate
marriage than
illegitimate.
1:172
[at top] Births of Boys over Girls
births
To agriculturists:
Persons whose
employments tend
to add to their
physical strength:
born more boys.
Those weakened
by their employments:
more girls
Boys - girls
born to persons of
mixed employment

1:173
In actual numbers
births

More boys born
the more the father
is older than the
mother.
More girls born
than boys: when
the mother is older
or the same age
as the father.
[table] in Germany.
1174
If this be true, proportional
Births of boys to
girls can be
regulated at our
pleasure
[table] In the English
Peerage
1:175
Law of Births &
Population
The sex will be on
the side of the
excess in age.
The sex in excess
will die in
proportion to
the difference
between ages in
parents.
Thus, more boys
born in the country
where men marry
later than in towns
& are older than wife.
So with illegitimate
births: where ages
more equal: more
girls born.
Relative ages of
parents alone
determines this.
Early marriages
produce more
daughters.
1:176
[table] In the English
Peerage
1:1:77
{in English Peerage
Widowers have
more daughters
decidedly

1:228
ref to le grand hospice do la Maternité à Londres...5000 femmes
where?
there must be
some mistake
1:230
Mortality in
Lying-in
Hospitals

Quetelet footnote refers to *Elements of medical Statistics*, par M Hawkins.
La faible mortalité pour les mères et les enfants, pendant les années 1789 à 1798, est difficilement croyable, surtout dans les hospices.
1:261
footnotes
on lois naturelles
But religious & social habits flow
indirectly out of, at least act
& re-act on natural laws.
1;267
footnote refer to this branch of human scs not in enseignement superieur on any country.
should become
part of University
Education
1:266
In marriage,
man's free will
acts most.
But one can only say that the wills/inclinations of men
& women will be the same: the same causes acting.
[trans l'homme "men and women"]

libre arbitre de l'homme
marriage seems
to depend entirely
on man's & woman's
free will.

1:272
ref to Anthropométrie
1:273
These numbers
fixed
while National
Laws & circumstances
remain the same.
Individuals cannot
alter these:
Governments can.XX
XX How great the importance then of Governments
studying these Laws.
a few pages uncut!
1:363
The people always
poorer in rich
than in poor
countries.
Riches &
pauperism
go together
1:370
adds to "emanations minérales et végétales:XX
XX the most important omitted
viz. re-breathing breathed air
{on list of phthisiques, influences nuisibles]

1:379
Mortality in
Foundling Hospls
Want a
mother's care

1:408
In Epidemics,
some Doctors
follow their
Predecessors: some try new ways-
--for their own or
the public interest
All do Statistics:
some on paper-
some by memory.

Those who fail
take care to give
no Statistics:
Among those who succeed or think they have succeeded are some of small or accidental experience.

One attributes the disease: & he may be right: to one cause—another, & he may be right, to another: but both are wrong in seeing but one cause.

They generalize from particular cases. Contradictions come from incomplete ideas.

a success makes failures forgotten.

Suppose Medical treatment to do neither good nor harm, most will lose an average number of sick: some will lose more be silent: some will save more & cry out—leaving Statistics for Conjectures.

Without connection between the effect & pretended cause, they give their specific remedy.

Perhaps the sick man
best left to nature. Different treatments small influence on Death rate.

_Hospitals:_ Death rate depends on the way they are kept more than on the treatment employed

_Administrative [science] more influence than Medical science_

_Administration saves more Hospital Patients than the best Medical science_ [above is exact trans] 1:419

_Prison Administration may make a lower (Prison) Death rate than in the most privileged classes: or may kill 3 Prisoners out of 4 annually: a higher Death rate than in War or Pestilence_

_vol 2 also has a dedication: à Mademoiselle Florence Nightingale Hommage de respect et d'affection de l'auteur Quetelet_ [fewer annotations in this volume]
People frightened at finding man, the noblest creature, become a link of determined size in the chain of being: on the contrary: he has gained immensely in the chain of creation, by discovering these Laws.

Tragic talent develops earlier than comic [at maximum est plus précoce] cause

What the intellectual faculties which develop earliest: & which latest in the ages of individuals

Change in Drama & Theatre [l’inimitable Molière] Molière poor. [acteurs et actrices obtiennent parfois...premiers ministres] Now actresses better paid than Prime Ministers: or Prelates more flattered than Sovereigns or Heroes. [maladies] Mental diseases seem to accompany Mental development.

MADNESS ATTACKS THE WISEST: & IS MULTIPLIED BY CIVILIZATION.

Not idiotcy, but madness: civilization as “” TO:

Idiotcy product of
material influences
Madness product of
social influences
Idiotcy: result of
deficient
Madness: of over-excited
intellect.

2:186
more idiots in
Scotland than
Ireland-
More idiots in
mountains than
plains XX

XX Dark unaired sides of deep valleys breed idiots.

[rel of crime to madness] suicide

2:187 [l’influence de l’âge sur le développement de l’aliénation mentale]
Influence of
age on Madness.
Childhood: Imbecility
Youth: Mania
Melancholy: Ripe age
Dementia: Old age

2:189 [entre 30 et 50 ans]
Ages: at which
imagination
& reason, most
productive
Also: madness
At 25, physical
growth ceases:
intellectual begins:
also, madness:
also: maximum
of crime

ftnote Pierquin:
Relation of crime
to madness

2:233 [moyen âge]
Due: the product
of the Middle Ages
ftnote. Beitrage Berlin 1825.
These laws do not
change with
political changes
2:236 [suicide underlined passage]
suicide
appears to increase
? with civilization
2:237 [été]
Influence of
season on
suicide

2:240
Suicide develops
with intelligence
& madness
[next to table]
Suicides by hanging
most frequent
between 6-8 a.m.
10-12 “
8-10 “
4-6 p.m.

2:241 [état civil]
Married women &
single men
most inclined to
suicide.
Concubinage among
women 3 times
more given to suicide
than among men

2:243
Tables of Suicide
according to ages
to sex, to instrument
may be constructed
for the future
like Tables of Mortality

2:246
Results not
accidental

2:247 Nov 9/73 [at top margin]
Instruments
of suicide
for men
For women
[grande régularité]
No Fatalism
Individuals: may be inclined to crime without ever having committed one:
may have committed crime, without being inclined to it.

Crime
1. committed
2. brought to justice
3. prosecuted

Where most punishment of crime need not be most crime. Take care in comparing different countries.

Different probabilities of crime for different ages

[Huxley]
Effects attributed to supernatural caprice:
to immutable Laws

Humanity not stationary
2:395
Genius must
represent &
sympathize with
its age.
Genius must have
the possibility
the opportunity
of action.

2:396
Genius
must take the
resources
of its age
to become what
it is
& combine the
necessary
conditions to
use these resources.

[Newton était alors le seul homme réunissant les conditions nécessaires
pour accomplir cette oeuvre]
in right margin: April 17/74

Genius represents
the
progress
of its age

2:397
Genius not
accidental
Some centuries
after a truth
arrives the man
who is to
develop it.

Good
as well as evil
may be result
of a social
organization

2:398
Relations
between the most
opposite opinions
Compromise
always
false

2:399
[mutations]

Revolutions.
Governments should initiate reforms
Revolutions: their manners: true test of degree of civilization

2:401
toleration cowardice
2:402
France
England

2:403
Press: prevents accumulation of abuses & reaction
2:404
War: consequence of absence of Law among Nations
2:411
July 3/73
Perhaps knowing how to read & write less prevents the crime than the punishment
2:427 July 3/73
[aux législateurs]
Chancellor of the Exchequer of Crimes: Mr. Lowe

2:428
[und:] la peine n’en est pas moins un mal nécessaire, ne fût-ce que comme moyen préventif]

Punishment or at least preventive punishment still necessary
4:429
[end of Book 5]
University College London, GaDdon

New sources of Art &
higher inspirations
every day.

unpaged at end:
p. 314 Instruments in Reading & Writing
= instrument of crime
Statements exhibiting the voluntary contributions received by Miss Nightingale for the use of the British War Hospitals in the East with the mode of their distribution in 1854, 1855, 1856. London. Harrison 1857. 68 pp.

Staff consisted of Roman Catholic and Protestant sisters, unpaid ladies and professional nurses, paid by the govt. incl for soldiers wives and widows, admin by Bracebridges port, sherry, Roussillon wine, Bordeaux, brandy & how distrib

6 May 1881 letter from FN to probationers, 23 May 1883 and 16 May 1888 signed from your ever faithful old comrade (these 3 originals)

Village Sanitation in India (item 17)

a Paper for the Tropical Section of the 8th International Congress of Hygiene and Demography at Budapest. 8 pp 20 August 1894. "Training of Nurses and Nursing the Sick" repr from the Dictionary of Medicine, ed. Dr Quain 12 pp

Sanitary Statistics of Native Colonial Schools and Hospitals. London 1863 _on cover- inscription on blank page: for my dearest mother from her loving child F. London 2 Nov. 1867 67 pp

note from interview with Sir Bartle Frere
Sir B Frere Jan 21/75 hoodwinked if an English official however good a Scholar only listen to that one [Every Englishman however much he distrusts the Natives has one he trusts: the trusting man has many.] & does not go out & talk & ask among the Natives, he will be hoodwinked. difference between S. & W. Indian & all the N. & E.: that the former
recorded the rights first & kept them (Elphinstone, Munro & Malcolm) doing mischief sometimes by keeping & sometimes by altering: Ld Cornwallis &c made the settlement first with headman or Zemindar: & afterwards, after it was settled, recorded the rights: so that any corruption could take place between Headman & others
Lord Cornwallis' settlement left Bengal bare. nothing but an English judge, an English collector, an English &c &c & every one sure with his little expence Bengal is managed: no one went out among the natives till the Missionaries to see how they were managed.

V

In Bombay where native officers were left (we never touched their emoluments) we were always told how extravagant we were: keep down the expences

Campbell in Bengal had to try by pinching & pricking to organize an acephalous map of a Polypon[?]

Native Collectors/native Judges & Police so underpaid: eked it out by oppression: served their own illeg not seldom a man would be made to confess Murder by Torture: & the Murdered man walked into Court But if the native Chowhydar paid by a illeg is required to oppress his fellow villagers, he will think twice before he does it. If the native Collector is properly paid, or the collectors from time immemorial, he will not torture & oppress to make up his collections Danby Seymour went out & investigated the Madras Torture

Ld Salisbury self-willed: but will take a knock-down blow like a gentleman: & admit you have beaten him in argument

Never saw anyone so anxious to help Ld Northbrook: if Ld N. does not think it helps him, Ld S withdraws his Bill:
[If Ld N. only knew it]-
Minister of Public Works: Strachey:
University College London, Ga8lon

Ld S. willing to do whatever Ld N. wishes

Rent-free lands
Squierarchy: redeemed rent
Ld Canning's policy
if you leave them alone in their possessions
you have always a body on your side
of landed men.

[Bartle Frere annotations in the proof]
7 Nov./68
Private
Dear Mr. Chadwick

    This is not in answer
to your letter but only
in small token of my
friendship. And I wish
that it were in my
power to make in 20 times
as much
Yours every sincerely
Florence Nightingale

UCL Chadwick, letter of FN to EC 9 June 1883. re Egyptian campaigns, she
getting Chadwick to get motion in Parliament
My dear Capt Galton

I have read with very great interest Mr Longmore's most valuable Report. It is able, as everything he does. But it expressly reserves any conclusive opinion, very properly—as the Surété Internationale (or whatever it calls itself,) is examining, making experiments, & going to report this month. I do not see, therefore, as you ask me, what practical action is possible at present—nor till the result of

the Conference operations this month are known. They will give their opinion on all the contrivances. But I should, at once, if I were you, appoint a Standing Committee to take up the matter upon whom should devolve the task of arriving at some conclusion. Mr. Longmore, & Major Leahy ought, of course, to be on it. And, if you ask me, I would think of other names.

[The only person who has written anything worth having on travelling apparatus is Mr. Francis Galton (a
cousin of yours, I believe) I should put him on the Standing Committee, if possible.] Not to be put in the Magazines

But the impression which the reading of all these Reports leaves on the unprejudiced mind is this:--

that any Army which ventures into the field with any one of these contrivances is lost--

v

That every Army ought to improvise what it wants on the spot
All you want is the Hand stretcher--
As to the medicines, make your Doctors swallow them all. All you want for your wounded is a little brandy & a great deal of water.
As to your ambulances & your ambulance carriages:-- what you want is NOT appliances, but TRAINING--training & education
Your appliances kill.
2

Put up any sort of shelter against wind & rain—blanks or a few poles, water proofs, canvas sheets, cut down the saplings, & leave your wounded on the battle field, amputating there. Do away with all your Marqueses, Hospitals &c give your wounded plenty of air & tend them on the battle-field. No one ever appreciates the amount of shock of the wound itself & of the consequent removal. For every man that dies of his wound, five or six die of the Doctors, the

removing, the Hospital.

A battle field is almost always left. Two battles scarcely ever take place on the same spot. Then make your battle field your Hospital for a fortnight. Don't remove your wounded for a fortnight. Never collect your wounded. That is what produces death.

If your battle-field is 6 miles wide, pour on all your people--let them make a number of small centres in a circuit of 7 miles--
carrying the wounded half a mile on a Hand Stretcher. And let them stay there the first fortnight.

Mass your Doctors upon them there and they will live & not die.

At Netley you have all the ground necessary Make the men go out & lie down. Pour out the Drs & the Army Hospl Corps on them there. Let the latter cut down the saplings & improvise shelter for them there.

in the cordial advice of yours to command F. Nightingale P.T.O.

A short Manual of the things to be done & different Measures to be adopted under various circumstances would be a very good thing.

FN

with env prob from other Galton
Mr Francis Galton
32 Mount Ephraim
Tunbridge Wells
Kent Sp 13/72 Miss Nightingale in pencil on [the above, from pasted in piece in Galton book.]
corr with Galton re chair
but these are typed copies lent to Pearson by Mrs Nash
typed letter of Aug 7/67 to Galton from FN re standing committee and
Longmore report [on transport?]
"As to the Medicines, make your Doctors swallow them all. All you want for
your wounded is a little brandy and a great deal of water.

re contrivances on the field
"As to your ambulances and your ambulance carriages:--what you want is not
appliances, but training--training and education.
Your appliances kill.
keep wounded on battle field
.."For every man that dies of his wound, five or six die of the Doctors,
the removing, the Hospital.
A battle field is almost always left. Two battles scarcely ever take place
on the same spot.
Then make your battle field your Hospital for a fortnight. Don't remove
your wounded for a fortnight.
Never collect your wounded. That is what produces death....Mass your
Doctors upon them there. And they will live and not die...
more Nov 5 1996
University College Chadwick papers; also has corr 1843 with Lord Ashley et al on interments, his notebooks presumably of corr sent, CH Bracebridge re stat returns, water; 1843 re mortuary reg of Atherstone, average ages of death in each class, re house to house enquiry by ladies visiting and Mrs Bracebridge; only 17 years privation of life! saw at Atherstone

box of returns from queries to colonial schools is Pearson papers 622. Copies of printed despatches sent to duke of Newcastle, over 500 pp 1860; includes material from New Zealand
University College London, Ga8l2on
Francis Galton Laboratory,

2 Nov 1867

UCL has proof sent to Bartle Frere of The Zemindar The Sun and the Watering Pot as affecting Life or Death in India UCL SRE.folios 950.N31.3
FN inscription on The Zemindar, The Sun and the Watering Pot as affecting Life or Death in India. 84 pp
[pencil] proof. Sir Bartle Frere
[blue pencil not FN] Notes of an interview
with Sir Bartle Frere
in F.N.’s writing are
enclosed
FN pen: Please return to
F. Nightingale
35 South St.
Park Lane W.
7/12/74

FN pencil

Sir B. Frere Jan 21/75

hoodwinked

[if an English official however good a Scholar
only listens to that one
every Englishman- however much he
distrust the Natives has one he
trusts: the trusting man has many]
& does not go out & talk & ask among
the Natives, he will be hoodwinked.

-----
difference between S. & W. India
& all the N. & E.: that the former
recorded the rights first & kept them (Elphinstone),
Munro & Malcolm) doing mischief sometimes
by keeping & sometimes by altering: Ld Cornwallis
&c made the settlement first with headman
or Zemindar; & afterwards, after it was settled,
recorded the rights; so that any corruption could take
place between Headman & other

-----

Lord Cornwallis’ settlement left Bengal
bare: nothing but one English
judge, one English collector, one English &c &c
& every one said with how little expence
Bengal is managed: no one went out
among the natives till the Missionaries
to see how they were managed
In Bombay where native offices were left (we never touched their emoluments) we were always told how extravagant we were: keep down the expenses

---

Campbell in Bengal had to try by pinching & pricking to organize an acephalous map of a Polygon [?]

-----

Native Collectors, native Judges & Police so underpaid: eked it out by oppression: served their own purposes not seldom a man would be made to confess Murder by Torture: & the Murdered man walked into Court.

But if the native Chowhydar [?] paid by a cahn [?] from every house is required to oppress his fellow villagers, he will think twice before he does it.

If the native Collector is properly paid, to make up his collections or the Collectors from time immemorial he will not torture & oppress

Danby Seymour went out & investigated the Madras Torture

-----

Ld Salisbury self willed: but will take a knock-down blow like a gentleman: & admit you have beaten him in argument never saw any one so anxious to help Ld Northbrook: if Ld N. does not think it helps him, Ld S. withdraws his bill: [if Ld. N. only knew it]

Minister of Public Works: Strachey: Ld. S. willing to do whatever Ld. N. wished

-----

Rent-free lands Squireocracy: redeemed rent Ld Canning’s policy: If you leave them alone in their possessions, you have always a body on your side of landed men.

B. Frere comment on side of p 5, next to Lord Cornwallis provides for the possible re-establishment of indirect taxes: mark reimpose- It is difficult now to get any one to listen to a statement of the fact that to this day indirect taxes on capitalists, artisans & traders form a large portion of he revenue in every native state, without a solitary exception as far as I know. Yet we are perpetually told by
modern opponents of indirect taxation that it is “contrary to native ways.”- “to the genius of Hindu “finance” “an European innovation” H.B.F.

the proof has FN comments on extracts added

next to p 12 “he pays on his own marriage....” most true

next to p 15 Sir Thomas Munro’s scheme, called the Ryotwar system, had its trial and its failures too.
BF: not so great as in the Zemindari.

p 17 on H. Martineau’s British Rule in India.
B: This description of Miss M’s is very true in the abstract, but less true of Madras than of other parts of India. The great faults of the Madras system were 1. Munro worship....

p 20 FN pen comment added at bottom
But this is not to say that Manchester, as it carried Free Trade against all the world, may not soon become the most valuable influence of the day in carrying India’s progress against all the world, including herself & itself, (Manchester & India), & forcing a reconsideration of what we consider ‘first principles’ in governing India. All hail to Manchester!
BF: very just.

p 21 seems to have a comment of JL: I doubt whether the planters were superior to the Zeminder--they might ...

p 23 more JL comment

p 76 at Conclusion. Query: Do railroads really increase the safety of English rule in India?
BF: yes, It is true the railrds in the Coach & we have no manure carts. But if you have neither cart nor coach, a coach is a boon, better than nothing.

p 78 FN comment beside her own statement: No good laws or education can compensate India...
FN: A man must eat in order to be educated.

p 80 next to On the violator of the Permanent Settlement
FN: We are asked to abolish the Permanent Settlement. That is impossible. But it is rather the violation of the Permanent Settlement that we have to abolish.

[end 10:471]
Dear Mr. Chadwick

This is not in answer to your letter but only in small token of my friendship - And I wish that it were in my power to make it 20 times as much -

Yours ever sincerely

Florence Nightingale
35 South Street, [printed address]  
Park Lane  
W.  
7 Nov/68  

Private  
Dear Mr. Chadwick  
I am so driven & worn  
with overwork just now,  
especially with Indian work--  
and I feel so pressed  
to refuse your request,  
especially as I do not  
think you will enter into  
my reasons. that it is  
quite a trial & a task to  
me to write this note.  

I have taken time to  
consider your letter &  
also I have asked one or  
two of my political friends  
their opinions---( alas how  
few have I left--And


V  
I have come to the conclusion  
that, altho' I wish of all  
things to see you in Parliament,  
on account of the great  
services you will render  
on social questions, yet  
it is impossible for me  
[I only speak for myself]  
to do as you ask  
This is the reply that, if Lord  
Palmerston were still among  
us, I am sure that he  
would have advised to give.  
A lesser consideration--one  
which would not however
f3
weigh with me if it were
not for the other--but
which will I believe,
weigh with your kindness
in that I am absolutely
unable to undertake one
more care in addition to
the already too many cares
that I have undertaken--
Anything that brings
additional & useless
correspondence & controversy
upon me I must avoid
if I am to do my heavy
work at all, which
never leaves me 10 minutes'
leisure.
Mr. Mill says he regrets

f33
to see me "so seldom taking
a lead (publicly) in
public subjects" And he
sends me subjects in
which he thinks I should
do so. He little knows
the extravagant correspondence
the useless waste of strength
this invariably entails upon
me whenever I consent. Me who have not an
ounce of strength to spare,
depriving me of time & power for my real business
But now I will only add,
you have not a heartier
wellwisher for your
success than your ever
faithful & sincerely friendly
servant, (as I hope you know)
Florence Nightingale
Cawnpore Drainage
35 South Street, May 22/71
    Park Lane, {printed address:}
    W.

My dear Sir

You don’t know what a benefit you have conferred upon me (for more reasons than one) by sending me your Memo on the Plan & Estimate for the Drainage of Cawnpore—It gives me new life—[I will tell you the more reasons than one another time.]

Could you add to the benefit by kindly telling me by return of post where this “Plan & Estimate”, (which Edwin Chadwick Esq CB

UCL f35
I presume is a printed paper,) for the “Cawnpore Drainage” is to be found—Merely refer me, please, to the Title— if it is a separate printed paper - author & date [is it by the Officiating Chief Engineer of the N.W. Provinces?] or, if it is in a Report with other matter, refer me to the Title & date of said Report—
And believe me yours ever sincerely & gratefully
Florence Nightingale
Cawnpore Drainage
35 South Street, May 23/71
Park Lane, {printed address:}

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged to you for your kind note. I think that, if you will entrust to me half a dozen, or even more, copies of your Memo, as you kindly propose, I could place them to your satisfaction - i.e. among influential Indians & people. But - you are kind enough to propose to get me a sight of the original Reports & papers from Cawnpore on which you wrote the Memo.

Edwin Chadwick Esq CB.

I will tell you - in confidence - why it is so important that men, able to bring influence to bear on great Indian questions, should know that these original papers exist, so far as that they can be referred to them, in black & white, if necessary - and then leave you to judge (who can judge so much better than I) as to whether you should ask Mr. Thornton for them again -

About 6 months ago, I was made aware that these
Cawnpore Plans & Estimate for Drainage existed.
[To you it is not necessary to explain that this is one of the paramount or most important questions of India at the present time.]

But, when I referred the India Office to them, I was told that “the whole India Office had been searched - that no such papers could be found” - and it was implied that ‘no such papers existed’ - Of course the evil results of this were great - And of course

these evil results are much modified by your not only having seen & examined the (non-existent) papers but having written a Memo on them stamping them with your name. The D. of Argyll, you tell me, has also endorsed your Memo “and it is to be sent out as an enclosure to a Despatch.” this is most satisfactory - & puts the thing on a totally different footing - Still you & I know how much it is necessary, particularly in Indian affairs, to give the weight of public opinion as far as possible
to carrying out good principles in Drainage & all the rest -
[If anything could make this more evident, it is the India Office denying that these papers were there.]
Of course, the very first thing when influential men are asked to throw their weight into our scale is for them to say: Let me see the original papers -
And the answer is: they can’t be found.
What do you think would be the best?
If you like to ask Mr. Thornton for the papers for me to look at (you ask me this)
I have not the least objection.
Or if he would only let me have the exact Titles of the papers -
Or if he would only let me refer influential men to him as having them in his possession -
He must wish to do all the good with them he
can Or he would have not
    referred them to you -
[He is probably not aware
    that there is, & has been
for years, a General Order
in the India Office to let
me have any papers I
call for on my own subjects
from the I.O.
But of course I should not
like to use that 'order' in a
discourteous manner -]
N.B. I have no intention to
make any use of these papers
beyond members of the India
Council, the Govt, or India Govt.
    But you know how much
difference it makes if
persons known to be
zealous in the cause are
also able to make references
to such papers.
    Believe me
    ever yours sincerely
    Florence Nightingale
35 South St. W. Nov 9/72
Dear Mr. Chadwick,

I have been so overwhelmed with business that I have (literally) been unable to breathe. I received the copy of your letter here, & now return it with thanks.

It is a very good paper - states the case very well - & requires no "suggestion" [pencil] (as you kindly desire) -
[pen] I have had a capital letter from the Crown [pencil] Princess, of which I send you the substance - I will try to write to her now what you wish - in great press of business & illness.

yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

f43 [pencil note]
that all the information I gave her about you was most interesting to her that you lent her some very interesting papers that she hopes she was in some way able to help you to gain the information you wanted - at any rate instrumental in finding you the right people to apply to - that she hopes that later there will be an opportunity of their availing themselves of your valuable experience & services for the good of some German town or other - but that she has avoided taking any part in the matter as concerns

v
Berlin, knowing people’s susceptibilities & dislike of every thing foreign.
Dear Mr. Chadwick,

Yours is an admirable letter & note. How completely you understand the subject!

I agree entirely - in the absence of local Sanitary improvements, and in the midst of the endless confusion of Medical theories, there are certain things that can be done for children everywhere. E.g. -

Houses, furniture, clothes can be kept clean -

Windows especially in the epidemic summer season can be kept open day & night -

Children can be washed, & their clothes both outer & inner, can be kept clean.

School rooms can be kept ventilated & the windows open in summer -

If this be done (all matters of private Hygiene) there will be little risk of Epidemics -

With regard to Small-pox & Scarlet Fever, poor children are sacrificed to these Molochs - are not they? - mainly by dirty clothes, dirty skins & dirty air -
Mr. Stansfeld’s promised notification as to Cholera (in the House) - appears to imply that “disinfecting” Cholera excreta will play a large part in it!!! - Is that Mr. Simon’s notification in this morning’s “Times”? You will probably have waited to see this before you act ever your faithful servt

F. Nightingale

signed letter, ff47-48, pencil {not in FN’s hand} UCL 1490 47

35 South Street
Park Lane W.
Aug 10/74

Dear Mr. Chadwick

The Crown Princess of Germany was here on Saturday and she particularly enquired after you, and particularly de-\==sired that you should know how much she wished that you would come back to Germany and “do one town” your own way.

She dwelt much on the horrible state of Potsdam, which she described minutely and well-as to drains, or rather no drains; said there were “lots of people” with Typhus: one of her own
children had low fever; dwelt also on the advantage of applying sewage to land for agricultural purposes. But when I asked her whether they were going to do anything she looked sad, and said “they had no money”.
She renewed her expression of interest in you and your objects. I wish that I had better news to give you; but am, as ever, yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

35 South St
Park Lane, W.
Oct 6/75

Dear Mr. Chadwick
I have to thank you for 2 kind letters; & your admirable Proof.
It is quite perfect: except that at p.3 (Italic type beginning “water supplies”)
1. Is it not certain that water should not be conveyed into every living room? would not the houses be uninhabitable?
2. Is it not a fundamental principle that no sink-pipe should be connected with a
f111
drain? should it not open over it in the open air?
3. should not the W.C. pipe be carried up open to above the roof?
I think that these are probably only oversights?
In many Hospitals it is now the custom to place the sinks on the outside wall in such a way that they can be got at by throwing up a window: & then completely isolated by drawing down the window.
You give a great many excellent hints: especially about non-absorbent materials e.g. [the exact quantity of water a brick holds is 12 ½ oz. - a piece of cement of same size - only 1/4 oz. or 1/25th as much - is it not?]
This is of immense importance in the warming of a house -
Will “the reward of the architects”, which you propose at the end: viz. credit: tempt them to do much: or keep them alive long? [end]

f110
I have not returned your Proof:
Believe me ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

University College London Chadwick Mss signed letter, ff112-14, pen

f112
June 9/83
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane, W. [15:959]
Dear Mr. Chadwick
What you want as to the “results of the Sanitary Commission “with the second army in the “Crimea” is to be found in Sidney Herbert’s Blue Book on the “Sanitary State of “the Army,” 1857-8: & my Evidence therein.
What you want (as to the divers things you mention in the Egyptian War) must be moved for in Parliament.
Strange to say the Committee
do not publish it - & apparently, if they asked for it, it was not furnished to them - 
   As you say, “returns should be obtained of “the number of the wounded "& sick in battle - and “the number of cases of “sickness from the causes “we know to be preventible “ - from what sites they came in “ & what is the proportion they “make of the 3000 cases of “invaliding”

You might ask for a return of the
   No. of wounded “ admitted sick into Hospital
[But Enteric came on after they had been “admitted” in many cases] see Barnett’s evidence
Enteric / Other / Diarrhea / Dysentery
Fever / Fevers / Pneumonia / Other Diseases - [you will make the headings better than I.]
If possible, you should get these Returns moved for on Monday:
[end]

in great haste ever yours faithfully
   F. Nightingale
I know not whether you take interest in good and successful legislation for vaccine purposes, if you do I should most like to be permitted to speak with you upon the very defective bill now in process. If you are not well enough to interest yourself in this matter I can only say I am exceedingly sorry. Still I would on no account add to anything which might prove injurious or troublesome to you. The kind way in which you have before now permitted me to address you on like subjects alone justifies or offers to justify my intruding now this matter upon your notice. I am Madam

with the greatest...

Wm Rendle
Dear Miss Nightingale

Mr Mill has asked me to give evidence before a committee of the House of Co on the local govt of the metropolis, of which the admin of relief to the sick poor forms so large a part. Now no one, so far as I know, has had such wide observation and practical experience on the adm of medical relief illeg as well as at home, in civil, as well as in mil hosp, or has written so much, and, by professional ack, so well, on the subject as yourself. I would therefore submit to you what I have to say upon some leading principles for a reform, and beg your observations on them, and your views for Mr Mill’s info, as to what ought to be done to remedy the state of things in respect to the poor law medical relief, which through the laudable exertions of Mr Ernest Hart and others is now being made known in the metropolis.

I must submit as my conception of (f2) the leading admin pr applicable to the subject, that is was of making the largest aggregation practicable for the purpose, so to speak of segregation, or the most full, and complete classification for district treatment in separate houses.

This pr was after mature examination of my colleagues of the Poor Law Commss of enq adopted and expanded in our report of 1831. In that report we thus describe the common conditions of the admin of relief in what were called the parish poor houses. “In most parishes when overburthened with poor we usually find the bldg called a workhouse occupied by 60 or 80 paupers, made up of a dozen or more neglected children (under the care perhaps of a pauper) about 20 or 30 adult paupers of both sexes and prob about the same number of aged and impotent persons, the proper objects of relief. Amidst these the mothers of bastard ch and prostitutes live w/o shame and illeg freely with the youth, who have also the examples and the conversation of the frequent inmates of the county goal, the poacher, the vagrant, the decayed beggar and other characters of the worst description. To these may be added a solitary blind person, one or 2 idiots, and not unfrequently are heard from among the rest the incessant ravings (f3) of some neglected lunatic. In such receptacles the sick poor are often immured.”

It might be imagined that the very contemplation of such aggregates of violently disparate classes, amidst which every class of sick were immured, would suggest the admin pr proposed, for remedy, namely separation, for classification and for appropriate treatment in separate houses. Powers were given as we advised to the Poor Law Commissioners to unite so many parishes “as they shd see fit, to be united, for classif in workhouses for common use and to direct the alteration of houses and workhouses to enlarge or alter the same acc to such plan and in such manner as the said commissioners shall deem most proper for carrying the provisions of the act into execution” w/o the consent of the overseers or guardians. We had stated in our report that “in a house for the reception of the sick from a number of parishes the absence of patients from one parish might be met by an influx from another, & a more steady average might be maintained,” i.e. for regular care and treatment.” We pointed out that “the pr of separate and appropriate mgt has been (in 1834) carried into imperfect execution by means of (f4) lunatic asylums and we have no
doubt with relation to these objects and to the blind, and similar cases it mt be carried into a more complete execution under extended illeg acting with the aid of the central board.” We state that “on the whole it appears from the evidence that altho a considerable pop of the parishes are w/o workhouses, there are few districts which by combined mgt and under good regulations the existing workhouse room wd not suffice.”

For the vindication of my indiv opinion and admin pr as made up on early full mature examination and consid and as esp applic to the metropolis I may cite an article which at the instance of the late Mr Senior I wrote for the London Review on the admin of medical relief in France, in which I expounded the great advantages derived from the unity of the local admin of Paris in having all the public hosps under one direction, with a central bureau d’admin. I pointed out (this was in 1827).

f5
Insert 1
"The Workhouse Visiting Society in which Miss Twining has for so many years bestowed such import tant labour observe of the existing union houses--
"It is impossible to expect that there can be any peace or comfort in these wards till some other persons are placed in authority over them, for it must be useless to look for influence where there is not even common morality. It must be confessed that there is a great diffi culty in this subject of the treatment of the sick and incurable in institutions which are professedly intended to deter persons from taking up their abode in them. That most of them are unfit places as hospitals for grievous or lingering cases of sickness can hardly be doubted. The impos sibility of combining at least four kinds of institutions in one, as is attempted in work houses has often been represented by our Society.

A school, a hospital, an asylum for the aged, a penitentiary and reformatory are all expected to be managed by one master and matron."
4. Cleveland Row {printed address:}
  S.W.
St. James’ Palace
  May 9/63
My dear Madam
  I have no claim
to ask for a visit
from you on the
ground of having
“anything particular
to say”. But if you
could give/spare me half
an hour any time
tomorrow (Sunday)
between 10 and 5,
please fix your
own time - if you
are good enough to
give a short half
hour to a poor
invalid in bed -
  Ever yours gratefully
  F. Nightingale

wait for an answer [bit not found]
Miss Maria Martineau
  at Henry Sargent’s Esq
24 Queen’s Road West
  Regent’s Park.
My dear Miss Martineau

I cannot tell you how I was touched by your generous offer to come to me – But I cannot accept it. I could not bear to deprive you of an hour of your holiday, because your work for your Aunt is just as much work done for me - I have never divided myself from the whole in these things - & to take away a particle of your strength in doing my work would be just as much to subtract from my work; as it is to do without you. You will not believe this. But I should not have a happy moment.

Your offer is so noble that I feel compelled to answer it sincerely. While I am at Hampstead, I keep my spare bed.
for an overworked
London Hospital “Lady
Superintendent” or
Matron - to give her
a mouthful of fresh
air & quiet - And one
of the most trying
parts (to me) - of an
invalid state, such as
mine, is that more
than half an hour
a day of my dearest
friend ensures me
a week’s fever &
inability to work: &
nights of nervous
horror, which make the
days useless -

With you, I could see
in a moment that you
would not make the
mistakes (with an invalid
trying to work) that all
my kind friends have
done - But I could
never get over the
feeling that I was
endangering your health.

ever yours gratefully
F. Nightingale

I was really shocked with
the Saturday Review of last
Saturday. Could you tell
me when Mrs. Martineau’s
next “D. News” article
appears? I have the third,
thanks to you -
32 South St
Park Lane
London W W.
Oct 27/63

My dear Miss Martineau

1. I am very glad you are back again.

2. I self=complacently affirm that I saw the enclosed Article: & thought it VERY good & a “clincher” of the series - Indeed, for the present, the enemy seems routed -

3. I sent yesterday a “Scotsman”, with a report of my papers on Colonial School Statistics &c, as Mrs. Martineau was so good as to take the trouble to read them in the English papers. [It may be torn up.]

And to-day I send my India paper, as reported, which I must trouble you to return, please -

It is inconceivable the passive resistance there is to launching our (India) home working Commission - & also the Presidency ones. I have a long story to tell,
which I hope will
interest you when
I have strength to
tell it.
    I wish Lord Stanley
were a better champion.
    We are still
struggling about the
Instructions.
    I have been nine
years in the W.O this
very week, in which
I started for the
Crimea in 1854 - And
I have still something
to learn every day of
the invincible strength
of inertia.

    I consider that you
& your noble offer had
so much to do with
giving me courage to
write my India paper
that I hope you will
consider it pretty fair.
But it is not fairly
reported.
    It is a great relief
to hear that Mrs.
Martineau is not worse.
ever yours
    F. Nightingale
My dear Miss Martineau

I have not written, but I have not the less thought of you & of her in the great shock of Lord Elgin's loss. From two of his sisters I hear that they know nothing more than we do - I know what the shock must have been & the grief to our dear friend. I know it myself - There is none greater. I do not admit that any grief is in consolable where merely personal feelings are concerned - the craving after a personal presence - But where plans are interrupted, plans for eternal good of others, & interrupted, as far as we can see, for ever, that is grief, that is without comfort. I have felt this.

The brother, Genl Bruce, whom I knew, was a noble fellow - I have been & am exceedingly overwhelmed.
with business (for I have never this autumn rallied my strength as before - & the returning here quite knocked me down) - I was in constant communication with Sir John Lawrence the ten days before his departure - he is never too busy for business, & is too great a man to be hurried. And I had the great joy of receiving his commands to do what I had almost lost the hope of our being allowed to do. viz. prepare a scheme for the Sanitary work to be done in India
by the Presidency Commissions, to be created by him.

Sir C. Wood has finally refused to give Instructions to the "home” Commission. But Sir John Lawrence has virtually given us the same things to do as if we had received these.

The most savage attacks are pouring in upon us from the India Military authorities - Col: Norman &c. Sir C. Wood will not shew them - not even to Lord Stanley, our Chairman, who went, at my request, to claim them.

How wise he is in his generation, Sir C. Wood. Because now he can say he believes them. And we can’t contradict them.

However, the best thing is going to happen. A defence from the India Mily authorities is to be laid before the Ho: of C. in February, which is to blow us all into atoms. And Lord Stanley will have “to rise in his place” to support his own position.
I mean to write about this to you, if I knew that she were a little better & if I were a little better. We shall have a tough fight of it here. But Sir John Lawrence is our stay. He says our Report is far below the mark. ever yours F.N.

[not FN hand] Shall we send lilies? [FN] Oh yes please with rapture F.N.

11/7/63
Hampstead NW
Sept 10/61

My dear Dr. Farr
We are grateful to you indeed for the memorial of my dear master which you have raised to him in the hearts of the nation. Indeed, it is in the hearts of the nation that he will live - not in the hearts of the Ministers. There, he is dead already, if indeed they have any. And before he was cold in his grave--Gladstone attends his funeral and then writes to me that he cannot pledge himself to give any assistance in carrying out his friend’s reforms - The reign of intelligence at the War Office is over.
The reign of muffs has begun - The only rule of conduct in the bureaucracy there & in the Horse Guards is to reverse his decision, his judgment & (if they can do nothing more) his words -

Lord de Grey maintains the fight well. He said to the Commander-in-Chief, when he was asking Sir G. Lewis (the muff) to reverse one of my dear master’s acts: Sir, it is impossible: Ld Herbert decided it & the House of Commons voted it.

But what is Ld de Grey against so many? We have nothing more to expect from that quarter of Ministers. But you, & such as you, will make my dear master’s
acts live in the memory of the nation - And it shall be the nation who will carry out his work. The first gleam of hope I have had was in hearing your paper.

You say truly that it was the carry his work, not his reputation, which he cared for. He had no ambition - & that the best tribute, the only one he would like, would be to carry out his work -

His last articulate words, often repeated, were "Poor Florence - our unfinished work," -- words too sacred to be repeated, but that they shew the man - That was his last dying thought - Other men’s is a selfish anxiety after their own salvation -
Oh if he could have said, "It is finished
how willingly we could
have given him back
to God - But he could
not - Even I did
not know till the
last how the failure
of his energy to carry
out the finishing
stroke, which was
wanting, the re=or=
ganization of the War
Office, had broken
his heart - & how
it hastened his
death. I blamed
him - but not so
much as he blamed
himself - And I
think it is a tribute
to his great simplicity
to say how little he
thought of what he
had done - how much
of what he had left
undone - It was this
failure in re=orga=
nizing the War Office
which has left his
work now to be
upset there by any clerk.

It is for his
friends now to see what they can do out of the War Office. You loved him. No one loved him & served him as I did. But you & many more will stand by his work, which is his memory.

To me, & (I may say) to himself, his death, as you may well suppose, was nothing - It was the resignation of Office, without having re=organized the Office, which was the bitterness of death, both to him & to me. Five years, all but one week, had he & I worked together at the health of that noble Army.

I felt very down=hearted about the Indian Commission since his resignation. But, since your paper,
I feel that his friends will rally round his memory to carry out that most important part of the work as he would have wished.

The Barrack Commission starts tomorrow for the Mediterranean Inspection - one of his last official acts. Till the day fortnight of his death, do you know, he struggled on, doing to the last what he could in the Office.

That I should have survived him seems to me most curious. He who could do so much with me, I who can do nothing without him.

My last tie is severed with that noble Army which I have served so faithfully seven years next October -
in weariness oft, in
watchings oft, in
prisons, I can truly
say with St Paul -
For last month
makes four years
that I have been
imprisoned by sickness.

The Army’s work
has cost three useful
lives. But when I
hear what you say,
I hope that it is
not over. On the
contrary, that it is
rooted by you & yours
in a nation’s mind.

ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

I venture to send
for your host one of
my little books. He
is known so well by
reputation that I
think he will not
despise it for his
poor.

F. Nightingale

There are a great many more materials (to be done afterwards). I shall be
too glad to pay for the clerical labour, only esteeming myself too happy
in getting your criticism.

F.N.

I venture to send for your host one of my little books. he
is known so well by reputation that I think he will not despise it for his
poor.

January 19, 1862, Southland, Bromley, Kent, asking FN to present his
Manchester paper to Lady Herbert
Teagle signed note, 1f, pen black-edged paper 8033/5

32, South Street, {printed address:}
Grosvenor Square, W.
28/11/63

Please to write down
the name of the ink,
both black & blue,
& where it is to be
had - which is used
at the General Registers’
Office. & oblige
       F. Nightingale

Dr. Farr or
Mr. Hammick or
Mr. Clode or
&c

Teagle, signed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper 8033/6

115 Park St. W
Jan 29/64

My dear Dr. Farr
   I have never thanked
you for your incorruptible
pens, penholder &
“Millimètre” pencil -
   Nor for your section
on Weekly Table for
Calcutta &c, which
was just what we
wanted -
   All of which I do
now most cordially
   We are getting on
with our India work
   ever yours

       F. Nightingale
My dear Dr Farr,

I thank you from my heart for your New Year’s wishes. Indeed, none have touched me so deeply. They are of the true Sort. It would be idle to wish me, or perhaps any one who has seen this world as I have, a “happy New Year” — It has often seemed to me that the “goodwill towards men” could not be what it was, since it has pleased Him to take away so many of those, thro’ whom His “goodwill towards men” was best shewn. But still, that was only in my cowardly moments. I know that His “goodwill” is the same— And I never despair while
so able & steady a fellow worker in acting out His “good will” remains as you are.

Do not fail to remember to send me your Forms for Sir John Lawrence. We will get him to do that, before this year is out. But it is, not only my opinion, but, that of better judges than I, that, whatever is to be done (in Sanitary Statistical & many other matters) must be done in his time, or not at all. It is only his strong personal support which carries them against a host of Inerts.

[Poor Sir C. Trevelyan aided him - but he will never do work in India any more - tho’ he is better at this time]
At home 8/5/65
This poor creature removed to
34 South Street {printed address: on side} 27, Norfolk Street,
Park Lane
W.
for good (or for bad)
Dr. Farr F. Nightingale

Private
Dr. Farr
General Register Office
Somerset House

Teagle, initialed note, 1f, pen 8033/9

May 10/65
22/34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane.
London. W.
Alas the accounts
of our dear friend
Hilary B. Carter
are as bad as
possible.
Watson, Paget, &
Farre all saw here
yesterday
F.N.
My dear Dr. Farr,

I have, alas! so few "great friends" left. But I always reckon you as one of my great friends.

I saw, in the Illustrated News of this morning, (I did not observe it in the "Times") a Report of a discussion upon Hospital Nursing, arising out of a paper of Miss Garrett’s, under the Section, of which you were President, at Manchester.

In this a Dr. Stewart is stated to have said that I (!!!) Had been compelled to give up employing "Lady Nurses" or the introduction of educated women into the profession of Nursing - !!! (the fact being that to doing this I devote my life. Editor’s Note)

& that I (!!!) had declared
that educated women
were unable to undergo
the training necessary
for the purpose-
(the fact being that it
is not a week ago
since I had openly
congratulated ourselves
upon the steady, tho’
slow & quiet, progress
we had been making
in inducing educated
women to “undergo” the
training requisite for
Nurses, without which
they cannot be fit to

be Superintendents -i.e.
to train Nurses in their
turn.

Editor’s Note.)

Now, the first thing to
ascertain is - did
Dr. Stewart say this?
If so, he must be
made to unsay it -
Or at least - to declare
on what authority
he made this unwarranted,
unwarrantable assertion -
In that case would you
unsay it for me? -
I don’t want to weary you with a long Manifesto - especially as we do not yet know whether Dr. Stewart has not been wrongly reported. [Who is he?]

I will only say now that my opinion is the same, only strengthened - by the experience of the last 10 years - viz.

1. that NO Nurses should do the work of scrubbers - that therefore the Nurse, be she “upper, x middle or lower class” is equally able to go through the training of a Nurse.

2. that no “Lady Superintendent” (vide Miss Garrett) - be she “upper, middle or lower class” is qualified to govern or to train Nurses, if she has not herself gone thro’ the training of a Nurse.

3. I don’t exactly know what Miss Garrett or Dr Stewart mean by the “upper class”. [Neither do I think they know themselves.] Therefore I
will wait to know before
I mention many, (among
others the present
Lady Supt= of the Workhouse
Infirmary at Liverpool,)
who 1. have gone thro’ the
training of a Nurse,
2. who yet serve without pay,
3. who are equally qualified
to be Nurses, Head Nurses,
to attend an operation or
to be supts & yet who
are of what is usually
called the “upper class.” x
4. I thought the fallacy
about “paid Nurses” x
was exploded. It is
very easy to pay
x Be it known to Dr Stewart who draws a painfully
invidious distinction between “upper” & “middle class”-
that the fact is exactly the contrary from what he represents
It is very difficult to find good Nurses, paid or unpaid. It is "Trained Nurses" not "paid Nurses" who are what we want. It is not the payment which makes the Medical Officer, but the education.

To make the power of serving without pay a qualification is, I think absurd.

In a country like England, where so many women have to support their families, I would far rather than establish a Religious Order, open a career highly paid.

But, I think, all the sickening talk (of the Workhouse Infirmary Association, of Miss Garrett & Dr. Stewart) about "paid Nurses" is disgraceful to our common sense as a nation.

I will not weary you with more till I know what, if anything, you advise
me to do, in order to
prevent a Dr Stewart
from injuring our work.
You may think I attach
undue importance to it.
But then you do not
know how I am worried
with letters, asking my
authority (with reproaches)
1. For Church of England ladies & Religious
   Orders only
2. for paid nurses only
3. for pauper nurses only
4. for Marchionesses only
   & Princesses
5. for - but I
can’t tell you all the
nonsense.

Certainly I never expected
to be quoted as having
“been obliged to give up
“the employing ladies
“as Nurses”
“because” I “found
“them unable to obtain
“a thorough knowledge
“of the training necessary”
&c &c
Also, that all that was
necessary was to “pay
“good wages” to secure
good Nurses.
--------------------------------------
Oddly enough I had a correspondence with
Dr. Holland, of the Burials Act, in view of this
very meeting, in which he invoked
my authority, which I gladly
gave, to establish the reverse of what Dr.
Stewart represents me as saying & doing. [in small letters]
I am neither for nor against "Lady Nurses" - (what a ridiculous name! what would they say if we were to talk about Gentlemen Doctors?) I am neither for nor against "paid Nurses."

My principle has always been: - that we should give the best training we could to any woman of any class, of any sect, "paid" or unpaid, who had the requisite qualifications, moral, intellectual & physical, for the vocation of a Nurse. Unquestionably, the educated will be more likely to rise to the post of Superintendents, but not because they are "ladies", but because they are educated.

(which epithet I really must refuse to either Miss Garrett or Dr. Stewart, if they have been rightly reported.)

I fear they will do much harm to our cause.

I wish every trained good nurse God speed - and
to provide as many such
as I can, & also
trained x superintendents
over them, has been
the object of my life.

Believe me
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

x I have unquestionably said
(And I still hold) that
“Lady Nurses” or “Lady
Superintendts,” untrained,
do more harm than good
& that it is a destructive
fallacy to put a “lady” over
Nurses, who does not know
their work as well as they do
themselves, merely because she is a “lady.”

Dr Sutherland returns
home this week day from Gibraltar
I understand it is
said: - he must either
report to Miss Nightingale
or to himself- for
there is no one else
to report to at the
War Office.

Don’t repeat this
bad joke.

F.N.
Jan 25/68
35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane, 
London. W.
My dear Dr. Farr
You can’t think how much
pleasure you gave me by your
New Year’s greeting.
It is always a ‘comfort’ to
me to hear from you. And
it would be a ‘comfort’ to
me to answer you each time,
if I could always do it.
But now I merely come
to worry you again - & to ask
you to be so good as to read
this letter of poor Mrs. Neison’s,
& tell me whether there is
anything that could be done
for her?
   ever yours most truly
      F. Nightingale
Private
35 South St. Nov. 12/70

[15:738-39]
My dear Dr. Farr

I always think of you as of one of my best friends - both before & since I lost, now 9 years ago, the closest fellow-workers. I have so much to thank you for that I must ask you to believe in my gratitude, as I am sure you do - & also to believe how very heavily worked I am & have been, grinding, grinding away at helping in this awful War -

But 1. let me thank you particularly for your last Quarterly - valuable as usual - of which I hope to say more anon -

And 2. let me say that I am glad Mr. Ernest Hart is going to read a paper at the S.S. “anent the Intern: Socy. & its “administrative arrangements.”

[I thought his & Berkeley Hill’s report in “Times” a very good & able shaking - I suppose they are both ‘frondeurs’ (?) ]

As soon as I received your note, I informed Sir H. Verney, who is Vice-Chairman of the Socy. And he said that they would be “most happy to give Mr. Ernest Hart every information” & to answer every question he desired” -

[I do not myself offer - 1. because I have no time or strength - 2. for a reason you will understand.
- I have had every information from the other end - seen all the operations of the Socy. inside out - seen, as it were, the “dirty side” of all the Socy.’s “linen sent to the wash” - had private letters from the Depots, Hospitals, Ambulances, Stations at all/the seats of war abroad - I could not give this information for a public purpose - And therefore I had much better lie ‘perdue.’]
3. Have you had any trustworthy information as to Death-Rates? -
   I hear (I will not say, like a newspaper, “from the highest authority” - since there can be no reliable “authority” or Statistics as yet.)
   that the Sickness to Strength is 20 per cent.
   Death-rate to Sick 20 per cent.
   in the German Armies before Paris.
   [I myself believe this alleged ‘Death rate’ to be below the truth.]
   I hear that, generally, the Death Rate in German Ambulances has been 1 in 5,
   French    “    “    1 in 8½.
   I have from persons on whom I can perfectly rely (some of them, “pupils” (as they call themselves) of mine] that the Sanitary arrangements in German camps are such that the German Hospitals are such (both before Paris & Metz) that I do not hesitate to say that the best German Military Ambulances & Hospitals at the seats of war & the best German Camp Sanitary arrangements are worse than the worst of ours at the time of the Crimean War when all England rose in horror.
Please consider this ‘confidential’ at present in great press

[end 15:739]
   ever yours sincerely
   F. Nightingale
My dear Dr. Farr

At the moment that you are putting forth your beneficent feelers all over this land, spinning your web, to tell us how many we are, - not how many we have killed & lost in horrid war - how can I trouble you with a single question? -

Nor would I - but that I think it likely that, having already mastered the subject & the criticism brought by Dr. Duncan, you could dictate the reply almost in a single Paragraph.

You were so very kind, - a year?, more than a year ago - as to send me some of your invaluable Statistics of Child bed Mortality. From Le Fort’s book I obtained much - And I had also collected a good deal from particular Institutions -

The War for 6 months had put aside the possibility of my working it all up - But, a few days ago, I was asked very seriously, for a practical purpose, to bring out my proposed “paper” as soon as possible - And I opened my materials again with the view of constructing a parallel between the Death-rates in Lying-in Hospitals & those in homes.

Dr. Matthews Duncan, (whose book you have certainly seen, but which I enclose for your kind reference,) has, as a fundamental idea, to controvert the views of Sir Jas: Simpson & others about the necessarily high Death rates in Midwifery Hospitals - And, as you see, he
calls in question the exactness of the Statistical data on which these views were founded — & which I had already worked up into an imperfect M.S. Would you be so very good as to tell me what you think I should think of his objections — to your Registrars, amongst others — & how, if at all, I had best deal with them?

May I feel it safe, statistically, to use the Death-rates we have for Hospitals, Dispensaries & private homes, admitting at the same time their necessary incorrectness? — Or how should you use these data? —

Or would you advise me, before treating of the high Death rates in Lying-in Hospitals as a practical argument, to wait until you can give the world absolutely correct Midwifery Statistics?

Pray excuse my enquiry which there is no one but yourself who can answer — return me my tiresome & ‘aggravating’ book — & believe me ever yours most truly

Florence Nightingale
My dear Dr. Farr

How long I have been in thanking you for your two kind notes and (in anticipation) for the information which you say you are calling for, anent lying-in Death rates. I want also to consult you about the information which I ought to have for my 2nd Edition, (if, please God, I do one -) & about the most glaring wants which your ‘expert’ eye detects in the first - because the subject is one of every-day importance all over England. Would it not be desirable in the first place to have much more information about private practice? e.g. about the comparative Death-rate among Lying-in women of the Upper of the Comfortable of the Working Classes Classes Classes. It is commonly supposed that the Death-rate among the first (the rich) is highest. Possibly the great difference between published Statistics of private practice may arise partly from this: No kind of data are ever given one of this kind.
by which one can form even a guess.

One may remark, by the way, that as it is exclusively women of the poorest class (whose Death-rate is commonly supposed to be the lowest) who go to the Lying-in Institutions, this makes their high Death-rate the more inexcusable -

But it also partially accounts for the very low Death-rate of Lying-in Charities which deliver women at home, since these also are of course all hard-working women.

Some few Charities have sent me their Statistics since my book came out - & asked me to advise - especially about keeping Records.

[One of these, the “Birmingham Lying-in Charity” which has delivered women at home since 1868 with trained Midwives, has an astonishingly low Puerperal Death-rate - lower than in the “healthy districts”]

I dare say that you have already obtained through your Registrars a stricter account of the home Death-rate.

Perhaps a circular to the Medical Profession sent out by you might obtain much information as to such points as these: -

1. the Cause of Death in all cases where a woman has died after Delivery
2. the Date up to a month after Delivery
3. the Medical attendant to state whether the Death was in any way connected with the Delivery

I enclose you a Critique in the “British Medical Journal” on the book.

To ask your advice about the points for Statistics which I have put generally is now my main desire -

As no one but you could fix once for all the Normal Death-rate at home - including all Deaths & the Causes within a month.
Mr. Villiers (I wish he were still at the Poor Law Board) has written to me about my little book.

It has been suggested to me to get from the present President of the Local Government Board something of the following data: -

[but you know I trust no one but my Patron Saint which is: you -]

Nos. of Births (or else Deliveries)
No. of Deaths in Childbirth

for one year amongst the classes following: -

Wives of
1. gentry & professional persons
2. shopkeepers & middle-class persons
3. wages = classes
   (1) artizans
   (2) labourers
4. unmarried women
obtaining

I (1) total number of Births No.
(2) of which were in Hospital No.
also

II Deaths from Puerperal Diseases
   a. at home
   b. in Hospital
and thus obtaining
the proportion of Deaths of each Class to
Births of each Class
the proportion of Deaths at home to
Deaths in hospital
and various other information.
But you know I am like a little boy
writing to Aristotle - when I write to you -
And I only put down a few of the data I want
in order to ask (& HAVE) from you -
& also to ask for your opinion how best
to obtain (& improve the heads of)
what I ought to have in order to go one & make
progress.
[The thing I want now is the real normal Death-rate
& the class Death-rate
(if possible).

N.B. The analysis of Classes MAY show that both
Mr. Rigden of Canterbury & Dr. Matthews Duncan
are correct -
But what an argument for simplicity of life!
if women who have servants are not “saved in child-bearing” -

2.
I think a “Soldiers’ Hut” for lying-in women
as you propose would do good
in the Metropolitan Districts - (a ‘Naturary’ -)
And I suggested that Queen Charlotte’s people
should try one in their grounds
as against their hospital

My
My dear Dr. Farr

I am always so sorry to trouble you when it is merely to trouble you that I do not write, especially when I fear that you are not quite well.

On this occasion, when everything seems so sad, may I write just to ask you (& no more) whether you might not call some one’s attention to the statement – in the “Edinburgh Medical Journal” which I enclose, p. 550, – as to the “inaccuracy” or “fallaciousness” of the Registrar-General’s returns – with the view to notice being taken of this in the “Lancet.”?

An attempt is made in Matthews Duncan’s book to impugn the truthfulness of the Registrar-General’s returns – But in the present Article the man talks of “well-known” “fallaciousness.”

If you would just deal with this point,

- tho’ of course you may think it quite unnecessary to notice it, - it might do good.

I mean to reserve my answer to all the attacks which have been made for my 2nd Edition –

ever yours sincerely Florence Nightingale.
My dear Dr. Farr

You were so good as to ask me for my “Commission” when you left to join the World’s Statistical Congress - And I was too ill (not to feel my best interest but) to speak it.

At the same time, I cannot let this great occasion pass without giving you joy of the noble way in which the Imperial City appreciates the science which must be the basis of all sciences, whether of government, of philanthropy or of society.

nor without asking you to give my humble but earnest & grateful remembrance to any who may kindly remember me, — especially to M. Quetelet, the founder & author of us all — if I may be so venturesome as to enroll myself among you —

I should have sent my “Notes on Lying-in Institutions” by you, if I could have thought this little book a not too contemptible offering to the
Congress - knowing how much
Russia has occupied herself
in that direction - But I
had not this vanity.

But I will ask you to request
M. Quetelet to allow me to
offer him a copy on his return,
as he has treated of this
subject in his “Physique Sociale”.

But above all - I will ask you
to recall to him - (what was
the subject of correspondence
between you & me.) - that, -
for the sake of the University
of Oxford, which is now
ripe - & ‘willing’ - for including
Social Statistics -

this all important subject, in
its ‘Final examination’ all
important when one considers
that the Legislature, the
statesmanship, the professions
of England find their supply
from the youth of Oxford, -
M. Quetelet must undertake
at one a new Edition of
his “Physique Sociale” (which
is not now to be had) for us -

I will not now take up your
time except with my very
best greetings. God bless you.
And pray believe me, dear
Dr. Farr, as ever

Yours ‘overflowingly’

Florence Nightingale
Private
14/5/79
10, South Street, [printed address:]
Park Lane. W.

My dear Dr. Farr

I was rejoiced to see your handwriting again. I did not know you were come back to England & I earnestly hope that your precious health is quite restored.

Dr. Farr is *sui generis*, you know. There is no one to replace him: & he must give us 20 years more of his work.

You have created the Registrar’s Office in the form in which it has such essential bearings on Sanitary work. to you is due a great part of the saving of lives effected by

the immense strides Sanitary progress has made in the last 40 years, as far as this depended on Statistical work, all over England & Europe. London, - the healthiest large city in the world, I suppose, - owes this to you mainly, in as far as you have pointed out & tested our way & our progress.

I hope India’s Statistics may yet owe much to you.

I lost no time in applying to Lord Beaconsfield. [You will believe, I am sure, that you cannot wish more than I that you should be Registrar-Genl.]
Lord Beaconsfield replies that the Registrar-General has not placed his resignation in his hands, & that he is not aware that he has any immediate intention of doing so.

Until the vacancy is actually reported, Lord Beaconsfield thinks he cannot promise.

God speed you & your work ever:
in great haste
ever most faithfully & heartily
yours

Florence Nightingale

June 10. 79
10 South Street
Park Lane W

My dear Dr. Farr
May God bless your labours
May He entirely preserve your health
May you be our Registrar

the fervent wish of
Dear Dr. Farr
Yours ever faithfully
Florence Nightingale
My dear Dr. Farr

You know that I am, if possible, more anxious for you to be Registrar-Genl than you are yourself.

I have been stirring but I am told that I should write to Lord Beaconsfield.

Should this letter go in on November 1: or before: or after?

I will return you your copy: under stress of business & in great haste

ever most faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

I hope you are well
Jan 9/80

10, South Street
Park Lane
W.

My dear Dr. Farr

No one can regret your resignation as I do. But I must not dwell on that. I wish you many & very happy New Years in the highest sense of the word.

Your Work will remain & grow for all time, for Europe as for England & India. Illness & business weigh heavily upon me. It is the last straw breaks the Camel’s back. My last straws have been tons: the charge of Leigh Hurst in Derbyshire & my back is broken. (over

but none the less

Dear Dr. Farr

am I ever yours devotedly

Florence Nightingale

Jan 9th/80
May 3/83

Dear Madam,

I received your letter with the truest sympathy, & should have been glad to hear from you some particulars of the last years of my beloved friend Dr. Farr, one of the truest benefactors to the world that has lived.

Could you tell me whether there is any one at the General Register Office who is joining in the attempt to procure Government for your Sisters,

or what Members of Parliament there are who are likely to join in pressing the matter upon Mr. Gladstone?

Because if there are such it would be much better to act together,

Or could you refer me to anyone at the General Register Office?

Pray excuse this short note. I have been an overworked Invalid for 25 years, & am just now
scarcely able to write.  But none the less have
I mourned for your, & our loss, & rejoiced for your
Father, & our friend, who is now set free to
bless new worlds. How much he must enjoy!
I could write so much about him.
I have already made some enquiries about the Pension.
Pray believe me
Ever your faithful servant
Florence Nightingale
Miss F. Farr.

Teagle letter fragment, 1f, pencil

2 1883
Would you be so very kind
as to let Dr. Farr’s daughters
know (I think they live near you) how very much I
think of my dear old friend & colleague - for how many years we
were in close work together? - & of his noble & fruitful life, which achieved such wonderful works for the children of men - his never-to-be-forgotten labours -
I will write to them as soon as I am able  FN
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
Asiatic side
Nov 14 1854

Dear Sir

Time must be at a dis
count with the man who can
adjust the balance of such
an important question as the {illeg}
{lines missing?}

Now comes the time of {illeg}
& Hospital Gangrene, & every
ten minutes an Orderly runs, &
we have to go & cram lint into
the wound till a Surgeon can
be sent for & stop the bleeding
as well as we can - In all our
Corridors I think we have not
an average of three limbs per
man - And there are two ships
more "loading" at the Crimea with
wounded, this is our phraseology.
Then come the Operations - & a
melancholy, not an encouraging
list is this - They are all
performed in the Wards - no time
to move them - One poor fellow,
exhausted with haemorrhage, has
his leg amputated as a last hope
& dies ten minutes after the Surgeons
have left him - Almost before
the breath has left his body, it
is sewn up in its blanket, and
{lines missing?}
annoyance of being called
from their dinners by such a
influx of Wounded” But {illeg}
cubs grow up into good {illeg}
bears, tho’ I don’t know {?}
for certain it is, the old {bears?}
are good - We have {?}
four miles of beds - & {not?}
eighteen inches apart - {we?}
have our quarters in one
of the Barrack - & all the
fresh influx has been {wedged?}
down between us & the {?}
Guard in two corridors {?}
a line of beds down each {?}
just room for one man {to?}
pass between, and four {?}
Yet, in the midst of this {ugly?}
horror - (we are steeped {to?}
our necks in blood) - the {?}
good - And I can truly {say?}
like St. Peter, “it is good for {?}
to be here” - though I don’t

died two hours after we received
him - one compound fracture
just as we were getting him into bed in all,
twenty-four cases on the day
of landing - The Dysentery cases
have died at the rate of one
in two- Then the day of opera-
tions which follows - I have no
doubt that Providence is quite
right, & that the Kingdom of Hell
is the best prepar beginning
for the kingdom of Heaven, but
that this is the kingdom of
Hell no one can doubt - We
are very lucky in our Medical
Heads - two of them are brutes,
& four of them are angels - for
this is a work which makes
either angels or devils of men,
& of women too - As for the
Assistants, they are all cubs,
& will, while a man is
breathing his last breath
{lines missing?}
“I came out, ma’am, prepared to submit to every thing - to be put upon in every way - But there are some things, ma’am, one can’t submit to - There are caps, ma’am, that suits one face & some that suits another And if I’d known, ma’am, about the caps, great as was my desire to come out to nurse at Scutari, I wouldn’t have come, ma’am.”

Speech of Mrs. Lawfield. Nov.5

anything have I left - Everything is gone to make slings & stump pillows & shirts - These poor fellows had not had a clean shirt nor been washed for two months before they came here & the state in which they arrive from the Transports is literally crawling. I hope in a few days we shall establish a little cleanliness. But we have not a basin not a towel nor a bit of soap nor a broom - I have ordered 300 scrubbing brushes But one half the Barrack is so sadly out of repair that it is impossible to use a drop of water on the stone floors, which are all laid upon rotten wood, & would give our men fever in no time - The next case is a poor fellow where the bullet went in at the
made a hole in his tongue
out in the neck - the wound
was doing very nicely, w{hen he?}
was seized with agonizing (?)
& died suddenly, without c(?)
or paralysis - At the P.M. an
abscess in the anterior part {of his?}
head was found as big as {a?}
fist - yet the man kept {his?}
reasoning faculties till the {end?}
And Nature had thrown {her?}
false coat all round it.

I am getting a screen
for the Amputations, for when a
poor fellow, who is to be ampu-
tated tomorrow, sees his co{mrade?}
today die under the knife, {it?}
makes impression - & dimi{nishes?}
his chance - But, any way {with?}
these exhausted frames th{e?}
mortality of the operations {is?}
frightful - We have Erysipe{las?}
Fever & Gangrene - And {the?}
{line missing?}

We are getting on nicely though
in many ways - They were so
glad to see us - The Senior Chaplain
is a sensible man, which is a
remarkable providence - I have
not been out of the Hospital walls
yet - But the most beautiful
view in all the world I believe lies
outside - If you ever see Mr.
Whitfield, the House Apothecary
of St. Thomas’s, will you tell him
that the nurse he sent me, Mrs.
Roberts, is worth her weight in
gold - There was another engagement
on the 8th, & more wounded, who
are coming down to us - The text
which heads my letter was
expounded thus - Mrs. Lawfield
was recommended to return home
& set her cap, vulgarly speaking, at
some one elsewhere than here, but on
begging for mercy, was allowed to
make another trial - Mrs. Drake
is a treasure - the four others are
{line missing}
We have no room for corpses
in the Wards - The Surgeons pass on to {the?}
next - an excision of the
shoulder-joint - beautifully {per-?}
formed & going on well. {Ball?}
lodged just in the head of the {joint?}
& fracture starred all round.
The next poor fellow has {two?}
stumps for arms - And the
next has lost an arm & {a?}
leg - As for the balls, they go
where they like, & come on
where they like, & do as m{uch?}
harm as they can in passing
That is the only rule they have.
the next case has one eye put {out?}
& paralysis of the iris of the {other?}
He can neither see nor under{stand?}
But all who can walk come
to us for Tobacco, but I tell {them?}
we have not a bit to put {in?}
our own mouths - Not any
{line missing}
{written in the left side margin}
first impression. But it may modify, if I can convince them of the
absolute
necessity of discipline & propriety in a drunken Garrison.
would have said so - as I went my night-rounds among the Newly Wounded that first night, there was not one murmur, not one groan, the most strictest discipline, the most absolute silence & quiet prevailed - only the step of the sentry & I heard one man say, I was dreaming of my friends at home, & another said, And I was thinking of them - These poor fellows bear pain & mutilation with unshrinking heroism, & die or are cut up without a complaint. Not so the Officers, but we have nothing to do with the Officers - The wounded are now lying up to our very door, & we are landing 540 more from the “Andes”. I take rank in the Army as Brigadier-General, because 40
with me, are more difficult {to?}
manage than 4000 men - {Let a ?}
lady come out here who is not
used to fatigue & privation
For the Devonport sisters, who
ought to know what self= {?}
is, do nothing but complain
Occasionally the roof is torn {off?}
our quarters, or the window
blown in - & we are floor {?}
& under water for the night
We have all the Sick Cook{ing?}
now to do, & have got in four {?}
for the purpose - for the prophet Mahomet
does not allow us a fem{ale?}
And we are now able to {?}
these poor fellows with some {?}
besides the Govt Rations -
climate is very good for the healing of {wounds?}
   I wish you would recall {me?}
to Dr. Bruce Jones’s remembr{ance?}
when you see him, & tell him
that I have had but too {much?}
occasion to remember him {?}

Bowman, copy of a signed letter, 4ff, pen

{archivist: Copy of a letter from Miss Nightingale Jan 31/56}, copy
Wellcome 8996

Scutari BH
   Jan 31-5{6?}

My dear Mr. Bracebridge
   In reply to your letter
requesting me to give some sign
as to what I wish to have done {?}
the money about to be raised {under?}
the name of the ‘Nightingale fund
and as to what purpose it is {to be?}
devoted - I can only say - th
1st The people of England say {to?}
me by this subscription “we trust
you’ - we wish you to do us a {?}
no love or confidence can be {shewn??}
to a human being, greater than
this and as such I accept it grate
-fully & hopefully - I hope I shall
never decline any work God & the people
of England offer me -
But 2. I have no place at all -
   I am not new to these things -
I am not without experience -
and no fear presents itself more
strongly to my mind - no certainty
of failure more complete than
accompany the idea of beginning
anything of the nature proposed
to me, with a great demonstration
a vast preparation, a great man perhaps
coming down to the Hospital to give
the first “cup of cold water” -
People’s expectations are highly
wrought - they think some great
thing will be accomplished

in six months - altho’ experience
shews that it is essentially the
labor of centuries - they will be
disappointed to see no great ch{ange?}
and at the end of a twelvemonth
will feel as flat about it as the {guests?}
do on a wedding day, at three o’clo{ck}
after the wedding breakfast is {?}
   But worse than this - the fellow
workers who wd join me in a work
wch began with excitement, demon-
stration, public popularity wd
be those whom vanity, frivolity
the love of excitement wd bring
and these wd least of all b{ring?}
about the wonderful results {which?}
the public wd be expecting - or ra{ther?}
the results wd be wonderful th{?}
other way
these are not theories but experience
and if I have a plan in me wch
is not battened out by the perpetual
“wear and tear” of mind & body I am
now employing it would be simply
this - to take the poorest and least
organised Hospital in London - and
putting myself in there - see what
I could do - not touching the “Fund”
perhaps for years - not till experience
had shown how the Fund might
best be available -
This is not detracting from
the value and importance of the
Fund to the work - It will be invalu
able, as occasion requires -
I have hardly time to write this
letter - much less to give the
experience wch would prove

the deductions to be true - But
would only appeal to two recent
instances -
1. My strength lies in coming to Hosp{itals{?}}
   miserably disorganized and in {or{?}}
   ganizing them Had I come to {?}
   institution cut and dry - what
could I have done to alter it
2. The greater proportion of valu{ed{?}}
   fellow workers here came out he
with the fist party - not with
-standing the hurry of selection
when the work was obscure
laborious & laughed at - & to
hardships great & not with
few priceless exceptions, with
subsequent parties, when the {ex{-?}}
-citement & popularity were {pr{?}}
of gain & curiosity all on the }{?
I have no objection to {we{?}}
say thus; in private to you {we{?}}
{re?}peated to those who have so
{?kin}dly interested themselves
{?} the Nightingale Fund” &
{illeg sympathised ?} in her work -
the first fruits of a long series
{?} I expect) of the brick & mortar
{?} of needy & philanthropic
{v?}entures who wish to get hold
{of?} the “Nightingale Fund” have
{al?}ready come in upon me - But
{I ?}hope our inexorable Common
{sen?}se will not be taken in -
{one} more instance and I have
{done?}

Compare the gradual but
{com?}plete success of Fliedner’s
{?} Kaiserswerth with that
{of?} the magnificent and pow-
{?} “Bethanian” at Berlin -
{w?} hose excellent and simple

-minded foundress was appalled
by the “greatness thrust upon her”
which marred her work. -
I must therefore decline making
any plan whatever - even when I {am?}
not overwhelmed at present -
not with plans but with work
At the same time, would I
could say (which I cannot)
how much I feel the love and
confidence of the people of England
in whose service, as I have
have lived, so I shall die -

- I am dear Mr. Bracebridge
most truly yours
signed Florence Nightingale
My dear Sir

Should the Bearer of this, Captain Lyall of the Albatross, require surgical treatment, will you give it him?

I leave his case to his telling & your finding out - But what he will not tell you is how we have ill-used him.

He is a noble fellow - Pray consider the obligation mine, until we meet (or don’t meet) again -

[end]

Believe me to be, dear Sir, Yours most truly & gratefully Florence Nightingale

W. Bowman Esq F.R.S. &c &c

Dear Sir

We ought not to have kept this letter so long - but I have a lingering feeling towards all writing of my sister’s which makes me slow to yield it up - Many thanks -

Our last account from Balaclava was rather an anxious one, though the fever had quite left her, {line missing?}
Bracebridge said that she continued so weak that she could only speak in a whisper, & had only been up for half an hour - She will be trying to do so much more than her strength, as soon as she rises from her bed, that we cannot help being uneasy -

She overdid herself, as perhaps you heard, in visiting the different Hut Hospitals (now prepared for 200 & overlooking the different preparat(ions) for them, & riding in the sun {?}) & indeed the open air at all {?} for so many hours, must have been very trying to one who ha{d?} been shut up for six months {in?} a Hospital, where she could not leave her own tower, without passing through a Corridor, conta{ining?} 100 or more sick & wounded men.

Every one at Balaclava has been most kind in their interest. Mr. Bracebridge says, from Lord Raglan who had been to see her, & Admiral Lyons to the little drummer boys. but it is a sore thing to think of her lying ill so far off with none of us near.

Dear Sir

Yours sincerely

P.F. Nightingale
My dear Sir

What you say as to my Sister’s wishes with regard to the future is, we believe, quite true but there seems such a facility for misunderstanding & mistaking the plainest words, that we doubt whether such declarations (or any others) would set those at rest who are anxious to find fault.

My sister is at present so overdone with work & so engrossed by it that we know she cannot form plans for the future. It is part of the idiosyncracy which enables her to do so much, not to be able to give her mind to anything else. She could only give you her former thoughts on the subject, before her present experience, & this I am sure she would not think right.

My Aunt writes word (I think you know that she went out to join my sister when the Bracebridges returned) that she “never mentions the Testimonial or will let me allude to it (she won’t even let me say the T!!) You know how engrossed she always is with the work she is doing with her whole heart, & if you were under the constant labors the weariness, perplexing, difficulties that have hourly to be solved you would not wonder — I see she does not expect to have more than strength) for this work (which nothing will make her forsake God) tho yesterday she said ‘if I live to come home’ which I was glad of — but she is very cheerful & I think better since her attack of Sciatica than she was before she went to the Crimea. You
University of Birmingham  891

I tell you the whole truth” &c &c
“The work is so enormous that she
talks but little except on the things
that constantly require settling, &
I am only too glad that she should
give herself rest of silence with me.
She looks better than she did,
tho’ she still suffers from rheumatism,
& in her little cap & short hair
she has the bright innocent, almost
childlike look, which I remember
of old” -
We live in an atmosphere of uncertainty
& successive difficulties & perplexities,
now I have F I live in presence

Bowman, incomplete letter, unsigned, pen

I am sorry to say today, &
has a quantity of Poor Law work
on her hands at the moment
she wrote which must go in
directly.
I hope she may write to you
later - her {illeg} point has
been “the secular connection
there ought to be between any
Sisterhood & its Council”
not the Church of England
part of it -
“I don’t know when I was
as ill as I was all last night”
she ends: or she would answer more.
I do not think you wish Sir
Harry to call from what you
say? or prevent upon you
about the Bishop -

Bowman, signed letter, 1f, pen

My dear Sir
I was on business when
your note came & have
only just received it.
I shall be very glad to see
Mr. Wyatt at 2 1/2.

Yours ever faithfully
F. Nightingale
I send you Pincoff’s book in case you should like to keep it - I see some leaves are cut, but not by me - The part about the French Army Medical System I have read & thought good. Some things about our illeg/Army I thought flippant & flighty - But, on the whole, I believe it to {be?} a tolerably correct expose of the popular grievances of our Army Medl Dept.

all dragged in to this performance - & also because I have never spoken out about my unlucky T., fearing it might sound ungracious to those kind friends who have troubled themselves about it -

faithfully yrs
F. Nightingale

If Mr. Bowman would let me have the use of Mr. South’s “Notes on Hospital Nurses” for a few hours, he would save me time in sending for a copy & I should be sincerely obliged.

F. Nightingale
May 21/57
May 26/57

My dear Sir

Thank you very much for the enclosed - Dr. Smith has profited largely by the experience of the Crimean War - All he wants is a good man to carry it out in China which he has not got in Gordon.

My chief criticisms are
1. no means of filtration
2. not the best of deodorizing
3. no Medical inspection of men, for the sake of detecting premonitory symptoms of Cholera. It is a farce to tell our men to “report themselves” - And great was our loss in consequence in the Crimea. To trace it back afterwards, as here recommended, is like shutting the stable door when the horse is gone -

With regard to Mr. {in another hand {illeg Mr. John South’s “Notes on South’s pamphlet, I read

it carefully over with Mrs. Shaw Stewart, who is therein quoted.

It seemed to us, on farther consideration, that
we have only to regret
that its exaggeration &
little inconsistency dimin{ish?}
its value, as a strong
testimony by an old a{nd?}
able Surgeon of the val{ue?}
of Nurses, & of the
morality of many of them.
Allowing for spite & crotch{etyness?}
the generous warmth of
some passages, however, {illeg}
against alleged slande{r?}
contrasts well with {the?}
masters we shall proba{bly?}
spend our lives under
His conviction of the
non-improveability of

existing things can do
little one way or another
His reprehension of certain
things about the unhappy
N. testimonial I think
we must all acknowledge
to be true – “protection”
struck me from the first
as an especially mischievous
word in that mischievous
thing. The remarks of the
public speakers were
not likely to proceed
from much real knowledge
of the subject. And the
letter which provoked
this pamphlet had a

Bowman, signed letter, 2ff, pen

My dear Sir
   I am trespassing on your
kindness once more –
   The Bearer of this, a
discharged Grenadier Guardsman
a carpenter by trade, is unable
to resume his bench or to wear
a wooden leg for reasons
which you will see -
    He will not be able to see his
Regimental Surgeon again -
    because he is discharged -
    If you would kindly
direct us what to do, we
would do it.
    whether there is any
kind of leg, made by
Weiss or any one else
you would recommend,
which he could wear -
    I question whether
he will ever be able to
wear the ordinary wooden
leg, provided for him by
his Regiment -
    The stump is still
discharging -
    [end 14:489]
Believe me
ever yours faithfully
F. Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.
    July 11/57

Bowman, unsigned incomplete letter, 2ff, pen

of the undaunted spirit & power
to meet & grapple with them - If
it were not from fear that nature
should refuse to be so tasked, I
could see her go on her way with
satisfaction, difficult & perplexing
as it is -" This was soon after
her return from the Crimea -
    Later she says -
"It is very cold, there was "snow on
the ground yesterday - the day
before/last night it rained & blew without
ceasing, & is at it still, chill cold
damp dismal. F’s stove cannot
be lighted, it smokes so continually, the windows do not fit, & this room is certainly very cold; she cannot bear the pan of charcoal for long, which is sometimes brought it, as it makes her headache - so she sits in a cloak - We never have a meal with a cloth, except our little ten minutes dinner. Her breakfasts &c, are set on a chair beside her while she writes, taking a mouthful between whiles: Will you see us just now? F is at her large table covered with papers, I at my little one having finished my writing for her. We speak not a word, the winds roar, the rain patters, I don’t {know if ?} F is conscious of the bluster. I never saw a mind so continuous{ly?} concentrated on his/its work. It is a mind that belonged to some {?} planet! though in accordance with God’s love no doubt falling li{ke?} a meteor upon this, for it does not seem adapted to the human frame, though it has forced that {frame?} to obedience” -

Dear Sir I have sent you these extracts to shew you how difficult I may say impossible it is for us to get the answers you naturally enough wish for. The Testimonial is valuable to her as shewing sympathy & goodwill from the people of England, but you know better than any one how little she has wished for anything of the kind. & we cannot bear to make it a burden to her -

When we come to town we shall hope to see you. With all our kind regards & thanks for your constant & kind interest Believe me
Dear Mr. Bowman

Thank you very much & Mrs Bowman for your beautiful ferns & flowers - The enclosed are the points which have struck me - If you wished to bring any body to talk about them, would 10 o’clock on Tuesday morning
do? But, if that
does not suit you,
indeed I could
make almost any
hour do, if settled
a little beforehand
Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

July 18/58

Bowman, signed letter, 1f, pen

My dear Sir

Would you kindly inform (through your servant) the Bearer of this, at what hour & on what day she ought to attend at the Ophthalmic Hospital in Moorfields, in order to have the advantage of being seen by you?

And should her eyes require an operation in your opinion, & you should think it desirable that she become an In-Patient, if that Hospital takes In-Patients, a Subscription will be readily given for that purpose.

Forgive this liberty & believe me, in haste, ever most faithfully yrs

F. Nightingale

Jan 8/59

Bowman, signed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper

30 Old Burlington St

W.

May 31/60

Dear Mr. Bowman

I have always been intending to tell you the result of my conversation with Miss Jones - Because I believe that it was you who originated the idea that some connection might be established
between us.

Miss Jones thinks (& I must say I entirely agree with her) that it would be impossible, in a society like St. John’s House, or under her, or in any way connected with her, to have Nurses, not necessarily of the Church of England, & not under her rules -

But she started a new idea -

She wished to have a class of Midwives and she consulted me as to whether they could be trained side by side with Nurses.

Of all the numberless applications which have been made to me to recommend Nurses since I returned to England by far the most numerous have been for Parish Nurses in the country, with a Midwife’s education, to be paid & supported by the lady or ladies of the country parish.

I therefore know how immensely this
class of Nurse would be valued in England -

Do you think that six lying-in beds would be set apart by King’s College Hospital under Dr. Arthur Farrer for the training of Midwives alone, - if the “Nightingale Fund” Council would pay for a class of (say) six Midwife Nurses -

to be in all respects under the rules, & belonging to the Society of, St. John’s House?

Unless (1.) the beds were in the Hospital nursed by St. John’s House, & unless (I am afraid) (2.) students were excluded, I do not think
the thing would
answer - any more
than any other
Nurses’ Institution
has answered which
has not nursed
a Hospital of
its own -
Midwives being in this respect somewhat
different from ordinary Nurses.
Perhaps King’s
College Hospital
would not think
of setting apart,
in its very limited
space, six beds,
unless for its
Midwifery School.
Yet there would
be no difference, as
far as that is
concerned, from
what is now -
Would you think
of this in your
triple capacity with
regard to us all?
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
I have had a corres-
pondence & another
conversation with
Mrs. Wardroper of
St. Thomas’ Hosp:
But I have transmitted
it all to Mr. Clough
for you - He has had
an accident but comes back
today.
30 Old Burlington St
Saturday
Dear Mr. Bowman
Mr. Clough desires me to enclose these to you, one of which he has already sent you -
It would be a real comfort to me if you could see him today (professionally.) He crushed his toe

{page missing}

Clough’s letter to a physician who happened to be with me. And he did not think it was to be neglected - Mr. Aikin, who attends him, is a general Practitioner.

Don’t say, please, that I have been telling you this -
yours ever sincerely
F. Nightingale
The following have occurred to me as among the more obvious objections to the plan of extending King’s College Hospital.

1. placing any part of the new buildings upon the old saturated grave-yard of St. Clements’, which was for so many years a nuisance to the Metropolis.

2. the existence of so many close corners formed by high walls which must necessarily obstruct the free circulation of air.

3. the small enclosed court between the Theatre & Chapel & the proposed mass of building in front.

4. the immense
5. the proposed back wards
   It would be well to consider whether it is for the benefit of the sick to place so many of them upon so small an area of ground on such a site & neighbourhood.

2. whether the proposed front buildings could not be dispensed with altogether - whether another wing, consisting not of double, but of single wards, might not be constructed parallel to the new buildings on the Chapel side - so that the whole building would consist of three sides, like the
I am leaving nearly the whole of the old burial ground unoccupied.

3. whether the two-story Corridors might not be removed from their present position -
   The Corridor next the present wards cannot be otherwise than obstructive to light & ventilation of the lower wards. The object to be aimed at should be to make the building as simple as possible to avoid all unnecessary angles & corners & all closed courts, so that the sun & air may have free access to all parts of the Hospital building.
My dear Sir,

I must write a few words in answer to your very kind letter - (I have so few nice letters - than very many nasty ones)

But that is entre nous

I heard, while I was in the East, with the greatest interest of your experiment at King’s (Coll:?) Hospl. And I look forward with some anxiety but with more hope (under your auspices) for its success - It appeared to me that the fault of St. John’s Nurses was a certain dilettantism, & that regular Hospital work was the best cure -

I should have liked much to have begun my work at Kings’ Coll. Hospl under you - But I have not the less satisfaction in seeing the step taken by others - I shall learn much, too, from their experience - And I shall go & see them, as
soon as I return to London?
if they will allow me.  
I am very much obliged to you for your kind attention?
to “my” Captain’s thigh.
With regard to the Nightingale?
Fund, I am quite convinced that I can do nothing
with it at present –
for the very reason which you give - No reformer
ever began with the conditions with which I am called upon to begin – and it might be said that the best reforms have always been accomplished

silently and indirectly, not as it were with malice & noise prepense. With the buzz-fuzz about my name at present, my success would be principally in collecting about me much of the vain & needy & frivolous elements of England -
I found this even at Scutari - And if my Jason, the Hospital Fund, were to ask me, “Che mi resta?” I should be obliged to answer “Io only” for the present “only ‘Io’” -
I dare say I shall not be long out of my
Dear Mr. Bowman

Thank you very much for sending me this striking drawing.

The scene is most likely to have occurred in the Dock=yard Stores Buildings, a long low range behind or on the East side of the Docks near the Karabelnaia Suburb - single floored buildings on a raised basement.

The drawing calls itself
“in the Hospital in Sevastopol”. But I think the Hospitals & Barracks, situated right under our fire, had been abandoned long before this.

When the French took the Malakhoff, the Russians, leaving their dead, carried away as many of their wounded as they could.

When they crossed on their bridge of boats, setting Fort Paul on fire, to the farther side of Sevastopol, they took, it is supposed, but few of their wounded with them.

Our troops rushed in & found in the long range of buildings mentioned (all, I believe, occupied as Hospital buildings) the wounded & dying, large numbers already dead, from that dreadful day, all lying together, sick & dead — some of our own men among them.

I imagine this is the scene of the drawing.

I believe that there is a faithful description of it in Russell’s Crimean War a book so painful to me that I have never read it.

ever yours sincerely & gratefully

Florence Nightingale
35 South Street, May 25/69
Park Lane, {printed address:}

W.

Dear Mr. Bowman

I know nothing about, & have no part in, the appointment of a Lady Supt for the Girls’ School at Wandsworth belonging to the Patriotic Fund — except that they, the P.F. Comm:, asked me to recommend a Lady Supt.

I answered that I would refer to their consideration any lady among our candidates who might appear suitable for them & was not so for us.

But I should entirely decline to have even any share in the recommendation to a post so responsible of persons unknown to us —

Many thanks for your note.

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

I hope that your lady (Miss Hooker) may succeed, if she is fit for the post, in her candidature — She has of course applied to the Secretary of the P.F. W.H. Mugford Esq
Dear Mrs Milnes,

I cannot call you anything but the “dear old name.” I enclose you a letter from the Governor of Ceylon, which I thought you might like to see; it speaks of your husband so affectionately. My correspondence with him was merely on colonial sanitary statistics, through the Duke of Newcastle. And I confess I forgot having ever seen him.

The sanitary statistics of schools etc. from Ceylon were the only good colonial ones—the other colonial governors having completely failed in this point—the unpardonable sin in my eyes.

Please return me the letter enclosed.

ever yours
F. Nightingale

Dear friend,

I have shrunk from writing to you so soon after your loss: though well I know that the real loss only makes itself felt more & more to the last ‘syllable’ of time.

But if her death was a shock to me—I had not the least idea that, though ailing, alas!, she was near her end—What must it have been to you?
I write now only because somehow I think I understood her. And to you who understood her so well it may give a moment's pleasure to know that others did. I always thought her the most magnanimous woman I ever knew. A rare quality in man or woman in civilized days. The most disinterested. I thought her of the stuff of which heroes are made. It is comparatively easy to
be a hero, when one feels
that one can do & dare
anything for a great cause,
but when one is a hero
among the base perplexities
which enter so largely into
English life & which
drag down one who has
no wings: that is to
be a hero indeed-
Livingstone has lately been
my wings: the true heroic
soul whom to reverence
lends one's baser body
wings. I had others:
but they all died.

Or rather they are continuing
their heroic course elsewhere
To one, who, like me, who
am the last of a Council
hall deserted, the `conversation'
is truly more with them
'elsewhere' than on this
earth-
She has joined the band of
the heroes elsewhere-
O let us be not victims but
sacrifices: offered to heaven
-not conquered by evil-
Forgive the thoughts of one
sorely tried by life-

F.N.
Grazie, e grazie “mille e tre” for your notices of poor Ireland. Alas for our sister. Alas for her day of terrible judgment, when her field is wasted like Joel’s.

Every body owes you a handsome fee as Counsel for dear defenceless Childhood at church. To tell it to “behave well” in service, is to teach the/ your “bird” to be a full - blown hypocrite - to force the seeds of faces=making, which will come up, especially in the female, quite soon enough of themselves. A child, who can sit for two hours staring at the clergyman, must be seriously diseased either in body or mind, & requires instantly the apothecary or the whip.

You deserve the Attorney Generalship to Childhood for trying to rescue it from the “subjective” religion of the day. poor bambino, whose chief charm, as you so truly say, lies in its “unconsciousness”, its un=educated, unselfish, wilful, heart-ful, ignorant unconsciousness - which has no thought of its own anything, not even salvation - whose only wisdom is action - who never despises doing the smallest nor shrinks from the greatest - & who does it all from love & not from duty- alike without “aspirations” & without regrets, as hardly knowing that It exists -
To turn this sacred little brat into a thing so selfish, so tiresome, always thinking about its own soul, (the most dangerous & incurable of all forms of selfishness) into an orthodox Xtian miser, starving & scraping & grinding & pinching itself to “lay up that treasure in heaven” - practising the Gospel virtue of temperance, not in order to temper its useless metal into good steel, but only to save up for riches hereafter - making “Thy kingdom come” mean my salvation come - & resisting Isaiah’s theory of “being exalted” for the power of “being gracious”, into being gracious for the sake of being exalted.

Oh if people would but let those words “eternal life” speak for themselves, & begin to believe that they do not mean a place but a state, & that “Virtue is its own reward,” not only in their copy=books - then religion might lose the character, which it has now with all children, of a sort of qualifying for cake by working through a stated quantity of stale bread - And what is “eternal life” to us, but the gradual knitting up the stitches of occasional exertions to call up Things Unseen, laborious workings of what one ought to do, into the abiding disposition called by the good old word Piety, which only means being “at one” with the Author of Duty.
And, if Mr. Keble will have a visible journey for his pilgrim children, why must it be a road set with sharp stones, which they are to stumble over to gain the locked gate — why not the ladder of rays hung down from heaven to earth, & the steps of the ladder are human hands, each hand helping its fellow’s foot a step higher — & the posts thereof are angels’ wings — to save them from falling — & at the top of it sits their mother, the One among women, the daughter of sorrow & of consolation — first born of many sisters — ready to stretch out the hand to us, which hid her face from the sight of her Son’s last agony, to tell to us the griefs and the struggles, & the full support vouchsafed to her which perhaps St. John’s was the only ear on earth which ever heard.

There is no subject so difficult with one’s pupils as Prayer. & Mr. Keble makes prayer a duty! One is afraid of saying a word, which should imply that it is not a “duty”. And yet, if you were going from Cairo to Suez, you would not fail to eat before you set out, probably too to take water for the way, perhaps even a pillow to lay your head upon. Yet one would hardly call it a “duty” to make this provision, but only taking necessary means for an end & for one’s own life — without which one would be sure to faint by the way, or
else to stumble & fall from weakness long before the evening.

Is our spiritual provision for the thirsty day a “duty” either?

I forget what it was in the Lyra left this impression, for I have not seen that very lugubrious instrument, since you put it in my hands, so that it is bonâ fide “talking without my book.”

You will be canonized, if you are not stoned, for your words “the atrocious Jewish legend” but Adam Clarke, or somebody, says that the “little children” were the Atelier of another Artist, - the School of some rival Teacher, - & though this does not excuse the iniquitous bears, it does the Jews, in some measure. Of our two friends, the rival Evangelical preachers at Cheltenham, should (a question not to be asked) the congregation of the younger & more fashionable presume to laugh at the couleur de soupir étouffé gloves, and embroidered slippers of the older, Mr. Close would justly consider himself entitled to twenty hyaenas from heaven, let alone two miserable she=bears, to growl the Commination at them. A Correctional Police debars us now from Elisha’s higher gratifications.

Excuse the ramblings of a distracted Housekeeper - fifty-six pots of sweetmeat gone, devoured - I ne’er shall see their pretty faces more & the house )I don’t mean the
Trinity College, Cambridge

work-house) as full, as Tarshish was of apes. & will be, till we have hooted in the Epiphany - till when I am yours (while a Briton & a mince=pie remain synonimous)

F.N. {archivist: [Florence Nightingale]}

Was it you I told, that Miss Rigby was going to become an incarnate Triangle of poisonous cake? Glory be to Minerva, & what’s the woman’s name, the Goddess of old maids (my mother forgot to send cake & candle to Mnemosyne, when I was born) I told “one big lie”, as I have had certified to me, under her own hand & seal.

Saturday, Embley

NB There is a misprint at the bottom of Page 529 a “cease to”, or something omitted. 

TCC, signed letter, 2ff, pen

Dear Mr. Milnes

As we like to see every thing ugly or not, we shall be very glad to go to the Museum on Monday - will you join us here at ¼ before 3, or meet us
there at 3 if that hour
will suit your parliamentary duties -
if not, tell us what
hour will, as we
have nothing to do.

truly yours
F. Nightingale

Saturday

TCC signed letter, 2ff, pen, with a typed copy Houghton 18/126

March 20 1851

Will you forgive me for asking a favour from you? I believe you are acquainted with Mr. A.H. Clough. If you like him enough to speak a good word for him, that good word spoken at Embley might save a good deal of suffering.

There will be six objections in the minds of my people.

1 An instructor of youth
2 Without a sous
3 or a relation
4 or orthodoxy
5 Shy
6 “Bothie”

Might I ask you to be his introducer to my people, did it happen conveniently?

I would not have asked it in this formal way, if I had thought it likely that I should see you -

Florence Nightingale
March 25 1851

For me? Did you think it was I?
Mr. Clough wants to be my son-in-law -
I know him well enough to trust in him entirely & to like him better for the purpose than any one else. But they may have to wait 20 years - & it would be a very great comfort if my people could know him & like him -
I thank you for your interest. If you like him, it might be possible for you to introduce him, & I should be truly grateful to you -
Yours very truly
F Nightingale

I am going abroad soon - before I go, I am thinking of asking you whether you would look over certain things, which I have written for the working men on the subject of belief in a God - All the moral & intellectual among them seem going over to Atheism, or, at least, to a vague kind of Theism. I have read these to one or two, & they have liked them. I should have liked to
Trinity College, Cambridge 921

have asked you, if you 
think them likely to 
be read by more -
  But you are, perhaps, 
not interested in the 
subject - or you have 
no time, which is fully 
taken up with other 
things. If you tell me 
this, it will be no 
surprise or disappointment 
to me -
  I hope Mrs. Milnes &
your child are well -
  Pray believe me
  Yours very truly
  Florence Nightingale [end]

Mrs. Shore’s
  Tapton
  Sheffield - Jan 16.

envelope, 1f, pen
R.M. Milnes Esq MP
{archivist: [from Florence Nightingale: watermarked 1856]}

TCC, signed letter, 1f, pen Houghton Papers uncatalogued

  22 Albemarle St. W
  Feb 17/57

Dear Mr. Milnes
  I called last week
  to see Mrs. Milnes & was
  very sorry to hear that
  she was not yet to be
  in London.
  If you could let me
  see you any time after
  4 o’clock to day or
  tomorrow, I should be
  very glad to say one
  word about Col. Tulloch’s
  business - Perhaps you
  will say when, if you
  come -
  Yours faithfully
  F. Nightingale
Dear Mr. Milnes,

I will come on March 8, as you are so good as to ask me - Not that it is of any use, for I look upon our cause as utterly lost - & less chance of Reform now than before the War - The Army could turn out any Ministers in the House now, if they were to attempt to touch it with one little finger - Six months ago, Lord Palmerston might have played the great game for the interests of the country & not/ against those of his Order, for which, at heart, he does not care a Corporal’s button. He has chosen to play the small game & now the opportunity is passed. - & will probably not recur again in our life - time.

Still I cannot take other service without doing every trifle that comes in my way for this. I shall come at 7, unless I hear to the contrary - You do not name an hour -

Yours faithfully,

Florence Nightingale

22 Albemarle St W.

Feb 25/57
R.M. Milnes  
16 Upper Brook St.  
London W.

TCC, signed letter, 2ff, pen Houghton uncatalogued

Dear Mr. Milnes

I cannot say whether I shall be back on the 15th till after tomorrow’s post – Pray don’t think of putting off your dinner= people for me - John Bull only wants to know what has been done with his money, not what has been done with his men - and the next time a similar disaster happens, as happen again it surely will, he will give his money as freely, & again ask only the same question – I will write as soon as I know whether I shall be in London on the 15th But, as dinners are much less postpone=able than estimates, I thank you the more for so kindly offering to put off yours, & beg you, if not done already, not to do it on my account

yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

March 5/57
30 Burlington St
W
May 3/57
My dear Mrs. Milnes
The enclosed “Blue Book”
Extracts I said to Mr. Kinglake at your house on Friday that I would send him -
I am sure you will excuse me for giving you the trouble of forwarding them -
Nineteen thousand of my children or “comrades’, - call them which you will, are lying in their, already, forgotten graves in the Crimea & at Scutari, whose blood is crying to us from the ground, not for vengeance but for mercy on their successors -
Believe me ever sincerely yours
Florence Nightingale
The Honble Mrs. Milnes
16 Upper Brook St.
Thank you very much
for your kind invitation -
But I have undertaken
this commission & I must
work it out; unless
my going out contributes
to my work, I cannot
afford the time or strength.
Thank you exceedingly
F. Nightingale
May 16/57

In defence of Lord Raglan -- the
two greatest criminals I know in this
country are at this moment unhung & out of
jail viz Ld Stratford & Sir J. Hall K.C.B.
Question of prolonging average
duration of human life
beyond 6 months.

30 Old Burlington St.
London W.
Oct 12/58
Dear Mr. Milnes
Thank you very
much for your congra-
tulations on Parthe’s
marriage - You have
felt so exactly the
true state of the case -
It was a great
relief & consolation.
With regard to Lord
Raglan, altho’ it does
not much signify
whether I “condone” him or not, yet I do rather wish to shew you why.

Lord Raglan was the most disinterested single-hearted, chivalrous public servant I have ever known - He did really what other people profess to do, viz. his duty without an eye to anything else, public opinion or whatever you may call it.

He was no Duke of Wellington in the house= keeping for an Army. He would have praised a man for what the Duke would have hung one for -

But the little that was done in the way of improving the supplies, till the arrival of the Commission of Supply, the little that was done in the way of sanitary measures,
till the arrival of the Sanitary Commission, was all done by Lord Raglan himself - Never surely was a man so badly served - he had it not in him to compel his servants to serve him well - And one man could not do everything - He could not & did - Others could & did not. Curiously enough, the country has pardoned these & him it has not pardoned.

-2-

If you have some day time to read the Prefaces & Appendices to the three first Sections in my Report, I think you will see that it is true that what little was done to save the army was done by Lord Raglan himself - I do not think that the loss of his reputation ever touched him one bit. The loss of his Army killed him. It is
curious that this should be praise of a man -
But it is. For every other man, there you may read it the inverse way -

I have heard many of Mr. (Odo?) Russell’s - him of the Embassy not him of the “Times” - stories in glorification of Lord Stratford & in depreciation of Lord Raglan - I can only say, they are not true.

The two greatest criminals I know in this country are at this moment unhung & out of gaol. These are Lord Stratford & Sir John Hall, K.C.B. Principal Medical Officer of the Crimean Army
For Ld Stratford read Ld Raglan’s character the other way all through.

It is curious that I who am the only person who have felt the catastrophe under Lord Raglan enough to say, This shall be prevented from occurring
again, should be the one to defend his memory -

I am disappointed not to see a paper from you at Liverpool on the Immorality of prolonging the Average Duration of Human Life beyond Six Months - Your sentiments are those of Thuggee, of China, of many persons in Hanwell & St. Luke’s, & are those I hold myself - The Jesuit missionaries in China & the Bp of Exeter have introduced a modification, viz that of baptizing the little babies in order to ensure the “other world” being a better one -

The only objection I know to your doctrine is that there appears to be a final law that the more babies die, the more babies are born & the more
the race deteriorates. A high rate of Infantile Mortality, an excess of Births, & a deterioration of race always go together.

This is unfortunate - for one theory -

I am much the same, thank you. I am told I shall never be able to do Hospital work again. Meanwhile

I have severe pressure of business that would not be done if I were not alive. And so I am glad to be alive -

Please present my kindest regards to Mrs. Milnes & the/your children & believe me ever yours

F. Nightingale

Please don’t do as the people do who know a secret & finding out that some one else know it talk of it as no secret at all. My Report is really "confidential."
I am very sorry to hear what you tell me that these men who have fought & suffered for us & for European liberty as well as for their own have not excited greater sympathy here. I had thought that the names who befriend them here were so puissant both in influence & in purse that they would have commanded everything — I am very much obliged to you for mentioning it to me. I had thought that the little I could do for men who deserve everything from us would not be worth having.

I am cursing & swearing like an Ash Wednesday at your dissolution which suspends all our proceedings.
But the stolid Briton is vindictive & but not abusive. And though I would “pound their heads with my clogs” gladly - yet as I cannot, abuse does not comfort me - ever yours very truly

F. Nightingale

Thank you very much for the Indian letters -
I hope we shall meet again some time.
I sent my mite to the Neapolitans as soon as I had your note.

R. M. Milnes Esq M.P.
Frystone
Ferrybridge

30 Old Burlington St.
May 11/60

Dear Mr. Milnes
I have not the least doubt that you have already seen, introduced, & been kind to M. Barthélémi St. Hilaire, (now at 63 Portland Place - but only till Monday) But, if you have not, please
see him & talk to him.
   I am extremely anxious that he should know & be known to all political men in England.
   I do not know him personally. But he brought an introduction to me. I was not able to see him. But I am most desirous that he should know our Ministers. I have written to Mr. Herbert. He was, as you are sure to know, Secretary to the Republic from Feb. to June 1848 - never would take the oath to the Emperor - afterwards was Secretary to the Canalization in Egypt - is one of the honestest, sensiblest men in France - & by no means a Red.
   If you would give him the means of becoming more known in England, you would much gratify.
   Yours most truly
   F. Nightingale

P.S. Is it decent to subscribe to the Sicilian Expedition?
My dear Mrs. Milnes

It is really very, very kind of you to think so much of our Army troubles - I have not the least clue now as to what our Commander in Chief’s ideas are - Still the opportunity of meeting him, thanks to your kindness, is not one to be easily rejected - And therefore I will come, if you will allow me, as you so kindly propose, on July 7 to dinner -

My father is in Derbyshire, & therefore I cannot answer for him - & conceive I ought to decline for him, because of the inconvenience to you of having a place at the dinner table uncertain -

Believe me, dear Mrs Milnes
most sincerely yours
F. Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.
July 24/60

I should be very glad to see your “daughters” & you to morrow (Wednesday) at 4 o’clock, if that hour will suit you - But, pray say, if it does not - 3, 5 might suit you better - Yours ever
F. Nightingale

30 Old Burlington St
London W
Aug 18/60

Dear Mrs. Milnes
In my young days Plutarch’s Lives used to be our “Lives of the Saints” - & much better fellows there are among the former than among the latter Saints. Some of the best of them are in this little Vol: which I venture to enclose to you for my little name= sake (whom I had the pleasure of seeing) at some future day.

I don’t know her various names & titles.
Would you tell
Mr. Milnes that I
misinformed him
about Bunsen?
I have since heard
a very accurate
account of him
to this effect: -
that his memory
& intelligence are
unimpaired - that
he can still work
for two or three
hours a day -
that difficulty of breathing is his great suffering - that he has “fatty degeneration of the heart”, with a tendency to collection of water in the bag of the heart, & also to dropsy - that he is often unable to lie down for weeks or to occupy himself for hours - that sudden death, which may occur at a day’s, a week’s, a year’s time from this, is the best wish one can form for him - otherwise he may have a most painful prolonged death from dropsy -

My experience generally leads me to know that this is the correct account a thing that every old Nurse knows is very difficult to get Also it is exactly in some respects the “prognosis” which has been made of me -

Matilda Bunsen has returned home
from Cannes after
her severe accident
(which has made
one leg shorter
than the other)
and Frances with
her. Nearly all
his family is now
with Bunsen at
Bonn

ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

TCC, signed letter, 2ff, pen {this letter has a typed copy} Houghton
Papers 18/136

30 Old Burlington Street. {printed address:}
W.
June 16/61
Dear Mr. Milnes
I thank you very
much for your
remembrance of me
in the beautiful
grapes & peaches
You once lent us
at Embley, fifty years
ago, Currer Bell’s
Poems. There was
one, called, I think, the Captive, which

struck me very much.
I have since tried
to get the book. But
it is out of print.
Could you lend me
the book, if you have
it still & by you?
Yours affectely
F. Nightingale
Madame Mohl is in
town
40 York Terrace
Regents Park
Hampstead N W  
Oct 17/62

Dear Mr. Milnes,

I heard of you from my mother as being in town.

As an old Nurse, I ought to, & would, if it were ever the least use, read you a lecture about your health.

But it is about other people’s monies that I write. Could you & would you make Dickens put something (grounded on the enclosed, which is reprinted from “Evangelical Christendom”) into his “All the year round.”

I have canvassed Sir Culling Eardley & all the Evangelical Alliance upon the subject over & over again. But they are so busy praying for me that they can’t even, some of them, answer my
letters, or, others, do
more than answer them.

I don’t object to
their praying. But if
they would for every
prayer give me a
sixpence, I should
feel obliged. Do you
think “Evan. Xtendom”
would put that in?

ever yours

F. Nightingale

TCC, signed letter, 2ff, pen, uncatalogued, Houghton Papers uncatalogued
black-edged paper

32, South Street, {printed address:
Grosvenor Square. W.
13/1/64
Dear Mrs. Milnes

I cannot call you by
anything but the “dear
old name” –

I enclose you a
letter from the Governor
of Ceylon, which I
thought you might
like to see – it speaks
of your husband so
affectionately –

My correspondence
with him was merely
on Colonial Sanitary
Trinity College, Cambridge 941

subjects, thro’ the Duke
of Newcastle. And
I confess I forgot
having even seen him.

The Sanitary Statistics
of Schools &c from
Ceylon were the only
good Colonial ones -
the other Colonial
Governors having
completely failed in
this point - the
unpardonable sin in
my eyes -
Please return
me the letter enclosed
ever yours
    F. Nightingale

Dear Mr. Milnes

    After our two failures
I have been afraid to trespass
upon your good nature
again by proposing another
day for the Philanthropic
but now that the wind has
changed we may hope to be
less changeable, & next week
perhaps may accomplish
our expedition. you have
contributed much to our
Trinity College, Cambridge 942

edification during our confinement by Dr. Howes Pamphlet (which has interested us all much. I wish it were compressed into half the compass) - as well as by your Cracow Speech. many thanks for both, particularly for the latter as I am just now boiling with indignation at D’Israeli & can therefore appreciate the antidote.

truly yours

F. Nightingale

Mr. Nightingale desires me to say he mistook the Thorntons dinner hour he will call for you in Pall Mall at 10 minutes past 6 & if not there, will go on to the H. C.

TCC, signed letter, 4ff, pen, typed copy, Houghton Papers 18/140

Address

35 South St
Park Lane W
Nov 27/77

Dear friend

How sorry I am to hear you give a not good account of your health. I trust that your life may be prolonged for many years. Pray give my dearest love to your children, if they are so good as to remember me.

About the Trustee-ship to the “N. Fund”, in which I have to thank you for having acted & acting so kindly, I wrote to Hy. Bonham Carter immediately on receiving your note, suggesting various names in order to carry out your advice.
Trinity College, Cambridge 943

Ld Lawrence, Mr. Rathbone, Sir Sydney Waterlow, Ld Pembroke, (Sidney Herbert’s son), & one or two others: My friends are gone before me, & I have few to suggest: living - fewer still younger than I am. I have not any answer yet from Hy B. C. when I have, I will write to you. Have you any advice to give me as to names?

I have often thought too what you say. how strange that I have lived to see (& take sides with) the Russian entering Turkey: but stranger still to see the Hand bringing good - about the last good we were working for - out of that Crimean War : the reform of Russia, such as it is, - the emancipation of serfs - came out of her defeat in war: such is, I believe, the opinion of the truest Russian liberals - The ‘Wastefulness of that honest effort’, as you truly say, was not ‘wastefulness’ wasted. (No honest effort, I suppose, is -) It only brought other fruit than we expected - One would be sorry indeed to see Russian yoke substituted for Turkish: but progress, coming from perhaps, the very opposite quarter from what is looked to, may arise from this most hideous war. [I only wish I were in it.]

I cannot help thinking & hoping that the Russian ‘privates’/soldiers must be much raised from what I knew them as sick prisoners at Scutari: scarcely above the brute; I will not say - for some traveller in Africa cries indignantlly - what! compare the honest, faithful dog with the lying, cringing ---- savage! The Russian common soldier, as we see him now, has one mark of civilization, - fighting for an idea, instead of for comfort - higher than the Bond St. shopman behind the counter, perhaps. But I earnestly pray against ‘Turkey becoming a Russian satrapy,’ as you do: & meanwhile will
not trouble my friends with lucubrations where I can do nothing.

God seems to take things more into His own hands (in history). Perhaps He always did. Only we trace more now the difference between what we wanted to do, & what is done. [end 5:486]

Whatever comes out of this cruel War, we may be very sure that both good & evil will be very different from what either side expects.

As an old Derbyshire Village Nurse said to me yesterday almost in Canute’s words: “I always tells ‘im, thee canst do so much & no more: thee canst go so far & no farther; don’t ‘e strive agin the A’mighty.’

What interests me most at the present moment is: the Indian ryot: the Irrigation & cheap water transport so urgently needed: the indebtedness to money-lenders: the slavery (in Bengal) to Zemindars, worse than any Bulgarian slavery to Turks: the poverty more grinding every year for the last 20.

To take the opportunity when the Famine subn makes English think lies heavy at my heart: but my will is greater than my capacity: the care of my Mother & other things since my Father’s death have pressed out my life: & prevented me from finishing the most necessary parts - i.e. bringing up to the present moment, two papers, (2 Vols. of the same book-let) 1. on the condition of the Ryot: 2. on irrigation &c [I had beautiful wood cuts & Irrigation maps, all cut & engraved ready: irrigation maps supplied by Indian officials - these have already done service at Lectures.]

To my surprise a few days ago, E. I. Association applied that Revd James Long (Bengal Missionary) should make & read selections from paper No 1 as a Lecture at E.I.A. Rather than let this precious thing go by, I consented.

I wish somebody would do the same with paper No 2. You see, if people ask: but what works would you recommend now? — there is map ready to answer.
For 18 years I have done Sanitary work for India. but, for the last 4, have been continually struck with this - what is the good of trying to keep them in health if you can’t keep them in life? these ryots are being done to death by floods, by droughts, by Zemindars & usurers - you must live in order to be well. I wish I could start my facts now; but I too am busy done to death. [end 9:761]

God bless you:

F. Nightingale

TCC, signed letter, 6 ff, pen 18/142 black-edged paper Houghton 18/142 published in Life of Lord Houghton 2:389-91

10 South St. [5:486-88]
Park Lane W.
May 18th, 1880

My dear friend
I will give you joy, I do give you joy, and I condole with you too as you desire, on your boy’s marriage:
Such promise – not only promise – such proof of so much being in him it seems a pity that he should not have served his apprenticeship to hard work, which, not alone but generally forms the best foundation
for the future edifice,  
   if there is plenty of stuff.  
For that he will do  
something great for his  
country - and what  
times are these - we  
do not allow ourselves to  
doubt for one moment.  
On the other hand, there  
is something very inspiring  
in the faithful love  
the early & the late -  
when the two always say  
‘we’.  
[I remember when I was  
a girl, madame Hoche,  
in Paris, widow of Genl  
Hoche after the first  
year of marriage -  
far away be the omen -  
who to her dying day  
always said ‘nous’:  
she never called him to  
her only child ‘ton père’]  
I think one has known  
such instances of two  
in one thro’ a long life  
together - God in both  
& both in one.  
But then the wife must  
help the husband to work  
- not prevent him.  
May such a life be  
given to our young pair.  
May all the true blessings  
be theirs: & may it be  
theirs to be a blessing to
many in these the
most stirring times of
this or any day -
&, after these are over,
may it be given them
“World beyond world to
visit & to bless”
together -
Can one wish them more?

What worlds there are even
in this world; there is
India, for which a
century of statesmanship
& a “wilderness’ of statesmen
are/ would be not be too much to set
even on the first step -
what have we done for
the people of India? -
- there is a country, farther

-2-
from us than India, in
one end of London -
there are whole lands,
un ‘visited’ & un ‘blessed’
by us, in England -
there is Ireland -
there is Liverpool & the
big towns -
there is Education -
there is pauperism -

Suppose this Whitsuntide
were a really new
Whitsuntide to the world
a new intellectual &
moral inspiration - a
new creation - how we
need it - how we might
have it if we chose.
Is there any reason but
our own fault why we
should not have Apostles
of Agriculture now for
   India, out of whose soil
we take twenty millions a
   year, & give nothing back.
- or, to save £1000 a year
here, or even £100 there; -
take back the little we
have given -
why should there not be
   a political & an administrative
   ‘Holy Spirit’ with a new
   birth in all these
   vast vital interests?
I agree & I don’t agree in
what you say about the
   “real education” young men
   “get in the society of
 married women”. I think
I see creeping over not
only women but men
   a forsaking of solid practical
administrative things for
   glittering politics - a belief
in the substituting a vague
   general (so-called) “influence”
for real practical acquaintance
with the ways the world’s
   business is managed, & the
ways it might be managed.
It is so easy, so attractive
talking & declaiming politics
   like a German newspaper.
It is so difficult, so unattractive
to know really & to administer
whether public or private things,
so as to bring about effectively
a high end -
People actually talk now as
   if they thought that a good
wife would enable a Viceroy
of India to reform the crying
Land-Tenures.
And there is something of the breath of Magazine-ing everywhere, in which the ink bottles, guiltless of all accurate knowledge, of all but ‘good motives’, - gracefully write of what they know nothing about.

But this is a strange ‘Wedding March’
Believe that I would, if I could, contribute the sweetest music to inspire the foot-steps of the beautiful marriage pair.
My love, please, to the two daughters from the bottom of my heart.

-3-
You kindly ask after me. After 23 years of overwork & illness, of which the last 6, (-fitted up with the charge of Lea Hurst, & my dear Mother, when there, in addition to all the rest, - & ending with her blessed going home - but what a gap to me!) have been without one day’s rest of body or mind, I seem quite broken down - more than I know myself - & have had to go away twice for a little silence Alas! how work halts!
Trinity College, Cambridge 950

I think I am ‘done’ – as to work.
Fare you well.
& believe me
ever yours most truly
Florence Nightingale

Kindly accept a too true excuse for my delay in answering your welcome note. I was away: & have found the rush of business too much on returning. But my thoughts are none the less loving marriage thoughts for yours & for you. F.N.

TCC, signed letter, 2ff, pencil Houghton 18/143, published in Life of Lord Houghton 2:418

[5:488-89]

10 South St. W.
Easter Day 9/4/82

We have been very anxious about you, dear friend, & have followed you every step of your way with our most fervent wishes.
May God bless & raise you up again, as He has done, this Easter tide!
Ah how much we all stand in need of being raised up again every day
Trinity College, Cambridge 951

The sweet savour of your Egyptian saint abides with me always -
Give a wedding blessing to your other daughter from her old name sake -
But it is hard for you to have to part with her too, & to Ireland -
And I don’t know how to give you joy.
May all success attend her with a good soldier of professional enthusiasm, which is the right thing.
The woes of wretched little Ireland almost surpass those of big India with which I am always occupied. But a Hindoo is a gentleman compared with an Irish -
Would that a Resurrection might come to-day for all -
But it is we who must bring it to them -

Fare you very, very well, dear friend.

Florence Nightingale

Do you remember
34 years ago - the tenth of April in London?
And Paris then in 1848 -
I was there -
F.N.

TCC, signed letter, 1f, pen Houghton Papers 18/144

June 13 1882
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

To enquire after Mrs. Fitzgerald
Dear friend
We must all feel very anxious about your fair flower at Cairo.
And what a cruel pity it seems that the progress which had turned the down-trodden fellah into an improving agriculturist should be stopped!
I hope you are well:
Yrs ever affly
F. Nightingale
July 19/84
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Dear Lord Houghton Park Lane. W.

If I have not said
the gratitude I feel for your
great kindness in presiding at
our yearly meeting at St. Thomas’
Hospital & giving you good
advice to our Probationers, impute
it not, indeed, to my not caring
but to my being more ill &
overworked than usual. Thank you
again & again.
I hear of you from Lady Ashburton
I wish it were to hear that you
are quite well. Alas! What do you
think of Egypt? My Goddess, Mrs.
FitzGerald, is in England. I wish I
knew more how it faires with her.
Is Mr. FitzGerald in Egypt now?
May it fare very well with
you - God bless you -
yours ever
F. Nightingale
Dear Lady Galway

How can I thank you for your great kindness in remembering me, and our friendship with him who is gone to make eternal progress in the more Immediate Presence of the Almighty Father who is Love and Wisdom - progress in what was so eminent a part of his character here - love & helpfulness to his fellow-men, no matter how degraded, no matter how distinguished - each was fellow man to him.

His brilliant talents in tongue or pen, whether political, social or literary, were inspired chiefly by good will towards man: But he had the same voice & manner for a dirty brat as he had for a Duchess - the same desire to give pleasure & good For both were his wits or his kindness.

Once at Redhill, the Reformatory, where we were with a party, & the chiefs were explaining to us the system in the court-yard, a mean stunted villainous looking
little fellow crept across the yard - (quite out of order & by himself) & stole a dirty paw into Mr. Milnes’ hand. Not a word passed. The boy staid quite quiet, & quite contented, if he could but touch his benefactor who had placed him there but was evidently not only his benefactor but his friend - We, the party, passed on - The boy was dispersed.

Could a tale be more tellingly, more touchingly told? I remember his saying to my father that he seldom subscribed to Institutions or Charities. He wished to find out individuals & to do the best he could for each - (not to give away only money, but time, thought, fellow feeling with money)

He had the ‘genius of ‘friendship’ in philanthropy - not philanthropy but treating all his fellow mortals as brothers or sisters -

In conversation he never allowed his unique power of humour to say an unkind thing -

Once he said: I would not have accepted a Peerage but that all my friends in the Ho: of Commons are gone -

That was his Genius of Friendship.
Once he said: if there is
any good in me, it is that I would lay out my life, (or some such word) in good service to others. 

An eminent woman in Paris said that we English only thought of doing good to the poor, whereas the rich wanted quite as much doing good to them. 

I think that was his spring of action - the thread of his life - upon which hung what may & will be so truly said of all the rest of his remarkable activity of intellect, imagination, accomplishment, heart. 

Would that I might know something more of his last days, of his last day which you alone can tell. 

May I say how deeply sympathy with your “insupportable & touching loss” fills the heart of yours dear Lady Galway 

sincerely & gratefully 

Florence Nightingale 

Please forward {written lengthwise on the left side} Miss Florence Nightingale 

Dow: 

Viscountess Galway 

1 Rutland Gardens 

London 

25/9/89
Trinity College, Cambridge 956

TCC, signed letter & envelope, 9ff, pen {postmarked: {illeg} NW X NO 13 96} {archivist: HBS 74} HBS 268 (1) black-edged paper, draft/copy 45814 ff4-11

H. Babington Smith Nov 13, /96
     Esq 10, South Street,
        Park Lane. W. {printed address:}

My dear Sir

I have never thanked the Viceroy as I ought for so kindly sending me the papers regarding the “Village Sanitary Inspection Book” - invaluable, if carried out.

Will you perform this Office for me with enthusiasm?

Also: may I venture to ask what is the “progress & “maintenance” of this Village Sanitary Record in the Bombay Presidency - and if it be not too much to ask: in the Madras Presidency: in Bengal, the Punjab, N.W. Provinces &c &c

    especially as regards 1. (Point X 1) the sort of persons who “furnish the information” & if any pains are taken by native “literates” to insense them with the value of the “points”. It would be such a valuable education for them & as regards the “literate residents”, whether “headman, village accountant” or other who “embodies” it in the Village Sanitary Inspection Book x See List of “Points to be dwelt on briefly in the V.S.I. Book”
It would be at least as valuable information to us British on the habits of the people

2 (Point 4) the “character of the soil” & whether saturated with noxious matters; or water - logged & producing malarial Fever -

whether works of drainage have been attempted, & whether “embankments” have brought an unjust stigma on Irrigation as the mother of Fever by obstructing the drainage.

3. (Point 5) as regards the “overcrowding of houses” so lamentable, especially at night in some places.

[‘My house is like a box.’ says the Hindoo complacently]

or of “sites” & the Sanitary (or insanitary) state of the “immediate surroundings” of “houses”

4 (Point 6) “trades & occupations” in villages - what trades are noxious - “castes” & whether the “caste” of native sweepers & scavengers, paid by the villagers in land & handfuls of food, still exists to the infinite benefit of the inhabitants - or has been swept away itself - almost by mistake as it were.
5. (Point 7) printed address: 10, South Street, Park Lane. W. as to the “food” of different districts respectively rice, millet &c &c & the “supplies” of food — a question, alas!, so important in the present scarcity — whether by Irrigation —(Canals, wells &c &c) Rail-road or imported &c

6. (Point 8) Water —supply perhaps most important of all how wells are protected from impurities how tanks are kept pure May not Europeans, visiting the Village —tank unexpectedly at the evening hour, find women washing dirty clothes in it, cattle drinking & fouling it, streams of liquid refuse from the Village &c &c And from this tank their drinking water is obtained! Is any effort made by say the Village Schoolmaster to teach at least his young people the horrible mischief of this? [Brahmans will not touch manure for fear of the loss of “caste”. Could no use be made of this natural abhorrence of what is nasty?]
If there is a River, is it polluted by impure drainage - or by manufactures?
Has any outbreak of disease been known to ensue from a cleaning, owing to the resulting exposure of noxious matter?

[To many of these questions, I might, I am ashamed to say, find a melancholy answer from some place or other in rural England. We are by no means immaculate].

(7)
To every question, in this crucial "point" 9, including "How is house refuse disposed of?"
might I beg a careful answer, hoping that my humble anxiety may be forgiven.

8. (Point 10) 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

(9)
Stalling of cattle for the sake of protection inside the houses and storing of the manure

(10, 11, 12, 13)
"Religious fairs" & what measures are taken to prevent the mischiefs of an agglomeration of people?
"marriage processions" "burials of the dead"
are most interesting questions, supplying information on the customs & religions of different peoples.
10 (Point 15)

*Scarcity (or famine)*

May I recur to this question? As I have been for very many years deeply interested in the progress of Irrigation [people must live & not die in order to be Sanitary]

might I venture to ask what is expected from

Irrigation what from Railroads what from Importation of foreign Corn

respectively in the present scarcity?

Painfully interesting & most important Statistics of the spread of Irrigation &c have been published by the Govt. of India -

*Might I ask for more?*

The Govt of India invites Local Govts & Adminns to make “additions” in the “questions to be put.”

Now, after all, *Fever* is more important than Cholera. It takes more victims by thousands & thousands of thousands. It saps the strength of the populations more - is constant while Cholera is occasional.

11. Have questions been asked about
prevalence of Fever & its causes?
12 How have the “selected villages” responded?
how the “chief village” of “each group”?
how far has it then extended to all the villages in the group?
13. Might I ask how far assistance has been invited or valuable cooperation obtained from the various local Associations, European & native, interested in the social & sanitary welfare of the people?

Pardon me - 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

I am aghast at the multitude of my sins - the multitude of questions I am asking. But, as the List of “Points” was not lost, neither will the answers, I trust, be lost upon us, if you are so very good as to supply the. And your kindness will not ‘growl’.

And we would thank the viceroy with all our hearts & minds for what he is doing for the improvement & enlightenment of his peoples concerning their health.
Trinity College, Cambridge 962

But the peasant women in whom really lies the way to health, the key to health & to disease have yet to be reached

“La reconnaissance n’est qu’un vif sentiment des bienfaits futurs.”

Pray believe me your faithful servant Florence Nightingale

P.S. Indeed I am aware how far-reaching such questions are, & that in order to procure full information, reference to local authorities would be necessary. In the mean time, I should be most exceedingly gratified for a brief reply on the various points which would enable me to understand how far the most excellent Circular of the Govt. of India has already produced an effect.

F.N.

H. Babington Smith Esq. Private Secretary’s Office
Trinity College, Cambridge 963

Private India
via Brindisi

H. Babington Smith Esq
Private Secretary
with H.E. the Viceroy

3/11/96 India
{written in pencil on top of address}
{illeg Burt ?}
Let me have
MS back
[en 10:388]
{illeg M?}
{illeg}
F & S.
N/FN
My dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of Feb 17. The state of the workhouse= sick which you describe I am but too well acquainted with - But I have no time at present to make plans, nor to write at length upon any future work. By taking the liberty of placing your name upon my Council, as I did, I hoped to enlist your advice & support, & to give you the power of "interfering", as you call it/say, (say overtop call it) IF I come home! or if I don’t - More I cannot predict.

Now - But one thing I can safely say - if it please God to give me life & health (which seems very doubtful at present) I shall certainly devote that life & health to the one object which we/of have talked about- &
Trinity College, Cambridge

I shall certainly not spend any portion of that life in "training Nurses for rich families," except by parenthesis, but shall begin in the poorest & most neglected Institution I can find- This is the only plan I have -

I have lost my confidence in Government, in Boards, in official management of any kind since the awful experience of 17 months which I have had since I "joined the Army"- But it will be my object to remedy deficiencies among those who can’t help themselves & not among those who can - So that you may safely enlist me for any plan of the kind you mention

Believe me very truly yours

Florence Nightingale

H. Bence Jones Esq M.D.
Trinity College, Cambridge 966

Add 8546/I/162 signed letter, 2ff, pen

PRIVATE {up diag} 30 Old Burlington St.
       June 4/57

My dear Sir

       My aunt, Mrs. Octavius Smith, is very anxious to consult you about her daughter Flora, whose case I mentioned to you the last time I had the pleasure of seeing you -

       If, in the variety & multiplicity of cases which come under you, you have forgotten the circumstances of this one, it would perhaps be as well if I were to call upon you to refresh your memory as to these circumstances, common enough I dare say, but not very perceptible at the first glance in this case -

       My aunt would bring her daughter in to you any time - (after 12 o’clock) - on Saturday - that would be convenient
to you—If you can
answer this viva voce
by Bearer, I would
save you the trouble
of writing—Otherwise
I fear I must ask
you to fix an hour, &
direct to
    Mrs. Octavius Smith
    Thames Bank
    Chelsea
They are only just come
up to town for the
purpose of consulting you;

& afterwards I hope you
will see the poor girl
with that Mr. Crellin
    With many apologies
for my length,
    believe me, dear Sir,
    very faithfully yours
    Florence Nightingale
Whatever view you take
of the case, I need hardly
add that I know you
will be kind enough
to consider my interference
as private, farther than
as merely making this
25.
    appointment
    I would come to you any hour that suited you.
My dear Sir,

Would you take Anne Lock, age 21, (daughter of a blacksmith at Rochester), afflicted with “fits”, as your Patient at St. George’s?

It is but fair to tell you that I got her in at King’s College last year - that they said it was hysteria & would not keep her, saying she was much better at a cheerful home.

Since then, she has had a constantly increasing severity of “fits,” chiefly, I believe, monthly - And she begs & prays to be taken in under your care,” and “that they will keep “me over my fits “to see what they are”.

Her reason is that a friend of hers, Sarah Leach, whom you were kind enough to take in (at my recommendation) with “fits” a year ago, has never
“had one since”.
I am afraid
the cases however
are quite dissimilar.

She is a child
of excellent blood –
I know all the family
- cheerful conscientious
hard working people –

yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

Perhaps it would be better
not to admit her for a
fortnight, if you will admit
her - in order to save the Hospital
expence.

Add 8546/I/164 signed letter, 2ff, pen

30. Old Burlington Street. {printed address:}

March 23/62

My dear Sir

I think you said
that St. George’s had
“embezzled” the money
left to it for a
Convalescent Hospital.
But, if not, the
enclosed site might
be worth farther
enquiry. It is to be

plotted out on Tuesday
to sell in allotments,
unless sold altogether.
So that you see there
is no time to be
lost.

Would you kindly
return me the plan,
if you consider there
is nothing to be done
with it?

Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
The young girl with "fits" whom you are so kind as to admit into the Hospital, goes there to day.

30 O. Burlington St.  
April 14/61

My dear Sir,

I hear that you have seen S Herbert again - The very fact is satisfactory.

May I ask what measures you have taken to secure his confidence that the Steel will not bring about the same result which he thinks it did before?

If these is were to tell him that he "must take it once instead of twice, if he found it disagree" - how is he to know? He does not know himself from Abraham. He will take it three times when he remembers it; & once (or not at all) when he forgets it.

If these is were to tell him to send for you, he won’t.

That you have no time to see him more than once a week, I can easily guess -

But pray, pray recommend to them some one to see him (under you)

The man they would like best is Mr. Hewett, of St. George’s.

But I suppose he is much too great a man to do this.

As to
S Herbert - the case may not be a case to require seeing more than once a week - but the character (both of the Patient and of the Medicine) is. It is not requires seeing at least twice or even three times a week.

It is rather the medicine than the case which requires watching.

You have no idea what ignorant, superstitious or extraordinary things they are capable of doing.

No poor people, consulting quacks, are more in the power of quacks than they are

Delane (of the "Times")

has been one of their quacks!!!!

Nothing is more provoking than to have some one interfere between Doctor & Patient - But I interfere in order to "strengthen your hands," as you once said to me. Pray, pray, pray think of what I say.

Yours sincerely AND RESPECTFULLY

F.N.
My dear Sir

I saw S Herbert yesterday. He spoke much more fully about himself than he has ever done before to me - I think he is a very difficult Patient to examine.

He says that the drain upon him of the excess of water is so great that it makes him feel as if he were sinking.

I asked him to observe so as to be able to give a guess at the quantity.

He says that the nausea in the mornings is always great - & lately it has been retching, tho’ without “bringing up anything”.

He says that he is so breathless in the morning always that he “can hardly speak” - that in the afternoon it comes on again at the slightest exertion, quite as much going down stairs as up.

As I told you that I saw no difference since Jan 9, I ought to say that I observed yesterday a great increase of breathlessness & also of the trembling, (which he never mentions & does not like one to observe - He could scarcely carry his cup to his lips.)

He says that when you see him, he feels “so different” - viz. in the afternoons - (He has had
his “ride, his luncheon & his
glass of wine” - He feels “a little
flushed”-} and that you can
“form no idea from seeing him
then of what he is in the
mornings”. He says that “both
days you have seen him lately
were good days with him” but
that Sunday (before the Monday
you saw him) was “the most seedy”
* day as he had ever felt.

He says that he has no
appetite just now - But he
attributes that to biliousness -
And his sleep has been worse,
owing to cramps -
He says that he does feel
a great increase of weakness,
even in riding, which tires
him least. And of thin ness,

which I do not see -
But I was struck yesterday
with the total want of muscular
expression in his face & with
his aged look, altho’ he was
flushed -
I know so well in Patients_
(much more reasonable than he) -
that feeling of “aggravation” - that
when they have been as sick
as a dog all the morning &
know they are going to have a
dreadful night - and “the
Doctor” comes at their “good
moment” - they fancy he does
not know what they feel.
Consulting Physicians never do see
Patients at their worst time
I dare say you know all this. But I have thought
it as well to tell you what he feels - Yours sincerely

F. Nightingale
My dear Sir

The Herberts return
to town to day

I have not troubled
you with their accounts
of themselves, (while
at Wilton,) all more
unreasonable the one
than the other. And
indeed I have not
been able to write
at all - And so
you must just trust
me for knowing the
Herberts morally - as
you do (one of them)
physically - when I
ask you to do this:-

Would you earnestly
& faithfully urge upon
Mr. Hewett (for love
of you) to go & see
him every day -
taking the case in communication with
you -

I have no excuse
to make for them -
But here is a valuable
life being sacrificed to ignorance, superstition & the most foolish indecisions. I cannot describe to you how ignorant - at least her letters are - Both “he” & “she” are however anxious for this arrangement - at least they say so - [And I shall keep the letters to prove it to themselves] - And I am convinced that this is the best thing which can be done under the circumstances. Even you can hardly tell how difficult they are to deal with. One thing is: her incessant restlessness - which is quite incredible - and the worst thing in his case he could have - This arrangement would steady them more than anything. And I do most earnestly hope you will think so practically too. ever yours F.N.

Private {up diag}
{printed address;} 30. Old Burlington Street. W.
Her penultimate letter was so foolish that I vowed to myself I never would interfere again - that I only made matters worse And here I am: at it again & bothering you.

I do hope you will think this right: & will speak to Mr. Hewett F.N.

Add 8546/I/168 signed letter, 1f, pen

30 O. Burlington St.
Monday

My dear Sir

There was no “Henbane” in your prescription for S. Herbert - It was only one of their mistakes - a written one though -

There was just what you said - “Ammonia, Chloric Ether, Steel & Glycerine”. [I have seen it.]

Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

They have promised to day

that they will go to Dufferin Lodge every night this week -
How long these good resolutions will last, I don’t know - But whoever has done it, it is a good deed - And I think they are both much more reasonable both as to what is to be feared & as to what is to be done than ever before
Hampstead NW
Aug 7/61
My dear Sir
I think that you will go to Burlington St. to tell me what you will have learnt from Mr. Hewett about the last days of my dear master. And I should have liked to tell you what I know from those about him. But I am gone - I can hardly hope that you will find time to drive down here, as you leave England so soon - I need hardly say that I should be glad to see you - I am at Miss Mayo’s. It is the first house on the right as you drive in at the private gate (with a lodge on the left) into Oakhill Park
Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
Private {up diag} Hampstead N.W.
             Oct 13/64

My dear Sir
  I have often thought
how, years ago, you wished
me to do something for
Workhouses - & it
tallied much more
with my private thoughts
than you had any idea
of. The time has come,
tho’ too late for me -
But so it is well done,
we care not how or
by whom.

  By the munificence of
a Liverpool man, who
actually guarantees
£1200 a year for a
term of years to do it,
we take over the
Nursing of the Liverpool
Workhouse Infirmary,
1000 beds, with 15
Head Nurses & a
Supt= (a lady), all
trained by us at St.
Thomas’ Hospital - 15
Assistant Nurses, or
Probationers - 37 pauper
Nurses, to be chosen
out of the Workhouse, paid, provided with a separate table, dormitory, divided into compartments by curtains, & with a uniform dress - 15 Scrubbers, also paupers, paid & provided ditto ditto.

The men’s infirmary, 600 beds, to be undertaken first - after that the Fever & Women’s departments - 200 beds each -

12 Head Nurses we furnish for the starting- 3 afterwards - these all for the men’s depart-

ment - More, afterwards, for the other two Depts=.

We do not wish it to be talked of at first. But I knew it would give you pleasure to hear of it.

Years, ago, when I visited in one of the great London Workhouses, I felt that visiting had no other effect but to break the visitor’s heart. To nurse efficiently is what is wanted.
Perhaps some day you will get your great St. Pancras’ or Marylebone Workhouse nursed.
I am quite convinced of this, that pauperism would be most effectively diminished by restoring to active life Workhouse sick, especially fathers of families, now doomed to life= long infirmity from want of nursing - or to death, when the families are doomed too often to life long pauperism.
Believe me
ever faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale

Our dear friend, Count Strzelecki, has been restored to life thro’ your means - He is such a good friend to us -

F.N.
My dear Sir

I have a phoenix on my hands - one of our Presidents of Sanitary Commissions from India. Mr. R.S. Ellis - he was member of Supreme Council - is now President of S.C. (as above) Madras Presidency. He is come over to England to instruct himself in Sanitary things. And I am appointed (whether with or without his knowledge I do not know) to see that he does not mis-instruct himself.

I dare not ask you to take him over St. George’s Hospital yourself - tho’ he is a worthy subject.

But, if this is impossible,
would you hand him
over to the person
least unsuitable
for the occasion?
But please remember,
my phoenix is not
to be perverted. False
doctrine is not to be
instilled into him.
India looks to every
man to do his duty
by my phoenix.

Yours very faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Dr. Bence Jones

[Add 8546/I/172 signed letter, 4ff, pen]

Private {up diag}
35 South Street, Nov 29/71
   Park Lane, {printed address:}
   W.

My dear Sir
   I am greatly delighted to
have a copy of your Faraday
from your hand -
   But do you suppose that
I had not read it? -
   Indeed I had - And now,
whenever I take it up, I read
on straight through to the
end of the Volume - not so much
for the sake of the science in it-
(which I am incapable of
appreciating as it deserves) -
-- But for the wonderful
wisdom in it, true for all
Dr. Bence Jones
ages, all classes & “conditions of men,” women & children, the oldest & the youngest, the wisest & most ignorant, the richest & the poorest. There is scarcely any book but the Bible which I have quoted so often to those (more or less) dependent on me for training for its lessons of practical wisdom. Sometimes there is conveyed in a phrase what has not been said so well in all ye Aristotles: as e.g.

“Nature of a thing: the answer both of the ignorant & the philosopher.

SEARCH FOR LAWS.”

- The remarks on Controversy: - “Controversy never did much in pulling down error or advancing truth”.

You have done an immense service to philosophy, the highest & the humblest, Cottage Philosophy, & the Royal Institution Philosophy, in making this book accessible to the common understanding. And perhaps it is only the highest philosophy which is of universal & every day application. The remarks on “Table- turning”, - on the Earth as a magnet, -those in the Lecture on the inertia of the mind - those
in the Lecture on forms of Matter - an early letter about friendship - one to his brother-in-law about “real or imaginary evils” & the way to “cheer our spirits” - an observation about what/that the “philosopher should be” in a lecture on Oxygen - and - but I should be quoting the whole of your own book to yourself, if I were to go on - all these are the truest, the most practical wisdom for almost all the circumstances of life - They are golden rules - [One almost wonders that Faraday himself did not apply them in some matters in

2

35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
W.
which he says they are not applicable- to “educate the judgment”.
Familiar as I am with the book, when you kindly sent me this copy of your 2nd= Edition, I could not help, tho’ with no time or strength to spare, reading straight on from where I opened.

==

There is a person in your book who is a near relative of mine, the Gymnotus - For now 17 years the Government Offices have “tormented” me
as science seems to have
“tormented” him- & “épuisé
me with ye giving of “electrical
discharges”- But no patron
have I had, (at least not
since Sidney Herbert’s death,)
like the Gymnote’s;- who
wrote, probably at its request,
that “il importe surtout de
ne pas trop tourmenter l’animal”.
Sometimes I think- not often,
thank God- whether I have been
wise in allowing myself to
be “épuisée” in this way -
But I ought not to forget that
it was worth while - for

what an extraordinary opportunity
I had in India during Sir
John Lawrence’s Vice-royalty-
even since Sidney Herbert’s
death -
==
I wish I could see you, as you
are so good as to propose -
But I find that, to be able to
work at all, I am obliged
to sacrifice every other thing, &
every kind of pleasure or
friendship- I live like
Robinson Crusoe - or rather
much more like my relation,
the Gymnote, in his bucket -
Perhaps next year I may
jump out of my bucket- And
then I shall certainly claim
your kind promise to come
& see me -

Now I have gossipped
much too much - But is it
not only to an old friend -
& only for yourself-?
I say like Faraday - & with
much more reason - ‘Be
gentle with your failing friend’
Florence Nightingale
Trinity College, Cambridge 986

Add 8566/I/173 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Private {up diag}

35 South Street, May 27/72

Park Lane, {printed address:}

W.

My dear Sir

I come to you merely in the light of a beggar, to ask you to do me a great favour with regard to procuring the Certificate of Death or of Burial of one of your (& my) late Patients at the Institution 1 Upper Harley St in 1854

Mathilde von Raven a German young governess, whom I fished out of the Middlesex Hospital, & who died a few days afterwards under your kind care- & was buried on

April 29 1854

where?- Tho’ I provided & attended the funeral, I cannot tell. But I think it was at a Burial-ground not very far from Harley St. on the road to Hampstead. [Fortunately our funerals were not very frequent & I should hope therefore that this will not give you much trouble to discover- Neither do I remember the name of the Undertaker’s, tho’ I attended at his shop to sign some Certificate, as H. Bence Jones Esq M.D. &c &c
having been the only Nurse present at the death]
But you gave the Certificate of the Cause of Death:
that I can well remember.
I will try to recall to you the case- She showed
during the few days she was under your care,
very remarkable Cataleptic symptoms- You yourself
raised her arm into the air- And it stayed there.
When she was dying, you whispered to me, “I should
like to have a Post Mortem”. And I ran down to
your house in the early morning to tell you that
she had died an hour or two before.
I attended at the P.M. by your desire- And
you told me, I think, that there was extensive
Tubercular disease both in chest & stomach,
but nothing discoverable in the head, which
you opened.
I come now to the really sad part of the
case- a case by no means uncommon- &
which I confided to your kindness.
She was a woman of noble birth- had been
seduced by a nobleman (at Berlin, I think)- & the
child, a boy, she had placed out to nurse, &
came to England as a governess to support it. Then
she fell ill.
This she told me while she was sensible in her last moments. I wrote to Berlin & found it true. The child was exceedingly well taken care of by its foster parents— And I contributed to its support for some years. He is now a fine young lad of 18 or 19, & doing exceedingly well. Lucas von Raven - at Berlin.

There was a debt owing to his poor mother— which could now be recovered for him— if I could send immediately a ‘Todten schein’— (copy of Certificate of her Death or Burial) to Berlin.

I am entirely a prisoner to my bed from ever= increasing illness — & am ashamed to say how much overwhelmed I feel by ever-increasing business—

So many of my friends have been removed by death — & nearly all the Ladies of the Committee of 1 Upper Harley St. whom I knew best— that I have scarcely any resource but that of troubling you.

You were so kind to those unfortunate governesses of the Institution. Do you remember one Fox, seduced in the same way, & you made the seducer provide for her at the Lunatic Asylum, Warneford, near Oxford. [She had, I had almost said fortunately for her, become a Lunatic.]

I remember saying to you that I knew hardly any man but you who would undertake these kinds of responsibilities— & your answer: ‘that it made the difference between man & man whether he would or would not take responsibility’.

And now I have tried to recall your interest in that poor girl, Mathilde v. Raven, so solitary & forsaken, in order to make it less burthensome to you if you would be so very good as to procure me a copy of her Death= certificate — attested for legal purposes — Excuse this long scrawl

And pray believe me ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale
Feb 12/83
10, SOUTH STREET, [printed address:]
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Sir

Thank you for your very kind note. But I am afraid Mrs. Shore Smith answered for my doing more than I am able, & rather misunderstood my message, which was that, as I heard from Mrs Craven that you were so very good as to wish to see me, & as I am so very much overworked & particularly at this time, Sedley Taylor Esq I craved to know of you how long you would be in London this time - & on what subject you kindly wished to speak to me - [It would be quite impossible for me, however willing, to take up any new subject -for I have far too many already.] I am ashamed to say that my work drives me, instead of my driving my work-
Trinity College, Cambridge 990

This week particularly
I have hardly a moment
to call my own.

But if you should be
leaving London after
Wednesday (the last day
you give me) I would
make time to see you
on that day at 5— if
that will suit you— or at
4— And I need not say
how great a pleasure it
will be to me to make
your acquaintance

ever your faithful servt—
F. Nightingale
Dear Lord Mayo,

You were so kind in inviting me to address myself directly to you, in the event, which was sure to happen, of your all-powerful hand being wanted to right the Sanitary ship in India that I consider the best mode of service is to take you at your word, & without farther apologies (which waste your time) to write the following petition to you:

You will have heard from the India Office - probably from Sir Bartle Frere also - about an enquiry, long-desired, & becoming every day more essential, into Cholera in India. Something of the kind was proposed by the “Conference” at Constantinople. The present enquiry will however include all that they wanted - & much more. It arose out of India’s own Reports of the 1867 Epidemic, which were referred to the Army.
Sanitary Commission here — and as you will see, if you could spare an instant to glance at their Memorandum (which I enclose) — the only lesson taught by this latest experience was that a searching enquiry should be instituted.

A code of “Instructions” was drawn up here — (of which I also beg to enclose a copy-) which not only covers the whole ground of this terrible Cholera, but will, it is hoped, point the direction for similar enquiries elsewhere.

People here are warmly in favour of this enquiry — and great things are expected from it in time.

But with you in India will rest the honour of doing that most difficult thing, viz. ascertaining what is true, what is problematical & what is untrue about the causes of Cholera & the means of preventing it.

The hopes of scientific men both in England & Europe have been greatly excited by the prospect of this enquiry. And a German of high repute declared it
a most worthy act in the
British Govt to undertake it.
Of course every thing will
depend upon its being
carried out heartily &
carefully.
The “Instructions” are more
difficult in appearance than
in reality - chiefly on account
of their technical nature.
But as they are to be complied
with by men who understand
the subject more or less,
this apparent objection matters
but little.
The real question involved in
them is the Sanitary
improvement of India -
because, if you succeed
in telling us what Cholera
is - & what are the best means
of limiting its ravages, the
very discovery will limit it;
- and, if this is done, other
diseases, especially these
terrible fevers & dysenteries
which afflict the country,
will be at the same time
limited.
I will not say: may I bespeak
your kind consideration &
support for this great work -
- no greater has occupied
the attention of the Govt of
India - because I know
that you will further it,
if you think it important.
Epidemics always mean not
only loss of life, but loss of productive power, loss of stamina, loss of prosperity, waste of national resources in fact. And they have consequently at all times attracted the painful attention of Governments -

But the present object is to do more. It is to bring them, please God, within the domain of science that they may be practically dealt with.

You have now in India examined & analysed the principal water=sources all the way North Westward from Calcutta to Peshawur, including those of 38 cities & Stations, & nearly 400 sources of water=supply. This opens up quite a new field of work. Your wells are deplorable & must be seen to with the least possible delay. You will perhaps find Cholera, Dysentery & Fever at the bottom of not a few of them -

As the Cholera Season is approaching, indeed already here, might I ask you, if you think well, not to 

{printed address:) 35 South Street, {upside down} Park Lane, W.

let the subject of the “Instructions“ be either
smothered or neglected? [It is indeed unfortunate that copies were sent out so late.]

We heard with delight of your triumph at the Umballa Durbar, where I have no doubt we should much have liked to have been, to see what kind of a rascal he was whom you had to subdue.

But I must not abuse your kindness by taking up your time.

I look forward to the period with great hope when, long after Affghanistan Dynasties are things of the past, these poor Indian races will have cause to bless the civilization which your reign has brought them.

May I ask, if Lady Mayo is so kind as to remember me, to be respectfully recommended to her?

I beg that you will believe me, dear Lord Mayo ever your faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

H.E.
The Earl of Mayo &c &c
35 South Street, March 24 1870
Park Lane, {printed address:}

W.

Dear Lord Mayo

I am exceedingly obliged to you for


I waited to answer it till after I had
talked over the whole matter with
Dr. Cuningham. I have had great
pleasure in making his acquaintance.
He is brimming with information, without
prepossession, & full of his work - which
I hope I may also call ours -

Not to take up your hardly-pressed
time, I had better at once proceed 'to business'.
viz. the present aspect of the Public Health
question in India, including the supposed
"partial failures" in Barrack construction -
& submit the practical points to you.

[Possibly there may be too great a tendency
in India to invent first principles. And the
crisis arrived at from want of money might have
come, even had there been plenty of money.]

An immense deal however has been done
in India. We must never forget that - nor
cease to be grateful to those who have worked
so hard - & so well - ever remembering what
an enormous, what a colossal field India
is - It is like working at a continent -
instead of a country.

I will take the Barracks first, if you
will allow me, - & then the Administrative
points - & will try to be as short as I can: -

I. Barracks.

1. The new Barracks certainly seem to have
been built after a too costly fashion.
But might not the complaints of their
being 'too hot' be easily modified? -
(a) Plaster & whitewash outside to
protect the walls from sun radiation -
(b) Fill the tall Verandah arches with
Venetians to protect the room walls -
The lofty arches are right enough - but the
upper part of the arch of the Verandah should be filled up with broad wooden Jalousies admitting of adjustment to let in light & keep out sun - or the space between the pillars even should be filled up thus.

These two remedies can easily be tried at any Station - & a comparison made of the effect in temperature, ventilation & comfort with other blocks.

2. New Barrack building alone will not cure the sick, lower the Death rate or guarantee from epidemics.

So much, (as I need hardly say,) enters into the improvement of a Station besides the actual putting up of a new house!

The four things which are essential to the health of troops - on which their health depends - are: -

(a.) a thorough drainage of ground occupied by Stations
(b.) an abundant supply of pure water distributed over Stations
(c.) healthy principles of Barrack & Hospital construction, including means of employment exercise & recreation
(d) improved sanitary police of Stations, Bazars, & adjacent native towns
These four things are, as is well known to you, in reality one as regards health. To omit the three & build the one is to spend much money with little hope of money’s worth.

For on

(a.) the condition of the surrounding native population  
(b.) the water-supply, drainage &c depends very much whether we shall have Epidemics or not.

Whether it is necessary to construct new Barracks & what their construction shall be must be determined on the spot after competent enquiry into the general sanitary condition of the Station where it is proposed to build.

The construction of the new Barracks does not appear to have had anything to do with Cholera, Fever or other diseases in these buildings. The construction may even have lessened the Sick rate - for there are plenty, unfortunately, of causes of sickness, undealt with, which lie outside the rooms altogether.

E.g. Allahabad

May I suggest to you to enquire what is the condition of the neighbourhood of these Barracks?

You can easily command a more graphic account than any I can give you of the filthy towns where Cholera flourishes almost perennially, where there is neither drainage nor wholesome water - and this close to the new Barracks.

All the Barrack building in the world would make but little difference in the epidemic susceptibility (to use a grand word) of troops exposed to malaria day & night more especially during sleep.

Is Allahabad a solitary example, an exception?

Are there not instances of new Barracks suffering from foul ground covered with filth by work people & others? -
[One instance we knew of at Nusseerabad – where the nuisance directly produced Cholera among the troops. But I spare you this instance. You must be saturated with such cases.]

In India improved construction, sufficient space & ventilation, upper floor sleeping rooms, where necessary, have no other object than to remove the depressing constitutional influences of foul air, and to enable the men to resist other Disease causes, not themselves connected with the Barracks.

3. Such causes require to be attacked always outside the Barracks, sometimes outside the Cantonment; and it may be at a considerable distance from its boundary.

Filthy towns & bazars, or foul native houses & inhabitants inside cantonment boundaries, or too close to them, are constant sources of danger.

Of course the only real safe guard is to keep such population out of Cantonments & at a safe distance to leeward.

This, we are told, is not always possible – also, we are told that, for Civil purposes, troops must be near the Civil population.

Then – either the Native population must be put under efficient Sanitary police

Or the troops (& natives too - & Civilians too) must suffer.

4. I will not weary you with repeating what has been said by the R. India Sanitary Commission, presided over by Sidney Herbert & then by Lord Stanley (Lord Derby[])

- and by the present Army Sanitary Comm: –

There is no difference of opinion as to men sleeping as far as necessary above the level of the ground. he principle is applicable to all climates & countries – The only question as regards India is: the
amount of elevation. This has been fully discussed in the Reports referred to, & must be determined by local & climatic enquiry on the spot.

5. But, whatever the height of the sleeping room as raised above the ground, the great principle must never be overlooked that, in Indian climates, men cannot be always in the same rooms, inhabiting the same rooms day & night, with safety.

[Illeg/If they are, the floors & walls get impregnated with “men” - as in European climates is the case with Hospitals constantly inhabited.]

Their Day & Dining=rooms must be separate from their Sleeping=rooms.

[This is a ‘must’ not ‘may’ - as I am sure you agree.]

And there must be means of occupying the men at trades, remunerative work, or reading, or exercises,- instead of lying on their beds, thinking of Cholera, for perhaps 18 hours out of the 24.

And there must be Commanding Officers who will devise, support & encourage such remunerative employment, such active industry & recreation among the men as will pull them out of bed by force of interest.

Such things have been done & may be done again - & done more extensively although of course there is much talk about ‘impossibility’ & ‘difficulty’.

“Si c’est possible, c’est fait: si c’est impossible, cela se fera” - as I well know, under you.

Road=making in India, as is acknowledged, has cured the troops, engaged in it, of sickness. But, besides this, every Commanding Officer is learning in India the elementary principle in Physiology that men eat & sleep solely to lay in a store of force to be expended under the action of the will. If
the force is not expended in healthy production, it will be expended in unhealthy or diseased products. Half the diseased predisposition in India among the men arises from “lolling” on their beds. But men can’t will themselves active. They must have the necessary room & appliances, the necessary means & inducements for work & recreation, in order to find the requisite means of cure. If the lower floors of Barracks are furnished only with a bench or two, if they have neither fittings nor Punkahs nor anything to do (in them), of course the men won’t go into them, of course the men won’t do anything in them. Either these appliances are necessary or not – & if they are, they must be had or, if not had, the men must suffer. Any way there is no saving, for men in India cost more than tables, tools or Punkahs. But all the workshops & appliances in the world will be of no use, unless the Officers see to their use. And Officers now-a-days will soon acknowledge that their men’s health is of more importance to the State than their own ‘difficulties.’ Also – you have a Commander-in-Chief coming out who has been as successful in these matters as he has been in war & Engineering. 6. There seem to be matters of Barrack detail requiring improvement. e.g. the men complain they can’t move their beds easily into the Verandahs & don’t like the stairs – &c &c &c Points of this kind can only be dealt with in India.
Trinity College, Cambridge 1002

One thing seems essential to their comfort:
Every man should have his bed-space,
whether on or off duty,
whether in Barracks or in Hospital.
Our principle here has been to give by Regulation every bed, occupied or not, its quota of space.
A soldier’s bed is his home – the only home he has – he ornaments it with his little pictures & things.
And no good was ever done to a Briton by destroying his notion of ‘home.’
[In England attempts have frequently been made to alter this.]

We have always resisted.
The S. of S. alone can grant a dispensation in special cases for sufficient cause shown.]

At cool hill Stations or at damp changeable other Stations the Barrack room should always have its fire-place for use & comfort.

4

{printed address:} 35 South Street,
  Park Lane,
  W.

7. Then, there are the Gardens – we have not heard so much lately about extending these – tho’ the government is certainly not less solicitous about usefully occupying its men – year by year. These Gardens used to be worked with success & only want encouragement.

Almost every Regiment should supply itself with vegetables – one of the prime elements of healthy diet in India.

[But England can’t preach to India on these scores – England is the land of “parochial” jobbing. And when I think of our Workhouses, Workhouse contractors, (kinsmen to Guardians,) & the palming off of their last week’s stock of vegetables & meat &c which they couldn’t sell, – on Workhouse inmates & Workhouse sick, I am dumb.]
8. I am afraid India is rather short of that (not unknown) article: a pump.
   I think I shall make India a present of a pump - provided you will have it engraved on my tomb; as on that of the ex=maire: “Il a doué sa commune d’une pompe.” & provided you will guarantee me from being thrown into my own well by the Bheesties or Coolies whose trade I shall have damaged.
   But, seriously, would not Steam=pumps, Forcing pumps, might not they answer as well in Indian as in European latitudes? -
   We do not here depend upon “natural head-works” nor upon water=carriers.
   You will soon have at your elbow the first of Engineers - in your Commander in Chief.

5

II. Administrative points.

As to the present state of the Public Health question in India compared with what it was before the Report of the R. Indian Sanitary Commission - there is

A.

1. a much greater & more intelligent acknowledgment of the importance of discovering Sanitary laws on the part of high persons in high places.
   But I am afraid you will retort, as a great personage once did, that that is no more than if I said that Government had acknowledged the Law of Gravitation.
2. much more is known of Disease causes than formerly: But
3. there is still a great amount of preventible disease & mortality in the Army, altho’ the Death-rates have been lowered.
4. the Civil Health question is in much the same position practically as it was, although there has been some legislation about it.
5. Conservancy arrangements for cantonments & Bazars depend for their efficiency, but too much, on the efficiency of Commanding Officers or Cantonment Magistrates.
6. A number of new Barracks & Hospitals have been built - but water-supply and drainage of Barracks, Cantonments and Native towns are much in the same state as they were.
7. There is practically no Executive for Public Health works.
8. There is too little money.
9. Improvements have been initiated at the three Presidency capitals - And the results have been even greater than was anticipated by those who knew Bombay & Calcutta 5 years ago - shewing that Indian climate is not the inexorable enemy to health & life, if only the common measures to secure health & life elsewhere are adopted in India, as elsewhere.
10. An admirable amount of reporting & discussing & theorizing on Public Health questions has been done - but not much in dealing with them - There has not been much of real practical grasp. This raises the question of improved administrative arrangements.

B.
The “Reports” & “Suggestions” (of the English Indian Commissions), too often referred to above, have anticipated almost all I have to say. Perhaps a greater advance in Sanitary work might have been made if the arrangements therein recommended had been persistently carried out.
Clearly enough, dwellings, towns & even areas of country may become diseased just like human bodies - & being so, may lower or destroy vitality in human beings living in them. No specific remedy is applicable to all cases, for there are no specifics in Public Health any more than for in private Patients. Each case must be taken by itself, its symptoms examined by competent persons and remedies, surgical or other, pointed out.
Trinity College, Cambridge 1005

It was with this view that the R. Commission recommended Presidency Commissions of Health so constituted as to represent all the elements of Health problems throughout India, i.e. the Engineering as well as the Sanitary & Medical elements, the Civil as well as the Military element.

But, when they were appointed, men were put on, especially the members who represented the Engineering & Military elements, who were already so overworked that they had not even time to attend more than 2 or 3 meetings, much less to go upon inspections of Stations (without which inspections the thing is as absurd as prescribing for your Patient without seeing him)

So the Commissions cost too much money for too little work.

They were transformed into one (generally Medical) Commissioner for each Presidency.

These men were very good.

India is quite as well supplied with men of this class as our Municipal & Parochial authorities are in England - though, in both countries, some of them are too much given to theorizing & trusting to books rather than to observation.

All will improve by practice.

C. But then - how is their work given effect to?

Where is the Executive to carry it out?

Is the reporting the be-all & the end-all?

What is the machinery to follow it up with measures?

E.g. all that a Medical Health Officer can do for us is to tell us - how many people have been sick - or have died - to what extent Epidemics have prevailed - their nature & probable causes -

This being done, some one conversant with other problems altogether is wanted - who can trace the causes to their source, devise measures for removing them, draw up estimates for these - & see that the works are carried out i.e. advise, survey & superintend the required works of water-supply, drainage &c.
[An instance occurred the other day - one out of many - where a Medical Officer & an English Engineer went to an unhealthy Station to select a site for Barracks. The Engineer pointed out that the real remedy wanted for the Station was not so much new buildings as drainage of a water-logged sub-soil which could be done at a small comparative cost.

This illustrates the kind of talent & experience which India wants, & has not, & yet could have.] But then it must be paid, as is other valuable labour.

The whole matter is summed up in the following list of duties of the proposed Presidency Health Commissions which is in the “Recommendations” of the R. Indian Sanitary Commission:

“To give advice & assistance in all matters relating to the Public Health, such as the selection of new Stations & the Sanitary improvement of existing Stations & Bazars - to examine new plans for Barracks & Hospitals, to advise in the laying out of Stations & Bazars, - the Sanitary improvement of native towns, prevention & mitigation of Epidemic diseases - and generally to exercise a constant oversight of the Sanitary condition of the population, European & native - to report on the prevalence, causes of - & means of preventing sickness & disease” -

but, the R. Commission adds: -

“And, further, that administrative measures be adopted to give effect to the advice of the Presidency Commissions”.

[Of course it is no use to make a Regulation that your chimney shall not smoke, or that water shall not lie, or even to ascertain the cause of the chimney smoking or the water lying, unless there is an
Executive to take measures, & unless the measures are taken to carry off the water, to prevent the chimney smoking &c &c &c]

D. Also: it is quite clear that no Medical Officer can undertake all this - unless indeed he were especially educated in Sanitary engineering & other departments of knowledge - just like a Sanitary Engineer. It is also quite clear that the work is so special that it cannot be taken up merely as part of other work. It must be made a specially responsible proceeding.

In all enquiries of the kind two things have to be discovered: -

1. the diseases to be diminished
2. the causes of these traced to their fountain head, & the practical remedies & cost laid before you.

E. Probably there is no idea of re-constituting the original Commissions. Then, would not the best step be for your Commander-in-Chief, whose own special Sanitary Engineering knowledge is of the first order, to select a few good Royal Engineers, to direct them to make Sanitary work their specialty - (if he judges it necessary, to let them come home to study the great European sanitary works) - & to set them, with your Medical Commissioner to make Inspections of Stations, enquiries, examinations, reports & Estimates? Funds & means of execution would then have to be provided.

Much of the preventible disease among troops & civil population may be “stamped out” by drainage & water supply (not by Quarantine.) The Indian problem is so vast that it can only be solved in details. Sick India cannot be cured in a year or two (People in England are rather too apt to forget that.)
Trinity College, Cambridge 1008

An admirable beginning has been made in Bombay & Calcutta.

The first Indian sewage farm (at Madras) augurs a great success in India. (£58 per acre per annum of grass produce is a better return for money than building costly Hospitals for sick.)

This Madras experiment is perhaps the key to the improvement of Indian cities. China is far before us in this respect.

F. As regards water: - It is stated, on the first authority, that there is scarcely a Station in India which might not be supplied with water enough by good Engineering. e.g. steam-pumping &c

[There is scarcely an out-of-the-way Railway Station in the United Kingdom not supplied with water in this way - also with gas made by portable apparatus - to be had to any extent in England.]

hardly anything needs inventing in India, - except indeed ‘How to do it’?

G. One current remedy is applicable everywhere. And that is: cleanliness - Much of the Native ill-health can be destroyed as at Bombay, by vigorous cleansing measures carried out by an energetic Commissioner, aided by his Health Officer.

H. We have no cause to sing our Sanitary triumphs in England - But at least the standing Commission, x - initiated by Sidney Herbert & presided over by himself, till his death, has done its work well.

This is its method of proceeding at home & Mediterranean Stations: -

x “Barrack & Hospital Improvement Commission” - now “Army Sanitary Commn”
Trinity College, Cambridge 1009

1. a careful examination of the past history of the Station was made, particularly as regarded the prevailing diseases & their proportionate importance.

2. an equally careful examination was next made of the Station & its surroundings, including the Native population, their diseases & Mortality, - the sanitary defects to which these were due - the state of the Barrack, Hospital & Married Quarters - Stables &c - & the general Sanitary police of the Station -

3. a statement of requirements was then made out - estimates were framed & submitted to the Government authorities - money was provided - the improvements were carried out gradually as regarded the Military buildings - and defects among the Civil population were brought under the notice of the local authorities.

4. the Death rate has become one half of what it was.

8

We did not trust to building new Barracks for improving the health of the Army - but brought experience in Sanitary questions to bear practically on disease causes with the view of removing them at as little cost as possible.

And this proceeding is the key to Sanitary work everywhere.

In India the populations are so vast that Sanitary progress cannot be rapid.

Should you not begin (as we did here) with the worst cases:

- cleanse first
- subsoil drain, where necessary
- pump up & supply water
- & drain buildings?

A single Station completed, a single village or town cured of its Epidemics, will do more to forward improvement than any amount of discussion.
Trinity College, Cambridge 1010

Improved agriculture has often been
introduced in a backward country
by simply showing that a single
farm could be well cultivated
& would yield a larger profit -
The ‘solvitur ambulando’ argument has
more influence in the progress of
improvement than any amount of
paper work.
Lastly: permit me one word as to what you
say about the “Localities” in India being
made “to do more for themselves” in this work.
This is most important. I believe that what
they want is, not so much interest or even
knowledge as, encouragement & a ‘grant’ of ------
powers. A few good terse instructions
in the Vernacular (- much has already been
done in this way - & done well-) pointing
out the causes of the high Death rates, such
as filthy customs, bad water and the like -
and urging constant cleanliness - would
be (& have been) well received & do
good.
[Indian native gentlemen, on their travels, have written
to & called upon me - & advocated the
introduction of Sanitary reform into their
native cities & villages.]
Would not the best way of creating an
effectual interest be, in sending such
Instructions, to grant powers of doing
simple work, cleansing, well-digging, &c &c
for themselves? - You can always
have their work inspected. Nothing
gives men so much interest in any
work as letting them do it, after
showing them how necessary it is for their
own welfare. [I am told by great
authority that the native Indian will
always gladly pay for what he sees - i.e.
for what he sees is doing him good.]
I do not apologize for this immensely long letter,
 tho’ much for its stupidity - believing that I have
Trinity College, Cambridge 1011

but obeyed your instructions in writing it,
which I have done as well as I could, tho’,
I fear, my ‘could’ is but small in its wisdom -
Pray believe me, dear Lord Mayo,
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

H.E.
the Earl of Mayo
&c &c &c
{in another hand: N 1870 24 Mar Nightingale Miss Public Health in India}
{printed address, upside down:}
35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

Add Ms 7490/132/9 signed letter, 4ff, pen

Private
35 South Street
& Confidential
London W.
March 31/70

Dear Lord Mayo

I cannot thank you
enough for the true kindness
of your letter of Jan 11 &
for your wishing to bring us
into direct communication
with Dr. Cuningham’s work.
You ask me to tell you
what I “think of Dr. C.’s
“ideas & opinions.”
I think him a most
intelligent man - a very
“full” man - ready to receive
any amount of experience -
- immensely interested in his work - excellent as a reporting and Inspecting Officer - not perhaps so good as an Executive Officer - not having any very special ideas or opinions on Sanitary matters.

To illustrate the difference of the talents in this work: - Dr. Hewlett, the Bombay Officer of Health, has cleansed Bombay almost by his own personal exertions. His practical energy in his special dirty work is something extraordinary.

Dr. Lumsdaine (whom I do not know) who has succeeded Dr. Hewlett, is, I am told, a still better man. And the practical result of their work has been that Bombay is now a comparatively healthy city. Either would make shorter work of your dirty native towns at Allahabad & elsewhere than Dr. Cumingham. But, so far as one can judge by the work done by all of them, Dr. Cumingham has more power of sifting & abstracting reports - & tracing disease causes. But this kind of talent, tho' indispensable, is not all you
Trinity College, Cambridge 1013

want. Dr. Cuningham very
properly keeps clear of
Engineering questions (of which
he knows nothing.) But
Sanitary Engineering questions
are amongst the most
important & frequent with
which you will have to deal.
Nevertheless, if you were to put the
best Sanitary Engineer in Dr.
Cuningham’s place, the Engineer
would be lacking in Dr. C.’s
special knowledge, talent &
experience of disease causes.
It comes round to the original
point that no one man & no
number of men “of one class” can
improve India. You must have
able & experienced Engineering
work as well as Medical opinion.
Pardon me this long sentence -
I was anxious to answer

-2-
as accurately as I can the
question you did me the
honour to put to me.
Nothing but this anxiety would
make me venture on the
impertinence of saying a
word upon Financial matters
in their bearing on the
important Sanitary subject.
We here are trying to
fill our purse by sewing
up the hole in the bottom
of it. It is a simple
operation, but neither
satisfactory nor lasting -
for in the course of things
the hole is worn again.
In India the Government
Trinity College, Cambridge 1014

has spent more than it
has gathered. But I am
sure that you will not
stop every improvement
until your purse is filled.
With so vast an empire
of tax-payers, it is a
good investment to render
the payers more able to
pay.

This argument is far
stronger with troops — for,
as we have found bitterly
& to our cost at home,
if we save with them
by cutting off expenditure
necessary for health, there

comes in a dreadful bill
afterwards — a bill which
always has to be paid.
The sickliness, the Cholera
of this last year in India
is but too terrible a proof
of this.

I am sure that you will rather
pause before letting people
finally act in a way which
may be a great cause of
subsequent regret.

To save this mail I [illeg] send this
unfinished note. But I am ashamed to
say that I have still
something to answer to your
letter, which I am afraid
I shall trouble you with

by a subsequent mail. [end 9:915]

Pardon me & believe me
dear Lord Mayo
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

H.E.
the Earl of Mayo
&c &c &c.

{in another hand: 1870 31 Mar Nightingale Miss}
Trinity College, Cambridge 1015

Add Ms 7490/132/12 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Private 35 South Street, July 8/70
[diagonal] Park Lane, {printed address:}

W.

Dear Lord Mayo

I cannot thank you enough for the kindness of your note of May 27, & for that of thinking of sending me two white, soft, appropriate shawls, which are, as my old Italian nurse used to say, ‘proprio pomposo’, & just the thing for an Invalid. It is very kind of you to think of it in the midst of your vast Empire.

I troubled you a mail or two ago, by sending you a copy of a humble little paper of mine, chiefly on what the native races could do for themselves in Sanitary things, written for the Bengal Social Science Association who have made me a Member.

I will not now encroach upon your time by a long letter - tho’ I feel inclined, after the Arabic method, to cover your shawl with embroidered inscriptions,
representing the greatness of your power & of that power for good over the native as well as the European races under your charge.

Your slave awaits with anxious yet humble impatience the promised “reply” which you have been so very good as to lead her to expect upon these matters -

The India Office people have asked me for a ‘view’ on the present position of the Public Health question. Tho’ I am not ‘viewy’, I suppose I shall have to do this, & hope that I shall meet your approval in what I say. Public opinion is very much with you in England, as you know, in these things.

But you must have a horror of the sight of my handwriting - so that I will not at present say more than that I am dear Lord Mayo ever your faithful & grateful servt.

Florence Nightingale

H.E. the Earl of Mayo &c &c &c.
Trinity College, Cambridge 1017

Add Ms 7490/132/15 signed letter, 3ff, pen

{in another hand: N 1870 24 June Nightingale Miss Public Health in India}

Private [diagonal]
35 South Street, June 24/70
   Park Lane, (printed address:)
   W.

Dear Lord Mayo

   May I venture to take up my yarn
about a subject in which you interest
yourself so vigorously - the Public Health
problem -
   I have been elected a member of your
Calcutta Social Science Association - I accepted,
because for the last 12 years what little
I could do for Indian health has never
been far from my thoughts, sleeping or
waking. I have sent them a paper
on the relation of the Indian Civil Sanitary
question to the habits & customs of the
people -
   That which strikes any one reading
over the reports which you send to
England which are as multitudinous &
able as ever is: - what a vast amount of

Sanitary work there is ready to be done
on the shortest notice which the
most active Government could not touch
& which might be done offhand by the
people themselves aided & influenced
by their own native chiefs & headmen
- & aided in greater works by the
Government when the Government has
money.

I have written my very humble little
paper on this text. Possibly it might
prove of some little use in opening
this division of a great subject; if
translated & circulated among natives.
I hope that it will not be disagreeable to
you if I enclose a copy to you. [you need
not read it.] For if what I have done
Trinity College, Cambridge 1018

should have your approval, any
countenance you would kindly give
would wing my poor little paper
to reach the hearts of the people - which
you have won -

Pray believe me
der Lord Mayo
ever your faithful servant
   Florence Nightingale

H.E.
the Earl of Mayo
&c &c.

Cambridge University, Doyle Family Collection, 2 letters, paper copies
signed letter, ff93-94, pen {black-edged} also in Bodleian [15:469-70]

f93
4. Cleveland Row. {printed address:}
   S.W.
   April 16/63
   Sir

   By the desire of
   General Hastings Doyle,
   I have ordered (from
   Bickers & Bush) a
   small box of books
   for Genl Doyle’s
   Soldiers’ Institute
   at Halifax, Nova
   Scotia, to be sent
   to your house. It
   Lt Colonel North
   MP

f93v
is a small present
from me, made
at Genl Doyle’s
request, who also
informed me that
you would have
the kindness to
forward them to
their destination,
if sent to your
charge -
But would you
kindly, if there is
any mistake on
Trinity College, Cambridge 1019

f94
Genl Doyle’s part &
you should not have
the opportunity of
sending the box,
return it to me?
I am, Sir,
your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

Cambridge signed letter, ff135-37v, pen {black-edged} also in Bodleian

f135
Confidential 32 South St [15:470-71]
   Park Lane
   London W.
   May 5/63

Sir
I should have
answered your kind
note before but that
my life is so overstrained
with business & illness
& that I was anxious
to ascertain from the
W.O. & Horse Guards
whether your official
application for a grant
for your Institute at
Halifax had been
received. You state
(in your letter to me)
that you "have applied for "a grant for £ for the "Institute" - thus, leaving the sum blank.

The W.O. has granted "fuel & light". But your official letter does not say ask for money. And I find from the H.G. that they have no official letter illeg/from you asking for money. Pray ask officially for a grant immediately. I am empowered to tell you from Lord de Grey that, if it is for no greater a sum than £100 or £200, you shall have it immediately. But you must ask officially.

It would be very desirable if the Regimental Libraries could be rendered available for the Institutes, & possibly this might be done by an arrangement for the purpose.

But pray apply for a grant

Believe me your faithful servant Florence Nightingale

Col: North’s kindness has induced him to take charge of a small present of books from me for your Institute, which books I chose according to Returns made to the W.O. of what were the most favourite books among the men
And I am not “empowered” to tell you, but I do, that Lord de Grey, being a pupil of Sidney Herbert’s, is much more favourable than was his predecessor, poor Sir G. Lewis, to Soldiers’ Institutes - altho’ this year, the Estimates being carried already, there are but small sums possible to be granted, as you see. With regard to “books”, about which you ask me, for these Institutes, the “Regulations” for Soldiers’ Day Rooms & Libraries, which doubtless have now reached you, have been terribly cut down in passing thro’ the “Military Education” Council. But we hope to get them revised. Each troop or company receives £2.10 per ann. in lieu of a grant of books - but unfortunately the Librarian has to be paid out of the money. [This is too bad; as the allowance is small enough]. This money would be spent by the C.O. But the Institute would have the advantage of using any books purchased with the money. Because the Library forms part of the Institute.

[end 15:471]
Dear Madam

I am so uneasy at seeing in today’s Bombay news that Sir C Trevelyan is ill that I hope you will forgive me for asking you what really is his state. Quite independently of private love & friendship, there is not a man in the world now, except Sir John Lawrence whose retirement from illness even for a time would have so disastrous an effect on the world’s affairs as Sir C. Trevelyan’s. For what a large portion of the world is India! Only by last mail I had a most important letter from him.

yours overflowingly
Florence Nightingale
Trinity College, Cambridge 1023

Fitzwilliam, black-edged note, CD printed

Mrs. Holland
from her grateful
F.N.  
Xmas/64

with most fervent Christmas wishes
for the perfect restoration of
Sir C. Trevelyan’s valuable, nay,
invaluable life, in his “good will
towards me”, (may we not say,
like, in its measure, to our
Almighty Father’s?)
F.N.

Fitzeilliam, letter to Dr Pertz 21 Aug [1853], copy Wellcome 9083/7

MS 9083/7 signed letter, black-edged paper 2ff, pen, xerox

1 Upper Harley St
London
Aug 21.
{archivist: [1853]}

My dear Dr. Pertz
I hope that you have
not forgotten the Florence
Nightingale to whom you
were so kind at Berlin -
I have only just learnt
that you were in England -
I need not say how much
pleasure it would give
me to see you here - But
you must know that I
am now the Matron of a
Hospital, & I can hardly
hope that you will
come & see me here -
And to me it is impossible to go out -
My father & mother desire me to say how much pleasure it will give them to be introduced to you - & as they are not in the country, they hope that you will give them the pleasure of making your acquaintance, (& thanking you for all the kindness you have shewn to us,) by going down to them in the country, either at

Lea Hurst
near Matlock
Derbyshire
where they will be till the 10th of September, -
or at Embley
near Romsey
Hampshire
where they will be after the 10th of September.
They even venture to hope that you will go to them, if you have time, at both places - Pray tell me that you will go, & I will send you full particulars of the route.
Trinity College, Cambridge 1025

I do not know which of your sons you have with you - My people will be so glad to see him- whichever he is-

You remember the Bracebridges. I have told them you are in England. They will be so glad to see you. They are now in the country

Atherstone Hall
Warwickshire

But they will write to you. Pray believe me, my dear Dr. Pertz, ever your truly grateful & affecte

Florence Nightingale
I hope I shall see you somehow or other -

Fitzeilliam, letter to Mrs Strutt from Harrogate, Ms.17-1948, copy 9083/2, black-edged paper

13 York Pl
Harrogate
May 18 [1852]

My dear Mrs Strutt

It occurred to me that I ought to have mentioned to you (when you told me you would have to look out for a governess, if Mrs. Macarthy wants) a German lady, Miss Julie Becker. She is now at Stuttgartt but coming to England this month or next & is, I believe, disengaged. She is about thirty, a fine musician & a very good teacher of music. She speaks French & English well. Her country is Wurtemberg. She is a woman of great genius,
I think & singularly successful in attaching her friends to her.

Her great characteristic however is her rare comprehension of character her delicacy & tact in appreciating its shades & seeking her moral training to them.

She was governess to the Bonham Carters & I am sure our family owe her great obligations.

She has a great facility of seeing & appreciating circumstances as they are, & applying them to the best advantage of her pupil—I think her power lies more in these things & in cultivating her pupils generally than in the art of teaching, always excepting music.

She became a governess to contribute to the support of a married sister whom German revolutions have made a beggar. She left the Carters for the sake of nursing her sister.

She is not pretty, her voice & laugh are, to English ears, loud & unfeminine & she is altogether on the grand Chrinkhold style of Uubelungern females [?] [Wirbelungen?] Her manners are those of a woman sensible, refined
r
& accustomed to society &
what is more to the purpose,
so are her feelings.
  Her terms are £130/per an.
If you should have the least
curiosity to know more of her,
Marianne Galton knows
her well & would be able
to tell you what she thinks
of her better than I can in
a letter.
  I hope Mrs Macarthy’s
courage has not failed her.
  I did all I could to
persuade Mlle Becker to go
to America, instead of to
England but I am sure
I should have done her a
service if she were ever
to find herself governess
in our house. In general,
v
you will agree with me,
it is doing a foreigner a
poor favour to make her
a governess in England.
  Believe me, dear Mrs
Strutt, ever your affecte
Florence Nightingale
What do you think of dizzy,
“the most successful per=
former of the age”?;
  I am here with Mrs S.
Smith, my aunt, who is
doing penance at these
most “sulphurous & tormen
ting” drinks, to which she
“renders up her soul” &
body twice a day. We know
one Christian (an intelligent
huckster) one black dog,
whose name is George, &
one cat – with a Persian
tail.
22 Albemarle St. W.                    [14:482]
Feb 13/57

The only chance now for 
Dr. Becker is in Lord Belper’s 
personal application to 
Lord Panmure -

Dr. Andrew Smith was 
applied to yesterday by 
Sir James Clark, & 
answered that he 
could give no appoint-
ment, permanent or 
temporary, to Dr. Becker, 
but that he would 
try & get two months’ 
pay for him, in

{page missing}

is rewarded & encouraged. 
Nevertheless I have 
indicated the only course 
to pursue - If you knew 
as I do, the consistent & 
systematic way in which 
all science is discouraged 
& independence punished 
in the Army Medical 
Department here, you 
would think I was

but a poor friend to 
Dr. Becker, in recommending this - Lord Panmure 
is little better than Dr. 
Smith - But this is strictly 
private - ever yours 

Florence Nightingale
Mrs. Gaskell
W.E. Nightingale’s
Lea Hurst
Matlock

My dear Madam
I have the consent of two.
(Mrs. Booth & Lady Canning) to
Mrs. Glover’s admission - Intrigue carries
the day. I now propose her on a day when
Lady Cranworth is not present & when Mrs. Herbert,
To whom I have written to come is. Intrigue has it. Such is the
history of benevolent Committees - Send me Mrs.
Glover’s papers filled up (herein inclosed)
& I will make it a Government question
& I do heartily hope, poor woman,
we may do her some good,
Ever yours
F. Nightingale

FN addressed envelope {post mark: LONDON E C 8 M DE 2 58

Mrs. Gaskell
Manchester
30 Old Burlington St
W.

Sept 28/60

My dear Mrs. Gaskell

Your Capt. P. Jackson
(who is also “my” Capt.
P. Jackson) is I am
afraid rather in a
scrape about his
Gibraltar “Soldiers’
Home”. You know
I dare say that he
is married - that
it is of material
importance to him to
be repaid the money 
(above £1000) which 
he has advanced 
to the Institution - 
You know I dare 
say that he is 
not very business 
like - that he has 
taken, altered & 
fitted up houses 
(for the "Home") 
without any written 
agreement as to 
lease or tenancy - 
upon a mere 
verbal agreement/ arrangement 

with an old man of 
73. But I say, 
there were many 
business-like Officers 
in the Garrison who 
did nothing; there was one 
unbusiness-like one 
who did it all - 
And we ought to 
help it out of its 
scape - That its 
want was pressing 
in a place like 
Gibraltar, & that 
it has answered 
the want is certain. 

There are many
difficulties which no one knows who does not know the soldier as well as I do -
   I believe we could get the War Office to take over the whole thing, paying all the costs, if some kind of lease=security could be had. But then it would fall under the Barrack Dept And if a Barrack Master were to be seen in the place, not a soldier would come near it.

   I have often been told, - better “beg, borrow or steal” the money than do that. Under these circumstances, I am going to “beg.” I am going to beg £1000 of which I may perhaps get half from the War Office, as a grant - And I am going to beg from you - The W.O. will bring us in a few other subscriptions.
And I hope you will be the War Office in Manchester
Perhaps Lady Coltman, Miss Pilkington’s friend, would give something.
I am so incapable now of writing any but the most urgent business letters that I ask you, as being Capt. Jackson’s first friend— not to give but to use your influence to make people give.

The rent of the place is £144 a year— But, if the debt could once be cleared off, tt the soldiers are so fond of it that they will make it nearly self-supporting. It is only on this plea, viz. the success of the experiment, that I think we ought to ask for support.

ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
Hampstead N.W.  
Aug 17/63

My dear Mrs Gaskell,
I take the first
moment of respite
(almost) that I have
had, since the first of
January, to thank
you for your beautiful
“Sylvia’s Lovers” -
As soon as I
found out that it
was you who had
done me the honor
of sending me a
copy, I asked three
different people to
thank you for me.
I dare say not one of
them has done it -
Alas! I find out that
one must depend
on none, except
those connected with
one, in some “high
enterprise.” And all
those who were once
so connected with
me, are already
in another world.
I am afraid to
talk to you Manchester
people, whose higher
interests are so dreadfully pressing, of any less pressing interest. But I remember how much you were interested in Capt. P. Jackson’s Soldiers’ Home. I have been entirely absorbed since the beginning of the year, in bringing out the Report of our Commission on the state of our Army in India & in acting upon it. I mean to do myself the honor of sending you a reprint of one of my papers on the subject.

“By mistake” Sir C. Wood (so he writes) has not presented our whole Report & its documents to the Houses of Parliament. “By mistake” the type has been broken up. Should the subject excite the least interest in you, I should be “proud” to furnish you with all the information possible. Ever yours gratefully

Florence Nightingale
Great Malvern
January 2nd
Dear Mrs. Gaskell

Thank you very much for what you say of our men. I cannot help sending you (per Book post) the Diary of a certain Serjeant Jowett, not because he was an extraordinary, but just because he was a good but by no means an unusual specimen of a manly English soldier.

Please read the pages I have marked & turned down for you. They are so characteristic of one man’s good sense, & simple endurance. He, & his publisher, Porter, were both Nottinghamshire boys of the working class, both sons of bad & drunken fathers & both tried to make themselves cease to be dependent on their fathers. Jowett enlisted, rose to be Serjeant before he was 25. & died at Plymouth on his way home from the Crimea.
Porter became a printer’s boy & is now a bookseller & publisher in his own native village of Beeston. He published his friend’s diary (after his death) which was written without the least idea of its being published.

Yours very truly & gratefully  [FN hand]
Florence Nightingale

Manchester University, John Rylands Library ENG MS 731,77 -77+
Manchester University, John Rylands Library ENG MS 1154/1, correspondence with Thos Worthington Esq

Rylands 1 signed letter, 2ff, pen black-edged paper, pale blue paper

July 25/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Sir
I am sorry to have been prevented by illness & business from answering your kind note of July 14 before.
I am deeply interested in ‘Workhouse Hospitals’. And I am sure that it is a question which will come very largely before the public next year, in relation to London Workhouses.
Thos. Worthington Eq
Your Hospital plan is a very good one; when completed, it will be one of the best, if not the best, in the country. It might be improved in some small matters of detail, e. g. cutting off more completely the W.C.s & Baths from the wards. Still it is capital, as it is.

You must provide for the ventilation of the wards by Sherringham’s ventilators in each window-pier close to the ceiling – & also by shafts in the angles of the wards. Unless this is efficiently done, the three fire places will smoke.

I shall watch for the progress & completion of your building with the utmost anxiety.

Your estimate is extraordinarily low – even without the administrative block. If you succeed in
completing the buildings for anything like the money, with due regard to the simple sanitary requirements of so great a building, you will have inaugurated a new era in Hospital buildings - And we shall hasten to imitate you - for you will have set an example to the whole country.

I have not received the No. of the "Builder" you kindly promise me. But I had already seen it. [end 16:725]

Believe me, Sir
Your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

Manchester University, John Rylands Library ENG MS 1154/2

2 signed letter, 2ff, pen, pale blue paper

April 13/67
35 South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane,
    London. W. [16:732]

Dear Sir
I cannot thank you enough for sending me your excellent Pamphlet, (with plans,) on the Chorlton Union Hospital. It is of the greatest use to us, as giving details of the best & cheapest Hospital. Thomas Worthington Eq
Hospital that has yet been built. And, in these days when so much attention, wise & unwise, is being directed to Workhouse Infirmaries (and so little is being really done) the world’s gratitude is due to those who have solved a problem in a way which must be a model to the country.

For the good & cheap must prevail over the dear & bad – tho’ it is by no means so certain that the good & dear will. I shall make use of your invaluable example everywhere I can –

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale
April 24/67
35 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London. W.  [16:732]

Sir
Might I take advantage of your great kindness as far as to ask you whether you would be so good as to send me (by return of post, if possible) a copy of the Account of your Chorlton Union Infirmary x – for a x read before the Manchester Statistical Society

young Swedish lady whom we have been training as Hospital Superintendent for Upsala in Sweden, & who returns thither on Friday. If I had 20 copies, I could place them well, – abroad & at home – The objection constantly made to me against Pavilion Hospitals is: – the construction is so expensive. to which I answer: – look at the Chorlton Union Hospital.  [end]  [end of letter and signature cut off]
July 9/67
35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Sir
I have felt that you must have thought me most ungrateful in not thanking you sooner for so kindly sending me copies of your invaluable pamphlet on the Chorlton Union Infirmary - which must become a model for the whole country. I have however made that use of them - which would, I know, please you best - in sending them wherever, not only in this country and in Scotland, but in the Colonies & even in the United States, I think it possible that people can be stirred up to imitate your example. For, up to your time, the plea put forward for shirking the Pavilion principle has always been - that it was too expensive. I have sent a copy of your pamphlet to Sydney in New South Wales, where they are building or rather
enlarging a Hospital, - to which
we send out, at their desire,
a Trained Superintendent
& Staff of Trained Nurses.
But I am sorry to say that
their construction will not
be nearly so good as yours.
And I fear it will be too
late to alter.
When I bring out another
Edition of my “Notes on
Hospitals,” I shall make
large use of your example -
please God to prolong my
precarious life so long.
I want to send you a paper
by me by desire [of the Poor] [top of paper is torn] Law
Board, & presented to the
Ho: of Commons, (attached to
a Report, of which I need
only say that your building
puts its authors to shame)
I wish I had had your pamphlet before
I wrote my paper.
I regret to see that the
Chorlton Union does not
put its whole female
management under one
female Head, the Head of
the Nursing - under whom
the Matron or Housekeeper
should always be, I conceive.
    Pray believe me
    Sir
[bottom of page cut off]
My dear Sir

I beg to thank you very heartily for your kind letter & for the plans of the Prestwich Union New Workhouse. They appear to me admirable.

And if I ask a few questions, it is only for my own information. Looking at the depth of the projection in comparison with the shortness of the ward, would it not be a safe arrangement to place the Baths & W.C.s beyond the endwall & behind the Thos Worthington Eq fire place - a separate ventilated & lighted lobby between Baths, W.C.s &c and Ward - all drain pipes going down along outer wall -?

If the wards were longer, the present arrangement of W.C.s &c would be, of course, the best. I am glad to see the arrangement of one bed to each window gaining force - under your authority - In that case I suppose a large/the End window is unnecessary.
Do not the small corner fire places rather trench on the beds? Will the Scullery be sufficient accommodation for a Nurse to sleep in, if necessary? - I shall hail with great expectation your experiment of a Liverpool Convalescent building - It is time that this country solved the question of what to do with its Convalescents -

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt

Manchester University, John Rylands Library CRO 2/19

FN letter fragment, 1f, pen

-2-
anything more? in nourishment or the like? Pray believe me (in haste) yours sincerely Florence Nightingale C.B.N. Dunn Eq
30 Old Burlington St
London W
Oct 8/60

My dear Sir,

All that you are about interests me - & more especially any thing that you are doing to give practical efficiency to the labours of "Bible-women" & Bible-ladies too - I have no doubt that it is your experience, as it is mine, that both classes are sadly wanting in practical ability- I believe it is the experience of all Conductors of Training Institutions (of whatever kind) that it rarely answers to admit as "Probationers" these people. They have an idea that to "hang over the pillow"
of the sick & quote a
text, is all that is
wanted. I remember
a case where a “Bible:
woman” was admitted
as a Probationer=Nurse
at her own request-
& went away, after
a few days, saying
“she had no idea the
sick looked so very
disagreeable”.

I therefore hail,
with the greatest
satisfaction, every
attempt to train
in practical activity
all female Missionaries,
whether for home or
for foreign service,
whether they are rich
or poor - I am sure
that whatever you
do will be blessed
in this thing - x

I do not think
that Workhouse Visiting
- still less Hospital
Visiting, has hitherto
been a benefit -
because Visitors (ladies)

have never taken the
trouble beforehand
to acquaint themselves
with the practical
management of
wards, of human
bodies or minds.

The two women
you mention, Mrs.
Fry & Sarah Martin,
were singularly free
from all taint of
this kind of
Dilettantism
In foreign missions, consisting of carried on by English women, I am sorry to say I have known just as much of it as at home - I quite dread to see any Review or Essay upon “Deaconesses”, & the like, whether by man or woman- Because they all consecrate this lazy & inefficient Dilettantism - They all seem to think that poor= peolping is the only thing that can be done by instinct - that, tho’ a man must have 3 ½ years education before he can give us a dose of medicine, a woman may go tampering with the souls and bodies of her fellow= creatures, without any training at all.

I am sure that you will be glad to hear that “Wm Jones” is turning out much more steady than we had dared to expect- mainly, I believe, in consequence of what you did for him. Thank you for what you say about my health. It is still slowly failing. And no friend of mine could pray that my
life should be prolonged. I have been confined to my rooms for 2½ years, with the exception of being moved occasionally to Hampstead - Yet I am still able to do a good deal of work - My friends will pray for me for strength & patience but not for life - If you can make any use of the trifle I enclose for your "Home", it will please me much. Your "Home" has my warmest interest. That you may see that an attempt is being made in training Nurses, which it is possible you might like to make use of for some Probationers, I enclose these papers.

As I see you are also teaching to nurse, I venture to send you a copy of my little Nursing book, for your acceptance - and of some other things, more particularly concerning soldiers, which may interest you.

Believe me My dear Sir ever faithfully yours Florence Nightingale
Park Lane, W.

Miss Florence Nightingale presents her compliments to the Earl of Mayo & begs to thank him very sincerely for his kind note of Oct 22, desiring a short conversation with her on matters of Indian Sanitary administration - Miss Nightingale will hold herself in readiness to see Lord Mayo on any day after Monday 26, at any hour that

National Library of Ireland, signed letter, 4ff, pen

Private & Confidential {3 words up diag}
{printed address:} 35 South Street, 2 November 1868

Park Lane, W.

Dear Lord Mayo

According to your kind request, I have put down a down a few very short suggestions, on Sanitary things, which I beg to enclose.

I venture to suggest that, in my little red pamphlet, you may find a few convenient illustrations to I. and II.

To III might I add that, after you have heard the Satraps’ difficulties at Bombay & Madras on your way out (& afterwards in the successive stages of your career,) a plan for doing what is required will probably sketch itself out to your own mind- And no difficulty that we have yet heard of in India of those I have indicated will be insuperable by a man who knows how Irish difficulties are to be met & who wields a power no Irish Viceroy ever wielded.

Also: to III and IV I venture to add:--

Lord Napier of Magdala combines more
knowledge with practical power &
vigour of action on these subjects
than almost any man in India
He could probably suggest to you
immediately a Station under his
own eye, as at Poona, where the
Military & Civil requirements point
to the necessity of the same works.
E.g. at Poona - & such an important
Station too- you know how fond we
are of poisoning the water- & then
of carefully storing up the water thus
poisoned & preventing it from
purifying itself. Now both
natives & Europeans must drink
water.
At Bombay, if you had the Governor, &
Mr. Barrow Ellis, Mr. Arthur Crawford
(the Municipal Commissioner) & Col: Bell
(the Sanitary Director) before you, with
Dr. Leith’s Reports on Bombay, Poona,
Nassick, Ahmednuggur, Sholapore &c
on the table, you would set the work
going everywhere speedily - if you
could once convince the men before
you that the work indicated in the
way of drainage, street=opening &
water supply could & must be done.
Lord Napier of Magdala combines all
the local & general experience as an
Engineer & General C. in C. which
makes him a safe adviser & would
enable him to make a really good
example of the truth of what I have
ventured to suggest in my little paper.
And - - - - he does not hold the hopeless
view which nine-tenths of the men
you will have to deal with in India
do. And this, because his own
vigorous experience & mode of action
have taught him the contrary from the
effects of what he has done himself.
To V may I venture to add to what I have said about agricultural improvement - that Col: Keatinge, Governor= Genl=’s Agent in Rajpootana, who has succeeded both in Rajpootana & I believe at his former post, in agricultural improvement by means of machinery, without final cost to the State, on a small scale- could at once arrange the details for a trial on a large scale of the same thing-

So could General Frederick Cotton whose name may possibly be known to you. [He is in England now - the more’s the pity- for he is unemployed. He is the brother of Sir Arthur Cotton.]

Lord Napier of Madras has also, I believe, been successful in agricultural improvement- And he is a man wise & prudent & at the same time energetic in many Sanitary projects. But he is hampered by the want=of=money cry- the cry of economy which often degenerates into the worst economy.

Mr. Ellis (Chief Secy=) at Madras, combines rare administrative with Sanitary experience & ability. Capt. Tulloch, a Madras Engineer, has just gone out to Bombay & Madras thoroughly trained in the best Main Drainage methods.
Lastly - I would fain touch upon the great Hospital necessities of India - not to say more for fear of trespassing upon your time - the want of Trained Nurses to nurse the General Hospitals - the need of having a few women of this kind first from England - of beginning on a small scale but still of beginning. This necessity is actually recognised by the natives more than by the Government - who, for 4 years, have been corresponding with me about it - have been making plans on an (absurdly) extensive scale - & then condemning their own (absurdly) extensive plans - Lord Napier of Madras has now a small well-digested plan "under consideration" by the Supreme Governmt=. I need hardly say that, should Lady Mayo wish to say a word to me on such subjects before she leaves, I should hold myself at her command. But I naturally felt shy of saying this, knowing how immensely occupied she must be. Permit me to say how much I look forward to the success to be expected from your reign. And if I might wish you a wish (as for luck), it would be that, while other Governors= Genl= have won safety for person & property for our Indian fellow=subjects, you may win for them safety for life & health from preventible disease & death - especially for the poor in towns. Many will tell you in India of the impossible cost of doing this - Lord Napier of Magdala will tell you of the cost of not doing it. It is a Cholera every 3 years - perhaps every year -

May I ask you to believe me both now & at any future time ever your ready & faithful servant
Florence Nightingale
The Earl of Mayo &c &c

[end 10:90]
The facts in this sheet are illustrative of No= V. in my little paper. They afford a striking example of the uselessness of Quarantine against Cholera, & of the sovereign use of real measures of Hygiène.

F.N.
Nov 2/68
My dear Sir

Would you be so good as to consider the M.S. copy of the “Agreement” private? and also to remember that the printed papers indicate only an experiment, which has not yet lasted a year -- not a cut & dried plan? I hope it will be much improved upon by you, by ourselves & by others.

If you like to send me any scheme which may be drawn up by your Apostle, I will do my best to revise it. by our experience.

[end 13:63]
St Bart’s Hospital X102/1 letter, pen

30 Burlington St.
February 13/61
My dear Sir
I have kept your Topinard a most unreasonable time. But the truth is I was so excessively interested in it - the more as I have been out of that kind of Hospital observation for three years--and I have also made the most unscrupulous use of it - specially in his condemnation of Glasgow Infirmy, against which I am waging war-

I shall only permit myself “old-Nurse’s” remarks upon the book to you – except v one: -- I have not the least doubt as to French surgery being inferior to English surgery, now & the remark is less presumptuous than it seems. Because it is the Hygienic side of English Surgery that I so much admire.

But to my “old Nurse’s” remarks
1. I entirely concur with M. Topinard in all he says about the great inferiority of French Hospitals to ours – as to diet cleanliness &c
The vile way they have of not removing instantly the Surgical dressings, taken off -- their hot, damp, saturated, smelling, greasy packages of dressings, when on--
Like swaddling=clothes, instead of our nice, light, clean water=dressings, with a Nurse, if necessary, to mop up the discharge.

then the French have not the least idea of our expenditure of water, hot & cold, in the ordinary ward-work—then their system of artificial ventilation & warming the air is destructive of freshness—then their latrines are always offensive—

but With regard to wound-dressing, you may poison a Patient through his wound just as well as you may poison him by foul air.

And this the French are constantly doing. And all the fresh air in the world will not save him from being poisoned—thus—in the finest Pavilion Palace in the world—

2. A person, accustomed to the look of Patients, even without professional knowledge, could instantly pronounce on what the fate of certain operations in the French Hospitals will be—

Pyaemia is an indigenous disease among the French poor—It is constantly taken into Hospital—With our poor, we of course sometimes see it—But it can hardly be called an indigenous disease.

Healing by the first intention is scarcely possible with the French constitution.

the French Surgeons whom I
have seen at work rarely attempted it. They would cram two or three pounds of charpie into an Operation= wound; & say they could only heal by granulation. And I have no doubt this was true.

But you yourself, I suppose, would say that, if you had operations upon half a dozen sedentary scrofulous factory ill-fed drudges, perhaps Pyaemic into the bargain--and upon six well-fed out-of-door Yorkshire labourers--caeteris paribus & with the same first-rate Surgical skill in both,--the results would be very different.

M. Topinard never takes these things into account.

3. The London Hospitals, adding up together all the conditions which constitute of the health of Hospitals have undoubtedly a greater sum of these than the Paris Hospitals. I should be very sorry if I had said anywhere that ventilation was more than cleanliness--or that either would stand in lieu of efficient drainage. But, in writing about construction, you cannot put in about diet or cleanliness, in both of which we are undoubtedly superior to the French--

In fact, in all in which we are as a nation superior to
the French, our Hospitals are superior. And the converse also is true.

M. Topinard’s conclusion that, because our Mortality is less high than it is in Paris Hospls (which I have no doubt is true,) therefore Construction & site go for nothing, is not logical & certainly not according to experience-- I might as well say that, because Scutari Mortality was higher than Paris Mortality, therefore Surgery goes for nothing.


He takes no account of age, sex, previous occupation & condition of life. &c &c &c &c

Now caeteris paribus these things are well known to have influence upon the results of operations.

The law of life after operations has not yet been ascertained-- And no Hospital Statistics have yet been kept so as to ascertain it.

5. Taking into account the local position of St. Bartholomew’s, the results obtained are most creditable to all its scientific & administrative authorities. I have always been struck with the exquisite management
of its wards.
   I should have no difficulty in believing that it is more healthy than any Paris Hospital.
   E.g. Boudin, tells us that Beaujon has lost Pyaemia out of its newly ventilated wards.
   But Pyaemia has not disappeared out of its other wards.
   The magnificent Lariboisière, I do not believe, is healthy, because it won’t open its windows & will artificially heat its air.
   The vast wards of some of the Paris Hospls I am quite sure, are unhealthy & impossible anyhow to keep fresh.
   I should have a great deal more to say. But my only apology for having said so much & so lengthily is that I have very great difficulty in writing at all.
   but I am so anxious that you should not throw your great weight into the scale against improved Hospital Construction.
   Mine has always been an unrequited love for St. Bartholomew. I have worshipped that Saint. He has never taken any notice of me.
   I have got two kittens, the finest ever known (Angoras) already as big as large Spitz ?. One is called Thomas & the other Bartholomew-a. It is a mercy she the latter does not answer to her name. Or it would be heard all over the house-tops.
Your late Patient, my maid, of whom you made such a "good job", is come back to me full of health--& takes a particular pride in her thumb. As also does her husband, who would make a capital "Infirmier" himself.

ever, my dear Sir,
yours truly obliged
Florence Nightingale
I wonder whether you would despise the fag: end of this year’s game--

St Bart’s Hospital X102/2r letter, pen

30 Old Burlington St.
April 18/61
My dear Sir
I was quite transported with pleasure at sight of the lovely nosegay of figures from St. Bartholomew’s -- I thought they were so good- You may laugh at my enthusiasm- But it is not peculiar to myself- I once heard exactly the same feeling of pleasure expressed by a historian at the sight of a well-made-out column of dates that I feel at a well compiled table of facts-
I am anxious however to criticize a few things - in which I know beforehand you will
agree with me -

I am not going to do it
to-day, but only to ask you if
you would be so good as to
send me another copy today.

I think I shall ask you
by & bye, to let me send out
copies to all the London
Hospitals with my statistical
Congress Paper -- to show them
what can be done.

With regard to the Nursing
School-

I am delighted to hear
what your Apostle means to
do. And I think it will
be a great feather in his cap
to say-- I am going to present

the public with the same benefits
out of my own resources that the
other Apostle has taken money for
out of the N. fund & made a
good thing out of it.

To tell you the truth, I look
to the indirect benefits (from the
N. fund) of all Hospitals making
themselves into Nursing Schools
(why not just as much as Medical
schools?) as far greater than
the direct benefits to the public-
Liverpool is going to do this.

I am sorry to say that I
know of no papers or printed
scheme to send you- I enclose
what Examination papers &c
we use at St Thomas’s. But
we have no printed Scheme-
Of course everything depends on
the Matron & Sisters who teach
not on any Regulations one can print.

I would gladly have sent Mr Clough, the Secretary to the N. fund, to you to expound. but he has been ill & is now ordered abroad & gone—

The best thing would be for you to go to the Matron & Treasurer of St. Thomas’s yourself. But I can easily believe that anything from these “would sound unmusical” in St. Bartholomew’s ears—And is better avoided.

For the same reason, perhaps you would rather not go to King’s college as a model.

There is a printed code (in German) for the Deaconesses of Kaiserswerth, which is much at your service. But the longer I live, the more I see how important it is to avoid transplanting.

The pis aller for you, it seems to me, would be for you to appoint an hour to come to me, when I would gladly answer any questions in my power & explain the way we use the papers I enclose.

I say pis aller because I know how your time is occupied & how uncertain I am. E.g. I have only been up twice this last week—which was the reason of my not answering yours before—But I am a sort of Neutral power among the Hospitals.

Yours sincerely & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

Would you accept a copy of my least Edition, an [least is correct] increased one, of “Notes on Nursing”? [end 13:62]
April 15/63

Dear Lord Palmerston

I know that the successor to Sir George Lewis will be determined by other reasons than administrative ones -

And it is only in the name of Sidney Herbert that I venture now
to intrude upon you.

He ardently wished that Lord de Grey should be his successor. During Sir. G. Lewis’ term of office, all Sidney Herbert’s favourite reforms have been standing still, from Sir G. L.’s want of knowledge or want of interest in administrative matters.

What Lord de Grey has been able to carry on, as Under Secy, he has. He is cognizant of all Sidney Herbert’s plans & could bring them to completion, if Secretary for State. Sidney Herbert, not ignorant of the great disadvantage of not being in the House of Commons, still considered Lord de Grey his best successor.

Believe me, during Sir G. Lewis’ time, the only efficient things that have been done in the War Office have been done by yourself –

I write on the knees of my heart for your pardon.

Florence Nightingale
April 16/63

Dear Lord Palmerston

Is this too outrageous?

To me, thinking all night on this matter, & so deeply interested as I am, in Sidney Herbert’s sanitary reforms, it appeared that, IF YOU thought it [you has 3 underlines] for the country’s service to make Lord de Grey War Minister, and IF the opposition might by chance come from the Queen, you might possibly consent to deliver to her this letter - It would be my only justification for such an unwarranted act.

No one can feel so much as I do HOW unwarrantable it is.

Pray believe, at least, this, that I am not so presumptuous as to wish to force your hands, even if I could.

I am only your most humble servant

Florence Nightingale
Dear Dr. Farr

My proprietor, altho' already installed at the War Office, as I dare say you know, found time of Tuesday to expedite Indian matters here during the afternoon.

As he is extremely anxious to get off the printed queries to India as soon as possible, (those which I sent to you on Saturday for your criticism) we have thought it would save your time & consideration for us to draw up the Forms which will to give us the information we want, if sent to the Presidency Medical Boards to be filled up for ten years last past--also a copy to each Officer to whom the printed queries are sent,
new folio
to be filled up for
the last year--
    Would you now
give these your
consideration & tell
us whether they
do give us the
information we want
--which it is obvious
the Organization Blue
Book does not.
    And would you
kindly return them
to me here as soon
as possible, with your
v
corrections, additions
& notes.
    A Circular Letter
is to be sent with
them--
Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
env
July 15/59 with note on it:
"with many thanks. He will
make a good witness. He gave
evidence before the Indian Colon=
=ization Committee--F. Nightingale
My dear Sir,

I am extremely obliged to you for the kind trouble you have taken in writing to me so fully about the unmarried daughter of our dear Friend Dr Farr. He “leaves” them badly off, but he leaves them to us all.

You will understand better than I do myself what so many forget--what a great debt we owe him who with M Quetelet, we may say originated the practical application (or at least organized it) of a Science without which all other Sciences--moral, social, political, or administrative--could not exist as sciences at all.

I mean organized the verifying
v
and registering by Statistics the
results of social habits, politics,
administration systems &c &c
with a view of determining what
our course shall be in future.

I gather from your letter
that you recommend any
assistance to be given to the
Testimonial Fund--I should
like to give £100 to this. I
should have preferred giving
it anonymously, but if you
think it would lead to others
giving something more,
would do so by name--

Sometimes one sees (in
Newspapers) that somebody
promises £100 on condition
that 1, or 9 others will do the
like-

I should wish to be entire-
ly guided by your kind
advice as to making the most

new folio
of this poor little £100, which
after all by itself is a very poor help for three.
Pray believe me, my dear Sir,
Ever your faithful Servt.
(signed) Florence Nightingale
I trust that Dr Farr’s life
will be written at once.
It is not like a political
life which involves the
reputation of living persons
F.N.
If you would recommend
the £100 to be paid at once
could you be so good as to
enable me to pay it out of
my funds not out of
(Banker’s) balance, which
would not be convenient.
(sd) Florence Nightingale
June 15th 83
H.H. Janson Esq.
Jan 30 1883
[printed address] 10, South Street
Park Lane, W.
Indeed, dear Madam, I do & ever shall feel almost too tender an interest in Embley & Wellow, altho’ it is now so many years since I have been there.

Good speed to your new altar cloth. I wish I could do more towards it than this small coin. But you will readily believe that, since my Father’s death, the claims upon me have been so much heavier that it is hard to me to make both ends meet.

I am still constantly overworked & for long years have been almost a prisoner to my room from illness (you kindly ask) – As strength decreases, business seems to increase.

Lady Verney has been & is most seriously ill: & only just now has she been able to be moved back to Claydon. Today is Sir Harry Verney’s Jubilee, when he has completed 50 years of Parliamentary
life. The town of Buckingham celebrates it & one or two Cabinet Ministers come down to speak.

Mrs Coltman is better, thank God. How long has been the strain upon her bodily & mental -- how deep the sorrow of parting with that bright pure, unselfish spirit.

Send me a few early primroses & a tuft of fresh moss (from dear old Wellow Millstream, which I see before me as I write) if you wish to be very kind.

And you will give the greatest possible pleasure to yours ever faithfully

Florence Nightingale

Girton, post card, pen, stamped cancelled Mr 31 90
Your lovely primroses & moss I cannot thank you enough for. We have arranged the primroses round a large dish with the dark green moss inside. And three sweet 'crimson tippel' daisies are growing out of the moss, which is full of fairy trees. And there are ivy leaves & white violets & a red anemone in this beautiful garden, where the moss is always kept wet.

May God bless you & give you as much joy as you have given yours ever faithfully

London March 31 1890  Florence Nightingale

[verso]
Miss Dinah Louisa Petty
Wellow Mill
Romsey
31/3/90 Hampshire

Letters to Nightingale from Anne Manning
20 June 1866, Reigate Hill, Surrey. I am so glad I wrote to ask you about the letter! I quite enter into your feelings on the subject. The lawlessness of people in general is dreadful. I have often though how fortunate was Maria Edgeworth and how faithful were her friends, in keeping her so completely out of sight since her death. If she had authorized a memoir, as her father did, it would be different.

Certainly, I am very fond of biographies and those of the Napier's are
delightful. Has my Life of Lord Clyde been published? I should like to get a few anecdotes of him.

Govt may go out or stay in, but any govt must be grateful for your services. What a year this will be!

Oct 12 1866: I hasten to assure you dear Miss Nightingale that no eye but mine has seen your letter, and I have burnt it, every bit! But I shall not easily forget its contents, nor the lesson you set us all, in your bed of sickness in “thanking God you can work.” How many would be thankful (if at all) just the other way!

Praying God to bless you, I remain most sympathizingly yours, Anne Manning

Letter, black-edged, Ashbocking Vicarage, Ipswich, June 24 1903 to FN:

Your letter has been enclosed to me from Mss Riddings and I am now writing in the name of my sister and myself to thank you for it.

Will you kindly convey to the Executive Committee of Girton College the thanks of Professor Cowell’s family for their resolution? with respect to the Oriental books from his library, accepted by the college.

We trust that they may be contributing to the interest of Oriental study at Girton, and for their part be helpful guidance towards that myotic happiness which the Oriental student lives and moves and has his being amidst. M.B. Cowell
Jan 30 1883
[printed address] 10, South Street
Park Lane, W.

Indeed, dear Madam, I do
& ever shall feel almost too
tender an interest in
Embley & Wellow, altho’ it
is now so many years
since I have been there.

Good speed to your new
altar cloth. I wish I could
do more towards it than
this small coin. But you
will readily believe that,
since my Father’s death,
the claims upon me have
been so much heavier that
it is hard to me to make
both ends meet.

I am still constantly
overworked & for long years
have been almost a prisoner
to my room from illness
(you kindly ask) - As
strength decreases, business
seems to increase.

Lady Verney has been
& is most seriously ill:
& only just now has she
been able to be moved back
to Claydon. Today is
Sir Harry Verney’s Jubilee,
when he has completed
50 years of Parliamentary
life. The town of Buckingham celebrates it & one or two Cabinet Ministers come down to speak.

Mrs Coltman is better, thank God. How long has been the strain upon her bodily & mental -- how deep the sorrow of parting with that bright pure, unselfish spirit.

Send me a few early primroses & a tuft of fresh moss (from dear old Wellow Millstream, which I see before me as I write) if you wish to be very kind.

And you will give the greatest possible pleasure to yours ever faithfully

Florence Nightingale

Girton, post card, pen, stamped cancelled Mr 31 90

Your lovely primroses & moss I cannot thank you enough for. We have arranged the primroses round a large dish with the dark green moss inside. And three sweet ‘crimson tippel’ daisies are growing out of the moss, which is full of fairy trees. And there are ivy leaves & white violets & a red anemone in this beautiful garden, where the moss is always kept wet.

May God bless you & give you as much joy as you have given yours ever faithfully

London March 31 1890 Florence Nightingale

[verso]

Miss Dinah Louisa Petty
Wellow Mill
Romsey
31/3/90 Hampshire
Dear Mrs. Reid
You asked me once
for a Lady Superintendent
for your College in
Bedford Sq - I have
two governesses, sisters,
now to offer you - as
I understand there is
also an office of
Junior Governess to be
filled - The one is
about 32, energetic,
conscientious, well-informed,
well-mannered - She
was Governess to Lady
Teignmouth for 4 years -
& has been a Patient
of mine for 5 months,
during which time
I have learnt to
know her - I think
that, with her busy
energetic/active mind, she
will be better now
for taking a situation.
The sister is 23, has
also been Governess
at Lady Teignmouth’s,
has never been out of
health.
I do not offer them to you as anything wonderful - But I think it would be worth your while to come & see the eldest, as she is so near, or to let her come to you - Their names are Draper.

Believe me

yours truly

Florence Nightingale

Royal Holloway, University of London unsigned notes, probably from a meeting with Sir G. Campbell

Sir G. Campbell March 16/78

enhancement of rent - the less we have of that the better: Ashley Eden has withdrawn his bill: I asked him: to collect undisputed rents only:

Ryots manage to get money for Rent-leagues: better than Trades' Unions: Eastern Bengal:

Press measure: known here only by “Times”: believe it to be inevitable: but they have left English written newspapers free: now these are the worst of all: the most scurrilous:

the greatest harm is done by their being read by people in England: Mr. Fawcett: & then they think they know the “people of India”: they know the anti=people of India: & no other:

This Famine Fund raising the salt-tax, a wicked policy

Times Correspondent entirely sold to Govt says there is unanimity

My letter in Times reprinted in native papers the Govt contradict it acted upon it:

raised Licence Tax to £20 & now £50 now there is no longer “unanimity”.

now the class the only class which speaks is touched it begins to speak the poor salt-eaters can’t speak: & so they are put upon raises salt tax 40 pr cent in Madras & Bombay lowers it 5 pr cent in Northern India Govt at home remonstrates

Ld Lytton says will lower it next year most salt eaten in famine times:
Road Cess worked even better than was wished. It was not only spent locally but raised locally. That is there was strictly speaking a representation (in India you must raise from the bottom upwards not from the top downwards).

Plutocracy protects landowners: Bombay ryotwaree Punjab village commies a representation not only of Zemindars but of ryots under of course the paternal supervision of the Collectors. On election to a Committee in each District the Committee struck the rate: different for each District: according to the surveys of what was wanted: Viceroy’s Council always packed Bengal “independent then it was spent locally under the Committee’s orders. The accounts were kept separately: nothing went into the Imperial Treasury & the people saw that their money was spent for their own advantage & were perfectly satisfied. This is the only way you can do without breaking faith under a Permanent Settlement.

Punjab (Egerton) N.W.P. Ld Lytton is absolute: they have submitted: but say distinctly it is breaking faith.

The Irrigation Cess was added on to the Road Cess. Now the Famine Fund is taken added on to that: it is paid into the Imperial Treasury no separate accounts are kept: that is what I call working better than was wished: it is distinctly breaking faith: I promised: Ld Lytton has been remonstrated ) Bengal with. ) will tand it he says: they may want it for something ) Punjab else: & therefore separate accounts can’t be kept.

[That sounds something/dangerously like Secret Service Money]
You must raise from below:

have representation begun below to manage

the people’s own private affairs local affairs

& so keep rising to a higher & higher \[\text{level} \] of representation

England will be driven out some few hundred years hence

What I am afraid of is that we are such a Plutocracy that everything runs to favouring large landowners to swallowing up the little landholders

Well we may change to being a democracy

Bombay; ryotwaree: independent small landowners: ought to be the most prosperous are the most miserable

As an outsider should say it was only temporary: reaction from Cotton prosperity (like the Miners who drank Champagne)

Wedderburn says it good for ryot to be indebted to soucar: that is nonsense:

Mairwarees not such bad people in rest of India:

Punjab: (village communities) is indebted but nothing like Bombay: not the same ill feeling to money-lenders Punjab prosperous:

Yes: believe that that may be the cause:

the village shop & money lender being the same

In Calcutta we knew the inconvenience of the Pay Master being the Commissariat

the enormous rate of interest

50 per cent. is low: 100 per cent. is something

Manure: this is the great difficulty; (want of) - water without manure no use

lands getting exhausted

efflorescence of salts not only percolating up as well as down: where water carried high: in principle of water finding its own level
rice cultivation healthy even (Govt loans where stagnant Daily cultivation healthy: Cauvery, Godavery, Kistna
Sir A. Cotton successful in all these
(Godavery too low for Navigation 8 months of year
a torrent 4 “ never finished)

When I was Chief Comm: of Central Provinces
Sir A. Cotton then in England applied to to point out a place for a great supply Tank:
(Madras tanks destroyed village communities (people must do them themselves: Punjab
drew circle on Map : but no place could be found there for great supply Tank

Sanitary Question great question of Irrigation
Burdwan fever
Hoogly Drainage Dancary
believe myself that the great rivers coming down from Himalayas bring malaria:
Terai has the washings from mountains malarious
Deltas are malarious
have never been able to learn why Indus Delta is not used as Godavery Delta for Irrigation

Dr Thornton, D.C.L., representative of Punjab in Viceroy’s Council (but that Council packed)
(Education drunkenness
says Punjabee fever on Baree Dooab & Western Jumna Canal
& talks of that ‘fashionable panacea’ Irrigation in greater part of Punjab crops can no more be grown without water as without land Sind ditto well irrigated
Burdwan fever: goes away as it comes: we don’t know how: we drained: it did not subside: where we did not drain it did.
Hooghly Drainage Danconi scheme: at expence of landowners: they behaved very well: it succeeded very well: great encouragement to go on
Madras tanks all left to go to ruin: you see we have destroyed
the village communities: in the old Native
times it was not the Government that kept
them in repair: Chadwick it was the village communities
themselves:
under us in the Punjab it is not the
Govt who keeps the tank & wells in
repair: it is the village communities:
we have kept them up the village commies
there:
now the wretched individual ryot in
Madras CAN’
’t keep his tanks in repair
that’s how it is:

Govt Loans; these loans are never taken: we have given up offering them
to individual ryots: you see the Govt sends
an Officer to see what security he has:
Income Tax my father my mother
then to see whether he is spending the money
as he said: he always prefers going
to his money-lender:
we must trust to education to make the
ryot know his rights:
he does learn them in Eastern Bengal:
if we were to put the ryot one season in
advance, we don’t give him education by that, he would fall back the
more
the money lender says to him, if you won’t come to me
in good years, I won’t stand by you in bad years

bribes: Oriental does not think he
has got anything if he only gets it by giving
honest evidence & gets by good justice
unless he has given a bribe he thinks he
has got nothing worth having
he runs to the judge even the European judge
& says: You are my father, you are my mother,
I am your son:
Viceroy’s Council says we must otherwise have laid on an Income Tax. There is an Income Tax would have been better than what they have done now: Mr. Prinsep a dreadful thorn no complaints: he favoured the Zemindars without ever asking Govt so dilatory: would not send in his Report at last given 3 years furlough to do it: now given up the Service Agent to Maharajah of Cashmere Col. Haig has refused promotion difficult to follow out Hooghly Drainage plan

-where Land Tenures so complicated as in Orissa Chadwick says we have the remedy all ready for Irrigation Malaria: he knows not what he says:

In the Deltas the Irrigation washes the salts out into the sea:

on W. Jumna Canal efflorescence said to be destructive:

Surface drainage very easy Subsoil drainage not so easy

Sanitary Irrigation question

Free press will always be adverse to absolute Govt where Govt free, there is an/are Opposition & a friendly newspapers:
Education has not been all good: men who can quote Shakspere, Newton & Locke, drunken, & good for nothing among the poor education has hardly begun {end 10:485} {6 lines illeg written in pencil}

Salt more consumed in Famine-times: jungle produce: indigestion
2/1/65 [16:707]  
27. Norfolk Street. [printed address]  
Park Lane. W.  

Sir,  
I regret that, overwhelmed with business & illness as I am, I have not found time to answer your note before today. I regret still more that, while the object is in its present immature state, it is impossible to enter into detailed recommendations. After you have people to join, a Committee formed, & I suppose I must add money to work with, I shall be most happy to advise on any points you may wish. When your society is formed, if you desire to send me the programme of your plans, I will do my best to consider
them.

In the mean time, I will only say that I think experience shews that the Supt. of the Nurses to be trained, & of the place where they are trained, should be one & the same person. The Training School is of the first importance. The "Home" of the second. The "Home" should be attached to the Hospital - not the Hospital to the "Home". The Supt must have herself the highest knowledge of nursing, be herself resident in the Hospital, make the training in nursing her first object, & be herself a trained Nurse of the highest order -

I send a number of printed papers, in case they should be of any use to you, concerning our Training Schools at St. Thomas’ & King’s College Hospitals

I also send the last Sanitary Reports & Prospectus of the "Ladies Sanitary Association" in London. They would send you from their Office a packet of tracts, report &c, if you wish it, by which you would see what they are doing, & how far you could work
Royal Holloway 1086

in concert with them.

I beg that you will believe me, Sir,

Your faithful servant

at any time that I can be of use.

Florence Nightingale [end]

Dr. Ogle

RCPL, signed letter, 2415/2, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper, with typed copy, “William Ogle of Derby and Florence Nightingale” 207-08

{in another hand: 1865 May 29 Nightingale}

May 29/65

Private 34 South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane,

London. W. [16:708-09]

Sir

In reply to your note of May 27 & its accompanying papers,
I do not, of course, enter into the ecclesiastical question. I have helped rampant Roman Catholics, rampant Puseyites, rampant Nonconformists of all kinds, rampant Evangelicals all, as far as I was able, - to obtain good Nurses -

William Ogle Esq MD
be a real trainer
   {handwritten copy begins} & “superintendent” of
   Nurses.
The next thing is to lay
down the Regulations
under which you
should train.
I send you (CONFIDENTIALLY)
a paper prepared by me
for the Government of
   India, at their request.
[Please return it to me.]
Should you find in it
   what you require, & should
you put your scheme in
form I shall be very
glad to go over it.
Do not make it too rigid.
You will find that the system will have, to some extent, to form itself.

Your proposed changes in the Derbyshire General Infirmary are part only of a reform which better Nursing will entail on you - The fact is: some general principles are required for guidance in all Hospitals.

If I live, I may perhaps try to do something of this kind - as it is impossible for me to answer in writing all the written questions addressed to me - on this administrative matter.

Some of the existing practices you describe, & also some of the changes you propose, in the Infirmary administration, are not altogether what I should adopt myself - I might even say that I should fancy the gravest mischief would result from some. But it would be unsafe to interfere, unless the entire system,
including the Nursing, were re-constructed

"New wine in old bottles" &c

(the proverb is somewhat musty.)

I should be most glad & happy to go over carefully & criticize, for you, the plans of the proposed alterations in the building; I can form no judgment about them from description merely.

It would have afforded me great pleasure to have seen you - but I am so feeble that I doubt any good coming of my doing so, in the present immature state of your plans. If however you think otherwise, I take so intense an interest in your scheme that I would see you, on Wednesday, the day you propose, at 3 P.M. or at 4 P.M. (if you will write me word) at this house -

Believe me
Your ever faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

I should not be able

{printed address, upside down:}

34 South Street, to go over the building Park Lane, alterations with you London. W.

viva voce. These, at all events, I must have time to go over by myself.

F.N. [end 16:709]
Sir

I have not hitherto answered your questions as to using my name, &c. because it appeared to me that I had sufficiently expressed what course I am compelled uniformly to take.

I can have no objection to its being stated that I will give the best information & opinion in my power as to any scheme you yourselves may propose: but, in doing so, I must clearly be considered as aiding, merely because I am asked.

And the reason you will at once see is that I must not, even in appearance, interfere with the entire liberty of judgment & action.
on the part of your Committee & Association. I wish to inform all sides, to the best of my power, so as to give them the means of forming a judgment and to take part with none. Suffer me to say that I must also protect myself— or I should be continually dragged in to give my authority, such as it is worth, to schemes which all experience tells us cannot succeed. I will give every assistance in my power whether in the way of training Nurses, or giving information when asked. But it is necessary, in order to aid every one/side efficiently, that I should not become “Patroness” (a word I detest) of any. [end] I beg to remain Sir Your faithful servt Florence Nightingale
June 13/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W. [16:710]

Sir

I am very sorry not to be able to assent to your citing me as an authority.

I am most willing to help your Committees to the utmost of my power - but to do this effectually, it is necessary that the Committees should ask my advice.

This is not an opinion, or a fear of collision, on my part.

It is the result of painful experience. My opinion is asked by & given to one member of a Committee.

Great injury to the cause follows. I am involved in endless trouble. The Committee is convinced, at last, that I am right.

The opposition arises from jealousy of the separate action of one member. This is my almost quotidian experience.
And I have determined for the sake of the cause, much more than for my own (for I am used to being skinned alive every day like the eels) to avoid this for the future.

Your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

Wm Ogle Esq MD

10/11/65
Private 34 South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane, London. W.

My dear Sir

I have to thank you for your three notes of Nov 2, 6 &

In the first place, I will observe that I completely agree with you that, if the question were asked me whether to extend the old Hospital or to build a new one, I should certainly answer: - the latter - But the question has not been asked me. And you see, like a ghost, I can only speak when I am spoken to.

The Fever Wing is a nest of holes & corners - equally destructive to health & to nursing. Nothing can be done with it but sweep it from end to end, in the way of improvement.

2. I have read your letters with the plans before me. The Architect, it is
evident, knows his business. And the alterations & additions proposed are very good. I have made a good many suggestions. But I have also said that, to make the building what it should be, it should have two wings, (the proposed new one, & the Fever one re-built) & the old centre block should be used merely for administration &c.

Everything now depends on the course the Committee decide to take.

If they adopt the latter course I have suggested I hope they will send me a pencil sketch, when I will go minutely into the details of accommodation for a Nursing Staff &c &c. It is of no use my doing so till they have made up their minds.

I return you the enclosed, as you desire. And I should be much obliged to you to re=return it to me, when the Committee have decided. I will then
go over in minute detail
all these things - And
we can then decide
whether it will be of
any use to the cause
your using my remarks on the Report.
But at present it
would perhaps be better
to leave the whole matter
in the hands of the
Committee.

I have no doubt we
shall have plenty of
battle to fight afterwards.
I was very much
obliged to you for sending
me my Notes & for your
information.

It would be necessary,

if I am farther consulted,
to tell me the average
number of Operations in
the year Men - Women
of Surgical cases -
  Men - Women
of Medical cases
  Men - Women
  &c &c &c &c
It is impossible to
arrange the Wards &
the Nursing without
knowing these & an
infinity of other details.
Oddly enough, sex was
not given in the
summary sent me
of the proposed Wards.
Your Pneumonia case undoubtedly was killed by want of nursing, just as much as if he had been killed by an accident.

Such cases, neglected in such a way are all but certain to prove fatal, unless the Head Nurse’s eye is never off them & the Nurses.

If the Fever wing had been built expressly to provide for the neglect of such cases, it could not have succeeded better.

I would most gladly have seen you, as you so kindly suggest. But I am completely disabled by illness from any such pleasure, however much I might desire it.

I write in haste, because I had not time to write to you on the same day I wrote to Mr. Wright. And I would not have you think I have neglected your letters —

Pray believe me most faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dr. Ogle
May 18/66

Private 35 South Street, Park Lane, London. W.

My dear Sir,

It would be unpardonable of me not to have answered your kind letter of April 30 - or acknowledged your "Letter" to the Infirmary Governors before, - if I had not to urge the ever-increasing excuse of illness & business - & if I had not felt that I could do no good in the way you kindly proposed.

I have never entered into the controversial line, either in politics or in religion. I have given my services to any Government who would have them. I have also given my services to any Christian denomination, (& even to Jews & Mahometans) - if they were authoritatively asked for - But, if they were asked for to support one "party" against another, - tho' I have been fool enough sometimes to do it, in the interest of the poor.
& the sick - never in the interest of "party" - I have always had cause to repent of it - not from the vain trouble which rebounded upon me & which I did not so much mind - as in the very interest of those poor & those sick which I was advocating.

I rejoice in the great & unexampled progress you have made in public opinion at Derby in the cause of Hospital reform - very much owing to yourself -

I believe that we shall be able to furnish you with a Lady Supt (certainly the lady we propose will not lend herself to the charge of being the "ecclesiastical" head of a "Sisterhood" - Mrs. Wardroper, our Matron of St. Thomas', & I had a good laugh over that paragraph of your letter, tho' I did not tell her it was yours.) The lady in question will now return to Mrs. Wardroper to be further trained for a few months. And we hope to send you her, & a Staff of Nurses, by
Michaelmas or Christmas.
   But we hope we shall
   be allowed till Christmas.
You are doubtless aware that
   I have had much
   correspondence with
   Mr. Wright.
In the present state of the
   question, I can scarcely
   interfere, in the way
   you kindly propose; you
   must fight your own
   battles, in which I
   heartily wish you God
   speed - and when the
   time comes that I am
   asked my opinion
   authoritatively, you will
always find me ready
   to give the fullest
   consideration in my
   power, or any other
   assistance, as far as
   health & business permit.
I have already told Mr.
   Wright that any alteration
   in rules, necessitated
   by having a Lady Superintendent,
   I would gladly look over,
   if desired -
   or any Hospital plans -
[The India Govt paper is
   still strictly private
   & cannot be used.]
   in short, illeg/in any question
either “of construction or of administration,” I will do my very best in giving advice, if I am asked authoritatively & not controversially - And in the mean time pray let me congratulate you on your success & augur a greater success to you - [end 16:715]

And pray believe me my dear Sir ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale

RCPL, 2415/8, Typed copy of an incomplete letter to Dr Ogle, 24/15/8, typed copy only no handscript, “William Ogle of Derby and Florence Nightingale” 209 [16:710-11]

31 June 1865

In obedience to your express desire, but under protestation, I have criticized the enclosed sheet. Such criticisms generally only succeed in alienating those who ask for it. And as the criticizers cannot possibly advance all the reasons for the criticism, it is besides useless labour in general.

To architect’s plans this does not apply and such criticism which I am almost weekly asked for I gladly give. Of course I apologize for the curtness of my marginal notes. Such notes are like telegrams--one cannot go down on one’s knees in a telegram.

Also, to avoid all possibility of mis-construction about the ecclesiastical question, it is not from indifferentism I say what I did. I have very strong opinions on religious subjects. But it was only by serving all sides, even Jews, that I could be of any use. I was asked to head a subscription for returning a man, with whose political opinions I have the strongest sympathies, to Parliament. But I declined. I have served the army sanitary administration with both political sides, when either was in power, and it was only thus I could do good. [end 16:711]
Hampstead NW
Sept 4/61

Sir

I have only this morning received your note of the 26 Aug.

To answer your questions first i.e. as well as I can without knowing your selected site - upon the character of which, of course, every requirement of cubic space &c must depend -

1. “A single room for one Patient” cannot have less than 20/500 cub. ft. or about 150 sq. ft.
2. For every Patient, where the No. exceeds 2, I should give 1500 cub. ft. or about 100 sq. ft.
   It matters not whether they have a “day-room” or not.
3. For “day-rooms” 600 cub. ft. for each Patient - or about 50 sq. ft.
   I regret to see the word “Corridor” used - A “Corridor”, if it means a long room with windows on one side, can rarely be kept healthy -
As you do not “inclose” the “list of “maladies “under which the “Patients suffer,” nor any indication of the proposed site, (which however, I take for granted is in the country, as it ought to be,) I can but add a few general hints.

1. **Superficial area signifies a great deal more than cubic space.** Indeed a height of about 17 ft is actually, in my opinion, prejudicial. But a height under 14 ft must not be either is certainly so -

2. In a very airy site, the “1500” cc. ft” I prescribed might be lowered to 1200 cc ft. But **only in large wards.**

3. All the wards & day=rooms should be ventilated & warmed on the new principles of the “Barrack & Hospital Improvement” Commission.

4. Of course it is not
intended that any one at all should sleep in the Day Rooms.
5. I have given my reasons (in all my published books) for objecting to “wards of from 3-8 beds” & for preferring “wards of from 20-32 beds.” Privacy does not extend beyond the bed on each side the Patient. And if he has one bed on each side of him, he may as well have ten.

Whereas Nursing, in any sense of the word, is impossible in the smaller wards. Women fit to be Head Nurses are not, alas, so common And one such can easily overlook 32 beds in the same ward - cannot possibly overlook them in “wards of from 3-8 beds.”

In like manner, I would only assign
single rooms, to “noisy”
or “offensive” Patients
or such as require
absolute quiet and
a constant watcher.
    I do not presume
to say more. Because
I do not know the
character of your
requirements.
    I will only say/add:
1. I have had large
   experience among
   both those Patients who go in=
   to Hospital & those
   who ordinarily do not

2. Among the “Incurables”
   whom I have nursed,
   there has always been
   a large proportion who
   required that kind
   of nursing which, in
   my opinion, can only
   be given in large wards.
   - & who would certainly
   have been neglected
   in the smaller wards,
   each of which cannot
   be put under one
   Head Nurse.
    I shall be most
happy to render any
assistance in looking over plans, or in answering any questions. But it must be before the 12th of this month, or after November 1st. And in my state of health, which may terminate my power of work at any moment, you are much more certain of having me after this month than in November.

I shall be very happy to contribute towards your building if it is on principles conducive, in my opinion, to the welfare of the sick.

3. In some new Convalescent Institutions abroad, wards of 3 or 4 have been found to answer, with Day & Exercise Rooms. But as soon as the Convalescents became patients they had to be transferred to the Infirmary Wards -
I imagine that some of your “Incurables” are like the “Convalescents”, in the sense that they don’t require the Nursing of Patients. For such I should not object to the 3-bed wards & should think 3 or 4 better than 8 bed-wards. For such I should not object to single rooms, except on account of expence –

But, for those who require Nursing, whether “Incurables”, Operations, Accidents, or “Sick”, every year only confirms my experience that from 20 to 32 bed wards are the best.

4. The material of your walls & ceiling & of your floors is of immense importance.

5. As a general rule, Hosps cut up into small wards require more cub. space than Hosps with large wards. In a certain sense, a Patient profits by all the space (the air) in

-4-
his ward –

E.g. An “offensive” case does more mischief in an 8-bed ward than in a 32-bed ward. Popularly, it is supposed to be just the reverse –

Yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

F. Andrew Esq
Sir

The list of Patients you have enclosed rather confirms me in what I have stated - but is too small in numbers to come to any definite conclusion.

I should require to know the numbers for whom you intend - to build whether equal for men & women &c &c

One curious fact comes out of your list of “Candidates” “as Home Patients” that there are two men to thirty women. I should classify the such cases as those in the List into one large & seven small wards - But, as I say, the numbers are too few to judge.

It is certainly impossible to put an x one of whom is Epilepsy one Aneurism of the Aorta
Aneurism of the Aorta
into the same ward
with an Epilepsy case.

I am not aware
whether your “Out
Patients” tally with
what we call “Out
Patients” at General
Hospitals or whether
they are cases waiting to come in

I think the List
bears out the remarks
I have made, on the
whole - and shews
that more than
ordinary care is
requisite in arranging

the details of the plans.

If you desire me
to look at them, I
should prefer seeing
the rough draft plans
first, in order to
avoid expensive
alterations afterwards.

Your site is well
chosen. The gravelly
soil about Croydon
is good. But it
requires to be very
carefully drained - &
for your Hospital
to be well raised

[end 16:585]
April 29 1881
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.  [13:167-68]

My dear Dr Balfour

I cannot tell you the pleasure with which I saw your handwriting again. How many recollections we have together -

Your decision as to the Hospital for Incurables establishment is a most wise one. I will immediately try to find some lady suitable to recommend to you as Supt. But we do not like to recommend any one but those of whom we have had experience. And these are those who have been not only trained but tried & employed by us.

And for these there is such a demand to head & conduct Trained Staffs which we are asked to send out to Hospls that we are often at our wits’ end. Nothing can be more important than your Hospital for Incurables. I bid you 'God speed' with all my might. To put it on a good footing is a noble work. I wish
we may be able to help you
in it.
Yes: Sir John McNeill sent me
his reprint of the Chelsea
Commission. And Mr Kinglake
had sent me his book last autumn.
I have never opened it. It
was enough to hear what was
in it. It was too painful -
I rejoice, like you, that,
Sir John fought the battle
'0'er again' - I read all my
old friends over again.
in haste, & hoping to write
to you again, & with kindest
regards to Mrs. Balfour,
pray believe me ever sincerely
yours

Florence Nightingale
[13:168]

RHI signed letter, 3ff, pen

May 14/81
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir
I am grieved to find that we
cannot conscientiously spare
one lady among those whom
we have trained & proved,
the only ones whom we could
recommend for such a post
as yours, the Lady Supcy of the
Putney Royal Hospl for Incurables.
They are all serving in posts
from which we could not
suggest a removal, even for
promotion. We have no
reserve. And we never
recommend from those who
have had only a years’ training
for a position as head. They
must have passed thro’ Ward
Sisterships, (i.e. Head NurseShips)
or Assistant Matronships
or Matronships of small
Hospitals to the satisfaction
of their employers first
before we offer them such
a responsible post as that
you mention Then there are others
in important posts whom we cannot disturb.

We have never anything
like the number ready for
the posts that are offered us.
The harvest truly is ready
but the labourers (of the right
sort) are still few.

There is nothing I should
have liked so well as to
have been able to help you
with a Lady Supt, both for
the sake of the poor Patients
in your great Institution
which I rejoice to know is
creating such a position as
you describe - & for auld lang
syne between yourselves & us.

That you may find some
lady to carry out your wise
intentions is my most earnest
wish. I am so glad you
are busied with the Putney
Hospital.

I have consulted our Matron,
Mrs. Wardroper, & our Secretary,  
Mr. Bonham Carter, & gone  
thro’ all our experienced “ladies’  
with the result I am so sorry  
to report May you be more  
fortunate!  
I will write again about  
other things. May I give you  
joy, you & Mrs. Balfour,  
upon your boy? And may he  
realize all you would have  
him be!  
You kindly ask after me -  
it is always severe pressure  
of overwork & illness - & I am  
not growing younger.  
You are working at Statistics,  
I am sure. And I may perhaps  
be troubling you soon about  
some (illeg matters?) of Military Hospitals

-2-  
Success to all you do.  
Let me be always  
for now & for auld lang syne  
yours most sincerely  
Florence Nightingale  
Do you sometimes see Lady  
Tulloch now? Please  
send her my love when  
you write.  
Dr. Graham Balfour  

[end 13:169]
Private  May 14/81
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.  [13:169]

My dear Sir
About Madame Linicke, as a candidate for the appointment at the R. Hospital for Incurables, hers was one of the names I brought before my "colleagues" for the office.

Mr. Bonham Carter’s objection was: "I should be very averse to disturbing Mad. Linicke: she had her salary raised to £100 last July, & is only in her third year of service."

[She was trained by us: & we obtained for her the post at Dublin. She cannot accept another post without our consent; but if you offer it her, I don’t suppose we should refuse it.]

To tell you all this is to tell you that we think her a competent women & that you might "go farther" "& fare" a great deal "worse"

But as I am writing confidentially to you, will you allow me to write more by tomorrow. as I have not a moment today?

In answer to your question she is much too clever a woman to do the “C.O.” “over every body - & everything” - in great haste [end]

ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

Dr. Graham Balfour
PRIVATE  Mrs. Linicke  
R. Hospl Incurables  May 15/81  [13:169-72]
10, South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Dr. Balfour
   Now about Mrs. Linicke -
   -she has had a very difficult
   position in Dublin where she
   has now been for 2½ years.
   -difficult because of the
   elements which might be
   jarring that she has to work
   under & with - viz. two Boards
   and a Ladies’ Committee, a
   Medical Staff, House Surgeon,
   &c &c Nurses (private & Hospital)
   & Probationers & servants.
   Properly speaking she is the
   head of the Training School
   for Nurses, attached to Sir
   Patrick Dun’s Hospital but
   independent of it, nursing it,
   & two other small Hospitals.

In answer to your questions, I
   believe I may say, that she
   has “administrative ability”.
   & “powers of organization”.
She has very remarkable
powers of observation & of
expression which are most
useful in her position.
It will be for the authorities
   of the Training School, & Sir
   Patrick Dun’s Hospl where
   she is in charge of the nursing, -
   to speak to her qualifications.
I believe they will be very
sorry to part with her.
We understand that she is
very successful in charge of
the female servants (Irish)
also.
She has a Matron at the
“Home”, Sir P. Dun’s Hospl
has something more than 100 beds.
To return your questions: I
think she has “firmness” & gentleness to
“carry out her plans & the
Committee’s orders:” & in
“dealing with the subordinate
staff”. And she is very
kind to Patients. I think she has
both a “firm” & a light hand in all the above matters.
I ask myself again your query:
“would she be likely to work
amicably with the Medical
Officer or would she try to
come C.O. over every body &
everything”? I don’t think
it would have been possible
for her to work these somewhat conflicting
elements of the Dublin concern,
& to make them go well, as we

believe, - if she had had any
such nonsense in her head.
Confidentially to you I will say,
she has a very good opinion
of herself. But this is, I do
believe, one secret of her success.
She takes a pride in making
things go amicably. If they
did not, it would be a
slur upon herself in her
own estimation. Self-satisfaction,
you know, prevents some
women from being imperious
or irritable. It is not
at all obnoxious or prominent
in her. And I don’t know
that your Committee would
remark it. I mention it
to you only, because you have
asked me pointed questions.
And I am writing private experience
to you to enable you to judge.
She is certainly a very clever
women. She came to our
Training School when she
was, I think, nearly 40.
And she had had much
experience in management,
 tho’ not in Hospital life,
before she came. We thought she
would not ‘cotton to’ Hospl life. But she did.
[I should say that, when she
first came to us, during an
interval of about a month
when our admirable “Home”
Sister (Mistress of Probationers)
was away for health, she
managed the “Home” for us,
& did not do it remarkably
well. But this would not
tell against her in my mind.
It was a most difficult post
quite new to her -
- a large number of Probationers,

with a large number/great proportion of
gentlewomen, many her Seniors
in the work. I think it would
have been a miracle if she
had attached them all to her.
And I must say to her
credit that, she being a
person of “consideration”, as
you will say when you see
her, “knocked under,” as I
heard it expressed, & was
herself most obedient to our
“Home” Sister & our rules;
to be under authority was
quite new to her & speaks
well for her power of wielding
authority properly herself in her
turn.]
With you, IF she goes to you, instead
of her being new to her work as she was
with us, she will have had the advantage
of 2¼ years of o Hospital management, besides
her year’s training.
I have tried to put her before you that is confidentially before you personally, as I think her, to enable you in a measure to judge for yourself.

I will ask you now to wait a day or two, if that be possible, till I again consult my “colleagues,” Mr. Bonham Carter, our Secretary, who, you will see, is very anxious that she should not be “disturbed” at Dublin, & Mrs. Wardroper, our Matron. [These of course know more about her in some respects than I do] as to what character they would give her.

I had, as I think I mentioned, placed Mrs. Linicke’s name before them when I consulted them about names for your “Incurables Hospl”

But they came to the conclusion that we could not “disturb” any of ours.

Now you have found out Mrs. Linicke for yourselves. And I should not be at all surprised if you were delighted with her. But you will see it would not “do” for us to offer her.

I should say that she is pre-eminently good in domestic arrangements, working with a Matron or Housekeeper under her.

But, after all, her Dublin employers must have of course the last word about her:

If you cannot wait “to use” this {printed address, 10, South Street, till you hear again upside down:} Park Lane. W. from us, please kindly to “use” say only what I have told you generally, without mentioning
such things as I have told you
for your own judgment only
  e.g. her good opinion of herself
  & her not having been good
  as/at management among our
  “gentle” Probationers during
  her ‘month’s rule.
Can you not send us some
  Probationer, whether
  “gentle” or “simple”, for our
  work from time to time?
We have always more applications,
  ten times more, than we
  can admit: but not always,
  of course, the right material,
  especially not among the
  “gentle”

ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

It strikes me that you may be fearful

of Guy’s Hospital disasters
in choosing Mrs. Linicke. Thank
  God, we have been able to keep
quite clear of such unseemly
  doings at St. Thomas’, & are
always on the best terms with
  the Medical Officers who
are our best friends. And
as to our setting them ourselves
up against them, it is a thing
not even to be thought of
among us: ‘a question not to
be asked’: it is so far from us:

in haste  F.N.  
[end 13:172]
My dear Dr. Balfour,

Many thanks for your letters about Mrs. Linicke

I write rather in haste to catch you before your Tuesday’s Comme & to say that Mrs. Linicke was not authorized to refer to me but to Mr. Hy Bonham Carter as Secretary of the “Nightingale Fund”, or to Mrs. Wardroper as Lady Supt of the “Nightingale Training School” at St. Thomas Hospital.

I should wish any communications from me to be treated as unofficial & quasi-private, as you have so kindly already done.

Mrs. Linicke, when here, had not yet mentioned the subject to her own Dublin Committee I think: [she had been telegraphed for, I understood by a Member of your (“R. Incurable Hospl”) Committee, And Mr. Bonham Carter did mention to her that her application must be made with the knowledge of her own (Dublin) Committee & this being done, she might refer to him or to...
Mrs. Wardroper.

The proper course for her to pursue would have been to write & tell Mr. Bonham Carter that she had applied for the Matronship of the Putney Hospl with the knowledge of her own Commee & had referred you - to her own Commee & to ours.

We do not like to run the risk of appearing to have assisted her in applying for the post "unbeknown" to her Commee - which is, as you know, so far from the truth, that, tho' I had thought of her & placed her name before my "Colleagues", I answered you that we had "no one to recommend," - until you asked me for my private opinion, you ne proposing Mrs. Linicke.

Besides this, I am obliged to decline giving formal official recommendations myself to our trained Nurses, except they be those whom I have personally watched & known in their work for years. (which was could not be the case with Mrs. L.) And even then the
-2-

formal references given were are always the Matron & Secretary of our Training School - not me/yself. I have not time to make this tedious explanation shorter. But I am sure that you, - who are so well skilled on the great care required on these kinds of negociations, & in the total want of conscience displayed by Testimonials in general, - will approve & think necessary the kind of carefulness we are obliged to take/observe, in order not to make our recommend-ations as much a ‘dead letter’ as most are - keeping up, as we do, our interest in the careers of our trained women for a great number of years, during which they are not immediately under our own eye. Mr. Bonham Carter told Mrs. Linicke that she must rely upon the testimonials of her own (Dublin) Commee as the best proof of her capacity for supervision.

Please forgive me: & set Mrs. Linicke’s position right
with your Commee, (& prevent me from being referred to officially.)
Most I think there is some Private truth in what you fear about Mrs. Linicke’s “hardness”. But I think it would shew more with her subordinate Staff than with her/the Patients. And I cannot say that it appeared at St. Thomas’. I earnestly hope that she will be a success with you, as you deserve.

Pardon this hasty scrawl & believe me ever yr sincerely

Florence Nightingale
Dear Capt Denman,

I am unable to see anyone except upon special business. If you should have lunch with me, I should more gladly see you of all men. Would 12 o’clock tomorrow suit you?

yours truly
F. Nightingale
Dec 16/96
[printed address] 10, South Street, [13:894]
Park Lane, W.
Dear Duke of Westminster
Good speed to your
noble effort in favour of
District Nurses for town
"& country," and in
commemoration of our
Queen who cares for all.
We look upon the
District Nurse, if she is
what she should be, &
if we give her the training
she should have, as the
great civilizer of the poor,
training as well as nursing
them out of ill health
into good health (Health
Missioners), out of drink
into self control but all
without preaching, without
patronizing--as friends
in sympathy.
But let them hold the
standard high as Nurses
Pray be sure I will try
to help all if can, tho’
that be small, here
& will with your leave
let you know.
Pray believe me
your Grace’s faithful
servant
Florence Nightingale
Lying-in Institutions: 35 South St. Park Lane W  May 10/76

Dear Sir

I trust that you will excuse me, under the severe pressure of business & illness, for not answering, as I should have wished, your long & valuable letter of April 15 before this.

It was not from want of interest in it: I feel so (humbly) glad to find Physicians of eminence interested in the subject of giving first-rate Midwifery instruction & training to Heywood Smith, Esq. MD. &c &c women: an object so very near my heart.

You could do so much to induce the Medical profession to turn their attention in the right direction, - as regards the training of Midwives.

26. I have always believed that the British Lying-in Hospital was on the whole a very much better specimen than others: especially in its management. To this I eagerly assent.

My little book which you are kind enough to notice was simply a sort of guide post, based on melancholy experience-- a sort of Town Crier, inviting further consideration,--begging & crying out for further Statistics: especially from men of weight, like yourself.

27. But 2. are not the considerations which you bring forward to combat the conclusions in that little book as to Lying-in Death rates suppositions only: whereas those in the book are based upon facts?

28. More accurate Statistics are most important:

in fact: one of the main objects of my “Notes” was: to invite these as materials for further investigation & consideration:

But at present is there anything in what you allledge sufficient to alter the general conclusion as to the inexpediency of the present system of Lying-in Hospitals?

4. With regard to severe abnormal cases being “sent in by Medical men”: & thus increasing the Mortality: the effect of course can be proved by the facts, if properly recorded: (& this,
the urging that accurate & detailed Statistics
should be kept & published, so as that we
should know whether these causes exist
to swell the Death-rate, was again one
of the main reasons for publishing the
little book.

[It may be asked by some: - but it is perhaps
an insidious question: - where is the use of
bringing these cases in at all, if they are only to
die?]

5. With regard to your valuable remarks as to
the Medical treatment of the Patients in
the British Lying-in Hospital: I can only
thank you for these: for I have purposely
for obvious reasons avoided entering into
any discussion of Medical questions.

6. May not the question as to whether women are to
be allowed to operate: or whether women
are ever likely to supersede men altogether
in Midwifery practice: be deferred sine die?
Let 'us'- I am so proud to be able to say 'us'
in a question of this kind, as including such
a Coadjutor or rather Leader as yourself: --
let us first get the means of training women
established on something like a common sense
footing. Ought there to be "any
difficulty in having, if need be, separate Schools
for women & men?

At any rate, at present, need we trouble
ourselves about the men: or about their means
of training? For they have some & good:
the women have none: none, that is, that you
would condescend to call by that name.

Earnestly thanking you for your letter: &
most earnestly looking forward to your
invaluable efforts & to your success in this
cause, which it rejoices me beyond anything
to find is yours: pray believe me, dear Sir,
ever your faithful servt=
Florence Nightingale

I shall certainly keep your kind offer of an
"interview" as a pledge that I may call upon your
goodness for one: at your convenience: when I am
a little less over- wrought.

May I venture to enclose a copy of my little book
for your kind acceptance? F.N. [end 8:373]
Royal Society of Medicine, 1 letter

To
  Sir James Paget

whose Sanitary eminence in furthering
the health & improving the Statistics
of Hospitals
is as great a subject for admiration
as his Surgical eminence
  is to all Europe
    this little book
ON
  LYING-IN INSTITUTIONS [printed title page]
with the earnest request & hope
that he will spare a little of his
invaluable time & mind
to criticize it unsparingly
  is offered by
    the most devoted of his followers
  Florence Nightingale

London
Oct 10/71
Royal Hosp Incurables

Royal College of General Practitioners

R.C.G.P. signed letter, 2ff, pencil, black-edged

Jan. 14/97

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

My dear Sir

I see with the deepest regret the disaster to the R. Niger Company forces - I hope that your son has not volunteered to the “Punitive Expedition”, tho’ if he has, it is a gallant thing to do - Occupation has almost overwhelmed me lately - which has prevented my asking to see him -

But if he is at home, and it would be convenient to him & to you, I would gladly see him this afternoon at 5.30, provided I could know as soon as possible

With kind regards

yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

Dr. Armitage

Would you be kind enough to let me have my Account for your past kind visits?

F.N.

Dr. Armitage
a verbal answer please
To ask if
Dr. Ord
37 Upper Brook St
kindly means to see me
to-day: & at what hour?
Oct 10/94       F. Nightingale
Scutari
Barrack Hospital
Jan 29/56

Sir
I am about to presume
upon your kindness in
asking you to give me
some information as to
the character of
Arthur Theodore French
of the Regiment A Troop under
your command. He was
a Lance-Corporal, but
is now a Private, wherefore
I was afraid, as all the
other Lance-Corporals have
been
promoted, that he
might have “got into trouble.”

His mother, a Frenchwoman,
has supported herself, a
widow, & two sons by her
own labor, till they were
able to earn their own
livelihood. This man
is a Saddler by trade,
21 years of age- he has
not very strong health
& if it were thought
desirable to employ him
in the Saddler’s shop,
it would be a great
boon to himself & his
poor mother.
I do not mean that
all these are any reason
for promoting or employing a man not deserving of it. But if you would kindly enquire into the character of the man & act accordingly, you would greatly oblige,

Sir,

your obedt servt

Florence Nightingale

The young man is a good son & that is strongly in his favor.

Lt Colonel White
6th Enniskillens

evelope:
Lt Colonel White
Commg
6th Enniskillen Dragns
   Palace Hospital
Feb 27/89
Private 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.
Dear Lord Dufferin
Your goodness in writing to me on your voyage home to Europe, & in sending me a copy of your speech at a farewell dinner, impressed me deeply. And I had, before, to know your great kindness in sending me copies of your most important Sanitary “Resolution” of July 1888 - & in writing to me with such weight & detail upon a subject which is one of the greatest interests of my life.

I have laid that much to heart & endeavoured to work it out. I feel as if I had never thanked you enough, tho’ I have continually done so in my head.

If ever I have the great pleasure of seeing you again as I should never have dared to hope, & you so kindly proposed - but I know well that you have had quite other & more important things to do. I shall venture to ask you whether India’s Provincial Governments
are really carrying out the \textit{L1b} vital intentions in the "Resolution" & especially if Bombay, the recalcitrant but go a-head Bombay, is re-calcitrating.

I am sorry that, tho’ you^ once saved her Sanitary Departmt from the financial storm it does not appear to have finally weathered that storm. At least it is proposed to reduce now the Sanitary Dept., which is only at half the strength it should be to be act as a supervising establishment at all, of the Mofussil- still further
-
-to cut down the six Deputy \textit{Lv1b} Sanitary Commrs. to four-
-by uniting Eastern & Western Guzerat into one District -
- & by making the overworked Sanitary Commissioner who is over the whole Presidency, take a District himself!!

It is as if they were to say-
‘the Sanitary Dept. has shown us how many millions die annually from preventable disease - let those millions go on dying.’

It needs no saying that natives in the Mofussil cannot be trusted to carry out Sanitation, or even Vaccination,
without - a thoroughly efficient {Llc}
supervising Establishment
I am sure that you do not
forsake your colossal child
India.
And I might also ask if I [10:339]
dared whether you are
satisfied with your successor.
   Pray believe me
dear Lord Dufferin
ever you faithful & grateful servant
   Florence Nightingale
P.S.
And might I ask, should
such a time ever arrive as
my seeing you, whether you
gave some fatherly admonitions {Lvld}
to the “National Congress”
people, who would doubtless
not only accept them with
sincere & grateful respect
but profit by their wisdom.
They would be touched by
that tact & courtesy - the
'Stein hand in the velvet
'glove’ - Which touches all
the world, & has governed
in three Continents.
   F.N. [end 10:339]
Dec 4/91
10 South street
Park Lane. W.

Dear Lord Dufferin,

I trust that you will not think my request impertinent or that if you do your kindness will excuse it.

You may perhaps remember that you were good enough to meet Prince Damrong of Siam at the Travellers’ Club with Mr. Frederick Verney, English Secretary to the Siamese Legation, at his request.

Mr. F. Verney is going to Egypt with Prince Damrong on their way to India for an instructive tour.

You will have seen how intelligent the Prince is and how well he speaks English.

A line from you to Sir Evelyn Baring (besides the official introduction) would of course be of the highest value, if you are so very good as to give it.

Mr. Frederick Verney will be at Rome to meet the Prince in about a week or ten days, should you kindly give it to Mr. F. Verney there. He
will be at the Hotel
Quirinale, where the
Prince’s rooms will be.
May I beg my kindest
regards to Lady Dufferin,
if you will present them,
& may I ask you to
believe me
your faithful servant
Florence Nightingale
Sir,
I have received so much kindness from the authorities of St Mary’s Hospital that I venture now upon that plea to ask a favor.

I have had a set of new forms prepared for Hospital Statistics with the Registrar General’s sanction. I should be very glad if St Mary’s Hospital would have the kindness to fill up for one / part/ year a copy of these. But before asking leave to send one for this purpose I should like to ascertain to what extent the information could be obtained from the Hospital books.

The following are the data required to fill up these forms. Of these will be required the Remainings on the last day of any year/day/1857 and the Remainings at the end of 1858/a full year.

1. Age
2. Sex
3. Disease
Also the Admissions
   Discharges
   Deaths
   Discharges Incurable
with the Duration of the cases.
N.B. The Age, Sex, & Disease must be shewn for each of these headings.

St Mary’s Hospital having done me the honor to make me a Governor, I have ventured to hope that it would not be at least presuming too much to ask whether this information is readily obtainable from the Hospital Books.

Indeed the Registrar General himself considers that St Mary’s Hospital is a more likely Institution to supply this information than any other.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your Obedt. Servt
Florence Nightingale
Wilkinson, Esq. Secy.

(2)
30 Old Burlington St. W.
October 1st 1859

Sir,
I beg to thank you very much for your most kind offer of filling in the set of forms which I enclose.
Perhaps the readiest way of doing so will be to tick off in pencil cases by case out of the Hospital Books according to their ages & Disease on the blue line opposite the diseases under the proper Sex and
Age. And after the Hospital Books are gone through to fill up the sum of the ticks in figures, black for the men and red for the women. The duration of cases will be obtained by adding together the numbers of days intervening between the admission & death or cure of Male & Female Cases at each age & by dividing the sum by the number of cases for each Sex & Age. These figures entered in the line of the disease under their proper Ages & Sexes will give what is wanted. If any disease in your books does not appear on these Forms, please write it in.

I fear that I am inflicting a great deal of trouble upon you. Perhaps you will be kind enough to let me have them back as soon as your convenience permits.

If there are any points on which further explanation is required, perhaps you will be kind enough to let me know.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your Obliged & Obedt. Servt.

Florence Nightingale

P.S. I take the liberty of sending for your acceptance some pamphlets on similar subjects. At page 2 of the 'Notes' on Hospitals, in a footnote, you will find the reasons for my desiring the favor which you have granted so kindly. 

F.N.

L.G. Wilkinson, Esq
Sir

You could not do me a greater favour than by allowing me to see the Autotype reproductions of the Frescoes on the Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel by Michael Angelo, as you kindly propose.

But, alas, I am an incurable Invalid and entirely a prisoner to my room. And the only way for me to see them would be, as you are also so good {overtop kind} as to propose, if you would kindly send the Albums containing the series any Saturday afternoon. I will not trouble you to send for them again on the Monday morning, but will punctually restore them at an early hour.

I am a worthy workshipp {assume text goes off page} of Michael Angelo's Sistine Chapel, if ever there were any worshippe[d] of those Frescoes who could be called worthy-

Pray believe me Sir

ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

To the Secretary
of the Autotype Company
Dear Madam

I am grieved indeed to hear the account you give me of my poor friend Miss Noaks - I shewed your letter to Dr. Weber - he has known her so ill that he thought it possible she might still rally sufficiently to be removed - Should that ever be the case,

{}only say how glad {}shall be to receive {} & to soften, as far {}lies in our power, {}sufferings which {}must accompany {}downward path, {} dear soul -

I remain, dear Madam yours ever truly

Florence Nightingale
Sir

I have only this morning received your note of the 26 Aug.

To answer your questions first

i.e. as well as I can without knowing your selected site — upon the character of which, of course, every requirement of cubic space &c must depend —

1. “A single room for one Patient” cannot have less than 20/500 cub. ft. or about 150 sq. ft.

2. For every Patient, where the No. exceeds 2, I should give 1500 cub. ft. or about 100 sq. ft.

It matters not whether they have a “day-room” or not.

4. For “day-rooms” 600 cub. ft. for each Patient — or about 50 sq. ft.

I regret to see the word “Corridor” used — A “Corridor”, if it means a long room with windows on one side, can rarely be kept healthy —
As you do not “inclose” the “list of “maladies “under which the “Patients suffer,” nor any indication of the proposed site, (which however, I take for granted is in the country, as it ought to be,) I can but add a few general hints.

1. **Superficial area signifies a great deal more than cubic space.** Indeed a height of about 17 ft is actually, in my opinion, prejudicial. But a height under 14 ft must not be either is certainly so.

2. In a very airy site, the “1500” cc. ft” I prescribed might be lowered to 1200 cc ft. But only in large wards.

3. All the wards & day-rooms should be ventilated & warmed on the new principles of the “Barrack & Hospital Improvement” Commission.

4. Of course it is not
intended that any one at all should sleep in the Day Rooms.
5. I have given my reasons (in all my published books) for objecting to "wards of from 3-8 beds" & for preferring "wards of from 20-32 beds."
Privacy does not extend beyond the bed on each side the Patient. And if he has one bed on each side of him, he may as well have ten.
Whereas Nursing, in any sense of the word, is impossible in the smaller wards. Women fit to be Head Nurses are not, alas, so common And one such can easily overlook 32 beds in the same ward - cannot possibly overlook them in "wards of from 3-8 beds."
In like manner, I would only assign
single rooms, to "noisy" or "offensive" Patients or such as require absolute quiet and a constant watcher.

I do not presume to say more. Because I do not know the character of your requirements.

I will only say/add:
1. I have had large experience among both those Patients who go into Hospital & those who ordinarily do not

2. Among the "Incurables" whom I have nursed, there has always been a large proportion who required that kind of nursing which, in my opinion, can only be given in large wards. & who would certainly have been neglected in the smaller wards, each of which cannot be put under one Head Nurse.

I shall be most happy to render any
assistance in looking over plans, or in answering any questions. But it must be before the 12th of this month, or after November 1st. And in my state of health, which may terminate my power of work at any moment, you are much more certain of having me after this month than in November.

I shall be very happy to contribute towards your building if it is on principles conducive, in my opinion, to the welfare of the sick.

3. In some new Convalescent Institutions abroad, wards of 3 or 4 have been found to answer, with Day & Exercise Rooms. But as soon as the Convalescents became patients they had to be transferred to the Infirmary Wards -
I imagine that some of your “Incurables” are like the “Convalescents”, in the sense that they don’t require the Nursing of Patients. For such I should not object to the 3=bed wards & should think 3 or 4 better than 8 bed=wards. For such I should not object to single rooms, except on account of expence –

But, for those who require Nursing, whether “Incurables”, Operations, Accidents, or “Sick”, every year only confirms my experience that from 20 to 32 bed wards are the best.

4. The material of your walls & ceiling & of your floors is of immense importance.

5. As a general rule, Hospls cut up into small wards require more cub. space than Hospls with large wards. In a certain sense, a Patient profits by all the space (the air) in

-4-

his ward –

E.g. An “offensive” case does more mischief in an 8=bed ward than in a 32=bed ward. Popularly, it is supposed to be just the reverse –

Yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

F. Andrew Esq
Sir,

The list of Patients you have enclosed rather confirms me in what I have stated — but is too small in numbers to come to any definite conclusion.

I should require to know the numbers for whom you intend — to build whether equal for men & women &c &c

One curious fact comes out of your list of “Candidates” “as Home Patients” that there are two men to thirty women.

I should classify such cases as those in the List into one large & seven small wards — But, as I say, the numbers are too few to judge.

It is certainly impossible to put an x one of whom is Epilepsy one Aneurism of the Aorta
Aneurism of the Aorta
into the same ward
with an Epilepsy case.

I am not aware
whether your “Out
Patients” tally with
what we call “Out
Patients” at General
Hospitals or whether
they are cases waiting to come in

I think the List
bears out the remarks
I have made, on the
whole - and shews
that more than
ordinary care is
requisite in arranging

the details of the plans.

If you desire me
to look at them, I
should prefer seeing
the rough draft plans
first, in order to
avoid expensive
alterations afterwards.

Your site is well
chosen. The gravelly
soil about Croydon
is good. But it
requires to be very
carefully drained - &
for your Hospital
to be well raised

[end 16:585]
April 29 1881
10, South Street, {printed address:}    Park Lane. W. [13:167-68]

My dear Dr Balfour

I cannot tell you the pleasure with which I saw your handwriting again. How many recollections we have together -

Your decision as to the Hospital for Incurables establishment is a most wise one. I will immediately try to find some lady suitable to recommend to you as Supt. But we do not like to recommend any one but those of whom we have had experience. And these are those who have been not only trained but tried & employed by us. And for these there is such a demand to head & conduct Trained Staffs which we are asked to send out to Hospls that we are often at our wits’ end. Nothing can be more important than your Hospital for Incurables. I bid you ‘God speed’ with all my might. To put it on a good footing is a noble work. I wish
we may be able to help you
in it.
Yes: Sir John McNeill sent me
his reprint of the Chelsea
Commission. And Mr Kinglake
had sent me his book last autumn.
I have never opened it. It
was enough to hear what was
in it. It was too painful -
I rejoice, like you, that,
Sir John fought the battle
‘o’er again’ - I read all my
old friends over again.
in haste, & hoping to write
to you again, & with kindest
regards to Mrs. Balfour,
pray believe me ever sincerely
yours

Florence Nightingale

May 14/81
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir
I am grieved to find that we
cannot conscientiously spare
one lady among those whom
we have trained & proved,
the only ones whom we could
recommend for such a post
as yours, the Lady Supcy of the
Putney Royal Hospl for Incurables.
They are all serving in posts
from which we could not
suggest a removal, even for
promotion. We have no
reserve. And we never
recommend from those who
have had only a years’ training for a position as head. They must have passed thro’ Ward Sisterships, (i.e. Head NurseShips) or Assistant Matronships or Matronships of small Hospitals to the satisfaction of their employers first before we offer them such a responsible post as that you mention Then there are others in important posts whom we cannot disturb.

We have never anything like the number ready for the posts that are offered us. The harvest truly is ready but the labourers (of the right sort) are still few.

There is nothing I should have liked so well as to have been able to help you with a Lady Supt, both for the sake of the poor Patients in your great Institution which I rejoice to know is creating such a position as you describe – & for auld lang syne between yourselves & us.

That you may find some lady to carry out your wise intentions is my most earnest wish. I am so glad you are busied with the Putney Hospital.

I have consulted our Matron,
Mrs. Wardroper, & our Secretary, Mr. Bonham Carter, & gone thro’ all our experienced “ladies’ with the result I am so sorry to report May you be more fortunate!

I will write again about other things. May I give you joy, you & Mrs. Balfour, upon your boy? And may he realize all you would have him be!

You kindly ask after me - it is always severe pressure of overwork & illness - & I am not growing younger.

You are working at Statistics, I am sure. And I may perhaps be troubling you soon about some (illeg matters?) of Military Hospitals

-2-
Success to all you do.
Let me be always for now & for auld lang syne yours most sincerely Florence Nightingale

Do you sometimes see Lady Tulloch now? Please send her my love when you write.

Dr. Graham Balfour
My dear Sir

About Madame Linicke, as a candidate for the appointment at the R. Hospital for Incurables, hers was one of the names I brought before my “colleagues” for the office.

Mr. Bonham Carter’s objection was: “I should be very averse to disturbing Mad. Linicke: she had her salary raised to £100 last July, & is only in her third year of service.”

[She was trained by us: & we obtained for her the post at Dublin. She cannot accept another post without our consent; but if you offer it her, I don’t suppose we should refuse it.]

To tell you all this is to tell you that we think her a competent woman & that you might “go farther” “& fare” a great deal “worse”.

But as I am writing confidentially to you, will you allow me to write more by 

in great haste

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

Dr. Graham Balfour
PRIVATE Mrs. Linicke
R. Hospl Incurables May 15/81
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Dr. Balfour
Now about Mrs. Linicke —
she has had a very difficult position in Dublin where she has now been for 2½ years.
difficult because of the elements which might be jarring that she has to work under & with — viz. two Boards and a Ladies’ Committee, a Medical Staff, House Surgeon, &c &c Nurses (private & Hospital) & Probationers & servants.
Properly speaking she is the head of the Training School for Nurses, attached to Sir Patrick Dun’s Hospital but independent of it, nursing it, & two other small Hospitals.

In answer to your questions, I believe I may say, that she has “administrative ability”. & “powers of organization”. She has very remarkable powers of observation & of expression which are most useful in her position.
It will be for the authorities of the Training School, & Sir Patrick Dun’s Hospl where she is in charge of the nursing, — to speak to her qualifications. I believe they will be very sorry to part with her.
We understand that she is very successful in charge of the female servants (Irish) also.
She has a Matron at the “Home”, Sir P. Dun’s Hospl has something more than 100 beds.

To return your questions: I think she has “firmness” & gentleness to “carry out her plans & the Committee’s orders:” & in “dealing with the subordinate staff”. And she is very kind to Patients. I think she has both a “firm” & a light hand in all the above matters. I ask myself again your query: “would she be likely to work amicably with the Medical Officer or would she try to come C.O. over everybody & everything”? I don’t think it would have been possible for her to work these somewhat conflicting elements of the Dublin concern, & to make them go well, as we believe, - if she had had any such nonsense in her head.

Confidentially to you I will say, she has a very good opinion of herself. But this is, I do believe, one secret of her success. She takes a pride in making things go amicably. If they did not, it would be a slur upon herself in her own estimation. Self-satisfaction, you know, prevents some women from being imperious or irritable. It is not at all obnoxious or prominent in her. And I don’t know that your Committee would remark it. I mention it to you only, because you have asked me pointed questions. And I am writing private experience to you to enable you to judge.
She is certainly a very clever women. She came to our Training School when she was, I think, nearly 40. And she had had much experience in management, tho’ not in Hospital life, before she came. We thought she would not ‘cotton to’ Hospl life. But she did. [I should say that, when she first came to us, during an interval of about a month when our admirable “Home” Sister (Mistress of Probationers) was away for health, she managed the “Home” for us, & did not do it remarkably well. But this would not tell against her in my mind. It was a most difficult post quite new to her — a large number of Probationers, with a large number/great proportion of gentlewomen, many her Seniors in the work. I think it would have been a miracle if she had attached them all to her. And I must say to her credit that, she being a person of “consideration”, as you will say when you see her, “knocked under,” as I heard it expressed, & was herself most obedient to our “Home” Sister & our rules; to be under authority was quite new to her & speaks well for her power of wielding authority properly herself in her turn.]

With you, if she goes to you, instead of her being new to her work as she was with us, she will have had the advantage of 2½ years of o Hospital management, besides her year’s training.
I have tried to put her before you that is confidentially before you personally, as I think her, to enable you in a measure to judge for yourself.

I will ask you now to wait a day or two, if that be possible, till I again consult my “colleagues,” Mr. Bonham Carter, our Secretary, who, you will see, is very anxious that she should not be “disturbed” at Dublin, & Mrs. Wardroper, our Matron. [These of course know more about her in some respects than I do] as to what character they would give her.

I had, as I think I mentioned, placed Mrs. Linicke’s name before them when I consulted them about names for your “Incurables Hospl”

But they came to the conclusion that we could not “disturb” any of ours. Now you have found out Mrs. Linicke for yourselves. And I should not be at all surprised if you were delighted with her. But you will see it would not “do” for us to offer her.

I should say that she is pre-eminently good in domestic arrangements, working with a Matron or Housekeeper under her.

But, after all, her Dublin employers must have of course the last word about her:

If you cannot wait “to use” this {printed address, 10, South Street, till you hear again upside down:} Park Lane. W. from us, please kindly to “use” say only what I have told you generally, without mentioning
such things as I have told you
for your own judgment only
e.g. her good opinion of herself
& her not having been good
as/at management among our
“gentle” Probationers during
her ‘month’s rule.
Can you not send us some
Probationer, whether
“gentle” or “simple”, for our
work from time to time?
We have always more applications,
ten times more, than we
can admit: but not always,
of course, the right material,
especially not among the
“gentle”
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
It strikes me that you may be fearful

of Guy’s Hospital disasters
in choosing Mrs. Linicke. Thank
God, we have been able to keep
quite clear of such unseemly
doings at St. Thomas’, & are
always on the best terms with
the Medical Officers who
are our best friends. And
as to our setting them ourselves
up against them, it is a thing
not even to be thought of
among us: ‘a question not to
be asked’: it is so far from us:
in haste     F.N.
PRIVATE May 23/81

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

My dear Dr. Balfour,

Many thanks for your letters about Mrs. Linicke.

I write rather in haste to catch you before your Tuesday’s Commee & to say that Mrs. Linicke was not authorized to refer to me but to Mr. Hy Bonham Carter as Secretary of the “Nightingale Fund”, or to Mrs. Wardroper as Lady Supt of the “Nightingale Training School” at St. Thomas Hospital.

I should wish any communications from me to be treated as unofficial & quasi-private, as you have so kindly already done.

Mrs. Linicke, when here, had not yet mentioned the subject to her own Dublin Committee. I think: [she had been telegraphed for, I understood by a Member of your (“R. Incurable Hospl”) Committee, And Mr. Bonham Carter did mention to her that her application must be made with the knowledge of her own (Dublin) Committee & this being done, she might refer to him or to
Mrs. Wardroper.

The proper course for her to pursue would have been to write & tell Mr. Bonham Carter that she had applied for the Matronship of the Putney Hospl with the knowledge of her own Commee & had referred you - to her own Commee & to ours.

We do not like to run the risk of appearing to have assisted her in applying for the post “unbeknown” to her Commee - which is, as you know, so far from the truth, that, tho’ I had thought of her & placed her name before my “Colleagues”, I answered you that we had “no one to recommend,” - until you asked me for my private opinion, you not proposing Mrs. Linicke.

Besides this, I am obliged to decline giving formal official recommendations myself to our trained Nurses, except they be those whom I have personally watched & known in their work for years. (which was could not be the case with Mrs. L.) And even then the
formal references given were always the Matron & Secretary of our Training School - not me myself. I have not time to make this tedious explanation shorter. But I am sure that you, - who are so well skilled on the great care required on these kinds of negotiations, & in the total want of conscience displayed by Testimonials in general, - will approve & think necessary the kind of carefulness we are obliged to take/observe, in order not to make our recommendations as much a 'dead letter' as most are - -keeping up, as we do, our interest in the careers of our trained women for a great number of years, during which they are not immediately under our own eye. Mr. Bonham Carter told Mrs. Linicke that she must rely upon the testimonials of her own (Dublin) Commee as the best proof of her capacity for supervision. Please forgive me: & set Mrs. Linicke’s position right
Childrens’ Hosp, Gt Ormond Stl162

with your Commee, (& prevent me from being referred to officially.)
Most I think there is some
Private truth in what you fear about Mrs. Linicke’s “hardness”.
But I think it would shew more with her subordinate Staff than with her/the Patients.
And I cannot say that it appeared at St. Thomas’.
I earnestly hope that she will be a success with you, as you deserve. [end 13:173]

Pardon this hasty scrawl & believe me ever yr sincerely
Florence Nightingale
Madam

I am extremely grateful to you for your long & most considerate account of Mrs. Brown, & for your great kindness in giving me so much of your thought -

There can be no doubt as to Mrs. Brown’s being a valuable servant & attendant - The only doubt can be as to her experience in overlooking other servants. Would it be too much to ask you to add another kindness to what you have already done by enquiring who gave the orders or superintended things in general at the blind Miss Williams’? Without being called housekeeper -{and indeed in my tiny household it would be absurd to
call my maid housekeeper] -
   it seems natural that
Miss Williams’ “confidential
maid” should have
exercised some authority.
It would not be possible
for me to make a
positive engagement
with any maid
without a personal
interview - or indeed
without a trial -
And as Mrs. Brown is

not in immediate want
of a place - and as you
cannot spare her just
now for a personal
interview with me, I am
afraid I could not
come to a positive
decision at once -
This is no inconvenience to
me - rather the contrary -
Since I am rather more
than usually pressed
at this moment, both
by business & illness -
Of course, I do not expect
Mrs. Brown to wait my

convenience - Should she
hear of a desirable
situation, & you will
kindly tell her to let
me know, I will, of course,
at once arrange to come
to some conclusion.
I am indeed obliged to you
for offering to spare
Mrs. Brown rather earlier
than you had intended.
I hope to be able to
make my convenience
entirely meet yours -
& to arrange for her to
come & see me when she
would otherwise be leaving you -
I ought to apologize for this lengthy note & especially for the trouble I am giving by writing in pencil -
I know not how to express what I feel at your kindness -
Perhaps you will kindly communicate to Mrs. Brown what I have said. I will also write to her -
Will you give my love to Mrs. Egerton Leigh? - [I quite well remember a present of a basket from her little child in the Crimean War - It was constantly used.]
Pray believe me Madam yours ever faithfully & gratefully
Florence Nightingale
Mrs. Richd Morris

letter to Sabilla Novello, Brotherton

April 10/66 [7:337-38]
[printed address] 35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London, W.

Private.
Dearest friend
I should be very impardonable not to have written to you before, if my silence had been neglect.
But I have been a prisoner not only to bed, but almost to one position, from pain all the winter.
I have been so driven
with business from the
disarrangement of the
War & India Offices,
which threw twice
the work upon me,
while I was but half
as well able to do it.

And perhaps you know
that our dear Hilary
Carter is gone-after
a long illness so
painful that we
could but thank God
when rest did come.
How long it seems to me
since that day at
Hampstead, 5 years
ago, when your dear
kind sister the “Clara”
& you came to see me
there-I have still
the handkerchief,
with Garibaldi upon
it, in which she so kindly brought her
music. And it
covers what is to me
the most sacred of my

possession-Sidney
Herbert’s portrait,
which yet I cannot
bear to look on-

Since that day, 5
years ago, I have lost
every one who then
lived almost with
me. Sidney Herbert,
others, whom you did
not know, & dear, dear
Hilary Carter. And
I have survived
them all-

Thereirs is sometimes
a deeper intensity of pathos or of despair
in the simple Index
to a book or Catalogue
of dates than there
is in all the poetry
or oratory in the world.
In the Index to Dante’s Vita Nuova, there is this: “Ecco Beatrice Morta e Dante vivo.”
I send you my hair,
as you desire it, dear friend. I cut off a

good piece, in fact I
may say half my remaining locks-
But my sister, Lady Verney, came in &
took away all but the shabby piece I
now send-
You know my sympathies are always & all for Italy- Somehow I always think of your noble sister,
the "Clara" as the genius of Italy, far more than of Canova’s Italia or other representations whoever represent your country to me.
Pardon this hurried note. If I were to say all that is on my heart, I should have no paper left, or strength either, in my profession.

Ever, dear Italian friend
Yours overflowingly
Florence Nightingale
for others to decide -
My business will probably compel me to be in town for some months to come, so that I am obliged to decline your kind invitation to receive the offered gifts. believe me ever,
    dear Lydia,
        affectely yours
Dear Lord Dufferin,

Your goodness in writing to me on your voyage home to Europe, & in sending me a copy of your speech at a farewell dinner, impressed me deeply. And I had, before, to know your great kindness in sending me copies of your most important Sanitary “Resolution” of July 1888 - & in writing to me with such weight & detail upon a subject which is one of the greatest interests of my life.

I have laid that much to heart & endeavoured to work it out.

I feel as if I had never thanked you enough, tho’ I have continually done so in my head.

If ever I have the great pleasure of seeing you again as I should never have dared to hope, & you so kindly proposed - but I know well that you have had quite other & more important things to do. I shall venture to ask you whether India’s Provincial Governments
are really carrying out the vital intentions in the “Resolution” & especially if Bombay, the recalcitrant but go a-head Bombay, is re-calcitrating.

I am sorry that, tho’ you^ once saved her Sanitary Departmt from the financial storm it does not appear to have finally weathered that storm. At least it is proposed to reduce now the Sanitary Dept., which is only at half the strength it should be to be act as a supervising establishment at all, of the Mofussil- still further

to cut down the six Deputy Sanitary Commrs. to four- by uniting Eastern & Western Guzerat into one District - & by making the overworked Sanitary Commissioner who is over the whole Presidency, take a District himself!!

It is as if they were to say- ‘the Sanitary Dept. has shown us how many millions die annually from preventable disease - let those millions go on dying.’

It needs no saying that natives in the Mofussil cannot be trusted to carry out Sanitation, or even Vaccination,
Children's Hosp, Gt Ormond St L171

without - a thoroughly efficient {L1c} supervising Establishment
I am sure that you do not forsake your colossal child India.
And I might also ask if I dared whether you are satisfied with your successor.

Pray believe me dear Lord Dufferin ever you faithful & grateful servant
Florence Nightingale

P.S. And might I ask, should such a time ever arrive as my seeing you, whether you gave some fatherly admonitions {Lv1d} to the "National Congress" people, who would doubtless not only accept them with sincere & grateful respect but profit by their wisdom. They would be touched by that tact & courtesy - the 'Steel hand in the velvet 'glove' - Which touches all the world, & has governed in three Continents.

F.N. [end 10:339]
Dear Lord Dufferin

I trust that you will not think my request impertinent or that if you do your kindness will excuse it.

You may perhaps remember that you were good enough to meet Prince Damrong of Siam at the Travellers’ Club with Mr. Frederick Verney, English Secretary to the Siamese Legation, at his request.

Mr. F. Verney is going to Egypt with Prince Damrong on their way to India for an instructive tour.

You will have seen how intelligent the Prince is and how well he speaks English.

A line from you to Sir Evelyn Baring (besides the official introduction) would of course be of the highest value, if you are so very good as to give it.

Mr. Frederick Verney will be at Rome to meet the Prince in about a week or ten days, should you kindly give it to Mr. F. Verney there. He
Childrens’ Hosp, Gt Ormond St

will be at the Hotel Quirinale, where the Prince’s rooms will be. May I beg my kindest regards to Lady Dufferin, if you will present them, & may I ask you to believe me your faithful servant
Florence Nightingale [end 10:339]
Private
& Confidential Jany 18/97
[printed address] 10, South Street
Park Lane, W.

My dear Sir

I have never thanked you for your very kind note.
- & at the end you said that you hoped “good” & not rather than “harm” would come out of the present business for Miss Spencer at the R. Infirmary.

Your kindness will easily believe my anxiety about the change in the “Rule”-
also that I beg to apologize for venturing any opinion in the matter, but may I

2

I am so sorry that your “term of office” is over - as a manger.
Pray excuse this long letter & this pencil-
I scarcely pretend to offer an opinion but rather to follow what I believe to be yours:-
And I am sure we both of us agree in “not harm “but good” resulting to Miss Spencer as Matron

[missing pages]

Offered to
Mr Joseph Bell, M.D. FRCS &c &c &c
with the kindest regards
& most hearty thanks for all he has done so wisely & so well for the cause of Trained Nursing:

Florence Nightingale
London June 12 1880
Bell’s Notes on Surgery for Nurses
dedicated to FN. 1887
written up from his lectures.
Dearest Miss Williams,

I do beseech you get a Medical Certificate from Dr. Meadows’ suppléant or from Dr. Sieveking who asks you to consult him or from any one suggested by Mr. Lane & go away on Saturday either to Claydon or somewhere where you are quite out of Hospital - or to Claydon first & then to Brighton or your brother’s.

Pray say you have done this.

I was appalled at Little Sister’s being “ordered abroad for the winter,” but I have always been sure that she needed a long holiday. I have a comforting letter from her this morning. What day is she going? She does not say.

God bless you -
Now pray be off on Saturday: Pray for ever yours

F.N.
Bristol Archives

August 21/67
35 South Street  [printed address]
   Park Lane W.
   London
Dear Miss Carpenter
   It is very good of you
to think of me during
your short & busy stay
in London.
   I have been & am
so excessively occupied that
I have not been able to
make an appointment
as you so kindly offered
me “to see you for half
an hour”
But I could now
dispose of tomorrow
(Thursday) at 4 or on
Friday at 3 or 4
if I could see you,

v
if none of these suited
you on Friday at 11 a.m. or
12 if you would
kindly let me know
beforehand.
But if all these are impossible
to you would you kindly
name your own hour?
I am so very busy & so
ill that nothing but
the pleasure of seeing you
& of hearing of your great
Indian doings would
strengthen me to do
anything but what is
absolutely urgent business.

F2
   Pray believe me
ever your faithful servant
Florence Nightingale
As the conviction of my Hospital life has been that no curtain should be allowed to come near any Hospital bedstead, to obstruct its fresh air, I cannot advise on how to hang curtains.

If the Patient requires privacy, low moveable screens should be used, just high enough to prevent him seeing into other beds or other beds seeing into him, i.e. not higher than the Patient’s head when sitting up in bed.

This is the best way not to obstruct ventilation & not to obstruct the Head Nurse’s view when walking about her ward - very serious accidents with sudden hemorrhage &c having happened owing to the Patients not being all & always under the sight of the Head Nurse at the same time.

10/7/63   F. Nightingale
35 South Street, Nov 3/69 [8:223]

Dear Sir

In answer to yours of Nov 1,
I can assure you that it was not “flattering”, at all but the literal & honest truth which I wrote to you concerning your management of the Liverpool Workhouse Lying-in Wards -

And I am sure that your removal would be a very great loss to that Institution - tho’ I should be sorry that your wishes J.H. Barnes Eq

if they point in another direction should not be satisfied -

But I am afraid that I must not break through a rule which, for obvious reasons, I have been compelled to make, viz-

never to influence or interfere in appointments - & that I am therefore compelled, however unwillingly, to adhere to my principle of not giving my opinions
as Testimonials.  
I shall be extremely 
oblided to you for the 
Summary you are so 
kind as to propos 
ed giving 
me of your Lying-in 
cases at the end of the 
year.  

Pray believe me 
ever your faithful servt 
Florence Nightingale
Dear Sir,

You must have thought me very ungrateful not to have thanked you sooner for your kindness in sending me your Lying-in Statistics - They are very remarkable, very satisfactory. Your Death-rate in the Workhouse for the last 3 years appears to be scarcely higher than that of Lying-in women at home in the Healthy Districts. My reason for delaying to thank you was: that I have been so much worse than usual that I was not able to look out the papers you asked for among an immense mass of Statistics I had collected on the Lying-in Hospital subject. I now enclose those you asked for (2), & shall be much obliged to you if you will return them to me, as
they are - as soon as you
    have done with them -
I hope to shew you that your
    trouble has not been in vain.
And indeed it is only
pressure of business & of
illness which has prevented
me/my winding up ’ere this
a Statement of Comparative
Lying-in Statistics.  

    Pray believe me
    dear Sir
    ever your faithful servt
    Florence Nightingale
J.H. Barnes Esq

[end 8:223]
9 Chesterfield St. [16:630-32]
London W
Ap 17/62
Sir
1. One great reason
   for N. and S. wards,
   instead of E. and W.,
   is that the whole
   wall surface should
   be exposed to the
   sun every day of
   sunshine. N. walls
   are always more or
   less damp & cold.
2. The morning sun
   is always advantageous,
the South sun not so much so.

3. The exact number of degrees of inlet for sunlight is of less importance than the E. and W. sun. Every ward should besides have an end window; & the sun would thus shine into the end of the ward, when in the S. & give a nice sweeping light. In this way the ward loses no ray of sun.

4. Whatever the size of your ward, you must have one Head Nurse to overlook each, be it for 4 or for 40 beds. A good Head Nurse can overlook 40 just as well as 32 beds. [The French say just as well 50 or 60 as 32. And I agree] But we consider 24, 28 or 32, not more, the best number for Sanitary well-being. If you go into the open airy suburb of
the town, you will find 1500 cubic feet per bed enough. A Hospl in a situation requiring 2000 ft. had better not be there at all.

5. The French & Belgian Hospls are not Workhouses. They only receive the class of cases, sent to our Workhouse infirmaries. The Medical cases are usually worse than in our Hospls. Because they receive our hopeless Workhouse cases - But no Hospls in the world

ScGGS/4/3/4(ii-)

-2-

(in time of peace) receive so many accidents as large English Hospls - our Dockyards, Railroads, Manufactories &c &c &c &c supplying so many.

6. At the Cavalry Barrack, York, you will see the latest Military Hospl which, with some small defects in detail, is the best Hospl in Europe, at present existing. Its cost was £4160 for 60 beds. It is plain & of course
wants many things
required for a Civil
Hospl. But even
with all these
requirements, a large
Civil Hospl ought not
to cost more than
£80 or £90 per bed.
I send you a
pamphlet by this
day’s post. The York
is half the “Plan for
a Regimental Hospl”
therein contained –
i.e. it has the ground
floor wards, centre
2 floors.
Woolwich Marine
Hospl is bad. Woolwich

Military Hospl, now
being built, you will
find a plan of (the
“Herbert” Hospl) in
the pamphlet sent.
It will be the most
complete large Hospl
in existence, much
better than any abroad.

7. Pray see the Vincennes
Military Hospl at
Paris & the Lariboisière.

St. Jean, at
Brussels, is good in
some, very bad in
more points.
Have you seen the
General Report (a Blue Book) of the “Barrack & Hospital Improvement” Commission? It is full of good principles, requiring, of course, to be varied for Civil Establishments. If you have any difficulty in getting it, I will obtain it & send it you.

8. Ashton Infirmary wards are too narrow (24 ft.). York & the “Herbert” Hospl will be 26 ft. wide.

ScGGS/4/3/4 (iii)

-3-

You are fortunate in securing such a man as Mr. Scott as Architect.

I will gladly look over and criticize any plans you choose to send me.

I would gladly also see you or any of your committee, as you propose. But it is now 4 months since I have been able to leave my bed. And the chances are so few that I
ever shall be able
to do so again that
I am afraid of
troubling you to call
upon so poor a
chance.
    Any questions I
would gladly answer
in writing.
    But I must
crave indulgence,
both in answering
these & in examining
plans, for any delay.
I am overwhelmed
with business. And
many days I am

not able to write
at all or to do anything.  [end 16:632]
    Believe me
        yours faithfully
    Florence Nightingale
Dear Mrs Taylor
I was very sorry to hear of poor Mrs Newton’s illness. It was no time to write to her. She was very anxious that I should do so in order to take her to Scutari - as Nurse. I do not think that I shall take her. And her illness will probably necessitate her return to England. I am very sorry that you have the trouble of nursing her and glad that all your new assistants, including, I hope, your sister, are coming to you today.

It is much better now that twenty only came at once as you would otherwise have so much difficulty in housing them. Please let me know as soon as Mrs Sandhouse is able to return to me and what Miss Kate Anderson and Miss Innis are about to do with regard to returning - I am so glad they are better.

Ever yours
F. Nightingale
Tell me when and if I must ask for passages home for whom and how many. Is Thorne ready to go home when the others come?

Sir
Though somewhat heavily pressed down by business & illness, I cannot forbear writing a line (with my mite to the “Anstie Memorial Fund”), to express- what I cannot express- how great is the loss to our country in Dr. Anstie. Had he lived, many thousands of deaths would not have died, (if I may use such an expression), which now will fall victims to the want of Public Health measures, of which he was such a devoted supporter. To follow in his steps is the best tribute we can offer him, the only one he would care for.

When we were agitating to improve the new Sanitary Acts by giving certain powers of inspection to local Boards, we had in view such cases as the place where he laid down his valuable life to serve his country on what is really the battle field of this day, both in England & India.

They would not follow our advice (tho’ they
will some day.) And there are many, many buildings where similar deaths are now taking place, & will continue to take place from want of this inspection. In our new Army buildings, these calamities
are provided against.
But the crying fault is: that we have a
great & costly Sanitary organization
which cannot touch the most
powerful Disease-causes connected
with houses & Establishments.
And now one of our very best men of this
or of any age has been called on to pay
the penalty! I wish I could afford
to send 100 times more to his "Memorial" than this petty £5.
Pray believe me, Sir, yr fful servt.
Florence Nightingale

Letter, black-edged paper, Private Collection

10 South St.
Park Lane W.
July 13/80
Dear Evelina
I should be sorry
indeed not to see you
while you are in
London.
I am in pretty bad
case just now, being
not only very overworked
& ill but having a
serious case of illness
in the house.
Yet, if you are only
in London for a "week,"
I cannot bear to miss you.
Could you kindly spare
half an hour at
5 or at 6 on
Friday or on Saturday.
Please say when:
With my kindest regards
to Signor Fenzi,
ever, dearest, yours
Florence Nightingale

Yesterday, I think,
was your Mother’s
birth day.
How many recollections!
I long to offer her many
happy returns.
I hope Gwendolen is better.
F.N.
Scutari August 13/55 [14:213]

Sir

Miss Mary Tattersall, now a Nurse under my charge at Scutari, who passed through an apprenticeship at your Hospital, desires now to forward to you Five Pounds for the Westminster Hospital, being, as she says, the first money she ever earned, which she earnestly wishes to devote to the place where she received so much kindness when learning there— [end]

I remain Sir
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale
Sir

I am very much indebted to you for so kindling sending me your Vol. on Hospital Organization which I am sure I shall read with much interest & profit especially the part on training.

I am strongly impress with the conviction that after 20 years we shall be put on our trial again as to training of Nurses or rather perhaps that for the country the trial is only beginning:

We hail at St Thomas’ Hospital any real effective rivals, who will raise the standard of Training & Nursing. Let them outstrip us, let us catch them up again. Training Schools for Nurses are rising up every where. Every Hospital ought to have one: but the questions for practical solution I take it will be:
do they mean to really organize & test a system of training? or do they mean merely to admit Untrained Nurses & call them Probationers? what selection & what training will there be for Superintendents (Matrons) beyond that of Nurses? will Supts for instance have a year’s training as Assistant Supts?

=will Training Schools intend to send out whole Nursing Staffs trained, or only individuals? Then will come the whole question of ‘Obligation’ Shall it be fore one, two, three or four years? This question in its practical solution greatly affects the supply of good Candidates. Perhaps they will flow most to the Schools which
only require one year’s obligation:
On the other hand, it is probable that in a
place like London these will go to the
immense & lucrative demand for ‘private
Nursing’ & not be available for Hospital
Nursing - still less for sending out in trained
Staffs.
These & similar question will be on their trial
for the next five years: & I own to much
apprehension as to their result - unless, as I
trust, good men & true like yourself will try to guide
them - Pray believe me, ever your faithful servt. [end 12:319]

Florence Nightingale
Charles West Eq M.D.

Royal College of Surgeons of England

pencil letter Ms 0261/1

M.S. “Notes on Sick Nursing”
Article Nov 19/81
Dear Madam

I am sure that no other apology is needful
to your kindness for my having kept so long
the M.S. sent me by Miss Enderby but that
I am always under the severe pressure of
overwork & illness- And even now I regret
to be able to make but few remarks upon it.

I have ventured to erase a few words,
in one or two places, which seem to me to
express more than was intended or than
was quite accurate. Beyond this I have
not felt justified in making any
alterations in the body of the M.S.

Some short remarks I will merely make
by way of suggestion.

The article rightly professes to take the
form of notes - & to afford only hints to
those for whom systematic teaching & practice
is not available. But it is to be feared
that some portions of the Article would tend
to induce a belief in the readers that mere
lectures & Classes, unconnected with Hospital ward training,
mere reading, mere good will & intentions would enable them to do many things for which only a trained nurse is competent-- such, for instance, as the otherwise useful instructions relating to the authority of the nurse over her patient & those about the patient-- to the observation of symptoms & reporting thereon to the Medical men-- to the giving of food & to some extent also to the proper carrying out of ventilation.

The tendency to over confidence is usually far greater in those possessing a superficial knowledge than in the well trained. The power both of observation & of safely exercising any discretion in executing the Doctor’s orders can only be acquired by training & long practice; and in any serious illness outside a Hospital there must necessarily be always frequent occasions in which the doctor’s instructions cannot be precisely adapted to the varying circumstances
of the Patient during his absence.

Words of warning & caution seem to me therefore to be desirable with regard to the application of these portions of the Notes.

I need hardly say that it is a matter of rejoicing that the attention & interest of all classes of women should be aroused to the subject by periodicals specially addressed to them—& that it would be a matter of intense thankfulness if more of first rate women could be brought in to fill, after a good Hospital training, the places which are eagerly waiting for them—of heads &c of Hospital Nursing & of departments of Hospital & Workhouse & district Nursing. People scarcely realize how few the real labourers are to the harvest. I therefore hail beyond anything your interest in the subject.

Had I time & strength I could give you instances where the Patient’s life has been jeopardized by the Nurse exerting her “authority” with insufficient knowledge—in each of the applications cited.

P.S. Since I wrote this, I have Miss Enderby’s second note. I can only bid you ‘God speed’ with all my heart & might & repeat my apology. It is very many years since I have been obliged to decline, however unwillingly, any work of this kind, such as revising ladies’ articles, much as it may concern the subject on which I spend my life.

Excuse a pencil scrawl.

F.N.
4 December 1876
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 2 December enclosing 12 sheets of notes on the Johns Hopkins plans, and I desire to express my sincere personal thanks for this favor. Your remarks shall be laid before the trustees as soon as I return to America, and I feel sure that they will be very greatly interested in and influenced by your criticism. I do not think it probably that I should do otherwise than agree with them.

Royal College of Surgeons of England, 1 letter and 1 note at Lincoln’s Inn Fields

Dear Capt Denman
I am unable to see anyone except upon special business. If you should have lunch with me, I should more gladly see you of all men. Would 12 o’clock tomorrow suit you?
yours truly
F. Nightingale

University of Ulster, School of Nursing, letter sent by email

London April 14 1882
I most earnestly wish that we may be able to help you in following out the noble illeg illeg by training you thoroughly illeg
I send you the Regulations both of the Special (Lady) Probationers & of the illeg illeg Probationer.
If you persevere in you illeg fill up the questions at the the form as filled up to Mrs Wardroper.
the Matron at St Thomas’ Hospital, subject to whose selection candidates are admitted. (of whom there are always far too many to fit the vacancies).
I am afraid there are at present no vacancies. Mrs. Wardroper will tell you when one occurs. And I assure you you have my best wishes that you would succeed.
In answer to your questions, there is no difference whatever made between the Nurse & Lady Probationers. They are illeg exactly alike. But the illeg illeg are naturally more illeg illeg situations. illeg illeg Examinations by the Lecturers The educated women have “study hours the women of the Nurse class have “classes
given them by our admirable ‘Home Sister’
who under the Matron has charge of our
Probationers. All this together

Ladies have entered into Nurse
vacancies but we do not illeg
this, as it is but right to keep a
large proportion of vacancies for Nurse
Probationers. And we have always
for more illeg from ladies as
Special Probationers than illeg

Minet Library, Lambeth IV/249, draft letter of Mary Minet to Wm Rathbone

9 June 1890

Though I am no longer practically engaged in the work of nursing, my
interest in it remains as strong as ever and I have the opportunity of
doing somewhat to advance the work and I sh much like your advice on my
scheme.

My husband is largely interested in Camberwell as a landowner and I
have formed the idea of starting a home in that district where it is
much wanted.

The usual plan of collecting subs and a com wd be a lengthy and
tedious and we have though it wd be better to induce the public to take
the house over as a going concern.

My husband has give me the use of a charming little house he has just
built there, and this I am now furnishing and I have obtained the
services of two nurses Miss Byam who was with me at Battersea and Miss
Spooner from Hampstead who will be ready to begin work almost
immediately.

Until the public takes over the home I am prepared to bear all the
expense of maintenance but I am anxious that the illeg shd be made under
the best official sanction and illeg. So I wrote to you to ask you to
help me in this part of my programme- and to tell me what steps shd be
taken to obtain official recognition for the Camberwell home.

Both the ladies I have named are fully qualified Bloomsbury nurses
who wd be recognized by the Vic. Jub. Inst.

I shd be so much obliged if you wd help me to make the small
beginning grow into the success I am sure it will be if only it be
started on the right tract?. I cd call on you if you liked and explain
anything I have left at all obscure.

Rathbone letter to Mrs Minet 10 June 1890 re hers of 9th, rejoices my
heart, sure the council will gladly accept a formal proposal for
affiliation from a branch so entirely in accord with all their views,
will ask Miss Paget to see you, asks to breakfast with Mr Minet and him.
Royal College of Obst/Gyn. 1199

Miscellaneous private collections and internet sources

Tetbury, email attachment from Hugh Small

March 22/83
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

My dear Sir,

It is so long since I have heard from you, I fear that you have forgotten, as have not I, the profit pleasure which I hoped to draw from the opportunity I so eagerly seized of your valued acquaintance.

It is, I think, more than a year since I sent you a map, by your very kind invitation, of India with the Irrigated lands Trelawny Saunders Esq

Book Collector 2009, 353 email from Mark Bostridge

Barrack Hospital
May 3/55

Dear Sir,

I am very sorry to make any alteration among the Nurses in the Division over which you so zealously preside. But as there are so very few surgical cases now here, & I am going to Balacl[ava] today, I will with your permis[ion] take Mrs Sinclair from Corridors A & I. Mrs Loga[n] who is in Corridor I and is a surgi[cal] nurse, is quite capable of taking all Mrs Tuffill’s cases in both Corridors--which are now very few. Should you require still another Nurse, will you kindly let me know by the Bearer?

Yours truly

F. Nightingale
Lea Hurst
Cromford, Derby
Aug 14/77

Dear Miss Hurt
I am very happy to answer to your kind call: & beg you to accept the enclosed £5 to lay out in “materials” or in any manner you may think best for the “sale of work” towards the “Church expences” fund of Crich I trust the sale will prove successful & that all your good works will prosper.
Should you know of a cat fancier who would like a very handsome thorough-bred powerful Tom cat, a Persian, about a year old, ‘Mr Bismarck’ by name black brown & yellow, without a speck of white, who will follow like a dog, a great pet. I am looking for a very good home for my Bismarck, whom I cannot keep. He was sent down to me from London a day or two ago, because the lady who asked me for him could not take him abroad.
Pray excuse this question:
& believe me ever, dear Miss Hurt sincerely yours
Florence Nightingale

My dear Miss Hurt
When I saw Mrs Hurt at Alderwasley, she seemed still suffering from the idea that she might have heard more about her two great griefs & the circumstances attending them - I have seen so much of this feeling in poor mothers & have always tried to do my best to satisfy it. But, if the particulars contained in the enclosed letters are nothing but what she has heard before, they will only irritate her grief, and therefore I venture to enclose them.
to you in order that you may
judge of what I cannot whether
to shew them to her or not.
   I still think that something
might be learnt from
Assistant Surgeon A. Jackson Greer
21st R.N.B. Fusiliers
Malta
who sat up with the poor fellow
who was killed at Inkermann
You probably do not know at
least Mrs Hurt did not that
Capt Tinley the other Officer who
sat up with him, died 6 weeks
ago in Ireland (at Kingstown,
I believe) One of the letters enclosed is
from his Sister.
   And that Lt Saunders 34th Regt
Depot, Parkhurst, I. of Wight
might be able to tell something about
him who was killed at the Redan.
   If I could do anything in writing
to either of them I should be too
glad. I see that Mrs Hurt does
not like to write.
   Pray believe me, in haste, for
I have been so driven with
business since I came to London
Yours very truly
   Florence Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.
Nov 17/56

Winchester College, email attachment, scan supplied by Dr Geoffrey Day, Fellows’ and Eccles librarian, Winchester College, black-edged paper, pen

General Hospital, Balaclava
May 19/56
Sir
   The enclosed not having reached
here till after the departure of
Lt. Col. Smyth, Commg 68th Regt, with
his Regiment, I venture to trouble
you, (whose signature I conclude
the last in the series to be) with
my request - namely, that you
will instruct the proper authority
to inform me what is the “usual
sum,” therein mentioned for
“purchasing” the “boy’s” discharge
& where it is to be paid.

With many apologies for thus
troubling you, I have the honor to be

Sir
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale

note on the letter says:
recommended her to
wait until in England
& then apply to illeg of 68th
[signed] CAW

Royal Leicester Infirmary, transcript, email

    Castle Hospital
    Balaclava
    April 7th 1856

Sir,
    I have just been informed of the arrival last week at
Scutari, of 2 ‘transfers’ containing a large supply of numbers of the
“British Workman” and the “Band of Hope Review”. I beg to offer my
thanks for a contribution which will be most useful.
    I have the honour to be, Sir,
your obedient servant
Florence Nightingale

Royal Leicester Infirmary Virtual Museum, black-edged paper, pen

    July 30/91
    [printed]   10, South Street
                Park Lane, W.

Madam
    We always rejoice to see
Maternity Training put on
a proper footing. There is
indeed great need of
Training Schools, capable of
giving larger experience
& more systematic instruction
than is now to be found.
Perhaps a wide & more
suitable sphere of employment
for educated women would
thus be afforded than by
the Medical profession itself.
    In any organization of
a Training School you will
I know agree that it is
poor gift, & bid God
speed to your Institution
faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
Miss M. Ritchie
Might I ask one more question,
do you attach the necessary importance
to your Lady Students
undertaking the charge of the
baby after the birth? There
are two lives concerned. And
what a difference might a lady
make in the whole after life
of the wretched infant between
disease & health by instructing
the mother! The ignorance of
mothers is

Annotated BCP and Hymns. Private Collection of Peter Kay, Lea Hurst.
Frances Elizth Groundsell
with Florence Nightingale’s love & earnest
prayer that we may both take the Christmas
message of ‘peace and good will’
‘Love is your gold; your service a gem:
Bring these to the Babe of Bethlehem.’
London Christmas 1888

Private Collection of Jean Denham

30 Old Burlington St.
July 1854

My dear Sir
Would it not be very adviseable to have an Examination paper printed
for the use of witnesses who have to give evidence before the Indian
Sanitary Commission?
I send you the enclosed as rough draft of such a paper—not only for
your commendations but that you may altogether pick it to pieces.
Perhaps you will be so good as to go over it carefully—suppressing
any questions you think unnecessary, adding others you think necessary
and correcting those you think defective. It would save the Chairman
time (when he comes to take parole evidence) to send some such Paper as
this to each witness previous to his being examined: with a request that
he will strike out those questions on which he is not prepared with
knowledge & mark such questions as he can give valuable information
upon.
Perhaps you will also indicate any further subjects you may think
should be taken up.
Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

Kenneth Rendell Rare Letters and Manuscripts, framed signed letter to
I cannot thank you enough for your most kindly welcome to my poor Fanny Dowding as a Patient, who is eager to be under your care. I should have wished to send her yesterday, as you were so good as to recommend; but Dr. Armitage was afraid of the little hurry to her of removal at only so few hours’ notice, as she has been kept in such complete quiescence from fear of hemorrhage. So we missed the advantage of your seeing her this morning. I have a note to the Resident Assistant Physician to tell him the reason of her not coming in (yesterday). Might I ask you to be so very good as to say what day & hour she should come in, whether Monday or Tuesday, so as that you should see her, as you most kindly desire, as soon afterwards as is convenient to you?

Accept my hearty thanks....

Florence Nightingale

Private collection, West Midlands

Dec 27/99

H.E. Manfield Eq

Dear Sir

I beg to enclose the
Income Tax paper &
a Cheque for the
Amount £26.2.2

Please return the
paper receipted.
May I wish you
every kind of prosperity
for the New Year
& to remain, yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
April 28, 1881.

Dear Lady Lothian,

Words seem so poor if I may tell you how I give St. Pancras joy and bless God that you are going to serve his poor as Guardian. It is such a great and brave thing to do. I should be impertinent if I were to say how noble a thing it is. These are deeds, not words. If you knew what the Guardians of St. Pancras were 20 years ago, you would not be surprised that one feels: “this is the true progress of the World:” (and thanks god for it): When one, like you, takes to replacing the old guardians may your shadow and that of other ladies never be less!...

When the ex-Viceroy of India, Lord Lawrence, was the first chairman of the London School Board, one could not but feel that crowded with great deeds as his life had been, this was not far from being the greatest.

And the fear of being intrusive only prevents from saying something similar about the new Lady Guardian of St. Pancras. This is the true way to serve the poor. And if for every bushel of words about Women’s Rights and Women’s Suffering etc. etc. etc., we had a grain of such true wheat, the world would not be far from the “Kingdom of heaven,”; I trust that there will soon be great changes in the St. Pancras Workhouse Infirmary, your erring child. I am sure you will be glad that we have undertaken the nursing of Marylebone New Infirmary. And believe me ever your faithful servt. Florence Nightingale.

June 23, 1881

I give you joy at your having been able to bring about so great an object as that of “the staff at St. Pancras Workhouse.” I presume this means a new “Nursing Staff”. I am overjoyed at so great a reform, or rather underjoyed, for no joy can come up to it. Most willingly would I do my poor best to help you as you desire. But I have scarcely a moment. In addition to my usual work – We are about as perhaps you know, to nurse the new St. Marylebone Infirmary, and I have to see each of these women one by one alone for 3 or 4 hours and all must be in by Tuesday next. Wednesday or Thursday in the next week are the only days I have not fully filled up. I will try to put off some one so as to have half an hour tomorrow (Friday) as you propose. At 5 o’clock if you will allow me to send you word (whether I can manage it) tomorrow. But I am afraid I cannot be of much use in one conversation. It could only be to hear what you propose, and then afterwards to consider it over. [I am by no means quick at planning without consideration.] Or if you could send me in writing what you propose I would consider it before I see you. But then I, please, must have it the night before: because before 7.30 in the morning is the only time I have to do these things. Excuse great haste, And believe me, Ever your faithful servt, Florence Nightingale.
Dearest Arthur,

It is a long time since I have heard of or from you. And I think you have a letter of mine still. Nevertheless to begin again {two lines crossed out] The world is at great cross-purposes. But nevertheless one in which we can work out purposes, greatly to its benefit. I enclose two letters, rather old, from Mr. Wildgoose and School-Master Burton. Uncle Shore who has seen these letters, thinks very well of Burton’s tone in the School and is ‘Glad that the old rascal Sims’ money will go for so good a purpose as clearing up their school.’

Mr. thinks very highly of Burton: you see Uncle Shore was ‘greatly surprised at the ages of the pupils in Science. He is most plucky,’ he things people over 30 years of age to go in for these Examinations, as well as Physiography.’ – (My dear, what is ‘Physiography’? please tell an old ignoramus like me) ‘Must be drawing’ he hopes, than which to my mind there is nothing more useful.’ My dear Arthur, do tell me what the gist of the ‘New Code’ is. I have asked several people without success. But you are a mine of well digested information, turning coal into gems. Uncle Shore has ‘Some idea it is less narrow and more liberal than the old one and if you must have this artificial education this ought to be an improvement.’ Uncle Shore says he is “sure from what he saw that Mr. Burton is a born steam engineer for the purpose at any rate and most effective.”

Uncle Shore “supposes” that Burton goes in “for these Science examinations himself” [Does he? F.N.] “In order to encourage the others, which is very good of him, as they would naturally take it for granted that he could pass them. It shows how he identifies himself with them in it all which must give him a hold over them.” What say you about this? I have another letter from Burton which I will send you, dear boy, when I know you will like it. I have made the acquaintance of one of the most ‘telling’ workers I ever knew, about whom I dare say you know more than I do—a Mr. Devine of Manchester, a man still in his twenties, who after having founded the Boys’ Clubs, numbering now 7000-8000 members in Manchester, took into his house at his own expense 40-60 boys brought for a first offence before the police courts which he attends for the purpose. He loves these boys (whom he is of course constantly sending out to places) as an elder brother. It is not enthusiasm. It is downright love of the boys. [Sir Harry kindly asked him here. When will you come? You promised to come.] Mr. Devine, of course, works the ‘First Offenders’ Act. But it is not so much for that that I mention him now but because he has been the means of establishing several Boys Clubs in London,—one which I should be glad to know more of, if you would kindly visit and tell me. It is that of a Mr. Purdie (he was a Cambridge man: perhaps you know him.) He has taken a large deserted house at 49, Hillmarton Road, Holloway N. furnished two rooms for himself where he lives when not at Cambridge. The house he has fitted up as a Boys’ Club. He has 200 boys—after School till 9.30 pm. all day Saturdays and Sundays
and holidays (he gives them Sunday Classes). The boys wash and put on dry clothes after school. They have a gymnasium. They read, play games, are taught drawing and map drawing. They do their home lessons—have music, magic lantern, Cricket and football, baths. Go out with him on bicycles into the country. When he first took the house; Mr. Purdie wanted to paint and white it from head to foot. Mr. Devine says to him, No: it must be your and the boy’s Club. They had a great tea-explained it to the boys—and the boys did all the painting and white washing themselves and some of the Carpentering – Mr. Purdie finding only the materials and supervision. Now, when a new boy puts his dirty fingers on the paint: an old boy said: You mustn’t do that: I painted that.’ I believe there are many Boy’s clubs now in London. But does the Gentleman live in them and with the boys? [I have heard one of these gentlemen say he was quite grieved at the smoking, the noise, the indiscipline the rudeness of the Toynbee Boys’ Club.] Dear Arthur I must stop. There is much difficulty in writing here – a good deal to do. Sir Harry is wonderfully active but his health varies greatly. When will you come? Hoping to see you soon, both here and in London. Ever your loving Aunt Florence. They will be very full here till next Tuesday. There are 6 Grandchildren and 2 young people now in the house. You know Louise has been most successfully doing guardian to 2 Siamese princelets for a month thro Scotland. Excuse a disconnected letter.

BBC Antiques Road Show, April 2010, about a book owned by descendant of vicar of Anglesea.

FN inscription on Lady Barker, First Lessons of the Principles of Cooking. 1886. Ellen Owen. Lady Day 1890. From F.N.
The Modern Giant Killer
tames the Three Giants
who used to do mischief
Water, Fire, Steam
instead of killing them
& cooks good & wholesome
meals every day of the year.

Blog of Alan Whalley 21 August 2008, letter copied by Dot Lockett, Abberley Close, St Helens, 12 pages, re Haydock Cottage Hosp to Superintendent Mrs Hayward
FN: I have shown your plan to one of, if not the greatest authority, on hospital construction, and he very much approves, as I do, of the general arrangements.... faults re wards, hall, vestibule, pantry, light, vent, used for pit accidents,
FN: By all means keep it all as a healthy “cottage.” and not as a miniature hospital. The working people should see how, with furniture like their own...and appliances like their own...the clean and comfortable arrangements can be produced, and by them imitated....Success to the Haydock Cottage Hospital!

Daily Mail Reporter 24 November 2010; black-edged, blue paper, online, with envelope to Miss Howell, Glas Pant, Newcastle Emlyn, South Wales;
Madam

It is with sincere sorrow that I am obliged to confirm the fears of the Father of the late Howell Evans about his poor son.

I grieve to say that Gunner & Driver Howell Evans, of the No 1 Company, 12th Battalion, Royal Artillery, was struck off the strength of this Army June 29/55 as having been "missing since February 5/55"

His Company was in the Siege Train and went home in February /56. It is now at Woolwich. His father had better apply at the Office of the 12th Battalion-- no trace of the missing man being obtainable here.

To you, Madam, I will say that, after the most diligent inquiry, it appears to the Commanding Officer of the unfortunate man & to myself, from the evidence, to be feared that Howell Evans is a deserter.

To the father I would say (if, on enquiry at the above address it appears that nothing more is to be learnt) that I regret very much that I am unable to send him any of those particulars concerning his son which it is natural that he should wish to hear, but though I have made every enquiry in my power, I am unable to do more than send him the sad certainty of his death (For I would fain put it so.)

Although it be impossible to us to retain particulars of the deaths of all those brave soldiers who have died in the service of their country during that fearful winter, it is a comfort to me, who have seen so much of their patient suffering, to remember that no one is forgotten by the Father of us all. I trust it will be a comfort to the father to remember that all are on [in] His hands.

I doubt not he has suffered much from painful uncertainty concerning his poor son. Let him (if no further news is obtained) know that he now is at rest from all cares & sorrows of this world. May he be supported to bear them till it please God that those who have been separated by death will meet again in the better life to come.

I have never had so painful & unsatisfactory a letter to write.

I beg to remain, Madam,
Your obed Servt
Florence Nightingale
Dear Madam,

I was quite puzzled by your letter of Sept 10. I feel so deeply for the mothers whose uncertainty regarding the fate of their sons during the late War I have always felt it my duty to take every pains to relieve that.

I caused again a search to be made in our Death Books for the man’s name in question. Inspector-General Linton reports to me as follows Oct 30/56

“It appears from the Death Book at the Office that No. 2899, Private William Wood of the 2nd Battn Rifle Brigade, died of Erysipelas on the 14th of Feb 1855 — but, as the name of Pte Wm Wood of the 1st Battn Rifle Brigade does not appear in the Books as having been admitted into the Scutari Hospitals after Inkermann, there is every probability that this man is serving with his Battalion.”

I give you the Extract verbatim - You will observe the difference between 1st & 2nd Battalion, & that the name has not the final s

I should be very glad if I could think that the son of your dear
old Nurse was yet living. You will but know the precision of the information you have received from the War Dept. I have known alas! Upwards of 1600 unreported deaths. Believe me to be dear Madam yours faithfully Florence Nightingale

letter and envelope to Mrs Boden, Kingsmore Teignmouth Devonshire ???
From Camp Aldershot 16 July 1856 re No. 2899 Private Wm Woods, mother Sarah Woods

Email from a relative of John Burton Haywood

35 South St.
Park Lane, W.
Dec 17/77
Dear Mr Haywood
I hope you are coming thro’ London to spend your Christmas at Hastings. You will sleep here on Friday night. I know not whether I shall be able to see you but at least I shall be able to pay my debts. I am very glad that the Electricity Lecture was a success. If you would like to pay for anybody or bodies at this Wednesday Lecture on my account, I should be delighted.
I hope that you will also stay here on your way back to Lea (I shall probably have some books to send back by you). God bless you & all the work.
In haste
ever yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

John Wilson Mss Ltd. Signed letter 2ff (1 1/2)

22 Albermarle St W.
Feb 9/57
My dear Sir
I shall be very glad to see you, as you are so kind as to propose.
As you are in harness now, for which I take leave to congratulate the cart, by our poor country, I do not know what hour will suit you-
But any hour after 4 tomorrow, or after 1 on Wednesday, will suit me. Believe me
very faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
I have taken the liberty of saying that
the enclosed gentelamn shall be
mentioned to you -- Lamarmora having
the highest opinion of him & not being
shy of sayig so - If you will take

April 28, 1881

Dear Lady Lothian,

Words seem so poor if I may tell you how I give St. Pancras joy and
bless God that you are going to serve his poor as Guardian. It is such a
great and brave thing to do. I should be impertinent if I were to say
how noble a thing it is. These are deeds, not words. If you knew what
the Guardians of St. Pancras were 20 years ago, you would not be
surprised that one feels: “this is the true progress of the World:” (and
thanks god for it): When one, like you, takes to replacing the old
guardians may your shadow and that of other ladies never be less!...
When the ex-Viceroy of India, Lord Lawrence, was the first chairman of
the London School Board, one could not but feel that crowded with great
deeds as his life had been, this was not far from being the greatest.

And the fear of being intrusive only prevents from saying something
similar about the new Lady Guardian of St. Pancras. This is the true way
to serve the poor. And if for every bushel of words about Women’s Rights
and Women’s Suffering etc. etc. etc., we had a grain of such true wheat,
the world would not be far from the “Kingdom of heaven,”; I trust that
there will soon be great changes in the St. Pancras Workhouse Infirmary,
your erring child. I am sure you will be glad that we have undertaken
the nursing of Marylebone New Infirmary. Forgive me. And believe me ever
your faithful servt. Florence Nightingale.

June 23, 1881

I give you joy at your having been able to bring about so great an
object as that of “the staff at St. Pancras Workhouse.” I presume this
means a new “Nursing Staff”. I am overjoyed at so great a reform, or
rather underjoyed, for no joy can come up to it. Most willingly would I
do my poor best to help you as you desire. But I have scarcely a moment.
In addition to my usual work - We are about as perhaps you know, to
nurse the new St. Marylebone Infirmary, and I have to see each of these
women one by one alone for 3 or 4 hours and all must be in by Tuesday
next. Wednesday or Thursday in the next week are the only days I have
not fully filled up. I will try to put off some one so as to have half
an hour tomorrow (Friday) as you propose. At 5 o’clock if you will allow
me to send you word (whether I can manage it) tomorrow. But I am afraid
I cannot be of much use in one conversation. It could only be to hear
what you propose, and then afterwards to consider it over. [I am by no
means quick at planning without consideration.] Or if you could send me
Dearest Arthur,

It is a long time since I have heard of or from you. And I think you have a letter of mine still. Nevertheless to begin again [two lines crossed out] The world is at great cross-purposes. But nevertheless one in which we can work out purposes, greatly to its benefit. I enclose two letters, rather old, from Mr. Wildgoose and School-Master Burton. Uncle Shore who has seen these letters, thinks very well of Burton’s tone in the School and is ‘Glad that the old rascal Sims’ money will go for so good a purpose as clearing up their school.’

Mr. thinks very highly of Burton: you see Uncle Shore was ‘greatly surprised at the ages of the pupils in Science. He is most plucky,’ he things people over 30 years of age to go in for these Examinations, as well as Physiography.’ - (My dear, what is ‘Physiography’? please tell an old ignoramus like me) ‘Must be drawing’ he hopes, than which to my mind there is nothing more useful.’ My dear Arthur, do tell me what the gist of the ‘New Code’ is. I have asked several people without success. But you are a mine of well digested information, turning coal into gems. Uncle Shore has ‘Some idea it is less narrow and more liberal than the old one and if you must have this artificial education this ought to be an improvement.’ Uncle Shore says he is “sure from what he saw that Mr. Burton is a born steam engineer for the purpose at any rate and most effective.”

Uncle Shore “supposes” that Burton goes in “for these Science examinations himself” [Does he? F.N.] “In order to encourage the others, which is very good of him, as they would naturally take it for granted that he could pass them. It shows how he identifies himself with them in it all which must give him a hold over them.” What say you about this? I have another letter from Burton which I will send you, dear boy, when I know you will like it. I have made the acquaintance of one of the most ‘telling’ workers I ever knew, about whom I dare say you know more than I do—a Mr. Devine of Manchester, a man still in his twenties, who after having founded the Boys’ Clubs, numbering now 7000-8000 members in Manchester, took into his house at his own expense 40-60 boys brought for a first offence before the police courts which he attends for the purpose. He loves these boys (whom he is of course constantly sending out to places) as an elder brother. It is not enthusiasm. It is downright love of the boys. [Sir Harry kindly asked him here. When will you come? You promised to come.] Mr. Devine, of course, works the ‘First Offenders’ Act. But it is not so much for that that I mention him now.
but because he has been the means of establishing several Boys Clubs in
London,—one which I should be glad to know more of, if you would kindly
visit and tell me. It is that of a Mr. Purdie (he was a Cambridge man:
perhaps you know him.) He has taken a large deserted house at 49,
Hillmarton Road, Holloway N. furnished two rooms for himself where he
lives when not at Cambridge. The house he has fitted up as a Boys’ Club.
He has 200 boys—after School till 9.30 pm. all day Saturdays and Sundays
and holidays (he gives them Sunday Classes). The boys wash and put on
dry clothes after school. They have a gymnasium. They read, play games,
are taught drawing and map drawing. They do their home lessons—have
music, magic lantern, Cricket and football, baths. Go out with him on
bicycles into the country. When he first took the house; Mr. Purdie
wanted to paint and white it from head to foot. Mr. Devine says to him,
No: it must be your and the boy’s Club. They had a great tea-explained
it to the boys—and the boys did all the painting and white washing
themselves and some of the Carpentering—Mr. Purdie finding only the
materials and supervision. Now, when a new boy puts his dirty fingers on
the paint: an old boy said: You mustn’t do that: I painted that.’ I
believe there are many Boy’s clubs now in London. But does the Gentleman
live in them and with the boys? [I have heard one of these gentlemen say
he was quite grieved at the smoking, the noise, the indiscipline the
rudeness of the Toynbee Boys’ Club.] Dear Arthur I must stop. There is
much difficulty in writing here—a good deal to do. Sir Harry is
wonderfully active but his health varies greatly. When will you come?
Hoping to see you soon, both here and in London. Ever your loving Aunt
Florence. They will be very full here till next Tuesday. There are 6
Grandchildren and 2 young people now in the house. You know Louise has
been most successfully doing guardian to 2 Siamese princelets for a
month thro Scotland. Excuse a disconnected letter.

BBC Antiques Road Show, April 2010, about a book owned by descendant of
vicar of Anglesea.

FN inscription on Lady Barker, First Lessons of the Principles of
Cooking. 1886. Ellen Owen. Lady Day 1890. From F.N.
The Modern Giant Killer
tames the Three Giants
who used to do mischief
Water, Fire, Steam
instead of killing them
& cooks good & wholesome
meals every day of the year.

Blog of Alan Whalley 21 August 2008, letter copied by Dot Lockett,
Abberley Close, St Helens, 12 pages, re Haydock Cottage Hosp to
Superintendent Mrs Hayward
FN: I have shown your plan to one of, if not the greatest authority, on
hospital construction, and he very much approves, as I do, of the
general arrangements.... faults re wards, hall, vestibule, pantry,
light, vent, used for pit accidents,
FN: By all means keep it all as a healthy “cottage.” and not as a
miniature hospital. The working people should see how, with furniture like their own...and appliances like their own...the clean and comfortable arrangements can be produced, and by them imitated....Success to the Haydock Cottage Hospital!

Email letter from a descendent of the recipient, pen

London Nov 2/56

Dear Madam

I was quite puzzled by your letter of Sept 10. I feel so deeply for the mothers whose uncertainty regarding the fate of their sons during the late War I have always felt it my duty to take every pains to relieve that.

I caused again a search to be made in our Death Books for the man’s name in question. Inspector-General Linton reports to me as follows Oct 30/56

“It appears from the Death Book at the Office that No. 2899, Private William Wood of the 2nd Battn Rifle Brigade, died of Erysipelas on the 14th of Feby 1855 - but, as the name of Pte Wm Wood of the 1st Battn Rifle Brigade does not appear in the Books as having been admitted into the Scutari Hospitals after Inkermann, there is every probability that this man is serving with his Battalion.”

I give you the Extract verbatim - You will observe the difference between 1st & 2nd Battalion, & that the name
has not the final s
I should be very glad
if I could think that
the son of your dear
old Nurse was yet
living. You will but
know the precision of
the information you
have received from the
War Dept. I have
known alas! Upwards
of 1600 unreported
deaths. Believe me to be
dear Madam
yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

letter and envelope to Mrs Boden, Kingsmore Teignmouth Devonshire ???
From Camp Aldershot 16 July 1856 re No. 2899 Private Wm Woods, mother
Sarah Woods

Email from a relative of John Burton Haywood

35 South St.
Park Lane, W.
Dec 17/77

Dear Mr Haywood
I hope you are coming thro’ London to spend your Christmas at
Hastings. You will sleep here on Friday night. I know not whether I
shall be able to see you but at least I shall be able to pay my debts. I
am very glad that the Electricity Lecture was a success. If you would
like to pay for anybody or bodies at this Wednesday Lecture on my
account, I should be delighted.
I hope that you will also stay here on your way back to Lea (I shall
probably have some books to send back by you). God bless you & all the
work.
In haste
ever yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

John Wilson Mss Ltd. Signed letter 2ff (1 1/2)

22 Albermarle St W.
Feb 9/57

My dear Sir
I shall be very glad to see you,
as you are so kind as to propose.
As you are in harness now, for
which I take leave to congratulate
the cart, by our poor country, I do\not know what hour will suit you-
But any hour after 4 tomorrow,
or after 1 on Wednesday, will suit me. Believe me
very faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
I have taken the liberty of saying that
the enclosed gentelamn shall be
mentioned to you -- Lamarmora having
the highest opinion of him & not being
shy of sayig so - If you will take
Alder Hey Children’s Hospital, Liverpool, framed letter, black-edged paper

115, Park St. W
Feb 16/64
Please to send a copy of my “Notes on Hospitals,” Third Edition, published by Longmans as soon as possible, to above address.

F. Nightingale
Messrs Bickers
July 22/91

10, South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

Private [on diagonal]
to the

Editor of the “Times”

Sir

Tho’ unwilling to trespass upon your attention, may I say that it would give me infinite pleasure if you are able to insert in your world-circulated paper the notice of Dr. Sutherland, the great Sanitarian, which I understand was sent you this morning with a note from Dr. Marston.

I was associated with Dr. Sutherland in his Sanitary labours not only in the Crimean & Scutari Hospitals but also in the 14 successive years after our return from the Crimean War. I may say I was his pupil both in Sanitary administration & practice, & am anxious for my master’s fame.

May this serve as my apology for troubling you?

I beg to remain

Sir

your obedient servt.

Florence Nightingale
Dear Miss Hurt
I am very happy to answer to your kind call: & beg you to accept the enclosed £5 to lay out in “materials” or in any manner you may think best for the “sale of work” towards the “Church expences” fund of Crich I trust the sale will prove successful & that all your good works will prosper. Should you know of a cat fancier who would like a very handsome thorough-bred powerful Tom cat, a Persian, about a year old, ‘Mr Bismarck’ by name black brown & yellow, without a speck of white, who will follow like a dog, a great pet. I am looking for a very good home for my Bismarck, whom I cannot keep. He was sent down to me from London a day or two ago, because the lady who asked me for him could not take him abroad.
Pray excuse this question: & believe me ever, dear Miss Hurt sincerely yours
Florence Nightingale

My dear Miss Hurt
When I saw Mrs Hurt at Alderwasley, she seemed still suffering from the idea that she might have heard more about her two great griefs & the circumstances attending them - I have seen so much of this feeling in poor mothers & have always tried to do my best to satisfy it. But, if the particulars contained in the enclosed letters are nothing but what she has heard before, they will only irritate her grief, and therefore I venture to enclose them
to you in order that you may
judge of what I cannot whether
to shew them to her or not.
    I still think that something
might be learnt from
Assistant Surgeon A. Jackson Greer
21st R.N.B. Fusiliers
    Malta
who sat up with the poor fellow
who was killed at Inkermann
You probably do not know at
least Mrs Hurt did not that
Capt Tinley the other Officer who
sat up with him, died 6 weeks
ago in Ireland (at Kingstown,
I believe) One of the letters enclosed is
from his Sister.
    And that Lt Saunders 34th Regt
Depot, Parkhurst, I. of Wight
might be able to tell something about
him who was killed at the Redan.
    If I could do anything in writing
to either of them I should be too
glad. I see that Mrs Hurt does
not like to write.
    Pray believe me, in haste, for
I have been so driven with
business since I came to London
    Yours very truly
    Florence Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.
Nov 17/56
Private collection, Lea Hurst

Annotated BCP and Hymns
Frances Elizth Groundsell
with Florence Nightingale’s love & earnest
prayer that we may both take the Christmas
message of ‘peace and good will’
‘Love is your gold; your service a gem:
Bring these to the Babe of Bethlehem.’
London Christmas 1888
University of Nottingham, paper copies, 6 letters

Ki 101 signed letter, 1 f, pen (according to Goldie to Rev F. Ovenden Wrench, Army chaplain at Ismaili, Turkey)

Scutari
Barrack Hospital [14:296]
Jan 3/56
Sir
I beg to send (in reply to your letter of Dec 28)
500 Stamps
1 Packet Note Paper
2 " Letter "
3 " Envelopes
1 Box Quills
1 " Steel Pens
& to say that, should you require Books, or more Stationery, whatever I have is at your disposal –
I did not receive your note in time for the last mail to Ismail.
I have the honor to be,
Sir
I hope to visit the /your obedt servt
Hospital at Ismail / Florence Nightingale
as soon as I can find time.

note giving the provenance of this letter

NeC 10, 937 signed letter, 2ff, pen black-edged paper {archivist: a: 24}

30 Old Burlington St [6:189-90]
W.
May 22/60
Dear Duke of Newcastle
Without troubling you with apologies,
I venture to recall to your former
kindness to me, in
the hope that you
will not consider
it an impertinence
if I ask you, through
the Colonial Office, to
further what I believe to be a very important interest of our country - viz. how we can civilize without destroying the natives of our Colonies?

I enclose particulars of what I venture to hope you will do for me -

My object is to gain information only for a practical purpose.

Believe me to be your Grace’s obliged & faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

May I ask a farther question whether, as you have appointed Delegates for our Colonies at the International Statistical Congress to be held in London in July, a delegate for the Cape of Good Hope has been appointed?

[end 6:190]
Dear Duke of Newcastle

You will perhaps remember that, three or four years ago, under your authority, & with your assistance, I began, (at the instance of Sir G. Grey, of N. Zealand,) an inquiry into Colonial School & Hospital Mortality.

It has been a very unsatisfactory one, from the incomplete nature of the materials, which indeed was acknowledged in almost every Return from Colonial authorities, which you had the great kindness to forward to me -

After great labour, (to which I have given the time I could spare from business, for two years,)
I have managed to reduce the results of this very extensive inquiry into the accompanying pages. It is incomplete & therefore inconclusive. I have ventured nevertheless to send you a proof, hoping that you will glance over it.

The most I expect from it is a beginning, to be followed by local enquiries, which may eventually turn to good.

Colonists are not generally informed in such matters - But there may be a few men here & there, who will take the trouble to follow up the course I have indicated.

Sir G. Grey is certainly one of these, altho' no Returns whatever of the least value to this enquiry have come from N. Zealand.

[Quite different
has been another inquiry, on which I have been engaged for the last four years, (the "Indian Army Sanitary Commission"), where the materials are so complete, the Returns received so full, that the conclusions were clear & complete also-

I would, if permitted, send you my paper on the Indian subject.]

May I ask that the (Colonial) pamphlet/proof, herein inclosed, may be returned to me, with any remarks, as soon as you can do me the favor to send them; as the printer wants to get the proof off his types, & I to get it off my time?

Believe me,
your Grace’s faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Miss Nightingale presents her compliments to the Duke of Newcastle.

Three or four weeks ago she took the liberty of sending him an uncorrected proof of a paper she had drawn up on the results of the Statistical enquiries which the Duke of Newcastle was so good as to carry out for her in the Colonial Native Schools & Hospitals.

Miss N. feels very desirous of coming to some decision about this paper. And she would be greatly obliged if the Duke of Newcastle would kindly return the Proof - with any remarks which may have occurred to him, if he has had time to glance over it.
June 30/63

Dear Duke of Newcastle,

I do not know how to thank you for all the trouble you have taken about these Colonial Statistics -- for the care with which you have looked into the results -- & for your kind offer of farther assistance. I only hope that it will bear fruit under your administrations -

All that I hope(expect) from my little part of this enquiry is that, by showing how faulty it is, it will stir up the Colonists to further a more accurate enquiry.

I shall gladly accept your kind proposal to send out copies to the Colonies of my little
Abstract, especially to Sir G. Grey of New Zealand.

I do not pretend to have fathomed the mystery of the disappearance of races. On the contrary, I sadly feel that I have scarcely made a step towards it. All I tried for was to see whether any Statistical data could be had, which would throw light upon it. I have done my best to use these. But, as I say, the sole result I expect & hope for is, that some few Colonial Governors will take up the subject, & carry it out.

The main question, viz. the disappearance of uncivilized races is one of great difficulty to solve - It appears as if men were endowed with only a certain amount of vitality in the family.
And that, according as they use the gifts, so is their fate.

I am acquainted with the class of facts you mentioned, as to the appearance of diseases after contact with Europeans. Curiously enough, the most marked case of it is at St Hilda, where the people assert that they always have Influenza after a boat comes to them from the main land -

Here the same race is supposed to convey the disease.

But, after all, is it a fact?

Boats & ships arriving at any point are in the nature of periodically recurring facts, always noted in the memory of people who have few events to remember. If a severe disease appears after an arrival, they are
sure to remember the two facts in connection. But if no disease occurs, they are sure to forget this fact.

Again if disease comes without the arrival of a vessel, rude people have nothing to connect the occurrence with. And it is forgotten. Diseases & eclipses used to stand as effects to causes, in semi-scientific observation during the Middle Ages.

It is the usual error of Quarantine reasoning. In this, as in many other points, we require well-observed Statistical facts of all kinds.

The passage about the "Australian" type, to which you refer, is taken from one of the Reports which 4. Cleveland Row. [end 6:196]

S.W.
Army Medical School Netley
35 South Street, W.
April 19/76

My dear Sir Harry,

It is understood that the War Minister has been pleased to desire that the School Senate shall submit to him a statement of the best method of adapting to the new Short Service system the School work:

& that this statement has gone in [I cannot tell you the happiness of knowing that this is Mr Hardy’s mind].

Probably the best thing that could be done for the welfare & advanced usefulness of the School would be for the Sec. of State for War to appoint a Ctee of 3 or 4 men, in whose competency & disinterested ness he feels confidence, to agree/go & examine into the teaching means of the School -- & the teaching itself -- & then to report on the best way of adapting the School work to the new state of things in the Army Medical Department.

Dr Acland, Sir James Paget, Captain Galton & Dr Sutherland would be perhaps the best men for the purpose: & would give, I believe, their services heartily for the sake of the public good.

[I may add that the School Senate have on many occasions under previous Ministers, both by speaking & by written reports, urged the importance & necessity of extending the teaching accommodation, - (since & even before the R.N. & Indian Medical Service candidates were sent to the School,) - in proportion to the numbers sent to be taught - yet no one has ever been despatched.
to Netley to see for himself how far these representations have been well founded: or whether they deserved attention or not]. Now that Mr Hardy has taken up the subject, the result must be to place the School on a more secure & more extensively useful footing than it has been for some years: indispensable as it is to the health & efficiency of the Army & Indian services.

Believe me yrs affly

Florence Nightingale
Email from Lyon & Turnbull Rare Books and Manuscripts

July 10/79
10 South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

Sir
I am much obliged to you for your note.
I am very sorry that I am unable to see you on Friday afternoon, having an engagement which I cannot possibly put off.
Would it be possible for you to come on Saturday afternoon at 4 or at 5?
Please answer whether this would be convenient,
& oblige
your obed servt
(in haste)
Florence Nightingale
Edward F Griffith Eq

Private collection of copies, Lea Holoway

Lea Holloway, inscription in a Bible, Oxford, 1f, pen

Elizabeth Holmes
with
Florence Nightingale’s prayers
Lea Hurst
1877.

signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. [8:990]
Whitsun Eve 1881
Dear Mrs. Holmes
Thank you very much for your most interesting letter - I am thankful to God that your Lizzie is going on so well - Yes, please, let Widow Barton have the milk up to the 18th of this month at least.
I will write again - yrs affecty
F. Nightingale
Dear Mrs. Holmes

Thank you so much for your letter about dear Mrs. Barton & for the good news that she had accepted the salvation so freely offered to us sinners. She was not a self-righteous woman, I think but, as she said, She ‘did not know how to express herself’. I am sure you were the means of great use to her - I heard of you at her death-bed whispering words.
of comfort into her ear
    which she seemed to
understand -
    I think of her in the words
my dear father used to make
me repeat to him:
"O change! O wondrous change!
    Burst are the prison bars:
One moment here, so low,
    So agonized,
And now beyond the stars!
    "O change! stupendous change!
There lies the soul-less clod,
    The Sun eternal breaks:
The young Immortal wakes,
    Wakes with his God"

    O when shall we all be
gathered in -
    & His kingdom have come?
I should like to hear any
    thing that you will be
so kind as to tell me
about Mrs. Barton
    May we be faithful!

As regards the milk,
please be so good as to let
    that daughter-in-law - who
was so good to her, & who
is a delicate woman -
I believe she is John’s wife
    - have it till Lady Day -
    & then stop -
    I had already written to
Mr. Yeomans - that her
Milk, her Meat & Eggs
should go to the daughter-
in-law who was kind to
    her, till Lady Day - &
then stop.
    I fear the other daughter-
in-law was the contrary of
kind.
Your letters are very dear to me. I am glad you have your married daughter with you - Perhaps she can sometimes let you have half a night’s rest -

Give my kind regards to your husband who I know is so helpful - He must put more Cocoa in then the ‘Directions’ say, when he makes it for Lizzie - And you can add a little boiled milk, but no sugar -

And now, dear friends, I pray God for you, as you do, I know, for me - & I bid you not farewell but meet you in His all loving presence -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

Address
10 South St
Park Lane
London W

Lea Holloway, unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

Sept. 23/89 [8:992]

Dear Mrs. Holmes
I have not been able to write, but you know I am always thinking of you & my dear friend Lizzie -

Our loving Saviour tries her sorely, & you too. But He also makes her the bravest of the brave - & you too -

And if sometimes temptations come, Christ Himself was tempted, - & He knows how to succour them that are tempted - He never forgets us - Christ Himself had to
be made perfect thro’ suffering - We are never told that temptations are a sign of God having forgotten us, but just the contrary - As the hymn says, (after “the evils” we have to bear.)

“The trials we endure,
The manifold temptations That Death alone can cure, What are they but His jewels of right celestial worth? What are they but the ladder Set up from/to heaven from earth?”

A dear good woman said: ‘I know that I am in the valley of the shadow of death - But there is no shadow - It is all light’

It is not in our own mood or assurance but in “The greatness of redeeming - love “The love of Christ to us” that we trust. So will Lizzie say soon: “it is all light” -

“The King of Love my shepherd is Whose goodness faileth never I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine for ever.”

God bless, in His everlasting Love, you & dear Lizzie. I am so glad Miss Lee sent the large pillow - Did you ask Dr. Graves for something to allay the irritation of the rash? If it is more expensive than they generally give, I will gladly pay it.
July 24/91
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear friend Mrs. Holmes
I am indeed grieved that your dear Nellie has such a trouble to bear, & yours for her sake is perhaps the worst of the two -
Now let us think what is best to be done:
if Nellie’s Doctor will be so good as to write to me (so that I can show it to the Senior Doctors of St. Thomas’ Hospital)
er her case & the particulars of her case, & whether he thinks she will derive good from coming to St. Thomas’ Hospital, this would be the best way;
and the sooner it is done the better.
Could I have it early next week?
The Doctor must also say whether it is a case requiring immediate admission -
She ought to bring with her two or three suits of under-clothing, brush, comb & tooth-brush.
If she has a flannel dressing-gown or cape to sit up in bed with, so much the better,
If I think of anything else, I will write.
With regard to the expence, I will charge myself gladly with that. And I will send her money for her journey up & back. I should think she ought to go first-class.

And pray God to bless all that is done for her & to keep her mind in His own keeping - & yours too

“I will keep thee with mine eye”

I don’t know that I can say any more till I receive the Nellie’s Doctor’s letter regarding her case -

Don’t feel down-hearted about your Polly. There are so many things which might prevent her writing - She will write soon, please God.

“The Lord is at the helm,” as you once reminded me

I am very anxious too. But that is impertinent to God, as if we could govern better than he. He does so love to bear our burdens -

ever yours

F. Nightingale
August/{corner missing} [1891]
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W. [1:820]

Dear Mrs. Ashworth,

I enclose you an Admission
to St. Thomas’ Hospital
under the very Doctor I
wished for you —

As you cannot be admitted
till half past eleven in the
morning, I think you had
better sleep here, where
I will tell my housekeeper,
a very kind woman, to
take care of you & see
you off to the Hospital
in a cab in the morning.

You had better come
as soon as possible after
Bank Holiday — please
send a post-card to my
housekeeper

Mrs. Burge
10 South Street
Park Lane
London W.

so that she may receive
it the morning of the
day you come.

I send you a Cheque
for Four Pounds — You
will not of course pay
anything at my house —
This is for your journeys —
I am sorry to say I
shall be gone; but I
shall hear of you from
St. Thomas’ Hospital.
Dec 10/91
10, South Street, Park Lane. W. {printed address:}
My dear friend Mrs. Holmes
Thank you very, very much for your letter.
I have heard from Dr. McIntosh a few hours after I received yours.
The operation your dear brave daughter has had was one for the purpose of exploring & was successfully carried out, as you know - it was found that the case was one of floating kidney, & that there was no tumour or other ailment - that she will probably recover very quickly from this operation, but she will then have to undergo another, in order that the kidney may be fixed in its proper place, which could not be done under the first operation.
that there is every hope that she will completely recover that in any case it is very satisfactory to have found out that the affection she is suffering from is not one dangerous to life as a rule, tho’ it causes much suffering.
I grieve not to be able to think, as much as you θ/grieve, that there is no more operation to go through. I am sure that you will not tell your daughter of this other operation. She has
put herself, as you entirely in the hand of God, & only wishes to will. And she prays may be refined in till she is made pure. And I call her blessed. I am sure our love does, & calls you & you lift up your hand thinking of the difficulty? which you can’t help? leave all in the hands? who loves us more? than even you can? daughter.

I thank you for a

you have written to me

I hope she is comfortable in the Infirmary: & takes her food. I like to hear of their singing hymns in the Ward.

Pray give my kind regards to your husband & her husband. What a blessing she has a good husband -

I (missing piece) you, and hope that you pray for me that I may care for nothing but to know & to do God’s will - for the Father’s sake & His children’s

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

I shall send you the money 10/ for the Telegram & other little expenses.
Lea Holloway, incomplete letter & envelope, 2ff, pen (postmarked: London (illeg) Fe (illeg) black-edged paper

10 South Street - Park Lane. W. [8:994]
Feb 20/92

My dear friend Mrs. Holmes
Thank you very much
for your letter - And I
do hope that your
husband’s eyes are going
on well -
I had good accounts
of your dear daughter from
Manchester & from the
Blackpool Doctor & from
herself. She is so brave
& patient. They think
she will make a perfect
recovery - But the

[envelope]
Mrs. Holmes
12 Holloway
Cromford
20/2/92 Derby

Lea Holloway, signed letter, 1f, pencil

Aug 26/98 [1:824]
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W. (printed address:)

Dear Mrs. Holmes
I am so grieved & sorry
for the mishap about
the meat - And so is my
cook. It was quite fresh
meat when it set out -
But the weather is too hot.
I send a Cheque for
£5 which Mr. Yeomans,
or any one, will cash for
you - And I hope you
will get a bit of meat
or anything you like
whenever you like.
    And I hope you will
get some one to help you
 - you who have helped
so many. It would be an honour to help you -
    I must not write
more, If I am to get
this letter off to-day.
    My kindest regards
to your husband.
    God bless you both
And He will bless you -
    He does bless you
ever yours sincerely
    F. Nightingale
10 Nov./67
[printed address] 35 South Street  [8:697]
Park Lane,
London, W.

Dear Mrs. A’Court
I feel so very anxious
about Liz that I can’t
help asking your kindness
to tell me whether you
know or think that
there is any cause for
anxiety about them
in this great W. Indian
disaster to the Steamers
by the gale—
ever yours gratefully
Florence Nightingale
35 South St
Park Lane W
Sept 5/78
6 a.m.

Dear Sir,

I indeed wish that I could help you in the matter you write to me about: - "workens/ers" for your "Church" works, but I do not think I have a single acquaintance, let alone "friends" in your & my neighbourhood except my sister Lady Verney.

All my "friends" are overworked Matrons, superintendts, Hospital & District Nurses. I shall indeed pray that God will help your parochial work.

I was going to ask you, would you be so very good when you become familiar in our neighbourhood to bear us in mind and if you find any good young woman, whether gentle-woman or more especially a woman of the working class sound & healthy in body and mind who would like to be trained as Hospital Nurse to address her to our training Matron Mrs. Wardroper, St. Thomas’ Hospital, Westminster Bridge, SE

I venture to enclose to you 3 papers
1 one the rules for candidates as Hospital Nurses
2 the second for candidates for the higher Hospital situations. our training is for one year.
3 the third the hours and duties of Probationers and I am sure you will pray for us.
I am myself and have been for years entirely a prisoner to my room from illness. My doctor limits me to one half hour’s business talk every other day. I transgress this every day of my life to the extent of 7 or 8 hours business talk a day especially when as now I am in charge of the concerns of my dear Mother, a widow & infirm. Still I hope to be able to see you some day as you kindly propose when I return to South St. Will you kindly accept my tiny offering enclosed (£2.2) to your Communion Table. I do indeed pray ‘God speed’ to all your objects.

We have just had 4 nurses wrecked on their way home, on duty, from Montreal Hospl & after a week of hardships on a barren island (Anticosti (?) or battened down in the hold of a fish schooner without food or air, rescued by the Erl (?) King & restored to us here. Will you return thanks to our Almighty Father for them.

Four Sisters (who once held for us a Training School for Midwifery Nurses for the poor for 6 years) were badly hurt, one dangerously in the Sittingbourne Railway accident last Saturday. Will you pray for them?

I am troubling you too much but you are our Pastor. Pray believe me, under severe stress of business and illness ever your faithful servant Florence Nightingale [end 12:350]

The Revd R.P. Oldham

Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital, Pendlebury, 1 letter, internet printed address 10, South St. [16:859]

Park Lane W.

[in hand] London

May 31/79

To the Secretary of the Children’s Hospital Pendlebury & Carlisle Street Sir

The glimpses that I have had of the plans of your Hospital lead me to think that it must be one of the best constructed in Europe. Might I trouble you to send me a copy of the Report for 1879, which I think has a
plan of the building in it?
   And might I ask you kindly
to put the address of the Architect
on the enclosed letter
   & oblige, Sir,
your faithful servt
   Florence Nightingale