Dearest mother

I hope you do not forget what Dr. Johnson said that, while he did not consider Parthe's lump of any consequence, he would not let above a month pass without consulting somebody of eminence about it in London.

Nobody could possibly give an opinion about it without seeing it – Laurence he would recommend”– But Aunt Mai tells me she told you all this – A month he thought of no consequence.

I am very glad S. Herbert's election is over –

We are going to take the Sacrament on Tuesday with our dear old lady– I think she is calmer – but she still sends for us constantly to bid us "farewell for ever." I believe she will have Miss Hall
when we go —

I am very sorry

to hear so poor an

account of Parthe —

& very sorry, dearest

Mother, to hear that

you are so overdone.
It is a good thing
that poor little Kemish's
sufferings are over -
We do not know what
At Maria will do. I
think we shall leave
this the latter end
of this week & then,
dearest Mother, I shall
come home & rejoice
to think I shall see
you all for a time
before going to Paris -
ever your loving child
Sunday-

I am very anxious to explain [1:136-37]
to my dear mother so as to
avoid even any appearance
of being ungrateful for the
kind proposal, which I have
received, why I cannot accept
it immediately. I do indeed
feel deeply grateful for the
sympathy with my wishes
which such a proposal shews -
I am most anxious that
my explanation should not
seem ungracious - My dearest
mother, I learn from Uncle
Sam that you are kindly
thinking of Cromford Br. for
me - Of course I have given
your generous thought my
most careful consideration __
I have also consulted my
friends who are interested in this object - The result of which
is that I must say what is
no new "say" on my part, but
what I have said for the last
eight years, viz, that the
certain failure which would
follow, were I to enter upon
such a difficult course- so
untrained & unprepared as I now am – would ill requite the expense & the kind thought, to which you would then have gone on my account – In short, I am at present too inexperienced – 

I paid the long promised visit (to Bristol, which you kindly urged in the summer), to the Shropshire Bunsens, where the Bristol plan is now transferred, merely in order to learn their plans & give what they were pleased to call my advice, as they had asked me to do "many a time & oft". They have sent their one woman to Paris to train –

I think I shall also be able to get much information there. But I shall best know when I am there –

As to the Cromford Bridge plan at present, I see indeed too small chance of success
for me to be justified in accepting it now.

I am arrived at an age where the power of acquiring is generally supposed to be over - having for eight years constantly desired a training for this object, & during that time having had but three months' of that training - An object too so difficult that only one man, Fliedner, has ever succeeded in it - And now that this is offered to me, it is as if, supposing some one to have had in his life only 3 months' instruction in drawing, it were offered an R.A. ship to him to be at the head of a school of Design not yet founded.

I should feel the failure equally certain in both cases - I do indeed feel that I can do nothing without preparation.

This must be my answer for the present to your kind thought of dear old Cromford Br_

ever dear Mum your loving & grateful child.
Dearest people

We had a very
good traversée & a very good
journey. Kind Mr M met us
at the Terminus & brought me
here. The weather was beautiful
All things here much as
usual. I sometimes
think we are come to the
times of the Bas Empire in
France & that she is declining,
as in those times. At the same time it may be
an accident like the reign
of Charles II with us, which
was very similar to this. x.
from which we are recovered
perfectly - Therefore France
may recover from this accident.
But then the French are
Celts - The Irish are not
a nation, but an ungovernable
family of Staffords, in capable of political
principle. The French are
not pure Celts, they have an
intermixture of the Roman
blood & Roman legislative power - &
then they are eminently logical.
They depend even too much
upon the power of logic - they
carry it to its extremest limit.
So France may recover. Other=
wise every thing tends to a
resemblance with the Byzantine
Empire - the centralization, demoralization & political incuria,
the unbridled license
of the imperial family - the
fact that in all the empire
not one adherent of the empire
exists - terror of the Reds,
inertia, the army alone holds it together.
The unnatural expense of the
imperial family - he has a
million of civil list is
indirectly levying taxes - & yet
must sell some of the royal
palaces, or get into debt. He
is enlarging the Louvre, pulling
down the Hotel Dieu to increase
the Quays, every thing to please
the French eye—

The coronation has been put
off, because the Pope will not
come - All the preparations were
being hurried on - the carriage
ordered, tho' the coachmaker
said, c'est facile à faire
un Empereur, mais faire
une voiture! then difficulties
were found about the Pope
& it was put off sine die -
Mais il viendra bon gré mal
gré, said one of the Bishops
at the Conseil at the Tuileries.
If he does, he will lose himself
& strike a great blow at
Catholicism - If he does not,
France will bid adieu to
the pretence at Ultramonta-
nism she is now keeping up_

In France, public opinion
is always in opposition - The
Bourbons protected & sincerely
loved the Church, & the
consequence was, a priest
could scarcely walk the
streets in safety - The Orleans
hated & depressed the Church
& she rose in public favour,
till in '48, when she ran
about planting trees of liberty,
& preaching on red caps, &
candidating for the assembly, she stood. the idol of the
people - Now she is courted
tho' not loved by the Govt.,
& consequently is losing favour,
with the nation tho' not so rapidly as in the
Bourbon time, because it is
known to be only a political
manoeuvre, & because one of the
Ministry said, Nous ne pouvons
pas encore nous en passer-
Also, by her own escapades, she has lost in public esteem - I remember, e.g. Duquerry (the man of the Madeleine) standing candidate & talking liberty at the Club démocratique in a fine electioneering speech. Now he, when "pudeur" goes to the Madeleine, runs to the door to meet him, & incenses him on the steps, whereas the Bp of Orleans would not so much as receive him at the entrance of the Cathedral, but said, C'est à lui de venir me trouver -

The revival of Catholicism in France is (like the High Ch. party in England) a reaction before death, a solemn farce - With Montalembert, it is excessive vanity, with Lenormand, it is something more disgraceful, with L. Nap. it is a political ruse - With Botta, it is cold fanaticism, mixed with scepticism. But real fanaticism is extinct - Only one man I know, a certain David, where it is a real & living spirit - where, if he had been a Protestant, he would have been a Methodist, a Mahometen, he wd. have been a Wahabie, a Catholic & he is a fanatic. He nourishes us with wild boar on fast days, while he eats haricots without butter, because he says "You are Protestants, you must be damned eternally, I shd. like you to enjoy yourselves a little here". But Montalembert would have been a "philosophe" in the last century -
With him it is circumstance, the age, habit of mind, not ingrained conviction. It is ambition, (not a low ambition, he never courts, but) love of influence, of which he has a real & powerful share in the country - He leads men's minds. But real religious feeling, such as made S. Ignatius of Loyola, S. Bernard & Wesley willing to go to the ends of the earth, is extinct - Lenormand is a Catholic, because he liked an actress & his wife persuaded him he was devout - He gave into the piège, & became a Catholic instead - As for Botta, the author of all this piece of work about the St Sepulcre, he is the most curious character of all. He is the most coldly sceptical, yet he acts as if he were a fanatic. You can never tell whether he is in earnest or not, yet there he is, setting Europe at war for the sake of the Holy Sepulcre.

Layard is expected in Paris daily – He has played his affairs well & gained his name in Nineveh & now he is meddling with the S. Sepulcre. Quam magna impudentia regitur mundus

I dined last night at our friend's & am going to day to my Médecin, the Koh i noor & his wife-

There is a schism in the camp - "pudeur" has quarrelled with his ministers - & one has sent the orders he received on the deux Décembre to England to have them safe there, in case of a search of his papers
Wellcome Ms 8995

by the Police, when he wd. never see these orders more -
fearwell, my people - You shall hear 
all about my plans_ please tell 
Hilly of my safe arrival - [end 7:723]

8994/4 3ff, pen, initialled letter {arch: ?Jan 1853} Bundle 120

120 Rue du Bac Paris [7:723-27]
Monday morning.
My dearest mother will be pleased to hear 
that I have already been to two balls, 
one concert at the Conservatory, have 
one invitation to dinner, one to the 
Opera, & two to evening parties, all 
to be consummated within the first 
evening week of my arrival at Paris. 
Tonight I go to Lady Elgin's, whom I like 
much -

Notre Dame looks like an old 
actress at a fair, painted & dressed 
up in old finery - She is all gaudied 
out with flags & hangings & old 
draperies_ It is a comfort to reflect 
that it was all a consummate 
failure - Every body laughed except 
those who cried_ & the fêtes, from 
being hurried on, were entirely 
manquées, even in the French sense. 
Had Louisa Mackenzie walked about 
a little longer on the P.'s arm, it 
seems she might have been by his 
side at Notre Dame yesterday 
week - It seems generally supposed
however, that L. N. has met with 
his match & that his punishment 
may safely be left to the female-

Paris is petillant with spirit-
Villemain says, Ces pauvres prêtres--Ils
My first ball was at Mme Mohl's on Friday night, given in honour of Nini's marriage. We arrived in good time, M. Mohl came to the railway to see us the sooner - we dined & dressed - my black lace came in, dear Pop, with great effect - Madame de Rouget was there, who wants to be one of the dames d'honneur of the Empress, in a head dress & gown, composed entirely of violets, the Imperial flower, the composition by herself & very curious - the success indubitable - I was introduced to an old Bonetti, who is always in & out of the Archévêché & will serve me much. On Saturday night we went to a ball at Triontophillos', where I met the Mavrocordatos, whom I have not seen since Athens. All this ball going is for Anna Mohl, who is here - sister to Ida I have besides been with Hilary to her Atelier - Jeanron is quite a curiosity _ very different from what I expected – not of the order of subdued & chastened Overbecks, but of the time when wild in woods the noble savage ran – healthy, vigorous, shaggy, full of genius, wild-haired, grey-moustached, like Socrates, not like Plato – We went to call on Madame Louis David's _ she has just furnished her apartment_ very pretty – & the beau-
père is to pay for it - greatly to her
disgust - so, says she to Mme Mohl,
I was taking him round & he was
looking for something to vent his indignation
upon, when he saw my little busts
of la Rachel & 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, & made his bow)
dans un lieu que la pudeur
m'empêche de nommer_ mais,
comme c'est mon cousin qui me
les a donnés, et qu'il aurait pu,
you savez__ par quelque hasard y
entrer pour ses besoins, je les ôtai
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 soueiller_
but the beau jeune homme was,
I thought, a good deal the most
modeste of the lot.

I have been to the Diaconesses,
where two of my friends from
Kaiserswerth were - The Directeur
gives a very bad account of Miss
Williams, who, he says, has no
"vocation" at all - for anything -
But Hilly & I thought her a good
half-frightened little thing, who
might be cooked up into something
under better management - I am to go
to M. Vermeil at 11 o'clock this
morning to come to some final
conclusion, & the Bunsens require
from me a final answer about her by Wedny.
After M. Vermeil's, I go to the Dia=
conesses again. & hear Miss W's own
story- she appears very much
discontent - about 36 & very un=
prepossessing -
M. Mohl is a darling. Hilly & I
have the same room, a very nice
one - with a curtain across - two
beds - looking out over the
Missions Etrangères & its vast
garden —
François is married - Mme Mohl
appears much discontent therewith.
She is not a person whom she knows.
a queer creature, I believe -
Ly Augusta is a very nice woman
The Concert at the Conservatoire
was magnificent - only five pieces _
executed to the utmost pitch of
perfection - orchestra enormous -
It was the production of a new
piece of David's _ I did not like
it. It was very pretty - But like
all works of art of this century, it
was so sketchy, vague, indefinite,
not strongly characterized - To me
music is worthless, unless it says
something certain & definite - This
was all like the sea - it appeared
to be a contest between the good
& evil spirit _ but neither got the
better _ but a conventional common=
place spirit, called Common Sense, got the better at the end & drove out both good & evil, as is always the plan in the world. However there was no strong character of any kind in it - It was in 4 parts - & each part began well, like a precocious genius, & fell off at the end - Compare it with a piece of Euryanthe, which came in the course of the Concert, where, tho' everything was supernatural, fantastic, every thing had a strong & striking character of its own, & nothing was indefinite, & you see the difference - There was a sublime "O tous Pietatis" by Haydn, admirably sung by the Chorus, Beethoven's Symphony in A, which was exquisite & that was all - The execution was beyond every thing, like one man - And the people walked in & walked home without any difficulty. Part of Beethoven was encored - it was wonderful - The Conservatory is a government affair & tickets are a favour - Mrs_ Mohl has two children living in the Apartment with her & sleeping in the Dining Room - one of them is the child she wrote to us about - The cat is well & as vain as a peacock -
M. Roulin eat his côtelette here last night to see Hilly.

M. Mohl wants to know who wrote the Hippolytus Article in the Edinbro', but I will write to the Bunsens if you don't know - to whom I must write about Miss W.

M. Jeanron appears to feel for Hilly as Socrates did for Plato & to found all his hopes upon her -

L.N. encourages all kinds of faste - won't let people come to the Tuileries except in their own carriages - but does not succeed_

More about the Bruces another day. Paris is looking beautiful - she is certainly the prettiest city in the world, excepting Cairo - My two Kaiserswerth Deaconesses are going to Smyrna- I write in greatest haste - Please inform any body whom it may concern of my safe arrival_ I have not time to write to any body, tho' I have business to write to Ly Canning & the Bunsens Send this letter to Papa, to whom I will write. I believe I am going to see one of the drôlesses in Racine some day - Farewell, dearest people, I have been disappointed not to hear from you God bless you- You are very dear good people_ Yours overflowingly FN [end 7:727] & for ever
si aisé de ne pas faire des comédies en cinq actes
{cut off} reste, M. Ampère is too anecdotic in his conversation - He
has just published some Promenades in Amérique, where he
has been, in the Revue des Deux Mondes, which are entertaiming. But his esprit is generally borrowed.

Je l'aime, was said of a friend, parcequ'il est vicieux
{cut off} is not the only case in France -

It is non bien porté to be Catholic - Twenty years ago
{cut off} Mignet, Robert Mohl used to speak against la
{cut off}ligion - Now as people grow old & begin to like property
as they find the other side, who have no pre{cut off}
{cut off}eas about religion, & Thiers, Mignet & Robert Mohl
go to church, & open great eyes when any thing
{cut off} said against religion, s if you had said an
{cut off}propriety before a demoiselle, & in short
{cut off}ligion has her head up in the world & it's very
{cut off}fashionable not to be religious_ May the Lord
preserve us from it!

I have made no progress in my plans, as
{you} may suppose, having been shut up lateley,
not having been able to go on my perquisitions
The snow is still on the ground_ Yesterday it
snowed heavily & to day I fear still I shall
not be able to go out. You are dear good
people to be so patient - I cannot at all
tell you what my plans will be - This delay
as greatly disconcerted them - Hilary has had
another reprieve from her mother & will
probably stay another month - She seems
{cut off letting on & as happy as possible -

Dear old Père Delécluze called yesterday _But
I was not up & every body else was out

Clarkey saw Guizot last night at Ly Easthope
{cut off} was very amiable -
François has called several times since we have been here — socialistic, queer, very much altered, but evidently very good, unhappy & unpractical — Once he came when M. Mohl, Hilly & I were alone, as Clarkey goes out almost every night & was more loquacious on the subject of his Socialistic hopes. A{cut off} (cut off) most curious animal, a Mlle Wild, came, who actually went over for 3 months to America to study the Shaker system there- [illeg] [illeg] - You know what the Shakers are — they were founded by one Anne Lee of Liverpool & now amount in America to the number of 5000 — They are very rich, very industrious, very simple {cut off. &?} patriarchal, they ALL take vows of perpetual celibacy, both men & women which they never break & th{cut off. they?} shake or dance like Dervishes — they have comm{cut off. common?} property, are extremely good manufacturers, & live in large families of 100. Their habits are extrem{cut off. extremely?} gentle & simple, they are hospitable to all, they exercise indeed an Oriental courtesy, & their mora{cut off. morals?} are intact_ It is a most extraordinary community Clarkey went the other evening to hear the black Malibran at a friend's. She represents her as wonderful with a black woolly head entwined with pearls, coming out of a white lace frock, & playing on the guitar with the airs of a Spaniard —

I was asked to dine at the Elgins on Mond{cut off. Monday?} but could not go — so Hilly went in my stead—

They are very curious & interesting —

Farewell, my people —

Now I think I have gossipped enough—

Ever & ever my dearest people's

F

I am very glad to hear, my dearest Pop, that thou a[cut off] better & going to Ly Byron's, to whom my duty —

I should be very glad to hear more particulars of the [cut off].

[end 7:732]
Saturday

My dearest   You will be glad
to hear that I have been out every
night this week but one - Monday
to Lady Elgin's. Tuesday to D. Giovanni
with Clarkey - not a very good
performance - Wednesday to dine
at M. Roulin's & afterwards to
Mrs. Chapman's_ Thursday, no
Thursday, we were at home, which
we were very glad of_ we tried to
go to Lady Tartuffe, by Madame de
Girardin, the lère. représentation,
Mlle. Rachel, monde accourait en
foule, but we could not. Mme
Mohl, who expected to have a loge
lent her, désespérée_ Friday we
had our Vendredi dansant at
home_ Mlle. Nini came en mariée,
& Tom Appleton - & the Bruces - &
I am going tomorrow with Ly Elgin,
to hear a famous preacher réformé.
a great enthusiasm of hers_ Ly
Elgin is like a child. not much
taste, but a great deal of imagination
believes in the "rappings", in her
own children, in Irvingism; I like
her much - She is going to take me
to hear see a Soeur Géret. On Tuesday
I am asked to a grand ball at
Mme de Tourguenneff's for her daughter's
fête_ My dear, Nelken is a Jew - this
is a dreadful sell - How could they ask
me to recommend a Jew to the Herberts? If they were to find it out, they would never trust me again. And indeed I think with some reason. I would not have done it myself, had I known, not for that responsible situation— I am sure Mrs. Chisholm won't have a Jew — Clarkey thanks you very much for your letter — is quite convinced. will not look out any more for a Surgeon's post. but wants introductions for him in Australia— If you get her any I think you may sink the fact of the Jew— as the Jews are never proselytizers —

I have not done much in my way I have been three days at the Diaconesses — don't think them promising. nor Miss Williams neither. I have been to a Miss Blundell — a friend of the Bunsens— who, though a most disagreeable woman, has been of some use to me — & have seen a pretty Miss Magrath, whom Henry Bunsen had selected for a Deaconess, the greatest fool in existence_ I have been to the Hôtel Dieu, under the Soeurs S. Augustin & the Hôpital Beaujon, under the Soeurs Ste Marthe — both very well conducted in most respects, it seemed to me_ & to the Enfans Malades under the Soeurs S. Thomas, where Mme Mohl's

Mère Lamoureux is beautiful —
Hilly goes diligently to Jeanron daily - sometimes again in the evening & seems as happy as possible - The Es étouffait de sanglots at the Mariage Civil on Saturday - one of the Ambassadresses who was there told me. & again on the Sunday at Notre Dame was perfectly bloodless & rigid & looked like a Greek head in marble - & again on Monday at the Bal du Sénat, was very timid, very civil, dressed like a common lady, without anything on her head & very anxious to do the thing civilly - But the Lady of Honor to the Dss of Kent told me that it was very evident she was not bred to the métier - People must be bred to it to do it well - she could not make her curtsey - she was too civil & did not know what to do-- There can be but one opinion as to her extreme beauty - we have seen her once - As to Brummajem, he is like a dead fish - but he is rayonnant & there can be no doubt is amoureux fou- As for her, there are a thousand stories against her. We don't believe one of them - Is it likely? Poor woman it appears she has found out a thing or two already - a professed libertine of 45 - without a fraîcheur, of ame or esprit - What a companion - refused by five ladies - this was hurried on to shew he did not care she repents already
she was tremblante - a woman d'un si grand courage. She was told that she would probably have stones thrown at her on the way to Notre Dame - but that she must keep her windows down to receive bouquets. As it was, they threw bouquets & not stones __ but if one gamin had thrown a stone, she would have had mille So much for the pleasures of her position. He is so chancelant dans une position si chanceuse that if she had had a prudent mother, she would not have let her - But there is no doubt that tho' ambition is his first passion, she is his seconde. And as for her, she never cared for any one but the Duc d'Albe, her sister's husband - In short, she is no parvenue & he may consider he has made a progress by marrying her He is so fond of her that he, cet homme si froid, ne luit touche la main qu'en tremblant.

The chat sends her respects to Athenà - On Friday night she always repairs to a particular shelf, where she couches, because she used to pounce down from there upon the cakes, which used to be placed upon a table underneath - Now the cakes are no longer placed there - But on Friday night she always repairs to the same place still - like the Catholics, who keep to the same tables, though the cakes are gone. [end 7:729]
Not right to take subscriptions for needy sick & spend them on the attendants, when the sick are not there, which was often the case at Chandos St. I would therefore have only the Superintendt. & the maid (the "Mother" pays for herself) till the Institution is fairly at work - At the same time, any persons who chose to come in, keeping themselves & paying for their board, to be admitted as Sisters, under the training of Superintendent & Mother.

If nurses are to be taken to train, they must pay. R.C.s make them pay, when they take them to teach, with very few exceptions, unless they do menial work.

Very much depends on the Chaplain - very much on the Medical Men - If the Committee chose to take a house which could afford to give two or three rooms, rent free, to a
Medical Man, who might follow his ordinary business but be called in gratis, when wanted, no objection to having such a man attached, but with no power to enter but when sent for -

Surgeon must never be Master of the Institution.

Superintendent & Mother should each be requested to take annually 3 months at home at different times - the place of each to be supplied by the other --a nursing sister coming in to help-

To unite with the Hospital for Sick Children in the Female Hospital in Soho Sq - a farce to set up a staff to wait upon 3 or so "Ladies", which has often been the sum total of patients in Chandos St.

Expense without rent & taxes, £25 per an. per head, sick & well - with, from £ 30 to £35 per an.
An aspirant must have a certificate of good character from her Clergy, one of good health from a medical Man, & be able to write a short account of her own life for the "Mother" (& her only) to read -

Patients
All denominations to be received & attended by their own clergy, the R.C. by her priest & the Jew by her Rabbi - No visitors to be admitted, except at prescribed hours, & then only, if the Sick wish to see them - They are to be treated as guests & not as prisoners - Those who have no choice may be visited by the Chaplain twice a week. To all the dietetic & physical regulations they must submit.

Sisters
All Protestant denominations admitted, provided they will submit to teaching of Chaplain. Wesleyans will probably pre-dominate
Wellcome Ms 8995

3 wards of 4 patients each.
No cases refused, not even
the infectious & Syphilitic.
these treated in a ward &
by a Sister to themselves -

- Pay patients

7/ a week, 3 or 4 in the same
ward -
10/6 a week - each a room -
no common sitting - room -
all must eat & live in their
own wards - If the place
increased, take £1,,1 patients.

- Sisters
dine together, with maid of all
work, Mother & Superintendent.
Should the Mother & Supert.
choose to fetch their own tea
& breakfast on wards &
the maid hers into the kitchen,
no objection - The wards must
never be left_ so that the other
Sisters, if there be any, will
probably tea & breakfast at
different times -
Each Sister has a den to
herself, however small.
Chaplain gives the Sisters Scriptural instruction 3 evenings in the week, one evening in the week hears what they have been reading in their wards & directs them how to go on - visits the patients does not send the Nurses to church twice a day -

Full Sisters read Scriptures, sing, if possible & pray morning & evening in their own wards (Mother does it at first) note down in a book what they have read to shew to Chaplain never to read without plan, or preparation the night before - keep in a book a weekly account of each patient's conduct & disposition, to be shewn to the Minister of the patient's persuasion only or to the "Mother." nothing to be read in the wards to which any patient can object -

Daily table of diet & medicine of each patient to be kept by the Sister. Medical directions entered.
If possible, medicines prepared at home - & Sister trained as apothecary.
Sisters (probationary) receive lessons in reading, writing, arithmetic, needle work, Scriptures, from a Sister, appointed by "Mother", or from the "Mother", who will have the especial charge of the Probationers, till there are Sisters enough, for a Mistress of Probationers to be appointed.
Mother attends all operations herself, till there is a Sister sufficiently trained to do so -
Washing given to all the Sisters - put out at first - ultimately to be done at home -
Kaiserswerth frame for lifting amputation patients -
Maid belongs to Superintendent as Mistress of the House, is engaged & dismissed by her.
Keep as near to the Dalston plan as possible. Take a small house in one of the forsaken streets - Great Ormond St? but not out of the usual beats of the Surgeons - Small rooms enough for a Sanatorium & for Sisters' rooms. 10 or 12 patients, in 3 wards _ not more than 4 in a ward 2 or 3 sisters 1 maid of all work, to cook & clean the house _ the sisters answering the door when she is busy - Principle that of a family - patients the guests - "Mother" have the moral guardianship. pay from £50 to £100 a year - dress herself but in an uniform - receive only board, lodging & washing "Superintendent" should have the entire housekeeping, accounts, direction of the Sisters' time,
Wellcome Ms 8995

& material guardianship of the place - responsible for her accounts to the Gentlemen's Committee or to a regular accountant, who shall overhaul them annually - at the end of every year, if the Managers are not satisfied, the Superintendent & Mother walk off_ receives a sum for housekeeping allotted monthly at so much per head_ out of the question to overhaul the weekly bills, except for the "Mother." No woman will stand its being implied that she ordered in this chicken or that pint of port wine for herself_Unless you can trust her housekeeper, better have none at all. "Mother" not to have any démêlé with the Committee about the accounts, she ought to know enough about them to be able to say "the Surgeons ordered that patient Isinglass or that other wine" in order to
be able to account for incidental expenses -
  "Mother" & "Superintendent"
must, for a long time, do all
the work in the wards themselves,
till they become the trainers
of sisters -
  Night nurses to be hired,
if necessary, till more Sisters come
in bad Surgical cases- other=
wise sitting up only disturbs
the patients -
  Nursing Sister from Mrs. Fry's, when wanted.
  Superintendent dresses
herself - not in uniform -
receives board, lodging,
washing & travelling expenses
free.
  Maid of all work receives
wages.
  Sisters receive board,
lodging & dress free - & should
the Institution become permanent,
a home for old age. necessary,
if all classes are admitted
as Sisters.
  No Catholic Order not
even the S. Vincent de Pauls, receives those who have been in service as Sisters

But I would have an Aspirancy of three months, during which the Aspirant should receive nothing but board & lodging & should clothe herself - a Noviciate or Probation of two years, during which she might receive merely her upper clothing, her board & lodging. After two years & three months, she enters, if she remain, into the privileges of a full Sister, receives a yearly sum for clothing, wears the uniform, is entitled to a home for her old age - has every thing free & her vote in the Council of Sisters-

Without unanimity on the part of this Council, which always assists the Mother, no "full" sister can be received or dismissed. A probationer may be received & dismissed by the Mother & Superintendent together.
Angleterre
   Mrs. Nightingale
   Embley
   Romsey

Pray remember to send Miss Hall's letter to her.

Please acknowledge my letters. as I have not a conception whether they reach you or not. Hilly had one opened the other day - & mine are just as likely to be stopped as not.

Please send Mrs Colyar to Mrs Bracebridge - & if poor Mary Stanley is not quite taken up with her Aunt, I think it would do her good - tell her I thought she would like to hear about the Madial.
March 2.
Mignet & Ampère came to dinner one day & were very good company, that is to say, Mignet was very good company &amp; Ampère very bad. Ampère is a gentleman, to whom every thing seems cheap, which he can buy, to serve up at the table of his vanity - even the feelings of his best friends - he was, besides, frittered away & played with at the Abbaye aux Bois, till he did not know whether he had any feelings at all. Mignet is a very different kind of man - he has that sentimental mouth, which you so rarely see in a Frenchman. The French never have refined mouths & in short, he is altogether unlike a Frenchman - Mr Tom Appleton came & dined with them - & in the evening Clarkey, who goes out almost every night, went to the Chapmans. [end 7:735]
Henriette de Witt has another little girl today is the christening after it, she is to come & see me. Pauline came yesterday, very civilly - But I was not up & did not see her - I have had the Grippe, like all the rest of the fashionable world but it is now going off & I shall soon be out again. The weather is abominable blacker than Tartarus & colder than the Poles. Don't let the French talk to us about climate - I hope you like Mrs. J.P. I have seen nothing like him, after all Hilly goes on diligently at M Jeanron's - indeed, it is a pleasure to see her so prosperous - I have had another letter from Ly Canning - I think it very likely I may help her, if she offers me conditions that I like. & I believe you would rather I should do that then
another thing. Brummagem goes on his course - At a small place depending du report de Pau, at a réunion chez le Préfet, it was discussed that it was better policy for B. to marry a particulière than a Princesse_ when one of the company present said Quel paradoxe! for which he was visited by the Préfet, taken before the Magistrates, & required to make his retractation & his excuses before the whole Civil Magistrature - Voilà comment les choses se font! The story you have seen in the papers about M. d' Haussonville is quite true - he was in his carriage on the day of the procession & got out of it to make way for people out of civility, saying to his little boy as he did so, Ils font bien de l'embarras avec leur Empereur- For this he was had before the Commissaire
And the Sergent de Police, who took him there, said that he said Ils font bien de l'esprout - Voila, par exemple, said M d'Haussonville, des mots que je n'ai pas pu dire, puisque je ne les connais pas - Nevertheless, tout le monde va sen train_ Nevertheless, everybody is as spirituel as ever.

Somebody, hearing people abusing Madame la duchesse de Luynes, said, Je vous trouvez bien injustes pour cette pauvre femme - il y a, Messieurs, il y a beaucoup de vices qu'elle n'a pas-

A comédie has been presented at the Français & has failed. to the great dégoût & astonishment of the Author - C'était un sujet, said his friends, qui comportait beaucoup d'esprit - il fallait l'assaisonner _ it fallait le saupoudrer d'esprit - Du reste [end 7:735]

or goodness - But the Contemplative Orders, which they have founded, have always failed, gradually diminished & died because they were not in their proper soil_ You must go to Mahometanism, to Buddhism, to the East, to the Sufis & Fakirs, to Pantheism, for the right growth of mysticism - See how Fenelon was slighted & fell to the ground in the Cath. Ch. He was essentially a mystic - He (& others such) have taken root much more in Evangelical Germany, (As far as the Protestants have had any religion at all, they have generally been mystics) - See too the Carmelite Order, which has always been
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composed essentially & only of great ladies (its foundress, S. Teresa, was a great lady) of Madame
de Longueville, Mme de la Vallière, Mme Louise de France (v. too the list of the Prieures in Cousin's Mme de Longueville) & which is now almost extinct & the number even restricted fallen away - as all institutions, which have their run among the Great & never take root in the body of a nation or religion, must always do. The foreign Elements from the East, which have been really incorporated, & have tinged the whole of Catholicism with their colour, have been Manicheanism & Fetichism. You trace their influences here at every step - & as Protestantism is but a minimized Catholicism (excepting perhaps in Germany) which leaves the principles just as they were, & only cuts off what seems to it the extreme of absurdity, thereby shewing the principle still more absurdly, (as a principle not pursued to its farthest point must always be), because it is bleeding at its mutilated extremities) so even in Protestantism even Manicheanism & Fetichism turn up, tho' not so much as here. Here it is incredible. I believe there are only some few tribes in Australia which have displayed the character of Fetichism to the degree to which European Xtianity has done so. There is now a society in Rome which disposes of the funds left by some ragamuffin, a Borgia, I believe, to decree crowns to the Virgins who have done best service - It is evident that here the Virgins are not different representations of one Spirit, but are different Fetishes in themselves. Last week arrived
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2 crowns of enormous value
(I think the Virgin's was 60,000 fr.)
For the Virgin & Child of S. Severin here, who were supposed to have done special good service in sending Oudinot to Rome & dispossessing Mazzini. And these people talk of the religion of the 19th. centy. A sovereign of Spain made a certain Virgin & Child in S. America Field Marshal & Colonel in the Spanish Service & they wear the hats of Spanish Marschal & Colonel respectively - We laugh at this, but The Englishwoman believes, when she puts on her best clothes & cleans up her house on Sunday that she has done good service to her Fetish, Sunday - That it is better to be clean than dirty, to have whole clothes than ragged ones, all, I believe, except the Manicheans & Diogenes, agree_ That it is better to put a crown upon the Virgin's head than upon one's own, all, I believe, will agree too - But that does not
alter the question-

The fundamental idea of the relations which God bears to the world, whatever this has been in the mind of the founder of the religion, determines the whole religion - It permeates, governs, & percolates thro' every the remotest branch & usage of the religion- just as a mineral at the root of a tree will turn every drop of sap in that tree to the colour which that substance is made to produce - Salt, it is said, makes the Hydrangea blue - and Manicheanism, which has so deeply penetrated Xitianity, has coloured its spirit & observances to the remotest tittle

Manicheanism is a cross of Zoroastrianism & Christianity, of the Persian & the Semitic-

Wherever the contest of two principles has been admitted, it has dragged the sect into all sorts of inconsistencies - Manes, I believe, was the first Xitian who admitted that the world was made
by the Demiurge, & him an Evil Spirit, & set him up in opposition to God-
Hence our Devil & all our absurdities
For it follows that entire indifference, if not aversion to matter, is the highest virtue—And that God has a bad time of it & does not often come off omnipotent nor any thing like it—Zoroaster who, I believe, was the original of the idea, was not half so bad—It is true Arimanes made the world & all things in it, but Ormurzd was to get the better at the end of 20,000 years, very much like the Revelations—All the mortifications which have poisoned Xtianity come from Manicheanism—There appears to me no trace of it in Christ, tho' a great deal in St. Paul—The Gnostics, the Ophites & the Nicolaitanes, who were all Manicheans, are formally condemned by the early Xtians in Revelations, tho' the one who wrote Revelations is, at least, strongly tinctured by it—Let us hope the one who wrote Revelations was mad—The degree to which it mortification is carried now & the reaction against it (for, after all, it is only the exaggeration of a natural principle) appear to me quite frightful—The reaction in the luxury of the age among seculars_ the personal
dirt & self-negligence of the religious bodies.

So Fetichism appears to me never to have been carried to such an extent as now. Even the Greeks never believed that one statue had more power or more virtue than another — nor one day more value than another. It is monstrous — And this 19th. century calls itself civilized —

There never will be any religion till the relation between God & the World is rightly established — till we have first discovered, (which we never have done as yet), & then logically worked out to its practical consequences the connection which a Perfect Being would bear to the world He has made — till we have divested Him of all the imperfect & even weak qualities with which we have invested Him_

Wherever we have admitted two principles, see what work we have made of it_ It is the eternal contest between common sense & conscience against the logical carrying out of the wrong principle. Ever since the time of Zoroaster & all thro' the history of Xtianity, the history of religion has been
merely the struggle of two sects
to determine how much power the
bad principle went had & how much
the good - The good one was
omnipotent, was not omnipotent,
both at once - the bad one
sometimes was omnipotent, oftener
than otherwise, tho' they said he
was not. Milton is merely the
practical rendering of the highest
form of this strange illogical idea
Some sects made the bad go so far,
some so far, some made it eternal
It is impossible when you once admit
it that it should not be like
two cats pulling at a rope - one
gets possession of so much of rope.
than the other gets most rope &
so on -

Again, in the 3rd. century of Xitianity,
began the context of the two
principles of the Church & the will.
And all Xtian churches, except the
Socinian, have been but modifica=
tions of this contest - If half a dozen
expressions were blotted out of the
New Testament, or rather out of
St. Paul, (Jewish expressions about
Xt being a sacrifice), none of this
[illeg] would have been done - arisen
But those expressions have sufficed to put it into the Church's head (a very natural temptation) to administer the blood of Christ & by its Sacraments - From the moment it is admitted that salvation means anything but a will in a right state, from the moment we leave the principle that mankind is to create mankind, that ourselves are to be the instrument of our own perfection by the will of God (God giving Himself & His Laws) & have recourse to the grace of God & the blood of Christ, sacramental grace the Church follow, of course, because some thing must apply the blood of Christ. Then follows a perpetual rebellion of conscience & common sense - & Xtianity becomes nothing but a series of sects, to decide how much will is to do & how much grace & the Church are to do - for mankind rebels at once against the preposterous idea that he is to do nothing, & that he has no free will - As far as I know, Jansenism & Socinianism have been the only strictly logical sects - Jansenism
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said, as did Calvinism, "there is no free will, man has nothing to do with it" & predestination follows of course - (the inscrutable intention of God from the beginning of the world to bestow free grace upon this fish whom he fishes up out of the kettle & not upon that as the 39 Articles put it) - & that there are babes burning in hell a span long" follows necessarily- So there are in other Churches, but from want of baptism - The Jansenist did not think about Baptism- "I am a stick & a stone" is one of the clauses at this day of the Subscription to the Protestant Magdeburg Confession- The Puritans follow, of course The Socinians say that free will does every thing - In one sense this is not true - Still they are right in another sense - & [illeg]

The Jansenists were too logical for the common sense of the Catholic Ch., which has always rated good works very high indeed, & has put charity free will practically higher than [illeg] mysticism graces so she bethought herself of putting St. Cyran into Vincennes, by way of convincing that good man's understanding -
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But hugely vague, indefinite & contradictory as religionists have always been, (oh! what should we say if the "Institut" or the College of Surgeons had done its work as the "Bishops & Curates" have done theirs,) there is nothing vaguer nor more undefined than how much grace is to do & how much good works are to do, or whether good works are to do nothing, as the Ch. of England (low) says, or Sacramental grace is to do everything, as the Ch. of Eng. (high) says — It is like Mrs. Hominy — "But what we are or how we are or if at all we are" &c

The sincerity of great bodies, M. Mohl says, is undoubted — because hypocrisy never spreads & governs_ Even the Jesuits are sincere — they believe that intelligence is to govern the world, & that they are the representatives of intelligence, as indeed they once were, (& it is evident that they had the best side of it against poor Port Royal)_ & they support the Pope, because in their eyes he represents the spiritual principle_

We must come at last to having a spiritual Governor, instead of a
political one, because God, the great Governor, has made the spiritual the great principle, of which the political is only a branch - Various attempts have been made - the Pope, the Superiors of religious communities; the King of England, as Head of the Church of England, Fliedner, as head of a spiritual community - They have all wrecked themselves, because they did not understand the nature of God -

Mahometanism is almost exactly the Jewish religion. Mahomet took more from the Jews, of whom Arabia was then full, than from any other. If we want to know what the Jewish religion was, we have but to look at the Mahometan, except that the mystic principle is far more deeply grafted upon the latter Mahometan -

Almost every religion we can trace to its source - the Essenes were a mixture cross of the Jew & the Pythagorean Philo & the Alexandrian Jews, from whom the Xtians have borrowed so largely, were a mixture cross of Sabeanism, Platonism & Jewdom -

The mortification of the Sufi & the Fakir & the Derweesh was on a far
more logical principle than the mortification of the R. Catholic or Puritan devotee, because they were simply conjuring the anger of a passionate old Father - the Pantheistic Saint was not thinking of this, he was simply attaining the state of perfect happiness, which was to be, not given to him, but was itself indifference to the world, approach to or absorption in God by contemplation - The spinning Dervish turns his back successively on every thing earthly - the Persian Sufi is raised above law by his ecstacies & may even get drunk. the Hindoo Fakir may open his mouth to take food, if any body drops it in, but must be perfectly indifferent to it - he must be simply a receiver from heaven - be near God in the state of contemplation, insensible to earth - Pantheism, which represents the world as an exile, necessitates this - Plato, the highest of all Pantheists, did this, represented matter as bad, the earth as a place of banishment - But he did not take the gloomy side of his own doctrine - His successors did.
10 March- [7:736-37]
I stayed home yesterday to "receive"
Delécluze came, dear old man, Joséphine
& others- Henriette’s note I enclose —
Dearest I have been much
occupied these last few
days with thinking about
poor Grandmama — my first
idea was to set off directly
by an occasion which offered
& spend the last days with
Aunt Mai there, feeling that
they were the last days — I
then thought it would be
foolish to do so, without
waiting to hear again — as
it might be years today
I hear that the decline is
likely to be slow (a letter
from Aunt Mai at Tapton)_
Sdtill I feel I cannot rest,
& if I find an opportunity,
& if the accounts are not
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b

better, I shall probably return soon to see her & see you all & then return here to finish my business, which is not even begun. I knocked myself up with sitting in that cold Atelier under the roof, covered with snow, & was [illegible] so grippée that I was obliged to have a Hydropathic Dr. & was very near going into his Establishment - However all the world was in the same case, & I am now quite well, & the weather magnificent - You complain that my letters were stupid, which is not won-derful, seeing that the two last were written from my bed-where I was for a fortnight - Enough of that -

c

I have thought a great deal of those dear Sismondis, now re-united -

Lady Canning is completely off, so there is nothing now to be explained about that - I shewed you one letter at Embley, & I have had two since I have been here.

which I will shew you - But they did not like my plan & so we are off __ I don't think I said to you the "other thing," for there is no one "other thing" definite, but you know there are the Bunsens, Cromford Br. & the Bristol Bunsens -

This place is very disgusting to me sous bien des rapports. But l'homme que la pudeur m'empêche de nommer explains many things to me - He explains to me the rise of his Uncle - how easy it was to do what he
did, which looks so difficult,
how little of a great man consequentely he was under any point
of view_ how selfish self will
can get on here. driving after
its 'but'- To me this place is
so revolting, living upon its
bon mots, while this crucifixion
is going on, that, were it not
for my object I could not
stay here - I never go out in
the evening now, but stay at
home with M. Mohl, who is
much better company than
anybody outside - It is positively
like seeing the canaille jesting
at an execution__ only this is
genteel canaille but that makes it worse- I don't believe
they will ever be great
people - At the same time,
except Cairo, I know no
city so beautiful as Paris-
It is a perpetual feast - Every
rue & quay & Place - All the

Dearest people
Having received this morning a
worse account from Tapton,
& Mrs. Mohl having a
very suitable opportunity
for me in a very stupid
old lady of 60 going over,
il n'y avait pas à
balancer & I came_ I
shall put this in at
London myself - as that
will be the shortest plan
of getting it to you - I
shall go down directly -
to have the last days
together with Aunt Mai
at dear old Tapton _ever
dear people, your loving
child - PARIS - 11 March
Dearest people

It is just the same -
No difference - except that we have to keep perpetually painting with Nitrate of Silver to prevent the sores from spreading - The restlessness continues & must wear her out at last - The mind is clear - Mr. Chalmer came yesterday & prayed by her & she recognised him - She has taken nothing -

I suppose you opened Aunt Mai's & my letter to Papa, dated Saturday. Pray destroy it that it may not be sent on to him - I mean the letter discouraging his coming -

ever yours dearest people
F & M -
Good Friday Eve-
Tapton 21 Mar.
Dearest mother  She is still alive & the worst symptoms are passed - I mean the most distressing restlessness._
She has not moved since 9 o'clock last night this morning, she is too weak. The cries are the only symptom of restlessness which remain. We have done very well with Papa & I am very glad he came. He has seen her twice & I am sure she recog= nised him & if it lighted her path with one ray of pleasure, it was well worth while-
The difficulty was to know what to do with him as the front room is the only bedroom in the house where her cries cannot be heard - & Aunt Mai was already in bed in that (she lies down from 6 to 12 & I from 12 to 6 - dividing the night) but he kindly staid up till 12, when I called her, & then I put him into that room where he still sleeps_ Mean=
while I watched for
a quiet moment when
she should be still long
enough to permit him
to see her - then I
took him in on my
own responsibility -
about 11 o'clock at night -
she certainly tried to
smile. The next
morning again the
same - but he has
not seen her since -
it has been impossible,
He is out all day -
so it does not matter -
His being here has pleased her without
distressing him
The cries are not
painful now, but
unconscious - What with
frequent vomiting, having
been now since Friday

night without one
drop of even water
passing her lips &
with an exertion of
voice which would
kill a healthy person,
that she is still alive
is miraculous. Aunt
Evans's 19 hours talking were
nothing to this - Still
her mind is clear, she
recognises us & what
she says is full of love
& trust - I think she
bears it like a hero-
Many thanks for all
your love & kindness-
We are well & very
careful of ourselves-
ever dearest mother yours
Good Friday
the day of her release
Dear Papa
It is over at last.
The spring time is come
for her at last & the
valiant old spirit is
gone to renew its strength.
About 8 this morning
she passed away, so
calmly that, though I
had hold of her, I could
not mark the exact
moment - Between 1
& 2 this morning we
had her out of bed
for the last time, &
renewed every thing
about her - painted

all her poor sores, &
made her comfortable for
death = We had an awful
difficulty in getting her
into bed again. but
she appeared soothed
by the change. She
never moved nor sp-
again - except a little
uneasy motion of the
head - nor spoke -
about four the cry
ceased - & her breathing
became very short &
hurried - How conscious
she was I am quite
uncertain - but her
eyes were open, & the
expression of her face
solemn & earnest in
the extreme. I should
say she was waiting
for death - Two hours
before it came, she
became quite composed.
there was a stoppage
in her throat which
you could see externally,
& there was an occasional
little cough to get rid
of it - not of irritation.
or impatience but of
a little surprise, "what
is this?" The end was
like the dropping of
water _ slower & more
gently came each breath

like the drops out of an
empty vessel. till the
time when the last came
was imperceptible -
There was not the
slightest change in the face -
Forty eight hours ago,
the rapid spread of
the sores was appalling_
Now all is peace -
& such a rest -
Wonderful restorative
power there was in that
nature _ when she
died the sores were
almost well -
The funeral will be
on Friday, if possible.
We found, after her death, her papers all put by most orderly - in a drawer - among them, a packet directed to you in her own hand. We opened this & found the missing list of bearers - We have done what we could today in the way of orders - with the other papers we have nothing to do till after the funeral. The cold was so intense last night that the Nitrate of Silver froze in her room - The servants have done everything very well.

I cannot express the unspeakable relief that all is over, & so painlessly, & no long waiting before her, as we thought in January - & this awful week at a close. It is just a week to day since she has tasted neither food nor sleep.

Will you tell Beatrice that her mother or I would have written, but that she will hear all
from you & that I thought of her when she closed her eyes?

Aunt Mai is asleep or she would write -

love to all.

I hope the sun shines on you, dear Papa -

The full moon shone on the waste of snow last night, as the face grew beautiful in the light of death_ & young in the hope of life - I almost wish you could have seen her as she is now - there is no trace of suffering or decay -

she might be 50- it is impossible to believe she is 95 all but a century. I have never seen her so before.
such power- such sweetness - & such a "rapture of repose." all her agitations have ended there - There is such a look of satisfied expectation about her_ I never admired before the noble cast of her features_ it is a face which might have done anything - There is not a wrinkle_ not a semblance of old age - ever, dear Pa,
your loving child
Tapton. Friday.

Dearest mother,

Your most kind & touching letters did our hearts good - as you intended.

I am very glad to leave the Canning affair as you say.

Our dear one still lingers here - like the icicle which I see hanging from the rose tree at her window -

but I think the morning's sun will melt her away - Her being here from day to day seems a miracle.

for forty hours not even a tea spoonful of water passed her lips.

today she has taken one or two of milk - I fear she suffers from the thrush which is overspreading her mouth & throat - & sometimes her inarticulate cries are distressing - One of us never leaves her. She is always conscious & gives us sometimes such touching proofs
of it - though she
rarely speaks - She
always knows me from
Hannah in that dark
room - & when I give
her anything says
Thank you  Bless you
Goodnight - Farewell_
Today she said Hope
& peace - & I am so glad_
She had a very restless
morning - but this
afternoon has been
calm- Her muscular
strength is still great_
& all her faculties
vigorous - dearest

mother, ever your affecte
& grateful child
  Her truth & religious
feeling, which never
expresses itself as feeling more
than it does, & always
feels truly, genuinely
& warmly is very
touching at this time_
The snow has been lying
deep on the ground-
but it is melting away
not more surely than
she is doing. The poor
little Crocuses she was
fond of were covered
up to their heads -

We should have liked
to have seen Papa.
but I think it
impossible that
she can live till
he comes, even were he to set off directly & we
feared to send for
him, lest we should
snap the feeble
thread of life -
Tapton Saturday

Dearest father

Aunt Mai has "laid her down" & commissioned me to answer your note— The truth is, dear Papa, that you could not have come— she could not see you & she would not know you — & it would be only a distress to yourself without being a pleasure to her. The fact is that she is so restless that she often gets up three times in a quarter of an hour & she requires 3 people to get her up —

Neither Aunt Mai nor I have had our clothes off since yesterday morn.. all thro' the night we could not conceive that she could live 10 minutes. & here she is still at 6 o'clock in the evening._ She may live through another night — she cannot longer — As it is impossible for us to keep anything on her at times, she looks like Domenichino's St. Jerome— that grand old head, struggling for life_ Yet all that
we have told you is true - In the intervals she always recognises us - gives the most touching little proofs of hope & trust - I am so thankful we are here_ She constantly appeals to us_ When wearied out last night with suffering, not from pain, but restlessness, she said The Almighty, I said, will bless & keep you, she said, love, love, love- Three times we thought she was gone - she said, when she recovered, Pray the Lord to have pity on me - I am dead. Amen, Amen, she says continually. I am willing to think she has no pain - but she labours hard for breath - That she lives from hour to hour is inconceivable_ Since 9 o'clock on Friday night, this struggle with death has begun - Yet she goes down to her grave like a hero & has never given up the reins till the last - Even now, we can do nothing but what she orders_ Ever, dearest people yours-
My dear child

Papa will have told you that we came with J.P. & 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 Athenà 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 At 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 we 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

FN
Tapton_  Friday 1st.
My dearest mother  The day is over_  the
house is empty & deserted, now that
mighty 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,

after I had filled it with beautiful
flowers, sent from Banner Cross, which
had strewn all her bed, the wind &
we had brought it down stairs to rest
its last night in the little breakfast-
room below, the wind kept rising
till it blew to a perfect hurricane -
We had had a fortnight so perfectly
calm with the still falling snow,
that this melancholy sough was the
first sound we had heard - All night
it blew, & it rained, & this morning
ushered in mild & dark & stormy-
(so unlike the night, this day week, on which
she died.)

till, when we by the time we reached
Ecclesall, the sun shone out hard
& bright - The wind was so high in
the steep road, up thro' the church yard,
that the bearers had the greatest
difficulty in keeping their footing
with their burden, & I expected to
see the whole blown down - the pall
was torn hither & thither. (It was where
my poor Aunt was once blown down
& much hurt)  As for us, the
mourners, instead of keeping any sort
of procession or order, we were blown
all manner of ways, into the gutter,
on to the tomb stones, & Beatrice, who
was with us, could hardly be dragged
on all this was so like her character - & her storm which blew
down my poor Aunt's mind. At last we reached the Church,
where we found a number of people,
true mourners, already assembled--
some I saw crying bitterly - & none
that were there I am sure but had
had their hearts warmed by "Mrs. Shore,"
& had gone out of true respect to
& love - We took our places beside
the deep vault, under Grandpapa's monument - & dear old Chalmer read
the service_

The wind blew down the glass of the
carriage as we came home, then came
more clear bright sun & then a violent
storm of rain_ What I meant is
that the whole thing was so characteristic
of her, the vehement storms, of wind, the
bright day light, without a moment's
pause or interval, forgetting all the past
& clearing up without a shadow of a
cloud upon her brow - & then the gust
of true, deep feeling - it was so like her-

Now she is gone - the house deserted_
& all is over_ soon to go into the hands of strangers. & I shall not even see the

Ribes blossom_ somebody else will mark
the tender green of the larch against the
dark yew=tree, as we did, with her, last
spring -

Now about our plans, dearest mother
Papa goes back to the Hurst on Monday_
he will not stay any longer - & as it
seems lonely for him by himself, though
we have determined (though there
is still much to be done
here) to go
with him - Aunt Mai & Beatrice  [end 1:425]
(Aunt Joanna went away from the Hurst yesterday -
& Uncle Sam is obliged to go to town
on Sunday)  On Friday Papa is obliged
Tapton - Monday

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
try 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
senza 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

{top of page above salutation}
see her snow drops in another
land-
Soon it will be spring to her_
sooner perhaps than to us_
ever, dearest yours_
April 3 -
The place is to be sold -
  My dearest
  I shall not forget
your plants
  nor, Mama, your covers.
Uncle Sam went to town
this morng. - We, with
the servants & bearers,
went to Ecclesall Church,
where the hymns were
chosen for us- & the
homely kindness of the
people touched us
much- On Friday
the church was full
of people, all in
mourning, many sobbing,
& all there out of the
sincerest respect &
love for her- I am sure_
  We have had enquiries
without end -
  We go to Lea Hurst
tomorrow - as Papa
will not stay any
longer. Aunt Mai
returns here on Friday
she is obliged to return
for business & to see
her mother's old friends
Whether I return with
her (for a week or 10
days) depends much
upon you -
  ever dearest people
  your loving child
But she lay quiet beneath the folds—& never stirred— I suppose she was not there. Anyhow her stormy days are over—& her foundations will be laid with sapphires. for I saw a little bit of the blue sky peep out.

I asked Gdmama whether you should write to her—she said—thank them—tell them I cannot see—tell them it will not be long. But I think she would like to hear all the same—she always says, tell them they are very good __

I hope Uncle Sam will stay with you till he is well—Aunt Mai says it is a great relief to her to know that they are all with you—& that he is so well taken care of—

You need not write to Miss Chaldecote—thank you— for I left nothing there but our sheets & blankets & a parasol, which
are gone to Combe - My old
cold. bonnets I have had made
into new black ones __ My
green silk & my evening white
I have left at the Hurst. I had
not time to unpack them in
London - For I was at the
Bunsens & they were at Miss
C.'s - & some of my old clothes
I have sent to little Toodle -
My fine black silk did at the
Bunsens_ I have nothing here
which I am not wearing -
My purple velvet & brown cloak
I left at the Hurst - as I had
not time in London to separate
anything - So that I don't
think there is anything anywhere
which had better go home, thanks.
   I have a parcel for thee
from Mary Stanley whom I
saw in London which I shall
bring - I was afraid it wd
get destroyed in Papa's bag -
ever thine
Dear Papa

This is a curious place - the bitter unreality of everything - of the tenure upon which l'homme que la pudeur m'empêche de nommer holds his position._ It will all fade away like a ghost or anything else unreal & leave not a trace behind - On Mardi Gras a blanchisseuse, who was asked whether she would not go to see the Boeuf Gras, answered, Non, j'en ai bien assez de la vache Espagnole (there is a proverb here - elle ne parle pas plus le Français qu'une vache Espagnole) whereupon all the blanchisseuses of that quartier were taken to the Police - they said, Messieurs, L'une de nous l'a dit but they would not tell which - & they all subi a little confinement.

The Corps Législatif was opened on Monday à coups de canon_ but the Corps Législatif was taken like a box to the Tuileries to
be opened & there he put in his key -

there - for he was too magnificent
to come to the Chambre - Such a
piece of impertinence has not
been in Royal times A book
has been printed to prove
that he is the descendant of
the Masque de Fer, who was
the eldest brother of Louis XIV.
& who, it appears by this
remarkable work, married the
daughter of the Governor of the
Prison - So that our Emperor
is plus légitimiste que les
légitimistes - as he inherits
the throne not only of Napoleon
but also of Louis XIV - & of Louis
XIV's elder brother too - The
Empress is like a dame du
temps de Louis XIV - dresses
with her hair put back off
her face, light hair, & very
simply. There is absolutely
no news but Imperial gossip.
Everything is as dead as in
an Autocracy. Lacordaire has
been suspended from preaching
because he said "Soyez purs, mes
frères, purs et blancs comme
les lys -" in a sermon - And
a bolder thing has not been
said since Montalambert in
an Eloge at the Institut, said,
Les révolutions se terminent
toujours par des sots ou des
coquins - when he was cheered
to the echo -

I have sate one day to
Hilary at the Atelier - The
snow is deep in the streets &
it is still snowing hard - You
must have been cold, I have
been thinking, at the Hurst.
I have not got on much
with my real business -
people are so slow here -
Wellcome Ms 8995

still I have seen a good deal
   Ever, dearest Pa
       your loving child

[end 7:7334]
Lea Hurst
April 5
My dearest mother
Remember you bring
Athenà to town - that is
of the first importance.
I shall want her company
after this, I will proceed
to minor business -
In consequence of your
note, Papa has written
to Fletcher today to come
over here on Wednesday
or Thursday, which will
be the only means he will
have of seeing him - as
he protests against going
to him - If he is approved
& if he likes us, I will
then, if I go back to
Tapton, stop at Chesterfield,
take a fly to Wingerworth
& come on by a later
train, & inspecting him in
his school.

J.P. has put himself off
till Saturday. P (to meet
Papa at Sheffield to prove
the will) Papa therefore
declares against leaving
this place till Saturday.
He does not wish to see
Tapton again - he said
yesterday he was bidding
it an eternal adieu - he
does not wish even to go
up there from Sheffield-

& will come to town, I
believe, straight from
Sheffield (without
revisiting the poor old
place) on Saturday night
Perhaps we can hardly
wonder at this -

Now for myself_ Saturday
being a dies non at schools.
if I am to see Fletcher
in school & his wife -
we must return to
Tapton on Friday - pro-
bably we shall do this
therefore -

I should be very
glad to hear that Parthe
had gone to Ly Byron's.
I am sure it will be a
pleasure to both - & Ly
Byron is not likely to be
tempestuous or too active
in her ways & feelings -
Parthe will then, I
suppose, come to town -
I was much touched,
dearest Mother, by your
care for me as explained
to me yesterday, I believe,
by Parthe - I really don't
want it bodily. But
Grandmama occupied a
large share in my life.
the world seems to me
a different place with
her & Aunt Evans not
in it - Tapton was to me
more of a home than
people
[2] could readily conceive - I
shall not ever see the Ribes
blossom again there. nor
the sun rise from her
window upon that beautiful
ground opposite, making
all the villas castles,
as I so often did during
her illness - I confess the
old place being sold
makes me feel something
of the Evans' passionate
clinging to old memories,
& that I left it sorely,
sorely, so soon after the
funeral, as if I were
leaving a home -
It was her own desire
Wellcome Ms 8995

that it should be sold—
often she said to me—
during her last days "I
hope it will go off well"
But we were loth to part
yesterday—
    Aunt Mai must
return— to visit all
the faithful old friends
of Grandmama, w as
she would have wished
us to do, to settle with
the servants & to pay
bills & clear out the poor
old old place before the sale.
We have brought away
a little furniture & all
the plants which Parthe
mentioned— They filled

quite a large hamper—
Poor Mrs. Goodman was
much shaken when we
called yesterday. I am
sure the £10 will be a
great comfort to her—
She had made her poor
little struggle to get into
mourning—so I thought
we would give the £ 10
when we finally went
away. for fear she shd.
think it necessary to
spend the whole of it
in black to do us honor
I shall like much to see
Tapton once again for the
last time, as of course
we shall never return
there after it is sold—
& to do all these things
with Aunt Mai, for
remembrance's sake. But
I have not yet made up
my mind what to do -
I suppose you will wish
to continue the £10 a year
(which you were so good
as to divide among the
Tapton servants) till
Grandmama's death -
I believe it was last
given in May - If you
tell me to do so, I could
pay this £10 for you to
the Saml. Smiths. They
are paying the servants
their wages, with a year
in advance by Grandmama's
will desire & have given them
something over & above

8994/24 4ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: 8.4.1853; cancelled one-
penny stamp}

Lea Hurst. Friday. 8th..
My dearest people. Thanks many for your
text this morning. If I don't make my[12:63-65]
appearance with Papa tomorrow, which
indeed I wish to do very much, I may
as well (as you say) explain what that
'estimable matron' has been doing.
But indeed I know as little as you do.
All that I can swear to is this. While
The offer for me was made by Lady
Canning to Mrs. Bracebridge, months ago,
without my knowledge. It was couched
in the form of a very civil request to
know from her whether she thought I could
ever think of such a thing, or whether
I would, at least, give them a plan.
were first on, then off, then on again,
twenty times in a fortnight - I could
not in the least understand their
behaviour. When I passed through
London Mrs. Herbert sent for me to
say that I was to have "the appointment
of the Chaplain", the "dictatorship of the funds", the "choice of the house", "every thing" but the admission of patients, if I would but come- Two days after, I heard that they were wishing to go back to the old system of paid Matrons, & to be off with me. after they had made me the formal offer, & put Mrs. Herbert on the Committee, in order to transact my business, as my friend. I troubled myself very little about their 'offs' & their 'ons', as I had, at best, but a small enthusiasm for them - But their conduct was wholly inexplicable to me, even allowing for the usual unbusiness-like habits of 'fashionable apes'- till (while Gdmama was at the worst & we expecting her not to live 10 minutes any hour she did live a week) arrives a message from Ly Canning to me "One of the Committee, Mrs. George Eyre, knows a cousin_ I mention this to you (it was to Mrs. Herbert) for I think Miss N. would probably wish to know it." Now, as most people have cousins, & as many people know the some cousin of most people, this mysterious message did not seem much to the purpose - But,
by the same post, arrived a letter from Σ to Aunt Mai, "Cannot Mrs. D. Galton be requested not to interfere?" & two or three other letters from other persons, shewing that that 'estimable matron's' tongue had been very busy indeed - What it was exactly that she did say I have never known nor asked - But it appears that Mrs. G. Eyre, disregarding Ly Canning's express injunction to the Committee "not to speak of the matter" had been & asked Marianne's opinion - such a sensible plan!

The result of what she M.G. said was that, at the next Committee, Ly Cranworth & Mrs. G. Eyre would have nothing to do with me. This, Mrs. Booth told, with (who was present & of the Committee) to the Saml. Smiths-

One of the things, which M.G. said, was that "I was acting without your knowledge or consent, & that the Committee would get themselves into trouble if they came into collision with you" - It seemed that she was so bursting with busy-ness or mischief that she actually made poor Beatrice, of all persons, her confidante - to whom she
told that I had sent a plan to the Committee (she had never seen it) which was not a plan for a Sanatorium at all, but a "whole Penitential Ch. of England machinery," an "organized discipline" & a great deal more of the sort. What this means I don't know, & she probably does not know.

But, by the same post, came an awkward apology from Ly Canning to me, saying she did not know "what proposition was to be made to me if indeed any is made - for I greatly fear" &c

I was tempted to write immediately & decline respectfully having anything more to do with them - I was so absorbed, just then, with the awful scene going on in the next room & constantly in my ears, when not before my eyes - that I scarcely knew how to cope with all this - especially as Ly C. said that these women "agreed with everybody else in turn". But Mrs. Herbert, Ly C. & Σ all wrote to me to know whether there was nothing to be done to stop M.G's mouth - It was no use doing anything there, she would only have denied that she had ever said anything & talked about being ill-used - &c. So I
simply wrote a formal letter to the Committee, saying that, so far from wishing to press my services upon them, the offer of my services had been made in my absence & without my knowledge. But that, if they did make any offer to me, I should certainly accept nothing without the full consent of my family, who were already apprised that there was a negotiation pending — & that, if an offer were made to me, I should require both time & opportunity for consideration, which I had not yet had "& for laying it before my people" &c — This letter was read in Committee, & I suppose, gave satisfaction, for by the next post, came a formal letter, beginning "Madame" & asking me to come up to town & see whether it would 'meet my views' &c, to which I simply answered that I would come up to town, when I could — And so stands this gran Commedia —

You see you have full liberty, my dearest people, by simply signifying disapprobation to Ly Cranworth, Mrs. Eyre or any of them (which will go the round of the Committee with additions)
to put a stop to the whole proceedings. I shall accept nothing without your full consent, as I have said - I am very indifferent about the subject, as I have made an engagement at Paris with the St. Vincent de Paul Sisters, which I would perhaps rather go back & fulfil than accept the 'f. apes.' Unless I am left a free agent, have unconditional terms offered me, (I mean, unless I have a post without conditions,) I shall certainly give up the thing altogether. After the sample I have had of them, which is excellent experience to have, I shall undertake nothing without a clear understanding that I am to be left perfectly free, that I am to organize the thing & not they, & Mrs. Clarke to be my Housekeeper - to which the latter declares herself, as I think I told you, ready & willing any day, without pay.

It therefore remains with you, my dearest people, to say which you prefer of this or of the Paris plan - One word of disapprobation from you will be enough to turn me or the Committee off this. Without an unconditional consent from you, I shall give up the thing altogether.

I will only ask that you say nothing to any body, about it before I come up to town unless it be to free me from the imputation of your disapproval. I hardly know myself what I shall wish to do till I see, & therefore do not wish to be committed to the Committee. Also, if you were to hear the story first from M. G. or from any of her "poor fools," whom she has bamboozled, you would certainly think something extraordinarily different from what has actually taken place - The f.a.s have been quite civil to me throughout.
Papa will be with you at 10 or 11 on Saturday night, according as the trains suit him. He is very sorry not to send John in time to go out with the carriage on Saturday, but he will be with you at 6 on that day - What with packing &c, Papa could hardly by possibility part with him before, but there is a strain upon the domestics as it is.

Papa is intensely delighted with the Parthe's version of the Incendio del pictura- & augurs a merry meeting from the merriment of Parthe's mind.

Fletcher came yesterday - I think he is a safe man who will teach the three Rs & nothing else, not conceited or self-opinionated sensible - old-fashioned - no enthusiasm (will ask questions out of a book). & trouble nobody with new lights. He has been desired to write to you whether he likes us well enough to wish us to enquire about him, in which case I shall go to Wingerworth=

Miss Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St
London
Wellcome Ms 8995

8994/25 1f, pen, initialled letter/note {arch: March or April 1853}

Dearest

She still lives
but that is all -

I have no attention to spare for
the Canning business,
but Marianne's
tongue has been,
as usual, busy, &
I fear she has
done me a great
injury - Do not

believe any thing
you hear from her._
I hope you had
Mrs. Bracebridge's
letter -

I have no spirits
or interest to spare
from this (just
now) all absorbing
dying scene.

thine ever & ever

F
Dearest mother

Mrs. Herbert has just written me word that Mrs. Chisholm is living on nine pence a day, having parted with her one maid of all work, & not having tasted any meat for weeks - yet positively refusing money. The only way they can think of of helping her is by giving her a Testimonial in money. They have opened subscription lists for this purpose at Coutts, Hoare, Kinnaird, Herries & Farquhar, (S. Herbert has subscribed £ 25, Coutts do, Ld Shaftesbury & Mr Lowe £ 10 each) If you like to subscribe, there is no time to be lost - as the woman is starving - Will you write directly & put me down for £5 ?

She Mrs Herbert forwards me a note from Bp of London, desiring to see me - (I did not see him in London, as I did not tell him I was there) Mrs. H. has told him she wd. let him know when I returned (in a month).

If you can think of anybody whom Mrs. Chisholm has benefited, pray send them this summation -

I went to see the Salpêtrière this morning with Madame Guillot - the female
workhouse of Paris, 5000 inmates, including sick, old, insane & epileptic— I should like to know how many females there are in all the workhouses of London, proportionately to the population — The Salpetriere is said to be the best managed Workhouse in the world — As far as I could judge, it was very good — the Gardens are beautiful — the inmates are almost all above 70 years of age — Tomorrow I go with M Guillot to the Hopital Necker —

There are two children in the house here — one sleeps in the dining room — less than two there appear never to be — & M. Mohl sends for the Dr. to look at them—

{center of page:}
Angleterre
Mrs. Nightingale
Embley
Romsey
June 8  1853
My dear people, I am going
to day to my place
Maison de la Providence
Rue Oudinot 5
but my letters will be directed here please
Françoise, the bonne here, is to
come every day to see me, as it
is close by. And I shall
come & see M. Mohl & Chaton,
the little girl, when I have time.
The Soeur Supérieure of my place
is a silent, staid, respectable
old body, not at all like a
Frenchwoman, but more like a
Lord Chancellor –

The state of religion appears
to me more & more curious every
year. The blood of Europe is
Hindoo, therefore Pantheistic,
the belief of Europe is Semitic,
coming from the Hebrew, therefore
Monotheistic – Hence a perpetual
oscillation – hence the mobility of
the European mind – they have
a belief grafted on them of a
different blood from their own
& are uneasy under it
The Hindoo Pantheism, which
Wellcome Ms 8995

represents man in a state of exile,— of expiation, not repentance,— of having, not offended God, (who cannot be angry or surprised with that which he has made) which is doing as he intended it to do but of having to work his own way up to perfection by gradually overcoming the flesh till he is re-absorbed into God, this the logical belief mixed with many mythological superstitions, inherent in our blood, is perpetually at war with that other Monotheistic belief derived from the Hebrew & the Arab, which represents God as a capricious personal being, with passions & compassions, who punished Adam not with sin but with misery. Original sin is an invention of St-Augustin's, as indeed the Trinity is the exegesis of the quarrels of the Church, far more than a growth from the East.

The Hindoo Pantheism works its world by laws of nature_ which are so, because the nature of God is so_ not by the wills or decrees or interference of God, who has to be propitiated & sometimes not - All that is the growth of the Semitic race, which formed God after its own image - & whose opening words are the formed man in his own image_ testifying that God & man are alike in their idea- The Vedas are the deification of the laws of nature - as indeed much of the Egyptian mythology is - But to this day, there are Semitic tribes, who bury fatted men as human atonements. Sacrifice, Atonement, propitiation, are the idea of the Semitic, not of the Hindoo,
Wellcome Ms 8995

who is to work his way up by perpetual refining of the material, casting away the world, till, when he is in a
perfect state of contemplation, unable even to think, unconscious of the world & of his nails growing thro' his flesh, eating what is put into his mouth, but ignorant of hunger, having overcome the world, he is ready to be re-absorbed into the Divine - But many states must be gone thro' first. The Catholic idea of mortification springs direct from the Hindoo - The Protestant idea of blood, the sacrifice of blood, comes from the Semitic - Many superstitions, even Semitic ones, have defiled the original logical idea of the Hindoo - Again, Zoroaster took Ahriman, the Spirit of Evil, from his predecessors - And, where there is no free will, the Devil must always be exalted even to Omnipotence, to account for evil. & the

[2] Hebrews, who were long without any devil, took theirs from Zoroaster & the East, & engrafted him upon their own system - Zoroaster had a perpetual combat going on between the Divine & the Devil, like Milton The Hindoos are now divided, like us, between the Destructives & the Conservatives - the Vishnuites & the Seeva ites, (Brahma like our God is gone to sleep for some thousand years) - The Incarnation is strictly a Hindoo idea - Vishnu, the Incarnated Krishna, is the Conservative power, worshipped by one section, Seeva, or Destruction, by the other - So M. Mohl tells me & I was struck by the likeness - The fact that the Semitic ideas
Wellcome Ms 8995

were preached in Europe, & the purity with which they came to us, while the Hindoo ideas were never preached here,
Wellcome Ms 8995

seems to account for the fact of our having received this, to us un-analogous religion.
The Stoics in Greece were the nearest representation of a perfect Pantheism which have ever existed - the idea of Duty supreme - God not a personal capricious being. The Christians, by the perpetual repetition of the words "the Son of God" & by reading nothing else, came to believe in an Incarnation - The God of Pantheism was not a God to be loved, not a moral God, he was more the ideal of perfect happiness, into which man was to be merged, but man might transgress moral laws, might pass over the bounds of earth, when in a "perfect state of contemplation"
The Semite God was a God to be loved, but then who could love Him Zoroaster is full of angels & devils, all the powers of nature turned into spirits, the Vedas are the simplest idea of the powers of nature - English belief is a curious compound of the two.

I do not think we can too much ask the "comment" & the "pourquoi," because, if I do not know what the character of God is, how cannot I have any sentiment towards Him?

Religionists, even Christ, have too much set down "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God," without giving us a Being whom we could love - The being whom St. Teresa loved was not a God but a Devil - & the Christian's God is too often one,
Wellcome Ms 8995

(vide Calvin's & the Bishop of Exeter's,) whom it is impossible not to hate, if he existed, which he does not. I had rather hear the clean (though "still small") voice than the "whispers of the Eternal mind" & the "mystery of things" appears to me a curious subject of "inspiration"- believing, as I do, that God's express purpose in creating us is that we should learn all He knows, that all that is His is ours, & that for us He keeps no mystery. i.e not eternally - [end 4:491]

8994/28 2ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: 27.6. 1853} [7:741-42]

a

Paris. 27 June

My dearest mother

You will perhaps have heard from Mme Mohl that I have been ill, so that I think I had better write, & tell you that I have had the measles!! but am now quite well -

Nothing could have been kinder than the Sisters of Charity were to me - they nursed me like one of themselves_ Dear M. Mohl wrote to me every day - & he has now taken me back for 2 or 3 days for rest & change of air

I think I shall be in England again next week, for which I have 2 strings to my bow -
As to my calamity itself, of living till 30 years of age & then without having the measles, & then having it twice in 18 months, it is so strange & not to be expected an one that I can make no moral reflection upon it - Nothing would induce my Doctor, who was a very good one, to believe that I had had it before - The strangest thing was, that, to the Sisters of Charity best belief, I had been nowhere where there was measles - If I had, I should not have avoided it, strong in the triumphant conviction that I had had it, but I had seen none - Nobody had it but me, tho' there were

250 children in the Institution It was like going to Kamschatka to die of the bite of a mosquito - this coming to Paris to have the measles a second time as unaccountable. However, it is no use moralizing - I am very thankful to be so very well thro' it - M. Mohl's kindness nobody can tell, nor the Sisters'

My idea at present is to come to London next week, rest a day or two at Combe, then go into Chandos St for a few days to look at things merely, not interfere - then have a week free in the country - & then go in with Mrs. Clarke to the new house about the third week or so {cut off}
d

July, long before which time I shall be perfectly strong again - please God - Dearest Pop - many thanks for your two letters - you have done all things well - except that I did not receive till Wednesday the one announcing you were to be in London till Tuesday & Wednesday. nor till Friday the one announcing you were to stay till Saturday - nor did I know where to direct in London till your second letter - I shall be like the bath all the better, selected by you, & when I am settled, shall be glad to ask you to write to the man to send it but we shall [illeg] write much before that - I hope the furniture is not very expensive - {cut off}ny thanks for the clo', which {cut off}uppose I shall find, with [illeg] and the straw {cut off}et?, at Combe ever my dearest people yours.

a

Many thanks for all the trouble you have taken There seems a fatality against my doing any good here - If the new straw bonnet is not left at Combe, please send it as I shall want something decent on arriving. [end 7:742]
My dearest Many thanks for your letters - I wish we could make out something about Mr. Hay- what can I say about a man I have neither seen nor heard of? He may be the pest of our lives or the contrary - 36 is too young - we want something paternal- But the Ch. of Eng. does not grow the kind of thing we want - If he has a living in Dorsetshire, what does he want in London? I bring home from Collas' for Mama a Sophocles, for you a Génie Adorant, things which I have long wished you to possessed- I mention this, because you must bring from Matlock a high black marble pedestal for the Génie, the sentiment of which requires that it should be so - he is evidently standing on a height, like the Adam in the Sistine Chapel - The original stands very high- I will send you the dimensions of the Statuette, which is the largest size of Collas' The Sophocles should, a mon avis, have a low pedestal. There is, also, for Papa, my favourite of all the Parthenon pieces_ the Pericles & Alcibiades on horseback - & for Athenà, the Antique owl with the 3 mice, which will require a pedestal also - If it is objected that I ought not to have decided on objects of this importance upon my individual judgment, I say that the English
Wellcome Ms 8995

destroy themselves & all their
feeling for art by wanting authority in art. You may go on wanting to know what you ought to feel in art, or what Mr. Hallam or Sir C. Eastlake think you ought to feel in art till you cease to have any feeling at all of your own - It is the destruction of all real Ideal in Beauty - Far better feel something, & feel what the authorities call wrong, than feel according to authority, which means feeling nothing at all. The English are Roman Catholics in Art. These objects are worth the carriage home, for I never see anything at Jackson & Graham's to compare with the things here - Mr. Mohl laughs exceedingly at Layard & the Princess'es. You see Nineveh & all that we have found was built of unburnt bricks or bricks so badly burnt that for them to support colonnades, as in Layard's drawings & supposed Restorations, is absurd. The columns would have sunk into the walls - There is proof that the Assyrians never built more than one story. They had no windows - all was lighted from above - We are even unacquainted with how the walls could have supported a roof at all - It must have been of wood with a sky light. Had there been a second story, there would have been no light - The smaller chambers were merely caves hollowed out in the vast depth of these walls of unburnt bricks, which supported themselves by their immense thickness - Then Layard's
doors are taken from the Mahometan mosques of Cairo - Nineva was wholly guiltless of such doors - Only his bulls are right
Botta gave Layard the best thing we have in the Brit. Mus., the horse's head - Otherwise, Layard is quite aware that Botta's things here, which come from Khorsabad are far better (belonging to the best time of Assyrian art) than what we have, which come from Roseyunik - the real Ninive, Khorsabad was a country (palace of the kings) I am very much obliged for what you have found out about there being no hurry, which is a great relief to me. Ly C. altho' she says "the 3rd. of Augt. is the earliest day the new house can possibly be ready" says also "the sooner you can come & give your attention to details in arranging the new house, the better, after next week" - she says "there might still be leisure to go into
Chandos St. later." This however does set me more at liberty - Is Lady Coltman in town & do you think, if she is, I might offer myself to her, IF I found it desirable, for a day or two to see Harley St. from? I only ask the question provisionally, first, because I cannot bear making her a hotel of, 2ndly. because I have Combe, & Aunt Mai, dear kind At Mai, offers to stay with me in London, or I may go into Chandos St. directly. It will be all as I find it, & as Ly Canning advises, on my arriving in London - At Mai will meet me in London at all events - So I only ask the question about Hyde Park G., as Ly Coltman so kindly pressed, I may say, her protecting wing upon me & so did Lady Clark.
Mr. Mohl has been paternity itself_ dear good man - P I wish Papa wd. write to me
Many thanks about my clothes. I got my straw bonnet from Mrs. Edwards. My grey gown I did not get, because, if you remember, you advised me not to take it to Paris. The gown with the three blue bordered flounces I gave to little Tunzelmann (to her great delight) when she went to N. Zealand. It was utterly spoiled in Scotland. There is not much wear in those stuffs - But, tho' the lustre of its beauty was dimmed, it will shine with replenished glory in N. Zealand. I never regret giving away clothes.

I was afraid of dashing the new grey gown here in the same way. Many thanks for my bonnet. (grey)

If my bed is quite long eno', I like an end like my own at Embley. It is only when the bed is short, one likes resting one's feet. If the bed is long, one
h does not get down so far. If therefore the bed be long, you might kindly write to the man to make one the end like mine at Embley, as you propose it. Many thanks. I will tell you, as soon as my room is chosen, qua carpet—thank you—

I have written to Ly Canning & Σ to find out about Mr. Hay. I distrust both Mrs. Duckworth & Ly Bell, & his own letter is very Scotch—I presume there is no secret about it. Indeed one must take renseignemens.

The Roman Catholic Ch. has never been given to mysticism—It is entirely a foreign element in her & has never taken kindly root in her—She is essentially a practical, hard-working, every-day kind of church. St. Teresa & one or two others (mystics) have been petted & spoiled, because of their transcendant talent
Paris. 8 July

My dearest

The Genie Adorant is 1 ft, 9 in. high

the Sophocles 2 ft, 2 in.

I have written to M. Bunsen, telling him that, if the Committee choose to have Miss Williams, I have no objection —

My dear, all your letters cost 1/9 for this reason — I see a little 5d. marked at the corner, which shews, I suppose, that half the postage has been paid — this makes no difference at all at this end — I always pay 16 pence, because the French 8d. not carrying so much as the English 10d., the letters are almost all double weight — I have just paid 20 fr. for letters — which, if you would just stick 10 penny stamps, on them, as Σ does, or write post paid, would all have be saved — those penny stamps I would gladly refund — My escort has delayed, else I have been intending to come back every day this week_ (and dear kind Mr M did did not think me strong enough) & I believe I shall come back some day in the beginning of next week, the day that an opportunity, the same, decrees —
I am quite well again & nearly strong

Aunt Mai will meet me in town & go with me to the Cavendish Sq hotel, at least for a bit - I cannot give any idea of my plans till I have seen Ly Canning, who will say what they wish. I feel much inclined for Mr. Hay from what you say & from what Σ, who is his cousin says - but I wonder at & am thankful for, Ly Canning's mansuetude about him, he is so low church -

I am glad every body is out of town. I shall allow Ly Monteagle & the Bp of London to see me

The Bracebridges are at Atherstone. I have heard from her, & she offers to come up to town any day to look over Harley St with me & help with her suggestions - there is much kindness in the world.

Good kind Mr. M talks talks with me for ever about the East & the West. But I suspect we differ widely in our conclusions - as to the future of religion in the world & the prospect of a perfect one religion & the likeliness of improvement in the race.

I did not say poor Port Royal was worsted - All our sympathies must ever be with her & all her beloved ones_
But there cannot be a doubt, I suppose, that Jansenism & Calvinism are more utter idolatry, (or worship of an untrue & wicked God) than any the R. Catholic religion contains. [end 3:319]

I am afraid I could not read Smedley.

I hope Papa is quite well again - Why has he not written to me?

The heat here is intense. Is it so in England?

There cannot be a doubt, I believe, that the Jews knew nothing of a future state till they returned from the captivity - All their knowledge of that kind they derived from the Assyrians & Persians - Indeed the orthodox Jew, the Sadducee, we are expressly told, never believed in a future world. It is self-evident from Job, from the Psalms, from Moses teaching of temporal punishments, that they had no belief in Eternity - From Persia they derived their belief in full reward & punishment & in eternal life - The Pharisee was a cross between the Persian & the Jew - The Essene, the third
sect, was a cross of Pythagorean & Jew. The Jews were an Arab tribe, who believed in many Gods, hated the others, & worshipped their own - The Arab Mahometanism to this day is as like their religion as possible - a little improvement upon it being a pure Monotheism. Otherwise Mahomet's exterminating God & the Jews' are both creations of the Semitic mind as like as possible - The Arab too is not given to mysticism, notwithstanding his proximity to Persia - & in all the old Testament you can scarcely find a mystic word. By mysticism I mean the endeavour to establish a personal relation between God & the individual, by means of the high degree of sanctity of the individual - by means of contemplation, the highest degree of which is absorption - & this the Spanish Carmelite, the Persian Sufi, the Calvinist Puritan, the Hindoo Fakir have all endeavoured more or less wisely to effect. But the Buddhist books are infinitely
more moral, as far as I can see.
A R. Catholic book impresses upon you as morality to go to mass, & confession - A Protestant book to read the Scriptures, believe in the Atonement, observe Sunday, take the Lord's Supper, & say your prayers. The Brahminical & Buddhist books all put morality in its highest point of view higher than these observances. viz, men's own effort higher than these means & appliances - Tholuck says that Persian Sufism has produced a higher degree of personal intercourse with God than Xtianity - Persian Sufism & Persia altogether are now in a state of decline - are, like this country, a barbarous nation - For barbarism is, when the state absorbs all individual action, when there can be nothing au dehors of the state - & the truest marks of barbarism are over-refinement, over-dress, luxury in all things, great refinement of language, care & attention to words & form -} All the human mind overflowing in this way}
these marks of decadence exist here - (N.B. A barbarian is not a savage, who has no state, but lives independent as he can). [end 4:493]

There is talk of abolishing the Académie des Sciences morales because of the audacious speech of Mignet, the secretary of the sciences morales.

François is in prison, for conspiring, but likely to get out -

There was a conspiracy to shoot at him the other night at the Theatre, nothing to do with the above, but all the creatures have been taken up - thank Heaven -

I have much more to say, but no time -

farewell my peoples -

Angleterre
Miss Nightingale
Lea Hurst
Matlock
Derbyshire
Paris - 11 July -
Thank you for your letter, dearest.
I believe I am coming back on
Wednesday & have written so to
Aunt Mai. I have not been
well enough to make the journey
till this time -

Mr. Mohl's kindness to me
you never can think enough of_
He has been more than a father_
He is coming to England in Sept.
& I hope he will go to you -

The Miss Gardiners sound
promising, but I had much
rather have no lady folk at
first - They were poor Mlle. de
Rantzau's scourge & bane; & she,
by the bye, is dying.

Mr. Mohl says that the Chinese
have the same defect as the English
(this is for Papa) in their magistracy.
They (& we) mix up administration
& justice - they we confuse Police &
Police Correctionnelle - the care of the public safety & the punishment of the individual criminal. M. Mohl says he was struck when he used to go to the Bench in England, first of all with this, secondly with the tyranny of the clerk, who insists on law, while the magistrates are trying to decide by equity, & the magistrates give in. He described to me a most hideous case, where there could be no doubt of the rights of the case, & where the magistrates were going to decide right, when the clerk came in with some flaw - as with us. So, he says, it is in China - the judges are policemen, for the apprehension of the criminal.

I am so much struck with the ruin of this country & of so many others. Will people still go on saying, there is a law that nations shall rise to a certain point & then decline, & never enquire what the law is by which nations fall & by which they rise? Since the invention of printing & publicity, nations ought not to fall - but M. Mohl says that two nations have fallen
since that time, Spain & Germany. For Germany has not half the importance it had two centuries ago, when printing, when the reformation, when all great advances always had their origin in her. I said that socially & religiously she was before England two centuries. He said, religiously yes, because every man who was not a Catholic was before England religiously. But socially, he says, the difference between England & Germany is that the English government is before her people, who are a hundred miles behind their government who do not take to themselves even so much individual action as the govt. would permit, nor go half the length it wd. allow. Whereas, in Germany, the people are very far beyond their govt., the people are educated, the English people are not, but the govt. is behindhand & entrave’s individual action as much as it can. In spite of all this, the Prussian artisan is a rational, convertible, cultivated being, while the English artisan is a coarse ignorant, drunken, & when drunken, so rude an animal that a woman can scarcely approach him.

But the action of the Govt upon individual industry, in confining & misdirecting its action is disastrous in Germany_ a cabinet = maker may be fined for driving in a nail which ought to have been done by a tinman & these dreadful petty interferences empty the country & drive the people from town to town.
Thursday
I do wish Papa would write one of his nice letters
to Mr. Mohl to thank him for me which he
dearest people cannot do enough.
He has been so kind [end 7:747]

We had a very good
journey from Paris yesterday
& I was not over = tired -
very pleasant companions -
Dear Aunt Mai met me
in London - I am just going
to Ly Canning's with Σ
& to look at Harley St with
her_ Write to me at Combe_ as
I don't know yet whether we
shall stay at Cavendish Sq I will
write when I have seen Lady C.

8994/32 3ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: 24.7.53; postmarked 24 July 1853; 2 cancelled one-penny stamps}
Wellcome Ms 8995

b

that I was going there to stay. I never received their invitation till after I had left London for good, viz, packed up all my things & brought them to Combe - I then found their letter enclosed in yours at Combe - I went did go to town again on Monday, but merely to meet my Committee, & to meet Wyatt & Shore about the lift, came back the same afternoon to Combe, went to bed & staid there till Wednesday morng., when we went to Atherstone, for me to settle some necessary business about the Sanatorium with E, which we had begun in London. But e I took the opportunity on Monday of calling upon the Bunsens, to thank them for their most generous invitation, found they had a large party on Monday night, & (last line cut off)
c
But even, had circumstances been quite different, I never should have thought of going to the Bunsens - I was far too busy & too weak to accept even such a liberal invitation as that - which indeed it was. How could I order my meals or go to bed in their house, whenever I chose? I am therefore quite at a loss to know how I or Bertha could have said I was going to stay there, as I never even thought of it, & as I have only written to you one little scrap from Combe since I recd. their invitation. on Saturday -
I have had such a quantity of offers of Sisters - I always expected the Sanatorium would be a hook in my back for madwomen to hang themselves on - but I never expected that madwomen wd. come over from Germany. that was an invention of [cut off] [last line cut off]
The [illeg.], is which Miss Bunsen refers, is one of these - This woman, very handsome, & with the sweetest voice I ever heard, cousin to one of the Bunsen attachés, actually arrives upon me in London, without writing, without enquiry, & tells me she is going to join me - & when I convince her of the impossibility, quietly tells me that she will stay in London a year to see. She speaks not one word of English. She says she saw me in Germany. I have not the least recollection of her - Poor fool! it is very touching -

The S. Smiths were going to send books both to Mudie's & Rolandi's _ so I left your parcels with them -

Thanks for the clothes -

With regard to my rooms, they are to be the one which is being partitioned off the Dining = room, (ground = floor,)

{last line is cut off}
partitioned off the sitting-room, (1st. floor) Bu{cut off} as the work-men will not be out till the 20th., by contract, an upholsterer can do nothing more at present than take measures - As {cut off} have made a stand-up fight against carpets & carried my point for stained (not dry rubbed) floors & only bed-side carpets, I should very much prefer that my carpets shd. only be for the middle of the floor, not nailed down, if that can be done. as there {cut off} be such a great difference made between me {cut off?} the patients - I send you the plan of Harle{cut off} St (which please return) where you will see my rooms in full yellow dress - The yellow line means new partition - I liked Wyatt extremely - He is doing it gratis - Pray give my love to Fanny Flood- I think your man may certainly send in my furniture by the 20th. Augt. I can scarcely tell you what I did in London It was such a drive & hurry_ Without Shore the "lift" would have been entirely useless, & we should have spent £30 entirely for a toy Wyatt adopted every one of his suggestions, wh{cut off} were all presented in an underhand sort of manner, without saying they were his - The Committee wd. have had no bath, because they cd. not imagine one for less than £50, whereas I have got it done for £10 -(in the same wa{cut off} about many other things)- Ly Canning I continu{cut off} to like exceedingly - But to say that any of the others is a "help" to me, is, as the parrot sa{cut off} adding insult to injury. I am seriously unea{cut off} about our funds - & it was for the purpose of keeping myself legally out of liability, in case {cut off} bankruptcy, that I went to Atherstone- For they d{cut off} both legally so well informed - Had I not done this, I might have found myself liable for a quarter's bills - The Committee are wholly regardless of money. £120 we had in the funds they have taken out for the alterations & furniture of this house & spent every penny of it_ I find we cannot possibly live in this house under £1600 a year_ We have now £700 [illeg] a year more to raise in subsns.! If you can do anything for us, do - One comfor [cut off] [right margin, centre] {illeg.} expense in every arrangement_ & protest against
their extravagance - You must not publish however that
I have told a lamentable story_ They warned me not
{top of page}
I thought I had a black silk mantilla_ (not new, but
old,) at home - If I have such a thing, I should be
much obliged if it could be sent me - If I have not, [cut off]
I must buy one for this autumn as we shall soon be out
of crape & my crape things look queer with my
gray gown & bonnet in London - The weather here
is so cold & stormy I can well wear my gre{cut off}
shawl. But I should like to know if I have a mantilla - If
however, we have no more summer than this, I can well wear my
velvet in [cut off]
{center of page}
Miss Nightingale
Lea Hurst
Matlock
I suppose, my dear child, 

you have none of my 

prints at Lea Hurst - 
I shall want all my 

prints framed (especially 
the good ones, the Christs), 
& sent up to Harley St. 
I rather think it would 
be cheaper to have it 
done in the country, if 
you would bring them up 
in the carriage - & please 

let it be done as cheaply 
as possible. 

I should like to have 
all my Paris letters, if 
you have kept them, sent 
me here - please - to 
Tapton_ 

Wednesday - 
My dearest My heart 
yearned so after my home 
when I passed my own 
valley, that I should be 
very glad to see it again 
for a very few days before 
I go hence - But I feel 
that I must have a rest 
here, between parting with 
home, & going to my place. 
I am therefore going to 
propose, if it meets with 
approval, to come home 
on Friday (giving time to 
stop me if you should be
unwilling or full & staying till Monday or Tuesday, which would give me the necessary rest here before setting out again. I calculate that Fanny & her brats, (whom do not think I should not have liked to have seen, but thought the Nurseries would be full,) will be gone by Friday - Do not think I shall not like to see Madame Mohl_ I shall be very glad, & to thank her for all her kindness - I felt when I passed Amber Gate, as if it would be impossible to me to go away without just coming to kiss all beloved ones -

The agreement at present with my Committee is that I go into Chandos St. on the 5th. Aug., & into Harley St with Mrs. Clarke on the 12th., as it is thought the attic & 2nd floor can be got ready by that time & we can be getting in furniture &c. Otherwise it would be such a scramble having patients in at once - But I hardly expect we shall keep to these dates Workmen are always after time I doubt too about going in to Chandos St at all - I did think of going to the Water cure, but think I shall be able to do a little water here & save that bustle - If Mary Stanley likes to come up to London in the latter half of August, I shall have more time to see her then than when we are full of patients, (which I expect we shall be after the 27th. Aug.) but I have so many Sanatorium letters now to write that, as you say, I shall not write to friends during this little interval of solitude
1 Upper Harley St.
     Aug 19.

My dear friend
The quantity of work for the last week, (in settling this new place) & the poor Ocs' sorrow have prevented me from attending to your note sooner -
I think you are perfectly right to defend your sister- And this being my opinion, I should neither have applied to you about this matter ___ nor will I, I, now that you have done so to me, enter into any explanation, which must be painful to you -

On re=reading your note I almost wish you could re=read it yourself - I cannot but think you would smile to see how, "without inquiry" & without any possible means of information, you accuse others of "at once without inquiry giving credit to a story so improbable".
About my affair I will however say no more_ But
there is another matter, 
concerning which you have 
spoken, in your letter to 
Parthe, to which you refer me. 
Knowing the generous & 
chivalrous attachment 
which you feel towards 
Blanch, I am sure that 
you will be relieved to 
hear that you have been 
entirely misinformed - 
& I trust you, dear 
Lothian, to contradict 
the report, if ever you 
hear it.

I hope that you will 
come & see me "in service", 
when next you have a 
day to spare in London.

Finally, dear Lothian, 
one word. - our old, &, I 
hope, real friendship 
encourages me to say it. 
Do not engage in any 
paper wars _ you will 
convince nobody - & 
arrive at no satisfaction 
yourself_

in great haste 
ever your most loving coz 
Flo-

Dearest
I enclose Lothian's note & 
this copy of my answer
Aug 20 -

My carpet has come, many thanks - but, as my rooms are very far from being ready, there seems no prospect of its being laid down before Xmas - also my bath has come, all right.

I have had such work in getting in here. My Committee worse than a hindrance - such mismanagement of public funds, such cruel peculation, such filthy dirt, luxury, finery, & meanness I could not have imagined, if I had not see it - Mrs.

Clark's spirit has never flagged one moment - Cairo & Chandos St! Westward of Cairo I have never seen such fleas, such filth, such finery. And Mrs. Conway sits with her gloves on, & lets me do all the work - Enough of this - I will tell you all when you come to town - Mrs. Clark has done the work of three servants -

I gave your kind message about the Hurst to the poor Ocs - Uncle Oc came to me after the funeral, which went off pretty well. They are all gone
Wellcome Ms 8995

c
today to Wimbledon, & on Saturday go to Scotland,
At Jane has been in bed some days -
I am almost glad you are going to Buxton -
At Patty is in town I have not seen her, but she has written me a kind note.
My furniture is all come in, thank you - & looks very pretty. but as we have not a place to put it in, it is all piled up at present. My prints look beautiful, but are also all in a drawer in the Housekeeper's room, as my rooms are neither papered nor painted - The prints are, I believe, all come right.

d
The workmen who (by contract) were to have been out today, I verily believe won't be out this month, & had we not come, I think hardly this year. We have a patient coming in for an operation tomorrow, which we could not possibly delay, & all the rest must be in before the close of the week - and we have been working like troopers to get ready any rooms at all for the most necessary pressing cases. On Monday sits my last Committee- & after that I have only that plague,
Miss Maurice, & Ly Monteagle, who takes my part -

I sent S. François by poor Gerard - I hope you have got it since -

I certainly shall not pay £ 25 to the London Liby. - I who never read any books but what are not to be found there. The London Liby. will be of no use to me, after I have done with this place -

Comte & Cousin, Catholic Rules [?] & German metaphysics being all my literature - organization & religion being all I care about -

The Committee, after all its brag about sparing me all the disagreeable part, has left me every thing to do, even to the getting [illegible] tenders from the butchers - & other tradespeople -

They ought to have a man to do these things for them -

The Lord Chancellor came to see me to day, dear man -

And the Bunsens have been & dear Lizzie -

But few have been my moments to talk & I have been glad that London was empty.

ever dearest people yours,
Dear Papa,

I have had no time to write, for, from 6 o'clock in the morn. to 10 at night, I am sure that I have never once sat down - The workmen will not be out this fortnight - & to keep order in a house full of patients, nurses, & workmen of all kinds, is what I never could have done without Mrs. Clarke - I have seen nothing of Mr. Wyatt, nor of Sir. J Shuttleworth, nor of Mr. George Eyre, nor of any of the Council (I understood from the Ladies' Committee, when I came into service, that these two gentlemen, Mr. Eyre & Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, had undertaken every thing regarding the house) The lift, gas= stoves & gas= burners having been brought home & tried by me - & being about to be fitted, it was obvious to the meanest capacity 1st. that we should have some dreadful accident with the lift, without a counter = balance weight 2nd. that we should set the house on fire in two hours with the gas= stoves 3rd. that there was no draught in the descending flues, & that the gas, instead of going into the flue, would therefore come out into the room, 4th that the rooms, in which the gas= stoves were, would be like laundries with the steam 5th that, if we did not
Wellcome Ms 8995

burn with the patients in their
beds, we should suffocate them with the heat & gases from these stoves &c &c

These being the circumstances & I being by appointment, it appears & (though I did not know it before) Clerk & Board, Governor & Nurse, as you say, to the Council for the "Establishment of Invalid Gentlewomen," I took the liberty of acting upon my own responsibility, wrote to Uncle Oc to come, sent for Mr. Ashdown, the gas= man & Mr. Porter, the lift = man to meet him (Mr. Williams, Wyatt's factotum, never shewed) de non apparentibus &c the proverb is somewhat musty - & have arranged that we should have

1st. a counter balance weight,

strong break & leathered ratchet to the lift -

2nd that all the descending flues should be made ascending ones

3rd that the stoves should all be placed on zinc plates

4th that they should all be fitted with hoods, steam= escape pipes &c & the same carried up by an ascending flue

5th that throttle= valves, slides & ventilators should be provided & bells to the gas= lights &c &c

I am extremely sorry for the increased expence to the Institution, of which I hoped to have been able to save the money - & I am quite aware that I am acting as a Principal, whereas I never professed to be anything
more than a Servant. but
I shall represent to the
Council, if they ever do shew
(I have written to them in
vain) that it is more
expensive to burn one's
house down – & if they
should not approve of my
having incurred this expence,
I shall bear it myself.

I have sent a written
report to Mr. Marjoribanks_

There was no time to be
lost, as the workmen were
actually fitting.

I mentioned all, or most
of these things both to Wyatt
& to Mr. Ashdown, some
weeks ago, but it was not
till Mr Ashdown came &
saw the room actually full
of steam from the Gas= stove
which I had had lighted for
him, that he believed it, at
least, with a saving faith-

Uncle Oc was almost
suffocated with the gas,
which went off in a series
of partial explosions.

Add to this that we
have 5 patients dying in
the house, that the foreman
gets drunk, that there was
a fight on Wednesday
between the workmen in
the Drawing room, & you
will guess that Mrs. Clarke
& I have enough to do. I
find her quite invaluable.

ever dear Pa
your loving child
I must give my warmest
testimony to the medical
men, & to the character
of the higher English workman, in
general - The paper-hangers
& painters have always helped us to keep the peace. I certainly never undertook to be general in a camp, but, having bivouacked for 5 months with Arabs, I don't mind these things - I must be amused, however, at the Committee having objected to me on the score of my youth & inexperience, & also on the score of not choosing to have unpaid servants, -- & then leaving me to preside over a Bear garden - camp. They might comb out England, & I fancy they would not have found two paid servants to do what we have done -

my Clo.
I am so glad you liked M. Mohl. He is a man, take him for all in all &c
Mr. Marjoribanks came yesterday - But I had so much business to transact with him that I forgot the invitation - Could not Papa write to him & ask him to shoot? or something?
 59 Strand his direction ever yours
Thank you, my dearest, for the flowers & prints just received -
I packed off all your boxes, enclosed in my own great case from Paris, (which brought the bronzes & cost 8 fr.) put the tin box inside & another box of mine, paid 3/ which ought to free them all the way to Embley & sent them off -
Σ is in London - & comes Mrs Bracebridge here daily. So does Mrs. Herbert.
Ly Canning, Ly Cranworth, & Mrs. Booth are now my Standing Comtee.
I hope you have entered into the whole Maurice affair,
I enclose the Guardian, which they have had reprinted.

My dearest
You need never return my letters. I think, though, I shall begin some time & keep them, & after my death gratify the public with them - For I have the most
curious "Memoires pour Servir" to a book on the Statistics of British Charity Societies. For jobbing go not back to the time of Harley & Co. I will have my Davenport, please, when you send up

8994/42 2ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: 16.9.53}

a

1 Upper Harley St
Sept 16 1853

My dear

This is the first word I've heard of Mama's subn. On the contrary, when I saw her at L.H. she told me she did not mean to subscribe I have paid the £5,,5 (necessary for an admission) today. There is nothing else paid yet from her, to which you seem to refer -

Mr. Hallam, dear good man, paid me a long Sunday visit -

You do not say a word of the dates of your Movements, farther than that you will be in town on Wedny. - so I direct this to the Tollets at a venture
b

I am looking forward with great joy to seeing you on Wednesday - & by that time I suppose & hope we shall be somewhat in trim for you to see - I have been making great exertions for that purpose - I hope you will be in town till Saty.

I am very anxious to hear more about the Birmn. enquiry, at which Mr. Bracebridge was present - also about the Eastern question - at which the Exchange was in a

c
blaze about it yesterday. & Candles is viz ½ per lb in consequence - I wish they Candles would remain tranquil.

I don't see the Athenaeum, of course - But, if you will send it me, I shall be delighted - & the patients will read it for love of her (Mrs. Sidney H.)

All my news I keep till I see you. for Friday & Monday are my very busiest days. Yesterday I had to take a poor dying patient (such a nice
woman_ I do so miss her) to the London Br. Station - & the dear Ocs lent me their carriage for the purpose - & she went down as brave as could be_

I have the greatest joy & consolation in some of my patients

My best love to all the dear people at Betley & to Mrs. Milnes, if she is there - I saw her for a moment in London the day before she left - which was also the day before the mass of our patients came in.

ever yrs. overflowingly

{left margin, top of page}
I took advantage of being in the City yesterday to get in our flour - & came to an agreement with our Factor me looking into all the bins with a learned face for I have introduced baking at home, instead of Plaster of Paris from the baker's - & I can tell Flours now, by the touch -
My dearest, I am extremely
obliged for the idea of the
American Clock The gift
to the House will be of
immense use - I will
write to Rogers, as you
desire, as soon as I
have a moment, & I
hereby present the
thanks of the House
for the great service
you have rendered to the country.

The note from Papa about
Dent's clock came too
late - I wrote instantly
to put it off - & the
clock & my note
crossed on the road_
To send back Dent's_
clock now I fear I
shall never have time

But if he is liberal &
will take it back, I
will write to you, & ask
you to be so good as to
send Atkinson's clock
here on trial -

The Mackenzies were
here yesterday to see
Mrs. Parey & me - I
gave your note & invitation
They were very affectionate
& will write to you_

Louisa is at Castle Fraser-
I have got a new
housemaid & am looking
for another - Therese
comes tomorrow-
we have three new
patients today


many thanks_
yours ever

Poor little Crossthwaite, to whom
you shewed the flowers, is dying
1 Up. Harley St  
Sept 30  
My dearest The enclosed clock came an hour ago, & is already put up & striking -  
They wanted to change {illeg} only  
paid £ {illeg}  
I took the opportunity to read our slovenly unhandsome nurses a lecture on unpunctuality - Now they have no excuse.  
{single diag. line through rest of page, most of next}  
I have heard nothing more from Dent - It is a thousand pities you did not write to me about it sooner after Papa's visit. I could have got off then- Now I fear I must give up Atkinson, which I am indeed very sorry for. 
Dixon came & said there had been a mistake about the price of the Cromford Br. frame - It was 30 odd shillings, instead of £1,,1 I forget exactly about it, but I told him to write to you, & settle it with you, & I would not give him the drawing till he had done so - He probably has by this time- {diag. line ends}  
We are filling fast_ which I am glad of, as it is easier to manage thirty than three. We have some such devils of tempers that they disturb the whole house_
& I should not be the least surprised, if the divided room plan is obliged to be given up - It is incredible - And they some of the Impatients even say that "they don't get their money's worth out of the Institution"!!! The Scrofula temper is quite a peculiarity -

Books, newspapers, fruit, vegetables, game, chickens, all is grist that comes to our mill The medical men are capital, & always stand me in stead - But I almost long for a good Operation case - These consumptive & scrophulous cases, where there is little to be done & much [illeg] [illeg] to be endured are so uselessly expensive & expensively useless -

In great haste ever yours I present you with the thanks of the House which was universally delighted with the clock_

Dr. Be. Jones is come back. I like him exceedingly Mrs. Clarke says 28 yds. chintz are wanted for my room to cover the furniture Therese is come. I have had to pay for 17 weeks for her
My dear Papa

The other side is from Mr. M. as you see. I had told him that between my Treasurer, who dealt in inexpedient principles, & my Comtee., who dealt in unprincipled expedients, I had a difficult place of it. He smiled & said it was no news to him. Somerville Hay is, I fear dead. Is it true? And a certain lady of the Comtee. who shall be nameless, is trying to palm a Chaplain upon us, whom "Mr. M & me" won't have - I reduced their Bills for them last month to three fourths, with twelve very expensive patients in the house - I don't know that we could well have more expensive ones - If I knew of the "very superior" woman at £20 a year, whom Louisa wants, I wd. keep her for myself. We give our nurses £26 & £20 a year - Lizzie Herbert was here yesterday (called up to town for a Cabinet) & gave an awful acct. of the prospects of war. But I suppose it is all in the papers today._ I have reduced the cost of each person pr. day.
so that I have no time to mince matters -
With regard to the drugs, I am certain that, if the Comtee. chose to fit up a little room with a few shelves, & deal with Gale, Baker & Ward, with whom I am well acquainted, many things might be done at 1/3 the price - But who is to make the drugs up?- I would willingly do it, as I have had a regular Apothecary's education in Germany - but, as I have not been examined at Apothecaries' Hall, it would come out the first sudden death & inquest we had in the house & we should be in a scrape_
I am provoked that I did not lay in my Flour, in spite of my Treasurer's principles, last month anticipating, as we did, this frightful rise of prices - But I think that Bread will get up till it reaches 1/ the quartern loaf, &
then fall as rapidly as it has risen (there is such a confusion in the market) But this being the case,
I shall do nothing till
I hear farther -
   The flowers did not
come till last night
& were a little dashed,
& the single bunch of
grapes alas! mouldy.
   Thanks many.
   I knew you did not
grow chickens- but
Gdmama & At Evans
gave me a message
last night that they
bequeathed the beautiful
f [8994/45]

game you sent them to
me. Shore has sent
me Black Game from
Scotland -
many thanks for the enclosed
{upside down, from bottom margin}
1 Up. Harley St
4 Oct 1853
Dear Sir
I have received from
you £36. 3. 2
15
--------
£51. 3. 2
for which I beg leave
to thank you -
I will attend to your
directions & believe me,
dear Sir, yours very truly
Florence Nightingale

8994/47 2ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: ?1853}

a

1 Up. Harley St
Oct 11.
Dearest mother
Druce came this
morning. threatening
about his bill.
I have not got it -
I looked it over at
Marshall Thompson's,
copied it, & returned
it you - But, if you
have not it, Druce will
send it again. He is
going to write to you -
1000 thanks for two
brace of splendid par=
trig & a pheasant -
just arrived - plus
Wellcome Ms 8995

b

grapes (& flowers yes=
terday) Partrig is 3/6
the brace - here -

Our new invalids are
1. Miss Yarker _ general debility
   £1,1 incurable
2. Miss L. Yarker. internal inflammn.
   £1.1 incurable
3. Miss Goodridge - cancer of the breast.
   charming woman _ sensible_
   good _ to be operated upon.
   £1.1 & likely to recover
4. Miss Banks - general debility
   10/6 incurable
5. Miss Robson _ general scrofula
   10/6. going to N. Zealand
6. Miss Holloway - erysipelas
   10/6 to be dismissed
   unmanageable, & dirty
   coming in
7. Miss How - eyes & internal
   inflammn.
   1,1 incurable
8 Miss Burgess - general debility
   10/6 old
9. & another Cancer 10/6
c
I will gladly accept
your offer of taking my
bed, & will order myself
a spring bed & one
mattress (like my patients)
which can be had at
my place for £ 4,, 4
Mattress 1,, 15
---------
5,, 19
We do not aspire to
Belmont Wax here which
is 1/ the lb - no reduction
by the doz. lbs - I buy
my Candles at Davies,
St Martin's Lane
& get Composites at 8/6
& 9/ the doz. lbs, &
Dips 7/6 the doz lbs -
very cheap for these
horrible times - Our
consumption is enormous.
We are now 23 in family,
& tomorrow shall be 25.

d
Soap is not likely to
rise -
I am quite satisfied
with Fortnum & Mason's
tea at 5/6 & 3/3 & his
coffee at 1/4
Our consumption is so
rapid that there is no
danger of rats & mites
with us - I was in
Covent Garden Markets
this morng. to buy all
our vegetables, which
makes an immense
saving - & gets them
all so good - I bought
a beautiful Sack Potatos
at 15/, Onions at 3/ the
Bushel, Apples at 4/ the
Bushel, Lemons at 1/ the
doz. & every thing else in
proportion - nearly half
Wellcome Ms 8995

the price & twice as good
Dearest

I believe even the fineries will be acceptable (I mean for N. Zealand)

What is the jet trimming for? for which of my things, I mean.

My little chair has never come - nor my bookcase

Ly Canning came back yesterday -

I should like a box of books from Embley. very much - good books

I cannot get a newsman to do the

Times every afternoon for less than 2/ a week

A new Times is only 2/6.

Hilary & At Patty were both here yesty.

We are so inordinately busy this week with Operations that I have no time to write more - I have lots of things to say -

I like Bowman so much

You foolish child, don't you see that the Covent Garden expeditions are just the best thing I could do? They get me out, they give me
Wellcome Ms 8995

[2]

air, exercise, variety

best potatos at Covent Garden, (bargained for by me) 5/ per bushel

bad potatos at Green Grocer's only 5 lbs for d.6

your Raunitz thoughts are not appropriate.

Mrs. Clarke has not patience to take the trouble- She rests satisfied.

Edinbh., Quarty. & Westmr., Stirling, &

John de Wicliffe came yesterday- very acceptable to patients

My packing=case is just arrived - 1000 thanks -

I have not yet unpacked it -

8994/49 2ff, pen, unsigned letter

1 Upper Harley St
20 October 1853

My dearest

Will you ask Mariette whether she put into the box my old black quilted Slippers with velvet facing & the boots I gave her in London to have mended - These are absolutely necessary to me, as I have no time to go out & buy others & have not a shoe to my feet - I have been waiting impatiently for them
& cannot find them. Many thanks for the things -

The keys of the Davenport are in Lothian's box (which he gave me) on the table in my room - but as I have the key of that - you must send up the box itself, please.

I do not find the polka & skirt or jet trimming you mention. I suppose they are to come up separately.

But perhaps they may still be forthcoming, as I have not had time to hunt -

Please tell me where you got my quilted slippers -

A very severe operation this morn. & the on the Ground Floor - & the first floor chose to take this opportunity to rebel against its nurse, so I have to seek another -

Adieu, dear one ever yours

I will send back all the books & boxes. & will try the shifts.
My dearest

I do assure you that the mended boots are not come.

Do ask Mariette again. A pair of fur boots is come, but the walking boots I gave her to have mended not. Good Hilary unpacked my things for me - so I was not quite sure before -

Many thanks for Papa's letter & yours of this morng. I will soon answer it. I should like potatos at 10/ very much.
a

My dear
I will pay Page if you will send him his bill.
I have paid
  Page £ 9.7
  Rhind 9
  Clock 3.

----------

£ 12.16

Your pocket had (marked)
I have - The Clock was the one you were so good as to give us -
I should like a new chest of Drawers very much - mine is too small & I should be very much obliged if you will take it.

b

I think I mentioned that Mrs. Herbert is in the frame she came in, & I put a Last Supper into the frame you sent, which hangs under the two Maries, & looks very well - It was not a frame which could stand upright & it suits the Last Supper exactly.
All the frames are filled & look very well - Sybil is still frameless - Genie Adorant is on a bracket - I sent a plan of my pictures, I have received half of 26188 " " 36468
for which many thanks
It will never be possible for me to do the Abbess. Difficulties accumulate round me every day, as I find how incapable the Comtee. are of adhering to their own resolutions, how A, B, & C, who sit on Monday, upset all that D, E & F, who sate on Friday, were doing - though that doing was fortunately little - All my resolutions were adopted yesterday, which I enclose - I think I sent you the rough sketch - But the acting up to them entirely devolves upon me. The Comtee. let one woman stay two years, who was quite as able bodied as I - I am afraid of Mary Stanley doing the Abbess - She is anxious to do it. I care little about the Ch. of England now- She can hardly last my time. I mean, I care little whether Maurice goes or not. But I am greatly pleased to see S. Herbert & Gladstone taking his side - My furs, bonnet, prints &c are come - many thanks At Mai is stuck up as a pendant to Bunsen, pro tem. Lincoln's Inn & King's College quite frantic about Maurice - Bp of London sidling & siding as usual.
1 Upper Harley St
October 29 1853
Oh my boots! my boots!
dearer to me than the
best French-polished,
my brother boots!
where are ye, my
boots! my boots! I
ne'er shall see your
pretty faces more!
My dear, I must
have them boots I can't
wear your London-made
square-toed corn-begetting
rascals—The pair I
gave Mariette at
Cavendish Sq. was quite
new, save a rubbed
piece of cloth at the back.

I have but one shoe
to my feet—& them
boots I must have—
Why Mariette must
have hundreds of my
old boots. I had four
pair, not at all
decrept—which when I
brought came home from Paris.
Alas! I charged her
so particularly not to
let that pair I gave
her in London out of her hands—
But, if she really
cannot disgorge,
Chollocombos must,
 alas! make me a
new pair—He has my last measure
& probably Mariette can find him one old pair of mine as a pattern that he may make no mistake.

Thank you for Duolin's direction - I will have a pair of quilted bottines made there by & bye. Our stone stairs are now very fine & carpeted.

I sent to Sprague's the three Reviews, Wicliffe & Cloister Life
I wish you would kindly send me the direction of a "blanchisseuse de fin". It is quite the cheapest plan to go to the best, because they keep clean so much longer. Mariette's are too mou - so I don't send any to her to be washed, this time_ & my own "blanchisseuse" is horrid.

the things are dirty 3 hours after - I have sent all the boxes back by the rail with "Empty" on them -

More flowers, more game, more grapes- thankfully received I wd. say many thanks for what we've got.
but am afraid you wd.
say la reconnaissance
est un vif sentiment
des bienfaits futurs
&c &c. The old clothes
were most magnificent
& received "with a shout",
as David wd. say -
Ly Caroline Russell is
come back to my great
joy. With her spicy
Irish fun she prevents
the other women from
tormenting me, & makes
a joke of what they say.
However they are much
improved - And Ly Canning
& Mrs. Herbert attended my
Committee today

They are both come back & they hope
war will be staved off.
John, my fidus Achates,
was delicate about
sending back the boxes_
he thought it such a
broad hint, he said.
However the sweet little
boxes are gone -
We have no funds
to hire an accountant -
& if we did, he would
off with the money.
Many thanks for my
Davenport &c &c &c
Newman has not yet
returned Cromfd. Br_
mounted - & I have
heard nothing of the new
Mrs. Herbert_ tho' her

frame is come - Many
thanks for the Cromfd. Br.
frame - I s'pose the
# rings must be altered
Wellcome Ms 8995

The Caxtons are being read aloud in the common room at this moment - But now B. is gone, I have everything to do - for only one of the patients can read aloud & she has only half a lung. The Cs are much admired.

Many thanks for the envelopes_ Little Crossthwaite sticks on stamps for me by the doz.

h

Your black poplin has clothed the old lady,
I consent to have the £ 12 book=case, if it does not come to more, & if you will kindly order it, (as Index Expurgatorius can go in) I will have get a little cheap 3 shelver to hang against the wall besides.
I have subscribed to Mudie for the patients 15/ for 3 months 3 vols. & take in a newspaper at 4 o'clock (same day) 20/ pr quarter - it sounds very dear. But it seemed to me best -

8994/53 1f, pen, unsigned note on inside envelope flap {arch: Oct 29 1853? postmarked, stamp cancelled}

Miss Nightingale
Embley
Romsey

Cabinet Council does not meet again till 8th.- Ld John wants to call Parlt. Colleagues won't - Ld. Clarendon has sent a new note - great hopes it
Wellcome Ms 8995

will be accepted
by Czar & Sultan
Wellcome Ms 8995

8994/54 4ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: October 53}

a

Bunsen I Vol English
X ---- I&II Vol German
Sharpe's Histy of Egypt
Gliddon's Archaeology
Wyld's Map of Egypt
X Arrowsmith's do
Wilkinson's Map of Thebes
X Lane's Koran
These are, come here, returned by A. Stanley.
Of these I think those I have crossed are not mine - Will you say? i.e. will you look if my I & II Vols of German Bunsen are at Embley?
(Arrowsmith & Lane I am sure I never had)_
I promised to let Mary know - whether all had been sent back or whether more than all -

b

I should like, please_ a fresh pair of boots to be made by Chollocombe (not to button) but with elastics & lined with flannel -
I subscribe to Mudie quarterly, because if the Comtee. affront me, I walk off, what is the good of a yearly subsn. to me? where is your imagination, my dear?
With regard to Maurice, [3:356-57] he may leave the Church, but where will he go to? I rather think all other Sects. are equally set (upon
damn us eternally), with the Church - I confess my sympathies are all with the absurd ones - They are the only consistent - Jelf seems to me to be in the right & Maurice & Gladstone &c &c in the wrong. If there is any thing the Church does say distinctly in her Liturgy, it is that we are to be damned everlastingly. If you don't believe it, you who sign the 39 Articles, come what the Church says, come out of it. (I don't refer here to those who only go to church but to those who actually subscribe to her) I don't feel any sympathy at all in the admiration for the Bp of Winchester's liberality, when he does not mumble the response in the Athenasian Creed about our being damned everlastingly - If he does not agree with it, let him come out - It is such men as these who continue abuses everlastingly - When I read what Maurice has written, it seems to me all so poor & vague that (all that he says about a Devil, for
instance, & about there
being an abyss of love
beneath the abyss of
damnation) nobody that I am provoked
with him for such subterfuges. No
one asks in any case,
"But is it consistent
with the character of
God that there should
be everlasting damnation?"
They only ask, Is it in
the Articles? or is it
in the Bible? does
eternal mean eternal?
It seems to me like
a little crazy worn-
out boat, which does
not venture a yard
from the shore for

fear of being wrecked_
while our great steamers
are sailing unerringly
across the Atlantic.
No, I think Jelf &
the absurd ones less
dangerous men than
Maurice & the
enlightened -
Let men ask about
the character of God,
& the nature &
destination of man,
& not about the
meaning of the word
α ὡνίος & they will
discover unknown
Mrs. Milman, Miss Duckworth, Miss Frere have been to see me -

Do you know that Arthur Stanley has written two Articles in the Quarterly? I leave it to you to find them out. If not, apply to me -

We have 15 patients -

1 Upper Harley St
7 November 1853

Dearest
Mr. Hallam's notes not yet arrived.

Tin box & all the other boxes were packed together & are to be sent off by rail (with "empty" on them) as I told you - I thought they were gone long since

Σ comes to town on Wednesday to see me - not before

The prints came
thank you very much. And I have written to Page about framing the Ecce Homo - but he has not yet been. Neither has the new Mrs. Herbert been sent- & the old one is too small for her new frame - She is therefore still at present in her old one - Also C. Bridge is still not come home from Newman's. The little Lee, whom you remember (paralytic)

Shift does very well, thank you - Neither Rolandi nor Bickers & Bush have been. I will send the squeeze back when Rolandi brings his books - to go back in it - Please acknowledge the tin. I am uneasy about his fate - Flour viz 6/ the sack this week.

[not FN hand, HCV?]
Ly Doyly  M Mohl
Barlows 7th.
, Alexandre Thomas
Mrs Wildgoose
1 Upper Harley St
17 November 1853

My dearest

For two brace of birds, one pheasant, some books prints & boots, just arrived, our warmest thanks

Therese is a capital nurse, has the most difficult cases, but she & Mrs. Clarke are not one & this gives me some trouble - Therese will do nothing but nurse _if she is not nursing, she won't be disturbed - & Mrs. Clarke has an inconvenient practise of going to bed when anything happens to offend her - The Drs & patients however like Therese __ so I shall carry her through, in spite -

Bertha comes today._
Josceline Percy has come in to the rescue, & now comes to help me with my never-ending, always recurring gas troubles- Wyatt, who did our affairs for nothing, has been dear at the price - I had him, Mr. J. Percy, Dr. B. Jones & Phillips for a grand consultation yesterday. I unfortunately burnt
Wellcome Ms 8995

some of Ly Canning's letters on the subject, which I ought to have sent you -

Did you expect my people to read the Edinbro? They cut open a few leaves of the Quarterly - don't belie them - they did - & finding the eternity of punishment there doubted, they decreed, not that par la grace du Roi Socrates shd. be saved & Eberhard keep his cure, but that the Edinbro' shd. not be touched!! However they have read the Caxtons with transport & I have now got them Ruth.

Ruskin, my dear (you know I had but one Vol) was sent for by Harry long ago for Alice, & I, innocent! gave it up directly. He said you had desired him_ The other Vol. I have never had__.

The boots do well, but ___ they are made to lace! Why, he must have lived in the 11th. centy. what barbarism - I can as soon
My dearest

The enclosed bill I have paid. It includes

Virgin (Guercino
Two Maries
Albert Dürer's Xt
Annunciation
Isaiah (oil sketch
Ecce Homo
£ 9.7

They all look beautiful.
It does not include
one of my own, a £1.5
frame which I have
paid separately, nor a small gilt
frame which I have
had scratched out
knowing nothing about
it, & put on a separate

Ω concluded to keep
Mrs. Herbert in her
old frame - The other
was much too heavy
for such a slight
sketch - & Colnaghi
never sent the larger
margin - & she looks
very well now hung up
under C. Br. The last
time I stood there
(during her life-time)
on a dark autumnal
day & heard the river
c
wandering by & the
leaves falling in the
sighing autumnal west
wind (I never saw
the place again except
so changed that I should
not like to see it now)
has made such an
impression upon me
that, contrary to my
wont, I hardly trust
myself to dwell upon
the past nor upon
your beautiful drawing
of the past -

Delphica is come. She
is quite too big for Mrs.
Herbert's frame, even
if she were out of it,

d
I have not yet seen my
furs' arrival. Thank you. Did I
thank you for the pheasant
& four partridges?
Newman never returned
the portfolio - I have
another (of yours) -
We have had the
densest orange fog
here since Monday -
Yesterday afternoon it
was as entirely dark.
as in the blackest night
Did I tell you that
A Stanley, Dean of St. Paul's,
Gladstone, S. Herbert,
all of whom I saw the
other night are all
mad about Maurice,
all talking of getting up

e
a protest - the only
question whether it
is to be wide enough
to admit every body
or narrow enough to
be unmistakeably
Wellcome Ms 8995

orthodox_ I will write to the Stanleys about the 1st. Vol of Bunsen's Egypt.
1 Upper Harley St
23 November 1853

My dearest mother

I have written to
Mary Stanley about
Bunsen's Egypt - the
*English* Vol. I suppose_

Delphica is 14 inch
wide by 18 inch long -
i. e. without margin -
You will put what
margin you like_
I think she would do
as a pendant to the
Crucifix

I do not remember

*Mr Bowman, with whom*

I have been to Kings C.
averages the no. of patients
who come in *from*
drunkenness at one
half!!! & the Chaplain
said to him in my
presence that he could
not say a word to
the patients, of which he
could hope for the fruit,
because, *if they listened*
to *him the nurses*
wd. lead them such
a life that they could
not bear their lives in
the ward- Mr. Bowman
made no sign of surprise
or horror, & when I
reminded him of it
afterwards, Ah! he said,
what can one expect? of
the class the nurses come
from? !!! So much for today.
Wellcome Ms 8995

I would so gladly
give my Abbess of
Minsk materials to
you, or to A. Stanley,
to make what you
could of them just
at this time against
the Emperor of Russia_
I have not time, or
I would - There is
nothing done but my
own little sketch
which I wrote for you.
I have the (signed)
depositions from all
the authorities of Posen,
R.C & Prot. (Archbp
Wellcome Ms 8995

could tell the patient
world a thing or two
about Kings College & Westminster Hosp
(concerning patients & nurses & all) wd. make them start

Humboldt, Hr of Redcliffe
& Two Guardians went by
Bertha

P.S. What can Mr Taylor mean by talking about "vocation"-- unless he means that it is the vocation of women of a certain description to get drunk & do sundry other things - which I will not mention - & which the Salisbury Hospl. in particular & the London Hospl. in general are famous for

8994/60 3ff, pen, unsigned letter, attached initialled postcard in pencil? 9048/14 and bundle 371

1 Upper Harley St
25 November 1853

Reference having been made to the Medical Officers by the Ladies' Committee, in the case of certain applications (made by patients) for an extension of the period of two months, with regard to which the Ladies' Committee desired that the decision should rest with the Medical Officers, the latter were of opinion
I that it is rare, if a case be not better at the end of two months, that it will be better at the end of four or of six months - one month, or, at the furthest, two being sufficient to determine improvement in a case, as a general rule.

II that such cases, if accustomed to look upon this Institution as a home, have no motive to be better at the end of two months, but rather to be worse,

as this Institution is the most cheap & comfortable lodging = house which they can find, with the luxury of taking medicine & of sympathy besides -

III that, of the cases which come to this Institution, ninety per cent are simply hysterical cases, to which these remarks more peculiarly apply. The Medical Officers wish to be understood that they do not refer to incurable cases, whose downward path, even if slow, may be fitly softened in such an Institution as this
The Medical Officers consider it an invidious task for them to be called upon to discharge the patients or to do more than report to the Committee. They suggest that there is nothing invidious in administering a law, & if the law, which they believe already to exist, (viz. that a patient's residence in this Institution is limited to the term of two months, & is not extended, unless there be prospect either of improvement or of death) if this law be clearly understood & firmly administered, the Medical Officers are of opinion that it will be beneficial both to the health of the Patients, & to the efficient working of the Institution.

attached postcard, pencil, stamped, cancelled very faint, FN hand:
I cannot thank you enough for those most lovely irises [?] I have never seen any so beautiful stop in my work to admire their exquisite little 'trees' in miniature, & perfect foliage [illeg] turning yellow & [illeg] more lovely. I have to thank you for the {illeg.} greatest pleasure. And so does my sister with whom I share them We have refreshed them many times.
[illeg] Feb 28/53 [?] F.N.
The Medical Officers, on being referred to by the Ladies' Committee, in the case of certain applications which had been made by patients for an extension of the period of two months, & with regard to which the Ladies' Committee desired that the decision should rest with the Medical Officers, were of opinion

I that, if a case were not better at the end of two months, it was not likely to be better, as a general rule, at the end of four or of six months

II that such cases, if accustomed to look upon this Institution as a home, have no motive to be better at the end of two months, but rather to be worse, as this Institution is the most cheap & comfortable
lodging=house which they can find, with the luxury of taking medicine besides & of sympathy besides.

III that, if a case be not better at the end of two months, one more month, or, at the farthest, two, might be granted, but only in extraordinary cases.

IV that, of the cases which come to this Institution, ninety per cent are simply hysterical cases, to which these remarks more peculiarly apply. The Medical Officers wish to be understood that they do not refer to incurable cases, whose decline, even if prolonged, may be fitly soothed in this Institution.

V. The Medical Officers consider it an invidious task for them to be called upon to discharge a patient. But there is nothing invidious in administering a law & if the law, which they believe already to exist, (viz. that a patient's
Wellcome Ms 8995

... residence be limited to the term of two months & be not prolonged, unless there be prospect either of improvement or of death) if this law be clearly understood & firmly administered, the Medical Officers are of opinion that it will be beneficial both to the health of the Patients & to the efficient working of the Institution.

25 November 1858

[attached note:]
Madame H. Dessain
Imprimerie
Place St. Lambert
près du Palais de Justice {small map}
knows all the Schools & will take me
8994/62 1f, pen, unsigned note {arch: November 1853} [3:357]

I had felt so much that I could not possibility of continuing in the Church after this affair of Maurice that I had actually already written a letter to my Committee, resigning & telling the reason why, & had also while at Combe, written a Review, for the Westminster, stating Maurice's case in all its enormous blankness, but I reflected that it was only dragging truth out of her hiding place to betray her (to people who could not understand her,) & so I tore my letter & suppressed my review for the present. But I have never asked like Pilate, What is truth? Only there is a difference between explaining unveiling truth & betraying her - St. Paul did the first. Luther did the second.

[end 3:357]

8994/63 2ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: ?53}

My dear soul, I can't make head or tail of your letter - is the introduction for the Drydale or the Trotti to the Hills? If it is for the Drydale, I certainly shall not give it - I am nowise bound to do so, & was therefore obliged to give the demanded introduction to Mr. Murray, but she wrote privately to Mr Murray (don't tell this) to tell him not to mind the introduction.
I have no connexion with the Hills but obligation on my part,
& don't want to add another

but

I really cd. not understand
your note - so I subjoin
a note for the Trotti
Ranzabè will do him no
good, but much harm)
I am loath to give it,
as I know how chary
Σ is of giving introduc=
tions to the Hills - & for
me it is still worse -
I wd. give an introduction
to Mme Rossetti, if
you liked it_ but it
wd. so disappoint her
that he did not know us.
& I think it is awkward
to give introductions for
a person one does not
know -- He may be or
he may not &c&c&c
I enclose some of the
stamps Papa left
behind for your present
use- "but sweet my love, thy wish forgo I keep the rest
for me"_
ever thine

8994/64 4ff, pen, unsigned letter {arch: ?1853 Harley St}

My dear people
You will perhaps like
to see the rough copy of
my "Quarterly" Report to
the Comtee., as I have
not time to write
If a triumph to my
vanity could have
consoled me for the
vice, peculation, mean=
ness I have seen, it
would have been
complete - for the
Comtee. sneaked away,
avowing themselves
thoroughly humiliated.
They paid me a very handsome tribute, for which, of course, I do not care a fig, seeing what they did to my predecessor.

If I am assassinated, I hope my bones will be laid with Queen Mary's & Don Quixote's, the unsparing ferocity of the one & the reckless fanaticism of the other having been my models. Let me have their portraits to hang up in my room - We have had stones thrown thro' my windows more than once -

I had great reluctance to putting some things in my Report, which sounded like praising myself, but Σ & Mrs. Herbert said it was quite necessary, & egged me on, saying, Why should I spare these people the truth? I have learnt more of the causes of failure of charitable Institutions in three months than I should have done.
by sitting on Comtees. for three hundred years & can now fully understand the reasons why French & German Hospitals, Schools, Penitentiaries stand & flourish, (without our enormous subsns.) & ours fall - with £40,000 a year sometimes.

We have had another accident with our gas!!, whereupon I wrote to Mr. Wyatt & Mr. Marjoribanks, signifying our great aversion to being burnt, stopped all further proceedings, till better advice could be had,- & put up an Eraijorats Stove in my own room at my own expense, of which the Nurses may have the use, in order to carry out my plans_ This will do for this winter, & in the meantime they may pitch upon something - It seems as if it took Dryden's prescription for the Oak-tree to mature a Gas Stove - here -
Wellcome Ms 8995

I have staved off having a Chaplain & communicated my determn. to the Bp of London yesterday, who approved. So we shall go on with Mr. Garnier.

Dear Mr Hallam was here on Sunday.

Yesterday, as usual, on Mondays. a perfect mob - Bp London Mr. Wyatt All the Comtee. all the Doctors (they go abroad on Thursday) Mrs Herbert &c &c

a heap of friends of the patients - Miss Goodridge, my pride & glory, the Opern. Patient, has been discharged cured. N. Zealand plaque sailed yesterday - Quekett has been all=mighty & all= benevolent - Did I tell you that good Mr Dixon has given us £ 50 & Lady Pembroke £100. Σ has rehung my room & made it look very nice.
I fear I cannot serve
At. Pat's protégée, tho' I
will bear her in mind.
I have such multitudes
of those kinds of people.

The Supt. Deaconess
of the Jerusalem place,
my great friend at
Kaiserswerth, a woman
of education & fortune,
writes to me from
Jerusalem that her
sister desires to come
to England for a year
to perfect herself in
English by taking a
governess' place (without
salary) where she
wd. have time (for her
own English studies)
allowed her -  In a year

{left margin}
she is to become a Deaconess - This rara avis
might be acceptable to some -  Could you help
her?

1 Upper Harley St
December 1 1853

Dearest mother
I really have no time
for these fooleries.

Leonora's marriage is
just of a piece with
them - I am quite sure
she had not seen Dr.
Pertz six times. His wife
was but 'two months' dead.
If he had married At Julia
I should have supposed
that his wife had asked it,
& it would not have lowered
my opinion of either - Now
my opinion of both these two is gone_
I always considered the
Horners one of the few really united
families I knew, (borné &
Wellcome Ms 8995

tiresome as they are) & here is a woman forsaking
those she has known for
35 years for a man of
58 whom she has known
for 6 days - & her own
country into the bargain.
Can anything be a greater
proof of the want of
interest women take in
their lives?? that fatal
want of interest which
leads my governess=class
into Hysterics - the higher,
(as it is called), class into
a marriage = lottery - For
I suppose nobody pretends
that Leonora is in love
with him - In these
matrimonial speculations
I cannot take the slightest
interest, farther than a
wish, that women's lives
could have interest enough
to make men shy of asking
such a sacrifice - But
men are so well aware
of the fact that a man,
who has enough, can hardly
look at a woman for fear
of its being said that
he has "trifled with her
affections"

That I am alone
nobody feels can know
more deeply than I do myself
that my life is most
solitary & friendless, in
the midst of friends, is
a truism, how solitary I &
I only can tell - but
would marriage diminish
that solitude ? certainly
none of those marriages I have
ever seen - I have seen
the husbands of my dearest
friends curl their lips with
a curious kind of smile
at how little their wives
understood them - & most
men know their wives about
as much as they know
Abraham - This man who
wants to marry me now
knows about as much of
my views & feelings as __
I do of his, which is saying
a great deal- for I really
did not know whether he
was alive or his brother -
& when he talked of his
child, I did not know
he had one -
If I did not know that it
was considered a compliment,
I should consider his
asking me almost an insult.
As it is, I can only take
it as another proof of the
general melancholy truth
that marriage is almost the
only interest in a woman's [end 1:138]

8994/66 4ff, pen, unsigned letter [5:187-88]

a

1 Upper Harley St
22 December 1853
Dear Papa
The question which
you start is the most
interesting one of the
day, & is not undiscussed
by the great men who
watch, not interfere in,
the Labour Market -
I imagine that S. Herbert,
Quekett & many others
(my "Lady Bountifuls",
I acknowledge, are only
influenced by their own
kind impulses) are
fully insensede with
it - & S. Herbert,
whatever his faults,
great in my eyes, as a
b
statesman,
is a thorough Political Economist. The opinion which is, I believe, spreading among these is that the trade & manufactures of England will be gradually transferred to her colonies, that this is scarcely to be deplored in any point of view, that, for the Laborer to go where he can get 5/ pr day, is the soundest Political Economy & upon the true principle of supply & demand - The gold is in Australia, the corn is in Tasmania.

c
Those who watch the signs of the laws of God say that there, in a few years, will be the Anglo-Saxon population, the commerce & the manufacture

You say that wages are rising in England. So they are - But with them the price of every thing raised by labour - I could not feed my family with bread now under 25/ pr week, if I had not laid in flour & baked at home - Flour is now 70/ pr sack - Coals are 40/ pr ton
just nearly twice the price
they were four months
ago - when I laid in 56 tons
at 23/. Our butcher
came to me only yesterday
& said that he could
not go on supplying
us at contract prices.
And my belief is that
meat & bread will be
higher still after Xmas.
12/ pr week will hardly
go now as far as 9/
this time last year.
My conviction is that
the Laborer's wages,
though nominally higher,
are really lower. And
this by accurate calculation
a
I too think that the old world is going to be transferred to the new. not perhaps on such accurate Politico=Economice grounds as the great men do but because all history tells me that when a nation's religion is divorced from its practice, its Culte from its real belief, that nation becomes extinct. The events which have lately taken place in the Church are, I think, truly alarming. - the Gorham & Maurice cases. the shuffling the cowardice - the meanness the leaving every important

b
point out of the question to haggle about a word_ the looking for your faith in the Dictionary & not in the character of God - And of the two cases, I think the Gorham nothing to this In the first, the Church, when she was asked whether little babies were damned or not, only answered " she did not know - it did not signify - it was an open question - you might believe sometimes the one & sometimes the other, as you chose, or both, if convenient".
but now, the Church having declared in almost every line of her Liturgy that we are to be damned everlastingly, somebody, in a poor vague way, presumes to say something about "an abyss of love & under an abyss of sin" of which few can unravel the meaning & immediately everybody goes & looks in their Dictionaries for the construing of the word "\( \alpha \acute{\omega} \nu\iota\circ \)" Two only, Archd. Hare & Kingsley, say plainly, We believe as Maurice does - All the rest, Gladstone, S. Herbert, Arthur

Stanley, tho' extremely excited upon the subject - tho' they declare they will have no new test applied to the Ch. of Eng. tho' Arthur Stanley draws up a protest, (which nobody will sign of all those assembled on Friday at his house for the purpose) yet not one of them will say whether or no he considers the doctrine of eternal damnation as consonant with the character of God. I feel towards Him as towards a much injured individual about whom I knew a great secret, which would clear His reputation, known to many others also, which we will not tell.
1 Upper Harley St  
22 Dec 1853
My dear The Alpaca
made a very handsome
petticoat - I should like
my purple velvet cloak,
sent up please, also my Dahlia
petticoat to be dyed -
black - I don't want
another common gown at
present nor a polka.
But I should be very
glad if Mariette would
make up or send up
to be made my black
silk top (which you
have) to the black
silk bottom which I
have - make it up
wadded very warm both
sleeves & body (like
my old black merino)
with close sleeves &
"poignets" to wear under
a polka, as I have
divers skirts without
tops - & I can't wear
a polka without a
body under it, as it
shews the white, & I
have three polkas &
not one body except
with large sleeves, so
the polkas are useless.
Many thanks for the
pretty bows_ If Mariette
can't make said body, I
will have it done_ if she
will send up the silk
Wellcome Ms 8995

I have bought a frame
at Nurse's to match
with Bunsen, & put
up one of my old
Holy Families in it,
which does very well
And nobody minds
putting Christ out at
the door nor God either
for that matter, tho'
we don't like to put our
friends  The Delphica
is not come - Aunt Mai
is hung up in my bed
room & the Albert Dürer
If you have no objection
to leave my prints as
they are & let me pay
for what I have had
extra, I shd be very glad.
Of course I will pay for
what you did not intend
to give me - I have
paid please tell Mama for the carpet,
the pendant to the Delphica
& to the Bunsen so do not you do so- I must
think that I know a
little more about Hospital
Nurses than Mr. Taylor
in London - Josceline Percy
whom I think I have
heard you quote as authority
& with whom I am now
great friends bears me
out - Mr. Taylor cannot
say too much of the
horrors of the Patients - I
My dear, Druce has sent
the new pr of drawers,
which do very nicely
- But I have kept the old
one in my room downstairs,
where they are much in
request. I will keep both
thank you -

Do not think, if you
hear about Ockham from
other sources, that I have
told - I heard it above
a month ago.

Thanks for the enclosed,
I never see Mr. Marjoribanks - only write to
him

The Crucifixion frame
will do beautifully for
the Delphica

{cut off} mounts, watch, Esmond,
her box I sent by Uncle Sam.

I dare say I shall wear
the Chinchilla as winter
comes on - It is so intense
the cold here

Please send me my
"Voice of Devotion" the little
book of prayers also, if
Mariette has made it, the
long=promised=by=her wadded
petticoat - Surely there are
old gowns of mine at Embley
to make it of

The mortality bills in
London increase 30 pr
week for every degree the
Thermometer falls - so untrue
is the proverb, a warm
Xmas makes a green church=
yard - The cold is now
unusual & people intending
to die have taken the opportunity.
My dearest/ Your Moral= Philosophy=question I would so gladly answer but that I feel it as impossible to do so in a letter, as it would be to explain the path of the moon in a letter, without entering into the whole subject of Astronomy; Without entering into the whole immense subject of God's government (a far more difficult and unexplored one than Astronomy) it is indeed impossible to enter upon answer so important a question as "How are our mistakes ordained of God as well as our misfortunes? how can we bear what we have done ourselves?"

The heads of my (attempted) answer would be.

It was not your fault - it was God's fault - or rather it was His Wisdom - you could not help it - you could not do otherwise.

To blame yourself is as untrue as to blame others - Every thing happens by Law by God's Law - If the laws of God had been different, which made you what you are, Imperfection would not have been on the way to Perfection -
Your mistakes are part of God's plan_ If the plan of God had been different
from what it is, every body would not have had perfect happiness, which every body will have some day -

Then when people come to see this, all that energy which is expended on wishing 'we had done otherwise' will be turned to considering the laws of God, & how we can further his purpose, for which they are constructed, Perfection for each & for all -

If that unfortunate Miss Ryder, the Superior of the Good Shepherd at Bristol, who has just poisoned one of her Penitents by mistake (I know her)

could see that that mistake was in the plan of God, that she & the Penitent & all the world would not attain to perfect happiness, if it were not for those laws by which she made that mistake, she would, instead of being miserable for the rest of her life, resign herself nobly to the laws of God as the greatest sufferer which they could have made, & suffer in accordance with God's will -

Will this creed make us negligent, careless? make us say, 'we could not help it, we may do what we like'?
e
If we do, the laws of God will so bang us about that we shall see, it is part of His purpose that we should learn His plan by our sufferings & our mistakes - & we shall not commit them (merely because we were not to be blamed for them) any more than we shall put ourselves in the way of tooth ache & sciatica because we are not to be "blamed" for having the tooth=ache & sciatica.
This is all the answer I can make in a letter. But the subject of the moral Laws of God is at least

f
as interesting & a far more unstudied one than that of His physical Laws. Either God governs all or nothing - If He governs anything, He has surely not left the most important kingdom of all without His laws, plan & super= intentionence - It is much nobler to bear one's own mistakes in accordance with the will & plan of God, than merely to bear one's physical sufferings. Oh! God in the flesh, know thyself, unite thyself as one with All=comprehending
thought - accept thy high office to work out,
to manifest that thought,
phase after phase, now & for ever - that thought
that we shall, by the exercise of our own nature,
by the learning of thy laws which cannot be learned
without our mistakes,
rise to thy Perfection, to be one with Thee -
I am very glad you are better, my dearest, I hope to meet on Saturday
Farewell now, my love -

Dearest mother
As Fletcher is off, we shall come up to town by the Great Northern on Friday - We shall be at the Burlington about ¼p 4, if trains are punctual - So that, if you want to see Aunt Mai, you will perhaps like to be in at that hour. She will leave London by the ¼ to 6 from Waterloo.
All that I have to say I put off till then - A great snow=storm this morn - these Northern climes!
We saw a whole neighbourhood full of her old friends yesterday - they all came. We went to church at Fulwood on Sunday & old Chalmer preached the first sermon I have listened to these ten years - I will do Rodgers on Friday morn.. Thank you, dearest people, for all your kind letters - love to Athenæ - FN
Tapton
Tuesday
Dearest people
Our dear old soul
up stairs is still alive.
but she has taken
nothing for 24 hours -
not even tea - has had
two very restless nights -
though now she is
sleeping - She knew
me quite last night
again, said Kiss me -
thank you - quite
recognised my having
come to her -
My mind is so full
of this that I cannot
bring it to consider
the offer, which I asked

Mrs. Bracebridge to
write to you, which
Lady Canning has made
me. I had considered
the matter as quite
off__ & only learnt
this offer, on arriving
in London; (from a
very urgent note,
which I found from
Mrs. Herbert, awaiting
me in Victoria Sq, &
asking me to come to
her that very night,
as she could not come
to me - which I unwill-
ingly did - I slept in
Victoria Sq with Beatrice,
who staid in town to
receive me. Mrs -
Bracebridge left a letter,
telling me that I must
come to the Atherstone
Station to speak to her,
where she would be
waiting to tell me this
affair & that I could
go on to Tapton that
night - However I
could not - so I came
on to Tapton Monday
morning - I did not know the end was so near here. I am quite
well now, thank you_
& was quite well again
before I set off, which
we did on Friday. Mrs.
Mohl had got a
governess of Madame de
la Rochefoucauld's, a
very stupid old Englishwoman,
for my escort - we had
a very beautiful day
for crossing, & were in
London by 6 o'clock,
where I found Beatrice,
drank tea with Mrs_
Herbert, (he had a
great man dinner in
the house) & left London
by the 10 o'clock mail
train the next morning,
taking Beatrice to
Bedford Sq - I had no
hurry nor fatigue &
have quite regained my
strength- thank you-
I shall wait for your answer
before I take the Canning matter
into consideration, dearest Mum.
Dearest mother If you do not wish Miss Hall to know of my being at Paris, on account of Grandmama, will you stamp, seal, & send the enclosed? If, on the other hand, she knows already of my being at Paris through John, perhaps you had better not send it till Papa has left the Hurst - She will then only think that I am come back - You do not tell me what the "enclosed" article was, which she sent me_ you of dear Aunt Evans's dress,- so that I am obliged to thank for it quite vaguely_ She will find out that I don't know what it is - Perhaps you will send Miss Hall's note on to Aunt Mai.

Mrs. Chisholm writes to accept Nelken, in the general, if he will forward his testimonials - I am on tenterhooks, as he is a Jew - Still I have given her letter to M Mohl. The snow here is deep in the streets & it has been snowing heavily since Thursday last - with a cutting North wind - Paris in a snow is a bleak sight. Hilly is hard at work at Jeanron's daily from 9 till 6. & I have been sitting - A Marquis of your acquaintance & ours, the same who pursues poor Mrs. Ferrand, (asked to the Bal du Sénat), went in derision en habit convert de paillettes- (spangles). This man, like his Uncle, is especially vulgar- parvenu- he gives immense salaries to all
Wellcome Ms 8995

his officials & insists they shall
live up to them to make a shew, to
make the Empire splendid. [end 7:733]
Dearest mother

I am sorry to say
the eye glass has
never been found,
tho' well hunted for.
The gally pot has.
& I have it for
you. It was not
found till after
Papa's box was
packed - & he says
he has another at
home for you -

There are no cards
or notes. I sent all
Hookham's, Rolandi's,
& Harding's parcels
for Parthe by Papa_  

I went to Lucrezia
Borgia with Shore
in the states last
night - the most
splendid piece
of art I ever saw.

perfect in its way_  
I go tomorrow
to Combe - Hilary
sleeps with me
tonight_ here -
On Monday to Paris
with Mme Dubois.

ever yours
    dearest mother  
    FN -
a

Dear Pop

Hilary says "Will you give my dear love to Pop & thank her much for her letter, which Clarkey enjoyed to share – I didn't see George Duck, but have been to see Louisa McKenzie, besides that she came to dine & converse here very pleasantly – & was very pleased with Pop's letter & will sit for her picture or anything else to please Pop, if we can do it – Only please remember I don't ever make promises – no not even to please Pop.

The Jeanron talks like the Bocca della Verità – no, there never was a man so genuine & so natural & with
so much reflection. He's like a great oak tree with all its leaves on & makes no more fusses or convenances than an oak tree would, tho' he's full of real consideration.

Clarkey is pretty well - Mr. Mohl very well indeed & I'm so happy to go again to my Atelier, where the dear good people adopted me again into all old familiar ways & where the maestro is as full of stuff & of the discoveries he has made - It is some pleasure to paint all day when one's very baddest daubs become texts of enlightenment & one feels one is taking in of the true stuff instead of pottering in the dark or artificializing."

8994/75 pen, unsigned letter {arch: ?1853} [30 May 1853] [7:737-40]

Fête Dieu

My dearest people.

I am glad you are going to London - I hear from Lady Canning that the Mansfield St. house is not taken, & they have another in contemplation in Harley St. It is to be decided upon on the 11th. Perhaps, when you are in London, you will hear from her whether it is decided, & then, if you like to furnish my room, you know I cannot but be too grateful -

On Tuesday I believe I go into my S. Vincent & for good, or for evil, as you may think - I hear from the St. John's place that they won't have
poor Therese- so I shall be obliged to take her a lodging.
Wellcome Ms 8995

Yesterday was the Octave of the Fête Dieu. The Corpus Domini. I stood at my window & saw the procession in the magnificent gardens of the Missions Etrangères next door - I have never seen anything so striking - It reminded me of the Jewish & Egyptian processions, & a little also of the Indian - The Catholic Church is eminently an artist. Nothing in the vagueness of the Protestant Church strikes me so much as this, that, in wiping off all these things, which are the logical consequence of the belief in Grace, Original Sin, the Atonement, the Incarnation, they have, tho' keeping those dogmas, left themselves no God at all. (This however is common enough in the destroyers of abuses) The Fête Dieu has become a Fête-

Hudson, a Fête Dss of Sutherland for the upper classes, a Fete Greenwich or a Fete Epsom for the lower, or worse, still, a Fete Gin palace - Whenever, if ever the Gospel of the perfect God is preached, all that is best of Art, of painting, architecture, music & poetry, will be his. We shall hear no more of those monstrous speeches about the distinction of between faith & works of between imagination & action - But the perfect being will be dedicated to the perfect God.

To return to the Fête Dieu, which was celebrated after this fashion - First walked the female schools, to the number of some hundreds, all in white, with the white veil over their heads, (it was the Première Communion) singing
a low & solemn chant - then
the boys - they carried banners
after the manner of Raphael's
Madonna di S. Sisto, (which
was a banner, originally),
with ribbons, white for the
girls, crimson for the boys,
depending, of which the
privileged all held an end_,
on these banners were
copies of pictures of Raphael
& Murillo,- then came a
military band, the soldiers,
& had crowned their bayonets'
points with flowers, the
officers had flowers in
their schakos, such was
the length of the train, that
none of the separate choirs
interfered with the each others,
as they defiled thro' the garden
& the effect of the snatches
of military music, of the
clear & feeble voices of the
girls & of the deep chant
of the old priests, alternating
with each other among the
trees, was wonderful - Lastly,
came the tall incense bearers,
dressed entirely in white, like
Egyptian priests, & throwing
the incense, which curled up
in tall clouds thro' the sacred
groves. For, on this day alone,
the gardens of the Mns. Etran-
gères are thrown open to
woman kind & mankind -
And, of all these missionaries,
scarcely one, you will remember,
will ever return. Yellow
fever, black fever, cholera,
martyrdom, prison & hunger
mow them off, as is well known, to certain death. After the incense = bearers flinging their censers came the choristers, all in white with crimson sash, & then, numbers of priests, like the Indian, entirely robed in gold, glancing thro' the trees, & last of all the Host, under its canopy, borne by four bishops - All the population fell upon its knees as it went by, & a number of the missionaries & of other orders, chanting, closed the train— I saw the white Cornette of the S. of Charity & the black dress of the nun, now no longer cloistered, floating among the flowering shrubs & tulips of the garden.

till at last the Host was enshrined in the chapel at the end of the bosquet. & the benediction was pronounced - The whole procession of girls, who reached to the other end of the garden & cd only be seen thro' the trees, covered their faces with their white veils & sunk upon their knees - as the Tantum ergo sacra= mentum was heard in snatches on the wind -
  I did not go down _ I hate a crowd - But I never saw anything so beautiful seen from above, as that green & flowery grove filled with the thousand white figures of the kneeling children veiled & perfectly motionless. their heads bowed to the earth & farther on, the dark figures of the Missionaries. It was like an Oriental Mystery
  As far as I know, the Ch. of
England is the only religion which has allowed of no priestesses. From the Druids down to the Quakers, women have always been admitted to minister to their God. The Ch. of Eng. is the only one which has banished them from the service of the Spirit. Small indeed is the service she requires from any, to go to church twice a week, to have a little prayer said to Him every night, to take bread & wine once a month, this is all I believe the God of the Ch. of Eng. requires from man or woman. An over busy mother made an over careless mother. Soon we shall be able, like the Ho. of Lords, to say our prayers by proxy, as we confess our sins by proxy.

Enough of this. It sounds, I fancy, unmusical to English ears, & harsh in sound, particularly, to thine. Be that as it may, let us go on to business. M. Mohl is one of the most perfect characters I have ever met with. Poor man! he has a hook in his back to hang all the madmen of Europe upon, & every body who has want of help comes to him. I fancy the one he has with him now he thinks not the least insane. I have seen pretty nearly all the Hospitals in Paris. & I have seen a woman I knew in Rome, the Superior of the Trinità. I have not seen another creature I know in Paris - nobody knows I am here - excepting the Koh=i=noors, Guillot & his wife - & my friend the old abbé, old Apostle of the Petits Pères, Des Genettes.
Of all the professions in the world
I fancy the one which has done its
work the worst, has been the
least prepared for it & done the
least in it, has been the Clerical.
I don't suppose the Judges, the
Soldiers, the Doctors, the Engineers
have not done their work much
better - There is one civilized man
in every Xtian parish in Europe,
40,000 in France, 25 000 in England.
What have they done? When one reads
the life of Oberlin & sees what they
might have done, it does indeed
seem a failure - And then people
throw the blame upon Mankind & say
the human heart is desperately
wicked, & God did not mean it to
je vous en serai bien recon =
naisse, mais si vous êtes
trop occupée, je vous prie,
Madame, de ne pas vous
dérange ni perdre un temps
précieux pour une "mal=apprise".
Veuillez agréer, Madame,
l'expression de mes sentimens
les plus empressés -
Florence Nightingale
be otherwise - poor human nature'. Oberlin & S. Vincent of Paul did not talk about the human heart being desperately wicked, because they made it otherwise - It is such a very convenient way. And to think that these men have been preaching for nearly 2000 years, & have not done more than this, 40,000 in France, 25000 in England Why, if Oberlin's influence had been prolonged for 2000 years, he would certainly have regenerated at least that spot of earth - S. Vincent did regenerate the Hospitals. But, what do they preach, in England the Rubric, here mass & confession. Certainly, if the Church were entirely swept away in England, Spain & Italy, it would make very little I believe no difference, at all, here a little, for it keeps them out of gin palaces & Epsom races - in the N. of Germany the sweeping away of the Prot. Church would make a great difference - [end 7:740]
Dearest mother
My dear Dr. Pertz is in England (with one son) he who was so kind to us at Berlin—you will love & admire him as much as I do—he is Librarian of the famous Library at Berlin (where he used to let me read by myself) you know, & wrote the life of Stein, you know, & is a perfect Encyclopaedia & Library in himself. He is going to be in England through Sepr.—Pray write to him & ask him both to Lea Hurst & Embley—to Embley for yourselves, to Lea Hurst, because I am sure Papa will like him & the Sams will be there.

I have seen the dear Herberts. The Public Meeting was organized with Mr. Chisholm's consent—indeed it was the only way that money could be presented to a public character like her. She has made herself public by her good deeds. Let the acknowlt. of them be public—you cannot give her private charity.—They got £900 & hope to present her with a purse, (not plate) of £2000—before her departure in a fortnight. I am very glad—It is a good & fine public farewell—People subscribed their thousands to Hudson. Let them shew they can appreciate Mrs. Chisholm.
He is to be directed to

at the Prussian Embassy

9 Carlton Terrace

ask the boy too - a great original_

ever dearest mother

your loving child

Our clergyman here is Mr. Garnier,

the Dean of Winchester_ he

lives 4 doors from us_ &
came to be introduced to me

& offer his assistance - I went

there yesterday to ask for it.

But he was "gone out of town".

Clergymen are always out of
town -

{upside down, crossed out with single diagonal line:}

Me 54,,12

Mrs. C. 26

Subn. 5,, 5

Mrs. C. 8

---------

93 17

I received

I don't think Mrs. Clarke &

I shall go till Thursday -

I received Papa & Plante's

skins just as I was setting

off per rail - I have had his

bill sent me, & will settle

it when I go to town: Is

Johnson (Carlyle's) the same as his old

review on Boswell? Also

Hypatia I shall be very glad

to see, tho' I liked not

the bit I read - Do you

know of any other place

than Mudie's to which

I can subscribe? I like

not the 3 Vol. novels

for my patients. However

I believe Mudie has
Wellcome Ms 8995

every thing. Is it £2,2
a year for a London
subscription?
as at the Greengrocer's
I don't expect that flour
will fall before Xmas_

With regard to paper,
it is not like comestibles.
Paper may fall in that
monstrous manner from
improvement in manu-
factures - but we shall
never see consumeable
articles fall in that way

The Bp of London
called yesterday __ & we
had some talk about
a chaplain - nothing
is settled - also Mr.
Hallam, who only came
up to town that morng..
& will come to you early
in Novr.- also Frances
Bunsen. also Mrs.
Herbert. She says the

Cabinet is all for peace
& will perhaps go out
upon that question, if
Parlt. meets. Parlt. is
so warlike - She seemed
bothered & said he
was overdone & they
are not likely to get
out of London - Queen
coming up _Ly Canning
with her.

Mrs. Stanley called
on Saty.- I was so busy
I cd. not see her_ but
I called on her on Sunday,
as she wanted to see
me - Mary comes back
from Belgium tomorrow.
They are in town for a
fortnight - going to Cheshire
Thank Papa for his letters - very much -
The great thing we want is a daily Times to keep them from quarrelling about each other & me - If you can't suggest to me a cheaper way of doing it, I must take it in myself -

Any information or old clothes for the one going to N. Zealand most acceptable - I am drained - Nelson is the place. Since she has had this hope, she is come to her senses, eats like other people & goes out.

Uncle Oc has been again (called up to town by the price of things) to help us with our interminable works, & has been most kind & helpful. If there is a war, the armies will provision themselves on the Danube, & where are we?

I've got my flour though at 60/ when my neighbours are smarting at 72/ which is very delightful, I mean their smarting -

I fear I must keep my Dent, as Atkinson is intractable & I have no time to run about changing it. I was very sorry. I think I will not trouble you about Howell & James. It would be no use for me to have an unwarranted clock -
Rules for Patients

I
It is not permitted to any Patient to find fault with the Nurses or Servants. But She is requested to inform the Lady Superintendent of every complaint she has to make of their behaviour, & it will be immediately attended to.

II
It is expected that the Patients will treat the Nurses with uniform civility.

III
The candles are to be put out at 10 o'clock.

IV
Patients who are well enough to go out, & remain absent at meal= times, cannot have anything prepared for them out of hours, except bread & butter.
A patient may occasionally, & by giving due notice to the Superintendent, invite a female friend to dinner or tea by paying 1/ for dinner & /6 for tea, always giving notice to the Superintendent.

VI

It is required that all presents of food brought by friends of patients should be deposited with the Superintendent for their use.

My dearest

I send you some documentary evidence to shew you how we are going on— I have, by intriguing with the Bp of London, got off the Chaplain _S. Hay_ being dead, & I not liking the other candidate— his Lordship authorized me to propose it to Mr. Garnier, who is a very good man, & quite harmless & we are now going to have a Gentlemen Comtee. meeting to propose it to him formally with £50 a year. I have been twice to dine with the S. Herberts, thought {top of page:} him anxious & old tho' as agreeable as ever_
My love
The chiffonier is come & is beautiful—
only too beautiful—
for my room, which sees a great deal
of dirty work—
Please send me in the bill—
We are very thrang
Miss Lee still lingers & probably will—
We have two Insane in the house— one on the Prophecies—
I shall see Papa on Monday night
I hope

a
My stove= experience is, I fear, not applicable to your case— in All our stoves have been gas, excepting one, (a x."Benham's Cottager") fed with cinders & coal dust, which I, exasperated at the interminable delays, the gross carelessness, & the great danger (as well as inefficiency) of what my authorities had done, had put up at my own expence in three hours, & lent

x. Benham, Wigmore St.
b

to the house for this
winter. This is a
£3.3 stove (with
boiler & some other
things which are extra)
The boiler greatly
increases the heat -
Still so does the flue -
But I don't recommend it ecclesiastically.
Still no one can judge
for the church, without
"inspecting the locality"
Deane & Dray's
pillar stoves, fed
with coke, are
generally thought
well of -
Deane & Dray
46 King William St.
London Bridge

c
I have never seen
Dr. Arnott but once,
(when he came here
very kindly & made
a great many
impossible & expensive
suggestions), & could
not take the liberty
of writing to him.
I fear I cannot help
you- Hospital Practice
is not ecclesiastical
practice - & the less
of the latter I have,
I begin to think, the
better I shall get on.
I will ask Josceline
Percy, who sometimes
comes to tea after us,
but I fear he will say
as I do- our experience
is so much limited to gas.
    Of course you have
thought of Arnott's Stove.
    You will be delighted,
as I am, to know that
there are now 85 children
at the Lea School, that
Mr. Bagshaw is very popular,
& the School Mistress
looking up.
    Aunt Maria will
be missed there
& her harmless charities

I have reduced the cost of each person
from 1/9 to 1/0 3/4 ([illeg] per day)
    But I am aghast at
the rise of prices yesterday
Flour rose 14/- pr sack
    Such a
thing was never heard
of - I went yesterday
to make all my purchases
for the month - & my
Corn Factor, a very
honest man, is now asking
70/- & 63/- pr sack for
what was 56/- & 50/-.
Fortuum & Mason
consented, but with
hesitation, to go on at
the low rate of prices
I contracted for last
month. (rice, candles,
& every thing else being

at war prices) but
they would not allow
us discount as before.
    I meant to do as
Mr. M had authorized
me yesterday. (I say "I,"
for everything is left to
me.) But this being the case, I have asked advice whether things are likely to go on at this rate, or whether we had better wait a month & see - We are better off than our neighbours, in that we have ½ sack Flour at the late low price to go on with, which I bought in the City last month - But I see nothing for it but to put our Patients upon a diet of Tea & Soap for the winter. May Russia go to the dogs!

Furthermore, the stove which, with ten feet piping, tumbled into my arms this day sennight, has been put up again in exactly the same manner, & will, in the course of an hour, repeat the manoeuvre in exactly the same manner. A man who employs workmen who perform these feats ought to be subject
f

to a penalty for endangering sick women's lives. Common sense tells one that a pipe must not be soldered so near so great a heat. but riveted & made air-tight by a hardening Blk. Lead Mixture - If something is not done, I will encamp with my twelve patients in the middle of Cavendish Sq., & let the Police & the Comtee. come & rout me out as a vagrant.

We had an operation in the house yesterday, & have another tomorrow

I have had two stern masters, Hospital Practice & the Administration of the New Poor Law, (for the latter of which I have to thank you, which I do indeed) - And these enable me to keep my Comtee. by perpetual governessing pretty straight - Otherwise we should be stocked with people, who make illness an amusement & a luxury, for want of any higher interest in life - with people, whose families send them here as the cheapest mode of providing for them - And
of this genus eight-
twelfths of our patients
would be - but for
constant watchfulness-

In my old age I shall
(never desert the Anglo-
Saxon blood, out of
which I believe - in
the language of ancient
prophecy - salvation
shall come - but) go
to Australia to help
in the work of
civilization there -
where, unfettered by
a conventional & extinct
church, dead in believing

that which she says
she does not believe &
in not believing that
which she says she
does believe, a new
nation will spring up,
whether utterly waste
& ignorant, or educated
& civilized, let England
say
My dearest

Mrs. Clarke & I go
up to town on Thursday & I believe Aunt Mai
too.

I forget what you told me about my bedding. But I have written to Ly Canning that it will be provided for me, so, if you have any fancies about it, perhaps you will be so very good as to write to the man about it, as I do not know what has been done, but rather fancy that you said it had not yet been ordered when I was with you - My bath had better be sent in on Friday - please tell me the name of the man that I may not reject it-

ever thine

My dearest, I am afraid the £1,1 subscription will not do for me, as what I want is not the quick change of books, (which will all probably, make the round of the whole Hospl.,) but a sufficiency of books for 32 persons - Two vols is very short commons. However with the London Library, if I subscribed to both, it would perhaps supply enough. What is the Subn. to this? I am afraid very dear.

I have no observations to make on my "Burlington
Wellcome Ms 8995

Share", which I find very reasonable. thank you.

Harding's bill was (for merino mantle &c) & Miss
Edwards's for bonnet are not to go in_ because they were for last year_
It is true they were not till December_ But, as I was not paid my allowance for this year till Lady Day, as I had to live all that time at Paris &c on my own money, besides paying up the remnant of Umberslade last year out of my own money, so that it was all gone (what I had saved up for a special purpose) before I received my allowance, I do not suppose that last year's December bills will be placed to my account.

Pray bring the vol of Zanoni to London - I have only one. But I hope the third will turn up otherwise it is of little use - they were all three there in the winter, I am sure - Also the 1st. Vol of Mrs. Poole's Englishwoman in Egypt I hope will turn up - I have the second. also the other Vol. of Novalis.
I am sorry to say my S. François de Sales (1st. Vol) is come with my books. But I did not take it (either out of East
Wellcome Ms 8995

... room or Nursery bedroom). I saw it upon my books in Nursery, & thought you had put it there - It must have been packed up with them. I will send it by post, if you tell me to do so - I conclude the 2nd. Vol is at Embley - The workmen at Harley St will be quiet at night, I suppose, unless they are Cluricaunes - Pray let At. Evan's chair come to me there - Also, my little black cloak, when is it to come? I have been "schwitzend" under my great merino in this hilly district - I suppose it is finished. I think Mrs. Chisholm quite able to bear publicity, as her Group "meetings" have been advertised for years in the Times.

I have been to see a Deaconess, 60 years of age, poor Miss Lucas, who wants to come to me - I hardly know - She is a capital nurse - I will buy Boswell.

Dearest people
You will have heard of the event at Bedford Sq - yesterday morng. - I was there the last 24 hours of her life, (from Sunday morng.) which took away the leisure time I meant to have written to you - We are getting on very well here, but so busy, having no help from any one - Mrs_
Clarke is an army in herself & she has brought such a nice niece also gratis – We are expecting a patient in today. Thanks for the cloaklet. We have had two awful Committees, wrangling, contradicting, deciding, undeciding for 3 mortal hours._
Thank Luden! they were our last. They actually wanted me to undertake

dunning the patients for their money – But that I positively & peremptorily refused – In no Insn. I am acquainted with but it is forbidden ever yours FN

My dearest I will write every thing at length the moment I have a bit of time._
The Committee were spending the money at such a rate, it was high time I came home – They have spent all their money in the funds –
I hope you take care when you write to Mr. Mohl, to pre pay the letter ten=pence._
He used to be frantic, when he brought me my letters, (which cost me all together 40 fr.)
And oh! he was so good to me – you cannot say too much Many thanks for all the things, my dearest –
The Superintendent chooses the Nurses & the Matron -
The Board of Management has the right to give notice (3 months beforehand) that any Nurse is to be dismissed - alleging the reason - or that the contract with the Superintendent is dissolved - The Superintendent has the same right. But, in the former case, she has to provide another nurse at the end of the 3 months. The Superintendent has the right of discharging a nurse without notice to the Board, when she is found no longer suitable for the situation, or when she is wanted elsewhere - But the Supt. must, in that case, immediately provide another suitable Nurse in her place, & pay her travelling expenses, which are otherwise paid by the Board.

In the case of the illness of a nurse, the Supt. will provide another nurse, for whom the Board will pay the travelling expenses & wages.

The Supt. has the permission of taking young women to train under the Nurses, for whose board & lodging she will gladly pay a fixed sum to the Board.
The Nurses have leave of absence every alternate year for some weeks - The Board paying their travelling expenses up to 30/.

The Nurses are not to render any services to the male patients, which a respectable woman would not render to a brother. The Board therefore provides a Porter to each male ward, chosen by the Supert., subordinate to the nurse in everything, whom the Supt. may also dismiss, after communicating with the Board. The porter performs other services in the wards, as the Nurses direct.

The Supt. is to call in the Clergy of the respective Confessions of the Patients, when desired by these - & prayers are to be daily read in the wards by the Supt. & Nurses, if not by the Chaplain.

The Supt. is to engage & dismiss the sub.nurses as well as the head nurses.
The Nurses are, under no conditions, to accept presents, not even from the Board.
Wellcome Ms 8995

The Supt, having in view the training of Nurses, will bring with her a Sister, who shall give the under- nurses & any young persons in training, lessons in reading, writing, arithmetic, needle-work, geography, & also Scriptural instruction from 10--12, AM, & from 8 -- 9 P.M. every day & it would be highly desirable if the Chaplain would, three or four times a week, give them religious instruction - It would greatly tend to making the devotions in each ward agreeable to the Patients, if the Nurses were also instructed in singing. The head- nurses of each ward are bound to spare the under- nurses as much as possible at the hours of these lessons-

The Supt., Nurses & Training Sisters are all to dine together excepting those who cannot be spared out of the wards. The Supt pays for her own board & lodging & for that of the Sister & Matron {cut off} also pays the Matron's wages.

The House Surgeon gives instructions in small matters (of dressing wounds &c) to the Nurses= in= training & to the Porter, but separately.
Rough sketch of agreement

That the Supt. is not responsible for any debts created by the Committee or for rent, taxes & rates accruing. All orders & payments being made by the Committee & goods delivered in their name to the Establishment & not to the Supert. personally - & all agreements for wages being entered into Committee book, & the servants made aware on coming, that they are the servants of the Committee as also the Landlord - excepting always that the Superintendent do order & pay for the articles required for the current expenses of the House - the bills being made out for the Establishment - & that she be empowered to draw cheques on the Treasurer &c - not exceeding per month at two payments - such cheques being signed by one of the Committee & the Supert. that the account be made up quarterly - that the Committee receive the payments from the patients, & in case of omission either enforce payment or remit it, noting the same in the Book that a regular Committee-book be kept by the Committee & a Journal by the Supert. &c &c
Wellcome Ms 8995

Dear Papa

Mr. Bracebridge's legal opinion is as follows
"that there can be no mode of escaping liability to the tradesmen
"if A orders a tradesman to furnish goods to B, both are responsible & attachable in the C. Court.
"if B. is agent to A, & orders tradesmen to furnish goods, both are responsible & attachable, the delivery of the goods being proved.
"therefore, I would as soon draw for the current expenses fortnightly on the Treasurer as not_ the Committee having booked an order with Treasurer & he to his Banker that the Supert. is allowed to draw for not exceeding --- per month in two cheques.
"But there is this advantage in arranging that the cheques shall be payable when signed by Supert. & one Committee-woman (which is agreeable to the practise of Railway-boards, who have two names & the Secretary) that the Committee cannot plead ignorance of what is drawn for_ The current account being so settled, you can only be liable for 14 days' expences
"As to the now current expenses, I would have a lithographed form of Order

Mr ______ D ______

"Please to furnish to Hospl. for Sick Ladies
No. 1 Upper Harley St ______

_______
in this the Supert. does not give the Order & does not receive the goods ___ the agent for the Committee receives them, who may be the Supert., or the Servant at the door - & the Supert. is not responsible.

"There are two ways of hedging the Supert.'s responsibility

1 restricting the orders in amount
2 a legal agreement with the Committee
which ought to be drawn by a lawyer

I
Of the Patients during the last 6 months
4/12 have derived the greatest benefit
3/12 neither good nor harm
5/12 have manifestly deteriorated

II
A Hospital is good for the seriously ill only otherwise, it becomes a lodging-house where the nervous become more nervous the foolish more foolish the idle & selfish more selfish & idle

For the want of occupation & the fixing the attention upon physical symptoms are the essential elements of a Hospital

III There is not a trick in the whole legerdemain of Hysteria which has not been played off in this house.

IV On Sundays & Thursdays patients prepare themselves for the Ladies' Committee & the Medical Men, - exactly as people do in Roman Catholic countries for confession - by getting up a case. They cannot always
say the same thing. Therefore, some patients leave off their flannels on Sunday, in order to make their coughs worse for Monday - I have known a patient, so hungry as to steal another patient's bread meal, yet leave her own meals untasted that it might be seen she had no appetite, & eat them in the night.

V The family tie, (which induces the best to keep their sick at home, unless there be something in the character of these sick which impels the family to try to get rid of the burden) is so strong as to make it a consequence natural & to be expected that, for many years at least, such an Institution as this will have, as Patients

1 those who have wearied out their families or been wearied out by them
2 those who have no families
3 married women or daughters who are so anxious to return to their families & to save them expense that they will suffer the (so-called) degradation of a Public Institution in order to be cured

In this Institution the families of 8/12 of the Patients have come here & said "You see we
could not keep her at home - now you know her."

The conclusion to be drawn is that the Medical Certificate should be strictly enforced - in order to make this a Hospital for the Sick instead of a Hospital for ill= tempers & for diseased fancies.

VI Gentility & eating & drinking (drinking especially, wine or spirits) are the main subjects of interest here -

VII Where there is no higher interest in life, sickness naturally becomes an amusement & a luxury. If nothing interests a person more than her digestion & her dinner, her dinner & her digestion will become her sole object, & the luxury of being taken care of her sole solace- Unmitigated harm is done by visiting, where the visitor makes the comforts of the Patient the chief topic & the efforts of the Medical Man & attendants to turn her thoughts from herself during a whole month may be upset by a Visitor in one ¼ hour. Patients have died, poisoned by imagination, in whom no disease whatever could be detected, either before or after death, & who, at any time, would be well, if they would. Such cases are always aggravated by a Hospital.
VIII To fit a patient for life, if they are to live, as well as for death, if they are to die, is, it is to be hoped, one of the objects of a Hospital. Here patients are often unfitted for life partly by the fallacy of allowing them to believe that what they pay covers their expenses - which dissatisfies them with all life afterwards - ("It is not like Harley St." "At Harley St I had such & such for my 10/6") partly by their being enervated rather than invigorated. What is to be done to prevent the Patients from being spoiled? The housekeeping expenses cannot be further reduced - They are now barely more than 1/ a day per head - The attendance cannot be further reduced - There are now but two nurses to 17 patients, 6 of whom are heavy cases. The furniture is there & must be taken care of. The only thing which can now be done, it appears is to limit the cases to those of real illness__ Of the half-
guinea Patients admitted during the last 6 months, two only have been such_ the rest have been, among those, actually the worse for being here - It is a curious fact that such Patients always take to their bed on the third day after they come here -
Wellcome Ms 8995

Darning & mending & turning sheets & pillow cases
towels
old kitchen cloths for dusters
darning quilts & blankets & basin cloths
pantry cloths into dusters
& old chintz pieces
3 divinity [?] bed furnishings
6 new blankets 1 new mat overcasting them
new covering the drawing room
chair covers out of the striped curtains
lining all the furniture
Mrs. Clark & Ann
finishing new sheets, pillow cases
& new ticking chair=covers
--
1 doz table
dessert
tea
small forks & knives
Electro plated
3 sieves
1 candle stick
6 broth-basins
--
taking off, washing & lining
sofa=covers
3 sofa covers making a lining
taken off 3 covers fastened with tacks & made
them up
two at least for each

{upside down on page, overlaps above writing}
13  16
2  28 came
1  10

5

2
15

27
11

27 came
11 went
1 has been cured of [illeg] self=mismanagement
3 are being cured of obstinate skin disease
2 greatly benefiting
Twenty seven patients
viz 12 guinea
  15 half

16 still in house
11 left
--
1 cured by the prospect of being discharged
Miss Y.
1 had nothing but idleness the matter
Miss W. with her
1 left from fear of a slight operation
Miss B
1 in the same state as on admission
  physically - morally worse
1 cured as far as waywardness wd. allow
1 improved
1 do returned to her situation [ditto]
2 left for Torquay
  of whom 1 in a hopeless state
  1 greatly improved by being discharged
1 imbecile & not likely to recover have a return of sense
1-- -- --

Of those now in the house
three cases which are waiting for death
of whom
1 has been here 14 mo
1
1 a few weeks
to these the house has been an incalculable
benefit - miracles of medical Science, they
have been still more benefited morally

IX
The main things, as far as I have had
experience in this matter, to be asked
of the Ladies' Committee are
(1) to entreat their help, when they are
kind enough to visit, to assist the
Medical Officers & attendants in turning
the attention of the patients out of themselves
(2) to select cases of serious illness
(3) to assist discharged patients in
finding occupation
have been in The Institution has (cut off) 22 Patients during this quarter viz 9 guinea patients 13 half

Of these, 10 are still in the house

12 have left

1 consumption from the first hopeless left after 4 months for the sea much relieved

1 eye case slightly relieved

2 cured by Operation

3 cured of skin disease, Hystaria, Mucous [illeg]

2 greatly relieved

1 operated upon for Cataract - eye lost by inflammation

1 left having come in to attend a child during an operation

1 improved as far as 72 years admitted

Of the 10 now in the house

5 are without hope of recovery & are awaiting their dissolution at periods more or less remote - 1 can only secure [?] a few days

32 fancy Patients

1 a child recovering from a severe operation

1 syringe case [I think]

1 [illeg] case

There have been 4 Operations

The number of Patients has soared from [illeg] to 13

60 Patients [illeg]
We have [cut off] covers, 2 night caps, have repaired the hassocks, we have preserved 30 pots Red Currant Jam 6 Jelly at a cost of twopence per pot. We have had but one nurse for some time, the other nurse having been taken ill & sent into the country - We have spent 7/6 in casual nursing 0 in night nursing 0 in charing 0 in needlework. We have saved half the Assistant Medical Officer's salary by dispensing at home- which has also reduced our Account at Savory & Moore's. The Wages paid during this Quarter have been £9 less than those paid during the last.
1 Upper Harley St.
January 17 1854
My dear We are so extremely busy that I have had no time to write We have now 16 patients among them, two children, x. a greater number than we ever had. Miss Lee had an epileptic fit on Friday & has been lying in a most agonizing state from inflammation of the brain ever since, which will probably continue 3 weeks - On Sunday night at 11 o'clock

x sent in by Sir James Clark (from Osborne)

Mr Garnier brought in an insane governess, over whom I have been holding watch & ward ever since - She escaped this morning, raised a mob in the street - We have recaptured her, but I am now making arrangements to send her to St. Luke's, as Dr. Bence Jones begins to think it necessary - While keeping her quiet in my room, let us settle our accounts. As my account of the Furniture tallies exactly with yours, I do not understand why you
Wellcome Ms 8995

say that I have
abstracted the little
Chest of Drawers -
My account runs thus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Walnut Chairs</td>
<td>£4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walnut Table</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaped ds</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy Chair</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressing glass</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washing Stand</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Red Cherry Chairs</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilette Table</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Chest of Drawers</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couch</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wardrobe</td>
<td>12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towel Horse</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

--------
£46.19.6

Of this I paid out of
Michaelmas Quarter -- 25.8
out of Xmas Quarter  21.11.6

--------
£ 46.19.6

I do not know what the
£ 10 Carpet is - I paid

Watson & Bell's Bill in Bond St.
£11.8.4 for two Carpets some time
ago - & wrote you word
of it, that Mama might
not have it sent in
again to her - If there
has been any other
carpet, it is not to my
knowledge -

With regard to Chintz,
I have paid 13/10, but
I think that was for
something extra, for
Aunt Evans's Chair?
& for lining, & not part
of the £1.8.9, but
as you send me no
bill, I cannot tell-

Our accounts therefore
stand thus
My love

I shall be very glad to see Mrs. Noel, provided she won't come on Monday or Friday, when everybody combines against me.

We have 8 new patients. The mad one with us still - but no longer maniacal - sinking into Dementia -

I believe Hilary took away from here - Edinbro'. Westminster & Religious Census to send them to you but, as I did not see her again, I am not sure about Religious Census - Sidonie is gone back to Rolandi, & Hilary took De Balzac back - Since then has come Quarterly - Shall I send him down by himself with "Near Home", or keep him for Papa?

Poinsettia pulcherimna was much admired -

Little Crossthwaite & another patient I have sent to an Institution at Torquay - But they are very discontent & say it is not like this.

Mariette wants to know whether the gown body fits. I am sorry to say it won't so much as join across the chest_ & is not padded as I begged.

(continues at top of page)
I must have it altered before I can wear it. How could she make such a mistake?
1 Upper Harley St  
25 January 1854

Dear Papa

I am so glad to hear you stay in town till Wednesday __ I want so very much to see you - If you were to come on Monday morning, I am afraid I could not see you but for one moment. I shall not have a minute till Monday night. I would come & drink tea with you on that night at Aunt Mai's, or

see you here any time you will appoint on Tuesday, either morning & evening, & come also to Duke St on Tuesday evening - But to see you in the drive & bustle of Monday here would only be misery.

We are getting very full but our last year's expences were enormous -

I have a curious story to tell you about Palmerston  

ever your loving child

FN
1 Upper Harley St
3 February 1854
My dearest mother

Will you give Therese Forster house & harbour.
age for a week?
She has been much worn by attending on Miss Lee & requires rest before the new attack which we are daily expecting & which will end her days, we hope.

Should such come, Therese must return, but I hope to give her a week – I shall be very much obliged to you, if you will meet her at the Station, & will let you know the hour -
Let her have a little conversation every day with you. Else she will tell the servants all our secrets – if she has no other outlet. And let her go out_

I sent Religious Census & Quarterly, Bibles & Little Books by Papa.
Feats on Fiord & Crofton Boys did not come
Wellcome Ms 8995

till after he went
Milman not published

Sir R. Inglis called
yesterday & said
that Mr Hallam was
much better - I should
be truly sorry to lose
him. Sir R. Inglis is
much altered__

We have 17 patients
& are very busy &
shall be more -

The flowers were
received with rapture
Miss Lee has one
Camellia blooming
by her bedside &
Mrs. Parez another

They were beautiful
but the Hibiscus
was dead - I will
send some things by
Therese - Parthe offers
more books to go in_
my new book= case_
I should be very glad_
A dense fog this morn_
ever dear mother_
your loving child
F.N.
Thanks for the hood - [end 12:88]
1 Upper Harley St
24 February 1854
Sir
Miss Fox has returned to me - her sister, at whose house she was, finding it impossible to prevent her from doing so -
I regret to find that both her Physicians, Dr Bence Jones & Sir James Clark, consider it now impossible to place her anywhere but in a Lunatic Asylum, & have each signed a certificate to the effect that she is of unsound mind -

Upon the strength of your kind offer, we have secured a vacancy, which happened to fall open, for her in the Warneford Asylum, Oxford, at a fee higher than that which her own unassisted resources could afford -
She has £20 per an - of her own_ The annual fee at the Warneford Private Asylum is £30 besides what is necessary for clothing her, which
Wellcome Ms 8995

would not be less, I fear, than £10 or £15 per an. - You liberally offered £30 per an. for her. Her relations will not do anything for her, but persist in wishing to place her in a Pauper Asylum - If you would pay from £20 to £25 per an. quarterly into the hands of "the Treasurer of the Warneford Asylum, Oxford," you will save her from a Pauper Asylum, which would, in the opinion of her Medical Men, in all probability confirm her in insanity.

This money must be paid quarterly, or she will be discharged - She will probably go from me on Monday to Warneford - We have been obliged to take immediate measures to prevent the vacancy from being filled up, & to secure it for Miss Fox, as it might be some months before another occurred - The £5, which you kindly sent for Miss Fox, is still in my hands, except a small portion of it, spent for her.

I am, Sir, your obedt. servt.

Florence Nightingale

[end 12:89]
Wednesday

My dear

I only got both your letters
at 10½ this morning -
so could not answer
them - I am delighted
& surprised to hear of
your being so near - I
hope to see you tomorrow
night, but you do not
even mention where -
I suppose at the old
Burlington -

Many thanks for all
your offers of clothes. I
don't think I want any
at present - I am extremely

unlikely to go out in
the evening. I have
the white Barègne tail with
flounces, you know, but
have no body to it. If
you have the body, but
I understood Mariette
not, that might as well
perhaps come up to join its
tail. The brown velvet
scarf shall make you a
polka - The scarf shawl
I think I should like
please - But I doubt this.
comes too late -

I have not my Greek
letters - I am almost
sure they are all together
Wellcome Ms 8995

in the black portfolio
with the Egyptian ones
in your possession. If
they are not there, at
least I know not where
they are. I don't am
pretty sure they are
in none of my receptacles

Another of Miss Price
is dead & I have an
operation on Monday.
Friday - I took poor
Miss Fox to Oxford
yesterday afternoon -
In greatest haste
au revoir
I had not seen Oxford
for 7 years & enjoyed it
much
1 Upper Harley St
1 April 1854

Dear Papa, I cannot agree with "the mystery of the government of the world God will not reveal to us" seeing that I think that that is the very purpose God placed us here for, viz to discover it. Still less can I understand "& we had better not seek it" for, if we do not, we miss the very purpose of our existence. The common phrase of the "mystery of evil" appears to me downright nonsense - Had Copernicus or Sir Isaac

Newton, instead of applying their wits to the theory of gravitation, talked about the "mystery" of gravitation, we might have thought that too a mystery till the present day. Depend upon it, Christ made was as great a discoverer as Newton when he said, that all that the Father had was his, & we if, instead of quarrelling about his hypostasis, were really to follow his example as we have ceased to
follow it since we began

to call him God, we

should make great

discoveries too. Have we

made no progress since

Job, who lived at least

four thousand years ago?

The new Oxford University

Commission is appointed -

Lord Ellesmere at the head,

Bp of Ripon, Coleridge,

Johnson & somebody else,

I forget whom— two

Puseyites and a half,

the world says, of whom

Coleridge is the one, Johnson

the half, & the collective

mass I suppose the other.

L. Napoleon has been

trying the echo of Fontaine=

bleau, which answered

him thus—

L.N. - L'Autriche?

Echo Triche

L.N La Prusse

Echo Russe

L.N La Suède?

Echo aide

Lord Aberdeen has made

a humble apology to

Baines, who stops -

Your account of Hale

interested me extremely

the death more than

the life of the individual

She was not of the stuff

that our old heroines of last

winter were made of — ever

dear Pa, your loving child
1 Upper Harley St
12 April 1854
Dearest mother
Nothing that you can say can ever hurt me -
But indeed the words you allude to were, I thought at the time, those of the most perfect kindness, & I have never had any other thought since. I have always the feeling of your perfect love and kindness towards me - & if I am ever hurt, it is not by words of yours but of my poor Pop's_ I confess she often pained me, when in London, but never, never you.

And therefore I am sorry that she should have put it into your head that I was so by you I have the most perfect & entire trust & faith in your love & sympathy & remember mentioning this to her in London - And
I am sure the time will come when we shall love & sympathize more together instead of less, my dearest Mother - I dwell upon the thought of this love & sympathy with you as among my pleasantest thoughts. 

My dear It is certainly incorrect to say that Hermes was the author of the idea of the Trinity - It appears to have sprung up in all corners of the earth - the trio of the father, the mother & the child being obviously the origin of it in all metaphysical countries & that origin being as wide as the earth of course. Many, however, differ from M. Mohl, & believe Egyptian civilization to have been the oldest. Be that
as it may, Hermes Tris mé
was a very apocryphal
personage - though Dakkeh
is dedicated to him. I
have no books here of
reference & cannot recall
all things clearly to memory.
Champollion, I think, believes
most about him - And
he Hermes is greatly quoted by
Iamblichus- if I mistake
not & is said to be the author of some of the Sacred Books. I
believe in the
human existence of
Hermes, of Osiris, of
Christ & in their divine
qualities, though I believe
in the miraculous births
& deaths & in the miracles
of none_ Indeed, if I did,
it would destroy all my love
& reverence.

You most certainly alter
the word "invented by Hermes"
(of the Trinity) I believe him
to have been a author -
perhaps the oldest author_
of it but the idea exists where
neither India nor Egypt
have ever reached & is certainly
coincident with the race itself. [end 4:494]

My dear, I remembered
your birth day - & writ a
letter to you which I had
not time to finish (to the
end that I was glad that
yellow furze existed - &
that it did God's work
in this world quite as well
as potatos)_ But, my dear,
your apologia is more
just than either you
or I intended- for, as far
as I am aware, potatos
never interfered with
yellow furze blossoming away
with all its might, but
encouraged it all it could
But yellow furze pricked
poor potatos with its
prickles all it could,
& said, Why do you grovel
under ground? Why don't
you blossom away like me?
And when potatos said,
It's not my nature -
furze said I shall be
hurt if it's not your nature.

Did you say to Bertha
that you meant to furnish
the Clough's drawing room?
I was thinking of getting
them a Chiffonier like
mine. But, if you mean to
commit that magnificence of furnishing the whole drawing room I
am very glad
& shall do something else-
{left margin:}
Hookham
& Rolandi not yet
come -

8994/101 1f, pen, unsigned letter

1 Upper Harley St
12 May 1854
Dearest mother I have
been in all the agonies
of parting with house=
maid & nurse, but,
tho' I have suited
myself, I have not
found one for you. I fear
I found this scrap
in answer to your dear
little note from Combe
written the day after
your departure from
London, which I had
never time to finish
& send.
I hope to come to you on Whitsun Eve & stay [June 3] till after B's marriage i.e till the 14th. unless any unforeseen illness arises - I look forward to this holiday with great delight. J.P. has called upon me - quantum mutatus abillo &c

1 Upper Harley St  
29 May 1854

Dear Papa

Should no fresh cases or fresh causes for anxiety come in, I hope to come down by the 5 o'clock train on Friday, if I can get my business over by that hour. But it is a Committee day & a Doctors' day. If not, I shall come down by the first train on Saturday - But I do not expect to be met - If I can, I will stay till Wednesday week the 14th. but if not, I shall come up in the week & go down again for your marriage.

Things have been very favourable for my coming this last day or two & my soul longeth, nay, thirsteth for home & for the
Wellcome Ms 8995

country
   ever dear Pa
      your loving child
1 Upper Harley St
31 May 1854
Dear Sir

There is another of your dreadful Patients wanting to come in (the very name of whom gives a fatal shock to my constitution)_

She is come all the way from Guernsey upon the fame of your reputation, from a Doctor there, who is, I believe, a friend of yours -

She is in lodgings at Brompton - should you be likely to be coming our way to morrow or Friday, she should come here to be looked at by you - I told her about 5 o'clock on Friday was likely to be your usual time -

Arthur Farre Esq M.D.
Dearest mother

I have been to Marshall Thompson's & they had not, alas! one single room empty, & next week they will only have one sitting=room. Then I went to Chapman's No. 4 Cavendish Sq. a very nice house

indeed - large old fashioned stair=case, tho' not so good as the Burlington's open space at the back, looking out on the back of the Polytechnic - very green & quiet for London - a particu larly nice landlady first floor charming, but all occupied - the only 2 drawing rooms were on the first floor.

c

these like the Burln. but much narrower & lighter - about
the same length

Groundfloor, one drawing = room vacant, same size as up = stairs looking on the Square.
large long room - back room (adjoining) a bed= room opening by folding doors, large & very quiet corresponding to back drawing room 1st floor smaller bed=room adjoining
& dressing - room_

Wellcome Ms 8995

all looking out on
d
the back - & dressing= 
room can be entered 
from the garden 
(so to call it) upon 
which it opens with 
a garden door - so 
as to admit Trades 
people without 
going thro' the bed 
room -- You might 
possibly make 
this a dining room 
for two - as the 
servants can come 
in from the garden_. 
It is very small however


e
On the second floor, 
nice cheerful 
moderate = sized 
drawing = room. 
No second room - bed= 
room back, large 
& comfortable, opening 
with folding doors 
on sitting=room - 
bed- room same 
size, but third 
floor above, looking 
on Square, airy - 
gentleman's dressing 
room third floor 
   too.

f
The ground floor 
suite is £10.10 - 
the second floor 
£8.8_ the rooms 
additional on third 
floor £1.8 - so 
there is £9.16 - 
little difference in 
price. & immense heights 
to climb - 
Don't let me 
persuade you it 
is nothing likey
Wellcome Ms 8995

the Burlington -
but is clean,
Wellcome Ms 8995

airy & cheerful. & the hall & stair = case large & airy handsome- far, far better than Marshall Thompson's - and the back rooms are very quiet but rather hot. If Papa does not stay with you, you might do in the way I have described - I asked the very

nice woman whether she could give you a second room to dine in for two hours a day - she said perhaps, she was not sure (I said there wd. be a man & a maid) If you can let me have the answer tomorrow evening, it would be desirable, as the woman cannot
i keep the rooms, &
I have, of course
not taken them_
But if you can
do better in
Berkeley Sq, do -
   I am very sorry
I did not know
you were leaving
home so soon,-
   I would gladly
have had some
books & clothes -
But you should

j have written Saturday_
   Old clothes are
   exceedingly
 wanted by our
 Patients - they
drain me_ I was
going to write for
my old cold. clothes
All books are
acceptable.
   I didn't want Mrs.
Clarke back at all
ever, dearest mother,
your loving child
1 Upper Harley St  
27 June 1854  
I have taken the Ground Floor rooms at 4 Cavendish Sq. at £10.10 a week, (actually over the heads of my competitors) board for man or maid £1.11.6 each- for gentlefolk breakfast 2/6 tea 1/6 dinner, order as they please, according to what is ordered - quiet respectable stables in Brook St. I was pleased with the woman - she said, if you did not come in till Thursday, she would not charge - There will be π rooms for man & maid (additional of course) - in the house. I have taken the concern for a week.

Your note was just in time - It was impossible for me to leave the house, as I had a dying woman & three Doctors in the house at the time - but I sent off a note to stop the hostile family - & went till I could go there myself this evening - which I have just done ever yr loving child
My dearest I am indeed
sighing to see my beloved river
again. More beloved by me ten times than the Nile
& as soon as I possibly can get away, you may
be sure I shall come down for a
week to refresh among you all,
& those lovely hills. But I have
had a frightful
thing to do in
removing

8994/106 5ff, pen, signed letter  [12:95]

a
1 Upper Harley St
26 July 1854
My dear Miss Martin
In answer to your
question, I will
just give Mr.
Bowman's opinions,
which I believe
I know as well
as any one, having
seen him about
700 times in the
last twelvemonth
i.e. twice a day.

b
He considers the
absorption of a
Cataract, except by
operation, simply
impossible. He is
not therefore
likely ever to
attempt what he
considers a vile
humbug. When he
spoke to you about
absorption, he meant
puncturing - i.e breaking up the Cataract with the needle -  
Dronet is a quack_ so is every man who talks about absorbing Cataracts by rubbing & scrubbing & blistering - That part of the eye is extra= vascular_

it is like the nail or the hair or any other part without bloodvessels - There are no bloodvessels which traverse it which can absorb, so as to make a cure when it has, from being transparent, once become opaque_ It is true that, with age, it condenses, some_

[2] times, & people, from seeing nothing, come to see large letters in very advantageous lights_ And if, with this natural process of condensation, is conjoined some of Dronet's prolepsis of rubbing & scrubbing, that
or stay as it is - Bowman I believe to be the only man in England who knows anything about the eye. There are other diseases of the eye which have the effect of making its humours opaque, which may be absorbed. But a

[3] well. marked Cataract - it is a simple impossibility The Aristocracy & Clergy of England, among whom are the greatest number of fools & of runners after quacks & who have the most time to promenade about their Cataracts,
while they are getting impatient for or frightened at an operation, go to Dronet & De Loewe, & these persuade them by sheer assertion that they are getting better. the favourite argument being that

"nothing is impossible, because of the Electric Telegraph" Or else Dronet & De Loewe persuade people they have cataract & are being cured of it, when they have none.I am quite sure that Bowman would take no offence at all at your going to Dronet, & would see you with just the same eyes afterwards-
This last is, alas! but too certain - I would have written before but we are full of cases of life & death - & I have had no time by day nor by night. I am afraid you will wish I had not written now ever yours Florence Nightingale
1 Upper Harley St
26 July 1854

My dearest mother
I have another
dying German case
just like the first._
They Drs. had a consulta=
tion yesty., bringing
in all the first
men in London to
decide whether an
Operation, almost
always fatal, should

be risked, & decided
not. So she is to die.
I have a house full,
a nurse ill & my
hands & head so
full that my doing
P's proofs is out of
the question. I have
not been able to
look at them. This
last week has been
the busiest I ever
had in my life.

I took in this poor
thing at a moment's
notice.
I have had a
proposal from King's
Coll. Hosp. to enter
into treaty with me
to undertake that.
This cannot be
treated of in a
hurry - They have
asked me to send
in my conditions -
This must, of course, be mentioned to no one.

The evening you went Mrs. Clarke gave me warning. She "wanted to go back to Sheffield."

I wait in earnest but not anxious expectation of the turn things are to take.

ever your loving child
dear Mum

Mrs. Nightingale
Lea Hurst
Matlock

If you could send us some grapes? We have a poor dying creature German who can eat nothing else - & another, a Saint & pet of the Committee's, who says, I think I could like some grapes when grapes are 5/ a lb?
a

1 Upper Harley St
25 August 1854

dear Madam

The bearer of this, Mrs. Macey, waits upon you for the chance of your 
My dearest My notice to quit is of course a secret - I do not see that you are "redevable" to any one of "timely information" about my intentions - except the Bracebridges & the S.Ss & these I have told, as you see K.C. has expressly stipulated for secrecy - & oh! what a tragico = comico = vaudeville I might write,

b

(if I had but the time) of the interviews I have had with the Leading Men who have come to look at me_ how frightened they are at what they have done - how many compliments they think it necessary to pay, without in the least understanding what I would be at - & how I sit by like Agrippa's broomstick - If I don't turn up in one Hospital, I shall in another - I will send the books directly - Rolandi has sent no parcel - So I went to him & he said he had none to send. Yesterday I have just scampered thro' Bunsen yesterday & have marked the passages which struck me
particularly that we might feel as if we were reading it together - But please rub out my marks - I don't agree with all, but I think it a great step -

Dear Mr Hallam

came here during his one morn. in town - I thought him much broken - But I do not agree with you about old age - To me it is a time to which I look forward, when I shall be very glad to lay down my oars, & gather up the fragments of all my experience, & wind up those most important matters of reflection and thought which a too busy life prevents my

d speaking of [cut off] to myself & to God, which a too practical life prevents my speaking of to others - But then I shall be beyond the reach of fear nor of favour & my practical life cannot then be spoiled by it - & I shall speak my thoughts openly to the world, as Bunsen, after forty years of silence, has done at length. So I, after forty, perhaps fifty years, shall say to the Church of England, your religion is extinct, your men are unbelieving, your women are superstitious_ Your Litany makes us laugh, your sermons make us cry_ You become every day more impertinent to God - You pray
against "plague, pestilence & famine", when God has been saying more loudly every day this week that those who live ten feet above a pestilential river will die, & those who live forty feet will live. And you want him to alter this his plans And you won't do a thing to alter yours - You pray against "battle, murder & sudden death", when God has said every year that, if the present state of education in Great Britain continues, there will be 999 murders in Gt Britain annually - And you won't do a thing to educate the people_ you will only pray_ i.e. You will only continue a superstitious service, which excites con=

I have only had time to look over the enclosed this morng.- I very much approve of all you have done & have scratched two lines thro' Heliopolis as directed. But I have not had time to do much to it_ nor to put anything into ink. I don't accede to your theory of looking back & be thankful_ I can look forward & be thankful_ I can admire & sym= pathize with God's grand plan of Infinity & Eternity & Perfect Good to be worked out in both - But if I am to be thankful for this world,
g
in which (could we for a
moment realize the misery
which takes place in to-day during one
half hour in it - (in the
Lunatic Asylums, the Gin
Palaces, the Houses of Vice,
the Hospitals, in war & slavery, &c &c &c) we should go mad,
I must decline being
thankful at all -
Have you read Hill on
Crime, especially what
he says about female
employment in it_ which
has long been a favourite
idea of mine? printing,
gilding, cabinet-making, clerkships &c &c to
be done by women.
prostitution is now the
most lucrative female employment,
for women _ You demoralize

h
women by shutting them
out of all employments
but governessing & needle
work _ this is the most
fruitful source of female
crime - Needlewomen always
help themselves out by
prostitution _ & don't
blame the shop= masters.
They ought to be praised,
not blamed _ for
affording women
occupation at all ___
The year having now expired for which I undertook the office of Supt. of this Institution the Comtee. will of course [illeg] expect that I should give some notice to them of my views as to our success.

I would wish therefore express to the Comtee. that I consider my work is now done, & that the Institution being in having been brought into as good a state as [illeg] its capabilities admit such an Institution is susceptible of.

I have not effected my anything towards the object of training nurses. my primary idea in devoting my life to Hospital work - for, owing to the small number of applications, the Comtee. have not been able to select, for the most part, proper objects for Medical & Surgical treatment - & therefore accordingly the result has not been satisfactory to me.

In every other respect, viz as to economy good order, good nursing, moral influence & economy the result has been to me entirely most satisfactory. I therefore wish at the close of the year for which I promised my services to intimate that having as I believe done the work as far as it can be done it is probable that I may retire, for the follo IF, in pursuance of my design & the a{cut off}
Wellcome Ms 8995

{cut off}old to it, I meet with that a sphere which is greater{circled}? & more analogous to the formation of a nursing school. it being clear that this Institution is not large enough for that the purpose - while the labor of mind 1 & body is even greater 2 on that very account (as may can be proved)? {from it circled}

I would wish to give a notice of three months, to be extended, if possible, to six months. feeling x. that I am in honor bound clearly to explain to the Comtee. tho at the end of the year, the conclusions to which I have come with regard to the Insn. in which we are all so much interested ?

I have made these explanations feeling that &c

8994/112 2ff, pen, incomplete, unsigned letter {arch: summer 1854}

My dear

I have sent Berkeley's Parallax as it was - One accustomed to the systems wd. understand it - & to another, the Egyptian mind itself cd. not explain it -

What is Ruskin's story?

With regard to the new proof you have just sent me, I don't know what to do with it - As I have altered my mind completely upon the two principal points in it, I ought to remodel it entirely - (which I have not time for)
unless I were to do what
G. Sand impudently says
she did as to Lélia, viz leave
it as a monument of
her own mind, tho's she
had ceased to believe it
ture - The two points
are, I do not believe
now that we can break
God's laws. Moses
made the law, not God
"Thou shalt not kill",
999 murders are
committed every year
in England & Wales.
But God’s law, If such
& such a state of
civilization exists, thou
shall commit 999 murders

Perfection, the result [3:173]
of experience &
suffering, must
always be higher
than the inexpen-
rienced, impassive
God we make of
Him - Without a
contradiction it
must be so, &
therefore I must
believe that god
Himself has suffered.
Wellcome Ms 8995

& if thou committest
999 murders, such
& such consequences
shall follow, is
never broken -
There is such a
confusion on the subject of what
are God's laws.
the other point is
I believe now that
God himself has
suffered - has been
the suffering God

8994/113 2ff, pen, not in FN's hand, unsigned dictated letter
{arch: 1854 Sept/Oct
From F's dictation,

My dear friend We are as much
accredited as we ever can be
i.e. we have an order from the
head of the Army Medical Board
Dr. Andrew Smith to the chief medical
officer at the Hospital at Scutari
to admit us to that Hospital, &
we have a letter from Lord Clarendon
to Lord Stratford - but our fate
lies entirely in the hands of Dr. Smith
He is exceedingly irritated at
the accounts in the Times, If we
go quietly & privately, his in
fluence is all for us. but if we
went with a great body of nurses
to take possession of the Hospital
he would decidedly oppose us
His own proposition was, that a
few should go out at once & that
another detachment should follow
in 10 days. if found desirable
amputations, cases of hemorrhage
or gangrene, are well or dead in
3 weeks. His first expression was, "You are too late_ If Sebas.
topol began on the 6th., it will be already 3 weeks before you get
there as it is not supposed that the fighting will continue much
after the fall of Sebastopol -
One of his objections was, the troops may be moved from Scutari &
you cannot follow the army about like sisters of Charity.
Secondly, I did not think of going to give myself a position, but
for the sake of common humanity
If I wait 3 weeks, I do not see that I gain any thing, & the mi.
serable creatures are dying all the while
Thirdly_they cannot find any body else, & if I don't go the whole thing falls to the ground.
Money, I am sure will not fail
There is a Kaiserswerth establish
ment at Constantinople, who have been written to to prepare rooms for us, I honour all the sisters, & am sure they will greatly smooth our way - I have written to the Sydney Herberts who are both at Wilton Lady Maria Forester (this is the lady whom I called Mrs Forester) would go with us or which is what I advise follow with the next detachment of nurses. To me it would be infinitely easier to pioneer the way with 3 or 4 women than to march in, (even supposing it possible) with a great batch of undisciplined women not knowing what places to assign them, in so new a position as a military hospital
Mrs. Clarke has volunteered to go with me_ & I shall take either her or one of the Nurses from the place_
Wellcome Ms 8995

I will not ask you to re commend my undertaking to my Mother, because I know that you have not thought favourably of my going out on Tuesday, but I will ask you to explain what it is without unfavourable com ment because I hope if I see you & her tomorrow, to do away with your objections. [end 14:58]

8994/114 1f, pen, signed note [1:139]

In the hope that I shall see my dearest mother & sister tomorrow, & that they will give me their blessing on our undertaking, I shall leave it to Mrs. Bracebridge to explain what that undertaking is.

F Nightingale

1 Upper Harley St
15 October 1854
Constantinople
November 4 1854
on board the Vectis
Dearest people

Anchored off the Seraglio
Point - waiting for our fate
from Skoutari, whether we can
disembark our Seraglio direct
into the Military Hospl which
is what with such a heterogeneous
mass ripe for disorganization
we should prefer.

At 6 o'clock yesterday
morning I staggered upon deck
to look at the plains of Troy,
the tomb of Achilles, the
mouths of the Scamander, the
little harbour of Tenedos, between
which & the Mainshore, our
Vectis, with stewards' cabins
& galley torn away blustering,
creaking, shrieking, storming,
rushed on her way -
It was [illeg] in a dense mist that the ghosts of the Trojans answered my cordial hail, through which nevertheless the old Gods still peered down from the hill of Ida upon their old plain. My enthusiasm for the old heroes was undiminished by wind & wave. — We made the castles of Europe & Asia by 11 (Dardanelles) but alas! we made Constantinople this morning at 9 in a thick & heavy rain, thro' which St. Sophia, Suleiman, the Seven Towers, the Walls & the Golden Horn looked like a bad Daguerreotype washed out — & Sta Sophia was drowned in tears.

We have not yet heard what the Embassy or the Mily. Hospl. have done for us, nor received our orders.

Bad news from Balaklava - tho' not so bad as we heard on first anchoring - You will hear the awful wreck of our poor cavalry - in the masked battery 400 wounded arriving at this moment for us to nurse the bad conduct of the Turkish commander cowardice in one — the other to be shot our two ships damaged - Arethusa & Albion

But Lord Raglan says he shall take Sebastopol. We have just built another Hospital at the Dardanelles - It seems is quite true that a sortie of 8000 Russians was repulsed by 1500 of ours. One man killed 14 Russians with his own hand —

Do you want to know about our crew - Wilson has turned out a swindler - She came drunk, to the London Br. Station on Monday morng. was turned away by the Station Master then went to you (the rest you know) joined us at Marseille, travelling 1st. class all the way, has proclaimed her intention publicly that she did not come out for the paltry 10/ a week, but to nurse noblemen, & means to desert the first opportunity. She has made [end 14:59]
"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 is caps, ma'am that suits one face, and some that suits another And if I had known, ma'am about the caps, great as was my desire to come out as nurse at Scutari, I would not have come, ma'am."

Speech of Mrs. Lawfield

Nov 5. Barrack Hospital
Scutari
Asiatic Side
Nov 14 1854

Dear Sir,

Time must be at a discount with the man who can adjust the balance of such an important question as the above. & I, for one, have none; as you will easily suppose when I tell you that on Thursday last we had

1715 sick and wounded in this Hospital, (among whom 120 Cholera patients) and 650 severely wounded in the other building, called the Genl. Hospital, of wch. we also have charge, when a message came to me to prepare for 510 wounded on our side the Hospl. who were arriving from the dreadful affair of the 5th. of Novb. at Balacalava, where some 1763 wounded & 442 killed, besides 96 Officers wounded & 38 Killed.

I always expected to end my days as Hospital Matron, but I never expected to be Barrack Mistress— We had but ½ an hour’s notice,
Wellcome Ms 8995

before they began landing the wounded. Between one and nine o'clock, we had the mattrasses stuffed, sewn up, and laid down,
Wellcome Ms 8995

c

alas! only upon matting on the floor, the men washed and put to bed, & all their wounds dressed— I wish I had time or I would write you a letter dear to a surgeon's heart, I am as good as a "Medical Times." But oh! you, gentlemen of England who sit at home in all the well earned satisfac-
tion of your successful cases, can have little idea, from reading the newspapers, of the horror & misery (of in a military Hospl.) of operating upon these dying exhausted men A London Hospl. is a garden of flowers to it We have had such a sea in the Bosphorus, and the Turks, the very men for whom we are fighting for carrying our wounded

d

so cruelly, that they arrive in a state of agony one amputated stump died two hours after we received him, one compound fracture just as we were getting him into bed, in all 24 cases on the day of landing We have now 4 miles of beds & not 18 inches apart. We have our quarters in one Tower of the Barrack & all this fresh influx has been laid down between us and the main guard in two corridors with a line of beds down each side, just room for one man to pass be tween, and four wards. Yet in the midst of this appalling horror, there is good And I can truly say like St Peter "it is good for us to be here"— tho' I doubt whether if St Peter had been here, he would have said so As I went my night-round among the newly wounded that first night there was not one murmur, not one groan the 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
without 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 British females, whom
I have with me, are more difficult
to manage than 4000 men. Let no
lady come out here, who is not used to
fatigue & privation—for the confessed
[sisters, who ought to know what
self-denial is, do nothing but com-
plain. Occasionally the roof is torn
off our quarters, or the windows
blown in & we are flooded & under
water for the night. We have all
the sick Cookery now to do & have
got in 4 men for the purpose,
for the prophet Mahomet does not allow us a female. And we are now able to supply these poor fellows with something besides Govt. rations. I wish you wd. recall me to Dr. Bence Jones' remembrance, when you see him, and tell him I have had but too much occasion to remember him in the constant use of his dreadful present. In all our corridor 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. All who can walk come in, to us for Tobacco -but I tell them we have not a bit to put into our own mouths - Not a sponge, not a rag of linen, not an anything have I left. Everything is gone to make lines & 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 wch. 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, nor a towel, nor a bit of soap, nor a broom. I have ordered 300 scrubbing brushes,
We are getting on nicely though in many ways. They were so glad to see us. The Senior Chaplain is a sensible man, wch. is a remarkable providence I have not been out of the Hospital walls yet, But the most beautiful view in the world I believe lies outside.-If you ever see M 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 wch. heads my letter may was expounded thus__ Mrs. Lawfield was recommended to return home and 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 not fit to take care of themselves nor of others in a military Hospl.—This is my first impression but it may modify, if I can convince them of the necessity of discipline & propriety in a drunken garrison Believe me dear Sir yours very truly & gratefully

Florence Nightingale
This is only the beginning of things We are still expecting the assault.
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
20 Nov 1854
Dearest people

This is to certify that we are all alive – though business thickens – as you will suppose when I tell you that I am at this moment buying flock & manufacturing stump pillows to the tune of 300 – I wrote a Surgical Letter to Bowman which you will see – Our Dysentery cases keep on dying in spite of us_. But I have so much to write of of [illeg] real importance that I am afraid to begin

{rest of letter written by Selina Bracebridge}

Barrack Hospital
British Sisters Quarters Scutari.

Sir,

I have the honour to report to you that the party of Sisters & Nurses under my charge arrived safely at Constantinople in the "Vectis" on the 4th Inst & were received into these Quarters the same Evening.

We were received by the authorities of the Embassy, of these Barracks, & of the Medical Staff, with every attention.

we have received rations from the Purveyor & by the assistance of the Engineer have erected a kitchen in which all that is ordered us an Extra dietary for this Hospital by the Medical Men is prepared.

The Medical Store-keeper & Purveyor have issued such stores as were in their power to supply.

We are satisfied with these Quarters – & the Inspector General has assigned to us some rooms in the other Hospital, which we are about
Wellcome Ms 8995

to
to occupy, with a subsidiary kitchen.

The whole body of Sisters & Nurses (viz. 39. including myself) is efficient.

I have supplied the place of one whom I was obliged to send back to England, by a German Sister, who was offered to me by Pastor Fliedner's Kaiserswerth Institution of Deaconesses from their Colony stationed at Constantinople.

After consultation with Dr. Menzies and Dr. MacGregor, and after affording general assistance in receiving & dressing the wounded in two disembarkations, including more than 1000 men, I have distributed my party as follows, viz.

- 10 in the General Hospital which contains about 900 wounded.
- 28 in the Barrack Hospital which contains about 2300 sick & wounded -

The excess in proportion is accounted for by the necessity of keeping a number of nurses in these Quarters for the preparation of Stump Pillows - Padded Splints - Slings - cut Garments - & other medical appliances - & for the giving out of such medical comforts & Extra Diets, upon the requisitions of the Medical Officers, as are arranged between them and me.

The Ambassador has been kind enough to put me in direct communication with him through Lady Stratford where visits & assiduous attention have much contributed to facilitate the performance of our duties.

I have the honour to enclose an abstract of our accounts for the journey & as your Despatch has been received by the Purveyor General, I have no occasion for any additional credit with Sir John Kirkland.

I have the &c

Florence Nightingale

to the Br. Ambassr Supt. Brit. Nurses

The Secy. at war
25 Nov.
Scutari
My dearest people
All alive but without one
moment
I have written a
Public & a Private
letter to S. Herbert - Send
to him for the Private
one -
We landed 180 Wounded
last night
Yours ever in heart
& mind  FN

Barrack Hospital
Pins 25 Nov 1854
Thread & Cotton Common
Tape [illeg]
4 Skeins woollen for me
Portfolio for me
Good thick large sized half sheet white foreign
paper, which does not shew the ink through -
This is too thin -
Amusing Books
Bibles & Prayer books
36 yds black sarsenet ribbon for caps
this wide
Tin box Alumettes with little
Wax Candle for me
A set of caps for me -
all alike - plain - easily
washed - with close border
fitting close to the face
I must always wear the
same dress - black best
don't send out any more
cold. gowns - dressing gowns
useless 2 black [illeg]
5 Dec  [14:72-73]
I enclose copies of 8 letters
I should state that the workmen for
repairing the dilapidated wards were
put on by Lady Stratford's order to
Mr Gordon the chief officer of
Engineers, at which time she had
long conferences with the Commandant
& the Purveyor General, notebook
in hand; that she distinctly stated
to me & to others, that she was
the authorised intermediary between
the Ambassador & the authorities

of these Hospitals & that she
offered herself as my correspondent
in that capacity. Four or 5 days
subsequently, Lord Stratford himself
accompanied her here -
The enclosed copies explain what
followed; the employing 125 workmen,
their strike, & my putting on 200
workmen, (I may add that we
are daily expecting 6 or 700
wounded at least, in an already
overcrowded hospital, & that Lord

Raglan has written to say that we
may expect sick from the cold -
the dilapidated & now uninhabitable
wards are capable of holding 800
patients.
By Lord S's letter to me, & is a
interview between him & Mr Gordon,
Lord S initially denies knowledge
of Lady S' proceedings.
My own feeling is, that the Ambassador
would not have done what he is the
only person who has any power to do,
& what is matter of primary importance as regards 800 wounded.
What I have done has been done with the concurrence of Dr Senior M Officer of the B Hospital & as I subsequently found, to the great satisfaction of Mr Gordon who expected to be blamed for that which he could not help as far I can reason on this, it appears to me certain that nothing would have been done if I had not acted in this way. Mr B will tell you about the Jetty & Landing Place & Washing which was exactly the same story as the interior rebuilding of these wards, one fourth of the whole Hospital

8994/123 2ff, pen, initialled letter

Dearest people

Could you but see me, you would not wonder that I have no time to write - when my heart yearns to do so - Could any one but know the difficulties & heart-sinkings of command, the constant temptation to throw it up, they would not write to me, as good Mr. Garnier does, praying for grace that I may bear the praise lavished upon me - I who have never had time to look at a Paper since I came - 'Praise, good God.' He knows what a situation He has put upon me. For His sake I bear it willingly, but not
for the sake of Praise.
The cup which my
Father hath given me,
shall I not drink
it?  But how few
can sympathize with
such a position?
Most of all was I
surprised at dr. Aunt
Mai's sanguine &
gleeful view of it -
But do not suppose
that I shrink - Without
us, nothing would have
been done here - & I am
satisfied - All this
is, of course, PRIVATE_
I subjoin a list of
small wants
Pray date your letters -
ever yours
FN
Scutari
5 December 1854
I should like to hear about
Harley St.  
[end 14:72]
Barrack Hospital

PRIVATE Scutari
10 Dec 1854

Dear Mr Herbert

With regard to receiving & employing a greater number of Sisters & Nurses in these Hospitals. I went immediately (on reading Mrs Herbert's letter of the 23rd. addressed to Mrs Bracebridge) to consult Dr, Menzies, the principal Medical Officer under whose orders I am - He considers that as large a number are now employed in these Hospitals as can be usefully appropriated, & as can be made consistent with morality & discipline. And the discipline of 40 women collected together for the first time is no trifling matter under these new & strange circumstances - She considers that if we were swamped with a number increased to 60 or 70, good order would become impossible. And in all these views I so fully concur that I should resign my situation as impossible were such circumstances forced upon me.

For our quarters are already inadequate to preserving in health our number. More quarters rooms cannot be assigned to us, the sick are laid up to our door. We had even to give up a portion of those quarters which had been assigned us (at the General Hospital) to the wounded. With regard to taking a house at Scutari, the medical officers considered it as simply impossible. Regularity could not be preserved where the
Sisters & Nurses were living from under our own eye. the difficulties of transport are what no one in England would believe. & the going to & fro between the two Hospitals is becoming daily less easy.

That I should not accept a responsibility which I could not fulfil is equally the opinion of the Medical Officers & mine -

If in the course of the winter we have out ten or 20 more & send back some of those we have, the medical officers are of opinion that that number will be sufficient. ie forty efficient ones being, picked out eventually for the two Hospitals averaging 3000 sick.

Lastly I have found from this last month's experience that, had we come out with 20 instead of 40 we should not only have been less hampered with difficulties but the work itself would have been actually better & more efficiently done - About ten of us have done the whole work - the others have only run between our feet & hindered us. & the difficulty of assigning to them something to do without superintendence has been enormous. It is the difference between the old plough with the greatest amount of power & the greatest loss in its application, & the Gee-ho plough with reins accomplishing twice the work with half the power & much more efficiently.

We were as alarmed at the general terms in which Mrs Herbert described the nurses as instantly to be sent off. that we held council & decided on writing the enclosed to the Ambassador as the only means of protecting them & ourselves. In other words we could neither house nor keep them.
English people look upon Scutari as a place with inns & hackney coaches & houses to let furnished. It required yesterday (to land 25 casks of sugar) four oxen & 3 men for 6 hours, plus two passes two requisitions, Mr B. two interferences & one apology from a Quarter master for airing the Araba, received with a smile & a kind word, because he did his duty = For every araba is required on military or Commissariat duty._There are no pack horses & no asses except those used by the peasantry
to attend the market ¼ off. An Araba consists of loose poles & planks extended between 2 axle trees placed on 4 small wheels & drawn by a yoke of weak oxen - There is not a Turkish house which is not in a fragmentary state, roof & windows pervious in all directions, there is not a room in our quarters which does not let in the rain in showers, whenever the weather is bad. We can only buy food through the Commissary & are sometimes without wood or charcoal. For want of a carpenter & a man to put up a stove in the absence of all hands (the workmen available being all employed in repairing the sick wards, (the matter of first importance) we have been unable during the last week to effect the move of some of our nurses into the Gen' Hospital, or even to get in a few poor soldier's wives into our little Lying in Hospital, which the pressure of the misery of these poor women had compelled us to begin - All this will lend to explain the difficulty of having more women & especially ladies out here at present_
Mr B has put down some men as they occurred to him -
What we may be considered to have effected is:
1) The kitchen for extra diets, now in full action for this Hospital, with regular extra diet tables sent in by the ward surgeons -
2) a great deal more cleaning of Wards - mops, scrubbing brushes, brooms & combs given by ourselves where not forced from the Purveyor -
3) 2000 shirts cotton & flannel given out, & washing organised & already carried on or not there for a week -

4) Lying in Hospital begun
5) widows & soldiers’ wives relieved & attended to -
6) a great amount of daily dressings & attention to compound fractures by the most competent of us -
7) the Supervision a stirring up of the whole machinery generally, with the full concurrence of the chief medical authorities. & the practical proof which our presence has given that for were determined to know all they could & do all they could -
8) the repairing of wards for 800 wounded which would otherwise have
been left uninhabitable - And this I regard as the most important -

The Government could not do otherwise than send a number of Female assistants worthy of it, viz. 30 or 40. Of these at most 16 are efficient, the personal qualities of 5 or 6 have effected, under God's blessing, the results already obtained I am willing to bear the evil of governing (& preventing from doing mischief) the non efficient or scheming majority which is my great difficulty & most wearing out labor, because I

acknowledge the moral effect produced which could not have been produced by smaller numbers. But I am not willing to encounter the crowding greater numbers to exhaust our power & make us useless & incapable by wasting our time & nervous energy in governing that which cannot be governed -

Lastly at the moment we came out, the Times correspondent & his [illeg] were prepared immediately to go into opposition, as they have actually done at Balaclava, where the Times supplies have been required, as well as admission
to Mr Stafford, whereas here instead of opposition we have had support. Nothing has been given here except through us & we have had abundant supplies, more than we asked for, from Mr Macdonald & Mr Osborne who have held daily consultations with us. Mr Stafford who was on the point of going into extreme opposition has shewn nothing but kindness & zeal._

The great fault has been in our geography, in our being on this side the water. Four days in the week we cannot communicate with Constantinople except by the other harbour, 1½ mile off, of Scutari proper, to which the road is almost impassable._

I add the pieces justificatives - The grand administrative will emanates from Home, in the existence of a number of departments here each with its centrifugal & independent action is counteracted by any centripetal attraction viz a central authority capable of supervising & compelling combined effort for each object at each particular time -

Excuse confusion

In great haste

ever yours F Nightingale

8994/125 2ff, pen, not in FN's hand, unsigned letter {arch: c. 28 Dec 1854, Scutari}, copy of 43396 ff20-221

Dear Mrs H

In reply to your question as to what Her Majesty can do to testify her sense of the courage & endurance so abundantly shewn by her sick soldiers here & having seen Col Phipps letters to Mr H of Dec 11 & 14 & 15 to Mr Cumming, & the bountiful list of gifts including books, proposed it only remains for me to suggest what is at once exceedingly simple & individually applicable, & also
something general which will come home to the feelings of every one as well of the military themselves as of their friends & relations - The last suggestion which I would make will also do honor to the Xtian sympathy of our native land towards those who have fallen - 1st. the woollen comforters mentioned in my last for each man, to be given as he goes up for actual service - 2nd. that the Hospital stoppages against the daily pay of the sick soldier should be made equal to the H.S. against the wounded soldier provided the sickness be incurred while on duty before the enemy_ My third suggestion is that a Firman should be immediately demanded of the Sultan granting the Military Cemetery at Scutari to the British & that Her Majesty should send out orders to enclose it by a stone wall. There are already alas about a thousand lying in this Cemetery nine hundred were reported last week. We have buried 100 in the last 2 days only_ The spot is beautiful, overlooking the Sea of Marmora & occupies the space between the Gen' Hos wall & the edge of the sea cliff_ as to the H. stoppages, the [illeg] rule of the army, which embraces these Hospitals is that the sums deducted are per day for sick nine pence for wounded fourpence halfpenny the privates' pay being 1 s per day. consequently the sick man has only 3d. a day left for all his expences. If he happen to be married he is the worse off because the wife being with him, drawing only half rations & lodging in barracks he has 2 expenditures instead of one - Believe me in haste ever yours F N_ I wish I had time to tell you all the expressions of thankfulness & tender loyalty which I hear from the soldier sick or wounded when he learns the interest of his Queen upon his behalf & that her thoughts are with him. I will in my next
Wellcome Ms 8995

tell you some of these touching little speeches or rather words for
the soldier never makes speeches

These are just come back from Windsor. Please enclose them to me

“What she asks for has been done.”
S.H. (?) 

is dying the most awful of all deaths from ulcerated sore throat which she endures with the constancy of a martyr, & still puts her poor violets into water (which I sometimes bring her from Covent Gn) with her poor left hand tho' she has not spoken for nine days - God grant that she may be released this week.

We discharge three patients this week cured - I reduced their bills for their last week to an average cost of each person per day of 1/,
even in these times of scarcity & war prices. a lower average than any Institution in London. It is necessary for the wise & good &c
Thank you very much for the frames, which look beautiful. The Delphica is come home, & I have paid £1. 5 for her, which I meant to have taken myself, as you had given me so many. But, as you are so good as to say you mean to give them all, I will put it down to our next account. (All this time our Insane is making me swear upon the Bible that she is not going to be hanged tonight)

I do not think £6 at all too much for my gown. I should certainly never have bought another but because I have in black & white that you had taken mine not were going to take it & during Mrs. Parker's visit & she begged me to do so (in Mama's hand)

I have only a Vol. of Balzac from you - not two books (for Rolandi) I will send all the books when they come to you.

I had a little Merino cape made some time ago (to replace my crape hood on
the merino cloak) made some time ago - It is not very pretty but cost the "ridiculously small sum of eighteenpence"

We have an "Heir of Redcliffe", presented by Mrs. Herbert, thanks, & have read 2 Guardians.

Book=case not yet come - But I have bought a common one.

Many thanks for the game.

I was not aware that the Milnes es had lost the baby & am very sorry to hear it. At least I suppose you allude to this coming thing - when you say it was to have been called after Maurice - not to the last -

What is the name (the patients want to know), of the plant with the beautiful red leaves which look like petals & the little red flowers in the middle ? which you sent us last
the two poor Mellers
who both became
dangerously insane to
Marylebone Workhouses
All my doctors gone
abroad & more
illness than ever I
remember__
   for the corners
Σ copied an  Eilethystia
   for the back
& Thonei for the binding
of the letters -
I kept the poor Mellers
on from day to day
feeling an unconquerable
terror of conscience to
confirming these poor
wretches in lunacy
by consigning them
to the Lunatic Wards
of a Workhouse -
But as an individual
the Drs who saw them
said that I could
take this responsibility
but not as the
head of a public
Institution - Since
I removed them
they have refused
food
I was so sorry not to come today. But my Drs are not come back, which is really very unkind & I dare not go till I have lodged the wretched Mellers safe in Colney Hatch - Besides which, I have a lady of less than doubtful character, upon whom an Operation was performed yesterday, whom I keep "au secret" - I am more than angry & vexed, for I must be in town again by the 2nd. I will come on Monday or Tuesday, R.C.S.V. meaning, the Royal College of Surgeons volente.

When I received your note this morng., I had a great mind to brave 'em all & put myself into the train there & then
I wish You & your companions
all to know that the Queen
thinks of very little else but
of her dear & brave soldiers.
She wishes herself to make but for
them & really all her every
thought seem to be connected
with their trying [illeg]
kinds of food &c
I had a long & very interesting
conversation with HM & the
Prince they take the most
heartfelt interest in the
Mission please tell to all
Windsor Castle Dec 1
54

Lord Panmure is going to give us a Royal
Commission of Inquiry into all that concerns the
Health of the Army at home & abroad & I
have been commanded by the Queen & by
him to write a Précis for the Govt. I do
not feel very sanguine as to the result
of either. but I shall eat straight through
of all those in office whom I have had to do
with since I came home. you will perhaps
perhaps not, be surprised to hear that I
have found the Queen, Ld Palmerston &
Mr Herbert the most free from the Office taint
these are really (after their different fashions
not officially interested. I have had much to do
lately with two Taints the Scorbutic & the
Office Taint 7 the latter is the worse.
To Lady Canning
Calcutta

The four guarantees demanded
of Russia
1 The liberty of the Blk Sea
2 ___________ of the Danube
3 The annulling of the treaties
   between Russia & the Porte
4 The joint protectorate of
   the 5 powers of the non-
Wellcome Ms 8995

Musselman subjects of the Porte
_[HCV: Dec '54]
Barbarous woman—there is a black lace bonnet & a black silk gown come, & not My Bear's Grease! Which was to have come in my box per Imperatrice—Now, if this savor of vanity, let me tell you you don't know what this climate is—& as the natives oil themselves, so must I Bear's Grease myself—I have been obliged to Cold Cream my hair. So let me have my Bear's Grease or I die—I left your Castor Oil Grease behind on the mirror table like an honest woman

In re Bear's Grease
PRIVATE  Scutari Hospitals
1 February 1855
Dearest Mother

One word to say that we are all right & that God is worth working for - tho' troubles distress perplex, but not overwhelm, us on every side, of which not the least (to me) is M. Stanley's inexplicable conduct, but of this not a word - She has intrigued with the Embassy & set up an opposition, (why opposition?)

Hosp. at Kullali, of which I remain Nominal Head - I will work for these miserable Hospitals as long as I have power to do so - I will fight for God & the right, for they are worth fighting for, but not to be justly represented by men which they will never do.

We have no Cholera. Your mind seems sorely troubled about Chloride of lime - Can you suppose that
such a Scavenger
as I am have not
a sack of Chlor. of
lime at the corner
of every Corridor &
do not myself see
to the Fatigue Parties
cleansing out the
places which require
it? Alas! I am
Purveyor, Scavenger,
every thing to these
colossal calamities,
as the Hospitals
of Scutari will come
to be called in History
I do read your letters.
I do not read the
"Times"-
ever yours, dearest
people, which means
a great deal, I assure
you, in a place where
envies & emulations
& official jealousies
interfere with the
lives of men
F Nightingale
S. Herbert has borne
me out gallantly on
Commissariat reforms

8995/4 incomplete letter, 2ff, pen Goldie 86-87

Scutari- Feb 5/55
Dearest Mother
Pray tell Aunt Mai
that my "Education" is
not wasted upon me
that I often think of
what we said together-
of the great reformers
who have died of dis-
appointment – & I find
our principles hold good
in time of trial, the
anchor is firm – I say
"I expected this – I will
not die of disgust &
disappointment." I have often thought in early life (how little I then expected Scutari) that I should throw my body in the breach, that I should bridge the chasm to reform - that there must be an Originator, a Promulgator, an Executor to each Reformation, Christ said, I am the way and the truth and the life - in general, there is the way, (the
thinker) the truth, (the speaker), the life, (the actor), separate persons to each great step—
the originator perishes without credit & without success, the promulgator is ruined peculiarly, in pocket, the third succeeds — I remember thinking, of the Cristians
So perish those who pioneer the way for Mankind — But they May perish, but I shall endure — I shall not break my heart of disappointment, though even mine own familiar friend turns against me. No, dearest Mother, I shall do nothing, but the originator never does, but greater things than these shall others do — The Army shall be reformed, the Army Medical Board, the Military Hospitals — those three sinks of jobbery & official vice— & I have done all I hoped by representing these things [end]
8995/5 signed letter, 2ff, pen [see also 43396 f25 of same date but not same letter] Goldie says to Mary Stanley

Scutari -
Feb 26/55
Dearest
Will you recommend
Miss Clough to go home
or to volunteer for
Kulleli? Having no
knowledge of her I will
write in whichever sense
you recommend after
reading the enclosed-
Would you recommend like
Mrs. Bull to volunteer
for Kulleli? Or would
you accede to her wish
of going home? see enclosed

Lady Erskine has
positively refused to
allow Harriet (who is
still at Lord Napier's)
to go to Koulalie Balaklava.
Sister Sarah Anne
has fever & is in bed.
So is Mrs. Drake -
Mrs. Grundy is far
too giddy for Mother
Eldress's hand - under whom
she became quite wild.
Please return me
the enclosed.
What I feared is now coming to pass—viz that Kulleli will be left without a head. You consider none of the party you brought as capable of being the head. The only one I brought who could be thought of in that capacity I have appointed to Balaklava—Miss Tebbutt, wholly incapable is appointed to the Genl Hospl. You must recommend to me the one you consider least incapable fir to govern Kulleli till some one can be had out from England tho' where that one is to come from I do not know— I shall go to Balaklava as soon as the pressure here becomes less awful—& we have established some system—

Will you answer this letter of Mrs. Hunt's in due my name, if you wish her to come, which I hope she will before you go? Ever dearest yours in haste F. Nightingale
None of my clothes (which I asked for) from you have ever come. What vessel did you send them by? I am falling to pieces & my caps are in holes - I am obliged always to wear black & a cap as I mentioned.

My dearest people Do not say that M. Stanley is treacherous. I believe that she has been over-excited & literally, for the time, insane. She has done me and the cause as much harm as if she had been a cold-hearted liar. But, if you knew the comfort it is to me now that I can think (or believe I can think) that she is not deliberately false.

My health has improved since that moment - I could not sleep at
night- & in the morning
I must start up as soon
as I was awake now to
dwell upon the thought
of her treachery - In the
midst of our colossal
national calamity, of
one great political game,
of our immense reforms to
be planned & urged forward
here in the East, her
little black part, not
little in its consequences
to us, as she had with
her the Embassy & the
Commandant, by dint of
lying, was upon me
like a night mare - But
now I don't believe her
a responsible being - &
don't you treat her as such
coldly or unkindly
I hope we shall pull through well - I shall go to Kulleli, as soon as she is gone, assume the management there & endeavour to organize things - I shall also go to Balaklava, if we can but get some purveying system introduced here first; for this Barrack Hospital is, after all, the head-quarters of everything, of every abuse, & every difficulty, from its overweening size, 2500 sick alone, its horrid depot, 1500 more, its being the centre of every iniquity

& therefore I must make it my head quarters as long as these things last. But if we have wounded, we shall organize a Hosp'1 at Balaklava for 800 (in huts) in order to save their being brought down such a long way here. (Compound fractures &c)
& I shall go up to Balaklava to organize it - For I fear our Sisters there are going to the Devil under the incompetence of Mother Eldress

Ever yours dearest people in heart & in faith Scutari FN

March 4 I have been here 4 months today It seems 4 years-
Scutari March 5 1855
Dearest people
I saw Athena last night=
She came to see me. I was
walking home late from the
General Hosp'1 round the
cliff, my favourite way, &
looking, I really believe for
the first time at the view.
the sea glassy calm & of the
purest sapphire blue. the
sky one dark deep blue. one
solitary bright star rising above
Constantinople. our whole fleet
standing with sails idly
spread to catch the breeze
which was none including
a large fleet of Sardinians
carrying up Sardinian troops.
the domes & minarets of
Constantinople sharply
standing out against the
bright gold of the sunset.
the transparent opal of the
distant hills (a color one
never sees but in the East)
which stretch below Olympus
always snowy, & on the other
side the Sea of Marmora
when Athenà came along
the cliff quite to my feet,
rose upon her tiptoes, bowed
several times, made her
long melancholy cry & fled
away - like the shade of Ajax
I assure you my tears followed her.
On Wedy Feb 28th we had the 
sharp shock of an earthquake 
It is indescribable. one does 
not feel the least frightened 
but I felt quite convinced 
our old tower must come down. 
200 Patients jumped out of bed 
& ran into the Main Guard. 
2 jumped out of window. some 
got out of bed who could not 
get in again. When next we 
looked across to the other side, 
two minarets of Constantinople 
had disappeared. half Brusa [Bursa] 
is in ruins, & the accounts of 
killed & wounded there, where 
statistics are none, vary from 
3000 to 800. one man here with 
compound fracture seriously 
injured himself by scuttling 
out of bed. We have had 
several slight shocks since. 
ever yours FN
Scutari
March 5 1855
Dearest people
I saw Athenâ last night- She came to see me.
I was walking home late from the Genl Hospl round
the cliff, my favourite way, & looking, I really believe
for the first time, at the view - The sea glassy
calm & of the purest sapphire blue - the sky
one dark deep blue,
one solitary bright star rising above Constantinople.
our whole fleet standing

with sails idly spread
to catch the breeze which was none - including a large
fleet of Sardinians carrying up Sardinian troops-
the domes & minarets
of Constantinople sharply standing out against the bright gold of the sunset
the transparent opal of the distant hills, (a color one never sees but in the East)
which stretch below Olympus always snowy & on the other side the Sea of Marmora
when Athena came along the cliff quite to my feet,
rose upon her tiptoes, bowed several times, made her long melancholy cry, & fled away - like the shade of Ajax - I assure you my tears followed her-

On Wednesday 28th Feb, we had the sharp shock of an earthquake - It is indescribable - One does not feel the least frightened, but I felt quite convinced our old tower must come down. Two hundred patients jumped out of bed & ran into the Main Guard - two jumped out of window - some got out of bed who
cd not get in again - When next we looked across to the other side, two minarets of Constantinople had disappeared - Half Brusa is in ruins, & the accts= of killed & wounded there, where statistics are none, vary from 3000 to 800-
One man here with compd fracture seriously injured himself by scuttling out of bed - We have had several slight shocks since.

Please pay £5 (which torment me) due to Harley St for board of self & Mrs. Clarke from Michaelmas till the day of our going, and my £5.5 Subn. for 1855. ever yours FN

My dearest I hope you are doing something about the Monument - The people here want to have a Cross - they do not see that immediately will arise the question, Greek or Latin Cross - that we cannot have our own Cross in a country where all Xtians are Greeks - still less can we have the Greek Cross - besides the ill grace of we our setting up a Cross at all who are fighting for the Crescent. Setting up a Cross But these people cannot be made to see this. I should like Trajan's column - or Themistocles' broken column,
only that nobody would see
the sentiment of it.

The whole of this gigantic
misfortune has been like a
Greek tragedy - it has been
like the fates pursuing us.
every thing that has been done
has been a failure & nobody
knows the reason why - the
Gods have punished with
blindness some past sin &
visited the innocent with
the consequences - for our God
is a jealous God &c how like
the Greek & the Jewish
mythology! -

But this great tragedy
must now, one would think,
be near its close -

Please put yourself at once in
communication, dear Pop,
with the Chaplain-General,
Gleig, for to get us working drawings
for our Public Monument
& Private Chapel in our the British
burial ground now to be enclosed
on cliff looking over Sea
of Marmora - first
ascertaining from Herbert
whether Queen wishes to
interfere - If not, let
she has no commands,
set to work at once -
I should like "Wingless
Victory" for Chapel - one
single solitary column
for monument for to greet
first our ships coming up the
Sea of Marmora - It is
such a position - high
o'er the cliffs we shall saved
in vain - I should
have liked the Temple
of Sunins - but a minia-
ture never does - & they
want a Cross-
I have told Herberts
& Chaplain General you
will put yourself in
communication with him.
Let us live at least in our dead..
Five thousand & odd brave
hearts sleep there -

three thousand, alas! dead in
Jan. & Feb. alone - here -
But what of that? they
are not there - But, for
once, even I wish to keep
their remembrance on
earth - for we have been
the Thermopylae of this
desperate struggle, where
Raglan & cold & famine
have been our own the Persians,
our own destroyers - We
have endured in brave
heroic Grecian silence.
Let the "Times" avenge
us - I do not care -
We have folded our Mantles
about our faces & died 
in silence without complaining. No one can say we have complained - 
    And for myself, I have done my duty - I have identified my fate with that of the heroic dead, 
& whatever lies these sordid exploiteurs of human misery spread 
about us these officials - there is a right & a God to fight for & our fight has been worth fighting - I do not despair - nor complain - It has been a great cause - 

We cannot yet believe in the death of the Emperor, telegraphed from Bucharest yesterday - though it is believed at the Embassy - if it is true, it is so like the dénouement of a Novel - too good to be true - how rarely do the fates of the Nations hang upon the life of an individual & how rarely does that individual die in time to be of any use - 

  ever thine 
FN
Please date your letters -

Scutari
March 8/55

8995/10 initialled letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 275

    Scutari Hl
    April 12/55
Dearest Mother
    If Papa knows Mr. G. Alsop (who writes to his brother that Gessess is his hapiness,) at Bakewell, or any body at Spondon to soften the blow to
these two unfortunate people & to introduce me to their notice. I enclose these two letters de faire part to you for the chance.

But don't delay sending them, otherwise they will see the death in the newspapers - Mrs. Gailey has misbehaved - i.e. been out after hours - & is alas! to go home in disgrace - I am very sorry. I liked her - But I cannot depend upon their behaviour in one of the Hospitals not under my own eye - Many is the woman from Kulleli
has said to me, It would never have happened, if I had been with you - And poor Gailey, whom I sent only to the Genl Hospl, said the same thing - If the boy is at Wellow keep him till she comes home - If not, let him alone - his place must go to the deserving sons of more deserving mothers - One woman at Kulleli stopped out all night.

All hands & all wards here are preparing for Wounded - Never again will we be taken unprepared- The report this morning was - bombardment of Sevastopol begun on Monday 9th - Garden Battery & Round Tower Silenced. Magazine in Sevastopol exploded.

ever yours

FN
We had a severe shock of an earthquake yesterday 11th.
Dearest Aunt Mai,

Do you remember saying to me that Mrs. Clarke was not to be trusted with the morals of the servants—that if anything happened—she would prove, either that she knew it all the time or that it was quite right not to know it. Alas! what you said was quite true & Clarckey either gets drunk herself, or connives at the drunkenness of others. Fortunately she had wished to go before & therefore without a quarrel of any sort, she goes—She was so utterly incapable of controlling the Nurses that I am glad to part. But I never can forget what we owe her—& therefore I am equally glad to have had no blow up— I believe she will go home to Sheffield. She sails this morning with others by the Gothenburg. If she should come to Combe, pray receive her as usual, & ask my people to invite her, telling them this little fact. We are prospering, but expecting some thing decisive every day before Sebastopol—Many thanks for your letters. 

ever yours, 

F. Nightingale
Scutari Hospital

April 22/55

My dearest people

When the Bracebridges go away, it will be raison de plus for me to stay - otherwise this Hospital will become the bear-garden which Kulleli & Smyrna are where the ladies come out to get married - where the nurses come out to get drunk. Alas! the only question with me is not whether shall I come away? but shall I be able to hold the reins single-handed? Hitherto, amid severe disappointment,
it has remained a comfort
  to me to be able to feel,
No woman's virtue has been
wrecked through me - on the
contrary, I have been able
to take back some drunkards
from other Hospitals and
reform them - At the Barrack
Hospital we have had
not one flirtation, not one
drinker - not one quarrel
And many a sinner has said to me, If I had been with
you, this would not have happened-
  At the General Hospital,
where I do not live, though
it is under my superintendence,
all I can do is to watch-
& dismiss the miscreant - a
very unsatisfactory mode
of government-
  At Balaklava where the

world thinks everything so
successful, I don't know
that anything could have
happened much worse - than
Miss Clough's absconding - than
the nurses' drunkenness, one
of whom I have had to take
back, since which she has
been always sober - than
the Mother Eldress losing her
money, her head & her health-
She actually lost the whole
of the money I gave her,
for the Hospital expenses-
save £1. She thinks it
possible Miss Clough stole it.
But do not say this, of course.
  We are founding a new
Hospital on the heights
where the old Genoese fort is
outside of Balaklava - And
I am going up this week to
take & to settle nurses there.
   Do you see how little
prospect there is of my
coming home at present,
als ? Unless the W. Office
makes the whole thing so
repugnant to the spirit of it
(by sending out its forty to
Smyrna, who are a laughing
stock to the Officers, and
its hundred to Dr. Parker's
new Civil Hospital,) that I say,
No, it is more in consonance
with the spirit of the thing
for me to retire with the
children God has given me
than for me to stay
   Thanks for the dear little box, just
arrived - But the umbrella I have
never had - Do send us this year's Nos

{continued in top margin at beginning of letter}
of Household Words - I want to read
"North & South"
   It rests me -
No one sends
us any but such old Nos. You sent us up to
December - And I read them.  

[end 14:180]
Do not send out anybody to companionize me till I write - "Anybody" would be dreadful- Think if I had had Mary Stanley here ! The whole thing would have gone to the dogs -
     Many thanks for all you have done for my Nurses - Mrs Gailey is going home in disgrace. I am so sorry for that boy of hers Whom you have been so kind to & put at Dowding’s, that I should be inclined to wait & see if he does any good - & if he profits by it, keep him.
     I send you a cheque for the £3 you sent by P.O. order to Gailey. If you paid for it.
     I sent you two cheques = £14.10 for Mrs. Noble. None for Hawkins - I did not wish her to spend her money till it was found. Foster wd do nothing- Since that, I have sent you a cheque for poor Barnes- I hope they came safe -

Barrack Hospital
Scutari
April 25/55

Dear Papa
     I wrote to Glyn's to pay you £100 for the £200 refunded to Lady M. Forester - In the hurry of business, I have no time to attend to my own affairs - And I find afterwards that I ought to have paid myself & not you for this £100 was repaid out of my own monies. So
that I have paid you twice - You must re-adjust this matter for me, please - 
   Will you send 10 by P.O. order to Grandmother Hedges, 
   (where the baby, Leonard Hedges' brother, is) from its aunt, my Nurse, Mrs. Eliza Hawkins. I will send you the money with other monies by a cheque on Glyn's - The boy will know his Grandmother's address. Mama does not send it me.

There seems no probability of an assault now - but every probability that our Army will have to winter again in the Krimea, blockading Sevastopol - unless you make peace for us at Vienna - The feeling of discontent in the army against Lord Raglan passes all bounds - It is thought very desirable that L. Napoleon should come out.
The French are gaining the most incontestable hold upon Conc. Already they have an entrenched camp of 26,000 men, four miles from Pera (at Maslah) which is to be raised to 80,000 - It is said the French Govt. have offered to recall Canrobert, provided the English will recall Ld Raglan - Each general throws the blame on the others - a bad sign - It appears certain that, for 3 days, Sevastopol had but 6000 men in it, last week,

{written vertically in margin on first page}
& we might have given the assault & did not know it ever your loving child

FN [end]
Black Sea
May 5/55
Poor old Flo steaming up
the Bosphorus & across
the Black Sea withour Nurses, two cooks
& a boy to Crim Tartary
(to overhaul the
Regimental Hospitals)
in the "Robert Lowe" or
Robert Slow- (for an
uncommon slow coach
she is) with taking back 420 of
her Patients, a draught
of convalescents returning
to their Regiments to
be shot at again. A "mother
in Israel", old Fliedner
called me - a mother
in the Coldstreams is
the more appropriate
appellation-
What suggestions do
the above ideas make
to you in Embley
drawing-room? Stranger
ones perhaps than to
me - who, on the
5th May, 1855 year of
disgrace 1855, year of
my age 35, having
been at Scutari this
day six months, am,
in sympathy with God,
fulfilling the purpose I
came into the world for.
What the disappointments of the conclusion of these six months are, no one can tell - But I am not dead, but alive - What the horrors of war are, no one can imagine - they are not wounds & blood & fever, spotted & low, & dysentery chronic & acute, cold & heat & famine - They are intoxication, drunken brutality, demoralization & in disorder on the part of the inferior - jealousies, meanness, indifference, selfish brutality on the part of the superior - I believe indeed & am told by admirable officers in the
service, that our Depot & Barrack at Scutari - in which to live for six months has been death is a disgrace to the service- & our Commandant the worst officer in the service, (had & solicited for by Ld Stratford, because he would have a man of rank). But our Scutari staff, military & medical, content themselves with saying that the English soldier must be drunk- & not one thing is done to prevent him - Nothing has been done but by us We have established a reading room for the Convalescents, which is well attended - And the conduct of the soldiers to us is uniformly good. I believe that we have been the most efficient -perhaps the only- means there of restoring discipline - instead of destroying it, as I have been accused of - They are much more respectful to me than they are to their own officers- But it makes me cry to think that all these 6 months we might have had a trained schoolmaster & that I was told it
was quite impossible—
That, in the Indian
army, effectual &
successful measures
are taken to prevent
intoxication & disor-
ganization & that here,
under Lord W. Paulet's
very windows, the
Convalescents are brought
in emphatically dead
drunk, for they die
of it & he looks on
with composure & says
to me "You are spoiling
those brutes." The men
are so glad to read,
so glad to give me
their money to keep or

to send home to their
mothers or wives. But
I am obliged to do this
in secret.
On the 1st May, by the
most extreme exertions,
our Washing house
opened, which might
just as well have
been begun done on the
1st November - six
months ago -
I am in hopes of
organizing some washing
& cooking for the
Regimental Hospitals -
& am going up with
Soyer, dollies & steaming
apparatus for this purpose
far more than for any
other. Mr. Bracebridge

goes with us - Mrs B.

keeps the bear-garden

at Scutari- Four vessels

of Sardinian troops go up

with us- one vessel

the Argo, with Artillery

& horses, ditto - but

went aground in the

Bosphorus & could not

get her off.

I have more & more

reason to believe that

this is the kingdom of

hell- but I as much

believe that it is to be

made the kingdom of

heaven -

Beware of Lady Stratford [end 1:142]

yours ever

FN.

8995/16 unsigned letter or journal entry, 2ff, pen {arch: May 1855?}
two documents 8995/16

I believe there is a good description [14:186-88]
of Cathcart's Hill in the "Times" of

April 20. It is in front of the 4th

Division - Gen'l Cathcart is buried

there - We got off our horses there

& walked to the advanced Mortar Battery.

Sevastopol looks

like a fairy palace -

so beautiful - so

unscathed - so gorgeous

in the Sun - & such

a position

Sevastopol magnificent town - elevated ridge

of gorgeous buildings - Dome Church - extreme

left with pinnacled College looking building

extreme right a gran Hospital - the

whole glittering in the Sun - undamaged.

Fort Constantine opposite -
May 1855
7 Arrived in Balaklava Harbour -
    landed with Dr. Anderson - Genl Hospl
    with him & Castle Hospital Col. Tulloch went to Genoese Castle -
    Visited
    Dr. Lawson - gave him a Nurse - Genl Hospl
    again - Back to "Robert Lowe" at 8 ½ - P.M.
    found Dr. Sutherland - talked with him till 10
8 Genl Hospl 9 ½ to meet Drs. Anderson & Sutherland - with former & Soyer to
    Castle Hosp. to meet Engineer Officer - Capt. Keane - settled
    kitchens - back to Genl Ho.
    With Sany. Commn., Freeman, &c to Camp -
    1-9 P.M. - 3 Hospitals of Heavy Cavalry -
    Inniskillens, Sc. Greys, 1st Royals -(Dr. Macdonald),
    Major Wardlaw, good officer -
    Headquarters - to find Dr. Hall & Lord
    Raglan - & start Soyer
    39th & 55th- former Tent Hospl -first rate Regiment - Col Munro -
    latter worst - 39th all hutted. 4th Division
    turned out to give 3 times 3.
    on to Cathcart's Heights - ruined tower
    where Fr. & Eng. Pickets meet - dis-
    mounted - because ground is shelled -
    to Mortar Battery overlooking Sevastopol
    harbour - fleets & bay. sunken ships -
    shot & shells whistling right & left.
    2 Serjeants of 97th with us - rode back by
    Woronzow Road - through Zouave Chasseurs d'Afrique & Turkish
    camps- our troops forming everywhere to go to
    the trenches after dark for 24 hours - home by rail way
Sir John McNeill & Col. Tulloch came to me before breakfast, "General" Filder, who was previously supposed by every one who found him here to be a non-existent personage, a myth, Mr. Rawlinson & Col. Dr. Sutherland came packed up things to send to the Regimental Hosp.
Rowed across the harbour with Sany. Commrs. & Soyer to Cossack Bay to the Marine Hosp. (Dr. Grant & Capt. Hamilton) far the best huts perfect - 3 ventilation a model - twelve wounded - to hold 10 "Nurses" relieved in watches - 8 watches - including 4 "dog"=watches of 2 hours in 24 hours - 3 Men to the 24 hours - each 8 hours - Senior Chaplain Wright came to me - Went up to Castle Hol with Sanitary Commn & Nurses - settled Matters with Dr. Hadley & Mrs. Stewart. Genl Hosp till 8 P.M. [end 14:188]
My dearest/ My days at Balaklava have been so busy as you may suppose-
I have made a tour of inspection of Regimental Hospl in camp - besides re=organizing the two Hospitals under our care, which were terribly "seedy"- Nurses all in confusion-
The Camp is very striking - more so than any one can imagine or describe - Between 150,000 - 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 forward 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 there is any army left at all, not
that we have had so many through our hands at Scutari but that we have not had all as Sir John McNeill 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 - in them - often 48 hours without food but raw salt pork sprinkled with sugar - & their rum & biscuit - nothing hot because the exhausted soldier could not collect his own fuel, as he was expected, to cook his own ration - And fancy, thro' 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 in the spectacle - The brave 39th whose Regimental Hospitals are the best I have ever seen, turned out & gave Florence Nightingale three times three, as I rode away - There
was nothing empty in that cheer
nor in the heart which received
it - I felt took it as a true expression
of true sympathy - the sweetest
I have ever had - I felt took it as a
full reward of all I have gone
through - I promised my God that
I would not die of disgust or
disappointment, if he would let
me go through this - In all that
has been said against & for me,
no one soul has appreciated what
I was really doing - none but the honest
cheer of the brave 39th
Nothing which the "Times" has
said has been exaggerated of hardship.
Sir John Macneill is the man
I like the best of all who have
come out - He has dragged Commissary
General out of the mud - He has done
wonders - Every body now has their
fresh rations meat 3 times a week,
their fresh bread from Constantinople
about as often -
It was a wonderful sight looking down upon Sevastopol - the shell whizzing right & left - I send you a Minie bullet I picked up on the ground which was ploughed with shot & shell - & some little flowers. For this is the most flowery place you can imagine - a beautiful little red Formentilla which I don't know. yellow Jessamine & every kind of low flowering shrub - A Serjt of the 97th picked me a nosegay - & I once saved Sergt 's life by finding [blanked out] him at 12 o'clock at night lying - wounds undressed - in one Hospl with a bullet in his eye & a fractured skull - And I pulled a stray Surgeon out of bed to take the bullet out - But you must not tell this story - For I gave evidence against the missing Surgeon - & have never been forgiven - Sir John Mcneill whom you must not quote, it was who told me that it was

There is some Cholera in Camp, but not much - I want very much to hear how Blanch is. I was very much disappointed that Aunt Mai did not write. I heard it through a common newspaper, till I had a note from Mama
Scutari
June 18, 1855

This comes, dearest people, to inform you that I think much & often of you, which is not necessary & that you are too anxious, which is necessary.

The "baptism of fire" what words those are! must baptize all those who would be "Saviours" of mankind, whether from intellectual, physical, but most of all from moral error.

We are daily expecting the wind-up of our affairs in the Crimea, so long promised us, now it seems
actually impending
   You may fancy what it
cost me to leave Balaklava
at such a time - But
the Drs were peremptory,
& Σ came to fetch me -
I think seeing her did
me more good than all
their blisters -
   I am gaining strength
every day but suffering
from a compound fracture
of the intellect -
   I think my handwriting
does the Drs credit
   yours ever, in sickness
as in health
   F Nightingale
I wish you would write
your thanks to Mrs. Roberts,
who nursed me to her own
injury as if I had been her only child
   Alas & yet not alas that
I should not see Aunt
Hannah again
Scutari
June 21st 1855
I will answer your questions
about Kaiserswerth as you
have placed them --
I think six months at Kaiserswerth
quite enough to give a good
training to a person who does
not want to be a surgical nurse.
I am quite sure that Pastor
Fliedner would receive you
into the Institution if there be
room & I do not think that you
could take lodgings in the
village which is very poor-
The want of German is certainly
a serious drawback, as the sisters
are all of the middle & lower class &
it will be quite an accident if
you find any one there speaking
French or Italian, except the
Fliedner family themselves-
This is especially a drawback
in speaking to the Patients and
orphans with whom you are
expected to read & pray-
The charge for a temporary
Sister used to be 10/6 per week
(3 thalers) which included board
lodging & washing! But as the Insti-
tution is very poor, you will
probably think it right, it God
gives you means to make some
additional present - The winters
are severe & the situation very
damp even in summer & subject
besides to overflowings of the Rhine
out of which in the March of this year
entirely flooded the Hospital & Lunatic
Asylum - Ague is the prevalent
disease----
I do not think a boarder would be taken who did not mean to become a temporary or permanent sister-
I will only add that I should recommend you to persevere in going in spite of all these difficulties, as I know of no education equal to that at Kaiserswerth for the purpose you mention-
The German Hospital at Dalston is served by sisters from Kaiserswerth- The matron S. Christiane speaks English- Would you not see her & it before you decide?

I am sure you will excuse my writing more when I tell you that this is the first time I have written at all after having the Crimean fever which has nearly put an end to my earthly life & work together & that I am still unable even to feel myself Believe me
   Your truly
   Florence Nightingale
Scutari July 5/55

Dearest people. You are too good - Your letters have given me so much pleasure & helped to cure me more than any thing -

I have been sent to Therapia for a few days - where Mrs. Roberts & I had a ward in the Naval Hospital to ourselves with the most glorious view in the world & I am come back much stronger.

Many thanks for what you have done for the little boys, which glads our hearts to hear - i.e. Mine & Hawkins's-

I enclose you a dismal note of poor Ann Clark's - I wish you could take her as a servant or find her a place - She is discreet above her years, active, obliging, clean, has a good notion of linen & needlework - & did for me as much as two servants - She is a good scholar, stupid & affectionate - Many a time she has stood between me & her Aunt's indiscretions - never repeating anything - & always contented - I wish I could do something for her - She wd make a good housemaid.

Lord Raglan's death thunderstruck us - (1) There is but one voice among the
soldiery - "Now we shall
take Sevastopol" - (2) It was
impossible not to love
him for his kind & gentle
courtesy - I did. But I
shd think his death an
equal gain to himself & the
w us - to himself, because
a good man has been taken
from ye evil to come - to us,
because few perhaps could
have done worse for us
than he has done - If I
might tell the real history
of the 18th.!

A private letter was read
to me about his illness -
from a medical man in
camp - The Diarrhoea was
slight - but he was so
depressed by our defeat
of Waterloo Day, the more
by reason of his apparent
equanimit, which never
failed, that he sank
rapidly without sufficient
physical reason - It was not Cholera - Peace be
with him & with the his
hecatomb of twenty thousand
men -

With regard to my returning
to home, the idea is too
pleasant - it is too good for
me - How can I? If Miss N.
goes to England, says my troop,
she will never come back -
& all my best, Revd Mother
& her crew, Roberts, Polidori,
Hawkins & several nurses,
Robbins &c have announced
their intention of not staying
if I go - This is not so
selfish as it at first appears.
With so many jarring elements,
without a central authority,
they wd not be able to do any good
here.
(next paragraph written vertically in top margin first page)
yours till Doomsday
i’th afternoon,
FN.
With what
longing, love
I think of
our hill top
where you
now are
you cannot
think.

Scutari
July 9/55
Dearest I cannot tell
you how the record of
Athena's little life &
death affected us all -
It is worth while to have
died to be so remembered
Curious instinct! A little
terrier rat=catcher, sent
us by Mr. Herbert, the
most engaging of all
animals, except Athena,
was so aware that we
were reading about
something we loved more
than it, that it never
ceased whining & howling & caressing
& fidgetting while the
book of Athena's exploits was being read -
My own effigy & praises were less welcome - I do not affect indifference towards real sympathy - but I have felt painfully, the more painfully since I have had time to hear of it, the éclat which has been given to this adventure - The small still beginning - the simple the hardship - the silent & gradual struggle upwards - these are the climate in which an enterprise really thrives & grows - time has not altered our Saviour's judgement lesson on that point - which has been learnt successively by all reformers, down to Fliedner, from their own experience - The vanity & frivolity which the éclat thrown upon this affair has called forth - which seemed to animate all Miss Stanley's party, of whom now scarce a wreck remains, (besides except that good old mad Shaw Stewart, who escaped it all,) has done us unmitigated harm, & brought ruin to (perhaps) the most promising, enterprise that ever set sail from England. Our own old party which began its work in hardship, toil,
struggle, poverty & obscurity
has done better than
any other, & I, like a
Tory, am now trying to
get back to all my first
regulations -

Dr. Sutherland has given
it as his opinion that
“to go to England is neither
necessary nor advantageous
for” me. He says that it
would be too great a strain
upon me - He says that
Switzerland would be best
& Therapia next best -
Balaclava not for two months.

I believe I am going
to Prinkip, the capital
of Princes' Islands for a
couple of days with Σ &
then must decide what I
really ought to do - feeling
that, if I go, all this will fall
to pieces - yours ever, whatever betides
Scutari July 18. 1855
Dearest Aunt Mai

If you can come, you only know what a support it will be to me - But all I shall see of you, will be for 2 or 3 hours a day at my little house at Scutari where you would live - You must judge whether it is worthwhile for you to have the long journey for this. I can hardly think it so - You are very good to think of it - But it would be no comfort to me you well know if you were to give up the time to me, when wanted at home -- If we were less far off, there is no one gives me strength & courage & keeps me up like you - You raise me up to God.

We think it quite out of the question to have dear Bertha here. It is not a place for her indeed - Thank her for me -

Yrs ever Gratefully

FN
8995/24 initialled letter, 1f, pen

Scutari
    July 26/55 [14:201]
Dearest people
    It is almost worth while to be ill to have such letters from you - I am getting on famously & I fear I shall have no excuse for going home - turn away my thoughts for it from it, because it would not do to let the picture of home get possession of my thoughts mind
I am quite sure that it would not be right to peril this work by going away - Yours ever FN
Mrs. Bracebridge has written to Nurses to say that it would damage the Hospitals for me to go home

8995/25 initialled letter, 4ff, pen

July 28/55
My dearest people [1:318]
I send you by Ö a bridal scarf for Parthe - the meaning of which is that the new "me" she has wedded which is really the old original "me" now 35 years old, acknowledges
the eternal union with
a wedding garment -
    Also, a jug & basin
wherein Rose Water is
here poured over the
hands, of which festivities
we do not know much. [end 1:318]
But Σ has taken the
bread out of my mouth
& chooses to give you
this themselves -

Aunt Hannah weighs [14:201-02]
much upon my heart.
I wish I could have
seen her again -
    I am excessively
sorry that Mr. Milnes
has taken up in Parlt.,
if it is true, the death
of Mr. Stowe - Of course
the "Times" likes a grie=
vance. The fact being
that Mr. Stowe was
nursed day & night

by a Nurse & a Supt
of mine, two women,
a thing I never did
before, by a Chaplain,
who was like a brother
to him & by two Doctors -
He did not die from
neglect & had every
advantage but air - If
I had died, they might
just as well have said
it was from neglect -
Add that Mr. Stowe's
resolute & exciteable temper
was a peculiarly difficult one
to manage - for his good.
July 28. Saturday night -
Mr & Mrs. Bracebridge just
sailed per Canadian for Marseille
for nine months she has been
the moving power by which
these Hospitals were made to
go at all - & no one can tell
what she has been to me -
more than my Egeria - almost
my Holy Ghost - I have kept
them two months after their time,
which I shall never cease to
regret - though regret be unphi-
losophical - & more, impertinent -

With Mr. Bracebridge goes the
only man of sense & feeling
& the only man but one of
business in
these miserable
Hospitals - We have long
put aside the humbug of
charity towards them among
ourselves -

{written on the top of the first page}
My wig is come off - send me a
bottle (or the Prescription) of the
Eau de Cologne mixture - I have
worn him à la Titus these nine
months but now it is à la
Julius Caesar - ever yours FN
Scutari
August 7/55
My dearest friends
I have so much to
write to you about that
is really important & no
time to write it in -
I feel am like one in a
Greek tragedy,
where all is fated to
ruin & struggle is
useless - I think this
tragedy greater far
than any of Aeschylus -
& I feel like Prometheus
bound to the rock, against
which every thing is
going to wreck - the
rock of ignorance, incompe-
tency & ill will -
For McGregor is incompe-
tent, Lord Wm is ignorant,
& Robertson is drunk-
Everybody deteriorates
in this Tragic place - &
deterioration is the most trpic of all dénouement -
& Robertson, whom I
looked to as our plank
of salvation came to me
the other day in a state
which I thought was
the pangs of despised
love or of drink - And
I afterwards found
from private information it was brandy. He has only been three hours in the place during the whole of the past week, the rest being spent at Koulale - I have sent for him twice a day for seven days upon very particular business concerning his own Linen Stores & he has never been to be found - Now he has the Cholera which is better - & I am going to him - Lord Wm goes to England next week -

If I could have condescended to make these men in love with me, it wd have been better - But that I could not do -
I (Caffé) By dint of Pincoffs & my my & the incessant exertion of money, the Coffee-house was opened yesterday - I advanced other £150 - & sent them hams, butter, brandy, tea-urn, tent, prints, a band, newspapers &c for the opening day when every thing was gratis - I went, though I could hardly stand, because I did not choose the
Nurses to go without me - I was cheered, of course, & my health drunk when my Uncle answered, to my great humiliation - there was some good speaking, but the best was from a common Sergeant, who proposed the health of the Chaplains - Protestant & Catholic - I brought the Nurses of both Hospitals away in twenty minutes, which nothing but my going myself could have done - The Sympathy of these honest fellows is like the Chorus in the Greek tragedy - always the best part -

I am sorry to say that Pincoffs hurts Valerio's proud feelings so much that that worthy professes he only stays for love of me, & I am afraid he will go at last - I am always adjusting quarrels - They settled the list of prices without consulting him, the most absurd prices - I made a new list, which was accepted by the Committee, or I think they never could have sold
anything - Shore & Pincoffs are the only men who take the least interest, & Shore knows nothing of business, & Pincoffs is too worrying - I wish you could have staid over the opening of the Caffè, I am afraid we shall have more trouble -

II (Huts) But to business - I dislike writing this next excessively - because it is not my business - & one does not like reminding & teasing the Government to do that which it may have done already -

But the existence of the army next winter depends upon it - And so please to consider that you must never change your shirt till this is done - The Isabelle linen will be the consequence -

I understand, from all the officers who come down & from Lord William himself that there is not a single Regiment hutted - that, if they are not hutted before winter, the same misfortunes will befall us which befell us last - winter
[3]
I understand that the
Officers sometimes ask
for huts for themselves,
& are told that there
they are at Balaclava,
which is true, if they
can bring them up to
camp - which they cannot,
because they are too heavy -x
The only Regt which
was huted was the 39th, you
know, & those huts have
been converted into a
General Hospl
I hear there are seven miles of huts coming-
one for the horses - But even this is doubtful
Secondly, all competent
authorities suppose that
we shall be before Sevas-
topol another winter
x It takes 40 horses to bring one up to camp - &
the Railroad won't or can't be used, because it is more
than pre occupied with carrying Commissariat stores -

3 (Trenches) If so, & if these this trenches'
works still go on, as they
seem to suppose they it will
unless we have a trenches'
dress, we shall have a
repetition of what you
only who saw our last
winter's work, of taking
off frost bitten feet,
can imagine - There must
be a trenches' dress -
I would propose a
light flexible material
of Gutter Percha or some=
thing of the kind to
draw over the feet &
fasten with a strap
in front so as to accommodate
all feet - & to come draw up to the thigh - fastening round the waist. Gloves or gauntlets lined with fur, to prevent frostbitten hands - & ears, to fall down over the ears - Any one accustomed to the business could invent a dress better than I - but there must be a dress, with waterproof coat, (that matters little how it is made) - It was not the excessive cold, but the wet, the evaporation which cut off our men's hands & feet last winter - And the sights I saw then only the Surgeons can tell who will not tell - The men ought to march down to the trenches in their usual boots mits & dress, carrying the light trenches' dress with them, put it on not over, but instead of their usual dress, & put on their own dry dress again when they come out - The trenches' dress should be solid enough to rush out of the trenches in, if necessary - I do not understand these things but that a dress should be invented & sent out
by those who do, is absolutely necessary to save life —
   Pray see to this —
I will never cease bothering about it —
   It may have been done already — but, if not, the health of the army is at stake —
   Bakewell, the Surgeon in the front who wrote the letter in the Times about the Regimental Hospital, in the front, has been dismissed the Service — discharged for his letter —
I have not seen the
man, because I thought
him a wrong headed
mortal when he was
at ye Genl Hospl here, 6
months ago, & I have
enemies enough without
Quixotizing - But I believe
his letter was correct -
IV (Hospitals in front) I will tell you why-
Last Week came down
the "Wm. Jackson" from
Balaclava with wounded
Invalids for England -
Her crew deserted &
she has been detained
here now a week in
consequence & is still
here, with 3 wounded
officers & 98 wounded
Privates all on board -
Most of them amputation
cases - Shoulder= joints
& high up in the thigh -
Three who were dying
were brought in here -
two of these are since dead -
I was horrified &
scandalized by the
condition of these - One
with a broken jaw (by
a shell) had a wound
in the back of the head,
another in the breast -
& the whole of the back
of the neck excoriated
(not from the enemy's shell but)
from the matters coming from
the wound in the face
having been allowed
to run down & accumulate
till the flesh was eaten
away & the bone laid
bare - They were brought
in here after 9 o'clock
at night. Mrs. Roberts
dressed the wound in
my presence & was
two hours cleaning away
the accumulated filth -
The man said "Thank
you" when he could
hardly speak - Afterwards he became
delirious & died in
three days - They were
all too far gone to

[5]
gather from them
clearly where they
came from - But I
think the Jaw=man
came from the Hospital
in the front -

There was no fault
here - Dr. Summers was
upon the spot imme-
diately - so were
restoratives - & I was
allowed to send in
Isinglass flavored with & Wine from us -
for the dying - And if
the Dressers were not
forthcoming, so much
the better -
The whole story is to me incomprehensible - & had I not seen it, I would not have believed it - how they were sent home at all - in such a state (the death of one, I can have no doubt, was occasioned by moving him - it was a wound in the leg, nearly healed, with inflammation of the absorbents) & how they were so neglected - The Jaw case must have been the result of the neglect of one two or three weeks, not of that merely of the voyage, - which was remarkably short. I have written to Mrs. Stewart to learn whether any came from her Hospital - Oh that they would send us to the Hospital in the front - But while a drunken isolated Miss Clough receives not only toleration but sanction, I should be considered mad if I were to offer
to undertake the General Hospl in the front with a regular body of women — V (Nuns) Now for the Nuns at the Genl Hospl. I have at last compelled them to send in the List of Names of those whom they "instruct" - This is their own word, though the W.O. despatch says expressly they are not to instruct — I think I told you that they are appointed as Nurses to three out of the six Divisions of the Hospital—

[6]

The other three Divisions they have distributed among themselves to — "instruct" - When I wrote to them, they simply sent me the names of these three Divisions, making up thus the whole Hospital under R. Catholic care — I answered that I could "was sure they would allow me to smile" at such a way of informing me what they were doing, & ended by saying, which was suggested to me by my Revd Mother, that I took for granted they only went to Patients
in an advanced state of disease (i.e. in Corridors not their own) & that they sent the Convalescents to the priests to instruct. I knew well that they were principally seen in the two Convalescent Corridors - & that the gossip of the lay Sisters with Orderlies & Convalescents in the Corridors was the talk of the whole Hospital -

I suppose they found themselves in the wrong, for the next day came

the long requested List-
One Sister had in the one Division (& that not her own except religiously), which Division is one sixth of the Hospital, forty-nine names!! I thought this peculiar - & wrote to them to come at last & see me - The Revd Brickbat had never thought fit to come near me since I was ill, tho' I sent her the £5 to do so - They came - & I asked them what the proportion of R.C.s among the Patients was - They said
at once, one fourth. How then, said I, can there can be forty-nine R.Cs for you to instruct in one sixth of a Hospital, which has not contained for four months above 400 patients, generally With more than 300 ? (I forgot to tell you that I had made enquiry - & found that, in one Sister's list, in the whole Division, there were only two in bed - in another only six - & these, it seems to me obvious, are the only ones to whom women should go

[7]
Oh! said the Sister directly, I "instruct" the Orderlies & that makes up so large a number, together with the Convalescents - I asked her whether she did not think such should go to the Priest & that we women were for the Sick - No, she said, it was no use "instructing" the sick - it was only the well that it was any use to go to - Now I thoroughly believe in the conscientiousness of these women -
though they never cease
to bother me - they have
been intriguing again
with Robertson about
their Room & their Door
& about building & knocking
down & partitioning for
them - till I have been
obliged to speak to the
latter - Sister Elizabeth
having actually told me
that I need not trouble
myself - for that the
females at Koulale &
Robertson would settle
it all-
Still I believe Sister

Elizabeth & her nuns to
be thoroughly conscientious -
(the Lay Sister is nothing
but a gossip - & I have
been obliged to remove
her from her wards)
I believe that they don't
like forcing their "instruc-
tions" upon Orderlies, but
that they are ordered to
do it -
The question with me
is not at all that of
R. Catholicism v.
Protestantism - not at
all a religious question-
It is that every body
laughs at them, excepting
those who cry - my Revd Mother cannot bear their doing it - Says that she never remembers its being allowed, even in Ireland, in Convents, that she would feel it most awkward to be have to do it - The question with me is, --we are sent out to Nurse in a Military Hospl Is it desirable, is it not calculated to bring ridicule upon the whole thing, for women & young women, be they veiled or be they not, to stand

[8] about Corridors talking to knots of Orderlies or Convalescents upon religious subjects or any others ? - I would have dismissed any Nurse who talked as their Lay Sister does - I must premise that S. Elizabeth & I are on the most friendly terms - & that all this passes in the guise of mere question & answer - Also, with Robertson I get on admirably when I see him - I have complaints innumerable from the Gen. Hosp - when they
are always quarrelling -
Some are trivial - Three,
I think, are authenticated-
A poor dying R. Catholic
had fallen asleep after
many days & nights of
utter sleeplessness - The
nun came in, & the
Nurse said, He is asleep-
She passed on without
taking any notice &
woke him - This was
in a ward where the
Nun was not nursing -
A controversial Periodical,
called the "Lamp", which
puts the Ch. of England
in a very ridiculous
point of view, is distributed
(NB. I believe the Protestants
have religiously adhered
to their promise not to
distribute any controversy)
And is read aloud by
a R.C. Orderly in a
Corridor not his own to
a knot of laughing Orderlies,
in ma when the Protestant
Sister comes by.
In one case a boy
was persuaded not to
eat after he had been
confessed & communica-
ted- The boy was not
dying & ultimately lived
some time, after he had
been compelled to eat.
Fathers Molony & Syas are at their tricks again—& I believe that both Lawfield & Sansom are only waiting to take places in Scutari for their new masters to promise that they will frank them home when they like to go which they cannot obtain—

I am glad you are gone—The weather here has been atrocious—Heat like a steam=bath—Tropical thunder & lightning—& tropical rains—If we could but catch it—But the poor washermen come [9]
to me with the cry of "No water" & Gordon does nothing—Meanwhile the Hospital is flooded & our quarters too—

I hope you have not forgotten "Times" & "Illustrated News" for Caffè, which I supply at present, but cannot go on. I have anticipated the operations of Nature by shaving my head, & I find it a great comfort in this weather to be able to wash my head twice a day.

The letters from "heart=broken friends at home" have begun again—friends who want to know whether
a man who died in Febry
(a time when we were
never in from the wards
till near twelve o'clock)
"appeared to have any
desire to be saved &
left a Savings Bank
Book for £20" I am
desired to give the
minutest particulars
of what he thought &
did not think at 6
months' distance of time
to a "praying Mother &
a father who has feared
God many years."
Curiously enough, I
remember this man-
tho' at that time we
were losing from fifty
to seventy a day.

[10]
Some publishers write
to me to ask to publish
My Crimean experience -
VI (Sending money home)
Some sharp men here
when they bring their
money to send home
say that you allowed
them 1 to £1- & when
they gave you £5.5,
their wives received
£5.10 - They want to
know whether I shall
do the same - Pray tell
me what I am to do,
if this is the case now -
The Allobroges are
dreadful & come round
poor Revd Mother, but
they don't inspire me
at all with their
howls - There was one
Allobrog came to me
howling for mourning
for her husband just
dead of the Cholera
& I found Ly Alicia
had given her mourning
complete a week ago -

The work in the Linen
Stores has grown tremen-
dously - I have been
obliged to put on four
Nurses & two nuns and
a half besides two Order-
lies, for it was really

wearing Revd Mother &
the women out this
weather.

VII (Nurses) I have been making
great reforms - changed
all the Nurses' wards
all round to break off
acquaintances which
I accidentally found out
were coming to bad -
One or two had already
gone a long way - &
Mrs Tainton fell sick
in consequence - We
have been much more
respectable since -

Sansom is a dreadful
mischief maker, I have
found out. So much for
St. John’s House- It has worked me nothing but mischief, excepting poor Drake - Lawfield behaves perfectly well - But I expect every day to hear of her going-

Hawkins has been sober two whole days - the results of my having locked up the Brandy in our sitting= room in the closet in the kitchen & keeping the key. But she never wants now to clean the Sitting room, nor even offers to do anything - tho' she protested the very day after you went away she was always ready to clean. I have changed her wards & broken off her acquaintances

[11] Howse, I am afraid, is getting drunk - Clark & Tainton, the two most troublesome ones, are luckily in bed -

Do pray try & make Koulale into an Officers' Hospl - They want Nurses Now the ladies there have learnt to nurse a little & have learnt to flirt a little, both requisites for doing the business to the Officers' satisfaction- It seems to me Koulale is the very place for an Officers' Hospl, instead of plaguing me for Nurses - We have, by this Morning's
VIII (Officers Nurses) state, 101 Officers sick, of whom not one in bed, & every one has a servant.
Do you think I will give them Nurses? Hang me if I do! They are sick, qy. of the Krimea?
Ly Canning's Nurses under Mrs Willoughby Moore are not just yet arrived -
M Vido has never shown since he was paid his wages - the coolest thing he has done yet -
Antonio reigns triumphant
Can any good thing come out of the Embassy?
The greatest compliment I have had paid to me was by the Vice-Consul at Missolonghi who said

that Lord Raglan was dead which was bad - but that Miss Nightingale was going to be married, which was worse -
Now, please remember that I say this about the Hutting & Trenches' clothing in every letter, though I never write again-
We are filling the Corridors again - Our numbers are increasing. They are emptying the Hospitals in the front, which looks like business & on the Genoese heights - Soyer & Dumont are gone up - The patients here don't like Soyer's cookery,
in whom I believe, nearly
so well as ours, & I hear
nothing but complaints -
But I will not reopen
our kitchens yet - Robertson
is falling into the same
habits of indecision as
Wreford - Lemon, vinegars,
lime=juice, he will not
make up his mind to buy.
So I have bought a cargo
of Lemons from Messina
& Messrs. Barton's Vinegar,
or the Hospitals would
have come off minus -
I think this is the Hospital
& the Grave Yard of all the
Virtues, which do all fall
sick here - Also, they have
left off purveying the Sheds

[12]
with Stationery & say
they have none - so I have
begun again -
Pray do not forget a
print of Inkermann, of
the Queen &c &c & a map
of the Krimea &c for the
Caffè -
Pray don't forget us,
FN.
The thing I should like
best if you would send me would be a good
Novel - not fashionable -
like Mrs. Gaskell's
"North & South", which
/also you might send us in
its whole Edition - (I
have read it in Household
Words) - for the Reading Room
When I lie down which I never do, I think of all the things to be done & they start me up again. If I had a good Novel, perhaps I should not think of them-

Mr. Sabin is ill & gone home - He is no loss to me, tho' he was the best of the Chaplains - I like Dr Blackwood however, if he would not come & read the Times in my room - Only think of that Lawless being our Senior Chaplain - I don't think the Greek tragedy ever turned out a character like him

Every body is going home to England but the Bashi - Bazouks & me - A child in England, hearing we wanted reinforcements, has sent me his wooden soldier without an arm - Will somebody kindly write to Sir James Clark & to Mr. Bowman & say that I wish to thank them very much for their kind advice, which, so far from annoying me, touched & pleased me very much that they should
think of me - but that
my Medical adviser,
Dr. Sutherland, thought
it best that I should
not return to England
Should come back, I
will make a little tour
to Brusa in November
I enclose letters from
two very different men,
the flowery Purveyor of
Balaclava & the surly
P.M.O of Scutari, in answer
to two questions of Mr.
Bracebridge's -
We have had several
horses killed & several men
struck down but not killed
by the lightning - Every one
says they never remember such -

[13]
The joke here is that
Genl Simpson does not
speak French & cannot
write English. There is
no good news from the Krimea-
I have just heard that
Mrs. Willoughby Moore,
widow of the Europa, is
seen on her way out with
the officers' Nurses - I don't
know whom she is to nurse-
But she is a very proper
age for it -
I have had a disagree-
able business with Tainton-
She made love to a man,
an Orderly, who turned
out to be a married
man - I first said that
she & a nun were to be
together in the wards - she rebelled, hoping that I would take off the unwelcome restraint - & I then removed her altogether off her wards, which she expected so little & was vexed at so much that she fell sick - I have not told her that I know it - But, as all the Nurses know, I fear she must go back to England -

I do not wish to discuss those trivial instances of R.C. empiètement which I have told you with R.C. Bishop's who always get the best of it - But the great question as to whether the Nuns are to wander about "instructing" Convalescents & Orderlies strikes at the very root-

9th

Lothian Nicholson came yesterday & goes to the Krimea today. He looks well & in good spirits tho' his face is blistered with heat - I was so very glad to see him - He gave me an account of dear Aunt Hannah’s suffering - If she still lives, ask her to send a message, tell her how I have thought of her & loved her & how I shall miss her being on earth - I should have liked to have seen her again - The old are so much better than the young - If she is still living, tell her why I have not written - If not, it does not signify - She will understand -
If Aunt Mai does come out, what a pity she did not come with Lothian - I really think it is doubtful now whether she had better take the trouble - I may be gone to B'clava before she is well here now - It is worth her making the exertion ? I shall go up at the end of this month probably to the Krim -

Oh if you had seen the floods! The water pouring into our Quarters like a spout - the Corridor between our Quarters impassable to & the Main Guard impassable - (the rain continued 24 hours) I, catching sight of a Hospital Orderly, making telegraphic signs to him to go to Dr. McGregor & get an Order for a fatigue party & tubs for us - The Depot thoroughly flooded out - I had sent our Orderlies to "Rag and Famish" to rescue our stores - But my telegraph succeeded - I have got another Athena - shall I keep him ?
Joint letter to us Scutari
the Bracebridges - August 7/55
By dint of Pincoffs & me &
the incessant exertion of money
the Coffee - house was opened
yesterday - I advanced other
£150 & sent them hams, butter
brandy, tea-urn, tent, prints,
a band, newspapers &c for
the opening day when every thing
was gratis. I went, though I
could hardly stand, because I
did not choose the nurses to go
without me. I was cheered & my
health drunk, there was some good speaking
the best was from a common
sergeant who proposed the health
of the chaplains Protestant &
Catholic. I brought the nurses of
both Hospitals away in 20 minutes
which nothing but going myself
could have done. The sympathy of these honest fellows is like the Chorus in the Greek tragedy, always the best part. Last week came down the "William Jackson" from Balaklava with wounded invalids for England. Her crew deserted & she has been detained here now a week in consequence & is still here with 3 wounded officers & 98 wounded Privates, all on board. Most of them amputation cases, shoulder joints & high up in the thigh. Three who were dying were brought in here, two of the 3 are since dead. I was horrified mesmerized by the condition of these. One with a broken jaw (by a shell) had a wound in the back of the neck, another in the breast, & the whole of the back of the neck excoriated, (not from the enemy's shell but) from the matter coming from
the wound in the face having
been allowed to run &
accumulate till the flesh
was eaten away & the bone
laid bare. They were brought
in here after 9 o’clock at
night. Mrs Roberts dressed
the wound in my presence
& was two hours cleaning
away the accumulated filth-
The man said "Thank you"
when he could hardly speak-
Afterwards he became delirious
& died in three days -
The weather here has been atrocious
Heat like a steam bath.
Tropical thunder & lighting &
tropical rains - If we could but
catch it ! But the poor
washermen come to me with the
cry of no water. Meanwhile the
hospital is flooded & our quarters
too. The letters from "heart-broken
friends at home" have begun
again-friends who want to know
whether a man who died in Feby
(a time when we were never in
from the wards till near twelve
o’clock) "appeared to have any
desire to be saved & left a Saving
-Book Bank for £20. I am
desired to give the minutest particulars
of what he thought & did not
think at 6 months distance of
time to a "praying Mother & a
father who has feared God many
years." Curiously enough I remember
this man, tho' at that time we
were losing from fifty to seventy
a day.
& the Corridor impassable. (this rain continued for 24 hours.)
"The letters from heartbroken friends at home have begun again - friends who want to know whether a man who died in Feb' (a time when we were never in from the wards till near 12 o'clock) "appeared to have any desire to be saved & left a Savings Bank book for 20." I am desired to give the minutest particulars of what he thought & did not think at 6 months distance of time, to a "praying Mother & a father who has feared God many years-" Curiously enough I do remember this poor fellow, tho' at that time we were losing from 50 to 70 a day.
The Allobroges x are dreadful - & come round ----- but they don't inspire me at all with their howls- There was one who came to me howling for mourning for her husband - & I found Lady Alicia had just given it complete - We are filling the Corridors again our numbers are increasing- They are emptying the Hospitals in front

Allobroges a people of Gaul whose wives & children encouraged them in battle by following after howling & crying (note de l'éditeur)
& on the Genoese Heights, which looks as if something were expected. I have been obliged to buy a cargo of Lemons from Messina, & Messr's Bartons' vinegar, or the Hospitals would have come off minus - I think this is the Hospital & Grave Yard of all the Virtues, which do all fall sick here - Also they have left off purveying the Hospital Reading room with Stationary, or say they have none, so I have begun again. Pray do not forget to send us - print of the Queen another of Inkermann a Map of the Crimea &c for the new Caffé A child in England hearing that we wanted reinforcements has sent me his wooden soldier without an arm - We are hoping soon for General Stork's arrival- the account of him is excellent -

Then was

8995/28 handwritten copy of a signed letter, 2ff, pen

Scutari Hospital
August 12/55

Sir,
I have been a long time acknowledging your kind & generous present. Your son's books are now read in all the Hospitals of Scutari & Balaclava under my care, It is extremely difficult to find any book but a novel which the soldier will read. The life of soldiers is necessarily confined to strict discipline & to imagination - And they consequently confine themselves to their Prayer books or a Romance. The soldier reads his Prayer book as he goes to Parade Service
as a part of his "duty", put
in "General Orders", by his
spiritual Commanding Officer.
His Comrade in the next bed
does not laugh at him for
reading it when he is sick
(as patients in the London Civil
Hospitals laugh at each other
for doing so) any more than
he laughs at him for being
marched to service when
he is well. But to make him
read any other religious book
is another question- and
religious books seem written
now only for Bishops, women
& tract societies.

Your son's books have filled
this blank - and except
the Pilgrim Progress, I
never remember any works
so popular. Tracts are -
I think deservedly - unattractive. [end 14:213]

Believe me Sir
your obliged
Florence Nightingale

8995/29 handwritten copy of Letter 30}
Scutari
August 19
"Oh that I had wings like a Dove & could look at your Western skies for a night" I may well re-echo, father dear - Our Eastern skies, diversified as they are by the red glare of a fire at Constantinople bringing painfully before one's imagination the fiery glare of our destroying war which lights up our political night - & the too real fire of a night at near Sevastopol - our Eastern skies are far less beautiful physically & morally -
If my name & my having done what I could for God & mankind has given my dearest father pleasure, that is real pleasure to me - The reputation, (fashionableness I should call it) which has unexpectedly followed me has not been a boon to me in my work - But if he has been pleased, that is enough, I shall love my foolish name now-
& shall feel it to be my best reward that he can have satisfaction in hearing the name of the child he has educated repeated by others, drawing, I do believe, often sympathies together - If my work does that, I am sure he will feel that some return for what he has done for me -

If ever I live to see England again, the Western breezes of my hill-top home will be my first longing, though Olympus, with its snowy cap, looks fair over our blue Eastern sea - Who could believe less than I that I have been living for nine months within sight of it?

Pray tell all my friends in Lea & Holloway who remember me that I often remember them amid the bustle & strife, less wearing that of landing 500 sick, as we did yesterday than of fighting, conciliating, persuading Purveyors & Commandants - Oh Gladstone & Herbert!

{written vertically in the margin of the first page} I have had a very kind letter from Lord Panmure FN -
Scutari {arch: '55}
Aug 19
Dear Uncle Nicholson
I feel I must find time
to write one word, though that is
unworthy of the subject, to tell you
what great happiness it gave me
(after my nine months exile) to
see Lothian again, looking so well
so manly so full of zeal & energy -
He is gone up to see what I think
every young man ought to see -
The most wonderful page I suspect
of the history of the 19th Century,
not excluding Waterloo which was
successful, whereas we are unsuccessful
& the why is the most curious &
instructive peep a young man can
have under the surface of our brilliant
British prosperity. I could scarcely
regret his going up to add his still
pure & loyal & uncorrupted hand
to the few others who redeem the
general lukewarmness corruption or
complaining of the Authorities out there
stiffened & warped by education &
by weariness - The moral deterioration
is quicker than the physical -
I was much pleased to hear the
way in which Capt Gordon (Engineer)
the best man we have here, spoke
of Lothian - The earnest prayer
of us all must be that he do not
have to pay for his experience.
But there is such a thing, as
patriotism still I suppose in
England - And who can regret
Wellcome Ms 8995

that Lothian should do something
for God & mankind, for which I
assure you there is room out here -
I cannot tell you how much I
have longed for one twenty four
hours in England to see again my
dear Aunt Hannah - Perhaps before
this she is where one would not
presume to wish her back from -
With love to all ever my dear
Uncle your affet niece
Florence Nightingale

8995/32 incomplete copy of unsigned letter, 2ff, pen {arch: 1855} ver
not FN hand

Col Storks is not come, nor coming [14:283]
I hear. For all the Brigades are
filled up & Lord W. cannot get one
but stays here till he does - Lord
Panmure ordering him up & Genl.
Simpson keeping him down -
My cousin Lothian N a clever
young Captain of the Engineers is gone
up & he writes me the most desolating
letters of the mismanagement up there -
but all of course in the strictest confidence.
Our chiefs still asserting that we shall
be in Sevastopol in a week, & no
preparations for the winter are therefore
necessary. Indeed many think that we shall

suffer as much this winter as last -
McGregor Cumming & Lord W are
as efficient & satisfactory as usual
so is Robertson. And I fight my
battles as usual -
I gave your commentary upon the
Quarter Master’s store of free gifts to
Robertson. It was not the best way
of doing the business, but at least he
& Robertson are enemies as everybody
is here. I assure you I cannot
undertake a war with the Q. Master.
Poor “Boots” is quite worn out
She has been packing /2 selecting /1 stores
& packing eleven boxes for the Sardinian Hosp. at Balaclava which is utterly destitute. four for the Castle Hospital one for the Naval, two for the new Monastery Hospital one for the Engineers & some for the Officers besides doing Miss Salisbury’s work. Chaplain Hadow has been & proposed to Miss Tebbutt & been refused - They both behaved perfectly well about it both came to tell me

The man said "Thank you" when he could hardly speak, but he afterwards became delirious & died in 3 days - I am glad the B’s are gone, the weather has been dreadful: heat like a steam bath, tropical thunder & lightning, & tropical rain - If we could but catch it! But the poor washermen come to me with the cry of no water. Meanwhile the Hospital is flooded, the water pouring into our quarters like a spout & the Corridors impassable.
The letters from heartbroken friends at home have begun again - poor people
who want to know whether a man who died on Feb 4 (a time when we were never in from the wards till near twelve o'clock) "appeared to have any desire to be saved & left a Savings Bank Book for 20g." Curiously enough I do remember this poor fellow, tho' at that time we were losing from 50 to 70 a day -

The Allobroges* are dreadful & come round ______, but they don't inspire me with their howls - There was one Allobrog came to me howling for mourning for her husband last week, & I found Ly Alicia Blackwood had just given it her complete.

We are filling the corridors again, the numbers are increasing, they are emptying the Hospitals in front. I have been obliged to buy a cargo of Lemons from Messina & Barton's Vinegar, or the Hospitals would have come off minus. I think this is the Hospital & the Grave Yard of all the Virtues, which do here all fall sick. Also, they have left off purveying the Hl Reading Room
with Stationary, so I have begun
again with our store. Pray do not
forget to send us a print of the Queen
another of Inkermann, & a map
of the Crimea &c for the new Caffé.
I am very tired tonight with selecting
& packing 16 boxes of stores for the
Crimea, 4 for Castle Hospital 2 for
new monastery Hl. &c &c
some for the Sardinians who were
quite destitute. Preparations for work -
A child in England hearing we
wanted reinforcements, has sent me his
wooden soldier without an arm -
The account of General Storks is excellent.
we are expecting him daily-

8995/34 incomplete letter, 2ff, pen

I think it was an error of judgment - (with submission to
say it) to give the disgraced
well-paid Nurses any part
of the “Free Gift” stores - especially
the disgraced nurses - MORE
especially the disgraced Nurses
from Koulale - I say this
merely as a principle - For
I don’t suppose the whole
value of what the Nurses had
all together out of the “Free
Gift” stores was £5. But
I think it is bad for them
they have frequently quoted that about the disgraced
men & they ought to buy their own under
clothing - They are enormously
paid - & well out=fitted -
I would therefore propose submit
that you send out the value
of what was given them
in Old Linen, either here, or
to the London Hospital of the
P.R.C.S. (who complains in
the “Times” that his Hospital has been plundered, if you could find out which it is) & announce that you gave this linen in case of emergency to Nurses, that you intended to replace it, that here it is, that no more was, or was intended to be, given - ( For I have insisted upon every Nurse paying for everything but her stated outfit since ever since you went). Don’t say anything about having re=considered & thought it wrong the giving away to Nurses - I will if you should do anything of this kind - (I will gladly be at the expence) -

The Russians will not move out so easily as you think. They are making themselves very strong on the N-side Sevastopol
Mrs. Pratt I am most sincerely grieved to be obliged to send you sad news of your husband - He came into this Hospital 4 days ago - He then appear’d much extenuated & exhausted from long continued Diarrhoea - My head nurse & myself saw him immediately that he was brought in - He appear’d very glad to get here - He said to me, "Now I shall get well" - For a couple of days he went on very well - He took much food to keep up his strength, which was given to him, as often as he could take it - He liked our Tea, & broth & pudding, & appear’d to take all with pleasure, but yesterday he appear’d to get worse. He took his Tea however from the Nurse, at 5 o’clock as usual, but at 7 I grieve to say he sunk while the Nurse & ward Master were standing by his bed - His death was at last rather sudden - I hope it may be some comfort to you, that he had all the Care possible here - the Doctor who attended him was very attentive, as was the Nurse who attended in his ward & I saw him myself every day, as did also my head Nurse - He had also the attendance of the Chaplain. He asked me to write to you, tho’ at that time he did not appear to anticipate that he should not recover. He ask’d me to send you £2.10.0, which will
reach you by Post office order. The last time I saw him, he could not speak very distinctly & I was not sure, what he said, but I think he desired to be remember’d to your Father & Mother. He was most grateful & patient & quite resigned - I am truly griev’d for the sorrow this letter must give you - I hope you may find comfort in your sad loss in thinking that his earthly trial is over, & in the hope of a happy meeting in a better world.

I remain
Yours truly
Florence Nightingale [end]
Frances N
Sept 14/55 [1] [14:227-30]
If you will promise not to let this letter go into anyone’s hands but my own people’s I will give you “a true account of the last Dying Thunder of the Malakoff - But I trust to nobody, since Miss Stanley let S. Herbert’s letter to me get into the “Daily News”. And what I am going to tell you from the lips of eye-witnesses is just what the “Times” likes to have.

General Markham commanded the Reserve in the trenches. Punctual at the stroke of 12, the French streamed in a dense column from the head of their advanced sass.’ into the ditch of the Malakoff (they had about 20 yards of open to cross) up the parapet and in. Before ten minutes, the place was taken, the Russians trooping over the parapet, the French Tricolour waving on the Malakoff & the white Ensign on the Mamelon, our signal to go in - The whole thing was most brilliant. at the given signal, our ladder party, preceded by Rifle skirmishers, went out in good style, crossed the open, (about 150 yards) & established the ladders in the ditch, led by Ranken R.E. who, miraculously, was not hit. The storming party then went on in gallant style - charged up the parapet of the Redan but -
when there instead of charging on & carrying every thing before them, which they might easily have done, as there were no interior entrenchments, & not 500 Russians in the place, they stopped & began to fire, & the thing from that moment was a failure, fresh troops came up, although not in sufficient numbers, (in fact, the management of the supports was very bad) but the troops in front never got up a charge in mass into the place, individual Officers & small parties went in, but not being supported, could do nothing, & for an hour & a half the troops were clustered like bees on the exterior slope & ditch, exposed to a heavy flanking fire, which they would have avoided had they gone in, at last strong Russian reinforcements came up & we retired. the French had an awful fight at the “Little Redan” - which lasted until night, & it is doubtful whether they ever really took it. Next day the sight then was ghastly - My informant saw 900 French laid out in rows, like game after a abattue, Zouaves, Imperial Guard, Line, all separated. He believes the French were completely beaten on the left at the “Bastion du centre” - In fact, curiously enough, the Malakoff, the key of the position, was the only one easily & completely won - We cannot
[3] help thinking the French owed this to what, if he is right, is one of the most magnificent ruses on record - They constructed immense batteries on the Mamelon & between it & the Malakoff, & never, he believes, fired a shot from them - so that the Russians considered themselves safe from assault until these batteries had opened fire for 2 or 3 hours, & were consequently taken by surprise.

The Russians have not risen in our estimation as Engineers since we have seen the Redan & Malakof - They chose good positions - but from the nature of the ground, that was easy. they owed their protracted resistance entirely to their powerful Artillery-fire & indomitable energy. The Redan has no ditch to stop determined men, in fact, scaling ladders were scarcely necessary, & no interior entrenchments. The Bastion du Mal is a strong work, with an escarp 14 feet high, rivetted with timber & Cassoniers (that’s not the word nor anything like it) in the Ditch. Had it stood where the Malakoff stood the French would have been puzzled. The Russians sunk all their ships except 7 steamers, we began a Battery to batter them, but they saved us the trouble by burning them. What the next move is, no one knows, we think we shall do nothing. The Russian Hospital in the Town is a diabolical sight - crammed with dead & dying
some of our men & officers among them (I must
get up) they are still burying them & the stench
is horrible - Our loss is, we believe, 2300 men
killed & wounded - the French upwards of 10,000 -
Major Chapman is badly wounded.

In the Right Attack, the storming party were
all mustered in the advanced trench, the reserves
in the third Parallel - It was probably owing to
the Reserves being so far in the rear (about 500
yards from the Redan) that our attack failed.
But we could not help this, as our advance
trenches do not afford cover for more than 3000
men - Even these were not properly under cover,
& a great part of our loss was in the trenches.
The French on the right however, by taking
advantage of the quarries in the side of the hill,
which slopes upwards, as you remember, to the
Malakhoff, & by getting good cover in their
trenches, had concealed a vast mass of men.
It is said that, including their reserves, they
had not less than 30,000 men engaged in the
Attack. In the morning, the French sprung 2
mines in front of their advanced trench
which brought them within 30 yards of the
counter scarp of the Malakhoff. The French
succeeded most perfectly in throwing the enemy
off their guard. viz. by the enormous batteries
I mentioned at the base of the Mamelon, so
that they had two tiers of guns which seemed capable of crushing the Malakoff. Yet they never opened one of these guns before the assault, by which the enemy was entirely deceived, & the Malakoff carried by this coup de main, the Colonel being found at his dinner. The French carried it at the first rush & poured in their troops as fast as they could come up. They met with scarcely any obstacle, & took the citadel of the Russian works with a loss of only 25 men - The Russians seem to depend almost entirely on their Infantry & Artillery for the defence of their works. The ditches both of the Malakoff & of the Redan were such as might easily be scrambled over. There was only a revêtement of loose stones, in many parts broken down. At the Flagstaff & Central Bastions there is a palisaded escarp which is much more difficult to surmount & at the latter the French were repulsed with great loss -

Once inside the Malakhoff, they swept it from one end to the other, meeting with no retrenchments. The interior is, like the Mamelon, full of immense traverses & parades which were used for magazines or casemates. At the little Redan on the proper left of the Malakoff, the French met with a desperate resistance & tho’ they succeeded in entering & spiking the guns, they were driven out & never, we believe, retook it.
The Russians tried for five hours to retake the Malakoff without success & retired with enormous loss. As soon as we saw the Tricolour in the Malakoff, our storming party ran over the parapet & advanced in very good courage at the Redan. The working party, not being wanted, never went out. Our men did not behave well. They were principally raw recruits of the Light Division. Arrived at the salient which being a sort of "Pan-coupé" afforded some cover, they halted & collected like a flock of sheep, & in spite of the example of their Officers & some of their comrades, would not advance into the open gorge of the Redan. Finally they ran back again.

I am afraid I have told you every thing twice over. But that is Homeric. And you will excuse. Besides I have no time to make it any shorter. And it smells of the soldier which I am. I have seen the list of the Killed & Wounded. But so, of course, have you. My wretch of a cousin kept me for two mails in a state of suspense, which now I repent having wasted upon him. He was well all the time, the villain! Capt. Hibbert & Major Cure both severely. This is for my people. Major Sillery is now Lt. Col. by the death of his. Sevastopol is, they say a ruin. The Arsenal & Dock yard are to be razed.
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
Sept 16/55
My dear Miss Polidore
I was most surely glad to
hear of your safe arrival
& thankful for your improving
health. I hope it will be quite
restored.
Alas! you will have
heard of our poor friend
Walford’s death after a few
hours from Cholera - She
is a great loss to us. I felt
almost overwhelmed at
losing both you and her &
Mrs Bracebridge all together.
It seems as if it pleased God
to remove from the work its
most useful supporters, but
never to let it drop - I am
still hopeful for the approaching
winter than we shall carry
it well on.
I am sure you will
excuse the pressure of ill
health & business which
prevent me from doing more
than thanking you in the
name of all who care for
this work, for your most
kind invaluable services
& begging you to believe me
ever yours most truly & gratefully
Florence Nightingale
8995/38 signed letter, 1f, pen

Sir
I deeply regret the sad intelligence which I have to announce to you -
Henry A. Wright, Eng. of the 6th Dragoon Guards died this morning in Scutari Hospital.
When you have broken this painful news to his mother she may perhaps find comfort in reading the enclosed. which
I remain Sir
Your obedt. servt
Florence Nightingale

8995/39 signed letter, 1f, pen

Sir
The enclosed small parcels are watches & trinkets belonging to dead men, whose last words were that I should "send them to their friends."
Will you kindly take charge of them? But, should you find inconvenience in sending them to their respective destinations, will you simply stamp them, register them, & send them per post? I enclose 2/6 for the requisite P.O. Stamps & expense of Registration.
I remain, Sir
Yr obedt. servt
Florence Nightingale
Miss N - to Genl. S.
No 1
Miss N. to Br /Genl. van S.
Scutari Barracks
30 Sept 1855
Dear Sir
I have a very painful duty
to perform in giving you some
information concerning Miss
Salisbury, which is tomorrow
to be made the subject of a
Dispatch from the Genl. Officer
[illeg Comp hen] to Lord Panmure. I
think it incumbent upon me
to write to you in consequence
of a letter of a very extraordinary
character, written by Miss S. to
Mrs. van Straubenzee having
been found in Miss S’s corre-
pondence, which was seized
by order of the commandant
of this place, which letter will
be forwarded to you when a
copy has been taken - Miss S.
Miss N - Gl. S -
undertook in this Hospital the
charge of the Free Gifts Store upon
a written understanding that
nothing was to be given out
of that store except by a writ-
ten order from me - I considered
it my duty & it has been
my constant practice to keep
an acct. of every article given wh.
acct. could at any time be made
known to the Public, my responsi-
bility being to the people of England.
These acct.s. have already been
printed in the Blue Book up
to Febry 1855 - Circumstances occu-
red wh. made me believe that
property from the free Gifts Store
was withdrawn by Miss Salisbury
unknown to me & this suspicion
became so much strengthened
that I mentioned it to the
Commandant, who thinking
that I had grounds for it ad-
vised me to dismiss her -
3 Miss N. - to Gl. S - I did so, paying her her salary, offering her her passage home either to Patras or England & supplying her with money besides - she refused to go, & offered her services to Mrs. Moore, Superintendent of the Officers’ Nurses here - Further evidence against her honesty having come to light, the Genl. Commandant sent men to search my house in Scutari, in which Miss Salisbury slept. Property was found there which I may safely assert was of above £100 value, concealed partly in her boxes, partly in the room of a Maltese couple brought here by the recommendation of Miss Salisbury. I must leave it to others to interpret this circumstance for themselves, Miss Salisbury says that it was her intention to give away this property, & acknowledges that she has given away much from
Miss N - to Gl. S -
the Free Gift Stores unknown to me:
The excuse she offers is, that
the Stores were rotting & eaten
by rats - & that Mrs. Bracebridge
had given her & the Nurses leave
to take or give away anything
when she was here - It is
my wish to leave the latter
assertion to be answered
by Mrs. Bracebridge - that rats
abound in the whole of this
Hospital is an unlucky fact
but I never heard that the
Purveyor or Commissariat
gave away their stores in
consequence.
Be that as it may Miss S. has
broken the agreement which
she made in disposing of the
Free Gift Stores at her own plea-
sure without record or respon-
sibility, & the people of England
are not to be at the mercy
of Miss Salisbury - To this I must
Miss N - to Gl. S -

add with the greatest pain
that articles of my own wearing
apparel, which I had missed,
have been found in her boxes,
It is undeniable that the cir-
cumstances are such as would
in any other case be considered
a felony - Five men are now in
custody, two of whom she brought
to Scutari, in whose possession
have been found goods given over
to them by her - believe me dr. Sir

Yours truly

(signed) Florence Nightingale

P.S.
I must tell you in order
to make you laugh that the
letter from Miss S. to Mrs. Van Strau-
benzee is no less than an accusation
of murder - I am accused by her
of murdering poor Miss Clough
of whom you perhaps you have

never heard, who died on her
passage down here from the Crimea
The body was brought to my house -
I laid it out attended the Funeral
here the next day: Miss S. writes to
Mrs. Van S. that "I smuggled her
into her into the grave" in order to conceal
the circumstances of the Death -
Is it insanity? -

No. (2)

Miss Salisbury to Mrs. V. Straubenzee
Scutari 28 Sept. 1855
No. 1

Copy of Letter from Miss Nightingale to Miss Wyse
Scutari Barrack Hospital
September 30, 1855.

My dear Miss Wyse,

I have a very painful duty to perform in giving you some information concerning Miss Salisbury, which is tomorrow to be made the subject of a dispatch from the General Officer commanding here to Lord Panmure - I think it incumbent upon me to write to you, in consequence of a number of your letters, having been found in Miss Salisbury’s Correspondence which was seized by order of the Commandant, and these I now return to you - Miss Salisbury undertook in this Hospital, the charge of the “Free Gifts” Store. Upon a written understanding that nothing was to be given out of that Store, except by a written order from me, I considered it my duty and it has been my constant practice to keep an account of every article given, which account could be at any time made known to the public - my responsibility being to the people of England. These accounts have already been printed in the Blue Book up to the 15th. of Febry. 1855 - circumstances occurred which made me believe that property from the “Free Gifts” Stores was withdrawn by Miss Salisbury unknown to me - and this suspicion became so much strengthened that I mentioned it to the Commandant, who thinking that I had grounds for it, at once advised me to dismiss her - I did so paying her, her Salary offering her a passage home either to Patras or England and supplying her with money beside out of my own pocket - She refused to go and offered her Services to Mrs. Moore Superintendent of the Officers’ nurses - Further evidence against her coming to light, the General Commandant sent men to search my house in Scutari, in which she Miss Salisbury slept - property was found there which I may safely assert was of above £100 value concealed in the room of a Maltese couple who were brought here, by the recommendation of Miss Salisbury, and were in my employment.

I must leave it to others to interpret this circumstance for themselves - Miss Salisbury says that it was
her intention to give away this property and acknowledges
that she has given away much from the “Free Gifts”
Stores unknown to me.

The excuse she offers is that the Stores were rotting
and eaten by rats - and that Mrs. Bracebridge had
given her and the Nurses leave to take or give away
anything while she was there; It is my wish to
leave the latter assertion to be answered by Mrs. Bracebridge
That rats abound in the whole of this Hospital is a
melancholy fact but I have never heard that the
Purveyor gave away his Stores indiscriminately on that
account - Be that as it may - Miss Salisbury has
broken the agreement which she made in dispensing of
the “Free Gifts” Stores at her own pleasure without record
or responsibility or the consent or knowledge of the
Superintendent, and the people of England are not to
be left at the mercy of Miss Salisbury. To this I
must add with the greatest pain that articles of
my own wearing apparel which I had missed
have been found in her boxes; it is undeniable
that the circumstances are such as would in
any other case be considered a felony - Five men are
now in custody, two of them she brought to Scutari,
in whose possession have been found goods given over
to them by her.

I am informed by the Commandant that you
desire information with respect to the manner in
which the Queen’s and other “Free Gifts” have been
disposed of - Miss Salisbury has never requested
information of me on this point for you or I
could have afforded it instantly the “Free Gifts” distributed
in the Barrack and General Hospitals of Scutari are
published in the Blue Book as above mentioned up
to February 15th. 1855. An exact account is ready
for publication of the Free Gifts distributed up to
May 1st. 1855 in the same Hospitals. Also of those
sent to Kulali and the Krimea and the Naval Hospital
at Therapia during the whole time from Novr. 4/54 to
May 1/55 - At that time and for 3 months after =
wards, I was prevented by illness.. from taking any
part in the distribution of the “Free Gifts” which was
undertaken by Mrs. Bracebridge who will answer any
questions concerning the distribution which took place at
that time - From July 28/55 to the present date, I
have an account of every article distributed in two Hospitals in Scutari, 3 of Balaclava, 1 in the front and 2 Sardinian Hospitals - I shall subjoin the account of that which is regularly given to each man on leaving the Hospital either invalided for England or convalescent for the Krimea. The Queens Gifts dated December/54 and Jan./55 the only gifts which came to my address from the Queen have been long since divided among the Hospitals, according to a proportion of which I have the record.

I have also had a part in the distribution of Her Majesty's other gifts of which I shall give an account to the Commandant of this place or to any person who desires to know.

Believe me dear Miss Wyse

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Nightingale

The principle on which I have conducted the distribution of the "Free Gifts" appears in the Blue Books and will appear again in print.

I feel as if that wretched Salisbury was a night mare, (too real in its effect though), of which I was doomed never to get rid of -

Here is a letter from Corpl. Michael Murphy, late Asste Wardman in A. for her - couched in the most familiar terms - asking her to write to him about the Nurses thanking her for her presents - in the most off-handed manner & the most intimate referring to change among the Nurses & Wardmasters & to her & his opinion about them & signing himself "your affectionate friend" - I don't think so much of this last - for that poor leg of the 30th. sent me his "love" in a letter to Mrs. Roberts - But I should like to see a man, be he Private, be he Officer, daring to write to Mrs. Roberts or to any of us about the Nurses -
Do you know, this comes home to me as the most certain evidence of all that she is one of the lowest creatures that walks the earth - that the woman, who was always for taking such great care of the Nurses, who undertook their charge on the written understanding that they were to have none but the necessary intercourse with Patients or Orderlies, should be on terms of correspondence with as a Corporal about them, seems to me something so low that I really should be surprised at nothing that I could learn of her now? I mean, that she had connived at that Cameron business - or anything else -

The want of perception in good
& honest people is so extraordinary
Everybody seems now to have
known of her doings - & none
to have thought there was any
thing out of the way in them.
As Miss Tebbutt did not perceive
that her saying to her that Mrs.
Bracebridge had stolen a
camp-lamp revealed a whole
world of iniquity in her which
that single word wd have
put me upon the track of -
so General v. Straubenzee told
me that she had sent him
in her own name tea, segars,
Eau de Cologne, warm clothing
to a very large amount, so
large that he had written
to Mrs. v. Straubenzee to put
an end to it, as, he justly
said, it was almost an insult
to a General Officer, (except
the warm clothing, which he
distributed among his men)
And yet it never occurred to him that there was something more wrong in a poor Governess sending personal presents to a General officer than an insult. But this was really Miss Wyse’s doing - If we condemn the wretched Governess, without principle, without religion, without feeling, without any thing, even position in life, to restrain her, what must we say to the British Minister’s niece & the Bishop’s daughter tempting this like Satans, this miserable Eve to her destruction.

General v. Straubenzee who is really a sensible man in spite of his stupidity in this, strongly reprobrates, in the name of the Officers themselves, the Officers’ Nurses plan.

8995/44 copy of a signed letter, 2ff, pen; query do we have original?

My Lord

I have the honor to submit to your Excellency an extract from 188656 Dispatch which I received from 193 the War Office dated Sept 10 1855. also copies of two letters from Wm Hall Inspector General of Hospitals in the Crimea, & a copy of a letter from Mrs. Bridgeman, Superior of the R. Catholic Nuns at Koulali Hospitals.

May I beg to draw your Excellency’s attention to the difficulty of my position in this matter.

By my original Instruction from
the War Office, the “distribution”
“Selection” “power of discharge
or dismissal” of all those who
came out addressed to me “ to
serve in the Hospitals of the East
was placed solely under my
control” -
The Extract of Dispatch 155656
places a farther responsibility
upon me -
But the Sisters who had engaged
themselves personally to me for
the work of the Hospitals under
my direct charge are offered
accepted & ordered elsewhere,
with only an ex post facto
communication to me that they are
going, when the arrangements
that they shall depart in less
than a week are made -
Your Excellency will see
1st) that it is impossible for me
to obey the instructions of the War
Office under these circumstances.
2nd) That it would be impossible
to conduct any Institution whatever
with such conditions.
I await your Excellency’s commands as to the course I should pursue - If Mrs. Bridgeman has a separate commission from the War Office it has not been communicated to me - I have delayed answering her communication till I receive your Excellency’s direction. It appears as though the most satisfactory proceeding would be that your Excellency should communicate the instructions under which I act to Dr. Hall & to Mrs. Bridgeman. My departure for the Crimea has been delayed by these surprising communications. I am compelled to go there this week - I postpone it only till I receive your Excellency’s directions. (signed) Florence Nightingale

8995/45 incomplete letter, 1f, pen

You know that Dr. Hall has palmed Miss Wear on me by appointing her to the Monastery - then writes me word that neither is her hut ready there nor likely to be now & that all the sick are gone - & that she had better not stay at the General Hosp. Really, Dr. Hall is so clever, it is almost a pleasure to contemplate such cleverness, even at one’s own expence - But was there ever such a fix? I don’t choose to give up the Monastery now, because it may be another trap to put the Brickbat’s Nuns in there - & therefore
I must have Wear squabbling there with Mrs. Stewart here till I can send her to the Monastery. I have no one to send with her - For all my soldiers’ wives have failed me - And I have no intention of entrusting her with more Nurses. And yet she must have two women with her, in order to prevent her from Clough-ing it or Nun-ning it.

P.S. Do not say to any one that any of the Nurses were concerned in Salisbury’s robbery - I have been sifting the evidence & I really can find none - not even against Wheatstone - [end 14:152]
Castle Hospital
Balaclava

October 19/55

The Bearers of this are
Elizabeth Whitehead, Nurse &
Marianne Preston - Cook -
they are to embark today
by the "Bahiana" for Scutari.
The latter is to proceed to
England by the "Bahiana"
for which I have engaged
her passage - I have discharged
her every claim, for which
I have her Receipt, therefore
she has no claim upon
you for anything farther
than that, if she likes to
stay in my house till the
"Bahiana", if delayed, proceeds
to England, I have no objection.
I do not consider her strictly
honest, therefore I am particularly

anxious to assure you that
her every expense has been
defrayed -
The former, Elizabeth Whitehead,
has broken her leg & been
three months laid up -
She is an dangerous woman
but an excellent nurse -
I do not wish her to be
received into our Quarters
at Scutari till I return
as I perceive she has
contracted habits in the
relaxed discipline here
which would do essential
mischief in our untrustworthy
but disciplined set, I should like Dr. Holton or
Dr. McGregor to visit her
on board the "Bahiana" &
to recommend that she
should go straight home to England by the same vessel, where there would be the advantage of the attendance of Preston, an active tho’ not honest woman Miss & I would assure her two months’, at least, wages, on her arrival in England, when she will be (probably) able to work – If, however, it is judged adviseable by the Medical Men that she should remain at Scutari, she must remain at my house in the room where Mrs. Roberts used to sleep, which will give her fewest stairs – She must be carried up from the beach – & she must go, into our Garden only,
for air - I do not wish her
to go airing herself in the
street - She may be employed
with needlework.

Will you kindly pay
Mary Walker, wife of John
Walker, of the 7th Royal Fusiliers,
in the Women’s Hospital,
£4, & tell her that it
is from her husband, who
is rapidly recovering his
wound in this Hospital,
is looking well, & to whom
I delivered her letter? Mrs.
Keatley will tell you all
about them - She who presides
over the Women’s Hospital.

You know where to find
money if you want it -
Whitehead has been liberally
paid up to October 27 - &
will receive nothing more
till she arrives in England or
till I return to Scutari

ever yours F Nightingale
Castle Hospital
Balaclava
23/10/55
The enclosed is from an old patient of mine at Harley St poor Madame Piccozzi - I liked her as well as I pitied her more than any of that terrible lot - I used to lend her money & sometimes afterward used to go & see her & her sister - in a nasty lodging which never smelt, as did not they, poor creatures, of any thing but gin - The nephew supported them, as none but a French boy will do - I never saw the worthy boy, & could not recommend him here, where one man’s untrustworthiness if he should turn out so
perils the lives of hundreds. But if you could do anything for him in London as a clerk? I have not told her that I have applied to you - so she will not bother you if you can’t.

I have a terrible fact to tell you, which I think ought to be communicated to Manning -

One of the lay Sisters, Winifred, from the Genl. Hospl. at Scutari, died at the Genl. Hospl. here on Saturday after a few hours’ Cholera. Every thing was done for her that could be done - She had 2 R. Cath. Doctors, 3 Priests, for whom I telegraphed for from Head Quarters. I never left her till after her death - We buried her (like a goat) on the top of a crag high above the hut in a spot, selected by themselves, as they would not have her in our Cemetery & I have promised to put up a cross for them - at my own expence
I cannot exactly tell how the Revd Brickbat takes it - some of the Nuns speak of it her as a martyrdom - some say that "it was the hut" - at all events they moved out of it directly -

That Dr. Hall has outwitted me & that the Revd Bridgeman has outwitted him, (by bringing thirteen where he expected four) there can be no doubt.

That the folly of bringing thirteen - where there was room & occupation for barely four - to a place, like Balaclava, where accommodation is not to be had in a day nor in a month makes the death of this poor Winifred appear an useless sacrifice, there can be as little doubt it having been done against the authority & all advice but that of one priest.

The whole is a curious episode - & the dissensions of these R.C.s among themselves
a painful one.

Mr. Unsworth, the R.C. priest at B’clava, told me himself that all the priests in the Crimea were against the nuns coming, — against the priest, Mr. Wollett, who negotiated it — & that each had now written to his Bishop now against their having been thus palmed upon them. I telegraphed twice to Head Quarters for Mr. Wollett while the poor thing was dying — & Mr. Unsworth intercepted & took away my messages — a third time I was more success & brought him just in time to see her die — Oh! is it not a curious history? & a weary sad one?

The nuns, now twelve in number, ate yesterday 27 lbs Meat, & 12 lbs Potatos to their dinner alone — besides 8 bottles Brandy (but some of this Brandy must have gone to the wards — for they drink Port). They consumed, besides, 15 ½ lbs Sugar in a week — i.e. 1 lb each — besides what they had for the use of the wards.

{FN’s handwritten letter is not concluded but a copy of this letter continues}

Did we not still draw Requisitions for them, till we are finally moved out of the General Hospital I could not have believed this.
Am I not right to insist that our account should be kept separate, They were always complaining, at the Genl. Hosp. Scutari, that they were half-starved, And as I find that each woman consumes here 2 ¼ lbs Meat & I lb Potatoes to her dinner, they must indeed I can well believe have been more than half starved, tho’ I never stinted them in anything. I shall keep my requisitions for this fortnight separate, as it is a physiological curiosity.

Will you send the three enclosed to the poor if you approve? I am pestered to death by the Quack Doctors & would almost put that letter in answer to them into the Times were I not so afraid of the Times

8995/49 incomplete letter, 2ff, pen

Castle Hospital
Balaclava
Oct 23/55

Dearest Aunt Mai
Will you explain to Mrs. Howse that I have heard from Miss Skene, dated October 1 - that she says that she has received the whole of my £10.8.0, being 6 months’ at 8/per week for Mrs. Howse’s family, up to this very day - & that it has all been applied in the way Mrs. Howse intended - that I cannot therefore understand her daughter’s

{arch’s note: more than one p. missing}
will soon be put an end to
by the weather - In the meantime,
if it take place once a week
it is quite often enough. I
have no idea of making this
a boarding-house like Koulale.
Many thanks for the
things, which I am told
have arrived per Iura
but not per Harbinjees.
I like the washing plan
very much - also your
distribution of Free Gifts - &
should only wish to be
applied to, if an unusually
large Requisition came or one
from an unusual quarter -
I have written for more
Gelatine from England - mean=
while, if you want any, Mr.
Black will get it you from
Stamboul - There is not occasion
for me to buy gelatine any more for the
Castle hospital
Balaclava
Oct 24/55
Here have I been three weeks, my dearest Mother, & I wish you could see me in the most poetic spot in the world, looking out upon the old Genoese castle upon peak upon peak in the cold moonlight or in the red glow of the autumnal sunset - for the nights are hard frost - & listening to the everlastings roll of the sea at the foot of the steep cliff, some 490 ft high, upon which our hut is perched - & thinking of the everlasting patience of God, (as typified by that eternal roll) which endures for tens of thousands of years, that we may “work out our own salvation”, which is the only way He sees by which we can become like Him, while my patience is wearied at the end of one twelvemonth, (which is now completed) by the ill-will, incompetence, ignorance & bigotry, with which I have to keep up one slow, weary, melancholy
round of opposition varied
only with occasional flashes
of more vehement hatred &
actual ill-doing -
   Alas! who has not
betrayed us in our cause
but Revd. Mother, Mrs. Shaw
Stewart & Mrs. Roberts?
   Yet my name is dear
to me - it has won the
good will of the humble
hardworking part of my
country men - (one whole
sentence scribbled out)
   But oh! what a tale
I should have to tell -
of selfishness, conventionalism
& malice -
   Well! I am too busy
to attack or to defend - &
am in the midst of extra

{top of page cut off, probably Diet kitchens}
baths, linen - stores, sheets,
reading-rooms, stoves, boring
for water, fitting huts for
winter &c &c &c
   What this winter shall
bring forth who can tell?

The name of the
Chersonese sounds musical
in British ears & sweet
in sound to mine from
that of Howard which
it commemorates -
   Ever yours
   FN.

[end 1:143]

8995/51 handwritten copy of a signed letter, 2ff, pen

Castle Hospital
Balaclava
October 25/55
Gentlemen
   Will you forward to me immediately
   (40) forty stoves
of a kind which I have now had
for eight months (of yours) in our
General Hospital at Balaclava
consisting of a
   semi circular grating in front
4 round stew-pan holes on top
one oven with double doors
    one at each side
height 2 feet
length 2 feet
width 1 ½ feet
narrow plate to put the wood or coal
through

a little ornamental iron plate
on which is written J Little & Co
Glasgow.
Ashpot also made of iron
folding doors in front.
I mean to present one of these
little stoves which are the best I
have seen, to each Regimental
& General Kitchen in camp-
The whole should be sent out
immediately, addressed to me
at Balaclava by means of Messrs
Hayter & Howell London.

I remain gentlemen
Your obedt. sert.
Florence Nightingale
I gave £2.15.0 for the one
now at Balaclava which came
out by the “Anne Maclean”
Castle Hospital
Balaclava
October 25/55
Gentlemen
Will you forward to me immediately
forty (40) stoves
of a kind which I have now had, for eight months
(of yours) in our General Hosp at Balaclava,
on which is written J. Little & co. Glasgow -
I mean to present one of these little stoves which are the best I have seen, to each Regimental & General kitchen in camp -
I remain Gentlemen
Your obedt. servt.
Florence Nightingale
Castle Hospital
Balaclava

Oct 24/55

Here have I been three weeks
dearest Mother, & I wish you could
see me in the most poetic spot in
the world, looking out upon the
old Genoese castle upon peak
upon peak in the cold moonlight,
or in the red glow of the autumnal
sunset, for the nights are hard frost,
& listening to the everlasting
roll of the sea at the foot
of the steep cliff, some 490 ft high,
upon which our hut is perched
& thinking of the everlasting patience
of God, (as typified by that eternal
roll) which endures for tens of
thousands of years, “that we may

“work out our own salvation”, which
is the only way he sees by which
we can become like Him, while
my patience is wearied at the
end of one twelvemonth (which is
now completed) by the ill will,
incompetence, ignorance & bigotry
with which I have to keep up one
slow, weary, melancholy round of
opposition (varied only with occasional
flashes of more vehement hatred
& active ill-doing –
Yet my name is dear to me –
it has won the good will of
the humble hardworking part
of my countrymen –
but oh! what a tale should I
have to tell – of selfishness, conven-
tionalism & malice –
Well! I am too busy to attack or to defend — & am in the midst of extra Diet kitchens, baths, linen stores, shirts, reading-rooms, stoves, boring for water, fitting huts for winter &c &c &c

The name of the Chersonese sounds musical in British ears & sweet in sound to mine from that of Howard which it commemorates.

8995/54 draft of Letter 50, 2 ff, pen

{in top margin written diagonally} strictly private excepting first page & half of the 2nd Balaclava Oct 24 Castle Hospital /55

Here have I been 3 weeks dearest Mother, & I wish you could see me in the most poetic spot in the world, looking out upon the old Genoese castle upon peak upon peak in the cold moonlight, or in the red glow of the autumnal scarlet, for the nights are hard frost, & listening to the everlasting roll of the sea at the foot of the steep cliff, some 490 feet high, upon which our hut is perched & thinking of the everlasting patience of God, illeg scribble.
(as typified by that eternal roll) which endures for tens of thousands of years, “that we may work out our own salvation”, which is the only way He sees by which we can become like Him, while my patience is wearying at the end of one twelvemonth, which is now completed by the ill-will, incompetence, ignorance & bigotry, with which I have to keep up one slow, weary, melancholy round of opposition (varied only with occasional flashes of more vehement hatred & active ill-doing—Alas! who has not betrayed me in our cause but Reverend Mother, Mrs. Shaw Stewart & Mrs. Roberts? yet my name is dear to me - it has won the good will of the humble hardworking part of my Country men - but oh! what a tale I should have to tell - of selfishness, conventionalism & malice -
Well! I am too busy to attack or to defend - & am in the midst of extra Diet kitchens, Baths, linen stores, schools, reading-rooms, stoves, boring for water, fitting huts for winter &c what this winter shall bring forth
who can tell? the name
of the Chersonese sounds
musical in British ears
& sweet in sound to
mine from that of
Howard which it
commemorates ever your
FN.
Will you see that the Diagrams
Books &c are sent out to us
expeditiously (things sometimes
take months.)
A great many of the books &c
you can get without troubling
Mr. Dawes

[end 14:251]

Castle Hospital
To Mrs. S Smith Balaclava
Oct 28 55

Will you please read the enclosed
to Mr. Bracebridge - & (if you
think it desirable & if you have
time) take a copy of it - I mean
that, if you should think it
necessary that the facts should
be in possession of some one
in case this odious intrigue is
pursued, Mr. B. is so liable to
mislay papers. Send the letter
to him on Monday - Add or
alter anything you think fit
or don’t ser retrench anything.
Keep a copy, at all events, of
that Miss Wyse’s letter - It is
curious - That woman was my friend
I have heard (since I have
been here) a very curious fact -viz
that Miss Stanley, on her voyage
out, said that “she had never
been intimate with me”, that
“she only knew me on matters
of business”. Alas! how this last year
has lowered my estimate of characters -
Miss Stanley also accused me of love of power, of a tendency to R. Catholicism!!!! tho' she said she knew me little, of want of religious principle &c &c &c to her companions before she ever arrived at Constantinople - Oh! woman! woman!

I think you had better, please, also read my letter to Genl. Storks - If you think it impudent keep it back Otherwise {illeg scribble} send it him - Do not tell him that you have read it -

God bless you

Thank you

F.N.
Castle Hospital
Balaclava
Oct 28 __
55

I have declined being godmother to the child of my dear best friends, the Sidney Herberths, (who were so good as to ask me) - because of not making a solemn promise where one has neither the power nor the right to perform it - It is a well meant farce which one ought not to play in - So I cannot be the godmother now - tho’ I am pleased & more than pleased to be remembered (out in Crim Tartary) at my dear own home - If they like to name the child after one who has struggled thro’ & suffered disappointment & disgust such as I am fain to think falls to the lot of few, (can fall, I should hope, to very few,) I shall be pleased - It will not make the poor child be like me - And I would not augur it such a fate - Don’t think I regret - Never for one moment during this whole twelvemonth - I have always thanked God that He sent me out - I cannot tell you how much to distrust Miss Stanley - I have never known it till now - She is false to the very back-bone - Her treachery began before she ever saw me at Scutari - before she arrived at Constantinople - I have always defended her,
pityed her, allowed for her till lately - Now I tell you, distrust her, you will find out some day why, there is not a villain in a French play more false than she - I can hardly believe it with the proof of it in black & white before my eyes. What can have made the daughter of that upright sterling truthful woman, - the sister of that silly, scrupulous, conscientious simple man, such an clever reckless intriguer? or Is it the Jesuits?
I cannot tell you, at the same time, how good & sterling Mrs. Stewart is - Unwise, provoking, & mad as she is, it is such a relief to come to something which is above, entirely above, all that is mean & petty & selfish & frivolous & low into a higher & purer atmosphere, into truth & generosity that she is like my bright tossing sea & stormy Castle top - here - compared with the funereal Eastern beauties of Scutari - where lie the whitening bones & rotting carcases of thousands under the opal skies & trim cypresses of that luxuriant climate

8995/57 copy of a signed letter, 1f, pen

Castle Hospital
Balaclava
Oct 28

(Sir)
Allow me to thank you most sincerely for your letter of July 30, & your specific against Cholera, which followed me to this place - At the same time permit me to observe "that it is as much out of my province to interfere in the professional practice of medicine in these Hospitals, as in that of military Tactics in the campaign."
I am neither a medical man nor a military officer, but a Superintendent of nurses & provider of Hospital comforts.

It is with great regret that I am compelled to disappoint your benevolent views -

I beg to remain sir
   Your obed
   Florence Nightingale
James Loveday Esq MD.

Is it not unadviseable for us to attack the subject of Medical Treatment - as regards the foreign system having been wilfully neglected -

1st because it is not our business & I have expressly denied being a Medical Officer & rejected all applications both of Medical men & quacks to have their systems examined -

2nd because it justifies all the attacks made against us for unwarrantable interference & criticism

3rd because I believe it to be utterly unfair.

The French have lost more than we have (even proportionately) by Dysentery &c by their own shewing as elicited by me at French Head Quarters the other day where I visited the chief Ambulance in company of Dr. Lyons Dr. Mouatt PMO of the General Hospital in the front Dr. Hadley & others - the first being a Civilian half & Frenchman & an undoubted x Pathologist -(In amputations the French by their own statement have not saved one death while we have saved one fourth - but I am now
speaking of Dysenteric affections - The French Inspector General was there I was immensely struck by him - thought him superior even to Levi to any of our men - And his behaviour to & moral influence over his patients was not to be mentioned in the same day with anything we are able to exercise

But now mark - PM examinations have amply proved that what our troops have suffered from has been a form of scurvy brought on by salt rations want of vegetables cold & wet &c &c

There has scarcely been a case of acute Dysentery in the whole campaign Scorbutic Dysentery involving extensive ulceration is what has killed our men - Bryan was allowed a fair & ample trial at Koulali where he let his patients die & finally adopted the English system of nursing - I do not underate Cumming who & still more Dr. Hall have entirely neglected all control over the medical treatment practised by their subordinates. Indeed I am told that Dr. Hall is no medical man at all - But I do believe that to
say that the practitioners of the
country ought to have been consulted
as to the treatment of our troops, supposing
[illeg] they were familiar with the
disease & we were not, is to say that
the Minister of War ought to have
been left to take Sebastopol by himself —
— The disease was the accident of War
& entirely new to them. And had
our scorbutic skeletons been left to
the tender mercies of linseed meal
[illeg] & rice water for food none
would have escaped the burial ground
of Scutari — The whole of their
treatment was written down for me

fairly & honourably I must say)
by the Constantinopolitan practitioners
Are we not lessening our influence &
putting ourselves into the irresponsibility
of opposition — like the Times by supporting
their well meant but empirical
pretensions —

Captain Keane the most agreeable
gentleman & the worst man of business
I ever had to do with — He has
literally done nothing for this Hospital
now the most considerable & the
only General Hospital of the Crimea
we are never under 550 patients
but shoot woodcocks for the sick
officers
General Simpson is I believe against
us I dont know why — Dr. Hall is
dead against us I do know why —
I understand that he continues to say
tho’ the fox denies it to me that I have
no right
in the Crimea & that all the females
here are ipso facto emancipated
from me -
It is odd but Gen. Airey has taken
the same view with regard to the
nuns at Gen. - Hosl. Balaclava. I am
glad to be quit of them & it & would
not take either back on any account.
This is not sour grapes - I am not
fond of using strong language, but
Mother Brickbat’s conduct has been
neither that of a Xitian a gentlewoman
nor even of a woman - I have had a
strong lesson against Irish R. Catholics
(upside down) believed
& never will I have dealings with them

again - For “they can lie & I cannot”.
If you see well to tell this to Manning,
accompanying it with the strongest
tribute in my power to give to our
Revd. Mother of Bermondsey I have
no objections.
At the same time, I am the best
personal friends with the Revd. Brickbat
& have even offered to put up a X
to poor Winifred, to which she
has deigned no reply - But anything
to avoid a woman’s quarrel, which
can be done or submitted to on my
part shall be done & submitted to
Only I will not have my accounts mixed up with theirs for their extravagance is what you never could believe nor any one -
21 eggs & ham for breakfast daily for 12 women
27 lbs meat
for dinner daily
12 “ potatoes
4 lbs Tea
per week
15 ½ Sugar
8 bottles Brandy in 24 hours besides Port wine -
This I have supplied as I still draw the Requisition - what becomes of it I know as little as you do - But

it does not go into the wards, as I suspected at Scutari for all the extra diets were drawn extra also at their own estimate excepting the Brandy How that could go among 160 patients with very few bad cases & all receiving their Diet Roll allowance I cannot conceive But these Irish nuns beat me -

8995/59 incomplete letter, 2ff, pen

Castle Hospital
Balaclava
Oct 29/55
Will you have the goodness to have the enclosed landed by Mr. Brackett, Wharfinger, as soon as the “Imperatrice” arrives? will you give No 868 to Mr. Hadow with my compliments, unless Mr. Sabin has arrived, when he must have it, as Senior Chaplain -will you give No. 871 to Revd. Mother, asking her if it is for her? & forward Nos. 864 & 865 to me here? Could you delicately say to Miss Clarke that the
Newspapers have not, in any one single instance, come right? If she has distributed the others in the same way, there must have been grievous disappointments - Sometimes there comes one old one & one new one - sometimes the newest one not at all, but two duplicates of the old &c &c - As soon as the Papers arrive, she must, (or you will be so good, please, as to,) make up the sets to go, & never mix them afterwards. There is nothing but his rum, alas! that a soldier cares about so much as his newspaper -
All the things are come by ins..” - many thanks
   I have found out Sayer, Millard & Akers here & written. Could you find the enclosed Ward & Morris at Scutari & send them their histories to me?
   I cannot help doubting the necessity of Robbins’s returning - Because I think it is Salisbury’s delinquency, & the cloud it has cast over her, which is the cause of her supposed illness - Sansom, I am afraid, must go - & if she likes it I will arrange that she go with Davis, who is going home from here with
broken health too - & is a
good old soul - Sansom came out with her - Robbins
must wait till I come
back - How is Sister Gonzaga?
  Do not regret sending
things to Therapia - I always
do -
  The tomb is not for John
Herring - but John Herring Whitwell
If Lepri has made this
mistake - he must correct
it - Herring is a Xtian name -
  If he comes again to ask,
& his bill is not more
than £11.10.0, & you
please to pay him, do -
It ought not to be more
than £11. But I don’t
like to beat down such a
miserable creature. Please
to ask him if his child
has been taken at the
Convent.
  I am very anxious to hear of Miss
Morton -
Oct 29/55
My dear Mrs. Pratt

Your letter to Miss Salisbury was forwarded to me here, where I have been call’d by my Hospital duties - I think you are entitled to assistance from the “Patriotic Fund”
You must apply to the Secretary -

16a Great George St
Westminster

& you must state as follows -
Ellen Pratt
28 Tenton Row, Hyson Green
Nottinghamshire

Widow
Here state your age & your Parish
widow of Edward Pratt
No.1717 Land Transport Corps - serving in the same when he fell sick died Sepr 26/55 of Diarrhoea at Scutari Barrack Hospital -

Sickness contracted while in discharge of his duty, (enclose my certificate, state when & where you were married - shew your marriage certificate to the Person who signs your application -

Three boys
aged 8 years
4 years
1 year

{state if they are all actually dependent on you & then state if you have other relief & what, also your means of obtaining a livelihood, & how much, & if you or your children have any infirmity - get a surgeon to certify it - Have the statement}
sign’d by a Magistrate or Minister, & sent to the above direction I will apply to the Land Transport Corps here for your late husband’s arrears of pay to be transmitted to you, if any. I sent you all the money he had by him at his own desire - He had no watch His clothing will be sold & the proceeds transmitted to you I remain with true sympathy for you great loss, yours Florence Nightingale [end 14:253]

8995/61 copy of an initialed list, 1f, pen

10
one box containing gelatine
given to Castle Hospital Balaclava
two boxes containing one stove from Glasgow given to Mr. Soyer to place in Crimea

13 Boxes in all received Florence Nightingale
All the contents of these 13 Boxes were used to the last crumb & all valuable to the last crumb - FN.
I have written to Mr. Hawes the whole account of the “Papal Aggression” at the General Hospital, Balaclava, swamping only Miss Wear’s misdemeanors, which were the original cause of my wishing to withdraw her - I have gained nothing by my move, except the greater privacy of her follies at the Monastery - She is half mad - untruthful & vain - I shd. be glad for you to see my letter to Hawes - I have sent a copy to Genl. Simpson, & 1 to Dr. Hall - & cannot make another - I have kept one for myself - We shall never hear the last of it - The nuns have just carried out, by tampering with Dr. Hall’s unworthy jealousy of me what they have been trying at all along -

I hear with sorrow that Gibson has been acquitted - I have no remaining doubt that Salisbury took the 17 pr Goloshes - & probably was in the same boat with Gibson -

I greatly regret that any things out of the Free Gift Stores have ever been given to well-paid Nurses - tho’ no one knows so well as I the difficulty of disposing of them. But it is very difficult to stop now - And it gives a color to that miserable Salisbury’s guilt - it covers the guilty & involves the innocent
Please to send us
Gelatine from England -
Who paid for the side=saddle
& chests of drawers at
Malta? Tell me whom
to pay -
Salisbury is gone home
by the “Earl of Aberdeen” - [end]

I have seen Mr. Hardman
of the “Times” several times -
And he is here now - I gave
him in my Account
which is £200 (not £150)
advanced to Caffè
difference of exchange on
£250 (not £200)
Serjeant £4
& the Stamps now are much
nearer £200 than £100
but I have told Mr. Hardman
that Mr. Stowe never engaged
to pay more than £100 worth

I am in the midst of reading Rooms,
boring for water, fitting hut for
the winter, binding down roofs
with strong iron against the wind,
& building Extra Diet kitchens -
Soyer is still here -
I have not the least expectation
of returning home. I am quite
determined, Deo volente & the
War Office, to remain with our
Army as long as that army is
carrying on war. & as long
consequently as it has General Hospitals
All here expect what they call ‘a good rattling Campaign’ next summer - whether here or on the Danube who can tell? In the latter case the General Hospital would be at Varna, as long as there is work to do, I shall stay & do it if I can.

What can I do better in England? as General Airey said to me the Civilians do not understand what we are about. It would take five months to move this army if peace were made today.

This winter it is true we shall have no trenches. but we shall have a very sickly winter in all probability. in England I might have as many hundred Patients, as here I shall have thousands. Everywhere under WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCES we have to organise kitchens, baths, linen, stores, washing - to leave a work which one has undertaken in order to try something else which sounds better is a dangerous experiment at best. But

I should leave that which is succeeding to fly to something I know not what. There is not a hut nor a stove nor a provision for winter arrives out yet.

I have been appointed a twelvemonth today, what a twelvemonth it has been of experience. Who has ever had a sadder experience

Dr. Hall is dead against me, justly provoked, but not by me. he descends to every weakness to make my position more difficult - Generals Airey & Barnard are very kind to me -
C.H. B’clava
Nov 3/55

Would you, please, find out about
the enclosed man, J. Ward, 93rd, Highd
whose fate seems very mysterious
& let me have back the enclosed
Memm. at all events.

Nurse Grundy, who will come
to you by the “Cleopatra”, leaves me
with no cause of dissatisfaction on
my part - & to my great regret -
She is to be allowed to see Mrs.
Parker. But her going home, with
passage paid by me, is to be no
precedent for the others - as I
consider going home because they
are tired of the place, a thoughtless
breach of duty to the country &
the W. Office who pays for them. And I shall never
sanction it by paying their
passage home - Grundy goes home
because she has heard from her
brother here bad news of her children -
Please let Miss Tebbutt tell Parker this -
X (arch: FN ? 55)
I don’t think you could have
done otherwise than let Mrs. Edgar go.
For the utmost we could have
oblige her to do would have been
to give us a month’s warning.
But the arguments are worth nothing.
I have not more to do with
Mrs. Fairbrough’s having a drunken
servant or no servant at all
than with the Emperor of Oude
having drunken servants – Mrs. F.
is only out here upon sufferance –
In no army in the world, excepting
ours, is it even suffered – Whereas
we are out with a distinct
commission from the Queen – And
we I have the right to provide
ourselves first with servants
& no one else – When I first
came out, I used to be expected
to find the officers’ wives with
Nurses, Monthly Nurses, Quarters
& servants. But I soon put a stop to that - Koulali & Miss Wear have gone on doing it. And great has been the kudos & great the damage they have gained by it - I wish the officers’ wives were at Astrachan - For they have no business here - & they take their husbands off their business

Ever yrs FN

I am VERY sorry about the Barrack Hspl. Please tell me which Corridor we keep for the Hospl

X I have no scruple at having [not FN hand here] agreed to Mrs Edgar’s going to be servant with Mrs. Fairbrough. Mrs. E. was servant at Genl. Hospital but Miss Tebbutt told me she was really not wanted & that they had so few sick so little to do

{written vertically}
that Tattersall, the housekeeper said she was ashamed to take her wages, & was glad to do without this servant -
{the following not FN’s hand}

12th Dr. (I forget his name Chief Dr. at Smyrna) just been here. S. Hospital quite given up to troops 9 ladies 18 nurses to be disposed of or return to England He says our army now 57,000 strong besides foreigners, will want such Hospital provision he thinks this should remain more or less Hospital plus the Genl. Hospital sees no chance of such speedy ousting of the Muscovy from Crimea as Mrs
B talked of, but fears France [not FN hand]
& Russia both have [illeg] in figances] inclined to peace - you’ll be glad to hear a stove putting up today in Flo’s room & double windows will make it safe before her return. It is very cold here now, continual wind & rain 2 days & nights - a fortnight ago so hot Miss Morton was sleeping with windows & doors open at Flo’s house -

8995/66 list not in FN hand
Castle Hospital Balaclava
Nov 5/55
In answer to Mrs. Bracebridge
saying that she never told of herself -

“I am in bed with a severe attack
of Sciatica which minus the pain
which is very great does not seem
to have damaged me much - I tell
you this that you may not cry out
how shocked you are, if you hear
of my illness anyhow, which really
hurts my feelings.

I have now had all that this climate
can give, Crimean fever Dysentery,
Rheumatism, & believe myself
thoroughly acclimatised & ready to
stand out the War with any one -
I wish I could say the same of
noble brave Mrs. S. Stewart, who I fear
is breaking up - But, faithfulness is
so eminently her, that I hear her
Master saying Thou hast been
faithful over a few things I will make
thee ruler over many -
War brings one back to the Judaic
times, & quite out of the civilised
conventional

Anglicisms of the 19th Century - War
makes Deborahs -

Today is the anniversary of Inkermann
yesterday of our landing at Scutari
But harder battles than Alma or
Inkermann have been fought here
& greater has been the ruin of
reputation than of life.”
F N

{lines scribbled out} Shaw Stewart
recovered after this I am happy to say
{second version}
In answer to Mr. B saying that she never spoke of herself
“I am in bed with a severe attack of Sciatica which minus the pain which is very great does not seem to have damaged me much - I tell you this that you may not cry out if you see my convalescence in the Times how shocked you are, which really hurt my feelings.
I have now had all that this climate can give, Crimean fever Diarrhoea Rheumatism, & believe myself thoroughly acclimatised & ready to stand out the War with any man -
I wish I could say the same of noble brave Mrs. Stewart, who I fear is breaking up - But, faithfulness is so eminently her, that I hear her master saying Thou hast been faithful over a few things I will make thee ruler over many - War brings one back to the Judaic times, & quite out of the civilised conventional Anglicisms of the 19th Century - War makes Deborahs & Absaloms & Achitophels. & when if ever the Magnificat has been true has it been more so than now every word of it - My soul doth magnify the Lord & my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour, for he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden &c &c
Today is the anniversary of Inkermann - yesterday of our landing at Scutari - But harder battles than Alma or Inkermann have been fought here & greater has been the ruin of reputation than life.”
{third version }
To the Bracebridges complaining of her never mentioning herself she says
Castle Hospital
Balaclava

Nov 5/55

I am in bed with a severe attack of Sciatica, which minus the pain which is very great, does not seem to have damaged me much. I tell you this, that you may not cry out, if you hear of my convalescence, how shocked you are, which really hurts my feelings -

I have now had all that this climate can give, Crimean fever Dysentery, Rheumatism, & believe myself thoroughly acclimatised & ready to stand out the War with any man -

I wish I could say the same of noble brave Mrs. Shore Stewart, who I fear is breaking. But faithfulness is so preeminently her, that I hear her Master saying Thou hast been faithful over a few things I will make thee ruler over many -

War brings one back to the Judaic times, & quite out of the civilised conventional Anglicisms of the 19th Century - War makes Deborahs -

Today is the anniversary of Inkermann - yesterday of our landing at Scutari But harder battles

than Alma or Inkermann have been fought here & greater has been the ruin of reputation than life.

F N
Miss Ecuyer had better be under Revd. Mother to learn her trade till Miss Morton comes back - especially as D & C stores are done away with - It is possible that one new Linen Store may be found enough in the other half C. - (in which case Miss Morton might go to the Genl. Hospl. when recovered, & Miss Ecuyer come up here, if efficient, But that must wait till I come back) - At present, Revd. Mother must take all the Linen Stores, with Miss Ecuyer under her - For Revd. Mother does the business for the best - Miss Ecuyer must look after the Sempstresses When Miss Morton recovers, she must take C Store, if a new one is fixed upon there, till I come back - And Miss Ecuyer then go to the General Hospital - after a few days with Miss Morton too - if Mr. Robertson wishes her to begin before I go back - I do not see that there is any body else to settle for but Robbins C Howes & Clark D. - Howes & Sister you say are settled, without saying where - Clark has still 2 & 4 - & Robbins may toddle about in 12 & 15 (Now part of Hawkins’s wards) with Dr. Robertson’s permission, who must be consulted, till I come back - Hawkins {written vertically along the left side of the page} keeping her other wards on A & E & giving 12 & 15 to Robins keeping her other wards in & in E & giving 12 & 15 to Robbins
I am very sorry to have been away during these changes - but I cannot come back (just for a day or two) in order to return here - having more important business here - add to which I am in bed -
Please read & forward all my letters, if approved of by you
I have written to Dr. Parker for four Nurses - But they will not arrive till I come back.
Please ask Mrs. Black to buy at Stamboul for me 4/10 yds pearl white silk to cover a Tabernacle for the Sardinian sisters - & consult Revd. Mother as to what it should be - Perhaps 10 yds may be too much -
Also, please send the roll of check for Nurses’ aprons which you will find in the store over No. 3 in or on a box at the further end from the stairs. I am deeply impressed from long & sad experience of the fatal mistake of putting a Depot & Hospital under the same roof - (We have not been rid of the Depot five months) - But what would you have me do! I have learnt during the sad twelvemonth I have been out here, at least this, not to give a single moment to regret for what cannot be helped -

God bless you
Thank you

F Nightingale

I opened the enclosed by mistake, not recognizing dear old Clough’s handwriting - & wondering whether s.c. meant Star Chamber -  
[end 14:261]
Mrs. Brownlow thinks as much of her mangle as she does of her baby -

The copying machine I hope to use when I get back to Scutari -

The games were all divided immediately between the Caffè & Convalescent Reading Room -

There was some black lace among Salisbury’s things - I cannot say whether it was Maltese - But, as I could not identify it, I am sadly afraid it was given up to her & that she has got it after all -

I believe I must have paid her many things twice which she said you had not paid her. On one occasion, I gave her £5 for different things she said she had advanced to you -
But, of course, poor Devil, every word she said will now be suspected - Wheatstone goes home to-morrow, I am sorry to say. She is a great loss to me. But one night when she was drunk, she let out, in the presence of all the Nurses & of Mrs. Stewart & me things which made all the Nurses suspect, as they said, “that she knew more of Miss Salisbury than she should do” & she also asserted, being quite drunk, that poor Walford did not die of Cholera & that none of the Nurses believed she did. This made me think, knowing of Salisbury’s letter about poor Clough & my “smuggling her into the grave”
that Salisbury might have spread some horrid report about something unfair in poor Walford’s death.

However, Wheatstone was forgiven - the offence being principally against me - & when she got sober, she denied all she had said - But yesterday she was drunk again & go she must.

I have sent home since I have been here

Davis } Sansom  invalided
Whitehead
Cook) Preston  by her own desire
Grundy to her sick children
Wheatstone drunk
Washerwn. Sheridan  gone to Scutari

I am particularly sorry, for owing to the Papal Aggression at Balaklava - owing too to Dr.
Hall’s now longer unconcealed desire to persecute me by petty pricks out of the Crimea, I would rather have increased than diminished my staff here. And some of these were valuable women. And Pan: won’t replace them. We now remain only Mrs Stewart, Tandy drunk, Logan, Sinclair who is often drunk, self & Roberts & Miss Wear to fight against the Pope & Dr. Hall in the Crimea - You never will make a gentleman out of Hall “John Hall”, as they call him here - he will stoop to any petty annoyance which he can give - but “que chacun prenne son plaisir où il le trouve -”
He knows as well as I do that it is not the way to give orders to the cook & not to speak to the person who is in charge of the cook. But he comes in here to my Extra Diet kitchen which I only finished on the 4th, tries to reprimand Dumont who does not or will not understand, reprimands Dumont’s orderly, because I would not bake the Officers’ toast, & goes away without seeing Mrs. Stewart or me - Shall I deny him so reasonable a gratification? Compared with Dr. Hall however, Cumming was a gentleman & would as soon, I think, have sneaked into our Extra Diet kitchens to intrigue with our cooks as of knocking me down or sending me to England by mistake.
Would you, please, send the following P.O. Order?
From Rebecca Lawfield
To Thomas Lawfield
West Bromwich
Staffordshire
£2.0.0
{in another hand: sent}
All the wine left by Mr. Stowe was given by Mr. Hardman to me -
But it had been so cruelly dealt with that I put four Casks in to one & so on till I had finished the lot.
There was nothing else in Mr. Stowe's store but
1 keg Molasses
1 bale Old Linen
2 cases Chocolate
1 " ArrowRoot
1 " Cocoa
all of which I had (from Mr. Hardman)
I mentioned that I had sent in my bill to him
Advanced to Caffe £200
(not £150)
Difference of exchange on £250 I forget now
Times Reports £4
Stamps £100
&c &c
I have not got it here - nor have I heard anything more
Miss Wear has behaved so curiously about the things entrusted to her charge, tho' indeed I believe it to be only want of habits of business, that I have sometimes thought whether I would not write to Messrs Tower & Egerton & suggest to them to ask her for a rough account of what
she did with the “Crimean Fund” things - Remember 
{in the margin in another hand done}
I feel quite certain that she is nothing like
Salisbury - & I should feel something like Wyse & Stanley, were I not responsible for her 
after a sort - And even so, I would not do this 
nor ask you to do this if you are not thoroughly convinced that it is right. 
If you are, would you see Tower & Egerton - 
{in another hand done} 
carefully guarding them from any suspicion of her honesty which would be totally unjust - 
But (this being the principal Hospital of the Crimea) she has not only not given it any of
the large stores confided to her by the “Crimean Fund”, especially of Soda Water & Limonade Gazeuze, when they were sinking with fever & thirst, but has actually refused Dr. Matthew, the P.M.O. here, by that strongest of all forces, the force of passive resistance -
    Also, she has never let Mrs. Stewart have any of the large Stores I have sent her - & has even, we strongly suspect, retained some directed to Mrs. Stewart -
    Also, could you make out from Lord Ward whether he left with Miss Wear the Eau de Cologne he told me he had sent to Mrs. Stewart. for the latter has never had it
The last Cheque for £188.0.0
(dispatched on October 8) was
written at the bottom of the
1st sheet of the P.O. Orders List itself
The P.O. Orders were for £187.16.0
therefore only 4/ was allowed
for the price of the orders - X
The reason of both was that
I was just sailing for Crimea,
that I had not a moment
to write another Cheque - & two
£1 P.O. Orders came in at the
last moment which I could not
refuse. The only Cheque
that I have not sent with
the P.O. Orders was that of
the day of Walford’s death -

The woman’s journey to
Corfu was £6.11.0, not £4.11.0

X You will have to charge the
price of the P.O. Orders to me
& I write on the other side a
Cheque for £188.0.0 - in case
you tore up by mistake the one written on the P.O. Orders
sent
Castle Hospital  
Balaclava  
Nov 11/55

Mr. Sabin was to sail on the 20th October with three household servants for me -  
When he arrives, you or Dr. Blackwood will settle with him this Evening Prayers business - which Mr. Wright, the Principal Chaplain, wishes to be performed in our Quarters by him or Dr. Blackwood. That ecclesiastical Brickbat, Mr. Hadow, seems likely to knock somebody down - Is he sober? x  
Also, Mr. Sabin must be asked to take up his abode in my house till he can find one of his own - which is due to him -  
Of my three household servants. the laundress must come & take Angela’s place - when the Greeks may be dispensed with -  
Of the two others, will you x I have had a series of letters from him which from their violence would make me think him drunk or insane.
select the one whom you think fittest for the Crimea, representing to her the inclemency, solitude & hardships of the place, & telling her that I will farther expound to her her duties up here - & send her up immediately before I go from hence with the following woman -

There was a Mrs. Little, who wished to come up here - the same who ironed for me two days a week - If now, she wishes to come & will sign her name to a statement, that she comes, not to go up to camp, but to remain with me, under penalty of forfeiting a sum, not exceeding three months’ wages - General Storks will consent she may come up - or if any other woman, whom Lady Alicia Blackwood can recommend & who wishes to be near her husband though
not with him, chooses to come, let 
ther & the household servant come 
together. I give the soldier's wife 
10/ per week. They are for Miss Wear 
at the Monastery!!! Because I will not give her Nurses.

The poney has 1/ per day for 
himself - & the man 13/ per month 
for himself - & both were paid 
up to Sept. 30/55

I had a dreadful fright about 
poor Miss Morton - A precious 
clergyman actually came up here 
on purpose to tell me that your 
Rvd. Mr. Bowden had come 
from Scutari, saying "that he 
knew one of the Nurses to be 
dead, he did not know which, 
but that he had seen Miss Morton, 
(hedid not know her name, 
but described her so exactly 
I could not doubt) carried out 
on a stretcher, dead or dying, 
he did not know which, so 
he supposed it was her." I was 
crazy & sent all over the Camp 
to catch the Revd. Mr. Bowden & 
actually believed it till your letter came, 
for which I was most thankful -
I have written to the Purveyor about Miss Morton’s future store & about Miss Ecuyer -

Would you kindly read the note, & shew it to Revd. Mother, & to Miss Tebbutt & to Miss Ecuyer before you give it to Mr. Robertson - as sundry pieces of it concern each of them - & apologize to them that I have neither time nor strength to write to each about the part which concerns her - Also soften off to each the rudeness of it - Miss Tebbutt must be the person to appoint Jones or Parker to help Miss Ecuyer - I have already spoken to her about it - & Miss Ecuyer is not going to be sent up here without her will - But I understand that she volunteered for Balaclava -

The remaining household servant may do the work at the General Hospital, in lieu Mrs. Edgar, till I come back - God bless you - Thank you

FN.
the other sheet is for the Dss of Kent. Lothian is just returned from Kinburn & the Expedition to the Bug - & was to sail yesterday - in command of the troops on board of the “Indian” - with the Expedition to Kaffa which, if taken, we shall occupy for the winter.

He has had Dysentery for a month & looks ill but in high spirits - He rode up to see me from Kamiesch Bay. He was the director of the mines for blowing up of the Dockyards at Sevastopol - will soon be a Major & on the highroad to a Colonelcy -

I glory in his being here - & such earnest young blood is the only thing to regenerate us -

He, like myself, is worn out with the official conversation, which is entirely limited to two words, (as the old Barrel Organ was to two tunes), viz “Promotion” & “Gazette” -

General Simpson sailed today
leaving not a regret behind -

Sir W. Codrington & Gen. Wyndham are very popular appointments - excepting with Sir Colin Campbell who heroically took himself off in consequence -

Sir Richard Airey is going home, which I am sorry for, as one did get some business out of him.

& Gen. Barnard goes to the Second Division, instead of being Chief of Staff, which I am sorry for.

It was a great thing to be well with the great men - to keep down the insolence of the vulgar underlings - There is nothing that these will not do to annoy you & prick you out of the Crimea - in which they won’t succeed - Deo volente -

Nicholaïeff will probably be the seat of next year’s operations - But we must still hold this place - Ever yours dearest people

FN.

8995/72 copy of an initialed letter, 5ff, pen

Castle Hospital [14:265-67]
Balaclava
Nov. 11/55

My dearest -

In this terrible war, the sympathy of England with the brave men (who have suffered for her & for the liberty of Europe -) has been one main source of the singular capacity of endurance they have shown in their suffering. And among the sympathies so kindly expressed, that of the Queen for her troops,
& of the Duchess of Kent has been received with the more gratitude, of course and true heartfelt loyalty, because they know that the Queen & the Duchess of Kent have taken pains to inform themselves of the real state of those who are so devoted to their Sovereign. I have never doubted that the Duchess of Kent as well as the Queen has also felt an interest in all those who have done their best to serve the British soldier in his hour of need – 

Should H.R.H. condescend to wish to know that which will most benefit the British soldier now – it is every kind of interest & amusement which will tend to draw them away from their besetting sin – drunkenness. The Army will not move till March – we are told – At all events, we have three terrible months of idleness before us when – as soon as the road making is finished, the Army will have nothing to do but
drink - The establishment of Reading-Huts, the furnishing them
(1) With games - Chess, Back-gammon, Dominoes, Draughts, (a Foot-Ball outside) such as H.R.H. has already so kindly sent for the Sick & Wounded -
(2) with Reading Class-Books - Such as “Chambers’ Educational Series” for the schools.
(3) with Diagrams - for Lectures - is what we are all striving after.
Boards of General Officers have sat. But they came to the conclusion that, by

[2]
the time the necessary articles were sent out - the Army would be moving. The same delay, however, is not necessary in private enterprise - The Diagrams shd. illustrate the Elements of Astronomy & the Orrery - Natural History - Mechanical Powers Elements of Physiology Stratification of the Earth, etc.
The simplest Chance such as Ld. Mornington’s - wd. be very welcome & very useful
(In a miserable heap of stones, called a hut, open on two sides, close to Balaclava
they have little Psalm-meetings of their own every evening - wh. remind one of the days of the Covenanters.

The books shd. be such as the Pilgrim’s Progress, the “Penny Post” - all Chambers’ Books & Miscellanies -

(for the Dss of Kent)

Lothian is just returned from the Crimea Kinburn & the expedition to the Bug. & was to sail yesterday - in command of the troops on board the “Indian” - with the Expedition to Kaffa wh. if taken, we shall occupy for the winter. He has had Dysentery for a month & looks ill but in high spirits.

He rode up to see me from Kamiesch Bay. He was the Director of the Mines for blowing up the Dockyards at Sevastopol - will soon be a Major & on the high road to a Colonelcy -

I glory in his being here - & such earnest young blood is the only thing to regenerate us - He like myself, is worn out with the official conversation, wh. is entirely limited to two words, ( as the old Barrel Organ was to two tunes), viz “Promotion” & “Gazette” -

General Simpson sailed
Wellcome Ms 8995

today - leaving not a regret
behind - Sir W. Codrington &
Genl. Wyndham are very
popular appointments - excepting
Sir Colin Campbell - who
has heroically taken himself
off in consequence - Sir R.
Airey is going home, wh. I am
sorry for, as one can get some
business out of him. & Gen. Bar-
nard goes to the 2nd Division
instead of being Chief of the Staff -
which I am sorry for.
It was a great thing to be
well with the great men to
keep down the insolence of the
underlings - There is nothing
that these will not do to annoy
you & prick you out of the
Crimea - in wh. they won’t
succeed - Deo volente -
Nicholaïeff will probably
be the seat of next year’s
operations - But we must
still hold this place -

FN

8995/73 unsigned note, 1f, pen {arch: 7}

Castle Hospital
Balaclava

November 12/55

Thomas Parr
The late Private of the 28th Regiment
well remembered by Lt. & Adj.
H.C. Worthington - both recruits
at drill together at Newcastle
on Tyne in 1853. He was a good
soldier to his country & it may
be said to his Saviour also
Please tell this to his family -
I announced his attested death
to you in my last -
The expedition to Kaffa is countermanded - & Lothian remains here for the winter - I saw him today, looking & calling himself much better - & in ten days he blows up the famous Dockyards of Sevastopol, to replace all which city, with its fleet, as they were, would cost the Russians £300,000,000 - three hundred millions, for fear you should not be able to count my noughts - Yet what is that is to have done? after all. Far better have made Sevastopol a free port under our protection - Lothian is probably Major by this time & is much disappointed not to have Kaffa & a Colonelcy -

The Camp gossip here is that
the Codrington appointment is 
only a warming-pan - & that 
Genl. Wyndham, Chief of the Staff, 
is to have the honour of next 
year’s campaign, at Nicholaieff, 
& with the Command= in = Chief. 
Though the whole camp is as 
cautious as Ladies of the Bedchamber, 
none scruple now to say, now 
that Genl Simpson being gone, that 
the whole failure of the Redan 
rests with him - that, had the 
Highland Brigade, with the Third 
Division to support them, led the attack, 
we could not have failed, with the 
loss indeed of three times the men to have 
carried the Redan & all before us, 
taken the little Redan & the 
Russian army in flank & all but 
annihilated it -
Sir John Hall is going back to his 
rupees in India with a K.C.B ship. 
It is like the lifting off of a great incubus - & 
every body seems to breath more freely - 
Now I think something may be done in 
the Crimea - I feel as if my hands were untied
Dr. Hall’s probable departure makes my stay here as long as the War much more certain. I do not think he would ever have made me desert my post - nor by rendering what I could do little, make me give up the little I could do. But, though I hope experience has long since caused me to cease either to rejoice or to fear, but simply to act & to trust, I do, though I may be most excessively mistaken, expect great reforms from the absence of this incubus.

The dirt he has walked thro’ in opposing & thinking to sting me is wonderful - for he really is an able & efficient officer - with a head square like Napoleon’s & as vain - as inclined to dirty tricks as that great ruffian - Dr. Hall has actually stooped, as I know from authority that cannot be doubted, to tell the Nurses I have sent to the Crimea that they may take off their Badges, that they may cease to consider themselves as under my authority & that he will provide - If they will desert me, he will pay them - It is fact,
that poor Miss Clough deserted upon this fiction, engaged a Man & his wife whom she always called her “servants” with this understanding. & after her death, left them, (Dr. Hall’s tender mercies having failed him & her refusing to send in their claim for wages) to me & General Cameron to pay out of our own pockets as it was impossible for me to send in such a claim to Government.

I should like to have, please, a Cuckoo Clock sent out for this Hospital as a present for Mrs. Stewart - Please send it to me at Scutari - *It must make a noise* - not a little silvery voice like mine. yours for ever

FN.
PRIVATE [1:240-41]

Lord Raglan, in his last visit to me, asked me “if my father liked my coming out.” I said with pride “my father is not as other men are - he thinks that daughters should serve their country as well as sons he brought me up to think so - he has no sons - & therefore he has sacrificed me to my country - & told me to come home with my shield or upon it - He does not think, (as I once heard a father & a very good & clever father say,) “The girls are all I could wish - very happy, very attentive to me, & very amusing” - He thinks that God sent women, as well as men, into the world to be something more than “happy”, “attentive” & “amusing”. “Happy & dull” religion is said to make us - “happy & amusing” social life is supposed to make us - but my father’s religious & social ethics make us strive to be the pioneers of the human race & let “happiness” & “amusement” take care of themselves. [end 1:241]
C.H.B’clava
Mrs. Brownlow 16/11/55
Please read the enclosed to Mrs. Brownlow & let her come up
with one of the Household Servants as soon as possible –
the Laundress & other Household Servant remaining now at the
House to fill Mrs. Brownlow’s & Greeks’ place with Laxton
as Chef -acknowledged -
If Mrs. Little or any one else
be already engaged, she may still come up – Mrs. Little
will probably come on her own hook – in spite of me
Mrs. B. & the Household Servt.
are for the Monastery –
Officers Nursing
About the Officers, I must have
misexpressed myself – for the facts of the Officers’ Nursing
are not at all as you think them
I have never declined to nurse any Officer - I have declined uniformly to send them Nurses - to take away a woman from nursing 100 men to sit or lie the 24 hours in an officer’s room, as they wished - But, in the Hospitals Barrack & General wherever we were sent for, whether to Military, Medical or Ecclesiastical Officers, Mrs. Roberts & I have always gone. I have farther found every thing that was necessary - And few have died without me or Mrs. Roberts - & few have recovered without acknowledging us - For I have not at all confined myself to the dying cases - But I have always nursed an Officer like a Private - that is visiting
him at necessary times - If he
did not choose to be nursed
in that way, he was not
nursed at all -

Farther, I kept an organized
corps of Soldiers’ wives (respectable
women) all of whom, but one,
are now gone home ( & are indeed
no longer wanted), to nurse the
Officers, Military, Medical &
Ecclesiastical, out of the Hospitals Barrack & General
at my own expense These
were inspected & visited by
me - Also I once took a sick Officer into
my own house & many times into the Barrack Hosp.

At these two Hospitals of
B’clava, we have, farther,
done the whole cooking for
the sick & wounded Officers, Mily. Medl. & Ecclesl.,
ever since we have been
established, & nursed them
with Nurses in=doors & out,
the same as I have done at
Scutari with myself, Roberts & soldiers’
wives
It has not answered, as I will at some time expose, but so it is - 

Farther, there is not an egg, nor a piece of butter, nor of jelly, nor of Eau de Cologne, which has not been provided at Mrs. Stewart’s or my private expense at this Hospital for the sick & wounded Officers ever since its Establishment — & we have, as stated, done their whole cooking & nursing — 

Farther, I have, in individual severe cases, given a Nurse, both here & at Scutari, to sit up — 

Here we have so spoilt the sick & wounded Officers that they complained of me to the Commander in Chief, (because I would not bake their toast for twenty four hours) of my “ill-treatment”.
It cannot therefore be said that I do not nurse officers - God knows I have enemies enough - Please therefore find some other excuse for me with Mrs. Shrubb, who has however, put “my nursing” already in the Times Advertisement -

BRACEBRIDGE

I do not think Mr. Bracebridge intends to return & (to tell you the truth) he could not, (after his Lecture as reported in the “Times”) without greatly injuring the work. He is too clever a man to have said that (I cannot enter into it at length) had he intended to return - It has set all the medical Staff in the Crimea in a blaze - & besides being utterly untrue, it was not our business to say it - And, if you read my letter to him you will see that I have told him
so. Did I, by the bye, send you that letter of mine to him?
  But, in short, his coming back now would be a hindrance instead of a help. And
  I cannot bear to cut off my own right-hand by signifying anything of this kind to him - & thereby to kill myself with my own hand - But I leave the fact with you to make use or not of it as you like -
  Dr. Hall, my Chief, burrows & burrows away the ground from under me - The whole of the Wear, Clough & Bridgeman rebellions were his organizing - You little know the man when you tried to interpret his conduct in the Clough affair. He has done much worse things -
If the Turk landlord comes again, tell him that he knows perfectly well that I have his Receipt for the rent of his house which I paid up to January - & also that I have the refusal of the house after that - & that I mean to keep it for another three months.

Don’t be daunted by him - He comes about every 6 weeks, I say this & he goes away again -

But as for giving him 2500 piastres a month, I won’t give him 1000 pi. which is what I gave before.

Many thanks for all you say & do -
I do not quite understand the distribution of the Nurses. There is one Nurse & three half=Nurses in C. And why should Mrs. Clarke & Mrs. Hawkins the two suspicious ones, be in C at all?

It does not do to have different Nurses working in the same ward - Please confine those two, at least, to A. & I. Because Mrs. Hawkins was not nursing before.

The system of Nurses following their patients is one fraught with mischief.

yours for ever
F.N.
Castle Hospital
Balaclava

November 16/55
John Furlong to (whom gave me on September 8/55, £2.0.0 for his mother Catharine Furlong, at Wexford) complains that on October 23, she had not got it - & sends me her letter, certifying this. Will you see this righted? It was to go by P.O. Order.

I am not at all surprised at Miss Stanley upholding the Salisbury - Or Miss Wyse either - They must both of them be very uneasy at the disclosures which will come out - viz. that they have kept her with me as a spy - & that Miss Stanley actually wrote to her through Miss Wyse, to “hold out” which letter you have in your possession by this time, The discovery of my own wearing apparel, which was (not lying about but) in my box at the house, in her boxes was a most fortunate occurrence if any thing can be called fortunate in this most wretched business, for, though the position of my house was geographically a denial to Miss Salisbury’s statement that she carried things from the Women’s Hospital, from the
Barrack Hospital thither

to give to the soldiers in the
B.H., yet that might not
be a proof in a Court of
Justice - But She did not
take my cap to give it to a
soldier - nor my silk wove spencer.

Manning is the only person
who has any influence over
Miss Stanley - If Mrs.
Bracebridge thought it
worth while to see im
& ask him whether it
is with his approbation
that Miss Stanley acts the
part of Patroness to the
discarded villains of Scutari
& tell him the whole story - it
might be as well - but you
cannot think how indifferent

I am about it - or how little
I wish to press any step -
I suppose you would not
think of seeing Mrs. or Mr.
Stanley, & asking them,
whether Miss Stanley’s conduct
is with their knowledge or
sanction.

I see “the Earl of Aberdeen”s”
& “Charlotte Salisbury’s” “arrival
at Spithead on October 23” -
I do not at all regret
having offered to pay his
passage to Australia - Any
body who could be base enough
to pervert this offer into a
bad intention on my part, would lay hold
of anything, as Stanley & Wyse
have done - and I could not,
when I saw the creature
actually prostrate & groaning & groveling
on the floor with humiliation
but try to give her some hope
in this world - Of the next she
never thought -
Wellcome Ms 8995

8995/77 initialed letter, 2ff, pen {arch: to Aunt Mai} 17/11/55

Your letters just arrived. I enclose one from Miss Piper - I am afraid of people who write about sacrifices - & it seems a curious beginning when she to stipulate the she must make a sacrifice & have a bed room to herself & friend -
I enclose you my answer. Do not send it if you think, better not (from your knowledge of Miss Piper) that she would be a Gain to us.
I wish I could see Dr. Meyer - Could you do so & ask him to recommend me four of his best nurses & one of his best ladies - by no means pledging me to take them. He can have no reason now for not taking giving me the best.
Also, will you say to Miss Tebbutt (& be careful, for you do not know how false from weakness she can be) "You do not like being
supt., now is your time,
I am sure my niece
does not want to turn
you out, on the contrary,
but I am sure, if you
sincerely wish to give
up your supcy., as you
tell me, if it were
forced upon you
against your will, as
you say, my niece
would select a lady
from Smyrna, make
her Supt., in time,
only, of course, after
having tried her."

If I were to write
this to her, she might
very likely take offence:
Will you say to Miss
Ecuyer that I wish her
to be so good as to pay
particular attention
to the way Revd. Mother
keeps the books, if the
latter would let her
keep them for a while
as she will have to do it
afterwards.
& will you tell Mr.
Robertson that I will
next mail

{on the top of the first page}
answer his letter, only just
arrived - FN God bless you
List of Nurses & Sisters [14:290-91]
who have ceased to be employed
in the Hospitals of Scutari & Balaklava

November 30, 1855

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>When appointed</th>
<th>When discharged</th>
<th>Cause of dismissal</th>
<th>Pay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Wilson</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>Oct 21/54</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intoxication</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Williams</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Dec 21/54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Jones</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Falkner</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Buying &amp; Selling for Patients in Hospital</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Coyle</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Jan 15/55</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Incompetency</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Burnett</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot; Fagg</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Higgins</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Blake</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>March 23/55</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Invalided</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gratuity £5</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Williams</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Barnes</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
<td>April 4/55</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Dead</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Clarke</td>
<td>£35</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Invalided pr ann.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Smith</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot; Drake</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/</td>
<td>April 21/55</td>
<td>August 9/55</td>
<td>42</td>
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<td>Dead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gratuity £5</td>
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<td>&quot; Grundy</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>Oct 21/55</td>
<td>April 21/55</td>
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<td>Urgent business</td>
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<td>Gratuity £5</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ch. Of England Sisters</td>
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<td>Sister Etheldreda</td>
<td>Oct 21/54</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
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<td>Cause of Dismissal</td>
<td>Names</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old Age</td>
<td>Mrs. Bessant</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Dec 1/54</td>
<td>immediately</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anderson</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
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<td>Hefferman</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>Newton</td>
<td>4 6/</td>
<td>March 1/55</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Employed in private</td>
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<td>Harding</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>23/55</td>
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<td>Bull</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>March 23/55</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Hunt</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>Hefferman</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>April 20/55</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gailey</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>April 9/55</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>McPhee</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keatley</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>June 1/55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gibson</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Dec 1/54</td>
<td>15/55</td>
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<td>14/</td>
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<td>Intoxication</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Reason</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>-----</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodward</td>
<td>14/</td>
<td>went home with Patient</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandhouse</td>
<td>14/</td>
<td>Gratuity £2.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>July 13/55 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuffill</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Incompetency</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Noble</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Invalided</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyas</td>
<td>£35</td>
<td>30 Roman Catholic employed per ann.</td>
<td>5/55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thorne</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>went to Koulali &amp; since</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitehead</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Invalided</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept 21/55 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sansom</td>
<td>10/</td>
<td>Gratuity £5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Gratuity £5</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Nov 24/55 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson</td>
<td>March 9/55</td>
<td>Immediately intoxication</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>June 1/55</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke</td>
<td>16/</td>
<td>14 improperity of conduct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheatstone</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>intoxication</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Nov 9/55 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lists of Sisters who have ceased to be employed in the Hospitals of Scutari, Balaklava & Koulali

November 30/55

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cause of Retirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Walford</td>
<td>£35</td>
<td>May 24/55</td>
<td>Died of Cholera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Salisbury</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>May 15/55</td>
<td>Felony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss E. Anderson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 1/54</td>
<td>Invalided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Kate &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; went home from Koulali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Innis &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Invalided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Polidori &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Smythe &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; withdrawn to the Highland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Clough &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Taylor{arch: Eastern Hospts?} went home from Koulali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Clare &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; accompanied above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Winifred &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Died Oct 20/55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of 108 who have come out from England to these Stations
64 have gone home
24 from sickness, including
6 dead
18 invalided
24
12 intoxication
12 incompetency
4 accompanied Patients home
4 impropriety of conduct including
1 theft
4 went home from Koulali
4 various reasons at home
64
32 still remain in these Hospitals
12 R. Catholic Nuns seceded to Genl. Hospl. Balaclava

108
It will be seen by the above Report, which takes in a period of thirteen months, that, of the

\[\text{Appointed}\]

1st Party  - - - - - - - - - - - - Oct 21/54  - - - - - - - which came out with me
consisting of 88 12 remain
2nd Party - Dec 1/54-- came out with Miss Stanley
consisting of 46 3 remain *
3rd Party  - - - - - - - - - - - - March 9/55  - - - - - - - came out with Miss Wear
consisting of 6 5 remain
4th Party  - - - - - - - - - - - - " 23/55  - - - - - - - - - - - 6 remain
consisting of 7
5th Party
consisting of 4 - - - - - - - - - April 5/55 - - - - - - - - - - - 3 remain
" came singly 5
" 3

\[108 32\]

It will also be shewn that the mortality in the Female Staff has been, during the above Period, rather less than 6 per cent, - the total loss from sickness & death rather less than one fourth.

Comparing this with the mortality and invaliding among the Medical Officers, Chaplains, &c of the Army in the East, the proportion will appear to be comparatively small - altho’ the exposure to infection & to the influences of disease is, obviously, greater among Nurses -

This comparative immunity may, probably, be attributed to the simplicity & regularity of habits enforced among them.

* this very small proportion arises from the too great haste in the selection, {arch: (but it should be added that the 12 Nurses at Balaclava were part of the 46 as well as 3 at Kulalie.) [Koulali]}
It will be seen that the proportion of those sent home (from every cause) is 64 – 108. It may therefore be inferred that the Female Staff will require renewing about every two years for the following reasons.

1. on account of the climate & other causes of disease

2. because intoxication, tacitly admitted as unavoidable among Nurses in London Hospitals, must, in Military Hospitals, be sternly checked, by dismissal at the first offence in order to carry on the work at all –

3. because, with every care exercised in the selection (which unfortunately has not always been the case) a certain proportion of incompetents or adventurers, tempted by high pay, by vanity or curiosity, or because they cannot live at home, will always be amongst those sent out.

4. because women, as well as men, will fall home-sick at the end of one or two years, & are then of little use to the Queen’s service.

But, taking all these drawbacks into consideration which apply (not more but perhaps) less to the female than to any other branch of the service, it is obvious that the experiment of sending Nurses to the East has been eminently successful – & that the supplying trained instruments to the hands of the Medical Officers has saved much life valuable life & remedied many deficiencies.
Of the 108 sent out, there were

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gone home</th>
<th>Seceded</th>
<th>Remain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R. Catholic Nuns</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anglican Sisters</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. John’s Nurses</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladies</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Nurses</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>108</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With these, of whom no more than 50 have ever been at work at the same time,
2 Hospitals at Scutari during 13 months
2 " Balaclava " 10 "
2 " Koulali " 3 "

have been served
With 32
2 Hospitals at Scutari
2 " Balaclava

are served at this present time -
No Nurses have been sent out to the above Hospitals from England since April, 1855. i.e. for the last seven months.
And, should the War Office consider it, at present, undesirable to send out any more, these four Hospitals may still continue to be served with that Number, by which twice the work at half the expenses may be done of that which would be, were other Nurses drafted in among these from other Hospitals in the East, where a different system & possibly less simplicity of life, have been observed, under which they were founded -
Florence Nightingale

Duplicate
Female establishments under Miss Nightingale - 30 11/55
155,656/319 in W.O.
This the original in Miss Nightingale’s own hand
There is a copy in W.O.
JHL
Female Staff
Employed in the Hospitals of Scutari & Balaclava

November 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<td>Castle Hospital</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>of</td>
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<td>of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balaclava</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Shaw Stewart</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Dec 1/54</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Superintendent</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Sinclair</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Mar 9/55</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Tandy</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Logan</td>
<td>18/</td>
<td>Ap 5/55</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; McPherson</td>
<td>16/</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp;c</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monastery Hospital</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Mar 9/55</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Superintendent</td>
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<td>Miss Wear</td>
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<td>St. George’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Nisbett</td>
<td>12/</td>
<td>Oct 25/55</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimea</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Evans</td>
<td>16/</td>
<td>Nov 30/55</td>
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<td>Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Brownlow</td>
<td>10/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laundress</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Hospital</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Mrs. Bridgeman {written vertically:} none Dec. 1/54 | [end 14:292]
| R. Catholic Nuns |      |         |    |             |
| and 11 Sisters |      |         |    |             |
| "             | 250  |         |    |             |
| x             | 12   |         |    |             |

[x of the charge of this latter Hospital I have prayed the War Office to be relieved - because]

1. it is contrary to my Instructions to serve any one Hospital with R. Catholic Ladies only {in another hand: who are bound by their conscience to convert}
2. it is contrary to my experience to think 12 women necessary to serve from 160 - 250 Patients. for which nos. four {in another hand to live} would be enough
3. their expenditure is such as I am
not justified in sanctioning
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of</th>
<th>Appointment of Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barrack Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Morton</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matron</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revd. Mother</td>
<td>Oct 21/54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Nuns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sister George</td>
<td>{vertically} none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; De Chantal</td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Anastasia</td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Stanislas</td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Roberts</td>
<td>25/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Nurse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Clark</td>
<td>18/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housekeeper</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Davey</td>
<td>10/</td>
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<td>18/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gratuity £5</td>
<td>“</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hawkins</td>
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<td>Gratuity £5</td>
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<td>Lawfield</td>
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<td>Gratuity £5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbins</td>
<td>18/</td>
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<tr>
<td>“ Holmes</td>
<td>18/</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Clarke</td>
<td>16/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“ Howes</td>
<td>16/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“ Orton</td>
<td>16/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Sullivan</td>
<td>18/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| General Hospital | | | |
| Scutari | | | |
| Miss Tebbutt {written vertically} | unpaid Dec 1/54 | 52 | |
Wellcome Ms 8995

Superintendent
Sister Bertha of England Sisters
   " Margaret
Miss Ecuyer 18/ No 1/55 4
Matron
   " Tattersall 18/ Mar 23/55 36
Housekeeper
Mrs. Parker 10/ Oct 21/54
Nurses
   18/ Apr 21/55 58
   Gratuity £5
   " Jones 16/ Mar 28/55 36
   " Wilsdon 18/ " 9/55 38
   " Harrack 18/ 9/55 38
   " Tainton 18/ Apr 5/55 34
   " 10
Will you ride or write to Thomas
Kernish Anfield near Hursley &
tell him that George Kernish his
brother 23d Reg. was brought in
here with a severe shell wound
in the hip which burrowed up &
out into the back, that he
gradually sank, that finding I
was a Hampshire woman he told
me all about his family, said that
he had a great deal to say to them
if he could see them, but he could
not write it, begged me to write,

was very patient & good & most
carefully attended by Doctors Nurse
& myself & finally died last
night
Poor ________ was brought in here with a severe shell wound in the hip which burrowed up & out into the back - He gradually sank from that time - He told me all [illeg] about his family, said he had a great deal to say to them if he could see them, but he could not write it then - He asked me to write - He was very patient & good, & most carefully attended by the Doctors a nurse & myself, but died last night -

He was a good soldier to his country & it may be said to his Saviour also.

I send by Mr. Cooper Steward of Indiana

1 box with the vines in it from our vineyard at the Castle Hospital (I am told that the way they are cut tho’ not your way is the only way that would do

1 Russian sword cartridge, as my portion of Sevastopol spoil to be sent to my warlike father -

1 Russian cap Robert’s to be sent to his mother Mary Robinson care of Mr. J. Stewart

12 Cullingtree St.

Belfast

as his portion of Russian spoil

1 wallet for Mrs. Armstrong

Caithness

Would you desire all these things to be called for & distribute them accordingly. Robert is going to send you a sword all to yourself.

I was brought back suddenly from
Balaclava by the cholera here
MacGregor is dead & 4 other
surgeons whom you dont know
deaths just under half the op
cases - subsiding now rapidly
German legion moved out of this
Hospital in consequence
two money orders wrong amounts
people writing back from Scutari & Sebastopol to say so " (Mr. B’s mistake).
"Please see to this it gets me into such scrapes -"

Dr. Linton has feeling & humanity & every sense but "common sense"
Dr. Sutherland is mistaken there
Any quantity of books which can be sent out is acceptable
Remember we are 50.000 -

please send out 6 pair of angora stocking from Miss Wear Times
200 £ advanced to Caffé
Stamps are much nearer £200 than £100 but I have told our Wardman that Mr. Stowe never engaged to pay more than £100 worth

8995/83 incomplete letter, 1f, pen

If Lepri should return before I do, I should be glad to go to the expence of having my Monuments, he knows which, made firm by stone foundations.
Could you ask Mr. Black why poor Arthur Wight’s is not put up yet?
The mother has written to me asking me - She has ascertained from other sources it is not.
8995/84 unsigned letter, 3ff, pen (arch: ?1856)

No 1
Will you read this enclosed &
if you can just get an inkling
of its contents, without troubling
yourself to read the whole, (it is
probably some petition) decline
it - It must be some madmen -
If Miss Morton goes up to my
house, Sullivan will come to
sleep in our quarters -

No 2
Please read also these Verses
& do what you will with
Mr. Budge -
What am I to do with this
Inscription; No 3, which Mrs.
Shrubb wishes to be placed
on that poor Wight’s grave?
You will, please, look at
poor Walford’s monument -
If you approve, order another
thro’ Mr. Black of the same
man, but of a little finer
workmanship - Then do with
the Inscription what you think best - But you must re-write it, please, in the exact position in which the words & letters are to be placed, or print it, otherwise these Italian sculptors will, like the Chinese, imitate every mistake. and put the lines as they ought to be - when you have decided what to put in & if we can leave out anything - I have forwarded the letter to the servant, Wild, whom I saw & started to England with his master’s things - & I have written to the unlucky Shrubblt telling her he will bring them to her -

No 4.
I have no Nurses of the name of Saunders or Saunderson, nor ever have had - But, if they could tell you this, they could tell you in what Ward & Hospital he dies - Could it be Mrs. Sansom? Will you ask her? If it was at Koulale or Smyrna he died, would you write & ask particulars? I enclose their questions - By knowing the Ward in which he died, you would find out the Nurse.
shall have another opportunity
by Marseille - & should this
be important, pray let
Laxton go - Miss Morton
will then kindly preside
in the house tell I return.
I am glad she can go out
I hope Sullivan will keep
straight, with Miss Morton
to take care of - She had better
staff with her at the house -
Cholera {written diagonally in margin}
I am very uneasy about
the cholera & if you tell me
it continues, shall come back
Queen {written diagonally in margin}
Do please write me
an answer to Queen’s
letter & send it me to copy.
I will put it in the Etiquette -
Stove {written diagonally in margin}
I think you must
have the other China Stove

If you can keep
Laxton to go home
with her to take care
of her, pray do. Iff
I think Laxton too
proud a woman to be
very guilty -
8995/87 incomplete letter, 1f, pen

put up in the sitting room
in my house - because, if
you stay there the winter,
you will find it uninhabitable.
I fear the stove in my
sitting-room will be of
no use - we never could
light one last winter at all.
Please make them very
careful with the pans
of Charcoal - These should
never be brought into
the room till quite alive
& always put out of
the room an hour before
it is shut up for the
night. the stove-man may
wait to be paid till I
come back.

8995/88 incomplete letter, 1f, pen

I am very glad Vickary lays
such violent hands to save
my wood & Charcoal &
coppers in D Division - It is
very faithful & proper
I am afraid we must let the
cook go - Does not Vickary
think he can do without him?
Vickary does quite right to
sleep in the our house -
If you feel or fear that
there is anything going on
which really requires my
presence, you will be sure
to tell me, & I would come
back directly.
Having done with this I send
it, What it not sent is entirely
business I have entirely encouraged
her to stay to finish her work
which I am sure must be better
than returning to Balaclava
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
Decber 1 {arch: 55}

Madam
That your Majesty’s sympathy is given to every man of your troops, none knows 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 staunch - We would stand ten years of war.
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 & overstrained endurance is depression & love of drink in un-educated 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 M’s deep interest in the welfare of yr Army that I will venture, even without apology to speak to yr M. of some impressions left on me by what I saw passing in the C.

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 that there are delays in the remittances that they cannot trust themselves to keep their own money till the day of remitting it comes, that they do not wish their comrades to know of these remittances otherwise the money wd be borrowed.

That these are not mere excuses is proved by the fact that I rarely remit home a smaller sum then £200 per week for the men in petty sums of 21/ 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 warm & lighted Hut for each

Regt to read them in which might be used also as a
church a schoolroom with
reading & copy books & even
as a theatre
  practical lectures with
plain illustrations Diagrams &c
2 or 3 evenings in the week
I understand that yr Majesty’s
Govt. is already about to act
in this direction sending out
lecturers, diagrams &c
  Every thing which tends
to soften & cheer the soldiers
imagination tends to diminish
the vice of intoxication the
games & books & newspapers
which yr M has sent, the
prints of your M. & their R
Highnesses, the Princes which
I have hung on the walls of the
Reading Huts which already
existg (so deep & true is always
the feeling of duty towards
your Majesty in these hearts)
the illustrated Shakespeares
& the [illeg] 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 [illeg] our patients in the Hospital are nightly taken to the Guard Room 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 drunkeness 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 B. in presence as it were of yr M’s army forces them on my observation, which I hope may be my excuse when I trust to obtaining yr M’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 hours by depriving them of their licence if the police regulations be infringed. a Committee of Officers over them.
if possible [not FN hard to read]
(2) a Correspondence between the Chief of the Staff in the British Army on the means of preventing international [?] [illeg] 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 rich they boast that they will spend their field & work allowances “on their bodies” Had these allowances been laid up for them at home there wd 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 {faind} 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, Wz obey our sovereign with love & devotion, the Muscovies theirs with superstition & fear

I can assure yr M that yr 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 I am
Madam
your Majesty’s dutiful
most grateful & devoted
subject FN

8995/90 signed letter, 2ff, pen {arch: 374402

   Barrack Hospital       [14:273]
      Scutari
         2   December 1/55
         A.213} 
Madam
In answer to your note
of Nov 19, I deeply
regret to have to inform
you that I fear there
must be some mistake
in the mother’s belief
that she heard from
her son in Scutari
Hospital on June 30 -
For
   Corporal John Boxall
1st Royals No 3051,
admitted with Fever
on February 4/55, died [see 5482/6 same]
in this very Hospital from which I now write, on February 13/55, nine days only from the time of his admission, & has been struck off the strength of the Regt. from that date -

I trust that the mother will find comfort in the thought that he did his duty & was not neglected. During that fatal month, our Deaths in Hospitals averaged from 70 to 80 per day - On the very day of poor Corporal Boxall’s decease, they reached their height, being that day 84 - And in that month we lost 1700 men in these Hospitals. The poor Mother therefore must not be surprised, if few particulars about individuals can be gleaned or remembered.

With sincere sympathy for his loss, I remain Madam yr obedi. servt.

Florence Nightingale
While somewhat unwilling to increase my responsibilities I feel so deeply the kindness with which you put your proposal, that I will endeavour to carry out your Lordship’s intentions to the best of my power, should I be doing so by distributing the admirable articles of comfort which the liberality of the committee has placed under my charge, upon the same plan which I have found desirable to adopt in the distribution of the Free Gifts & Funds already entrusted to me -

As I have been sometimes blamed by the authorities here for being hasty & profuse in the application of articles to the soldiers’ use, while at home I have been charged with hoarding these stores, I will venture to explain to your Lordship the principle upon which I have administered them, & my reasons for so doing - in order that I may not undertake a charge in a manner which perhaps you may not sanction.

In Scutari I have made it my practice
to answer every Requisition of a Medical Officer when countersigned by a First Class Surgeon or by a Purveyor, if it were ascertained that such articles did not exist in the Purveyors, Quarter Master's or Barrack Master's stores —

This applies of course to the three Hospitals of Scutari. As regards its Depôt I have answered every Requisition of a Commanding Officer —

From the Crimea (including Kertch) from the Bosphorus including the Naval Hospital at Therapia, & Koulaï from the Dardanelles including Abydos & Kadikoi, from Smyrna from the Osmanli Artillery & Cavalry & also from the Hospitals of our allies the Sardinians at Jeni Kaiï & Balaclava I have answered every Requisition whether from Medical Officer Superintendent of Nurses Chaplain or Commanding Officer —

I have kept an exact record of every article thus sent or given by me —

The accounts of Articles thus distributed in the Hospitals of Scutari up to Feb 15/55 have been printed in the Blue Book entitled "Report on the state of the
Hospitals of BA in the Crimea & Scutari. a small set of warm clothing & of articles of comfort such as soap brush & comb housewifes needles thread buttons &c to repair his own clothing with scissors &c is given to each soldier besides on leaving Hospital whether invalided for home or convalescent for his Regiment.

The difficulties which exist in the distribution of the Gifts of our generous friends at home are perhaps hardly appreciable, excepting by those who have been in the Crimea, but these they will be at once recognized by the excellent agents of your Association

They are
(1) that the Authorities here justly object to an indiscriminate generosity as the Soldier would frequently exchange superfluity for drink -
(2) That the Soldier is necessarily limited as to baggage & cannot carry with him more than a certain quantity -
(3) that were I to send articles unasked for & which the Quarter Master or Barrack Master’s stores already possess, this would be to ensure the waste of the valuable property so liberally contributed & committed to my
charge on which account I have made the rule above mentioned -

When I however state that in the three months ending Feb. 15.55 upwards of 17,000 shirts, cotton & flannel had been distributed by me in answer to official requisitions in the Hospitals of Scutari alone, it will not appear that the generosity of our country has been wasted - I beg leave only to add my conviction that the whole of the property of the Crimea Fund Association may be usefully applied before this war is over.

My report of the distribution of all the stores entrusted to my charge will be printed in order that they may be thus accounted for - I should not have troubled you at so much length but that I feel it to be my duty to make some explanation before undertaking a charge of the manner in which it would be discharged.
Decber 10

My Lord

I beg to acknowledge & to thank you for your letter of the 15th ult.

It should have been earlier acknowledged had it not followed me to the Crimea, where I then was.

While somewhat unwilling to increase my responsibilities I feel so deeply the kindness with which you put your proposal, that I will endeavour to carry out your Lordship’s intentions to the best of my power, should I be doing so by distributing the admirable articles of comfort which the liberality of the committee has placed under my charge, upon the same plan which I have found desirable to adopt in the distribution of the Free Gifts & Funds already entrusted to me -

As I have been sometimes blamed by the authorities here for being hasty & profuse in the application of articles
to the soldiers' use, while at home I have been charged with hoarding these stores, I will venture to explain to your Lordship the principle upon which I have administered them, & my reasons for so doing - in order that I may not undertake a charge in a manner which perhaps you may not sanction.

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(2) That the Soldier is necessarily
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Fund Association may be usefully
applied before this war is over.
My Report of the distri-
bution of all the stores en-
trusted to my charge will
be printed in order that
they may be thus accounted
for.
I should not have troubled
your Lordship at so much
length but that I feel it
to be my duty to make some
explanation before undertaking
a charge of the manner in
which it would be discharged.
According to Lord Panmure’s instructions, every soldier is to be provided with
  2 woollen shirts
  2 prs drawers
  2 - stockings
  1 fur lined coat
  1 warm cap
  1 pr long boots
I have answered this letter in order to show what were the intentions of her Majesty’s Govt.

8995/93 signed letter, 2ff, pen

PRIVATE     Barrack Hospital
            Scutari
            Dec 15/55

Dear Sir
  It appears to me, on consideration, that you are the voice of the War Office delivering its commission to send home half the Nuns at the General Hospital, Balaclava - that there are, therefore, two objections to my expressing the opinion, which you desired, on the verdict of the War Office.
    1. it would give greater unpopularity to your
commission by making it appear, as if the War Office acted at my instigation.

2. it would be really an impertinent interference for me, the servant, to express my opinion in favor of the decision of my Masters.

The matter stands, at present, that the War Office has expressed its disapprobation to me of the conduct of Mrs. Bridgeman, Superior of the R. Catholic Nuns now at Balaclava. She naturally replies, “The War Office has said nothing to me – of course I do not act upon what has been said to you.” Now comes the sentence to her, which must appear to her very natural, after having heard the disapprobation of her measure expressed by the War Office to me – An opinion given by me under these circumstances appears to me as not merely unnecessary but as spoiling a good case – Nevertheless, I think your judgment so much
less likely to err in this matter than mine that I subjoin the opinion you desired, in case you think it desirable to use it.

With many thanks for your kind support & sympathy in a very difficult life, believe me, dear Sir, yours faithfully & gratefully

Florence Nightingale
Lt. Colonel Lefroy R.A.

8995/94 handwritten copy of signed letter, 1f, pen {arch. also 5479/2 Scutari - Barrack Hospital  [14:286-87]

Sir
I understand from you that the War Department considers that the number of twelve ladies, now employed at the General Hospital, Balaclava, is greater than the average number of patients in that hospital requires - & that Lord Panmure has desired my opinion on this question. I beg to state that I concur

with Lord Panmure in that opinion that the number of the ladies is greater than the size & circumstances of that Hospital warrant.

I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant

Florence Nightingale

Lt. Col Lefroy RA
& &c
Sir

I have been desired to transfer the order for the “Clyde” to the “Cambria”, if you have room - & accommodation. I therefore take the liberty of sending the Nurse on board for the chance - & will send the proper Orders before the vessel sails.

I remain Sir

Dec 21/55 yr obedt. servt.

Florence Nightingale

Dec 18/55

Dear Sir

Might I trouble you to look in this morning at one of my Nurses who has not much the matter with her, but who thinks herself much in need of the “Doctor”? I shall be very much obliged if you will.

yours truly

Florence Nightingale
Please to en direct the enclosed to
   Mr. Serjeant Adams
       9 Hyde Park St
       London
or in whatever way you address those great men,
Serjeants of law - I don’t know how to write to them,
my Serjeants being only
called able to write by courtesy -
   Our Hospls. are filling again, I am sorry to say.
My dear Mr. Herbert

I have written a letter as you desired, in order to relieve you from trouble & responsibility which are a bad reward for all your kindness & confidence in this matter. But I would far rather leave the naming of the Council in your hands, & should you see anything injudicious in what I have said, I shall be grateful to you to make any alterations, which I sanction beforehand - I confess that I do not see what a Council has to do till I return die
break up (so as to leave a conviction of my never being able to act) or else begin to act in London - It seems rather a case for Trustees now as I see specified by you - & I hope that you will take the trouble, always great but not ungrateful of acting as my Trustee -

Believe me to be ever most gratefully yours F N -

PS- the confidence which you & the Subscribers to this Fund have shewn in me, has been so generous & extraordinary

that it is perhaps hardly necessary for me to allude to a very natural letter which I am told has appeared in the "Times" to the effect that I must furnish a Prospectus of what I am going to do before I can expect to have money subscribed to do it - I think this is perfectly reasonable if I originally had asked for the money, which of course I did not - But to furnish a cut & dried Prospectus of my Plans, when I cannot look forward a month, much less a year, is what I would not if I could, & I could not
if I would. I would not if I could, because everything which succeeds is not the production of a Scheme of Rules & Regulations made beforehand, but of a mind observing & adapting itself to wants & events. I could not if I would, because it is simply impossible to find time in the midst of one overpowering work to digest & concoct another — & if it could be done, it would be simply bad & to be hereafter altered or destroyed — St Vincent de Paul, who I am told is quoted in this letter, began with one Lady & four Peasant girls & no scheme at all — That was made afterwards — F N —

8996/4 signed copy of letter, 4ff, pen, not FN hand {arch: 56 1 14} same as 5482/

Barrack Hospital Scutari
Jany 14th ’56
Mrs Byers,
It is with the most sincere sympathy that I am obliged to send you sad news of your Husband. He was for some time ill in this Hospital, during which every thing that was possible was done for his
recovery, but I grieve to say that he died on the 7th of January last of Dysentery -
It may be a comfort to you, though a sad one, to know that in his last days he talked much of his wife & children, He seemed extremely anxious about you, & spoke of you with the greatest tenderness & affection. He desired that you might be written to; & was so anxious to remind us of writing to you, & of your direction, that during the last hour of his life, after he was unable to say more, he often repeated No. 5, No. 5.
I hope it will be a comfort to you to hear that every
thing that was possible was
done here for the relief of
his sufferings, & to support
him in death. I saw him
myself daily up to the
day of his death. My
head nurse was with him
when he died - & he had
the constant attendance
of the Doctors of the Hos-
pital, & of the Nurse belong-
ing to his ward, The clergyman

attended regularly in his
Ward, reading to him, &
praying with him. He had
all the nourishment he could
take, & if he had a fancy
for any particular thing
it was taken to him.

I have sent today to
your direction, his Purse,
containing £1. 3. 6, & some
copper, & his Medals which
I hope will reach you
safely. I wish to add

that in case you should
be in distress in provid-
ing for your family now
you have lost your Hus-
band, you can apply to
the "Patriotic Fund", &
if you write to me, I
will mention you to the
Directors of that Fund.
You may direct to me
Miss Nightingale
Barrack Hospital
Scutari

[FN hand here:]
With sincere sympathy
for your great loss,
believe me,
dear Mrs. Byers,
Yours truly
Florence Nightingale

8996/5 signed letter, 2ff, pen [14:318]

Scutari
Jan 24/56
My dears I think
Miss Spottiswoode’s letter
so beautiful, by which I
mean that she so thoroughly
comprehends the work
before her, (which is the
only true beauty) that I
deply regret I have no
work at present for her,
& I hope that, if the war
is prolonged & our work
is prolonged, we shall
be able to offer her some—
Oh! if I had had her,
instead of that Miss Salisbury,
et id genus omne, Miss Wear, Miss Tebbutt et id genus omne, a life’s bitterness of re=mending false work, might have been saved - Besides this, she seems to understand that the work of the Ladies here lies with the Nurses more than with the men - which scarcely any one has done [end] Believe me ever your F Nightingale Florence Nightingale 30 Old Burlington St London to Mrs S.S. 8996/6 signed letter, 7ff, pen use 5479/4 or Kew PRO? [14:323-25] Scutari (in another hand 67281 rec’d 56 7 Barrack Hosp action Feb 1013) Jan 28/56 My dear Sir As I am somewhat bruised & battered with a fifteen months’ war with enemies who “strike below the knee” – as, like the gentlemen in Chevy Chase, I am now fighting upon my“stumps”, I have ventured so far as to presume upon your kindness in writing you a private, though not a “confidential” letter, upon matters, on which we have conversed together & on which I really require some support –
I this day enclosed you officially a statement of my Supt., Mrs. Shaw Stewart, at the Castle Hosp Balaclava, which forms an important Commentary up on the Purveyor’s “confidential statement”, which, you will find, is by no means “Confidential” in the Crimea -

I should have wished to have made to you many statements, though not at all “confidential” ones -when you were here
But My Rule of Conduct has been Let us not give them out by feeble driblets. Let us hope a time may come, when I shall speak them myself, & as a whole - not as complaints against individuals, but against a System -

I think it not true, & even, could I truly represent what is wrong, I think it injudicious to pitch upon or “pitch into” individuals, who cannot do better, instead of the System which places them where they are - To complain of that system now would be
simply to displace myself -
Let me modify & alleviate
by my presence the wits
of that system, live thro’
& know them by experience,
& then a time may come
when I may represent
them as they are -
   Two or three trifling
instances I must however
trouble you with, not at
all as matters of complaint
but of information - to
give a sense to what I have
said - & because it appeared
to me that those were under
peculiar difficulties in
obtaining real information
in the Crimea - where it is
almost impossible to do so - who
without have not begun living in the midst of it.
1. In April, I undertook the Castle Hospital, Balaclava, a few days after it was opened - & from that time to this we have cooked all the Extra Diets for 500 - 600 Patients, (which was the number up to the middle of December) & the whole Diets for all the Wounded Officers - These were cooked by a Nurse in a shed - Because the cooking in the General Kitchen was so bad - And this was done at the request of the P.M.O. In May, I was promised that an Extra Diet Kitchen should
be built, while I was there
In July I sent up a French
man to cook, to whom
I give £100 pr ann; also
at the request of the
P.M.O. In the beginning
of October, I went up
again myself, & found no
Extra Diet Kitchen built
I then had it done -
During the whole of this time
all the eggs, butter, jelly
(all the Eau de Cologne,
of course), supplied to the
Sick Officers was supplied
by Mrs. Shaw Stewart or
myself privately. On Nov.
I opened my Extra Diet Kit
But, for 24 hours, (or it

[3]
might be, 26 hours, I did
not bake the Officers’ toast
in this kitchen, because it
interfered with the Extra
Diets for 550 Patients.
In those 24 hours, the
Officers made a complaint
to Head-Quarters! of our
ill-treatment - “in re” toast.
And Dr. Hall, with the
P.M.O. of Balaclava,
came down in their wrath
& reprimanded the ____
Cook’s Orderly! Mrs Shaw
Stewart wrote, with my
consent, a short Official
request to Dr. Hall “that
his orders & reprimands
might be given to her,
in order that she who had the responsibility might see that his orders were obeyed.” Dr. Hall then published to his inferior Officers that the ladies at the Castle Hospl. meant “to throw off all subordination to the Medical Officers”. & that this was the reason he had brought the Nuns to the General Hospital, Balaclava - To Mrs. Stewart he wrote that “it was his duty to care for the Officers as well as the men” - his paternal care for their toast & them having begun on Nov 7/55, while

[3]
he had never enquired how they had been provided for at all since April 23/55
So that the Wounded have perhaps profited more by Mrs. Stewart’s & my “Maternal cares” than by Dr. Hall’s paternal ones - which never could be persuaded to issue eggs, or any other comfort, till the Purveyor - in - Chief went up to the Crimea in the latter end of September 55.

2. My two Superintendents, Mrs. Shaw Stewart & Miss Wear at the Castle & General Hospitals, Crimea,
were informed that Dr. Hall had sent in a provision of Eau de Cologne if they would make Requisition for it for the Sick - Mrs. Stewart was too sharp, & did not fall into the trap, but simply said that she had enough of her own, & would never think of imposing on the Queen for such luxury for the Sick - Miss Wear fell into the trap & made Requisition, which was refused - In the next “Times I was shewn a paragraph “We learn from Dr. Hall that Requisitions are now made for the Hospitals for such Articles as Eau de Cologne, Apple Jelly, & Rose Water” Poor Lord Raglan also informed Mrs. Stewart that Dr. Hall had complained to him that we “had actually made Requisitions for the above Articles.”!

3. The P.M.O., inform then in being, of one of the General Hospitals in the Crimea, informed Lord Raglan in our presence that the men had on clean shirts regularly twice a week - the fact being that they had not then had clean shirts
for 28 days & those were
of my giving.

4. During six months,
the Castle Hospital, always
the principal Hospital in
the Crimea, which has
generally had more than
double the number of Patients
of any other Crimean Hospital,
had scarcely any thing
done for it in the way of
all the Engineering necessities
of a Hospital. This is the
statement of its own
Principal Surgeon - But
Dr. Hall, as he stated told me himself
“burked” his “Reports” -
And that it “would interfere
with his Promotion, were
this known”

[4]
Again, I repeat, I say
these things to you not to
complain of Dr. Hall, who
is an able & efficient
Officer in many ways, &
who, I think, has been
justly provoked in many
ways - Dr. Hall is
indefatigable in detailed
work, & wants only a
governing system to work
under - But he is wholly
incapable of originating
one - And we have no
System, for General Hospitals,
in time of war -

Believe me, dear Sir
Yours very truly
Florence Nightingale
Scutari
Barrack Hospital
Jan 31/56

My dear Mr. Bracebridge,
In reply to your letter requesting me “to give some sign” as to what I wish to have done with 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 -
1. The people of England say to me by this subscription “We trust you - we wish you to do us a service -” No love or confidence can be shown to a human being greater than this, and as such I accept gratefully & hopefully - I hope I shall never decline any work God and the people of England offer me -

But 2. I have no plan at all - I am not new to these things I am not without experience - and no fear presents itself more strongly to my mind, as certainty of failure more complete, than accompany the idea of beginning any thing 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 shows it is essentially the labour of centuries — They will be disappointed to see no apparent great change, and at the end of a twelve-month will feel as flat about it, at three o’clock, after the wedding breakfast is over — But, worse than this — the fellow workers who wd join me in a work which began with excitement, demonstration, public popularity, would be those whom vanity, frivolity, or the loss of excitement would bring — and these would, least of all, bring about the wonderful results which the public would be expecting — or rather the results would be very “wonderful” the other way — These are not theories, but experience — And, if I have a plan in me, which is not battered out by the perpetual “wear & tear” of mind & body, I am now undergoing — it wd be simply this — To take the poorest & least organized 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 & importance of the Fund to the work - It will be invaluable as occasion arises - I have hardly time to write this letter - much less to give the experience which wd prove the deductions to be true - But I would only appeal to two recent instances -
1. My strength here lay in coming to Hospitals miserably disorganized - or rather un organized altogether and in organizing them. had I come to an Institution cut & dry what could I have done to alter it?
2. the greater proportion of valuable fellow workers here, came out with the first party, notwithstanding the hurry of selection - when the work was obscure, & laborious, & laughed at - and the hard= ships great, and not, with a few priceless exceptions - with the subsequent parties - where the excitement and popularity were great & love of glory - of gain - & curiosity - all on the alert - I have no objection to what I say
in private to you - being repeated to those who have so kindly interested themselves in the “Nightingale Fund” & sympathize in the work -

The first fruits of a long series (as I expect) of the brick & mortar plans of needy or philanthropic adventurers, who wish to get hold of the “Nightingale Fund” have already come in upon me - But I hope our inexorable Common Sense will not be taken in - one more instance and I have done -

Compare the gradual but complete success of Fliedner’s at Kaiserswerth, with that of the magnificent & pompous ‘Bethanien’ at Berlin - whose excellent & simpleminded foundress was appalled by the “greatness thrust upon her - & which marred her work -

I therefore must decline making any plan whatever, even were I not overwhelmed at present, not with plans but work -

At the same time - would I could say - which I cannot - how much I feel the love & confidence of the people of England, in whose service as I have lived, so I shall die -

I am, dear Mr. Bracebridge most truly yours

(signed) Florence Nightingale
8996/8 signed letter, 4ff, pen

Scutari
Barrack Hospital  
Feb 4/56
My dear Lord Cranworth
I think that you, at least, will desire a Peace which will recal me from Scutari - since, notwithstanding my professed reluctance to trouble you with the “Salisbury Case”, I now send this additional load of paper for your perusal. But, seriously, I would feel much indebted to your kindness to consider it

You will see that it is in the shape of a letter from me to Col. Lefroy, (Lord Panmure’s Confidential Agent,) who laid before me officially Dr. Hall’s letter & non-officially the “Purveyor’s” statement, referred to by Dr. Hall. I chose, however, to consider both as proper documents for me to comment upon & to forward my Comment to the War Office.
I was prevented from having a copy of the Non-Official document & therefore cannot send you one - But you will sufficiently gather its nature from the enclosed -

To me this case appears evidently to be a branch of a design, secretly carried on, to injure me & my Nursing System. This “Purveyor” I will observe, is a Roman Catholic - & the parties who are handling Miss Salisbury are also Roman Catholic.

I learn that it is intended to prosecute me for libel, & I have evidence that a process of “fishing” for witnesses is going on with this view.

The grounds for a charge of libel do not seem to be laid upon my Despatch to the War Office, which you have read, but on some letters to private parties, which are said to contain similar expressions concerning Miss Salisbury’s habits &c, to those used by me.
in communicating with the War Office. I understand that some letters of mine are lithographed & appended to a lithographic Statement of Miss Salisbury’s case, & circulated by her & her friends every where both here & in England. Would it not, therefore, be best at once to have these Papers moved for in the House of Commons & so bring the whole case out before the British public, instead of having partial and garbled statements thus circulated?

I mean in my question to include both the Salisbury case & this one of Dr. Hall & the “Purveyor” – For this too I learn is also privately circulated. And the whole being brought out would, I think, shew to the Public the sort of conspiracy against which I have to be protected.
I have, unfortunately, not yet received the letter which your kindness has, as I learn from Lady Cranworth, addressed to me in answer to mine about the “Salisbury” -

I am ever,
dear Lord Cranworth,
most truly & gratefully yours
Florence Nightingale

8996/9 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Scutari
Barrack Hospital
Feb 7/56
My dearest
I wish H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent could know how greatly the books were valued which she was so graciously pleased to send for the Army in the East.
The whole of the Box of Books sent by Her Royal Highness (with the name of “Bickers & Bush” on
the lid) was distributed in the Crimea, on account of the excellence of the Selection - & the dearth of good & valuable Books there-

For, altho’ the name of the Books in circulation is Legion, yet the majority of those sent out from England has been either above the soldier, or I regret to say, far oftener, beneath him -

We have now a Reading Hut for every Regiment in the Crimea & a Central Library besides - The greater part of H.R.H the Duchess of Kent’s books went, (as in duty bound we were so to arrange), to the Library of the Queen’s Guards - who are also, in general, the best educated men in the Army.

Those which came from Her Royal
Highness in your boxes have been given to the Scutari Hospitals.
Five sets Chessmen & Boards have this morning arrived from, I presume, Mrs. Charles Buxton - They have been eagerly asked for -
The whole of your Boxes of Books, Copy-Books, Maps, Prints,
Magic Lanthorns, Charts, Stereoscopes, Games &c &c were instantly distributed in the Crimea & at Scutari - Ever yours
F Nightingale

8996/10 incomplete letter, 2ff, pen, not FN hand

Feb 10/56
I am thus particular in stating every detail, / because having learnt that it is intended to prosecute me if possible for libel in the case of a person dismissed by me Miss Salisbury, I find that witnesses among the nurses who return home are sought for this purpose - The evidence of that Mrs. Sansom & Mrs. Wheatstone has been separately taken with this view by the gentleman who has undertaken Miss Salisbury’s case
Mrs Wheatstone having been dismissed for drunkenness acknowledged by herself in writing. I think it not unlikely that Mrs. Sinclair’s evidence will now be added to the number – As a measure of necessary police in this hard & painful but most interesting work I believe it to be my duty however not to shrink from giving true characters of those whom I discharge, not only to the ‘grand & distant’ War Office (which little affects the matter) but to the last employer of the person discharged, the more so as so many of these nurses being heartily sick of the Crimea & the East & wishing themselves at home again their return is in itself most welcome. I have therefore always made & shall continue to make it my practice at my own risk to give the true cause of discharge. It is but just to warn them against what I have “suffered from myself. And this I will never evade, altho’ I find that 3 of the four letters I thus considered it my duty to write concerning Miss Salisbury have been made use of against me (the fourth being to Lady Canning) The grounds of a charge of libel seem to be laid upon these. one of which has been published in a lithographed statement which I have not seen but which I learn is extensively circulated both here & in England As however there may be sixty four charges of libel laid against me I await the result with composure & shall continue “to do likewise” in a hardened manner.
Dearest mother

I send you by that kind Capt. Wright, whom it always does me good to see, the life’s work of a poor Turkish widow. I hope you will wear it for my sake. It will just suit you, & it is all good Turkish.

As I never can go over to the Bazar & as it was a mere chance her offering me this for sale, I snatched at it, thinking it a fitting garment for you - Mind you wear it - It is not at all too fine by candlelight. And you have the only one in the world - if that is a recommendation.

The prints drawings in the box are, I think, Mr. Bracebridge’s, but if they are mine, they are yours - I don’t think they are of much account,
Mind you make much of my good Capt Wright dearest mother
Yours ever
F Nightingale
Scutari B.H.
Feb 11/56
They call me the Sultana of the Bosphorus & if I am I think I have a right to insist upon the mother of the Sultana wearing a very fine gown.

8996/12 handwritten copy of 8996/11 with another letter added, 2ff, pen

Scutari BH
Feb 11/56 -
Dearest Mother
I send you by that kind Capt. Wright, whom it always does me good to see, the life's work of a poor Turkish widow - I hope you will wear it for my sake - It will just suit you, & it is all good Turkish - As I never can go over to the Bazaars & as it was a mere chance her offering me this for sale, I snatched at it, thinking it a fitting garment for you - Mind you wear it - It is not at all too fine by candlelight. And you have the only one in the world if that is a recommendation - The drawings in the box are, I think, Mr. Bracebridge's, but if they are mine, they are yours - I don't think they are of much account, Mind you make much of my good Capt Wright
Dearest mother
Yours ever
They call me the Sultana of the
Bosphorus, &, if I am I think I
have a right to insist upon the
mother of the Sultana wearing a
very fine gown.

Dearest mother [Goldie 208]
I have never had time to tell
you that your gold robe is a Chapter
of the Koran, the last I believe
repeated plus these words -
   God be with you
   God protect you
   May you live long in happiness

altho you are in joy remember the
words of the prophet
This occurs several times -
When the people of England rise as
they did about the Corn-Laws about
these late Promotions I shall believe
in them. But now what can we
expect other than more Sir John Halls
more Sir Richard Aireys more Lord
Cardigans. We are just where we were -
Those are rewarded for having done
what the D. of Newcastle was turned
{written upside down:}

My dearest mother
I send you a gold worked
out for having merely suffered to be
done. Put not thy trust in peoples -
   Ever your loving child -
Dear Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Jan 31 informing me that you had without previously asking my consent, given a copy of my private letter to you into the hands of some one, of a party who are endeavouring to get up a case of prosecution for libel against me - The lithographed statement you mention I have never seen, but I have heard that it is in circulation & I presume my private letter to you will now be added to it. I do not suppose that your having thus unwarily assisted in a conspiracy against me will be of much consequence to me, but I must express my belief that you will on reflection not think that you were justified in doing so without previously asking my permission instead of informing me after of the fact -

On the dismissal of Miss Salisbury I considered it my duty to write to four persons to guard them against that from which I had myself suffered
so much. Two of these were Miss Wyse & yourself, & I felt particularly bound to give you this warning, knowing that evidence was laid before the General Commandant here, of Miss Salisbury’s having sent to you without my knowledge or consent, several articles belonging to me or entrusted to my charge, including a camp lamp - Of these private letters three have now been made use of against me, & though I have nothing to apprehend from such a proceeding I am made to feel that I have been too lenient towards an unhappy woman & too considerate of yourself & others who I thought were likely to be unpleasantly involved - Your letters to me confirmed me in my opinion that my warning had been necessary & proper, expressing as you did your “grief” & “annoyance” at what had already occurred & your opinion of Miss S. & her acts & especially your strong feeling about “so unworthy a purpose as seeking for evidence to defame me” - I must however now obtain that full publicity for this whole affair, which is now my only protection against the secret slander systematically carried on against me &

I share your regret that your name should be mixed up in so disagreeable a subject. I forward a copy of your note & this reply to the War Office -

I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant

(Signed) Florence Nightingale
8996/13 copy of FN to General Straubenzee

8996/14 signed note, 1f, pen {arch: 67545}

Please to deliver to the Revd. Mr. Boudier
4 cases for Mrs. Shaw Stewart
1 “     for Major Cox
embarked today on board the “Ottawa”
Florence Nightingale
Scutari   February 14/56

8996/15 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen {not FN’s hand {arch: 1856} seems to be to Bence Jones

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 hope to enlist your advice & support & to give you the power of “interfering” as you call it if I come home or if I don’t.
   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 have talked about - & I shall certainly not spend any portion of that life in “training Nurses for rich families” except by parenthesis
Scutari B.H. [14:334-35]
Feb 18/56
My dearest
In answer to Mrs. Robert Holland’s enquiry about Evening Schools, she must understand that we have none other here because, of course, all our Schools are for Adults – with the exception of one very small one for children – but, as all our children are born here, of course, I think they must be to teach them the bottle.
We have now five first rate Schools here – one for the Cavalry – one for the Victoria Barracks – one for the Garrison School, in a magnificent hut, built on purpose, where we have two school masters, lectures (entertaining) twice a week, Magic Lanthorn, very good singing classes, & crowded every night – The fourth School is for the Mounted Sappers the fifth for the Artillery at Galata Serai Everything which has been sent by you has come in handy for these Everything has been snapped up –
And I have been obliged to insist on a proper share for the Crimea - for which Govt. has done nothing. However we have Lectures there, a Theatre where they are acting my or your Plays, a Reading Hut for each Regiment, &c And I have sent them the Lion’s share of the Diagrams, &c especially the Astronomical Diagrams & SLIDES - Mr. Somerville is thankful Two boxes from Mrs. Robert Holland have just come in, per Clyde - the whole of which were instantly distributed among the Schools here & in the Crimea. I sent up a large portion to the latter. H.B.C.’s box also arrived “per Edecia” yesterday of Foot-Balls &c - all distributed almost within the hour Galata Serai had just broken its only FootBall & Officers & Men were [cut off] king over the wall in blank dismay. But, when informed that Miss Nightingale kept every thing & among other things FootBalls. a roar of laughter & three Cheers for
Miss N. followed - “And do you think she keeps any quoits?” Oh! you can make those out of horse - -{edge of paper cut off “But will she send Draughts & Dominos?” Yes, boys, y[es]

Everything has been used to the last bo[x?]
PRIVATE Pray do not think that I suppose Harry has done all the work - I know you worked yourselves off your legs - I only commended him for his great goodness in putting a List of Contents inside each box which does save such a world of trouble & waste Please thank him for his last box, which was most acceptable, marked HBC & tell him about the FootBalls (Even the Senior Chaplain began to play & please thank Mrs. Robt Holland for her most useful Box.

I have also received a Box very good dated January 4. (I know not how or whence) containing Stationery - Household Words - in weekly unbound Nos. - Diamond Testaments - & Prayer Books - Wafers - Seals &c - Have you any knowledge of this? We cannot identify Boxes especially if they come out of the Custom Ho - when we do not even
know by what vessel they came. And very few people condescend to give us any distinctive mark - let every one put (inside) a List of Contents & from whom they came - besides sending Bill of Lading Mrs. R. Holland’s box was perfect in these respects - But it did not come “per Severn” People often seem to think that their own identity is so strongly & mesmerically marked on their Box that I can tell whom Stationary bought at a shop & looking precisely like any other Stationary bought at a shop comes from. Schools have two hours after[noons]

two hours eveni[ng]

(& the men rush in -

God bless you, my well beloved
Your “Seggiola” came in Mrs. R. Holland’[s] boxes - beautiful - But I saw no Chess or Games - There were plenty in H.B.C’s box however. We have besides a Mutual Improvement Socy. for workmen - Is this what Mrs. Holland means? which I have furnished entirely (with things from home) as Govt. does nothing for them. And they did it for themselves, brave fellows.

I got the bonnet - very nice Thank you God bless you again & again - Ever yours [end 14:335]
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
Febr 28/56

Mrs. Byers
In answer to your letter, I can give you the fullest assurance that your poor husband was dead at the time he was buried - he was so extremely weak, that we had been expecting his death for some days - I saw him a few hours before his death, & was quite aware that he was dying, & my Head Nurse was with him when he died. Moreover, all the bodies of those who died in Hospital, are ordered to be seen by a medical officer before they are buried, in order that it may be certain that death has really taken place.

With respect to the state of the soul of your poor husband, I have spoken both to Dr. Blackwood, a clergyman of the Church of England, & to Mr. McRae, the Presbyterian
[page missing?] dealt with, & the hope of meeting again, when the trials of this world are over.

I remain, dear Mrs. Byers, with sincere sympathy for your great loss

Yours truly

Florence Nightingale

Should you not be in the receipt of the allowance granted by the “Patriotic Fund” to widows & that granted to orphans for your children, you may write to Lt. Col Lefroy

Royal Artillery

Secretary to the “Patriotic Fund”

16A Great George St. Westminster London

stating full particulars as to yourself & children & asking for this allowance - A printed paper will then be forwarded to you for you to fill up - by the Office of the “Patriotic Fund” & you will receive this proper allowance.
One wishes for an “order” another for an “Asylum for old age” & a third for high wages which shall enable each to save for herself.

In this clash & confusion of opinions but two points remain clear to me.

1 that unless the Treasurers of Bartholomew’s & St. Thomas’ (in those their strongholds of Papistry) are converted from their wicked ways of calling the head nurse of each ward Sister, & oh horror Sister “George” Sister “Faith” according to the name of the Ward, the
abomination of desolation
will fall upon those popish places.
2 that if I do anything at present, I shall be smothered in the dust raised by these religious hoofs, & have no time to attend to my poor Patients at all.

Scutari
1/3/56

8996/19 unsigned letter, 6ff, pen {not FN’s hand}

Barrack Hospital [14:343-45]
Scutari
March 3rd/56

My dear Sir
Thank you very much for your letter & its enclosure, just received. It will be of immense service to my work to have it officially recognised by the War Department - officially noticed to Sir W. Codrington - This ought to have been done long ago, I have now the responsibility of refusing Nurses to Medical Officers, to Commanding Officers, to Chaplains who assure me that they are wanted, that they have a Hut ready for them, that they are waiting for them because - Dr. Hall says that I have no official status - This has been the case with both Wings of the Land
I was past cross, as regards their Hospitals, which have been & still are the worst in the camp -

But private griefs are now as nothing - What are a few hospitals in comparison with the whole Army?

By Sir John McNeil’s cold, correct & dispassionate Report, I feel that what I have to say is not worth giving - I gave my evidence when I was required - & having been here & in the Crimea almost since the beginning, it had some value on that account.

What are the “Scribes & Phari sees” compared to what is doing now? The Scribes & P.s, we are told “devoured widows’ houses” & put the noise & cummin” into their own pockets. But we have made the widows, & put a great deal more than anise
& cummin into the pockets of those who have been the principal agents of the manslaughter. Sir Michael Airey, Col. Gordon, Lord Lucan, Lord Cardigan, Sir John Hall, Mr. Fitzgerald - can a K.C.B. ship or a promotion from the Horse Guards or the War Department ever be anything else than a title of disgrace from this time forth?

If you have friends among these, so have I. But I would give up my own father in such a cause -

England has never realized the six thousand graves at Scutari, the many, many more in the Crimea -

But I, who have seen the men come down through that long, long, dreadful winter,
(four thousand we received in seventeen days) between Dec 17/54 & Jan 3/55 - without other covering than a dirty blanket & a pair of old Regimental trousers, when the stores were teeming with every kind of warm clothing, living skeletons, devoured with vermin, ulcerated, hopeless, & helpless, & die without ever lifting up their heads 70 - 80 per diem on the Bosphorus alone up to the 13th Feb/55 when we reached our maximum of mortality. can I hear of the promotion of the men who have caused this colossal calamity, without thinking that the next thing we shall hear of is, the Decline & Fall of the British Empire?
In the list of the Medical CB’s
I see but one name of those many
deserving Medical Officers, who
boldly at the risk of their own
promotion, which they have thereby
lost, withstood Red Tape, official
routine & Dr. Hall, & determined to
have, by one means or another, the
means of saving life for their men
All the other Medical CB’s, without
one exception, that I see, are men
of fourth or fifth rate capacity,
who have licked the dust off
Dr. Hall’s shoes, by truckling to
formalities & thereby won their
little day -
Would that the men could
speak who lay, dying of Cholera,
& died in the puddles of Kalamita
Bay, & their zealous & active
Medical Officers could not get a
grain of medicine out of Dr. Hall,
without a Requisition which they
could not write! The men who
told this to Dr. Hall openly to
his face & remonstrated, I look
for in vain in the list of CB’s.
But the man who let the sick
come down to Balaclava without
giving notice of them, & lie there
in Arabas for three hours together,
in the winter, there being not boats
to get them off, he is a CB.
After all we have done &
all we have suffered, this is
the glorious conclusion - we leave
off at the end of two years having
rewarded the authors of the
greatest calamity that has ever
visited us - & encouraged them to
do the same next time -
And Lord Panmure gets
up in the House of Lords &,
with bated breath & whispering
humbleness, hopes that the Cavalry
Lords will not be offended.
    I feel ashamed to deal in
invective, with such a model
of cool conscientious truth as
Sir John MacNeil’s report before
we - But he did not see these
things - I did and nobody, I believe,
to this day realizes them -
I know personally & feelingly,
that several of these culprits,
thus rewarded, are men of
honor, conscience & ability -
But what of that? I say
with the Litany, “Good Lord
deliver us.”
I do not like to put forward
grievances which may seem to
be personal in a matter where
I am fortunately so out of the
pale of promotion that I cannot
be supposed to have preference
or prerogative -
    But compare only - a man
of the name of Bakewell, for merely
putting forward a statement
(which was true) in the “Times” is
deprived of this Commission as
Asst. Surgeon, & expelled his Profession
for inditing “slander”
And Fitzgerald, who secretly
indites & causes to be laid “confi-
dentially” before the War Office
a malicious libel against a
whole Department of H.Mys. Servants
is promoted -
{different hand

I enclose a Treasury Bill for 500£
I have another in my pocket but
which I think better to keep for
an emergency.
By writing a most impertinent letter
to the Purveyor in Chief to be
manumitted to the examiner of
accounts in London which is the
only way I find at last to treat
these people, I got by return of
mail, 1100£ of the £1500 which
has been accumulating as due to me
since June/55 - The quibble upon
which it was withheld I have not time
to tell.

I will not submit to the impertinence
of these War Office Clerks of whom
one John Milton is the chief - If
these cringing officials out here would
keep as steady a tone, they would
not be made to cringe as they are.
But how am I reminded of South
American Slavery in my official
life - Could you but be one half hour
behind the medical Scenes as I am
In the list of Medical CB’s I see
not one name of those who nobly
humanely & stedfastly withstood
the prince of Red tape & inhuman
routine Sir John Hall. With that one exception all those who have been thus rewarded have been Sambos & Quimbos to Legree - I cannot think that if you know the things that I know, have seen with these eyes & heard with these ears you would think these words too strong - What honest man can ever care for official honours again - Life is so hopeless in official trammels - I doubt the Decline & Fall of the British Empire is at hand -

I am so tired of that Talbot of Peterboro’ who has written to Mr. Herbert Mr. Bracebridge I believe to you & to me about the £’s which the son never gave me - [end 14:345]
I have just seen Sir John Mc Neills & Colonel Tulloch’s correct cool dispassionate report -

England has never realized the six thousand graves at Scutari, the many, many more in the Crimea -

But I who have seen the men come down through that long, long dreadful winter (four thousand we received in seventeen days between Dec 17/54 & Jan 3/55 - without other covering than a dirty blanket & a pair of old Regimental trousers when the stores were teeming with every kind of warm clothing, living skeletons, devoured with vermin ulcerated, hopeless, & helpless, & die without ever lifting up their heads 70 - 80 per diem on the Bosphorus alone up to the 13th Feb when we reached our maximum of mortality.-

x x x x

The report is a model of cool conscientious truth, but Sir John McNeil & Colonel Tulloch did not see these things. I did, & nobody I believe who has not, to this day realises them -
Dearest mother
  I have never had time to tell you that your gold robe is a Chap. of the Koran, the last I believe - repeated
    plus these words -
    God be with you
    God protect you
    May you live long in happiness
Altho’ you are in joy, remember the words of the Prophet -
  This occurs several times -
  When the people of England rise, as they did about the Corn=Laws, about these late Promotions, I shall believe in them. But now, what can we expect other than more Sir John Halls, more Sir Richard Aireys, more Lord Cardigans. We are just where we were -Those are rewarded for having done what the D. of Newcastle was turned out for having merely suffered to be done. Put not thy faith in peoples - Ever your loving child -

5/3/56  FN
Dearest mother
   I have never had time
to tell you that your gold
robe is a Chap. of the Koran
the I believe repeated
   plus these words -
   God be with you
   God protect you
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Aireys
more Lord Cardigans - we are just where we were - Those are rewarded for having done what the Duke of Newcastle was turned out for merely having suffered to be done. Put not thy faith in peoples - Ever your loving child -

5/3/56

I am sending you home by the first opportunity
7 Photographs
3 Sevastopols These join on
2 Balaclava to each other
1 Cathcarts from the two
Burial Ground in Camp ends of the
1 Barrack Hospital harbour
Scutari taken from
Kadikoi
5/9/56 [probably 5/3/56]  [14:348]
The extraordinary difference of system observed by Govt in administering to the wants of Civil & Military Hospitals, the lavish & spoiling expensiveness of Renkioi, & the niggardly economy of the Crimea - (Renkioi having already cost £900 000, whereas the Castle Hospital at Balaclava, with the same number of patients always, & generally a larger number, has cost about the tenth part), these things make me fancy that there is some mysterious distinction, unintelligible to the Military Mind to be consulted.

Lady Stratford has not yet sent me the Officers’ nurses Winter Clothing - but has promised it me for store. I am not at all in want of it, having clothed those ladies out of my own stores immediately after poor Mrs. Moore’s death - None of these had received any wages since Sept 18/55, one month having been advanced to them up to that date. I have paid up the living ones. But to poor Marks, who died, is due (as I have only now been informed)
from Sept 18 to Oct 8, the date of her death. This period of 3 weeks at 18" a week should be paid to her next of kin, whose direction I have not, but which is probably in your books.

I have put up a stone to poor Mary Marks, whose resting place had been left unnoticed.

Caps net & others

Many many thanks for all your kind sympathy & support, which is felt by me more than I have said or can say.

I can hardly rejoice in peace.

But the sufferings of the French are so frightful that I suppose we must have it. They are suffering more than we were last year - They have now 16,000 sick, 1 in 8; 10,000 down here - Typhus alone kills 50-60 per diem in these Hospitals only.

The Medical men are dying 3 in one day - so are the Sisters - They themselves tell the same story that we did last year - that want of food & clothing sends down the Patients in a typhoid state, which is propagated by the overcrowded-state of the Hospitals.

After a 'deal' of negociation we made them a official offer of help, to buy or to accept as they preferred medical men, (for each of theirs has no less than 200 patients) Port wine arrowroot, Beds & Blankets, Preserved Meats, Sugar - These were the things named by themselves as necessities.

Mr. Thouvenel General Larchey &
Mr. Baudens, the Medical Inspector, accepted officially - and now the "Intendance" has stepped in & declined - Their system is worse than ours. I am in a kind of chronic rage one piece of selfish meanness follows another so fast, (like the nigger who said, "same drink Major, same drink.") They are actually starving - This we know officially - The only thing to be done was to step in privately, which I did very humbly, & was told that privately things would be accepted.

I accordingly borrowed the Govt steamer, & sent everything we could spare, there being plenty of time to replace it, if war is to be -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blankets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
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<td>Port wine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrowroot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bordeaux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee &amp; Cocoa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preserved Meats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preserves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warm Clothing</td>
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Of Doctors I had none, & perhaps that is the smallest want. I am very anxious that the whole of this story should keep out of the newspapers, as the French openly said that their reason for declining was the above fear -
How little magnanimous they are - We accepted every thing from them in our calamity this time last year - But if it were known that I had helped them they might refuse any more help - I am not at all repenting of what I have done, which was done with the full sanction of the General Commanding - But if there is any fault found I will replace the articles -

Yours ever faithfully & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

8996/24 signed letter, 1f, pen

Scutari
Barrack Hospital [14:351-52]
8/3/56

Dear Sir
Hearing that the Russian prisoners are in some want of clothing & the weather being cold, I have taken the liberty of addressing to you
7 Bales containing
200 shirts
150 Jerseys
300 prs Turkish socks & some Old Clothes
thinking that you would kindly take the pains of ascertaining where they were wanted & distributing them or giving them to the proper person to distribute -
I should have come over myself had it not been for the want of health & weather Yours very truly [end]

Florence Nightingale
8996/25 Return showing the number of Artillery horses that died 54-56, 1f

8996/26 letter, 3ff, pen {not FN’s hand}

Scutari
Barrack Hospital
March 15/56
Dear Mr. Bracebridge
I must entirely decline
doing what you propose -
(que facit per alicini facit per se)
and I will have neither act nor
part in sending a garbled &
wretched answer, or any answer
at all to Miss Salisbury’s statement
about -
For 1. This is no answer at all.
2. You do not know the party
as I do, nor the advantage they
will take of me,
For I. Dr. Blackwood’s answer, he
who knew nothing & could conse-
quently give no evidence at all as
to Salisbury’s robbery, & the W. Office
answer to Salisbury, which rounds
the corner nicely about her desk
(which has nothing to do with the question at all) are no answer to her “statement.” They prove nothing but that Genl Storks & I were right in sending her home, which no one, I believe, really doubted. What is all this galimatias about her “desk” in the W. Office answer? I answered the question that I had not touched her desk because I was asked it. But feeling all the while that it was beside the works - If the General conceived it his duty to search her papers at all, it was equally his duty to search her desk & boxes. This answer is mere equivocating, the two cases must stand or fall together. Are our respected friends in Marlboro’ St (or are they not,) justified when Bill Sykes or his wife are had up before them for theft, to seize their papers
if they have any? The General was undoubtedly her judge - & it is a mean shift on the part of the WO to say that he (or I, who was his officer) did not open her “desk”

2. If this comes before the House, as it probably will do, my enemies will must not be able to say as say they surely will, that Miss Nightingale (either by herself or by any one con-nected with her) imitated the example of Miss Salisbury in circulating pri-vately statements (& garbled statements) in her defence - I must be able to say that all I have had to do with the case, has been direct between me & the War Office

Genl Storks & I are not to be made either directly or indirectly, to circulate a defence of ourselves he, being the judge, & I the prosecu-trix, & neither of us the criminal - If the W.O. wish their verdict to be known in the Crimea or elsewhere, they have hundreds of clerks & hundreds of ways of doing it. And it is just as easy to do it from England as from here - Indeed neither my Aunt, nor any one in direct conversation with me, shall do it with my knowledge or consent.

Genl Storkes & Dr. Blackwood are eagerly of my opinion & neither will consent to have act or fact in the matter

I consider it indeed (but this is only by the bye) but half an answer - Dr. Blackwood’s letter not entering (as indeed he was no witness to the robbery but only to the lie) into the main point.
& the W. Office's answer being quite beside the mark as to the "desk"
Why I did not open the desk was simply a foolish little chivalrous womanly feeling on my part, & that I knew there was money in it.

The wretched woman was then so utterly degraded & humiliated & (literally) groveling on the earth before us, begging not to be prosecuted & to be sent home immediately when shall I go? Are you sure I shall go tomorrow? that no one could feel any thing but compassion

Dear Mr. Bracebridge
ever yours gratefully
F. Nightingale

Turn over
Was it matter of police or was it not? If it were, we were right, if not, we were wrong. Would not with any other convicted thief, the papers have been examined?

Don’t therefore make me a party to throwing dust into people’s eyes about “opening” or “not opening the desk.”

8996/27 unsigned letter, 4ff, pen {not FN hand}

Scutari [14:357-59]
Lt Col Lefroy Barrack Hospital
March 16/56

My dear Sir

Though I am just starting for the Crimea, and should have been there by this time, had it not been for the gale of wind which has caused our transports to put back - I must thank you for your kind letter of March 3rd & for the act of justice to our work - which I am sure I owe you -

My revered friend & patron John Hall - K.C.B. has consented to my undertaking the two dirty & neglected L.T.C. Hospitals - at the earnest request of the first A. Staff Surgeon in Charge - & I was on my way thither - To find me in G.O. up there, will be a great satisfaction to my numerous friends & patrons there - and (now I am serious) will greatly facilitate the work of which
the W.O. has given me to be done -
& will prevent an exhausting & ever
recurring struggle -
With regard to Dr. Hall’s false report,
if it is his, to the W.O., that I had
“renounced all responsibility for Crimean
Hospitals -” I am perpetually reminded
by him of O’Connell’s aphorism - ‘It is
a good lie, if it lasts four & twenty
hour’ But if the W.O. would think, this
could not last 24 minutes -
The W.O. have at this moment, before
them - Mrs. Shaw Stewart’s letter to me -
She is my Superintendent at the most
considerable Hospital in the Crimea,
the Castle Hospital, & she does not
write to me as if I had nothing to do
with them - But the “Budget” is the
grand thing, as we are told in the
discussion between Horse Guards,
War Department, & House of Commons,
And the W.O. will have in my “Bill”
at Lady Day - for two Hospitals in
the Crimea - which I have had since
the beginning, & now for four - leaving
out the Genl Hospital at Balaclava -
So that question is at rest -
I cannot too much thank you
for your kind interest in our work,
nor express how much I feel this
benefit, that you are good enough
to give me your advice; but in the
Matter of the R.C. nuns, it is entirely
in accordance with my own opinion -
& constant line of conduct throughout
I receive the R.C. assistance
here with open arms - Head Mother here
is one of my very best helpers - the
W.O. sent out at my request more
nuns to be under her - The Bridgemans
at Balaclava it is true are the tools
of an Irish faction - They have been
always called here the ‘Brickbats’ - It
is wise in the English govt - to forward
as much as possible the respectable
& worthy R.C. work here - the French
have greatly increased their influence
by doing so - By strengthening the Irish
R.C.s here - the Govt raise up enemies
to themselves - the Irish R.C.s hating the
English Governmt - as they do - But in
fear of the Irish Brigade, the Govt
pass over Fitzgerald’s slanders, &
Mrs. Bridgeman’s insurrection -
I have always said that a R.C.
can do anything - which we cannot
do - lie, steal, murder, slander -
because we are afraid of the
RCs - What an advantage it must
be - the incessant un-
speakably laborious struggle which
I have had for 17 months - will
now be greatly saved me by the
G.O. in question -
And you need not be afraid
that I shall molest the ‘Brickbats’
Above all, I am afraid of their
resigning & making martyrs of
themselves - which is their grand object -
I shall interfere in no way - whatsoever -
That there should be none but R.C.s
in any one Hospital is entirely contrary
to my original instructions from the
W.O., & to common principle - But in
this instance common prudence & feeling
leave but one course open to me -
For as a Superintendant of women
I cannot expose any woman directly
under my charge to the slanders of a
scoundrel like Fitzgerald (I really
have looked in the Dicy for another
synonyme for Fitzgerald & have not
been able to find one - being unwilling
to use so hard a word) & therefore
while he remains in Office of B’clava,
only I, and the Brickbats, whom he has
taken under his aegis - shall have
anything to do with his Hospital proper -.
Also as a practical woman, I think it is a pity to give Mr. F. the pleasure of refusing my requisitions - or of falsifying them to the W.O. I shall therefore take up everything with me which my Hospital will want - leaving it to the Purveyor to supply such things only as bread, meat, &c which I cannot make -

Had this man been one of our persuasion, he would have been brought to a Court Martial - But it is enough to be a RC for the Govt to say "Oh, do pray be quiet," don't tell of his lies - or you will bring down the Irish Brigade upon us’ -

Very well - I am content - I had at all events much rather that Mr. F should speak ill of me, than
that he should speak well -
I must say one thing more - we
have heard with the greatest
astonishment in these Hospitals of
Mr. F. Peel’s speech in the House of
Commons concerning the state of Health
in the Crimea - & Dr. Hall’s exposition
of it, which tallies exactly with his
letter to you - of which you were kind
enough to give me a copy - asserting
that none but Convalescents were
sent down to Scutari -
Upon my mentioning this to the
Principal Medical Officer of this
Hospital - he exclaimed with genuine
feeling “What a devil of a Story!”
The facts of the case are exactly
the reverse - The Army in the Crimea
is healthy - because all the bad cases
are sent down here - an acute
case - may now & then slip thro’ their
fingers - but if a case does not recover
quickly - immediately, or as soon as possible it is sent down to Scutari. I do not know whether men with condensed lungs & ulcerated bowels who come down here to die - are called by Sir John Hall ‘Convalescents’ But nearly all - the cases who do die here are from the Crimea - and if it were not for these, Scutari would not have a death in a fortnight -

[end 14:359]

8996/28 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Scutari [14:360-61]
March 17/56
My dearest
Do not be taken in by Miss Stanley. I say this with a heavy heart - You know what her defection has been to me - it has nearly broken mine. But she is not a “weak fool” - She is practising upon “weak fools”. I have proofs of her duplicity at this very moment which would stagger
you -

The matter is become
one of absolute indifference
to me except for the
sake of the work, because
I have convinced my self
that there never has
been a Mary Stanley,
& I mourn her
depravity only as I do
that of Lord Cardigan
or such men - But
at this moment she
injures our work - She
has got hold of the
mind of a "weak fool",
Miss Tebbutt, here, who,
(in her equal weakness
either way,) sometimes
lies to conceal Miss
Stanley's letters &
sometimes shews them
to me - And I have a
specimen of a letter
seeking to injure me
in the Salisbury
business, & openly covertly
accusing Mrs. Brace=
bridge & me of false=
hood & theft, which
would be absolutely
incredible for its folly silly wickedness, did it not appear that she had exactly gauged Miss T.’s mind * - The harm done to our work has been incalculable - If you tell me to be amazed at Mr. Stanley & Mrs. Stanley for being “weak fools”, I should agree - What have they to do with Salisbury? [end 14:362] Ever yours FN *And this while she, Miss Stanley, writes to me to offer to come back - & proclaims her “admiration” of me in England!!

8996/29 copy of 8996/28

8996/30 2 addressed envelopes, 1f, pen
Miss Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St
London
Scutari B.H. [14:362]
20/3/56
My dearest
Do not think that
I have ever been “angry”
with Miss Stanley or
that I require to
for swear “anger” - I
never have I think
that she has lived
in a maze of duplicity
till she does not know
at this moment (not
whether she speaks the
Truth but) whether it
is right to speak the

truth -
I know by proof
that she is at this
moment betraying me
& the cause with which
I have identified
myself & leading
another to betray it,
while asserting the
contrary in England.
But I have no
anger against her.
no more than I have
against that toothless
old dog, Sanson, who after I have caressed it & nursed it & kept it on *because of* its old age & infirmities, turns against me & hangs on, tho’ it cannot bite, by its toothless old jaws. Just so, Miss Stanley is what she is, & I have never felt an emotion of anger, nor have I any occasion to forgive either her or myself for any thing that has passed between us - *

Ever yours

FN

Many thanks for the books - *How truly can I say, “they know not what they do.”*

_____________________

Hilary writes about this man - 11th Hussars - He only came into Hospital (the General Hospital) for a bleeding nose - & was discharged almost soon immediately to duty quite well - on Feb 23
March 20 [14:361-02]
I write in great haste (being every moment in expectation of the vessel sailing for the Crimea by which I am going to take up nurses for two new Hospitals belonging to the Land Transport Corps -
Caps
Aprons badges parcels &c
most welcome, & have given universal satisfaction & all are very grateful for the trouble you have taken
The sprigged muslin was particularly pleasing
I received the Macaulay, Siege of Kars & roll of prints by your kindness through a Queen’s Messenger
Major Hall -
When you hear that I have taken to drinking, & think of me as enjoying my pipe & gin & water you will know that it is in accordance with your kind suggestion I should have written to the Chancellor to thank him for his very kind letter & shall do so but I know that he can have no time for me & therefore I will ask you merely to present my grateful duty till I write myself to him -
The cold here is intense snow on the ground & N wind blowing across the Steppes so I think winter clothing will still be acceptable at Renkioi
only kept 7 nurses
2 ladies
from Koulalee
{upside down}
The sprigged muslin was particularly pleasing

8996/33 List of Officers & men died since April, 1854, 1f

8996/34 initialed letter, 1f, pen, not FN hand

Balaclava
March 25/56

First & foremost how is Revd Mother?
2 Will you tell Dr. Blackwood, who prayed for us, that I have extended what Mrs. Stewart calls my sad but noble domain or servitude, it little matters which, to the two L.T.C. miserable Hospitals
3 The Commander in Chief came to see me immediately upon my arrival
4. We had a most tiresome voyage, & were for 24 hours off Kamiesch Bay before we could get in - having lost our ammunition boats in tow four times - & four times been lying

[14:363]
to or beating about for two hours
till we could hook them on
again.
5. I have had a curious breeze
with Mrs. Bridgeman, which for
abominable hypocrisy & astuteness on the part of that woman
beats the world
6. Mr. Fitzgerald & I met like
the oldest friends. But he knows
I know "it". We are obliged to have
hourly business together in his
office & he will shoot me if he
can
    God bless you. ever yours [end]
FN
The other letter accompanying that to
Rev M. is mere directions, & refers me to
her letter to Rev M for news of them

8996/35 letter from General Storks to Lord Stratford, 2ff 27 March 1856

8996/36 printed copy of General Orders 28th March, 1856, 1f
Balaclava
March 28/56
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. But I do not mean to have her till you are quite well -

The Sisters are all, thank God
for it, quite well & quite cheerful. They have made their hut look so tidy, & they put up with all their cold & inconveniences with the utmost self abnegation. Every thin, even to huts, freezes in our huts every night.

I have been very various since I have been her, 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 them 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, medicines, stimulants & cleanliness were the chief points - Sir J. 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 Where 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 benefitted while the health & comfort of our Sisters will be secured - We have been allowed to draw our Matrons 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 &
at the same time telling me
that she will submit to any
“sacrifice” & to any “humiliation”
I do not know what are the
humiliations & “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 re-
placed where she was before
meanwhile I assure you
Rev Mother that for your
sake I have taken up my
cross with her & for the sake
of the work
I entreat you to take care
of yourself who are our chief
anxiety & our chief support
& to believe me ever your
faithfully & gratefully
8996/38 copy of signed letter, 2ff, pen (not FN’s hand)/ 2 dates

29/3/58 [date wrong but that’s it]

[space]
Please read the inclosed to
dear Revd Mother - which
will tell you our news -
or some or it - & please send
us some sheets of Paste board
for Eye shades with the
Brandy - There is paste board
in C. Store - But if not,
Purveyor will have it -
Please tell Miss Tebbutt
Sisters arrived quite safe
No prospect of Hospitals
breaking up here

Ever yrs FN
(signed)
Mrs. Shore Smith 1/4/56

I have just read 2 mails -
Thanks for all yours - I have
only read yet that which
concerned Revd Mother - Please
thank Dr. Cruikshank for his -
I will write -
Please read & give my
letter to Revd Mother - I am
killing her - But it lies
between the death of our
work or our own -
Oh that I may live to
tell the history of this last
week, its crimes and its
foul injustice -
The weather is tremendous -
Please send the things

on the inclosed list as
soon as possible to us -
We are doing good up
here - which is the main thing

(signed) F Nightingale
Mrs. Shore Smith ¼/56
I have just read 2 mails -
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We are doing good up here - that is the main thing

F Nightingale
Mrs. Shore Smith ¼/56

8996/39 signed letter, 2ff, pen {not FN hand} {arch: copy}, 43401 ff171-72

Scutari March/56
I have never been able to join in the popular cry about the recklessness sensuality helplessness of the soldier - On the contrary I should say (& perhaps few women have ever seen more of the manufacturing & agricultural classes of England than it have before I came out here) that I have never seen so teachable & helpfull a
class as the army generally -
give them opportunity promptly
& securely to send money home
& they will use it
Give them schools & lectures &
they will come to them -
Give them book & games & amusements
& they will leave off drinking.
Give them suffering & they will bear it.
Give them work & they will do it.
I had rather have to do with the
Army generally than with any
other class I have ever attempted
to serve -
and when I compare them with
the Medical Staff corps the Land
Transport Corps, the Army wards
corps I am struck with the
soldier’s superiority as a moral
& even an intellectual being

Florence Nightingale
Dearest Aunt Mai
I understand from Mrs. Roberts that she gave you some night gowns shirts out of the Free Gifts Stores to convert into night gowns for me - I have told her that I shall write to you directly to stop it - And would you, please, order some six for me from England?
I remonstrated with her at the time & had no idea that she had persisted - I think it was one of the very few but not the least serious of the mistakes which Mrs. Bracebridge ever made - that viz taking any thing whatever from the Free Gifts Stores for well paid Nurses - or for ourselves -
It has covered the guilty & involved the innocent - I understand that wretched Gibson has been acquitted on this account - & Salisbury will certainly make & has certainly made it her ground of appeal - So fat as this I think Dr. Blackwood has justice in what he said -

No Spottiswoode or Kingstone - the latter is just such another as Tebbutt - & one is enough -

We You need not take the envelopes off the letters you send to me - as there is no postage here - & two letters to my dear Brother which you forward to me - I do not know to whom they are - I suppose they came in an envelope to Miss Salisbury Many thanks for your letters. Yours for ever FN
April 1 - 1856

Dearest Revd Mother

Your precious health
is the chief of my care - I beseech
you to go to Malta with sisters
Gonzaga or Anastasia, or both -
if it were only for 2 or 3 weeks,
when Dr. Cruikshanks recommends
it - Please do not neglect his
advice or I shall be obliged
to come back & tyrannise over
you -

Your Sisters here are perfectly
well - very efficient & very
cheerful - After mature consideration
owing to my unwillingness to
trouble you - I have concluded
to consult you about 2 things.

1. The letter of Revd Mr. Duffy -
   (RC Priest of Mrs. Bridgeman) to
the Sisters which will be enclosed
to you by this post -
with their own account of the
transaction - which will be
enclosed to you --I will not therefore
enter further into it - They are
not in the least depressed in
spirits about it - Mr. Cuffe -
(R.C Pt of the Scutari Sisters) was
very kind.

2. Mrs. Bridgeman appears
determined to leave & next
Saturday - I have done every
thing which in me lay to keep
her - but in vain - For every
reason - I think it best - (indeed
essential) to replace her with
our Sisters - replacing them
again at Scutari - with new
Sisters from Bermondsey - if
you can grant them - I have
no time to enter into the details
of this singular business - But
the best course at present
appears to me to be for you
to come up here yourself -
(AFTER you have been to Malta
IF then quite recovered &
IF it is sanctioned by your
Medical Officer) & meanwhile
could you trust me with your
other three sisters up here? I
will stay with them till you
come - I will not leave the Crimea
till then - and they shall have
Mrs. Roberts & two of the steadiest
nurses with them - There are

only 200 Patients in Mrs.
Bridgeman’s Hospital - & this
pomp of attendance upon
200 men - where so many
Hospitals are suffering - is
to me inexplicable - but we
are surrounded with spies.
& I cannot tell you how
essential I think it to our
work, to do this Hospital
well -
Miss Morton will replace
you in the Linen Stores
at Scutari pro temp -
with some nurses -
Can you have three more
from Bermondsey? [end]
Crimea 3/4/56
Dear Mr. Herbert

I received your letter of March 6 yesterday. It is written from Belgrave Square – I write from a Crimean Hut; the point of sight is different. I arrived here March 24 with Nurses for two Land Transport Hospitals required by Dr. Hall in writing on March 10 but owing to the severe gales of wind, the Transport could not get up the Bosphorus & our arrival was therefore delayed tho’ announced by return of Mail - We have now been ten days without rations. Lord Cardigan was surprised to find his horses die out at the end of a fortnight because they were without rations & said that “they chose to do it obstinate brutes”. The Inspector Genl’s Purveyor wish to see whether women can live as long as horses without rations. I thank God that my charge has felt neither cold or hunger & is in efficient working order – having cooked & administered in both Hospitals the whole of the Extras for 260 bad cases ever since the first day of their arrival. I have however, felt both. I do not wish to make a martyr of myself within sight of the graves of the Crimean Army of last winter (too soon forgotten.
in England) it would be difficult to do so. 
I am glad to have had the experience for 
cold & hunger wonderfully sharpen the wits. 
But I believe that it is difficult to those 
who never by any possibility can have 
imagined either (except by the side of a 
good fire & a good dinner which they will 
have every day of their lives) to imagine 
what is the anxiety of being responsible for the 
life, & health & the efficiency (for the sake of the lives) of those we are come 
to nurse) 
for of those placed under one’s charge when the 
means to feed & warm them have all 
to be obtained by irregular & private channels. 
During these ten days I have fed & warmed 
these women at my own private expense 
by my own private cautions. I have never 
been off my horse till 9 or 10 at night, 
except when it was too dark to walk him 
over these crags even with a lantern when 
I have gone on foot during the greater part 
of the day I have been without food necessarily 
except a little brandy & water (you see I 
am taking to drinking like my comrades 
of the Army) the snow is deep on the ground 
but the object of my coming has been attained 
& my women have neither starved or suffered 
I might have written to the Commander of the Force
who came to see me the day after my arrival. but this would only have marred our work by making a quarrel. I might have accepted presents which were poured in upon us, for all Military Medical Clerical in the Land Transport are our sworn friends. but this would be against a rule which I have been obliged to make so strict that nothing but this necessity would induce me to break it - I might have drawn upon the Extras of the Patients. but then the whole would have gone into the account of Nurses Expenditure as their extravagance - I believed it best on the whole for our work to do as I have done notwithstanding the urgent pressure upon me from others to adopt one of these courses, but I do not think that that work can be said pursued thus, to have been pursued in a “vehement or irritable spirit” I received your letter at 10 ocllo P.M. on my return to my own hut upon a pitch dark snowy night after having been 15 hours on foot or on horseback & almost without food - I confess it cost me a sleepless night, thinking over within myself “Have I injured the work by showing vehemence or irritation” by not bearing persecution moral & physical rather than not complain except when the very existence of the work itself was perilled? I thought & considered & I determined I had not.
I think I can prove my assertion about this matter of the Rations foreseen to a certain extent by me so that I had brought up with me from Scutari, every article for cooking furnishing warming the huts, even stoves & every article of food that would keep. every formality not only of routine but of nobleness had been observed by me. within 24 hours of my arrival the rations had been settled by me in person (after having been “required” in writing from Scutari) with the PMO of the Land Transport in the office of the Deputy Purveyor in Chief Fitzgerald had received the approval of Inspector Genl of Hospitals & by a curious coincidence of the Commander of the forces from his calling upon me while in the Purveyors Office. Every form was observed there & then. Both the Purveyor Clerks both the Medical Officers in charge at the two Land Transport Hospitals were visited by me distant some miles from Balaclava & not together in company with Dr. Taylor the PMO. Every form was there strictly observed. the rations were to begin from the day before. every day since I have ridden some miles or walked & in the severest weather with driving storms of sleet & snow to see the Purveyor in his Office, on these businesses. I have never brought him a yard out of his Office on my business. I have never “prevaloir’d “myself even on my quality of woman to avoid hardship or fatigue. or allow him to say that I had entailed extra on him. Never by word or look can he have detected that I knew how he had slandered us.
Why do I give you this long detail you will ask which can be of no use. It is not because I ask you to do any thing. it is merely because I wish to leave on record some instances of that which nobody in England will believe or can even imagine. but we in the Crimea know it. & we know & knew at the time what filled the Crimean graves last winter. KCB I believe now means “Knight of the Crimean Burying Grounds. As I stood yesterday on the Heights of Balaclava & saw our ships in harbour so gaily dressed with flags, while we fired the salute in honour of peace (it was a beautiful sight) I said to myself. More Aireys, more Fielders more Cardigans more Halls we are in for them all now - & no hope of reform

8996/43 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen {arch: to Aunt M - copied in her hand}

Crimea 4/4/56 [14:373-74]
1. I do not believe that Revd Mother will go to Malta. I should not, in her place - But I have written to her, urging her to go.
2. I trust she will send me two Nuns immediately or three, accordingly as she keeps one or two with her.
3. The 11 Brickbats have resigned & sail tomorrow. I must fill their places directly & am going today
to take there two or three of the three who came up with me, according to Sister Helen’s interpretation of Revd Mother’s wishes.
4. I cannot describe to you what it is to me to trouble her now, as I know this will trouble her.
5. Miss Morton must please to take the three Divisional Linen stores, with the two Macleods from the General Hospital under her, whom she must teach -

6 Miss Morton in N. Store herself. Miss Macleod in A Store, Mrs. Macleod in D. Store.
7 Mrs. Mills to take our own C Store, & all our private Stores (NB. as Revd Mother certainly does not go to Malta, this arrangement does not take place. MS)
All these arrangements to be but temporary till I return.
The Nurses to remain the Divisional Stores to which they are now attached -
8. Miss Ecuyer to get what additional help she needs in needle work by hiring among the M.S.C. wives.
9. The wards vacated by
the “Sisters” must be distri-
buted among the Nurses
adjacent
10. And you will please to
exercise a double watch
11 If the Army stays here
four months more, I shall
ask for more Nuns from
Bermondsey, as I have al-
ready said to Revd Mother.
12 You must please to
communicate with Drs. Linton
Lawson. Revd Mother, Miss
Tebbutt - doing it civilly

8996/44 signed letter, 2ff, pen {not FN’s hand}, original Mercy
Bermondsey use original

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 this
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,
and 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 - 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 of embarkation.
And Sister Helen will tell
you how (as soon as Mrs.
Bridgeman is gone - which
will be probably tomorrow)
we thought it wd be more
according to your wish
for Sisters Stanislaus & Martha
to accompany her there with
Mrs. Roberts, Logan & two
washerwomen - & Sister Helen
to remain at the L.T.C. Hospital
till reinforced by you - The
Sisters whom you send will
go to whichever Hospital you
direct - either giving back S.
Helen her own Sisters, or
replacing them -
Believe me ever my dearest
Revd Mother’s grateful & loving
Signed F. Nightingale

8996/45 Letter from General Barnard to Lord Stratford, 2ff 10 April
1856
We moved in here yesterday, my birds having flown yesterday & (for the furtherance of the comforts of the patients) without giving any notice - accordingly there was no time to lose, & Sister Stanislaus, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Logan & I came in within ½ an hour - into such a pigstye. I never came, though it has been my lot to make many foundations and all my letters must be left unwritten, because besides Hospital Duty, we must whitewash, scrub, scour, to prevent fever - The three Sisters quite well - Sister M. Martha has had a slight feverish cold - but is well again - The patients here are in the most disgraceful state of dirt & filth & bed sores - They might have been taken out of the Streets of London Alas!
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 all this—Sister Mary Joseph went yesterday to join Sister M. Helen at the L.T.C. Hospital. Sisters 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 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 one Hospital—

I see the objection, but my reason was this—Every thing we do at Karani is right—every thing we do here is wrong. Sister Stanislaus is very brave, & has already charge of the Extra Diets. here, which are very disorderly, & which you will manage so beautifully if you come Sister Anastasia is such a very steady quiet worker—She has seven sick Huts—& Sister de Chantal is commanding & courageous & not easily 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 upon all around them—But it requires very good spirits to bear being always mis construed without being a little depressed And these old Sisters are very cheerful & used to be “abused”!
Mrs. Roberts & I & Mrs. Logan & Mrs. 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 Hut - we have hardly had time to make any arrangements yet for them - I hope that you will not think of coming up here for 3 weeks at least. Thank God you are better! Perhaps it will do you good. But there will be time to talk of that -

ever my dearest Revd Mother’s grateful & affecate

F. Nightingale

Balaclava April 17/56

Dear Uncle Sam

I enclose the 2nd half of the Treasury Bill, endorsed by me -

I am very sorry you should have had so much trouble about it. The former Treasury Bills which I sent were indorsed by Genl Storks - & when I had leave to draw Treasury Bills on my own account, I said to the Commissariat Officer, ”I suppose I must indorse it”. No, he said, there is no occasion - I was sure he was wrong. But we are not allowed in the Army to know better than our Officers, be they Military, Medical, or Commissariat. And therefore I can only hope that you have not very much trouble extra, & that you will not think the worse of my habits of business.

Thank you very much for your letters. I have
not time now to reply at length. Suffice it to say that now, at the eleventh hour, peace concluded, flags flying, army supposed to be next door to perfection - I have had a 3 weeks bout in the Crimea, worse than anything we have had since Nov./54 - On our first arrival here last month, we were 10 days without rations - by Mr. Fitzgerald’s malice - When I moved in here, the day of Mrs. Bridgeman’s departure, Sir J. Hall gave the nurses’ huts over my head to Purveyors’ Clerks. I sat down before the door, it being then dark, & said quietly that I should stay there till the keys were brought. In about 2 hours they were produced. Every day for the last week it has been a repetition of the same thing. A Contest for the Stores = for the patients, for food, lodging, “leave to toil” for ourselves.

Your pigstye is cleaner than our quarters or than the wards of the Hospital, as left by Mrs. Bridgeman. The patients were grimed with dirt, infested with vermin, with bedsores, like Lazarus. (Mrs. Bridgeman I suppose thought it holy). I have never seen but one similar scene to it. Mrs. Roberts & the Scutari nuns whom I brought with me, were horrified. After two days’ hard white-washing & cleaning, after three days’ washing & dressing the patients, one of whom takes Mrs. Roberts 6 hours daily - being one mass of bed-sores - Sir J. Hall visited the Hospital & - wrote an angry letter, saying that he was “disgusted with the state of the Hospital” & ordered it all to be put back into the “admirable
order it was in previously.” instructing
the P.M.O. of the Hospital, who showed
me the letter, “not to interfere with the Purveyor
Mr. Fitzgerald’s arrangements.”
This is the man on whom the lives & healths
of the Army, in a great measure, depend. (for he
is clever, & this is all temper) [end 14:384]
    Ever yours faithfully & gratefully
    FN

{in FN’s hand} Goldie 255-56 [1:318-19]

     General Hospital
     Balaclava
     April 19/56
My dearest - As I sit in my den
opposite the Surgery Door, watching the
Extra Diets from my window, and
the thick forest of masts over the
Extra Diet Kitchen’s felted & whitewashed
roof in Balaclava Harbour, with a
beautiful tuft of primroses on my table
gathered for me by a man of the 39th,
I think of thee on this thy birth=day
& think how likely it is that the
birth=day may soon come which
will see both of us pursuing the
work of God in another of His worlds, -
some natural tears I drop, but
there is nothing to me melancholy in
the thought - I think of all the
real love there has been between us
which is eternal - & how curiously
your aspirations for me have been
realized, even to the roc’s egg -
    The last tug of war has been
the worst, the last three four weeks in
the Crimea - But we have now five*
Hospitals under our care in this Crim
Tartary in beautiful order - And if
I could think that the tug of war
would continue, that would be the best
hearing for me, for that alone would bring
reform -

ever yours faithfully

in war, & in peace

in the Active & the Passive

F.N.

* Castle Hospital under Sister Berthe
  Monastery " " Miss Wear
  Two Land Transports " Mrs. Shaw Stewart
  " " Karanyi " Sister Helen R.C.
  General Hospital " me
  B’clava

Is it not curious that we should begin to be
acknowledged now at the eleventh hour, so
that now they cannot form a new or a
miserable Hospital without sending for us,
& extending what Mrs. Shaw Stewart calls
My “sad but noble domain” or servitude, it matters

not which, all at once so much, For this was
before the General Order -
General Hospital
Balaclava April 19/56
I wish I could express to Madame Goldschmidt what an honor I feel it to have for our work the sympathy of that good & true heart, whose love for mankind is limited by no country or race - I recals me to the feeling of the goodness & truth of our cause, which is sometimes lost among the petty intrigues, the Eastern mysteries of Crimean management sometimes but not for long - I know no sympathy which, after that of the men for whom we have worked, has so ennobled the work in my eyes as that of the Queen & of Jenny Lind both, I believe, good & true - both in singular, exalted & isolated positions - both more fortunate than I have been in carrying on great works with few enemies & much success - both
wise & prudent as well as loving -
but, while these two have known
the inspiring stimulus of a great stage to act
their drama upon, I have known
in all its bitterness, more perhaps
than any actress either of them, the mean jealousies,
the vile intrigues, the sham & tinsel
& false glare of the stage, which
deadens the pure ideal in one’s
mind - In this I feel that I can
sympathize with Jenny Lind more
perhaps than she can sympathize
with me, because she could give
up the stage & I cannot - For my
work is on it - And perhaps, oh!
perhaps, she was as wrong to give
it up as I should be - At all events,
the liberties of Europe, the inspiration
& love of progress & civilization have been the
soul of all of us three women
But I look upon progress & civilization as at an end in the East - Mahometanism, it is true, is extinct - Turkey will soon have ceased to exist. Be except as a Christian country - Palestine will, I suppose, be bought up by the Jews. But the Greek fanaticism is essentially an aggressive fanaticism - And who can say what the next thirty years will see? To any one who will live to see them I prophesy a greater change in the world than the last thousand years have brought. For 1. The Russian fanaticism, (as shewn in the confiscations & banishment in Lithuania,) against the Protestants - (as shewn in Minsk) against the R. Catholics is essentially aggressive & of the worst kind of barbarism -

2. Christianity has always been propagated by the sword & not by preaching - witness the history of Charlemagne in the West - How was Xitianity planted there? Perhaps, in the next thirty years, we shall see Christianity carried all over the East by a Russian Charlemagne "Alas! poor ghost!" or ghosts! viz. the ghost of Xitianity, the ghost of the East -
Crimea

22/4/56

Would not you like to see me
hunting rats like a
terrier=dog? Me!

Scene in a Crimean Hut

Time midnight

Dramatis Personae -
sick Nun in fever
perfectly deaf
me the only other
occupant of the hut
except
rat sitting on rafter
over sick Nun’s head
& rats scrambling about

Enter me, with a lantern
in one hand & a
broom=stick in the other -
(in the Crimea, terrier=dogs
hunt with lanterns in
one paw & broom=sticks)

Me, commonly called “Pope”
by the nuns, makes a furious
Balaclava charge - i.e.
the light cavalry come on & I am the Russian gun - Light cavalry ensconces itself among my beloved boots & squeak - Desperate Papal Aggression - Broom=stick descends enemy dead - “Pope” executes savage war dance in triumph, to the unspeakable terror of Nun, (& of himself Slain cast out of hut - unburied. Fan is a fool to me. F.N.

If there is anything I “abaw”, it is a Rooshan & a rat. [end]

8996/51 initialed note, 1f, pen {arch: ?1856} check Bermondsey? Letter from N came in 26th dated 22d Beginning arrangements of Sisters you won’t care for 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 ( & I feel it) to make the Sisters stay here without you. But you must not risk a relapse The Sisters are perfectly well & cheerful all but Sr. M. M. who is better. God bless you dearest Revd M. & reward you ever yr grateful & affecate F.N.
My dear Sir,

In reply to your kind letter of April 1 I should have many things to say but not time to say them in -

I must, however, make time to say something about the fact which you state viz. that the average consumption of the main articles of diet in the Crimean hospitals in the quarter ending 31 Dec. exceeds 3 lbs per man per day.

I am very sorry that you did not examine me on this important point, because I think that there is perhaps no one now here, who could have given you more information - both because I am now the oldest inhabitant in the largest Hospitals in the world, because it is already 18 months since I established My first Extra Diet Kitchen, which system has been gradually extended to every one of the 7 Hospitals now under my charge & because diets are peculiarly the province of a Nurse.
I have now no Returns before me
to refer to - But I should be
most happy to make any cooking
experiments, or supply any tables for the
information of the War Department -

In explanation of the fact which
excites your surprise, I should like
to make 5 observations, which I would
be of use to you

1. In England, when bone, offal
the useless parts of meat are removed, {the edge of the paper from
here on is cut off}
it loses about from 1/6 to 1/5 of its weigh{t?}

In the Crimea & Scutari, when
the bone, offal & useless parts of the meat are removed, (owing?)
the small proportion of moisture in it
& other causes which I cannot now sto{p?}
to enumerate), the meat loses from 4/5 to (?)
of its weight - so that your Patient
even were he ordered 3 lbs Meat fo{r?}
his 3 lbs. solid food, might receive
about ½ lb. This is the experience
of all my kitchens & this the main cause {of?}
the fact which surprises you.

2. All acute cases & generally
all cases which, as a Nurse well kno{ws?}
can seldom touch bread, are put upon a Spoon-Diet - Spoon Diet includes 8 oz Bread - This does not appear much; And there are Convalescent Cases, who are put upon Spoon Diet for the sake of the Extras, for whom Extra Bread is drawn - But, generally, Spoon Diet having been constructed for the sake of appending Extras to it, Spoon Diet patients do not eat bread -

At the time of our great pressure at Scutari, I will calculate the Spoon Diets at 1000, all Dysenteric & Frost-bitten cases - & the average of their consumption of bread at 2 oz. which I consider to be an outside calculation - There were therefore 6000 oz bread wasted daily, at a time that we were told the Purveyor could not take upon himself to incur any expence whatever for the Hospital & that all our stores were at Varna - This bread which I consider to be an outside calculation, was given, when stale, to the Patients who could eat it, but more frequently to the Turks about the place, a whole population of whom we thus fed - It may have been a very good thing to feed the poor Turks, but it should not be set down as consumed by Patients -
Of all the features of the Hospitals of /54 most conspicuous, at the time of our greatest penury, was our waste -
The above things were obvious to the meanest capacity - and our 1st Class Staff Surgeons are men of no mean capacity at all - But when a man is obliged to walk about his wards, looking not at his Patients, but at “Regulations for the Management of Army Hospitals, at home & abroad, & for the rendering of Hospital Accounts, with an Appendix of Forms, &c”, the result is obvious -

Let no one suppose that I undervalue that invaluable work. I went into Dr. Sutherland’s hut the other day & found him reading “Troilus & Cressida” - As, for 18 months, I was unaware that British literature embraced any other work than “Regulations for the Management - &c & for the rendering &c, also, instructions to &c with an appendix &c” (& I can truly say that without that work, I should have ceased to read or to spell,) I can not scarcely be said to undervalue it.
3. a Spoon Diet is generally put down for 1 pint ArrowRoot A.M.
   1 “ “ P.M.
which pint, whether of Arrow Root or of Sago, is constructed by the “Regulations” Book of 2 oz. of the same -
Now I oz. Arrow Root makes, by experiment, 1 pt thick Arrow Root as daily exemplified in all my Kitchens where I allow no more - 2 oz. Arrow Root in the General Kitchens make 1 pint thin Arrow Root - so thin that the men will not drink it - Parts of this is attributable to certain conundrums which regard boiling water - but not all Where that Arrow Root goes is a conundrum which has never yet been guessed by me -
In the same way, 2 oz. Rice are saved upon every 4 puddings with us as to Sugar, tapioca, barley, sago, &c &c From all these, there is the same proportionate saving. Each day in our Kitchens, the overplus is put up in a covered vessel. Savings returned into Purveyor’s Stores end of Month - Thus,
Diet=Rolls are paramount & yet
the Queen not robbed -
But is the Queen not robbed?
We can prevent the excess of Arrow Root
&c being wasted - But we cannot
prevent the Purveyor from issuing the
last month’s savings for the next month
as a fresh issue - And little item{s?}
of this kind will go far to swell
out your “3 lbs” -
We have tried to obviate this in
3 ways -
(1) by drawing in bulk for the
materials to answer Diet Rolls - this
system the 1st Class Staff Surgeons prefer
But we were obliged to discontinue
it for two reasons - one that we
were ordered to draw according to
“Regulations” Book by our supreme mas{ter?}
the other that, to punish us for not
having done so, that which had been
so drawn in bulk - by order of Medical
Officer in charge for his Diet Rolls - was set down to our
own consumption -
(2) we have followed the System
above explained, of drawing the
'quantity prescribed in “Regulations” Book
& returning the overplus - But this is
then charged as two issues for this
month & the next - for the accounts
must tally with the “Regulations” Book
Certainly this “Regulations” Book
was written by a very clever man,
but he was no cook.
(3) a most laborious plan, but
which I am now pursuing here - I make
the 1st Class Staff Surgeon draw in bulk
for my Extra Diet Kitchen - I throw
all my own private Stores into the same -
And I account each night to the
Purveyor for whatever I have thus
drawn, out of both the two above sources,
to answer the Diet Roll
4. A large amount of waste is
incurred by the Extra Diet being ordered
for the next day, as they are in some
but not in all the Army Hospitals -
a patient dies, is discharged, or under=
goes one of the manifold changes of acute
disease which entirely alters his
mode of treatment - But still his Extras
are to be drawn - when once on the Diet Roll - or, even if not drawn, they are set down - At the rate at which we died & discharged, the Extras thus drawn but not eaten must have gone far to swell your “3 lbs”.

5. Waste there must essentially be in every sick-room - The Patient tastes his chicken=broth to-day, to-morrow he takes his pint - But the waste in a Military Hospital can scarcely be calculated - And here it is that we might be so useful, where permitted - A ought to have a table=spoonful of Beef Tea or Arrow Root & Wine every half hour. But his mess of two pints or perhaps the whole of his Extras is put down at his bed=head at once - & the whole is consequently wasted or stolen -

I do not make any comment or suggestion upon the above five heads, which it must be left to Medical Officers to do - But, I think they will throw some light upon your curious fact, which, as you say, is staggering -
[3]

At the Castle Hospital, you say there were 70 bottles of malt liquor per day to each 100 diets. But this is hardly 1 pint per diet. Those bottles holding hardly 1½ pts. (one of those bottles is the allowance per diem to a woman) the men prefer their Malt Liquor, to their Wine & it is better for them.

One thing more; - I believe, if the spoon Diets were allowed 4 oz Bread & ¼ oz Butter with it, that actually more bread would go down the man's throat than with his 8 oz. This, however, is a point for Medical Officers & not for me to decide - But no one ever saw acute disease eating dry bread yet at least, of the kinds we have had here -

Now, if we subtract

- 6 oz bread from 8 oz
- 2 oz Arrow Root " 4 "
- 12 oz Mutton " 16 "
- 20 oz from 28 oz

is a large subtraction, being what the man does not eat or what the cooking takes away.
“Nineteenthly” - the Diets & Medicines are prescribed, not by the heads of the profession who have no time to do what they are there for, being wholly taken up by Returns, but by the youngest & most inexperienced members of the profession - The head of the most important Hospital in the world told me himself that he did not know his way about his own Hospital -

I infer from this that the Extras are often heterogeneous excessive & capricious. I could give instances, of a composition of Extras of which a trusty old Nurse (not a “Gamp”) would not incur the risk of administering -

But, generally, I repeat that it may be deduced from the above facts that, though 3 lbs may have been upon the Diet Rolls, \( \frac{1}{2} \) lb was more nearly what actually went down a man’s throat - & that the fault did not lie in the Doctors -

I have much more to say - & I would willingly take the trouble to furnish information & make experiments to prove what I say - I do not know
whether I have hit upon the main points of what has struck you as unaccountable but— I should be glad to answer any questions—I am able—

C.J. Fox said, “No, don’t read me history. for that I know is false”—

I have learnt to say, No, don’t shew me Returns — for those I know (are not false — but) give a false impression

Believe me to be dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

If it should be said, Yes, but supposing it be true what you say about Fresh Meat losing weight, there remain the Preserved Meat to account for—I would answer that it has often happened to us to find a 3 lb. tin of Preserved Meats to count exactly 1 ½ lbs in weight, & to make up the difference, so as to answer Diet Roll from our own Stores — But?

this would, of course, only be done in our own Kitchens — And I mention it only to shew how deceptive returns may be — And many a Surgeon I have known reprimanded for extravagance in Extras, who has chosen to do his Patients justice in spite of it, or who, horror of horrors!, has drawn the difference privately out of our private stores — But this would bring him into trouble —

I have lately been shewn some returns, placing the daily expence of each Patient at the Civil Hospitals, Renkioi & Smyrna, (including Doctoring &c) at 4/ & a fraction — that of each Patient at some of our Military Hospitals here at 1/. Regimental Hospitals, if the stoppage were placed at /9, as self=Supporting — Is this so?

F.N.
allow me to observe that, in re “Troilus & Cressida”, I was not reflecting on Dr. Sutherland. He had been 7 hours on horseback about the Camp that day, & he turned up “Troilus & Cressida” for a very curious purpose, viz. to find the passage in which Thersites mentions boils as being common at the siege of Troy, our own men suffering very much from the same affection. For Shakspeare, as an acute observer, had no doubt met with the allusion in some book he had read -

I was only reflecting on the power of reading surviving a Crimean imbroglio. But Dr. Sutherland has not had 18 months of it as I have -

NB I have had a second & even a third Edition of Mr. Fitzgerald & his “Confidential” proceedings since I have been up here this time - But sad experience makes me “up to” these things now - You do not do me justice

Dear Uncle Sam

Might I trouble you to go with the enclosed yourself to Sir B. Hawes & act so that corresponding orders shall come out to me.

Every mail 2 or 3 letters come to me. How are you to come home -?

The question practically is a very simple one Empty your Hospitals of Nurses as you empty them of patients - neither are emptied or maybe -

In haste ever yrs

F.N.

8996/53 {written in the top margin:} Just now we have a great deal to do here.
My dear Sir

I have been waiting for your orders as to the general disposal of H.M. nurses before I made any particular suggestions to you with regard to the manner of sending them hence - Not having rec'd. any orders from you, I conclude that you are kind enough to expect me to suggest & therefore venture now to do so. I think that I shd be directed to send home the Nurses in proportion as their work decreases - not "en masse" for any day an outbreak of Fever or Cholera might make them again wanted - but according as the Army goes home so shd their Nurses. I have already directed 7 to be sent home from Scutari - in exercise of the discretionary power intrusted to me - & I am sending home 2 from here - I shd prefer that "discretionary power" to remain with me till the last of our troops have left the Crimea & Scutari.

The W.O. will I know trust me for 2 things -
1. That I have no ambition to be the foundress of a Tartar convent at Govt. expense - or to train nurses in the Convent
2. That I will not put our Govt to the expense of a single ill Nurse. who according to my best judgment is not likely to find work here again -

There are now in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crimea</th>
<th>Nurses</th>
<th>Superintendents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genl Hosp - - - - - - - - - - 10 - - - - - - 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Castle - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monastery - - - - - - - - - - 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Transport - - - - - - - - - - - 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do Right Wing-------2 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The column of No of Patients I have not given because it varies from day to day. as much as the Crimean Thermometer rising or falling by 60° - 100° - owing to the Draughts of invalids going home - or to the emptying of Regimental Hospitals upon us - the above no. of women includes the Nuns - Because for the economy of time & material - I nurse the Sick Nurses for each Hospital Female Staff & wash for all, as much as circumstances will permit, at one Hospital.

I wd wish therefore - if I may be allowed to wish
1. To see the gradual plan of sending home the Nurses adopted - myself remaining to the end to bring up the rear - when I see no prospect of usefulness left behind us -
2. To apply if it shd be found practicable for some of the Draughts of Nurses to go home via Marseilles at the cost of French soldiers on the R. Roads - But as this wd necessitate probably a vessel to Marseilles with invalids of our own - it might not be thought practicable

Believe me Dear Sir B
Yrs very truly obliged
F.N.
General Hospital Balaclava

May 10/56

I so seldom see the Newspapers - & for the last two months I have not even seen the outside of one - I have regretted this, because I wished to read the Chelsea Inquiry. But I have taken care to keep myself au courant of it.

Tell Colonel Tulloch that if I could, I would have come home merely for the pleasure of hearing his evidence - We have not even a Cassandra here - And soon we shall be a Troy. Tell him that so true is all his evidence, so desperately true, that if tomorrow we were set down at Batoum, we should have had the whole scene of 1854 all over again. Some say this is a reason why we should have peace I say it is a reason why we should have war -
Tell Colonel Tulloch that I have the deepest sympathy with him - And we look to him to maintain our cause - For there is none, no, not one, to do it here. To me it is a melancholy sign of England’s decay that a report, such as Colonel Tulloch’s & Sir John McNeil’s, a model report, as it was acknowledged by all, should have failed in accomplishing the only object of those two noble & honest men. If they can do nothing, who can? Our case is desperate. I am so badgered & bullied by the great rat, the Inspector-General, & the little rat who lives in the corner of this yard, the Deputy Purveyor in Chief, - two men whose impunity & promotion has only done less mischief because their crimes were less apparent that I can well sympathize with Colonel Tulloch. But he will see that the world will do him justice - for his efforts for the truth & justice of our cause.
Pray tell the Dean of Hereford that, of the Mr. Taylor he enquires about, is Dr. George Taylor, Principal Medical Officer of the Land Transport Corps - he is my present master & a very admirable exception to the general run of my masters. He is strict, but not at all stricter than I like - upright, honest, independent - with the good of his men at heart, for which he has labored without praise & without reward. He will never be promoted for the melancholy joke that promotion is in proportion to demerit is here an axiom or a truism - He is a man of very considerable talent - And his Hospitals, late the worst, are now the best managed of the Crimea - He is indefatigable, efficient, able But he serves a Master, who non- pluses every effort - So do I. But [end 14:402]
A propos to Mr. Bracebridge’s letter to you, [14:402] forwarded to me May 12/56

Every body worries, worries, worries about our coming home, excepting my poor people, I must do them that justice -

Is it not curious that the only practical solution of the difficulty occurs to no one, viz. that as the Army comes home by degrees, so must their Nurses - & that I must come home last of all? I believe every one expects to see me arrive next week, via Marseille, heading a triumphal procession of Nurses en masse - So likely that we should leave behind the ever recurring possibility of Fever & Cholera here - & that I should send the Nurses home all in a lump, when we are only as yet diminished by 6 Regiments here - The Nurses must go home; as they were distributed “pro re nata” [end]

General Hospital Balaclava [14:403] May 14/56
Let Dawson & Jones go home - Jones to be removed from the Stores immediately - her honesty under suspicion - and to remain at my house till she can go home. Dawson, if she can do as stated, can do worse things - Its being with an Officer makes
it worse than with a
Patient.
Dawson to be settled
with from Jan 1/56
(to the day of her departure
only) at 18/ per week
Jones to be settled
with from March 30/56
(to the day of her departure
only) at 16/ per week
deducting £1.4.0
(viz 3 weeks from March 30
to April 20 at 8/ per week
already paid into the Oxford
Savings’ Bank for her)
I cannot consent to pay

either of these to the
day of her arrival at
home - as I consider
that both have been
leniently dealt with -
Dawson, because I know
that she had been
accustomed to much
liberty at the Palace
Hospital, Jones, because
Miss Tebbutt had a
high opinion of her -
It is useless, I think, to
tell either Jones or Miss
Tebbutt the suspicions
of the former’s dishonesty

[end]
I have written, as strongly as I could express them, three letters of business 1. to Lady Stratford 2. to General Storks, 3. to the War Office, to enforce the rule that Nurses, this service over, must all return home - If they abscond, well & good - we cannot shoot them - But, at least, I think it will prevent Ambassadresses from negotiating with them - Please consult Genl Storks, & ask him to shew you my letter to him. It has the disad= vantage of being a law without a its penalty - for its infringement - But only imagine a war in America & all the Nurses going out there to settle themselves with planters - Some of our Nurses, one Disney, among others, openly said that they came out here to open Canteens - & were much surprised to find themselves sent home - a decent service it would have been.
If Lady Stratford considers that Cator & Dawson came out under different conditions from the other Nurses, & expressly “to get situations” out here, I cannot gainsay her & I must submit. It is only another of the many inconveniences of taking Nurses from other people.  

But when I brought out my party, Mr. Herbert, in addressing us all Oct 21 54, made it distinctly understood that “when the work was finished, we were to come home”, & without this condition, I would not have accepted an impossible trust - It may have been neglected or slurred over with subsequent parties - But I shall stick by the understanding I made till I am defeated

This is the substance of my view about the Nurses obtaining situations - Please shew it to Miss Tebbutt -

It would be impossible for me to carry on the service with which I am entrusted - if the Nurses sent out, as they are, by H.My’s Govt for this particular service, are allowed to obtain situations, in many cases, less laborious & more lucrative, than they would obtain either in England or in this service - It is necessary that they should all return to England or that we should run the risk of having the service filled with adventuresses.

I think you will perceive upon reflection that this rule is neither harsh nor captious. - but essential to a difficult & trying service, the efficiency of which
depends so much on its respectability
If, in the event of any future war, Government should require the services of Nurses, many women would engage themselves as Nurses for the sole purpose of obtaining good situations at the stations to which they might be appointed to the destruction of the respectability & efficiency of the service.

No II

Rule I
Government sent out Nurses to nurse the soldiers & not to marry them - I have made some exceptions to this rule where the persons have come forward so openly & honorably that I have even consented to apply for leave for them to marry - but in all these instances I have had full confidence in the persons that they would not seek for clandestine appointments -
Rule II
Government has
paid the passages of
Nurses out in order
to serve in these Hospitals,
not to take other service,
(this duty have ceased)
out in the East.
Government will
therefore bring back to
England all those
thus sent out - But
it has no desire to
furnish the East with
servants - Though, if
any one chooses to take
service here, it is not
a punishable offence -
But I shall neither
recommend them, nor shall I re=engage them
for any future
Hospital service -
F. Nightingale
Hôpital Général  
Balaclava   
Crimea  
24 Mai 1856

Chère mère   Nous avons, chez nous, un proverbe qui dit, “La pauvreté et non la volonté y consent” - c’est-à-dire, que (non la pauvreté mais) la nudité, où je me trouvais, quant au temps nécessaire pour écrire, pendant les trois années, qui viennent de s’écouler, vous prouvera que ce n’est pas le manque d’amour, mais une impossibilité absolue, qui m’a empêché de vous écrire - Avant cela, je vous assure que je vous ai écrit - et non seulement cela, mais je vous ai envoyé divers petits objets, et je ne sais comment mes lettres ne vous sont pas parvenues - Je n’ai jamais cessé de vous appeler “ma chère Mère” - Mais vous pouvez bien vous figurer la position où j’étais - depuis mon arrivée à Scutari il y a 19 mois.  
Ce ne sont pas les blessures, ni la Mort, ni le Cholera, ni le Typhus, ni les boulets, ni le canon, dont nous avons eu une surabondante moisson comme vous le savez, qui ont constitué les difficultés, je dirai plus l’horreur de
ma position - trop heureuse si j’eusse pu mourir par la guerre! Mais figurez-vous ce qu’a du être une Supérieure Générale, qui réunit dans sa communauté Soeurs de Charité Catholiques, Soeurs de Charité Protestantes, Dames prises dans la Société, Gardes=Malades prises dans les Hôpitaux et dans les différents Sociétés de Bienfaisance en Angleterre J’ai sept Hôpitaux sous ma direction. Le plus grand a eu jusqu’à 2700 Malades – Le gouvernement Anglais m’a dit simplement, Prenez tous ces éléments hétérogènes - faites-en une amalgamation” - empêchez toute dispute religieuse exigez une obéissance entière aux Médecins - Avec ces quatre instructions, je me suis mise à l’oeuvre - (je n’avais jamais vu qu’une seule de mon Assemblée Constituante auparavant.) Vous pensez bien que je ne me suis jamais arrogée la moindre autorité spirituelle - Au contraire, la Supérieure (la vrai Supérieure) des Soeurs de Charité Catholiques en Angleterre, qui, par l’avis de ses Supérieurs, est venue elle-même avec ses Soeurs, a été ma plus fidèle aide et amie – Mais Dieu seul m’a soutenu – Et c’est à Lui de vous dire, et non à moi, comment nous sommes venus si heureusement à bout de
notre entreprise. L’état pitoyable
des Hôpitaux et des Ambulances
quand nous sommes arrivées,
où tout manquait excepté
le pain, la viande et une
misérable aventure - l’opposition
acharnée officielle, qui considérait
notre Mission comme une insulte
du Gouvernement, les pièges
que cette opposition officielle
nous a tendus, - tout vous
donnera une idée, chère Mère,
de ce qui a été cette Oeuvre -
Je l’ai fait - ou plutôt Dieu
l’a fait - Mais je n’en ferai
plus - Dans toute nouvelle
oeuvre l’entrepreneur, dont
Dieu se sert pour instrument,
a le coeur et le corps brisés

perçu, comme je l’ai dit,
et le corps se brise avant le
cœur -
Adieu, très bonne et chère Mère,
J’ai fait la connaissance des
Soeurs de Charité pour les Am-
bulances Sardes ici en Crimée -
J’ai été assez heureuse de
pouvoir les servir en quelque
chose - Luelles [?] âmes d’élite -
Soeur Cordera, Soeur Angélique,
Soeur de la Haye [?]  
Florence Nightingale
Veuillez, chère Mère, regarder
cette lettre comme une confession
Vous êtes la première à qui
j’en ai faite. Nos difficulté
doivent être cachées -
En passant par Paris, il y a
19 mois, j’ai consulté la Soeur
Supérieure d’une Miséricorde,
chez qui j’ai été pensionnaire
il y a quatre ans - Elle m’a
dit. Il n’y a qu’à être Supérieure
pour se connaître soi-même -
Je l’ai bien prouvé -
Votre médaille ne m’est pas
parvenue. Je vous en remercie
toutefois, chère Mère.
Vous ne me dites rien de
vos Pauvres, de votre Ecole.

8996/61 signed letter, 4ff, pen {not FN’s hand}

General Hospital
Balaclava
May 30/56
I have no intention of bringing home
the Nurses otherwise than as the
Hospitals go home gradually. I
have sent twelve home already, the
least efficient of course first -
We have now only 23 Crimea
17 Scutari
40 including
washerwomen & shall soon be
fewer. I shall of course remain to
the last nurse - We have only 17
Regiments off yet. It is said we shall be out
of this
by middle August out of Scutari by end ditto - Of course we send home sick as fast as we can - But of course also the regiments as they move empty the sick they cannot move upon the General Hospital here & Fever & Cholera you cannot move. We have some of the former, not yet of the latter. But we shall - I do not think it would do to sell any of the Free Gifts. At least I should shrink from doing so - What I incline to would be to write to the Commandants of our now over crowded depots in Malta Corfu & Gibraltar where in consequence of the hutting, the over crowding & the heat there is certain to be much sickness, & from our strengthening our posts there so much one would surmise war ultimately, & deposit with them proportionate share of all that is left which except wine & shirts does not amount to much.

Lord Ellesmere I shall ask as to the Crimean Fund stores - Revd Mother’s departure without my seeing her has multiplied all my difficulties as there is not one at Scutari now who
has been there since the beginning
or can tell what is what, & it is
impossible for me to return yet to
Scutari - The Crimean Fund stores
were of course unavoidably mixed
with our own. Tell me if you see
any objection to any of these things.

As for me I have no plans. If
I live to return what I should like to
do after a short visit at home would
be to go to some foreign Hospital where
my name has never been heard of &
discharging myself of all responsibility
anxiety writing & administration
work there as a Nurse for a year -

Every other position seems to me
impossible. At home I should go
distraught with admiring friends &
detracting enemies, with answering
attacks like poor Col Tulloch - at
a foreign watering place I should go
mad with inaction - My health is
too much broken for a position of
responsibility & power. With the
story I have to tell I never would
enter the world again, not on account
of the sickness & suffering, but of the
corruption & incapacity I have seen to tell of
My last two months (most dreadful
of all) experience would make me
wish to live to fight the battle of the Medical Officers against their Inspector General - disgusting & disgraceful as it is - but the fate of Sir J. McNeil’s report which report I could never equal in its completeness makes me feel such work hopeless. Were my Grandmother or Aunt alive I would go to them - But how deep the meaning of those words “Foxes have holes & birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man hath not where to lay his head.

I say nothing about yourselves for you tell me nothing but God bless you

F. Nightingale
I shall buy a revolver & shoot the next person who asks me questions in private, (excepting the Queen Lord Panmure & Sir B. Hawes) - In public I shall decline answering all questions excepting in a report as to what I have done with Private Fund & Free Gifts, ie as to accounts-
Depend upon it the “tug of war” is to come - May I NOT be there to see!

8996/62 unsigned memorandum, lf, pen

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Wages to be paid</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Clarke</td>
<td>March 25 - till arrival at home</td>
<td>£1.0.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>say 3 weeks after departure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hawkins</td>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>do, do</td>
<td>18/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarke</td>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>do, do</td>
<td>8/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howes</td>
<td>“”</td>
<td>“”</td>
<td>“”</td>
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<tr>
<td>(For these latter two, 8/ per week had been already paid by me up to April 20 to Miss Skene, making up their 16/ pr week; &amp; more recently, 8/ per week up to June 1 inclusive - being 6 weeks more in advance - for each Parker March 29 till arrival at home</td>
<td>18/</td>
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<td>i.e. 3 weeks after departure</td>
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<td>Howell</td>
<td>Dec 27/55</td>
<td>do do</td>
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<td>Stevens</td>
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<td>(deduct for 1 pr Boots 6/6)</td>
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<td>This, I think, should be the first party to go home -</td>
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My dearest
1. All my invalid children sons are
   gone home - & it would be only
   out of these that could be found
   a man that would do for the
   Marseilles purpose - And alas! of
   those “gone home it is impossible for
   me to remember names. I could
   mention names of some still out
   here - but who being still in the
   Service would not, of course, leave it
   for such a position -
   But amongst the multitude of
   discharged men in England, there must
   be some who would do -
   General Sir Howard Douglas or
   Lt General Sir W. Herries
   would either of them be the man to
   ask -
2. Mrs. Beste, alias Sister Mary Martha, a girl of 23, is now with me here. She has been at death’s door with Typhus Fever – Do you remember a scene with a Rat which I portrayed to you in the night? That happened when I was sitting up with her. I love her the most of all the Sisters – She is a gentle, anxious, depressed, single-hearted, single-eyed conscientious girl, not energetic, but a worker & no talker – I am very fond of her – And she is honest & true – She is very interesting, almost too patient & diffident. And she has been rescued from Death’s door. She is heavy & stupid – trustworthy & noble

3. I know nothing of the Honble Mr. Hardinge’s prologue –

4. Dr. Manning writes to me “I need not say that the justification of the employment of the Sisters of Mercy under you in the Papers was written by me” – As I observe that no one has ever realized the 8000 graves at Scutari, so I observe that every one pictures me with a cup of tea at my elbow reading the Public Prints, especially those parts which concern ourselves – As I have not seen a paper for 10 weeks, as I have never read any thing in them but what pertained to Sir J. McNeill’s Commission, not from contempt (for I think it an inspiring thing to be writing, not to a party as the Record, the Standard, the Daily News, the
Guardian do, but to the world as the Times does - & if I had not such a contempt for misgiving about the persons, I could almost wish to be a newspaper writer myself) not from contempt therefore but from sheer lack of time day or night have I never read the papers.

I should therefore, as I have always entreated that any piece of a paper which it is important for me to read should be cut out & sent to me (with the name of the paper whence it comes) so I should be glad to know what Dr. Manning has said & where - & when -

With regard to him, I neither trust him nor distrust him. But the Roman Church has never been accused of incapacity & as the whole of Mrs. Bridgeman’s conduct evidences [2] either a want of capacity or of faith on the part of her rulers, Let each man draw his own conclusion -

Revd Mother Moore & Revd Mother Bridgeman told me directly opposite stories - I have never had occasion to doubt the former (in a long experience) -

I have written no explanation to Dr. Manning & shall not - The thing is spoiled & can’t be unspoiled But who suffers? Not I not the work - But the R.C. Church in whom there is now a direct split. She is quarrelling within herself - & publicly, which is not her wont. All the priests here have taken sides - And one has been recalled - Those priests who hated me are now my firm friends
Depend upon it, there never was
an age where the principles of
abstract justice were so surely & immediately
the “best policy”, nor where they
have been so disregarded – & the
disregard surely & immediately so punished

For 5. Look at the whole
political history of these last 3
years. Who has been the gainer?
France – What has she advocated?
The principle of abstract justice
This has never been done before,
Louis Napoleon is the deepest
politician of the world –
He advocates the principle of justice as the most successful policy
England, Sardinia, Sweden,
all these nations have sympathy
with abstract justice – all have
sided with France & gained more
or less.

Austria, America &, of course, most
of all, Russia have no sympathy
with abstract justice – See how they
have suffered what a pickle they are in
Russia will never forgive – I judge
of this more by their undervaluing
everything we have done than by
their suffering – It appears certain
that she has been drained of every
man she can afford – It is thought
that the estimate of 500,000 loss
is not at all too large – She was
losing 3000 men per day at the
time of the bombardment – I have
seen Sevastopol – It reminds me
of Egypt. The ruins of the Dockyard
of the white Barracks are like
those of Kalabsheh or of Thebes
In their colossal desolation I can
compare them to nothing else – And
the town is like three towns - And there is not one Stone left upon Another - Now don’t give in to the weak wishy-washy sentiment which is here talked about poor Sevastopol, poor Russia - What was Sevastopol there for? For aggression - for aggressive fanaticism - Not for purposes of defence - I can feel for the poor wretches who have suffered & died - But what did they die for? To make the Russia the tyrant of the world: I should like to have seen the Crimea held by us as the outpost of civilization - the Russians driven beyond the Caucasus - & the Caspian a sea of British trade - This is all I felt when I saw Sevastopol = Now see how all that the Russians have done
is directed against us – The neutralizing the Black Sea, the point about the Caspian is all against England. England they will never forgive – And their whole policy now will be to lower us –

“The Battle of Inkermann! oh nothing at all – a mere child’s play” –

I have had many Russians come to see me –

“What compensation are England & France going to make to Russia for coming into the Crimea?” one officer asked.

They are incurably stupid about trade – It never occurs to them that one nation cannot enrich itself by trade without its benefiting other nations – Dr. Sutherland told me that, in some discussion which he had one day with a Russian of great political eminence about covering Russia with rail-roads, & suspending all Military conquest till this was done (I forget the origin of the conversation but) the point was that it had never struck this Russian that England would make money of every pound thus made by Russia

6. I think we shall be out of this much sooner that we expected – Sir W. Codrington says this day fortnight – “The Guards won’t go till the middle of August” Admiral Fremantle told me yesterday “The Guards will go on Wednesday” the Agamemnon & St. Jean d’Acre are unloading their guns at Constante & are to take them home –

Lothian & the Sappers & Miners
go by the Cleopatra on Wednesday. 
I will send you by him a bunch of flowers or rather withered sticks picked on Inkermann by me.

Men of war are coming out from England to take home 8000 - from the Mediterranean 23,000 - in fact the whole of the Mediterranean fleet is coming - And we have transport enough for the rest - We have about 41,000 men left here - All the Mediterranean regiments but two are gone - What is left is all for England - Sir Houston Stewart says we shall be all gone by middle of July from here - What I surmise (but am not certain) from this sudden change is this - Sir W. Codrington was excessively irritated at the indifference at home about us.

he said now our services are no longer wanted, we shall be left to die of Cholera & Fever here - The French lost in one camp of Cholera 40 in one night - But of course they kept this a dead secret - We had a threatening, not fatal - And Sir W. Codrington telegraphed it home - Lord Panmure was frightened lest there should be a Commission of Enquiry upon him - a Sir J. McNeill upon the War Department - & the fleet comes out to take us home I am sorry - I had much rather run the risk of Cholera & Fever here than leave Austria to work her wicked will in Italy.

Pazienza
But all is forgotten - We are beginning to think that we were too hard upon Crimean Mismanagement We are beginning to pity Russia.
My dear Sir

In reply to your letter of May 10, which has only just reached me – particularly to that part about the Land Transport Corps, where you say, "we are much puzzled to account for the excessive mortality of the L.T.C.

I would suggest that there is some mistake in their Statistics – The Medical Statistics of the L.T.C. are in a state of great confusion, so that it is hardly possible to obtain correct results – I have seen the weekly states for 21 weeks which give an average strength of about 8000 – The total No of deaths 242 – Mortality to average strength 3 per cent for 21 weeks.

The uncertainty exists in our extraordinary method (or no= method)
of keeping Statistics. The average strength in our Returns sometimes includes, sometimes excludes natives. Now the Native Strength is about 3000.

Taking, however, all the sources of uncertainty into account, Dr. Sutherland estimate the mortality in that Corps at not more than 7.2 per cent per annum. Even this is excessive - But quite to be accounted for - The L.T.C. were exposed this last winter to all influences to which our Army was exposed the winter before - bad organization, severe labour - improper & uncooked food no means for cleanliness - long exposure & fasting.

Even then, had they been recruited from country carters, accustomed to exposure in all weathers, they could have stood it. But they were chiefly discarded gentlemen’s servants, tradespeople & townspeople - At least one half never ought to have come out, were unfit for any work under any circumstance.
Our object being to keep the Army in 'magnificent condition for the supposed coming campaign, the L.T.C. did all their work. They got up at 5, A M, watered the mules, went down to Balaclava without breakfasting, had no means of drying themselves, no means of cooking their food &c &c Now that they are organized and in Balaclava their mortality is not much greater than that of the rest of the Army,
 Sir W. Eyre’s “fool’s parade” cost 40 men in Hospital - If this was the result of one Crimean snow=storm poor L.T.C.’s repeated snow=storm might well do what we have seen -
 The soldiers among the L.T.C. did not lose above the average mortality of the Army.
 2. I was struck in going over the French Divisional Ambulance of the Corps de Réserve yesterday with the Médecin en Chef at what you say & what we all have remarked about the French -
While the Typhus cases were all under canvass - while the bedding, bedsteads, absence of flooring, diets, cleanliness, proportion of Medical Officers to Patients were all infinitely inferior to ours, their Medical Statistics should make us envious. How they keep any is a physical problem - Given one Surgeon to 300 wounded, which the Médecin en Chef told me was his own share during the siege, how does he find time to keep the “Cahiers” he does? Yet these Cahiers present the complete history of each case - the dieting, medical treatment, medical observations of each day of each Patient -

In your Report of Renkioi which you were kind enough to send me & which I read with the greatest interest, you will observe that the defect of its system is that this daily view of the Patient’s dieting cannot be kept on record - I know that Dr. Parkes lamented this - It was the same at
[2]
Smyrna - the same, to a lesser degree at Scutari - But, during the pressure there, it was unavoidable -
  I mean that, while encouraging, in acute cases, as much as possible, every facility for the Surgeon to obtain on Requisition at a moment’s notice from the Extra Diet Kitchen the articles of Diet suddenly wanted, which otherwise he would have had to wait for till next day at the General Kitchens, it was a constant battle with me to make the Surgeon enter these next day against the Patient’s name on his Diet Roll as for yesterday so as to shew what the Patient’s Diet has been - otherwise the history of his case is manifestly incomplete.

NB I am aware that, owing to the neglect of the Military Hospital Rule, much of the casual Diets, (enormous at the time of the great pressure at Scutari) has been set down, in Purveyor’s Accounts, as part of the “Nurses’ consumption.”
P.S. I have been more careful to enforce, more convinced of the necessity of, Military Hospital discipline & accuracy than the Doctors, (especially the Junior Doctors,) themselves.

3. Our best Military Hospital is the Monastery Hospital at St. George’s, Crimea, as to organization, cleanliness &c &c &c - our best Administrator without any comparison is 1st Cl. S.S. Dr. Jameson at that Hospital - Our worst Military Hospital is this -

NB. Dr Jameson has never been promoted, because it was convenient to lay the blame of the non-transmission of the Varna Stores to Scutari upon him without whom we should never have had them at all -

& 2 because he told Mr. Stafford at Abydos that we had no Port Wine there -

Considering Dr. Jameson as our best Administrator, I shewed him your Report, & we talked it over together - I asked him
to put down some of the details of his administration (the proof of the pudding &c the proverb is somewhat musty) which I now enclose and in the necessity of most of which I concur. I will ask you to return it to me, because I have had no time to take a copy and there may come a time I fear it is not now, when it may be useful.

34. Touching the promotion of Medical Officers - The manifest injustice of most of the latter promotions will, I trust, upset the system - But what is to be put in its place?

One injustice is easily “constaté” - that of giving all the honors to Crimean Medical Officers, in preference to those at Scutari, on the plea of the greater risk to life in the Crimea, & of the Scutari Medical Officers having gone to “enjoy themselves in four-post beds” as I have heard Dep. Inspector=Genl Mowat express himself -
The fact would appear to be exactly the reverse. The figures given to me are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
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<tr>
<td>Scutari</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koulali</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimea</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sick Shop</td>
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But, while the figures belonging to the Bosphorus Command are official, those of the Crimea are not - And therefore require verifying.

NB Three of the Medical Officers who died at Scutari certainly came from the Crimea - others may have contracted illness in the Crimea - A very large proportion however had never been there - So that the number of deaths, supposed to be nearly equal - while the actual number of Medical Officers at Scutari was always much below
the numbers in the Crimea - proves that
the proportion of deaths, - in other words,
the risk to life, - was greater to the
Medical Officers at Scutari than in the
Crimea.

The total No. of Medical Officers
invalided during the Campaign in the
Bosphorus Command is 50. Of these,
half had been in the Crimea.

5. I agree with you, the fate of
Sir John McNeil’s Report has struck
us all with despair.

A few more of those who have
done the most mischief will be
rewarded - and then the Army,
which has deserved so well of us,
will sink back into its former
condition. And no one any more
will talk even, of Reform -

For the Medical Officers, however,
something might be done - Altho’ the
irresponsibility of opposition is always
unsafe, & an alliance with Mr. Stafford
an un="holy alliance", I wish that he had been urged to keep his Committee open till the Medical Officers at present here can come home & give evidence - But I am told that this will be purposely prevented by their being ordered elsewhere -

There are many now here who would abide by their evidence, however little the Military Officers have, alas! done so by theirs - Two of these I could but will not name who have given opposite evidence at Chelsea from that which they have been heard to say here - We were astounded.

Of the Medical Officers now here, whose evidence would be valuable to Mr. Stafford & who would speak the truth, there are

Dr. Alexander       Dy Ins Genl
" R. Jameson       S.S.1st Cl
" Beatson             "
" Matthew             "
Mr. Jackson       S.S.2nd Cl
Dr. Holton             "
Dr. Jephson       1st Drag. Gds

I have no doubt many others.
I do not profess to feel any respect for the Military Medical Profession, any more than for any other race of slaves, of whom they have all the vices & all the virtues, but a strong compassion & a burning desire to see them righted -

“I know them too well to complain because I do not find in them veracity, fidelity, consistency, disinterestedness”

They have been reduced to this state by dependence upon the caprice of an Inspector Genl, a Director Genl for promotion (not always the caprice but ever the trick) supported by the “Confidential Report” System which has been carried to its utmost perfection by the present Inspector=Genl, which perfection consists in employing some other persons, generally the Deputy Purveyor in Chief, to give evidence concerning matters of which he is in no wise legitimately cognizant, and to take the evidence of Orderlies against their Medical Officer in charge.
In the last two months at this Hospital alone, two Medical Officers have been superseded upon evidence collected in the above manner, unknown to them -

Since June/55, there have been but three Medical Officers here with sufficient independence to resist this system - All three have been superseded -

What can be expected from this training but what actually happens?

An unfortunate 1st Cl. Staff Surgeon, in charge here during 8 months, one of those who was found most easy & submissive to work this system, was brought in here two days ago to the very Hospital he had contributed to ruin, in a fit of Delirium tremens, & cut his own throat this morning with his own Scalpel.

If Inspectors=General & Deputy Purveyors=in Chief could take a lesson, one would think the death of this wretched man might convey one.

But how can you expect a better race under such circumstances?

Unlike Sidney Smith, I would
I had no “Pennsylvania Bonds” - I am sorry that the Inspector General has so injured me that it prevents me from taking up the quarrel of the Medical Officers, for fear it might be considered my own -

In France, the promotion of Medical Officers depends upon Seniority.

In Sardinia, upon the “Examen” & “Concurrence” - (the three first of the lower Grade are designated by the Conseil, go in for the Examen for the next “Grade”.)

I enclose the principle of Promotion which, it is said, would generally satisfy our Medical Department in the justice of which I need not say I do not concur -

It is also drawn up by Dr. Jameson.  

Believe me, dear Sir
most faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale

June 21/56
General Hospital

Balaclava

June 27/56

Dearest

On Monday or Tuesday I, with all [30 June or 1 July] the Crimean woman=kind, leave the Crimea per “Ottawa” with all the Patients Eleven go on to England - of my “monde” I, & I believe, Mrs Roberts, land at Scutari. I earnestly wish that Miss Morton may take advantage of this “Ottawa” (which is placed at my disposal) to go on to England in her I shall never be able to get her so good a passage again - And she will also look after the Nurses - while at Scutari I feel that her work is done - though I can never be too thankful to her for having staid with you - She was perfectly right & you were wrong - You could not have staid alone
I will by Miss Morton, however, in consequence of that sentence in her letter to me which says that “there are great deficiencies in the Linen of the Hospitals & Mr. Robertson wishes to see “me” about them” — although it appears to me impossible that these deficiencies can exist in the Issuing Stores, where every month we took stock — yet I am going to land the two Nuns at Scutari, who were in the Issuing Stores, and in order that they may give evidence to Mr. Robertson — and I have stopped caused the vessel to stop a whole day at Scutari for this purpose. I write therefore by Miss Morton to give Mr. Robertson all the information in her power before I come, to be ready to give me information during the single day the vessel will tarry at Scutari, which will be Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, & to be present when Mr. Robertson examines the Sisters — Should he not be satisfied, I shall even detain the Sisters for another Ship —

My own conviction is that there was irregularity in all Accounts but ours. And these ‘great deficiencies” I am not at all surprised to hear of — Every house of every Greek in Scutari is full of stolen goods.

Please thank Miss Morton very much for her letter — I have written the characters of all the women to Lady Cranworth, & to the ladies who recommended them — I seldom or never give a written character
to the person herself - Mrs. Woodward’s was an unmitigatedly good character - 

ever yours 

FN

8996/66 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

I am afraid that you will think me weak & tiresome in giving contradictory orders -

But, if you have made no arrangement yet with the Nurses who are to go, I would

(because circumstances which have lately arisen have made me think that my enemies in England as well as here are far more active to take advantage of any imprudence of mine than I had any idea of - & therefore I must be the more careful)

I would therefore

1. not give to these Nurses* nor to any one but Miss Clarke the letters which I wrote to them but simply read them to them, keeping them in your own hands,

You will give Miss Clarke her letter of farewell as well
A duty attorney in London might otherwise get hold of them.

2. I think it so undesirable that our Regulation Clothing should sport itself about London upon the backs of disreputable Nurses that I will make good the difference, to them, (out of my own pocket, if necessary;) so that they shall have the value of the clothing due to them which they have not drawn up to the day of their arrival in London, calculating 3 weeks from the day of their departure. All that you have to do however is to tell them that they will have it, ‘that they are not to go to the W. Office for it, that the Rule is, after the 1st year £2 worth clothing every 6 months, to each nurse, & that, if they will give you their directions & write down what they have had in clothing, after the first year - I will compare it when I come home back to Scutari with my Lists - & send them home immediately w the value of what is due to them in clothing. Their writing anything down what they have had is only a measure of precaution, as I have accurate Lists of all they have had at Scutari.

3. I enclose a letter to Miss Clarke which please read - & give her to read, but keeping it, however, yourself for all future applicants - If you cannot do this, without offending her, perhaps Miss Morton could - But I leave it to you - praying however very earnestly that, if possible, my time may be saved in writing this to all the ladies - I will tell you, privately that, (if it should be said, “Why, the Blackwoods go up, & the Naval Hospital Ladies goes up” -)
When the pony is well, let Mr. Hadow have it completely, drawing forage for it himself. He then has the responsibility of seeing the poor thins not ill-used - otherwise not.

Three women of the 28th Regiment will call upon you for clothing - Please refer them to Lady Alicia, telling her that they will come & that they are recommended by Col. Adams -

8996/67 If note, pen, FN arch: ? June 1856

I send you today by Captain Champion of “Melbourne”, some barbaric (not gold but) silver, 5 bracelets made at Sinope - for my birth-day present - If you each keep a pair, perhaps some worthy soul, who keeps an affectionate remembrance of me will like the odd one - Mrs. Bowman perhaps - for Mr. Bowman patronized me in my adversity & did not wait for the world to find out how clever I was.
I cannot remember whether I told you that, by the kindness of Capt. champion of the “Melbourne”, I send you home a wild puppy, found in a hole her in the Krim with eleven brothers & sisters. I tried in vain to tame him — The only time he was beaten, for doing something very naughty, he was very quiet at the time, but never would speak again to the person who did it.
His name is Roosh -
supposed to be an
abbreviation of “Rooshan”
His mama is about
as big as a calf -
There are not 6 dogs
of his species gone home,
so he is supposed to be
valuable - [end 1:144]

I have written to Miss Tebbutt which please read -
I do not wish to urge her,
but, if she should not
wish to go, pray lose no
passage that is offered -
Let her in that case remain with
Cator at General Hospital -
Let Davey go with Miss
Ecuyer in Capt. Keatley’s
vessel - And let Orton or
Sullivan take the
remaining place in
the “Thames” - You then
remain with Miss Morton,
Miss Tattersall & one Nurse
only - Eskip at the house,
But you will very soon have too many from here - I am afraid that Miss Tebbutt has not seen Constantinople, as she wished - I should be very sorry that she should not do this - I daresay Capt. Keatley could detain his vessel one day for her to do this - Especially as I have found it not morally but physically impossible to bring her or any one lady up to the Crimea - as the Quarter Master General is quite positive about against this - I trust she will go to Constantinople - Please tell her this - about the Crimea & Constantinople -

2. Please pay the rent of my house - When the present month closes, which is does July 520, I shall not require it any more - I only keep it on now, because Miss Wes I will only take it, if possible, by the week -

3. Please to ask Miss Tebbutt or Mrs. Mcleod, (whichever goes) to consider herself in charge of the
party from Scutari - and to report to me how they have behaved on their passage home -
4. I have no Catalogue of my Books - When I gave them, I gave them entirely - & it is the business of the Chaplains to see them utilized in Military Hospitals = = Libraries at home -
Please give all you can to ships going home.

8996/70 signed letter, 1f, pen, also in 5486/29 brown ink, presumably that is the original

Scutari

Barrack Hospital
July 4/56
If Lord Stratford will be so good as to appoint any day & any hour least inconvenient to himself, when I might wait upon him to take his orders relative to the list which he has wished me to make of H. My’s Nurses who are to be partakers of the Sultan’s bounty, I will gladly avail myself of the opportunity as I am shortly about to leave Scutari

Florence Nightingale
8996/71 signed letter, 1f, pen 5482/13

Barrack Hospital
Scutari
July 5/56
My dear Sir
You were kind enough
to offer some advice as
to the nature of Stores
which I might send
to our Mediterranean
Commands; at Corfu
principally - you thought
warm clothing desirable.
If you could kindly
give me some idea,
from your greater
experience, as to the
quantity & quality of
Stores to be addressed
to the Ionian Isles & to
whom they should be
addressed, you would
greatly oblige me.

I remain
dear Sir
Yours very truly
F. Nightingale
Wm. Linton Esq M.D.
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
July 7/56

My dear Sir,

My probably last letter should thank you for having been a, if not I might indeed say the, most material assistance to my work - which I shall ever remember with gratitude - and, altho’ “la reconnaissance n’est qu’un vif sentiment des bienfaits futurs” in general, it is not so in my case, for I am now going to trouble you for the last time & hope on that score to receive your forgiveness -

Sir John Hall has, in my absence in the Crimea, written to Dr. Linton here to desire the Purveyor-in-Chief here to send him an Abstract of all requisitions signed with my name, since Nov/54 which had accordingly been
done without my knowledge, before I
returned here two day ago.

These Requisitions are for Scutari & embrace all
I drew from Public Stores for our
Extra Diet Kitchens, as well as for
the Nurses’ own consumption -

This will appear from the Abstracts
printed in the Blue Book of the
Cumming-Maxwell Commission, which
gives the average of the Issues from my
Extra Diet Kitchens and sorts the
sources whence the materials were
supplied, whether from Purveyor, (upon
whom I then drew by my own
Requisition, according to a principle
laid down by the War Office & the
Inspector General of Hospitals in the
Bosphorus, but too long here to insert,
and recognised even in the Crimea
by Sir John Hall till about six
months ago,) or from Private Stores
Bref, the whole of these Requisitions appears in Sir John Hall’s Abstract as having been for our own private consumption.

The fact is almost too ridiculous to make any comment upon - as unless the women could eat 6 lbs Beef each daily, the Abstract disproves itself. The consumption of the women of meat has always been under 1 lb. daily - For one Extra Diet Kitchen alone, on the other hand, I drew 80 lbs Meat daily. The great economy effected for Government by drawing thus in bulk is obvious & well known to all housekeepers -

Again, I have never drawn one oz. ArrowRoot for the Nurses, nor one oz. wine or Brandy - as I have already stated in another place -

I shall endeavor, before I leave this, to settle all these matters with the Purveyor=In=Chief - so that I shall be ready when I come home to answer any questions which may arise -
But I think it wise, under the circumstances, to place myself in the attitude of an accused person, and to lodge my statement with one of those men of honor who, alas! are not so plentiful as I once imagined them to be - But that was before I had been initiated into ye Crimean Mysteries.

2. The absence of Statistics (Medical) of which you complain, is unavoidable in consequence of the Rules, chiefly obtained from the Ancient Britons, which prevail in our parts, e.g. the bed=tickets at the head of each Patient might as well consist of three, Febris c.c., Diarrhoea, Dysenteria & be hung up promiscuously. For if Diarrhoea puts on Fever in a Military Hospital, Diarrhoea has to be discharged and Fever admitted, thus standing for two Patients. A Regimental Surgeon may
appear by his books, as if he had
admitted 60 Patients per month, whereas
he may only have admitted 20.

The Director-General would then say,
“something is wrong” - But he would not
look & see what was wrong. And the
Surgeon, not the System would suffer
Surgeons therefore are compelled to let
any Patient bear the name of any
disease ad libitum, rather than go
through the discharging & re-admitting
process which “looks so bad.” But all
Medical Statistics are thereby rendered
impossible -

Again, they are compelled to name
the disease within a certain nomenclature,
also inherited from the Picts, & which
does not contain the names even of
some diseases, unknown at the times
when Diagnosis was more imperfect than it is now.

Again, no history of case is transmitted
with Patient, when he is transferred
from one Hospital to another. His own x
statement has to be taken, if indeed
he be capable of making a statement
as hundreds in the winter of /54 were not.
I dare say you know all these
things usque ad nauseam - But
Hospitals cannot have been your
profession as they have been mine.
3. Many of the best Medical
Officers will agree with Dr. Linton
that one Ward Surgeon to 30 Patients
only is not too much, due regard
being had to the Patient, in attention
to his case, to the Public, in attention to
Medical Statistics & history - Many
will agree that one Senior to 350
Patients only is not at all too much
And that for every 600 Patients a
separate Hospital Establishment is
desirable
4. I cannot agree with you in
"taking the General Hospital at Scutari
as the most favourable specimen of our
Military Hospitals, the building having
been originally designed for this use.
Surely there are things of as much
importance as a “building” to the good
administration of a Hospital -
I could say much more on
these subjects - But cui bono? [end]
Believe me ever
Most faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
Lt. Col. Lefroy R.A.

8996/73 Letter from Sir H. Stewart to Lord Stratford, July 10 1856 2ff
My dearest people

I sent home, by the Revd Mr. Hort, on board the Calcutta, a “Rooshan” trophy for you, & 2 prs Bracelets in a small box, of which Lothian is to have the refusal. I sent for them to Sinope on purpose, by medium of my faithful friend, Colonel McMurdo - Director General of the L.T.C. without whom I do not think I should be alive -

Pray, if you see Mr. Hort, make much of him. He is a good man, Hibernicè

General Codrington has been courteous, Col Windham more than courteous, kind, Lord Rokeby & Genl Barnard, who brought Lord Gough to see me, talk to me as to an old soldier - & brother in the field
But Genl Storks & Col McMurdo have been & will remain my only friends

out here ever yours [end 1:143]

14/7/56 F.N.
My dearest people

I cannot yet fix the day for coming home - It depends upon many things, not dependable upon myself
I am just working as hard as I can - to get home - -
All I want is to get home quietly, without any body knowing it. I shall take out my Passport under the name of Smith.
Lord Lyons has offered me passage to any port I like.
Aunt Mai & Co gone over to Stamboul to the Bazar -

Ever yours

F.N.

Scutari 17/7/56